



San Juan Unified School District – Department of Special Education
Community Advisory Committee for Special Education
San Juan Unified School District - Special Education Office
4825 Kenneth Avenue, Carmichael, 95608

CAC Minutes – January 18, 2023

A. CALLED TO ORDER

The January 18, 2023 regular meeting was called to order at 6:03pm by Daniel Hicks, CAC Chairperson.

MEMBERS PRESENT: (4 = quorum) Ryan Digman, David Martasian, Kimber Rice, Daniel Hicks, Tina Cooper, Heather Taylor, David Martasian

MEMBERS ABSENT: Javier Duran

STAFF LIAISONS PRESENT: Vanessa Adolphson, Deborah Calvin, Zima Creason

B. BOARD REMARKS

Board president and CAC liaison Zima Creason shared that the school board had an organizing meeting in December where the board president and committee liaisons were selected. The last board meeting agenda covered school safety and the next board meeting will review the Brown Act.

C. VISITOR COMMENTS

None.

D. LOCAL PLAN, SECTION A

Vanessa Adolphson, Director of Special Education shared an overview of Section A of the Local Plan. Section A includes: contact information, governance and administration, Community Advisory Committee and certification pages.

MEMBER COMMENTS

Tina Cooper asked if anything has impacted the plan from the year before.

Director Adolphson shared that the new superintendent is the only change so far and that the plan will be revised as we meet and discuss as a committee.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

None

MEMBER COMMENTS

Ryan Digman asked for an update when the subcommittee will be meeting to review Section A and who will serve

E. STAFF PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

a. Goalbook

Heather, Special Education Program Specialist, shared an update on Goalbook and how staff have been using the Goalbook app in their work since its implementation. The last cohort of teachers will be trained as of next week.

MEMBER COMMENTS

Ryan Digman requested a demonstration of Goalbook to better understand how it supports our students.

Heather shared that Goalbook allows teachers to input data for present levels, look at student strengths and needs, and locate relevant resources to support Universal Design for Learning (UDL) aligned strategies in the classroom and writing IEPs.

Kimber Rice asked if General Education staff were also accessing this tool and encouraged this tool be made available to support all teachers.

Heather asked how training for Tiered supports extend outside of Special Education to support general education staff and students without IEPs.

Ryan Digman asked about next steps. Heather shared that school-wide UDL training is a next step to implement inclusive strategies for entire schools rather than groups of students and case managers.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Jennifer Morgan, parent, hopes future demos would include how Goalbook aligns with the same curriculum and content in general education classes to increase academic inclusion and bridging the content gap.

MEMBER COMMENTS

none

b. Behavior Advantage

Jennifer Nelson, assistant director of Special Education shared that work toward inclusive practices includes behavioral support across the continuum of need for all students. Behavior Advantage is a tool that may help build capacity to implement evidence based practices. Training will begin with intervention staff and continue with training modules across all school site staff to support a system wide approach.

A 9 minute sample video was shared which focused on effective strategies for changing the environment and positive relationships with students to address behavior.

Jennifer shared a sample Functional Behavior Assessment, Behavior Intervention Plan, Implementation Checklist, and Data Collection sheets.

MEMBER COMMENTS

Heather asked when this will be implemented and how students are included in the process.

Jennifer shared training begins January, followed by staff training at school sites by need for all ages and needs in general education as well as Special Education. Check in, Check out sheets support student and parent involvement.

Tina asked if this is available to all students, or determined by some eligibility threshold.

Dr. Calvin shared information about the Multi-Tiered System of Supports (MTTS) within our district to support students in general and special education programs.

Heather asked if after school programs could potentially use this program and support as well.

Kimber asked what support/training is in place to ensure supervision with trained behavior staff.

School psychologist first referral for behavioral interventions for students with IEP. Behavior plan data collection followed for 4-6 weeks before bringing in a behaviorist.

How do we use a multidisciplinary approach? Is there collaboration with other interventions for communication/sensory regulation, etc?

Ryan suggested training should be wide-spread and supported for all teachers. Ryan is concerned that ECE and after school programs behavior policies are not inclusive.

Tina and Ryan expressed the need for behavior supports for staff across all ages and all school sites.

Kimber recommended the adoption of a code of ethics and whole-child/person-centered planning to help create a clear vision for our district and student well-being, inclusive policies and practices. (dances, before school, etc.)

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Jennifer Morgan supported Kimber's statement and shared that centralized tools are great, but also expressed concern with the data collection dehumanizing our students and the use of trained and appropriate supervisory staff.

Jasmine, former classroom teacher and parent of preschool student, also shared concern for how behavior services can backfire. Jasmine would like to see more parent involvement and addressing biases.

Katherine Morash wondered about positive behavior supports aligned with current Positive Behavior Intervention System (PBIS) strategies in the district to work together and how the transition would be supported on the paperwork side.

Lisa Sotello, parent was offered a behavior plan and felt staff did not see the student's potential due to behavior and hopes this tool will help. Lisa also shared that the after school program was reluctant to follow the behavior strategies used during the school day and was not a smooth transition.

MEMBER COMMENTS

Kimber Rice also expressed a need to ensure that students with disabilities are not held to a higher expectation or standard than peers in their current environments.

Heather asked what department would be in charge of this and if there are student and parent rights for what is allowed to be in the student record.

Vanessa shared that this has been a collaborative approach across departments and Lisa shared that incidents may be documented in the student information system, but the behavior plan would not be an official school record.

Ryan Digman inquired how after school programs may be better included in the IEP process. Vanessa shared that the ECE director is now included in Elementary Divisions meetings with Special Education to increase collaboration.

Ryan asked how CAC member recommendations come to fruition and whose job it may be.

Zima shared discussions on how to ensure committee recommendations are heard at the district level.

Trent Allen shared that CAC should send an official communication to the school board making a formal recommendation.

Kimber asked if use of restraint and seclusion would be included in a behavior plan.

Jennifer clarified that behavior plans could include parameters for use of restraint as a last resort for the safety of students.

c. Naviance

Naviance certificate of completion plan of study still in development.

MEMBER COMMENTS

Heather heard that a parent portal access to Naviance had an issue that blocked parent access and asked if it had been fixed.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Katherine Morashe asked how middle school teachers can support high school teams and families towards high school planning.

MEMBER COMMENTS

Ryan Digman expressed having Naviance demos available at future Meet the Teams.

Kimber Rice encouraged more training for families and staff around the 130 rule, the flex plan, inclusive post secondary opportunities and representation for students with disabilities in bright futures.

G. COMMITTEE BUSINESS

a. David Martasian requested an edit to clarify public comment under item H which was vaguely represented.

Daniel Hicks requested a motion for minutes to be approved with revision as stated.

December 2022 minutes motioned for approval by Ryan Digman. Second by Kimber Rice. Vote carried by majority. December 2022 minutes approved

G. COMMITTEE BUSINESS

b. SUBCOMMITTEE UPDATES

Bylaw Review

Subcommittee chair, Kimber Rice, delegated the floor to Trent Allen who shared newly drafted bylaws and highlighted major differences in the document, as well as how our committee and bylaws are grounded in EdCode.

David Martasian asked for clarification on the use of the term “quarterly” rather than “4 meetings per school year.”

Ryan Digman shared concern regarding reduction of meetings from monthly to quarterly.

Trent Allen clarified that quarterly meetings would be a minimum and opportunities for monthly meetings would still be available.

Daniel Hicks requested more information about the difference between Greene and Brown Acts.

Trent clarified that the Greene Act allows communication between committee members between meetings.

Tina Cooper asked if quarterly meetings in bylaws would limit the committee’s availability to meet monthly should they choose, or feel necessary. Trent clarified that the committee has the authority to call additional meetings and work with staff liaisons for facilities and logistics.

Kimber suggested we table the discussion on Bylaw Review, allowing the committee to review new changes and have additional discussion.

Trent ran through major changes for the committee to review before the next meeting.

The committee agreed that time would be needed to review, discussion would follow at the next meeting and recommendations provided to Trent during the March CAC meeting.

Heather Taylor would like to ensure language is kept to define officers as parent members.

Trent suggested members would remain as “hold harmless” to complete terms until new appointments to membership by the board.

Membership & Outreach

Ryan shared there are two new applications, being put before the school board for review and approval.

You Light the Way Awards

Ryan shared there are 20 nominations so far. The subcommittee is meeting January 31th to review nominations. Subcommittee members are: Daniel Hicks, Katherine Morash, Vanessa Adolphson

Legislative Action Day

Kimber reported no updates at this time.

SELPA Plan Review

Vanessa shared that members interested in the subcommittee are CAC members: Kimber, Heather, Katherine, Ryan

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Katherine Morash expressed that she does not wish to take space from parent voice. Katherine also asked for clarification about the CAC member and Board member zoning for membership.

H. FUTURE TENTATIVE AGENDA ITEMS

Bylaw Update/review

Legislative update

Green act

Board report

Communication Updates

Inclusion

Data Review

SELPA Plan Review

Communication Survey Updates

Inclusion

Alternative Dispute Resolution

PUBLIC COMMENT

none

MEMBER DISCUSSION

Bylaw review tabled for additional discussion

Superintendent tentative for March 8

I. VISITOR COMMENTS

None

J. ADJOURN

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:55pm.