



SPECIAL EDUCATION COMMUNITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE

October 21, 2026

Public Participation Guidelines

Community Advisory Committee meetings are held in person in the Board Room at the San Juan Unified School District office, 3738 Walnut Ave, Carmichael, CA 95608. Public comment may be offered in person during the committee meeting or in advance via email. The business to be considered at this board meeting is on the agenda below.

How to Submit Public Comment

In Advance - Submit via email to Caitlin.wrockloff@sanjuan.edu. Comments submitted before 5 p.m. on the meeting day will be shared with committee members. Public comments are subject to a 2-minute limit of approximately 300 words for written comments submitted via e-mail.

In Person - When the CAC Chair calls for public comment on an item during the meeting, those who have a comment will be called upon to speak. You will be provided with up to two minutes to comment. Those who require translation or other assistance will be provided with additional time.

For translation or accessibility assistance, contact the Special Education office at least 48 hours prior to the meeting. Call: 916-971-7149 - Department Contacts available at: www.sanjuan.edu/SpecialEd

Community Advisory Committee Agenda

October 21, 2026

A. Call to Order/Member Roll Call

B. Visitor Comments

C. Business Items

- a. 2026-2027 Officer Elections (D/A)
 - i. Engagement Officer
 - Public Comment
 - Member Discussion

D. Approval of Minutes: September 30, 2026 (A)

- Public Comment
- Member Discussion

E. Reports to be Heard (R)

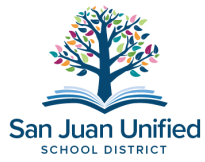
- a. Board Remarks
- b. District/Department Staff Reports
- c. Workgroup Reports

- Public Comment
- Member Discussion

G. Events of Interest (D)

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.

- Public Comment
- Member Discussion



SPECIAL EDUCATION COMMUNITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE

October 21, 2026

H. Future Agenda Items (D)

- Public Comment
- Member Discussion

I. Adjournment

Community Advisory Committee

Meeting Minutes

September 30, 2026

A. Call to Order/Member Roll Call

The Meeting was called to order at 6:08 p.m.

Members Present: James Moraga, David Martasian, Lacey Martinez, Kimber Rice, Lisa Sotelo, Aaya, Al-Tataee, Emily Getz, kaylin Boyce, Nicole Harrigan, Luc Taylor, Allyson Grimm, Marsha Hesch, Daniel Hicks,

Members Absent: Ryan Digman, Tanya Morgan, Cordelia Haines, Sean Owens,

B. Visitor Comments

Asusena Guerrero shared her family's experience navigating school access for deaf and hard of hearing students. She emphasized the importance of access to age-appropriate peers and direct communication with teachers and staff through American Sign Language (ASL). She shared that ASL is her sons' first language and highlighted the importance of that access as they enter preschool. As a resident of the Folsom district, she expressed hope that her sons could attend a program within San Juan Unified School District and requested exploration of an agreement between the districts to support placement.

Tiffany Hart, parent, reported improvements in bus transportation at her student's school sites. She also shared feedback on Extended School Year (ESY), noting that general education students attending summer school have more project-based and expanded learning opportunities, while students participating in ESY have fewer options. She suggested adopting a program such as Camp Invention and incorporating students' individual goals into the activities. Tiffany expressed her willingness to help and her desire to see more hands-on learning opportunities for ESY students.

LaToya Younger shared that she recently learned her three-year-old son has autism. Her son is nonverbal, and she is looking for resources to help her and his team support him at home. She also expressed interest in connecting with a parent support group for guidance and encouragement.

Ruth Snyder highlighted two concerns she would like addressed this year. She shared concerns that some schools continue to withhold recess despite legal requirements, emphasized the importance of recess for students, and requested follow-up with principals and staff. She also encouraged a review of discipline practices to better support students' individual needs. Ruth expressed concern that suspensions may not be coded correctly across multiple school sites and requested that the Special Education Department look into the issue.

Debbie Vance, parent, shared concerns about communication at Arcade after her student was sent home due to behavioral concerns. She described an incident that occurred that morning and expressed feeling disheartened by the lack of information shared by the school. Debbie emphasized the importance of transparency and requested more timely, clear communication between schools and families.

C. Business Items

a. 2026-2027 Committee Chair/Vice Chair Elections (D/A)

- Committee Chair: Kimber Rice
- Vice Chair: Ally Grimm

b. 2026-2027 Officer Elections (D/A)

- Membership Officer: Lisa Sotelo
- Engagement Officer – *tabled for next meeting*

c. Review CAC Bylaws and norms (D)

Kimber Rice, Committee Chair, reviewed the Community Advisory Committee bylaws and meeting norms with the committee.

d. Greene Act (D)

Rebecca Foster, Director II Special Education, provided an overview of the Greene Act, relevant to the operations of the committee.

Public comment:

Nikki Martasian requested that committee meetings be broadcasted.

Member Discussion:

Emily Getz requested that CAC meeting agendas be distributed to members in advance of meetings

D. Approval of Minutes, May 27, 2026 (A)

It was moved by Nicole Harrigan, seconded by Luc Taylor, that the minutes of the May 2026 meeting be approved. Ayes: all members; Opposed: none

E. Presentation

a. Facilities Updates - Laurel Ruff and Ralph Richardson Center Modernization Project.

Nic Arps provided a history of the projects and where the project leads are in the planning process. Fact-finding efforts have included several meetings with staff, parents, and maintenance personnel. Dayle Cantrall, Program Administrator for Laurel Ruff, shared background on the collaborative planning process. Students had an opportunity to vote, helping build investment in the projects. The JKAE team engaged with community members and students, providing opportunities to discuss why the improvements matter. Final approvals are in progress. Christie Waldron, Program Administrator at Ralph Richardson Center, highlighted staff feedback and the importance of supporting student independence. Planning considerations include equipment accessibility and adequate classroom space for equipment. Mariana and Sharon were recognized for their contributions to the project's progress and partnership with the district, with an emphasis on delivering a quality project. Mariana shared plans for new spaces and reconfigured areas at Ralph Richardson, highlighting improved entrances for parents and buses and a continued focus on accessibility.

Public comment:

Debbie Vance, parent, expressed appreciation for the design and requested a higher ceiling to accommodate basketball.

Tiffany Hart asked about the color of the concrete and expressed the need for a different color to better support students' sensory needs. She also asked about windows that can be opened and emphasized the need for this feature.

A parent asked whether the furniture would be white, as shown in the renderings. The team clarified that furniture packages are included in the project, but selections have not yet been finalized.

Member Discussion:

Jim emphasized the need for shaded spaces in the project design at Laurel Ruff. He also asked, in regard to Ralph Richardson Center, and asked whether an established construction partner had been identified or if multiple groups would be involved. Nic explained that a group has been involved since the beginning of the project. Jim also asked whether, given enrollment growth, the project would accommodate future capacity needs or be built to serve current enrollment.

Nicole asked whether the portables shown in the renderings would remain. The team confirmed that the portables will stay and that Laurel Ruff will have a total of 13 classrooms.

Marsha expressed appreciation for the modernization projects and highlighted the importance of changing tables in classrooms. She asked whether Ralph Richardson Center students would remain on site during construction and discussed accessibility considerations, the longer-term project timeline, and options for expanding the facilities.

Rebecca shared that the project reflects a thoughtful look at student needs, which are continuously monitored. She expressed appreciation for the intentional design of spaces that support student dignity.

Kimber expressed appreciation for the focus on both schools and their modernization projects, noting that the improvements have been a long time coming and acknowledging the thoughtfulness behind the planning.

F. Reports to be Heard (R)

a. District/Department Staff Reports

Rebecca shared updates on graduation pathways and co-teaching, including ongoing monitoring, feedback gathering, and check-ins, as well as training and information sessions.

b. Board Remarks

Trustee Nick Bloise provided an update regarding the Area 1 Board of Education vacancy following the resignation of the current board member. The district is accepting applications for the vacant Area 1 seat through October 2. Candidate interviews will be conducted publicly at the October 13 Board of Education meeting, and the Board is required to make a decision regarding the appointment by that date. If an appointment is made, the selected individual will serve until a special election is held in March 2027 to fill the remainder of the term. Trustee Bloise also shared that he currently has a vacancy for his CAC-appointed representative. As he begins the selection process, he plans to connect with CAC members and Special Education Department staff to gain a better understanding of the committee's needs, priorities, and perspectives. This feedback will help guide

his appointment of a representative who can effectively support and represent the interests of the Community Advisory Committee.

c. Workgroup Reports

Public comment:

Ruth asked whether this year's workgroups would discuss RSP pull-out services and collect related data.

Niki shared would like to participate in workgroups moving forward.

Member Discussion:

Lisa discussed successful co-teaching teams, the value of observing effective partnerships, and the importance of ongoing learning and stronger staff communication. She asked how to foster a cohesive, inclusive co-teaching culture and shared concerns parents hear from elementary teachers, asking how parents can offer support and whom they should contact. .

Marsha discussed gathering student feedback through parent and student surveys and asked about the role of case managers and site staff in that process.

Kimber shared feedback from parents at the high school level about how students in ILS classes can access other classes. She expressed concern that these discussions are often parent-driven and emphasized the need for clearer guidance, documents and visual aids, and proactive, teacher-led conversations about available options.

G. Events of Interest (D)

Tiffany shared information about Superior Sports and its inclusive sports opportunities, including interpreters for students who are Deaf or Hard of Hearing (DHH). [Superior Sports Sacramento – Empowers Students Through Sports](#)

Nicole shared information about October events at [GiGi's Playhouse Sacramento](#), including:

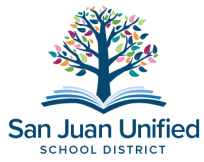
Ice Cream Social: October 6, 2026, 4–6 p.m.

Trunk or Treat: October 25, 2026, 2–4 p.m.

Details and registration are available on the [GiGi's Playhouse event calendar](#).

Lisa shared [321 Cornhole Classic](#) at **Drake's: The Barn on Sunday, October 11**, benefiting Down Syndrome Alliance.

Marsha shared information about an October 9 retreat at [Hearts Landing Ranch](#) in Granite Bay for individuals who have experienced sudden or traumatic loss.



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Lacey shared information about Best of Carmichael voting, including categories for favorite hair salon, best school, and best teacher. She noted that cash prizes are available for the best school and best teacher winners.

H. Future Agenda Items (D)

Budget update

Engagement Officer

IEP Survey results

Stream CAC Meeting

I. Adjournment

With there being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:26 p.m.