

SPECIAL EDUCATION COUNCIL MEETING

Thursday, April 13, 2006
3:30 –5:30 p.m.
PFT Office

MINUTES

Attendees: Gail Adams, Melanie Black, Lynneah Finkbeiner, Christine Kisselburgh, Theresa Kurtz, McKayla LaBorde, JoAnn Murphy, Geralyn Murray, Kathy Oxford, Cyndy Rhamy, Linda Sirb, Wendy Smith Rogers, Dave Thompson

REVIEW OF MINUTES OF MARCH 28TH MEETING

The minutes were reviewed and approved by the Council with no additions or changes.

BUDGET PRIORITIES AND AREAS OF FOCUS FOR 2005-06, 2006-07, 2007-08

During the first part of the meeting each group revisited their priority items to be recommended over the next three years. Each group reported out to the group as follows:

Group 1: Culture and Ownership

The work for this group begins immediately with the development of the first phase of the Program Quality Review process. They are focused on the alignment of the Student Study Team and Intervention Assistance Team process throughout the district. No specific funding will be needed for the remainder of 2005-06.

In 2006-07 some funding will be needed for release time for teachers to conduct program reviews. JoAnn added that next year is the self review for special education programs in San Diego County and advised the group to fold compliance into the standards of the Program Quality Review. Program specialists will also be included in the PQR process.

Group 2: Alternative Dispute Resolution

Dave reported that this group was not ready to report out yet. He has some new plans but wants to share it with his group in a separate meeting and will be able to report out at the next council meeting. No funding is needed for the remainder of 2005-06. According to his plan no funding will be needed in 2006-07 because existing resources will be used.

Group 3: Curriculum

This group revisited their priority recommendations for curriculum for special education teachers in reading and language. They revised their plan and spread out the costs and adoptions over a three year period of time as follows:

Special Education Council Meeting Minutes of April 13, 2006 (continued)

- Step up to Writing Program (K-12) (Training and pilot only) \$ 9,855
 - Read Naturally (K-12) 19,500
 - Six-Minute Solution (K-9) (Remedial 10-12) 5,800
 - Rewards (K-12) 31,250
 - **Total Curriculum Order for 2005-06** **\$66,405**

This provides each special education teacher (K-12) with materials and training in both reading and language that can be implemented immediately in 2006-07. It is also recommended that a TOSA Curriculum Coach be hired for 2006-07 to train and provide support to teachers in implementing the new curriculum. It is estimated that that cost is \$86,238. It is noted that in order for the District to not absorb any cost for the training for Read Naturally, Six-Minute Solution, and Rewards, it is necessary for all special education teachers to be released on the first staff development day in September to receive the training.

- 2006-07
 - Implement Step Up to Writing (K-12) \$ 24,310
 - Implement Read Well (K-1) Remedial 2-3 139,200
 - Train and Pilot Language! (K-12) 20,000
 - **Total Curriculum Order for 2006-07** **\$183,510**

It is recommended that a second TOSA Curriculum Coach be hired in 2007-08 to train and provide support to teachers in implementing the new curriculum. It is estimated that the cost of both TOSAs is \$172,476.

- 2007-08 Implement Language! (K-12) \$595,320

SUMMARY

It was the consensus of the Special Education Council that the \$80,000 currently available to the Council be used to implement the curriculum plan outlined for the 2005-06 school year. In addition, Kevin is supporting teachers to attend a training for Step Up to Writing for teachers volunteering for the pilot. It is our hope that the remaining unused funds from this year will carry over to offset curriculum costs in 2006-07.

The next meeting date is April 27, 2006 at the PFT office

Remaining meetings: May 18, 2006 and June 15, 2006