

CAC

COMMUNITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE for Special Education

ADVISING THE BOARD OF EDUCATION
SAN DIEGO UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

General Membership Meeting: MINUTES

Date: September 10, 2009
Time: 7:00pm – 9:00pm
Location: 2375 Harold J. Ballard Center, Auditorium
Congress St, San Diego, CA 92110

WELCOME & INTRODUCTIONS

Meeting called to order at 7:20pm

Chairperson, Joyce Clark welcomed attendees and introduced CAC members, district staff and administrators and acknowledged parents. The Chair reviewed the agenda, meeting format and structure, and process for providing public comment..

ROLL CALL/MEMBER ATTENDANCE

Present: Moira Allbritton, Belquis Ander, William Cary, Joyce Clark, Mary Conroy, Michelle Crisci, Dorene Dias-Pesta, Pansy Hilliard, Meghann Hughes, Mina Kern, Pam McKinney, Teresa Michel, Christy Scadden, Nancy Stevenson

Absent: Maleia Christian, Stephanie Fimbres, Meghann Hughes

Ex-Officio: Dr. Arun Ramanathan, Susan Martinez, Executive Director; Dr. Joe Fulcher

Quorum Established

CAC BUSINESS

CAC Chair Report:

- Chair reviewed outcomes from the CAC Retreat & Planning Session (on file)
- Chair reviewed CAC meeting schedules and town hall forums: *Susan Martinez' office is following up on CAC/Community Forum locations*
- CAC Committee Assignments - By-laws/ Newsletter/ Membership: Committee Chairs will be determined at the Executive Committee Mtg. which is scheduled for September 24, 2009. Chair encouraged members to sign-up for committees of interest.
- Membership Applications: 2 new applications received and will be reviewed at the September CAC Executive Committee Meeting
- CAC Retreat & Planning Meeting Minutes (June 25, 2009): *William Cary motioned to approve Planning Meeting minutes, Mary Conroy 2nd, motion carried*
- CAC General Meeting Minutes (June 4, 2009): *Moira Allbritton motioned to approve June 2009 General CAC minutes, William Cary 2nd, motion carried*

District Report

- Susan Martinez introduced the new Special Education Division Program Managers/Key contacts.
 - Sonia Picos - Elementary
 - Cathy Whitley- Middle/K-8 Schools
 - Jody BonDurant-Strong - Parent Services and Charter Schools
 - Janice VonArx - Specialized Settings
 - Brad Hoyt - Special and Related Services
 - Bob Morris – Principal, TRACE
 - Danielle Clark- Special Education Site Admin, Riley; New Dawn; Marcy: Unified Day
 - Aimee Sag - Special Education Site Admin, Behavior Unit
 - Lori Lillo - Special Education Site Admin, SEEC
- Dr. Ramanathan discussed the Draft IDEA Stimulus Funding Plan (full report on sandi.net):
 - Professional development, best practices
 - Instructional and Behavioral Intervention & Assistive Technology
 - Kurzweil- text to speech
 - Updated IEP/RTI
 - New reading software- Voyager, ALIAS, Read 180
 - Expanded Certification Options- working with SDEA to pay for general education teachers to earn special education credential: teachers must make a three year commitment to the district
 - Parent Education and Learning Opportunities
 - Transitional Support - Esperanza, mental health program for students with moderate/significant cognitive disabilities
 - Research and Ongoing Expert Consultation and Support
 - Dr. Thomas Heir
 - Dr. Jaime Hernandez
- Dr. Ramanathan shared the Hernandez report had been completed. The report confirms SDUSD has over identified African American Students for the Federal Handicapping Condition (FHC) of Emotional Disturbance and English Language Learners have been over identified under the FHC of Specific Learning Disability and Speech and Language Impaired. Remedial recommendations include updated IEP system, district wide reading interventions and systematic SST process.
- Dr. David Rose, one of the designers of Universal Design for Learning (UDL) will be working with SDUSD to design trainings for staff and the i21 Initiative.

PUBLIC OPEN FORUM: Q & A

- **Re: Esperanza Project:** CAC Chair requested a copy of the outcomes/report/data . *Dr. Ramanathan stated he would provide a report to the CAC Chair*
- **Re: literacy for students with significant cognitive disabilities,** including non-verbal students: *Susan Martinez shared students will be provided with the opportunity to learn to read, aligning with “least dangerous assumptions.”*
- **Re: IEP process:** When will general education teachers be trained on how to follow the Special Factors page? *Susan Martinez: Principals have received training around compliance and noted classroom teachers can be individually sued for not following accommodations and modifications listed on IEP’s.*
- **Re: Math instructional supports:** How will the District address the math needs of students and modify the math curriculum? *District will pay for teachers to become dual certified to “build long term capacity and enhance the skills of our teachers.”*

- **Re: Stimulus dollar:** *Dr. Ramanathan reported workgroup recommendations were aligned with how the stimulus money was spent.*
- **Re: Proposition S:** *Dr. Ramanathan reported monies will provide environmental upgrades to classrooms. Upgrades specific to sites can be found on SDUSD webpage.*
- **Re: i21:** *Dr. Ramanathan stated a three year phase-in plan is in place to provide i21 technology to every student and classroom. Cluster Support Teachers (CST) will be “trainer of trainers” on how to use the new technology (UDL)/assistive technology available on all student laptops.*
- **Re; Co-teaching:** *District response - Individual site staff will decide how they want co-teaching to “flush-out” at their site.*
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MEETING ADJOURNED AT 8:55 PM

Motion made by Moira Allbritton. 2nd: Christy Scadden