

## **Community Advisory Committee (CAC) for Special Education Minutes**

**Date:** 9/26/17

**Time:** 6:30 PM

**Location:** PUSD District Office  
15250 Avenue of Science San Diego, CA 92128

### **Present:**

Karen Harkins Slocomb, Chair

Gina Zanolini

Doyan Howard

Bernard Larsen

Etis Fathy

Anna Quint

Frida Brunzell, secretary

Sheila Keesling

**Absent:** Michelle Perry, Vice-Chair

Missing: List of public attendees.

- I. **Call to order** at 6:35 pm by presiding chair Karen Harkins Slocomb.
- II. **Quorum:** Quorum established
- III. **Reading and Approval of Minutes:** Karen Harkins Slocomb's name is misspelled. Minutes approved with corrections.

### **IV. Public Input**

- Name not provided – has a child in speech and complained that there is a lack of communication between the speech therapist and the parents. (Del Sur)
- Name not provided – complained that child needs speech, but doesn't get it (Bernardo Height's Middle school).

### **V. Executive Director's Report**

(1) There have been many recent changes in personnel in the district, both at the district's office and among the principals.

New at the District's office:

Associate Superintendent of Personnel Support Services (PSS) – James Jimenez

Director of Human Resources (HR) – Sandra Huevo

Associate Superintendent of Technology and Innovation – Jennifer Burks  
Director of Educational Technology – Lana Nguyen  
Associate Superintendent of Business Support Services (BSS) – Ron Little  
Executive Director of Learning Support Services (LSS) - Doug Johnson  
Executive Director of Learning Support Services (LSS) – Todd Cassen  
Director of Attendance and Discipline – James Dayhoff

#### Principals

Canyon View – Jill Halsey  
Del Sur – Eric Takeshita  
Sunset Hills – Lisa Wilken  
Bernardo Heights – Marie Galaz  
Black Mountain – Scott Corso  
Abraxas High – Alain Henry  
Westview – Tina Zieger

The district also has many new related service providers and many new temporary staff members due to staff being out on maternity leave, etc.

(2) There is a professional growth day on Friday September 29 where the majority of our special educators will be working with their individual sites.

#### Questions from parents to Director's report

- A question about if the district plans to hire any of the intern teachers. Answer no.
- When will the constant change of assistants settle? Why is there such a high turnover in aids?  
Doyan Howard replied that the district is working hard on improving the hiring process to minimize turnover. The constant change of aids is due to the fact that the district will provide a substitute until a permanent aid is hired.
- Kate Whelan commented that the application process for aids can be improved and she shared her struggles with trying to get hired for a job at the district.
- Doyan Howard replied with explaining that people are hired to work for the district, not for a specific position. The principals are choosing the aids with input from the teachers. The reason is that the principal is the one evaluating the aids, so she/he also needs to be the one who decides who to hire.
- One parent asked how the district advertise. Is it only on the district's website?  
Doyan Howard said that she thinks they also advertise elsewhere. There are not enough people who apply for the jobs available.
- Karen Harkins Slocomb asked if it would be possible for the resource teachers to meet during a district wide professional growth day.  
Doyan Howard replied that the resource teachers need to learn the same as the general Ed teachers at their cite so it is often not possible.

## **VI. Subcommittee Reports**

Nothing new to report.

## **VI. Membership Report and Elections**

The nominating committee, Frida Brunzell (for Michelle Perry), presented slate of nominees:

Melissa Lazaro  
Carlos Bazan  
Bertha Taylor  
Eric Olmos  
Donna Twardy  
Cheryl Hernandez  
Rosabel Aybayani  
David Choi  
Tiffany King

There were no nominations from the floor.

Motion was made to approve the nominees. The nominees were unanimously approved by the board.

CAC board members are recommended to attend the school board meeting on October 12 to be approved by the PUSD school board.

## **VII. Subcommittee Selections**

**Fall parent Info Night:** Michelle Perry, Anna Quint, Kate Clay (public)

**Spring Parent Info Night:** Cheryl Hernandez, Donna Twardy, Sheila Keesling

**Excellence Awards:** Rosabel Aybayani, Cheryl Hernandez, Donna Twardy, Kate Clay (public)

**Newsletter:** Gina Zanolini, Carlos Bazan, Melissa Lazarro

**Community Outreach:** Gina Zanolini, Sheila, Cheryl Hernandez, Bertha, Carlos

**Membership:** David Choi, Donna Hansel (public)

**Parent Handbook:** Bernard Larsen, Frida Brunzell, Melissa Lazaro, Gina Zanolini, David Choi, and Kate Whelan, Donna Hansel, Yvette Stanley from the public.

## **VIII. Fall Info Night**

The fall information night is scheduled for October 25. Michelle Perry has contacted Jonathan Mooney and he is interested in speaking. Many different suggestions came from the public:

- How to handle behavior issues
- College, what comes after high school
- What to expect so that communication doesn't fall apart
- The IEP process and your rights at an IEP meeting
- How to handle parent's grief caused by child being different
- How do I communicate with the district, who do I ask if I have questions, how do I get a hold of people?
- Outside resources for parents, one example "Parents advocating together"

One parent suggested that the CAC started a support group for parent, but it was noted that the CAC cannot do that since the CAC has to focus on students, not parents.

IX. SELPA Budget review – tabled for next month' meeting.

X. Review Local Area Plan – tabled for next month' meeting.

XI. Adjournment: Chair Karen Harkins Slocomb declared the meeting adjourned at 7:59 pm.

Respectfully submitted by,

Frida Brunzell, secretary