

WHITTIER AREA COOPERATIVE SPECIAL EDUCATION PROGRAM

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JANET QUENEAU
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Community Advisory Committee
10:00 a.m. on January 19, 2023
8036 Ocean View Avenue
Whittier, CA 90602

MINUTES

A. Roll Call - The meeting opened at 10:06 a.m.

East Whittier - Present
El Rancho - Present
Little Lake - Present
Los Nietos - Absent
South Whittier - Present
Whittier City - Present
Whittier Union - Present

B. Approval of Agenda for January 19, 2023

Moved: Cheryl Goodman
Second: Lorrie Ruiz
Vote: 6-0

C. Approval of Minutes for November 17, 2022

Moved: Alexandria Duchi
Second: Joel Escobar
Vote: 6-0

D. Public Input

Lia Cervantes Lerma, parent of the Whittier City School District, shared that she was interested in inclusion and happy to see it on past agendas. She shared that California was behind in inclusion practices but hoped that legislators would change that through the passing of inclusion bills and that Whittier would be in the forefront of inclusion practices. She gave recommendations of organizations and workshop topics to include in the Disability Resource and Transition Fair.

Michelle Sepulveda, of the Family Empowerment Center, shared that they were hosting a transition advocacy training for parents, primarily in Vietnamese, that would cover

transition into the school system. They are planning to have the training in English in March.

Mayra Interiano, parent of East Whittier City School District, shared that this was her first CAC meeting. She shared her daughter's inclusion experience with the Board and the benefits she receives, including having the opportunity to participate in her community among her typical peers, learn new skills, and thrive. Her daughter had recently been selected as student of the month and would be honored tomorrow. She shared the importance of having her daughter's first contact with the outside world be inclusive, a benefit that goes both ways, as it teaches peers to be accepting of others as they learn to be inclusive.

E. Budget Review

- a. \$5,000 has been budgeted for CAC for the 2022-2023 school year.
 - i. Approved Expenses thus far for 2022-2023 totaling \$4,000 budgeted at the maximum amount:
 - a) Not to exceed \$450 to pay for a CAC tablecloth and a Disability Resource and Transition Fair banner.
 - b) Not to exceed \$800 for interpretation and translation services for CAC sponsored 2022-2023 parent events.
 - c) Not to exceed \$250 for materials/supplies, snacks, and beverages for the CAC sponsored parent training.
 - d) Not to exceed \$2,500 for two CAC representatives to attend the Sacramento Legislative Sharing Day in May 2023.

The CAC Board reviewed the approved budget and expenses.

F. Discussion Items

- a. Debrief CAC Training - December 7, 2022 at WACSEP

Ms. Janet Queneau reported that this was the first in-person training since the pandemic had begun. The training was composed of two sessions and parents could attend either or both sessions. The session topics were Autism vs. School Eligibility and the IEP Process. There were 17 participants in attendance, including the Whittier City School District Superintendent, Dr. Brad Mason.. Ms. Queneau thanked CAC Board Member, Alexandria Duchi, for attending the training as well. Lastly, she shared that there were good questions and hoped more people would attend in the future.

Ms. Alexandria Duchi reported that the training was very informative and suggested the IEP process training be done in two parts to allow more time, or offer a refresher training on a more frequent basis. She realized that many times parents did not realize they were part of the IEP team and focused on the importance of parents

being informed and having the resources.

Ms. Gloria Ruiz shared that there are many community partner agencies that offer trainings monthly and the IEP process was one that parents might need multiple times to understand it thoroughly. She urged attendees to attend as many trainings as possible.

Mr. Joel Escobar commented on the differences in different types IEPs from initials, triannuals and transitions, and suggested a training on the parameters of each type of IEP.

- b. 2023 Disability Resource and Transition Fair (DRTF)
 - i. Planning for 2023 - March 7, 2023
 - 1. Pioneer High School
 - 2. 4:00 - 6:30 p.m.
 - ii. Vendor for food
 - iii. Break out session updates

Ms. Janet Queneau shared a draft of the Disability Resource and Transition Fair flyer and reviewed the date, time, and location. She shared that the food vendor, El Unico Hamburgers, had been secured. Additionally, she thanked the CAC program specialists for committing to present one workshop on transitions. Ms. Queneau will continue to work on securing speakers for the additional two workshops. Additionally, she asked the CAC Board to let us know if they would be available to participate at the CAC table and to announce raffle winners. Lastly, she shared that Ms. Adahena Gutierrez has already confirmed some vendors.

- c. Visit from Lisa Calderon - Date to be determined

Ms. Janet Queneau reported that CAC Board Members had invited Assesmblymember Lisa Calderon to visit WACSEP during their virtual meeting. Our office was working with her office to schedule a date. She shared a few meeting dates with the Board for their consideration.

- d. Legislative Sharing Day
 - i. May 3, 2023 in Sacramento

Ms. Janet Queneau reminded the Board that two representatives were approved to attend, Ms. Gloria Ruiz and Ms. Hilda Lopez. There was no additional information on the event at this time but she would share it as soon as it was received.

G. Action Items

- a. It is recommended that the CAC Board approve, not to exceed, \$300.00 for supplies and presenter gifts for the Disabilities Resource and Transition Fair.

Moved: Cheryl Goodman

Second: Joel Escobar

Vote: 6-0

- b. It is recommended that the CAC Board approve, not to exceed, \$1,000.00 for food vendor at the 2023 Disability Resource and Transition Fair.

Moved: Alexandria Duchi

Second: Lorrie Ruiz

Vote: 6-0

H. Director's Comments

- a. Governor's Budget - update on special education proposals

Ms. Janet Quenea updated the Board on the preliminary 2023-2024 Governor's Budget. She shared that it included 8.13% cost-of-living adjustment (COLA) for both general education and special education. Also included was limiting the funds SELPAs are able to retain for non-direct student services; no specific information was given on this. Additionally, there was a moratorium on single district SELPAs through 2026, however, this does not affect WACSEP as we are a multiple district SELPA. Lastly, she shared that the California Department of Education (CDE) required each SELPA to post their Local Plan on the CDE website. WACSEP had submitted the Local Plan but also has it posted on the WACSEP website so it is easier for families to find.

- b. Website update

Ms. Janet Queneau shared that she hoped to launch the website in January but it was not yet ready. She was hoping to launch both the website and the Instagram by the next meeting.

- c. Other items

Ms. Janet Queneau shared that approved items had been ordered for the Disability Resource and Transition Fair.

I. Adjournment - The meeting adjourned at 11:02 a.m.

Moved: Alexandria Duchi

Second: Cheryl Goodman

Vote: 6-0

