



San Joaquin County SELPA

**SAN JOAQUIN COUNTY OFFICE OF EDUCATION
SAN JOAQUIN COUNTY SELPA GOVERNING COUNCIL MEETING
GAYLORD A. NELSON ADMINISTRATION CENTER | BOARD ROOM
2922 TRANSWORLD DRIVE, STOCKTON, CA 95206
January 12, 2026 | 9:45 A.M.**

Minutes

PRESENT: Samantha Sanchez (note taker), Marty Remmers, Rechelle Pearlman, Banta Elementary School District; Kelly Dextraze, Lincoln Unified School District; Roger Goatcher, Manteca Unified School District; Robert Pecot, Tracy Unified School District; Scott McGregor, Linden Unified School District; Jim Bridges, Jefferson Elementary School District; Rusty Clark, Ripon Unified School District; Troy Brown County Superintendent of Schools; Ricardo Chavez, Escalon Unified School District;

OTHERS PRESENT: Jane Chamberlain, Terrel Martinez, Austin Nogueira, Shannon Soriano

ABSENT: Clark Burke Manteca Unified School District; Kirk Nicholas, Lammersville Unified School District; Kellyann Reis, New Jerusalem Elementary School District; Peter Foggiato

1. CALL TO ORDER:

1.1. Troy Brown called the meeting to order at 10:10 a.m.

2. ITEMS SCHEDULED FOR INFORMATION:

2.1. Council of Directors Update: The San Joaquin County SELPA Governing Council will receive an update from the October 15, 2025; November 12, 2025; and December 10, 2025; Council of Directors meetings.

Local Plan Committee Meetings:

Marty Remmers gave an update on the local plan committee meetings. A handout was provided that outlined the deliverables and timeline. The first meeting occurred on December 18, 2025.

Facilitated MOU Revision Working Sessions:

Marty gave an update on the facilitated Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) revision work sessions. Two sessions have been completed and the next session will take place on January 21, 2026. The first session occurred on October 15, 2025 and seven local educational agencies (LEAs) were in attendance. The second session occurred on December 18, 2025 and four LEAs were in attendance. As of now, five LEAs have accepted the January 21, 2026 calendar invite for the third session.

IEE External Cost Cap Analysis:

Marty shared that a new provider, Sonia Moscatelli, will be doing an external Independent Educational Evaluation (IEE) external cost cap analysis. He also shared that Sonia will begin working this Spring with the goal of presenting findings to the Council of Directors (COD) in June of 2026.

ADR Region 6 Lead - Delta Sierra:

Marty gave an update that Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR) Region 6 Lead - Delta Sierra Community of Practice (COP) has met three times. The COP is scheduled to meet for three more sessions this school year. The COP partnership includes community agencies, parent groups and districts/SELPA throughout region 6. The COP has covered topics such as what works and what doesn't, and focusing on creating positive team interactions. The remaining sessions will cover techniques to handle difficult Individualized Education Plan (IEP) meetings. Pathways to Partnerships will facilitate, train, and lead the last session of the year.

Open Access Region 6 Lead:

Marty discussed Open Access Region 6 Lead. He shared that continued support is provided across the county on Universal Design for Learning (UDL). SJC SELPA and SJCOE are partnering with Open Access and California Coalition for Inclusive Learning (CCIL) to support UDL implementation across the county. The districts that are being supported are Tracy, Ripon, and Banta. The following professional development and trainings correlate directly with the UDL work happening in our SELPA and are now being offered:

- UDL Immersion session: March 23-24, 2026 at the San Joaquin County Office of Education (SJCOE)
- Continuous Improvement and Support (CIS) hosted the UDL Summit on January 8-9, 2026 and there were 305 participants registered.
- Open Access offers virtual trainings throughout the year that can be accessed on the handout provided

Troy Brown mentioned that the UDL Summit had a great turnout.

Rusty Clark asked Marty if there are opportunities for the UDL implementation training to cover what to expect in a classroom and how accountability can be assured.

Marty answered that he will check in with the CIS department.

CALPADS Certification Deadline:

Marty shared that the California Longitudinal Pupil Achievement Data System (CALPADS) deadline to fix and finalize Fall 1 data is on January 23, 2026. That will be the end of the Fall 1 amendment window and final certification opportunity.

Annual Determination Letters:

Marty gave an update that annual determination letters from the California Department of Education (CDE) will go out February 2, 2026 and they will provide data on what new CIM plans may need to be developed for new Compliance and Improvement Monitoring (CIM) work.

iTAAP:

Shannon Soriano discussed that the San Joaquin County (SJC) SELPA staff is working with COD to identify who might be interested in Improving Academic Achievement Through Predictive Analytics (iTAAP). She shared that this platform is a hands-on, interactive platform that lets districts analyze their own systems and data, predict future needs, identify trends, and create action plans. The platform also supports continuous improvement enabling LEAs to monitor progression in real time and strengthen practices to improve student outcomes.

Shannon also mentioned that this is a tool for districts to utilize and Tracy, County Programs, Manteca, Lammersville, and Jefferson are interested in learning more about iTAAP.

Jane Chamberlain asked the Superintendents if any other districts would be interested in the pilot program.

Rusty asked if this pilot program was presented to all the directors during the COD meeting.

Marty answered that it was discussed during COD and also indicated that one barrier that may be encountered is challenges in sharing needed data with iTAAP.

Jane asked Marty to share the information to all districts whether they agreed to the pilot or not.

Upcoming Professional Development:

Marty shared the following upcoming professional development opportunities with districts:

- Breakfast Club: peer to peer support for Education Specialists and Program Specialists across the SELPA and it will be hosted at the Teachers College of San Joaquin on January 30th, March 27th, and May 15th of 2026
- Educational Benefit Review Analysis Training: hosted by SJCOE and will take place on February 24-25, 2026
- Data Huddle with Joel Rabin from Inform to Inspire: held during New Director's portion of COD meetings and next session will be on March 15,

2026

- Crisis Prevention Training: ongoing at SJCOE and at district sites if needed

CAC:

Marty shared that the Community Advisory Committee (CAC) had a meeting on November 18, 2025 and it covered ADR strategies presented by Staci Johnson. The meeting had a total of 25 attendees. The next CAC meeting will take place on February 12, 2026 from 11:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. at the Wentworth Education Center. The training topic will cover eating habits and nutrition. Savanna Rooff from Manateca Unified School District (MUSD) will be the guest presenter.

Workability:

Marty shared that the employee of the month for Workability was Brayden Herbst from Linden Unified School District. He also shared the job placement totals for districts who have Workability students and we expect approximately 200 students to be working in the Spring of 2026.

RTC Update:

Marty gave the following Residential Treatment Center (RTC) update:

- 2 students successfully completed program and will return to their home districts in December 2025
- 2 students currently placed in RTCs in Utah (1 Tracy Unified School District and 1 Lammersville Unified School District)
- 2 referrals pending placements (1 in Juvenile Justice Center (JJC) and the other in SJCOE program, both Tracy Unified District of Residence)
- SELPA currently case manages students in Nonpublic Schools or Licensed Children’s Institutions (LCI)

Marty mentioned that Susan Scott does a good job with finding placements for students and often finding the right placement is a major factor in students successfully navigating the program.

Low Incidence:

Marty shared the Low Incidence (LI) Committee funds update:

- Current budget: \$2,273,728.16
- Approved request: 66
- Pending Request: 11
- 24/25 Total Approved Request: 60
- 24/25 End of year budget: \$2,068,309.78

CARES:

Marty shared the following updates for Counseling, Advocacy, Resource Connections, Education Supports, and Social Skills (CARES):

- Active Cases: 10
 - Lammersville (1), Manteca (2), Ripon (3), Jefferson (1), Tracy (2), and Venture (1)
- Pending Cases: 10

- Lammersville (2), Ripon (2), Jefferson (2), Tracy (1), Venture (1), and Lincoln (1)
- Students exited (August 2025 - December 2025): 3
- District referrals declined by parents: 6

25-26 Local Plan:

Marty discussed that section A,D, and E of the SJC Local Plan were accepted by CDE for the 2025-2026 school year.

Report on the Change in Presenting SJCOE Special Education

Growth Proposal Information to SJC SELPA Governance Council:

Marty shared that there will be a change in presenting SJCOE Special Education growth proposal information to SJC SELPA Governance Council. He will work with Austin Nogueira and Rowena Fairbanks to create projections in order to project growth and present that to the Governance Council in February prior to COD.

Austin mentioned that the next scheduled Governance Council meeting on February 2, 2026 will be an opportunity for the Council to view the growth proposal from SPED.

Program Transfer - Ripon:

Marty informed the Council that there is a program transfer proposal with Ripon Unified School District. There was a handout of the proposal made available and Rusty gave an overview of how it has always been a mission of his to bring his own kids home. He mentioned that 100% of the students in the program are Ripon students and he wants Ripon to be more involved. He also mentioned that he wants to remove barriers and serve their own students because they are in the community.

Rusty asked for any questions or comments from the Governance Council.

Ricardo Chavez asked what the overall impact this would have on SELPA. He mentioned that there are always challenges getting parents to have students placed out of district, and if there is anything they needed to be mindful of that could impact SELPA programming fiscally.

Marty answered that Ripon would be running the program and not the county. He added that if other districts need to place students there then Ripon would review the referral and place appropriate referrals. Austin stated that fiscally every district will still go about their budgets as normal and Rowena will revisit the county program and more fiscal updates will be given in February.

Ricardo asked if this becomes a trend will there be a decrease in financial obligations for LEAs.

Austin answered that there will be savings but it will take a while to see overall fiscal savings.

Jane mentioned that if a SELPA student goes to the Ripon program, there will be a MOU between Ripon and SELPA.

Roger Goatcher mentioned that in this case, Ripon will not have a say in regards to a SELPA referral if there is room. He also asked if districts are taking severe students and not just district students because that line of divide is no longer there.

Rusty answered that that would be worked out between districts and that LEA operated regionalized providers are new.

Jim Bridges mentioned that this is different because Ripon would be taking county staff.

Marty answered that Ripon is now a regionalized program and they will be required to offer county staff the existing job opportunities first. He also added that if county employees turn down the offer, Ripon can hire externally.

Jane asked if there is grandfathering the kids.

Marty answered that no there would not be unless the program closes.

Troy Brown suggested that this topic be discussed at COD in the case this happens a again and what would be next steps.

Ricardo asked about full time employees assigned to the program.

Rusty answered that the designated instructional services (DIS) will be hired internally, but there is concern about liabilities and lawsuits.

Marty answered that an MOU would need to be in place for DIS services and liability would operate how they did in county programs even though Ripon would be a regionalized program.

Jane mentioned that there is a meeting with Human Resources and if the employees don't want to go to the Ripon program there can be potential layoffs.

Marty indicated that he is going to gather information for the purpose of writing a draft SELPA policy on program transfers for SJC Governance Council to review.

Marty mentioned that there needs to be a better timeline in case this happens again and updating a policy.

Rechelle Pearlman asked if the program would be operated like a county program.

Marty answered that the program would operate like a county program but Ripon would operate the program.

Kelly Dextraze asked if she could get a class size.

Austin answered that a new model will be sent out at COD and also next year's projections.

Rechelle asked if they could get them every meeting instead.

Jane answered that Austin will work with Rowena to make that possible.

Marty mentioned a vote of the program transfer will follow the State SELPA update.

- 2.2. SELPA Administrators of California: The San Joaquin County SELPA Governing Council will receive an update from the December SELPA Administrators of California meetings.

AB 560 Preparation:

Marty discussed the News Round Up for October 28, 2025 on AB 560. A handout was provided. The bill will provide equitable distribution of assessment workload among resource specialists. It will also provide development of statewide recommendations for adult-to-pupil staffing ratios in special education classes. Marty highlighted the following key provisions:

- Equitable Initial Assessment Workload for Resource Specialists (Education Code Section 56362)
- Statewide Staffing Recommendations (Education Code Section 56364.3)

Legislative Priorities:

Marty discussed the legislative priorities for the California SELPA administrators of California. The main priorities that CA State SELPA are going to focus on are: fix for Ed Code 44014, which mandates any assault by a student on a staff member be reported to law enforcement with a fine of up to \$1,000 for failure to report. Marty also indicated that the association is going to focus on enhancing Alternative Dispute Resolution Funding which encompasses a 60-day substitute bill that was vetoed by Governor Newsom. Lastly, Marty shared that the association is going to advocate for changing the current policy of non-public agency individual services agreement.

School Services News Roundup:

Marty gave an overview of the News Round Up for November 24, 2025. He discussed the Legislative Analyst's Office (LAO) Projection of an \$18 billion state deficit. Marty discussed that the LAO projects a decline in education funding in 2026–27, despite the state using \$7.4 billion in one-time funds in 2024–25 and 2025–26 to support TK–12 and community colleges. Because relying on one-time funds for ongoing Proposition 98 costs is unsustainable, the LAO recommends eliminating 2026 deferrals, providing an advance payment to build a fiscal cushion, and accelerating Learning Recovery Emergency Block Grant payments to reduce pressure on future budgets.

Part C Update - Responsibilities:

Marty shared that there is a shift in Part C responsibilities for the Department of Developmental Services (DDS). The DDS assumed responsibility for Part C program monitoring beginning in the 2023–24 fiscal year. Effective January 1, 2026, DDS will assume responsibility of conducting federal fiscal monitoring, providing technical assistance, and addressing complaint investigations. Beginning in the fiscal year 2026–27, DDS will also assume responsibility for allocating the federal Part C Early Education Program Grant.

CDE Report - Dr. Rachel Heenan, Special Education Director:

Handouts were provided to the Council, and Marty covered two items from the report with the council: Alt Pathway graphic and briefly reviewed attendance and indicator data.

- 2.3. Program Transfer Application: The San Joaquin County SELPA Governance Council will receive information on the program transfer application for Ripon USD to transfer a K-3 Autism Special Day Class from SJCOE operation to Ripon USD operation.

Program Transfer:

This was discussed during the council of directors update section.

3. ITEMS SCHEDULED FOR ACTION:

- 3.1. Minutes: The San Joaquin County SELPA Governing Council is requested to approve the minutes from the October 13, 2025, regular meeting as presented.

Motion made by: Jim Bridges

Seconded by: Rob Pecot

Yes: 9

No: 0

Abstain: 0

- 3.2. Program Transfer Application: The San Joaquin County SELPA Governance council is requested to take action regarding Ripon Unified School District's request to transfer a K-3 Autism Special Day Class from SJCOE operation to Ripon USD operation.

No motion was made, and no action was taken.

Motion by:

Second by:

Yes:

No:

Abstain:

Rusty mentioned that they would need to look for a new program and Ripon will

open a program on their own.

Rechelle mentioned that she has more questions about cost, MOU, and does not have enough information.

Rusty officially asked for this item to be pulled and thanked Marty.

4. CLOSING COMMENTS FOR BOARD MEMBERS: Board members may address relevant issues and concerns. Comments will be noted.

There were no comments to be noted.

5. ADJOURNMENT:

- 5.1. Troy Brown adjourned the meeting at: 11:00 a.m.

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