



SPECIAL EDUCATION COMMUNITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE

October 30, 2024

Community Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes

A. Call to Order

Ryan Digman, CAC Chair called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm.

B. Member Roll Call

Members present: Ryan Digman, David Martasian, Kasey Crooks, Kaylin Boyce, Kimber Rice, Lisa Sotelo, Luc Taylor, Sean Owens, Emily Getz, Mackenzie Guye, Nicole Harrigan, David Burbridge

Members absent: Daniel Hicks, Heather Taylor, Lacey Martinez, La Reina Pakeman, Olivia O'Neil

Staff members present: Sandy Butorac, Rebecca Foster, Amy Slavensky

Board Member Liaison present: Ben Avey

C. Elections; Ryan Digman, CAC Chairperson, led nominations and elections. It was moved by Makenzie Guye, seconded by Luc Taylor, that elections be moved to item C on the agenda. Ayes: all members; Opposed: none

1. Chair: Ryan Digman

2. Vice Chair: Kimber Rice

3. Membership Chair : Nicole Harrigan

4. Engagement Officer: Kasey Crooks

- Public Comment (regarding this agenda item): None
- Member Discussion:
 - Emily Getz shared appreciation for the members who have stepped up to take on these leadership roles.

D. Board Remarks

Ben Avey shared appreciation of the change of this group and collaborative partnership between CAC and San Juan Unified. Mr. Avey noted there is room for productive conversations and the work that still needs to be done.



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E. Visitor Comments

Marsha Hesch, parent of two students, expressed her concern of fraudulent forgery with her son's IEP. Ms. Hesch stated her son has been denied compensatory services. Ms. Hesch encouraged the committee to look into these acts of forgery and push the evidence forward and have it investigated.

Kierstyn Fanning, parent, stated her student has been denied the support he needs in his most recent IEP meeting. Ms. Fanning expressed concern for her son's needs not being met in the classroom and his present levels are being performed and downplayed. Ms. Fanning is asking for assurance that students receive the support they are entitled to without excuses and shortages.

Tiffany Hart, parent, expressed concern about the dyslexia curriculum offered in the district. Ms. Hart shared her son's experience and asked what the plan of action moving forward for students who have been diagnosed with dyslexia.

Dina Gray, parent, shared she has pulled her student from Kingswood after a recent emergency IEP meeting. Ms. Gray shared accommodations have not been met and her son has been bullied with no incident report being filed. Ms. Gray stated she will continue to fight and show up for students and parents of students with special needs.

Ruth Snyder, parent of students in the district, shared about Brooktree Little League, an ABA compliant little league. This league serves kiddos from age 4-18. Registration is live at Northridgebaseball.com

Amy, parent of students in the district, expressed she was thankful for the CAC and their commitment and quick response via Facebook and social media. Amy shared she was able to find support and be directed to the right people when she was needing help.

F. Rebecca Foster, SPED Director 2; Sandra Butorac, SPED Director 1

1. SELPA Update - SELPA updates will be brought forward at every CAC moving forward.

2. Announcements: Jan 29, Feb, 20th, March 18th, May 8th have been selected as dates for parent information nights on behalf of Special Education. Topics and ideas will be gathered from CAC and other parent groups. Students from Laurel Ruff will be presenting at the January 14th School Board Meeting, students from La Vista Center will be presenting at the January 28th School Board Meeting, and students from Ralph Richardson Center will be presenting at the February 11th School Board Meeting.

3. Upcoming SPED Family Engagement Opportunities: will be presented under Events of Interest.

- Public Comment (regarding this agenda item): None.
- Member Discussion

Ryan Digman commented that it is important that students presenting at the board meeting from our Special Education Centers is a great opportunity for the student voice to be heard. Mr. Digman shared the idea to bring up last month's goal setting initiative for the CAC and what the committee will set as priorities.

Sandra Butorac expressed the importance of focusing on three to four priorities and goals for the



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IEP goals, best practices and improving the IEP process

Developing community partnerships

Developing parent resources and parent education

Staff visibility

Lisa Sotelo shared staff visibility is a main goal and shared appreciation for the Program Specialists who were in attendance at the CAC meeting. Ms. Sotelo asked how we can better involve parents and families that are needing to access this meeting.

David Martasian expressed the need and urgency for accessibility to the CAC meetings for families who are not able to attend the monthly meetings.

Kimber Rice shared there is an underlying issue of connection and families do not necessarily have a space to connect and provide accessibility. Ms. Rice shared families feeling isolated at their school sites and Special Education is rarely involved in general communication and newsletters.

Luc Taylor communicated to the committee that the staff at Del Campo staff has been very helpful.

G. Committee Business

1. Approval of Minutes, September 25, 2024
Board report- attach to minutes. Add Lisa to IEP workgroup
It was moved by Nicole Harrigan, seconded by Luc Taylor, that the minutes of the September 25th, 2024 meeting be approved. Ayes: all members; Opposed: none. David Burbridge abstained as he was not in attendance at the September meeting.
2. Subcommittee Report: You Light the Way
Annual ceremony to honor the outstanding individuals who have made significant contributions to the district's special education programs.
 - No report to date.
3. Subcommittee Report: IEP 2.0 Workgroup
Identify trends, make recommendations and look at best practices, tools and resources to help understand the IEP process.
Helps accomplish goals for SPED. Formed group to help make recommendations. Clear deliverables for IEP best practices.
 - No report to date. Add Emily Getz and David Martasian to the committee. Heather Taylor and Lisa Sotelo nominated as co-chairs
4. Subcommittee Report: Community Outreach
Outreach to the community regarding involvement in the Community Advisory Committee
 - No report to date. Kasey Crooks nominated as chair. Adding Luc Taylor and Kaylin Boyce to committee.



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5. Subcommittee Report: Legislative Action Day

Annual event to bring regional teams to Sacramento to advocate state legislators for educational priorities.. Kimber shared background information on Legislative Day and the importance of the impact of the day.

- No report to date.

- Public Comment (regarding this agenda item):

April Green, parent and teacher, shared her experience in the district and expressed gratitude for Legislative Action Day. Ms. Green would like to participate

- Member Discussion: None.

H. Events of Interest

An opportunity for committee members or staff to share information on upcoming events that may be of interest to the committee or special education community.

- FACE Dept family leadership academy. Tuesday nights
- Care hubs, Nov 21st food distribution at Carriage
- Playmakers sports group - started at Mesa Verde. Flag football
- Election day on Tuesday Nov 5th
- Dec 5th - First Board Meeting with the new Members of the School Board
- Nov 19th - last Board Meeting of this session

I. Future Agenda Items

- Goal update
- SELPA update, Local Plan update - general education representative
- Listening session planning
- Strategic plan update action items
- Relabeling names of our classes
- The bus system and bus departure time
- ESY
- 130 pathway
- ILS curriculum - new roll out for the school year

J. Adjournment - 7:49pm