

CALAVERAS COUNTY SPECIAL EDUCATION LOCAL PLAN AREA

Calaveras County Office of Education
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Calaveras County Special Education Executive Council

MINUTES

November 23, 2009

I. Call Public Session to Order 9:00 a.m.

Establishment of Quorum
Attendance by Roll Sheet

Executive Council Members:

Mike Chimente, Superintendent
John Brophy, Superintendent
Mark Campbell, Superintendent
Kathy Northington, Superintendent
Rick Brewer, (Interim) Superintendent
Joan Lark
Lou Boitano
Kathy Huebert
Evan Garamendi
Diane Bateman
Jill Bray

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

Staff:

Robin Searway
Jan Kendall
Patty Haskell
Sue Harper
Claudia Davis
Debbie Koehler
Debbie Scadden

SELPA Director
CUSD Director of Special Education
Program Manager
Program Manager
Assistant Superintendent, Business Services
Director, Personnel/Administrative Services
Administrative Assistant, SELPA

Absent:

Debbie Koehler

Director, Personnel/Administrative Services

Others:

Please note that there are times when not all attendees sign in at the meeting. I attempt to keep track of any council members that arrive late but this is not always possible. Therefore I depend on the sign in sheet for accurate attendance

II. Approve Agenda

Mike Chimente made a motion to approve the agenda of November 23, 2009. Mark Campbell seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

III. Public Comment

No public comment.

IV. Flag Salute

V. Consent Minutes

John Brophy made a motion to approve the minutes of September 21, 2009. Rick Brewer seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

VI. Discussion/Action items

- A. **Threat Assessment and Suicide Prevention-Andria Pyle** (handout provided): Andria discussed the need for training on suicide prevention in our county. Our school psychologists are requesting a protocol be put in place to address both threat assessment and suicide prevention. Andria suggested a presenter she is familiar with; Dr. Steve Brock a professor at CSUS. The focus of this training would be on identification, response and prevention. She shared that the cost of the six hour training by Dr. Brock would be \$1500.00. Andria had checked with Dr. Brock regarding his availability and two dates were chosen; January 29, 2010 or February 26, 2010. She also suggested opening the training up to all staff, administrators, Calaveras Behavioral Health Services, along with the Sheriff's Department and the Angels Police Department. Robin Searway shared that she believes this would be a positive move forward in becoming more involved with our community agencies. The council members decided that February 26, 2010 would be the date to conduct this training. Mike Chimente offered the Bret Harte Theatre for the location. Robin stated that SELPA staff development funds will be used to pay for the inservice; however, to help defray cost we may consider charging a nominal fee to outside agencies for attendance. The council members supported this training and the Superintendents will make sure the appropriate staff attends. Regarding the threat assessment piece, Andria shared that Lisa Shaw, Doug Harper and Emily Branscum have been training the psychologists and will continue to work on establishing a protocol. Doug Harper and Lisa Shaw are available for any immediate needs at our school sites. The council members expressed their appreciation of the information Andria provided.
- B. **Preschool Numbers and Projected Preschool Class for 2010-2011** (handout provided): Patty Haskell provided documentation on the current and projected numbers of preschoolers in our county. Chris Markus shared that she has three to four assessments per month and half of the children are found to be on the autism spectrum. She stated that referrals come from community members, doctors, parents, Head Start and VMRC. Meetings are held once a month with the VMRC and Head Start staff to discuss the referrals and current cases. Chris stated that early intervention is the key to success for these students. Patty shared that the number of students needing preschool services are increasing every year. She asked that the council members consider adding a preschool program to accommodate these students. The council members discussed possible locations that might be available for the program. A self contained classroom on the Valley Springs Elementary campus was considered. Patty shared that adding a program in the CUSD area would decrease the number of students in the current preschools. A program at Valley Springs Elementary would help to alleviate transportation time by providing a preschool close to where the students on that side of the county reside. Valley Springs Elementary seems to be the most viable site due to licensing and room availability. The cost projection would be \$110,000 to cover hiring a teacher, aides and classroom set-up. Patty will discuss the new program with the transportation directors during their next scheduled meeting. The Superintendents will discuss the new preschool at their next meeting and bring a recommendation to the council. To allow appropriate time for further discussion and a decision it was decided to convene an Executive Council special session on December 15th at 10:00 a.m. The council members thanked Patty and Chris for their presentation.

- C. **Follow-Up on SSID Numbers for Preschoolers-Andi Thomas** (handout provided): The SSID number retrieval will be handled at the district level. However, the process has not been made clear by CDE. Andi and Lorie Wise will be attending training on this in January. Further information will be provided to the council members as it becomes available. Andi also shared that the P1 count is looking good at this time. By the time the numbers are due to the State, Andi is confident that all of the districts will be under the 2% compliance margin. Andi shared a list of the common errors made by staff on their IEP paperwork. The council appreciated Andi's information and expressed their appreciation for her hard work.
- D. **Review SESR Training (10/22/09)-What's Next?** (handout provided): Robin Searway shared that Bill Lundquist will be our new CDE consultant for the Self Review process. A packet was distributed to the council members which included the SESR Training Module Overview and the parent survey. A parent forum will need to be held with scripted questions from CDE. It was decided that the district point people would be as follows:
CUSD – Jan Kendall
CCOE-Deb Blankenship
VUSD-Rick Brewer
BHUHSD-Mike Chimente
MTUESD-Kathy Northington
Robin will keep the council members posted of any new developments or information regarding the SESR.
- E. **Reconfirming ESY Dates for 2010 (Patty Haskell):** Patty wanted to confirm the ESY dates with the council members. The dates chosen county-wide are June 14, 2010 through July 9, 2010.
- F. **Request from a Teacher for Support to Enter the UOP Speech/Language Program (John Brophy):** John proposed that the districts sponsor Meegan Long an employee at VSE by funding a portion of the cost to enable her to enroll in the UOP Speech/Language program. In return she will agree to stay employed with CCOE for three years after her completion of the program. The cost of the program is \$76,000.00 with the student paying \$36,000.00 and the districts paying \$40,000.00. Upon completion of the program, Meegan could be available anywhere she is needed in the county. John asked for approval for the districts to sponsor that portion of her enrollment costs. The council members decided that this was a worthwhile proposal and that the \$40,000.00 would be split by the five districts. Mike Chimente made a motion to support this staff member in the program. Kathy Northington seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. John stated that he would ask Meegan to attend a future Executive Council meeting to meet the council members and update them on her progress at UOP.

VII. SELPA Directors Report

Robin Searway reported the following:

- Robin shared that on the October 30th core development day, Anne Sherlock and Jennifer Postel from Fagen, Friedman and Fulfroast presented the final IEP training for general education teachers. It was very well attended and favorably received. The afternoon presentation was on Manifestation Determination and ESY. Robin wanted to remind the council members that there is a workshop on 'Legal Perspectives on 504 Plan' scheduled for January 21, 2010 from 1:00 pm to 5:00 pm.
- The Steering Committee has received and is reviewing the first section of the revised local plan.

- Robin shared her concern regarding vacancies in the Community Advisory Committee (CAC). She shared that we need representatives for the AU SELPA, Charter Schools, VUSD and a CUSD parent. Joan Lark offered to be a representative for the AU SELPA. Robin shared her appreciation. She stated that there was a recent presentation by Lisa Shaw and Emily Branscum on Behavior Strategies for parents. Two CAC members from Tuolumne attended the workshop and shared their favorable impression of our CAC meeting. The CAC dates and proposed presentations are on the CCOE website.

Patty Haskell:

- * Patty reported that Diane Reid, the newly hired AME preschool program teacher is doing well and the classroom is running smoothly.
- * The next Pro Act training is scheduled for January 6-8, 2010. Patty also shared that it is time for the one day recertification trainings to begin. Registration will be available after the holidays.

Sue Harper:

- * Sue shared that the Workability funding has finally come in from the State. \$75,758.00 has been allotted for this program.
- * Sue has arranged for a certified drug counselor to come into the Gold Strike Structured Behavior Class two days per week. The counselor was recommended to Sue by Dave Sachman from Behavioral Health Services.
- * The Gold Strike SBC program has eleven students in the class. She shared that the students that are mainstreamed are doing well. One student was transferred to a Non Public School.
- * Sue is pleased with the progress of the Transition Program. However, there are more students coming into the program with emotional needs and Sue feels more counseling services may be required for this program. She will continue to monitor these needs.

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VIII. Finance Report

Claudia Davis had no new information to report.

IX. Personnel and Payroll Report

Debbie Koehler was unable to attend this meeting. John Brophy stated there was nothing new to report.

X. Comments from Council Members

None

XI. Comments from the Public

None

XII. Advance Planning & Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 11:36 a.m.

Closed Session

None

Next Executive Council Meeting

January 19, 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)