

MID ALAMEDA COUNTY SPECIAL EDUCATION LOCAL PLAN AREA

▣ Castro Valley Unified ▣ Hayward Unified ▣ San Leandro Unified ▣ San Lorenzo Unified

Administrative Unit: Castro Valley Unified School District

4400 Alma Avenue

Castro Valley, CA 94546

510-537-3000 ext. 1220

Regional Policy Board Meeting

January 29, 2018

4:30 pm

Staff Development Center

Castro Valley USD

4400 Alma Ave.

Castro Valley, CA 94546

AGENDA

1. Welcome/Establish Quorum
2. Introductions Information
3. Review RPB Meeting Minutes – Oct. 16, 2017 Action
4. Election of Regional Policy Board Officers Action
5. Allocation Plan Narrative Draft Information
6. Statewide Increase in Autism Programs Information
7. Alameda County BHCS Billing Issues Information
8. Discuss revisions to RPB By-Laws Information
9. Update on Bill-Back Pilot Policy Information
10. Director Updates Information
 - San Lorenzo USD
 - San Leandro USD
 - Hayward USD
 - Castro Valley USD
11. Public Comments Discussion

MID ALAMEDA COUNTY SELPA
4400 Alma Avenue, Castro Valley, CA 94546

REGULAR MEETING OF THE REGIONAL POLICY BOARD HELD AT
THE CVUSD DISTRICT OFFICE, 4400 ALMA AVENUE
CASTRO VALLEY

October 16, 2017

Vice President J. Loss called the meeting to order in the boardroom of the District Office at 4:39 pm. Roll call found the following members present.

Members Present: Jo Loss, Evelyn Gonzalez, Marilyn Stewart, Suzy Williams,
Sheila Adams, Colleen Palia, Ed Diolazo
Members Absent: Dr. Luis Reynoso
Quorum established

Meeting Minutes from May 15, 2017 meeting reviewed. E Gonzalez motioned to approve, M Stewart seconded, Motion passed 3-0. Meeting minutes adopted.

Open discussion of future agenda items –

Member Loss requested topic on significant increase in the number of students with autism. Important for the board to receive more information on this topic in order to help guide the districts through this development. Suzy Williams will seek guest speaker that can provide overview on this trend.

Members J Loss, E Gonzalez and M Stewart have requested this topic be on the agenda.

Board members also requested information on the English Language Pathologist program – how do districts attract/incent people to enter this field – districts need to be proactive, not reactive.

Director Updates –

Suzy Williams – CVUSD – please see write-up.

Additional comments:

CVUSD is developing behavioral health services at the district level. The cost of using Alameda County Office of Ed Behavioral Health Services is cost prohibitive for districts with minimal Medi-Cal funding available.

Finding Paraeducator subs are a problem this year. San Leandro has addressed this issue by having their bus drivers become para subs during the day which leaves them available to keep their bus routes – this is working well in San Leandro – Suzy will share with CVUSD.

Ed Diolazo – SLZUSD- please see write up.

Additional comments:

Ed Diolazo has announced his resignation – he has accepted new job with the Pleasanton USD. We wish him great success he will be missed by our group. Be proactive on Disproportionality. SLZUSD is a high Medi-Cal district – they've leveraged their funds with ERMHS for mental health services allowing student to stay in their schools vs. being sent elsewhere for services.

Sheila Adams – HUSD – please see write up.

Additional comments: None

Colleen Palia – SLUSD – please see write up.

Additional comments: None

By-Laws Discussion

Evelyn Gonzalez and Marilyn Stewart opened the conversation

Review of current by-laws and comparison to other SELPA's by-laws show the MAC SELPA By-Laws to be weak, language is outdated. Most SELPAs have moved to including their Superintendents on the Regional Policy Board. General consensus of the group is to maintain the current structure with a School Board member from each district as member of the Regional Policy Board and the Regional Policy Board remains the Governance Team for the SELPA.

SLUSD CBO would like some changes in the By-Laws – it is the recommendation of E. Gonzalez that the CBO's from each district meet to discuss possible changes to the sections of the by-laws that address financial issues.

Additional Questions:

Who are alternates?

Term length?

Weighted vote – consensus to remove weighted vote, move to everyone gets 1 vote

MOU Discussion

Ed Diolazo suggested the RPB should make this policy, not through each district.

Evelyn Gonzalez suggested it be reviewed by attorneys to ensure it will hold up in court.

Jo Loss recommended initiating a pilot program. By consensus the RPB authorized the pilot program.

Public Comments

No Parent University for Special Education this year.

Jo Loss encourages each district have a parent get together before school year starts in 2018-19

Meeting adjourned at 6:12 PM

San Lorenzo USD-Special Education Program

Information for the MAC-SELPA Regional Policy Board

Submitted by Ed Diolazo, Director

October 2017

Student Enrollment:

School Year	Special Education Enrollment (Per SEIS 10/16/17)
October 2017	1,161

Special Services staff changes for 2017-2018:

- 15 special education teachers
- 2 speech therapists
- 1 school nurse
- Director of Special Services

CDE Special Education Monitoring Systems for 2017-2018

- Data in Non-Compliance (DINC)—Plan submitted to CDE in 10/2017
- Performance Indicator Review (PIR)—3 targets not met—Dropout rate, Least Restrictive Environment (LRE) for students in separate schools, Statewide assessments
- Disproportionality—for ED, Discipline, Suspension rate, LRE separate school by ethnicity.
- Comprehensive Review—No guidance from CDE at this time

Professional Development for 2017-2018

- Teachers of Moderate to Severe disabilities--common core aligned alternative curriculum for students with intellectual disabilities. Curriculum training included Unique Learning Systems, News2u and Styer-Fitzgerald.
- Teachers of Mild to Moderate disabilities—Assessment with the WJ-IV test of achievement
- Summer PD: Supporting special education students in general education settings, Crisis Prevention Institute (CPI), Assistive Technology

Special Education Transportation

- First Student and ALC Transportation started the year relatively well. First Student and ALC have been responsive to all transportation concerns.

Educationally Related Mental Health Services (ERMHS)

- SLZUSD is working closely with Alameda County Behavioral Health to expand and improve school based mental health services for our students and families in special education. We are actively leveraging Medi-Cal funds to support our school-based programs.

LCAP advocacy (district and site level LCAP meetings are currently taking place):

- 2017-2018 LCAP must address the growing needs of the targeted groups including students in Special Education or referred for Special Education.
 - LCAP continues to fund 2 Nurses, 5 paraeducators, and 1 Psychologist.
 - There have been ongoing meetings with the LCAP steering committee regarding ways to support the needs of students with disabilities.

Castro Valley Unified School District
Special Services Update
Regional Policy Board Meeting
October 16, 2017

- ❖ District hired 11 new Special Education Teachers
 - ❖ Hired 4 new School Psychologists
 - ❖ 1 Psychologist is overseeing the District Mental Health Services (as a part of a three year plan to build internal capacity and lessen reliance on County Mental Health – BHCS)
 - ❖ Hired 1 new Management Level Behaviorist – BCBA
 - ❖ Hired 1 new Coordinator of Special Education – Secondary
 - ❖ District continues to rely heavily on contract SLP's due to lack of availability
(Please note only one position above is new)
-
- ❖ Professional Development focus: New core curriculum for Moderate/Severe classrooms; behavioral strategies; compliance; instructional practice; equity and inclusive strategies
 - ❖ Professional Development for Paraprofessional staff – developing a series of trainings to build capacity
 - ❖ All District Special Education staff trainings: Tuesday – presentation from F3 on '8 Essentials for Effective and Compliant IEP's'
-
- ❖ District has contracted with ALC for transportation services for the 17-18 school year
 - ❖ District is looking at options for the future including the costs associated with providing our own special education transportation
-
- ❖ District DINC (Data Interpreted Non-Compliant) was decrease to only 3 for the all of Castro Valley USD
 - ❖ District Performance Indicator Report Plan area for 16-17: Least Restrictive Environment; Statewide Assessments (Plan Due Jan. 31st)

Our students, teachers, and staff in Special Education are excited for the school year. We look forward to seeing all of our students having an exceptional school year while providing the supports and services necessary to access their education.

Mid-Alameda SELPA Update
Regional Policy Board Meeting
October 16, 2017

- SELPA welcomes Sheila Adams, Director of Special Education in Hayward Unified School District
- SELPA congratulates Ed Diolazo on his new position of Assistant Superintendent of Student Services in the Pleasanton Unified School District
- Welcome to Amy Capurro, who will serve as the Interim Director of Special Education for San Lorenzo Unified School District

- State SELPA Directors organization is in the process of creating SELPA 2.0 to continue to build a supportive, transparent, and cooperative relationship with CDE
- SELPA Directors are working closely with the State as well as at the local level to support the transition to the use of CALPADS for all future reporting.
- Disproportionality and Significant Disproportionality is predicted to more than double with new data points and formulas (Mid-Alameda has two districts working on CEIS plans)

- Funding continues to be at the forefront. SELPA is supporting several bills that would be of benefit in terms of Special Education funding (see attached for further information).
- Encroachment on the general fund has exceeded 55% statewide with multiple unfunded mandates.

- Locally, Mid-Alameda has created new MOU's to ensure the appropriate tracking of services as well as billing for Inter-SELPA services among member districts
- BHCS MOU for the 17-18 school year is still in the revision process, when available it will go to superintendents for approval.
- Increase in the number of Group Homes within the SELPA - Out

REGIONAL POLICY BOARD MEETING
October 16, 2017
HAYWARD UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT
SPECIAL EDUCATION DIRECTOR UPDATE



Special Education Update

A new Director II of Special Education was hired in September, 2017. The special education department was moved under the Associate Superintendent over Student and Family Services.

Staffing

Speech Language Pathologist have been difficult to hire both into the district and from agencies. The district started the year with 7 vacant SLP positions and has since hired 6 from agencies. Leaving the district short 1.5 FTE in Speech. The district increase behaviorist to 2.0 in special education but have been unable to fill the new 1.0 position. There is currently 1 teacher vacancy for an intenerate teacher for Home Instruction.

Training

- **CPI – Crisis Prevention Intervention Training**

The district now has 3 staff who have been trained and can conduct CPI training to the staff. Trainings are scheduled for Oct. 24-25 and Dec. 5-6. There will be two more scheduled for the spring.

- **New Teacher Orientation-**

Teacher new to Hayward were trained in a series of sessions on special education systems such as SEIS, Illuminate, and assessment protocols for testing.

- **IEP Protocols**

CDE came to Hayward and presented to ALL special education certificated staff (teachers, SLP, Psychologists, etc) on IEP writing, and IEP protocols

- **Site Leaders**

Site leader were brought together and trained by Program Specialist and Coordinators in some of the topic brought forward in the CDE training on IEP protocols as well as SEIS access and dashboard.

CEIS Plan

The district was identified by CDE as being significantly disproportionate in identification of white and African American Students as emotionally disturbed. The district is working with State Performance Plan Technical Assistance (SPP-TA) Project through CDE. The overall purpose of the project is to provide a system of technical assistance to address performance and compliance problems relating to disproportionality and significant disproportionality.

Community Advisory Council (CAC)-

Hayward will host the third of three Community Advisory Council parent information nights for the special education community serviced by the MAC SELPA. The topic presented will be Mastering the IEP Process

REGIONAL POLICY BOARD MEETING

October 16, 2017

SAN LEANDRO UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT SPECIAL EDUCATION DIRECTOR UPDATE

Responsive, Personalized Learning Pathways for Career and College Readiness



ENROLLMENT

San Leandro Unified School District current enrollment is 8,922 an increase of 603 students or roughly a 7% increase. December 2016 special education enrollment number was 1,197. The current special education enrollment number is 1,211.

RESTRUCTURING TRANSITION

During the fall of 2016, an assessment of educational services division programs was conducted. As a result of this assessment, the SLUSD Board of Education approved a restructuring of the educational services division that realigned programs and services into two areas: (1) Instructional Services, which covers departments that provide direct services to students and families; and (2) Instructional Support Services for departments that provide support services for the schools, students and families. This realignment created two new senior director positions to oversee the Instructional Services and Instructional Support Services areas. Three directors report to the Instructional Services Director, and two directors report to Instructional Support Services. The Special Education Director reports to the Senior Director of Instructional Services.

MINI SPECIAL EDUCATION STUDY FEBRUARY 2017 AND PROGRAM UPDATES

The district requested a study of its preschool and educationally related mental health services programs. Findings recommended a reduction in counseling enriched programs and realignment of preschool programs.

Preschool Programs

The district will continue with the implementation of its San Leandro Early Acquisition of Language and Speech program (SEALS) program. SEALS is an RtI program that provides children with minimal articulation errors and needing strategies to assist with further development of language. The Autism specific program enrollment numbers continue to increase. In order to accommodate the increase in numbers and projected growth, the district has redesigned its five hour program. Its five hour program has been reduced to 2 and half hours. This will allow for a morning and afternoon Autism program session to accommodate the growing numbers. The district continues to support two mild moderate pre school programs, and a Moderate Severe program.

ERMHS Programs

The district closed three of its five counseling enriched programs. Currently, the district houses one middle school and one high school counseling enriched program. To support students with mental health needs across the district, the district created a counseling enriched mainstream program for grades k-12. Students receive on site counseling from school psychologist interns while they continue to participate in the appropriate classroom program/setting. Students receive paraeducator support in the mainstreaming program. This has been a successful program this year.

Lead and Support Programs

The Lead and support program is in its third year at the secondary level and second year at the elementary level. The programs continue to provide students with a free and appropriate public education in the least restrictive setting.

STAFFING

Speech Language Pathologists and Education Specialists are in short supply. The district successfully hired three SLP's this year in place of outside contractors and plans to replace the final contract with a district SLP this year. There is one teacher vacancy at the middle school level and a potential vacancy at the elementary level due to the increase in enrollment this year. The district increased its behaviorists from 1.6 to 2.0 as well to accommodate the growth. Two assistant directors were hired to replace two program specialists who vacated their positions for other opportunities within the district. The district continues to actively recruit employees to reduce its reliance on non public agencies.

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT TRAINING

- **Crisis Prevention Intervention (CPI)**

Crisis Prevention Intervention (CPI) trainings continue to be provided to special education and administrative staff. The training provides an introduction to crisis prevention that emphasizes early intervention and non physical methods for preventing or managing disruptive behavior. This training has proven to be effective in teaching teachers and administrators how to de escalate situations and has received positive feedback from attendees. There are several trainings scheduled throughout the 2017-2018 school year.

- **Professional Development Site Leaders**

Site Management Meetings provided professional development around District Data Collection Systems. Tableau Dashboard, STAR, and Compass Learning platforms have been reviewed. Ongoing training around implementing Rtl or Multi Tiered Integrated Intervention Support System or MIISS Academic and Behavioral.

- **Professional Development SLTA members**

District wide professional development took place on September 29, 2017. Special education resource, mild moderate, and moderate teachers receive training alongside their general education teachers in major subject areas. Three main focus topics were Differentiation and Personalization, Technology Integration, and Responsive Classroom Management. Another PD is scheduled for Spring.

In addition, the general and special education teachers participate in ongoing professional development Lead and Support training and are provided collaboration time with their Lead and Support partners.

- **Professional Development CSEA Paraeducators**

The district behaviorists provide ongoing Relias training for the paraeducators. Topics covered have included prompt hierarchy/data sheets, consequence intervention, and teaching requests. Optional professional development days included Individualized Education Plan (IEP) 101 training and behavior support strategies in the classroom setting.

TECHNOLOGY

The district wide initiative to provide every student with access to a computer was completed in 2016/2017. The one student one device ratio is a huge accomplishment for the district. The district is currently rolling out Promethean Boards to all school site classrooms. District and School Performance Data Dashboard has been developed and routinely upgraded and information is updated in real time.. It monitors six data indicators, Suspension Rate, EL Progress, ELA, Math, Graduation Rate, College and Career, and Chronic Absenteeism. This information is available to the public on the District website.

SIGNIFICANT DISPROPORTIONALITY

The district has been identified as being significantly disproportionate in its identification of white emotionally disturbed students. The district has developed a coordinated early intervening service (CEIS) plan and just submitted its progress report to the state.

PARENT NIGHTS

- **Positive Behavior Intervention**

San Leandro will host the second of three Community Advisory Council parent information nights for the special education community serviced by the MAC SELPA. The topic presented will be positive behavior intervention.

- **Future Parent Nights are being determined.**

Some options include participating in site coffee and conversations in an effort to reach more parents.