

CALAVERAS COUNTY SPECIAL EDUCATION LOCAL PLAN AREA

Calaveras County Office of Education
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Calaveras County Special Education Executive Council
Meeting held at Calaveras Medical Therapy Unit/San Andreas Elementary

MINUTES

January 8, 2007

I. Call Public Session to Order 9:03 a.m.

Establishment of Quorum
Attendance by Roll Sheet

Executive Council Members:

Rick Brewer, Superintendent
John Brophy, Superintendent
Glen Sewell, Superintendent
James Frost, Superintendent
Mike Chimente, Superintendent
Diane Bateman
Evan Garamendi
Jill Bray
Joan Lark
Valerie Tudor

Mark Twain Union Elementary School District (MTUESD)
Calaveras County Office of Education (CCOE)
Vallecito Union School District (VUSD)
Calaveras Unified School District (CUSD)
Bret Harte Union High School District (BHUHSD)
MTUESD Board Member
CUSD Board Member
VUSD Board Member
BHUHSD Board Member / President
CCOE Board Member

Staff:

Kathy Northington
Mike Harrison
Patty Haskell
Sharon Knick
Claudia Davis
Debbie Koehler
Debbie Scadden

Associate Superintendent/SELPA Director
Program Manager
Program Manager
CUSD Special Ed Director
Assistant Superintendent, Business Services
Director, Personnel/Administrative Services
SELPA Administrative Assistant

Absent:

Debbie Koehler
Claudia Davis
Valerie Tudor

Director, Personnel/Administrative Services
Assistant Superintendent, Business Services
CCOE Board Member

Other(s) In Attendance:

II. Approve Agenda

A motion was made by Rick Brewer to approve the agenda for January 8, 2007 with the provision that the "Open Session" section be removed. Mike Chimente seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. Jim Frost took a moment to introduce Evan Garamendi, the CUSD board member who will be attending future meetings in Sherri Reusche's place. The council introduced themselves and welcomed Evan.

III. Public Comment

No public in attendance.

IV. Flag Salute

V. Consent Minutes

Joan Lark noted some minor changes and questions she had regarding the December 11th minutes. She verified each item with the council members. Glen Sewell made a motion to approve the minutes with the corrections, John Brophy seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

VI. Discussion/Action items

- A. **Structured Behavior Program Presentation – Andria Pyle, Caitlin Conklin and Mike Harrison:** Mike Harrison shared that Andria and Caitlin were working on an extremely pressing case at Hazel Fischer School and unfortunately this took precedence over this morning's presentation. Mike was asked by the council members to review Andria's (Psychologist) and Cait's (Behavior Analyst) responsibilities and basic job description. Mike shared that he is impressed with Paul Simmons who is a returning employee to the County Mental Health office and after some discussion suggested that Paul be asked to be a part of the presentation that Andria and Cait are planning as he is also an intergal part of the services being discussed. Mike stated he would contact Paul to see if he is available and willing to join a future presentation.
- B. **Continuum of Services:** Kathy Northington shared a handout she and Mike Harrison had prepared for the council members explaining the varied special education services provided throughout the county. The breakdown of responsibility for these classes and services were clearly defined as being either District or AU. The two front pages of this handout revealed potential concerns and/or needs that were addressed and discussed with the council. This overview was noted on the agenda as a 'discussion only' item to provide information to the council. Kathy noted that this discussion was the first step in a process where decisions will need to be made regarding whether services will be the responsibility of each individual district or will be provided by the county through the SELPA.
- C. **Review for the Need of an O.T. COTA's (Re-Agendized from December).** Kathy Northington spoke with the employee that is currently enrolled in the COTA program and she stated she would be interested in the position as a Certified Occupational Therapist Assistant (COTA) and willing to make a commitment for two years to work our students in the county. One of the questions that arose is the salary for this position. Kathy asked Debbie Koehler to research the salary schedule for this position in other counties and she will come back to the council with that information. Kathy plans to send out a flyer in the future to see if there are individuals interested in the COTA program class that begins in the fall.
- D. **Common Core Development Day Proposal (Re-Agendized from December).** John Brophy shared that a final decision has not been reached as some of the Superintendents have not met with their boards to discuss this item. The current day being discussed is the Friday before Labor Day. The Superintendents from Mark Twain and Bret Harte feel this may be a problem as the staff would prefer to keep their traditional calendar. The council members did agree that the extra training day would be valuable for their staff including their Instructional Assistants because of compliance issues. They were agreeable to the hiring of substitutes if necessary in order for this additional training time to occur. Mike Chimente asked Kathy Northington for a list of the Instructional Assistants trainings needed to meet compliance laws, also the names of the employees who have attended some of these trainings. At this time, it is uncertain whether this additional core development day will begin in 2007-2008 or the following year.

- E. **Surrogate Parent Training Update (Re-Agendized from December).** Kathy wanted to revisit this item in order to remind the council members of the need for suggestions for possible community members who may be interested. Mike Chimente suggested contacting one of his Resource Specialists stating that she may know of some interested parties.

VII. SELPA Director's Report

- Kathy Northington shared with Jim Frost that she had come across a list of minor items that needed attention at the MTU and asked if this has been completed. Jim stated that he was fairly sure that this had been taken care but would confirm this with his staff.
- The SELPA Director in San Joaquin County (Sande Kludt) contacted Kathy to inform her of a valuable and relevant training for administrators entitled "22 Don't Do's in Special Education" presented by Julie Weatherly. Sandee suggested sharing the cost of travel and incidentals to contract with Ms. Weatherly to spend two days in the area providing a workshop for San Joaquin one day and Calaveras on the other. Kathy shared that the training is planned for mid April but this has not been confirmed at this time. A flyer will be sent out with the details.
- Kathy shared that ACSA would be providing a workshop for administrators on legally sound effective response to students threats of violence (ARMS) presented by Diana Browning-Wright. A dinner preview of the workshop will be offered on February 22nd for ACSA members. Non ACSA members are invited as well although there will be a charge. San Joaquin County Office will be offering this workshop in March; she will be keeping the council members informed. Mike Harrison shared that he had recently seen an article regarding schools that are being held responsible for failing to follow the research based prevention measures to avoid violence on the campus. Kathy stated her appreciation of San Joaquin County's collaboration in sharing this information and opportunity to attend this workshop.
- Glen Sewell and Kathy Northington are working closely on the recent Michelson Preschool issues. They have kept open communication lines with the parents in Vallecito and plan to meet in the near future to discuss their concerns. Kathy stated that there is a plan to create a support group for parents; possibly part of the CAC, so that they feel there is always an available venue for their concerns and/or questions.
- Kathy informed the council members that Sarah Purdy has resigned from her position but will be staying for the remainder of the school year. The council members praised Sarah's work and dedication with MOVE and the A.T. portion of her job along with her close rapport with her DHOH students and their families.

VIII. Regionalized Programs Report

- Patty Haskell reported on the current preschool facility situation at VUSD. She also reported on a new student from China moving into the Mokelumne Hill Elementary area. She has recently been adopted and has no communication or language skills at this time. Sarah Purdy is working with the family to assess this child's needs and placement. Patty also shared that Karen Dickerson and Jen Tapia are working closely together preparing for the move of Jen's preschool class to the San Andreas Elementary campus.

VIII. Regionalized Programs Report (continued)

- Mike Harrison shared that he is aware of the need for counseling services for students in the county. Mike handed out a brochure for a training called “WhyTry” which would change the approach to counseling services. The council members supported any training that would give our staff new focus and direction in this area. Mike requested approval to bring the trainer to our county for one day in order to provide an overview of the programs concept to the site administrators. The only cost attached to this would be the cost of the plane ticket and providing lunch to the trainer. Mike suggested a possible two day intensive training during the summer. Mike will get back to the council with the final cost of this overview.

IX. Finance Report

- Claudia Davis was not in attendance. Nothing to report at this time.

X. Personnel and Payroll Report

- Debbie Koehler is not in attendance. Kathy Northington shared that there was nothing to report at this time.

XI. Comments from Council Members

- Mike Chimente asked when Ken Freedlander was returning to the office for the final training. Kathy Northington stated he was scheduled to return in March and that she would contact him for a firm date and notify the council members.

XII. Comments from the Public

None

XIII. Closed Session

Executive Council had no need to adjourn to Closed Session.

XIV. Public Report of Action Taken in Closed Session

Not applicable.

XV. Advance Planning & Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 10:30 a.m.

Next Executive Council Meeting

February 5, 2007 – Open Session 9:00 a.m.

Closed Session: Following Meeting (if necessary)

Calaveras County Office of Education Main Conference Room (MTUESD Hosting)

Any individual, who requires disability-related accommodations or modifications, including auxiliary aids and services, in order to participate in the board meeting, should contact the SELPA office in writing.
(Gov. Code 54953.2, 54954.1)