

# CAC

## COMMUNITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE for Special Education

ADVISING THE BOARD OF EDUCATION  
SAN DIEGO UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

### General Membership Meeting: MINUTES

**Date:** June 10, 2010

**Time:** 7:00-9:00 pm

**Location:** Stanley Middle School Auditorium  
6298 Radcliffe Dr. San Diego, CA 92122

### WELCOME & INTRODUCTIONS

#### **Meeting called to order at 7:00 pm**

The Chairperson, Joyce Clark, welcomed attendees and introduced CAC member, district staff and administrators and acknowledged parents. The chair reviewed the agenda, meeting format and structure, and process for providing public comment. The Chair congratulated incoming officers and expressed her appreciation for the support from members, staff and community.

**Announcements:** Chair announced childcare and translation services were available

### ROLL CALL/MEMBER ATTENDANCE

**Present:** Moira Allbritton, Mary Conroy, Michelle Crisci, Mina Kern, Pam McKinney, Teresa Michel, Christy Scadden, Teresa Hilleary, Joyce Clark

**Absent:** Belquis Andres, Bill Cary, Maleia Christian, Dorene Dias-Pesta, Stephanie Fimbres, Meghann Hughes, Nancy Stevenson

**Ex-Officio:** Dr. Joe Fulcher, Susan Martinez,

**District Consultant:** Dr. Jamie Hernandez

**Quorum Established**

### CAC BUSINESS

#### **Approve CAC meeting minutes (action)**

Minutes from the May meeting were reviewed. Clarification of attendance was addressed along with questions concerning "main stream cluster classes" and co-teaching. Christy Scadden made a motion to approve the May General Membership meeting minutes. Mary Conroy seconded the motion. Motion passed with 1 abstention.

#### **Chair Report – (CAC Annual Report and Resolution on file)**

Joyce Clark presented a resolution to be approved by the CAC membership and put forth for approval by the San Diego Unified School Board and The San Diego Unified School District as part of the annual recommendations report from the CAC board. The purpose of this resolution is with a leadership change, to recommit to "protecting and preserving civil rights" for all students, to include students with disabilities and at-risk populations by improving services for students and adopting programs that would improve curricula and give all students equal access to an education.

Intend to submit the resolution to the School Board in the next couple of weeks, hopefully the June 25<sup>th</sup> meeting. Mary Conroy made a motion to approve the resolution. Moira Allbritton seconded the motion. Motion unanimously approved.

There will be a CAC retreat at the end of the year, probably an informal gathering at a restaurant in Old Town. Joyce will send out details later. Chair announced CAC Bylaws reviewed by Committee and approved. Vice-Chair is working on finalizing meeting schedule for 2010/2011

### **DISTRICT REPORT/PROGRAM/OPERATIONS UPDATE:**

Dr. Joe Fulcher reported on the status of the English Language Learners Committee (ELL) and the next steps to be taken.

District Staff : Cluster Support Teacher (CST) and Program Manager, Elementary/SEEC, gave a power point presentation with information on a preliminary document of a flow chart following a student from initial evaluation, pre-referral, through to an end based on Maslow's Hierarchy of Needs. This is not yet a working document, but it is thought that the idea behind it can be expanded to cover all students through an evaluation process.

Dr. Fulcher stated the District will work with CAC in September regarding a formal policy prior to rolling out the process and formal presentation to the Board of Education.

The new EXCEED program for IEP's, is due to replace ENCORE, with the roll out at the beginning of the school year by cluster, three clusters at a time, starting in September, with the goal of having it at every site by December 2010.

Questions: Joyce Clark asked: Have parents been part of the review process prior to rolling out to schools? Susan Martinez answered that after the basics, CAC will have opportunity for input.

Susan Martinez discussed the ARRA funding-using IDEA stimulus funds to promote positive reform. Also gave the power point presentation on *Least Restrictive Environment (LRE) placement: Understanding and Making the Placement Decision*. This presentation was first given at the April General Membership Meeting. Six million dollars new funds are available for SEEC to train staff on building language skills in young children. T

The District is offering several summer institutes and parent scholarships are available.

- Summer Autism Conference: June 28-30; University of San Diego-Joan B. Kroc Center for Peace and Justice; Beyond Behaviors: "Reforming our Perceptions"
- Summer Institute: June 30, July 1-2; Lincoln High School; focusing on the provision of quality education for all.
- Reading Institute-1 week
- Online P.D.-Special Ed. Connection-teachers will receive Discover Credit
- Universal Design for Learning (UDL)/ Center for Applied CAST-end of August

Ongoing Professional Development:

Quality IEP's

Kurzweil- Subline consulting, works for CAST

Susan will bring a list of trainings for general and special education in the future  
Jody Bondurant-Strong will put IEP survey online and parent webmail

**Due Process/Complaints/Mediation** Data (on file) – Dr. Fulcher

Dr. Fulcher presented numbers from the Due Process Office

**Programs and Operations Update: Dr, Fulcher**

There are currently 16 Para-educator vacancies

Riley change-fewer Instructional Behavioral Techs and rehab specialists  
No Special Education Technician reduced  
Special Education Assistants will be reduced  
Bulk of classified staff will stay in place  
Concerns with \$9 million in funds from state budget that have yet to be approved

### **PUBLIC OPEN FORUM: Q & A**

**Q:** Ann Morin asked about the outcomes of compliance complaints, CDE and OCR, partial compliance vs. non-compliance and trends?

**A:** No trends re: due process/mediation

**Q:** Will Special Education structure be aligned with General Education structure, (Area Superintendents), to best support, communicate and create accountability and meet the needs of each unique community/cluster of schools?

**A:** Susan-Within the next week they will finalize plans and make an announcement...clusters will look slightly different... a hybrid approach.

**Q:** Class size and blending of ILS and PACE: A larger class of PACE students prevents mainstreaming due to lack of support, this is not creating the "least restrictive environment" (LRE).

**A:** ILS and PACE are old terms. Classrooms are no longer labeled...

**Q:** Parents repeat request in addressing specific concerns with two students concerning lack of progress, and current placement. No assistance received with revising or finalizing IEP's, no plan to make up for lost learning, difficult IEP team communication.

**A:** District to follow-up directly

**Q:** Mary Ellen Stives, Area Board XIII, On behalf of parents calling her office, expressed grave concerns over safety and treatment of children with special needs in many of the schools within San Diego Unified and the concern for minority parents and their treatment. Also she expressed concern with the attitude of many district personnel, their lack of understanding and information concerning children with special needs. What training plans are in place, who will be included and what types of accountability will there be?

**A:** District to follow-up directly

**Q:** Pam McKinney asked about the speech criteria in middle school. Clarification was requested in regard to a student who has an IEP with Speech/Language services. Why would the District deny Speech Therapy Services on the IEP and only offer the General Education Speech Class on the IEP?

**A:** Susan will follow up with Brad Hoyt concerning this question. There are speech improvement classes for general education students-17 weeks of remediation.

### **MEETING ADJOURNED AT 9:00pm**

Christy Scadden made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Mary Conroy seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted by,  
Mary Conroy