

CALAVERAS COUNTY SPECIAL EDUCATION LOCAL PLAN AREA

Calaveras County Office of Education
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Calaveras County Special Education Executive Council

MINUTES

December 15, 2009

Special Study Session RE: New Preschool for 2009

I. Call Public Session to Order 10:00 a.m.

Establishment of Quorum
Attendance by Roll Sheet

Executive Council Members:

Mike Chimente, Superintendent	Bret Harte Union High School District (BHUHSD)
John Brophy, Superintendent	Calaveras County Office of Education (CCOE)
Mark Campbell, Superintendent	Calaveras Unified School District (CUSD)
Kathy Northington, Superintendent	Mark Twain Union Elementary School District (MTUESD)
Rick Brewer, (Interim) Superintendent	Vallecito Union School District (VUSD)
Joan Lark	BHUHSD Board Member / President
Lou Boitano	CCOE Board Member
Kathy Huebert	CCOE Board Member
Evan Garamendi	CUSD Board Member
Diane Bateman	MTUESD Board Member
Jill Bray	VUSD Board Member

Staff:

Robin Searway	SELPA Director
Jan Kendall	CUSD Director of Special Education
Patty Haskell	Program Manager
Sue Harper	Program Manager
Claudia Davis	Assistant Superintendent, Business Services
Debbie Koehler	Director, Personnel/Administrative Services
Debbie Scadden	Administrative Assistant, SELPA

Absent:

Debbie Koehler	Director, Personnel/Administrative Services
Diane Bateman	MTUESD Board Member
Evan Garamendi	CUSD Board Member
Jan Kendall	CUSD Director of Special Education
Claudia Davis	Assistant Superintendent, Business Services

Others:

None

II. Approve Agenda

Mike Chimente made a motion to approve the agenda of December 15, 2009. Mark Campbell seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

III. Public Comment

No public comment.

IV. Flag Salute

V. Discussion/Action items

- A. **Late Start Days and Special Education Transportation:** Mike Chimente shared his concern regarding late day transportation practices throughout the county. In the past, when the regular education busses are on late start due to weather conditions, the special education busses attempted their normal schedules. Mike believes that due to safety issues all transportation throughout the county should be on the same schedule when late days occur. To date, the communication between administration and transportation staff has been inconsistent. He proposed that a procedure be put into effect stating that if one or more districts face a late start day the transportation directors are to be notified immediately so that they in turn can notify their drivers. This information will also be conveyed to parents via radio and Motherlode.com. Additionally, if district classes close, the special education classes will be canceled for the day as well. Via automatic dialing notification, district staff will be in charge of contacting parents, staff, teachers and aides of the closure. The council members agreed to this clarification of the late day and school closure transportation policy.
- B. **New Preschool for 2009:** Robin began the discussion explaining that she has met with the Superintendents, SELPA Finance Committee and staff regarding the number of preschoolers with special needs in our county. In addition, there is a prediction of a major influx of preschool students with autism moving into the county. Although strict guidelines are being followed for identification of students on the spectrum, Robin shared that the need for an additional preschool program is eminent. She asked the council members for a final decision on adding another preschool program at Valley Springs Elementary. Mike Chimente made a motion to approve the preschool program at VSE. Rick Brewer seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

Discussion occurred regarding how the county SELPA and districts can anticipate the various program needs in the future for all age levels of students on the spectrum.

Robin shared that the San Andreas Preschool Program teacher has expressed interest in taking the VSE position. Further staffing will depend on student attendance in the program. Robin stated that this may ease some transportation issues as the Valley Springs/Jenny Lind area as preschoolers will be closer to their home school site. Specific details will need to be worked out and Robin is hoping that the classroom will be open by late January or early February.

XI. Comments from the Public

None

XII. Advance Planning & Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 10:43 a.m.

Closed Session

None

Next Scheduled Executive Council Meeting

January 18, 2010 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

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)