

WHITTIER AREA COOPERATIVE SPECIAL EDUCATION PROGRAM

8036 SOUTH OCEAN VIEW AVENUE, WHITTIER, CA 90602

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JANET QUENEAU
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Joint Powers Board Regular Meeting

March 31, 2021

9:00 AM

(Due to "safer-at-home order," meeting will be conducted on-line only)

**8036 Ocean View
Whittier, CA 90602**

MINUTES

A. Opening of Meeting by Chairperson- The meeting was called to order at 9:04 a.m.

1. Roll Call

EW, Marc Patterson, Vice Chair- Present
ER, Frances Esparza- Present (*arrived at 9:10 a.m.)
LL, William Crean - Absent
LN, Jonathan Vasquez - Present
SW, Gary Gonzales, Chair - Present
WC, Maria Martinez-Poulin - Present
WU, Martin Plourde - Present

B. Closed Session – By general consent of the Board, the Board moved into Closed Session at 9:05 a.m.

*Dr. Esparza joined the meeting at 9:10 a.m.

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

No reportable action.

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

No reportable action.

C. Reconvene Meeting– The public meeting reconvened at 10:20 a.m.

1. Report of Actions Taken in Closed Session

No reportable action.

2. Approval of Agenda for March 31, 2021 meeting

Moved: Maria Martinez-Poulin
 Seconded: Jonathan Vasquez
 Vote: 6-0

3. Approval of Minutes for February 3, 2021 meeting

Moved: Martin Plourde
 Seconded: Maria Martinez-Poulin
 Vote: 6-0

D. Community Comments

There were no community comments

E. Consent Calendar

Moved: Martin Plourde
 Seconded: Jonathan Vasquez
 Vote: 6-0

1. It is the recommendation of the SELPA Director that the 2020-2021 Updated Off the Top Budget as shown below be approved:

District	2020-2021 Off the Top Approved Budget (JPB Approved October)	2020-2021 Off the Top Updated January	Difference
EW	\$1,930,913.31	\$2,143,601.81	+\$212,688.50
ER	\$994,596.00	\$977,831.00	-\$16,765.00
LL	\$390,970.00	\$399,992.00	+\$9,022.00
LN	\$877,065.00	\$971,179.00	+\$94,114.00
SW	\$692,771.00	same	
WC	\$1,309,796.52	\$1,232,310.12	-\$77,486.40
WU	\$2,511,313.00	\$2,220,980.86	-\$290,332.14

F. Personnel Report

1. It is the recommendation of the SELPA Director that the Personnel Report be approved. [Exhibit F.1].

The Personnel Report is presented to the Board in Closed Session. This is done in order to report all actions from the last Board meeting through the day of the posting of the Board Agenda. The Board shall review the Personnel Report before taking action in Open Session. The Personnel Report contains personnel employment assignments, resignations, and salaries for certificated and classified employees. The law requires the Board to take formal action on the SELPA Director's recommendations. Resignations are received by the SELPA Director and reported to the Board.

The Board approved the amended Personnel Report reflecting a correction to remove Carmen Jaramillo from the 9th listed item as it was a duplicate entry.

Moved: Martin Plourde
Seconded: Marc Patterson
Vote: 6-0

G. New Business

1. It is the recommendation of the SELPA Director that the following contracts be approved for the 2021-2022 school year.

Provider	Description	Dates	Cost
Stephanie Alvarado	Mental Health School Psychologist Intern	07/01/2021 to 06/30/2022	\$25/hr. Not to Exceed \$18,000
Verenice Gastelum	Mental Health School Psychologist Intern	07/01/2021 to 06/30/2022	\$25/hr. Not to Exceed \$18,000
Kristin Ramirez	Mental Health School Psychologist Intern	07/01/2021 to 06/30/2022	\$25/hr. Not to Exceed \$18,000
Madison Rupert	Mental Health School Psychologist Intern	07/01/2021 to 06/30/2022	\$25/hr. Not to Exceed \$18,000
Karinthia Sanchez	Mental Health School Psychologist Intern	07/01/2021 to 06/30/2022	\$25/hr. Not to Exceed \$18,000
Pauline Wang	Mental Health School Psychologist Intern	07/01/2021 to 06/30/2022	\$25/hr. Not to Exceed \$18,000

Moved: Maria Martinez-Poulin
Seconded: Jonathan Vasquez
Vote: 6-0

H. SELPA Director Report

Ms. Queneau thanked the Joint Powers Board for including WACSEP staff in the PIH vaccination process. The PIH vaccination clinic was well organized and many staff members took advantage of it. She especially thanked Dr. Maria Martinez-Poulin for taking the lead in organizing the vaccine clinic, and Mr. Plourde for his staff's work to support WACSEP staff in addition to Whittier Union staff.

Ms. Queneau reported that she and the WACSEP program managers are attending the districts' LCAP meetings. She thanked the Board for including WACSEP in the LCAP process.

Ms. Queneau shared that she visited some of the East Whittier City School District school sites that have opened up to in-person instruction. She shared that it was great to see students back on campus and thanked Mr. Patterson for allowing her to visit the school sites.

Ms. Queneau reported that WACSEP and the Community Advisory Committee (CAC) are moving forward with the virtual Disability Resource and Transition fair. The Google site for the event will go live on April 19th, however, the schedule of virtual workshops is listed on the WACSEP website to allow parents the opportunity to plan in advance. The event will consist of a combination of live and pre-recorded workshops with English and Spanish captioning; most workshops would be presented by WACSEP staff and one by the Whittier Union staff. The fair will also include a vendor page where families could explore resources for families with children with disabilities. Additionally, she thanked the CAC parents, Whittier Union and El Rancho transition team staff for personal donations to the fair raffle. She gave a special thank you to Adahena Gutierrez from WACSEP for taking the lead in coordinating this event.

I. Board Member Reports

Dr. Maria Martinez-Poulin, Superintendent of Whittier City School District, thanked everyone who participated in the PIH vaccine clinic. She wished everyone the best of luck as districts are bringing or preparing to bring back students to school. Lastly, she wished all women a happy Women's History Month. She thanked Ms. Queneau for her work as a strong fearless leader and all strong women leaders throughout the districts and WACSEP.

Marc Patterson, Superintendent of East Whittier City School District, echoed Dr. Martinez-Poulin on the success of the vaccine clinics and thanked her for setting them up and getting staff scheduled in a matter of weeks. East Whittier City School District had 900 staff members participate. Mr. Patterson appreciated the collaboration.

Jonathan Vasquez, Superintendent of Los Nietos School District, also echoed Mr. Patterson on the smooth process of the PIH vaccine clinics and on the relatively short time it took to get staff scheduled and vaccinated. He thanked Dr. Martinez-Poulin for coordinating and Mr. Plourde for allowing the Whittier Union High School nurses to vaccinate Los Nietos School District employees. He wished everyone the very best.

March 31, 2021

Martin Plourde, Superintendent of Whittier Union High School District, shared that the vaccine clinics went great; he appreciated everyone's effort. The Whittier Union High School teachers are back to teaching from the classroom this week and plan to bring students back next week, starting with one day a week. He wished everyone a happy Easter and happy Passover.

Dr. Frances Esparza, Superintendent of El Rancho Unified School District, also thanked Dr. Martinez-Poulin for her hard work and support in putting together the vaccine clinics and also thanked her staff and all RNs for their support. Additionally, she shared that the El Rancho Unified School District staff was almost 100% vaccinated with the first dose of the vaccine and about 25% had already received the second dose. There is discussion to be had regarding the reopening of schools in the district which will occur during the next District Board Meeting. She reported that teachers were ready to come back and based on a survey that was sent out, a little over 50% of parents would like to stay on distance learning. Dr. Esparza wished everyone a happy Easter and a happy Passover and a nice spring break next week for El Rancho Unified School District.

Dr. Gary Gonzales, Superintendent of South Whittier School District, shared that he received a nice email from a classified employee that was so thankful to all Whittier superintendents for facilitating the vaccination clinics. He thanked Dr. Martinez-Poulin and everyone who put effort into the vaccination clinic for a job well done. Additionally, he reported that the district was excited to open schools next Tuesday with cohort A and on Wednesday with cohort B. Additionally, he reported that the district would welcome back 7th and 8th grade cohorts starting on April 20th. Lastly, he shared that the Joint Powers Board meetings would begin to be hybrid for Board members and remain virtual for the public starting next month.

J. Adjournment-The meeting was adjourned at 10:07 a.m.

Moved: Jonathan Vasquez

Seconded: Maria Martinez-Poulin

Vote: 6-0

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

Due to the school closures, the WACSEP office is closed at this time. You may contact Jessica Burgos at jburos@wacsep.org if you would like to view copies of the exhibits.