

**Community Advisory Committee for Special Education**  
West Contra Costa Unified School District  
Pupil Services Center, Special Education  
2465 Dolan Way  
San Pablo, CA 94806

**MINUTES September 14, 2015**

**CAC members present:** Patricia Albeno, Fayza Ayyad, Jeanine Bishop, Michael Curry, Jeannette Lambert, Elizabeth Mooney, Estela Depaz, Nancie Rouse, Lisa Steiner, Danielle Storer  
**Staff members present:** Steve Collins, Eric Peterson, Kira Walsh, Ameer Evangelista-Marcayda, Darlene Almeida, Christine Russell, June Melchior  
**Guests present:** Liz Block, Greg Cain, Jenell Hurd, Corina Sameniego, Joshua Maier, Jennifer Cesario

**Call to order:** The meeting was called to order at 7:05 p.m.

**Introductions and Approval of Minutes:**

The May 2015 minutes were reviewed. A motion to approve the minutes was made by L. Steiner and seconded by E. Mooney. All in favor by: P. Albeno, F. Ayyad, J. Bishop, M. Curry, J. Lambert, E. Mooney, L. Steiner, D. Storer None opposed, One abstentions by N. Rouse.

**Public Comment & Announcements:**

Jeannette reminded attendees that public comments can be made but without naming personnel.

A question was asked regarding how to evacuate students in wheelchairs from upper floors, and if schools could have automatic door openers. S. Collins will look into evacuation options.

Orinda Middle School holds a Disabilities Awareness Week in October with an Open House for the public in the evening, October 23. The station activities may be similar to what we use in WCCUSD. CAC members may want to attend the Open House to see how they compare.

CARE Parent Network September Newsletter was passed out.

The Walnut Festival Special Needs night will be held at Heather Farms Park in Walnut Creek. No flyer yet but the date may be September 26. RSVP by Sept 18 to [walnutfestival@sbcglobal.net](mailto:walnutfestival@sbcglobal.net) or by calling (925) 935-6766

A presentation about the History of the Americans With Disabilities Act is on display at the Ed Roberts Center in Berkeley thru December 18.

There is an opening for a Parent Member on the State Advisory Commission for Special Education. The commission meets 4 to 5 times per year in Sacramento. The term is for up to four years. Applications are due by October 2.

A question was asked regarding transportation of special education students to charter schools. If the charter is not under WCCUSD, we do not provide transportation.

**SELPA Directors Report:**

Start of School: a new Transitional Kindergarten and Intermediate NSH were opened at Sheldon Elementary. A new Primary SH was opened at Peres but closed due to low enrollment. One class was closed at Pinole Valley High due to lower enrollment.

Staffing at the beginning of the school year was challenging as not all teachers were cleared. Subs and retirees were in some classes but all teachers should be placed within another week. There is a shortage of aides. There is also a shortage of bus drivers for First Student so some students have been getting to school late.

Professional Development: Pre-K thru 6th grade teachers are being trained in STAR, an ABA curriculum. They are also receiving training in Basics 3, which aligns with Common Core, Triumph, Woodcock –Johnson, and CPI.

Gail Adams, an expert in remedial reading will train Learning Center and NSH teachers in Rewards, Read Naturally, Phonics for Reading and the 6 Minute Solution.

The Diagnostic Center of Northern California is presenting workshops for teachers, school psychologists and behaviorists on Effective Behavior Interventions.

The Next meeting of the LCAP (Local Control Accountability Plan) Committee is September 29. LCAP supports RTI tiers and funds a lot of the support materials our teachers use.

The Governor has allotted funds to continue ADR, Alternative Dispute Resolution, across the state. Even though the funds were initially redistributed to about 8 specific districts, the rest of the state will also be receiving funding.

#### **New Business:**

Committee Assignments:

Danielle will continue on LCAP Committee.

Lisa Steiner will continue on Transportation Committee. Lisa reported attending two meetings and agrees with the report that the bus company is short on drivers.

Estele Depaz will serve on the Medi-Cal Committee.

Resource Parents are volunteer parents who provide support and information to parents who have questions or are struggling with issues related to their children's education as part of ADR. If any CAC members would like to be trained as Resource Parents, please contact Jeanine. The time commitment is one meeting per month, assisting at parent events, and helping to answer calls on the parent hotline. The parent hotline is currently down, and a technician has been called. Parents can still get through to the Resource Center room phone number.

Jeanine would like to have CAC's support to provide a Special Education Mini Conference for parents this year. We can plan for a Saturday morning and need to decide on topics and speakers as soon as possible. Patricia, Darlene, Estela and Jeannette agreed to work on subcommittee for planning.

Items handed out were Uniform Complaint forms, Parent Handbooks, Procedural Manuals, and bookmarks with Person First terminology.

#### **For the Good of the Order:**

The next CAC meeting will be Monday, October 5.

Meeting adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jeanine Bishop

# **Community Advisory Committee for Special Education**

**West Contra Costa Unified School District**

**Monday October 5, 2015**

7:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.

**Cameron School**

**7140 Gladys Ave., El Cerrito**

## ***AGENDA***

- I. Welcome and Introductions
- II. Approval of September 2015 Minutes
- III. Public Comment /Announcements
- IV. SELPA Directors Report Update
- V. Old Business
  - Committee Updates
  - Guest Speakers
  - Parent Conference
- VI. New Business
  - Brian Rutford's Memorial Award
  - You Make a Difference Award
- VII. For The Good Of The Order

\*Childcare is available.

Note: Any issues involving personnel or confidential matters cannot be discussed in open forum and will be directed to the appropriate administrative personnel.