
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 8, 2014

CAC members present: Fayza Ayyad, Jeanine Bishop, Bellinda Bluntach, Victor Costa, Michael Curry, Estela Depaz, Maria Gonzalez , Jeannette Lambert, Elizabeth Mooney, Brian Rutford, Danielle Storer, Hope Tucker

Staff members present: Darlene Almeida, Steve Collins, Joyce Forte, Eric Peterson, Magdalena Browne, Rosalind Brown, Maria Gomez, Christine Russell, Kira Walsh

Guests present: Liz Block, Andrea Ceja, Marisol Rodriguez , Mario Rodriguez, Xiao Jun, Janet Lloyd Massey

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

Introductions and Approval of Minutes:

The May 2014 minutes were reviewed. Motion approved and seconded. All in favor by: F. Ayyad, E. Depaz, J. Bishop, B. Bluntach, V. Costa, M. Curry, M. Gonzalez, E. Mooney, J. Lambert, B. Rutford, D. Storer, H. Tucker. None opposed, no abstentions.

Public Comment & Announcements:

Friends of Disabled Children. Inc, will participate in the El Cerrito City wide sale October 11. Donations may be dropped off at DPRC or contact Janet Lloyd Massey. FDC supports students and teachers in WCCUSD, providing mini-grants to teachers.

CAC flyer with 2014/2015 meeting dates was passed out.

A presentation on Due Process will be held on Sept 26 in Martinez. Cosponsored by CARE parent Network and free of charge.

Walnut Festival special needs night is September 17 at Heather Farms Park in Walnut Creek. Free of charge. RSVP by Sept 12.

STAR Parent Conference on Autism is October 11 at RCEB in San Leandro.

SELPA Directors Report:

Eric Peterson is new Director of Special Education. Ora Anderson retired in August. Christine Russell is a new program specialist for implementation of Common Core. New classes opened: Shannon PS, Peres SH Trans. Kinder., Valley View, NSH TK and Primary. DeAnza converted on SH class to autism class. Additional RSP was added to El Cerrito HS and DeAnza HS.

The Special Education Self review has been completed. The CDE has changed the self- review process so that there is now an annual application. WCCUSD could now go through a verification review annually.

Sped is waiting for confirmation that there will not be one for this year, due to just completing last years'.

Enrollment has grown to 4300 students.

Staff training will include Common Core, IEP Boot Camps, new Woodcock Johnson assessment.

PECS training by invitation only for autism teachers.

Basics 2

Autism training over 3 Saturdays for paras.

Classified training day will be held on Monday, October 13. This is the first time it's not being held on Friday.

There is currently a shortage of subs for aides.

Teachers who are returning from the Philippines will staff the remaining classrooms. All but two teachers are credentialed.

Old Business:

LCAP, Local Control Accountability Plan Committee report:

As part of the new funding, special education received additional psychologists, additional day of counseling at 8 elementary schools.

Steger now has two full time learning center teachers. Eleven schools have converted to full day kindergarten. Eleven more will convert next year, and the rest will convert for the 3rd year.

Kennedy and Richmond High are implementing some class size reduction. There may be some K-3 class size reduction.

New Business:

Common Core: Christine Russell described the process of implementation of Common Core State Standards. IEP goals will have to align to grade level standards. Ms. Russell went over the topics in the handout, "10 Things Parents Need to Know to Support Their Children with Disabilities," and described the testing schedule for 2015. There will be no results reported for new assessments taken this year.

For the Good of the Order:

Inclusion program and placements were described for pre-K through grade 12.

The next CAC meeting will be held at Cameron on October 6 at 7 p.m.

Meeting adjourned at 8:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jeanine Bishop