

WHITTIER AREA COOPERATIVE SPECIAL EDUCATION PROGRAM

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JANET QUENEAU
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

**Joint Powers Board Regular Meeting
January 18, 2022
9:00 AM
9401 S. Painter Ave., Board Room
Whittier, CA 90605**

MINUTES

A. Opening of Meeting by Chairperson - The meeting opened at 9:02 a.m.

1. Roll Call

EW, Marc Patterson, Chair - Present
ER, Frances Esparza, Vice Chair - Absent
LL, William Crean - Present
LN, Jonathan Vasquez - Absent
SW, Gary Gonzales - Present
WC, Brad Mason - Present
WU, Martin Plourde - Present

B. Closed Session - By general consent of the Board, the Board moved into Closed Session at 9:02 a.m.

1. Public Employee Discipline/Dismissal/Release/Reassignment/Employment

No action taken.

2. Evaluation of Executive Director of the Whittier Area Cooperative Special Education Program (WACSEP) (Pursuant to Government Code Section 54957)

No action taken.

C. Reconvene Meeting - The meeting reconvened at 9:18 a.m.

1. Report of Actions Taken in Closed Session

No action taken.

2. Approval of Agenda for January 18, 2022 meeting

Moved: Brad Mason
Seconded: Martin Plourde
Vote: 5-0

3. Approval of Minutes for December 15, 2021 meeting

Moved: William Crean
 Seconded: Gary Gonzales
 Vote: 5-0

D. Community Comments

There were no community comments.

E. Consent Calendar

Moved: Brad Mason
 Seconded: William Crean
 Vote: 5-0

1. It is the recommendation of the SELPA Director that the following expenditures and contracts be approved:

Provider	Description	Dates	Cost
Wesley Garlick, Esq. Counsel for Kids	Settlement Costs	12/13/2021 to 6/30/2022	Not to Exceed \$50,000

2. It is the recommendation of the SELPA Director that the following obsolete and unusable equipment be approved to surplus:

Count	Description/Brand Mfg.	Serial No.	Asset Tag #
2	Dell Optiplex 3010	DZ5MSW1 & JKDG8Y1	44837 & 45616

3. It is the recommendation of the SELPA Director that the following travel requests be approved:

Conference/Workshop	Person(s) Authorized	Expense (Per Person)
Mediating the Litigated Case - Special Education Virtual March 21, 2022 through November 11, 2022 (40 hours)	Janet Queneau, Executive Director Karla Rahiman, Program Manager Kristine Ramos, Program Manager	Registration: \$ 5,200.00 Related Expenses: \$ 0.00 Total: \$ 5,200.00

F. Personnel Report

1. It is the recommendation of the SELPA Director that the following staffing needs be approved:

Position	Reason	Cost
WACSEP SELPA Liaison	Resignation of Kristin Ann Smoot-Guerrero, Effective December 31, 2021	Based on Salary Schedule

Moved: Brad Mason
Seconded: Gary Gonzales
Vote: 5-0

G. New Business

There were no new business items.

H. SELPA Director Report

Ms. Janet Queneau thanked the Joint Powers Board for their flexibility during this very busy time of year. She reported that after speaking with the Community Advisory Committee Chair and Vice Chair, the decision was made to cancel the January meeting due to an increase in COVID-19 numbers. A special meeting may be called, however, there are no pressing issues at the time.

Ms. Janet Queneau reported that WACSEP is working closely with Whittier Union High School District regarding staff COVID-19 reporting protocol. Ms. Janet Queneau shared that WACSEP continues to offer professional development trainings for district staff, but most trainings are virtual at this time.

I. Board Member Reports

Dr. Brad Mason, Superintendent of Whittier City School District, thanked the Joint Powers Board for being a resource during his transition to superintendent.

Dr. William Crean, Superintendent of Little Lake City School District, reported that the district hired a district nurse which was nice to have as an additional resource.

Dr. Gary Gonzales, Superintendent of South Whittier School District, publicly acknowledged the district's special education team for a great job even though it has been challenging. All teachers, aides, and the director of special education have been working hard getting IEPs done and playing catch up.

Martin Plourde, Superintendent of Whittier Union High School District, reported that the district held a two day testing clinic during winter break. Approximately 1,500 tests were administered, which resulted in being able to exclude positive cases before coming onto campuses upon returning from winter break. The district continues to administer 1,000 tests daily. Lastly, he shared that the district will continue offering testing on six sites every school day.

Marc Patterson, Superintendent of East Whittier City School District, reported similar COVID-19 challenges in returning from winter break. The district is working hard to ensure staff is in classrooms to support students.

J. Adjournment - The meeting was adjourned at 9:26 a.m.

Moved: Brad Mason

Seconded: Gary Gonzales

Vote: 5-0

Any materials required by law to be made available to the public prior to a meeting of the Board of Trustees of the District can be inspected at the following address during normal business hours: 8036 Ocean View Avenue, Whittier, CA 90602