

WHITTIER AREA COOPERATIVE SPECIAL EDUCATION PROGRAM

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JANET QUENEAU
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

**Joint Powers Board Regular Meeting
August 24, 2022
9:00 AM
9401 S. Painter Ave., Board Room
Whittier, CA 90605**

MINUTES

A. Opening of Meeting by Chairperson- - The meeting was called to order at 9:01 a.m.

1. Roll Call

EW, Marc Patterson - Present
ER, Marco Villegas - Present (arrived at 9:09 a.m.)
LL, William Crean, Vice Chair - Present
LN, William Gideon- Present (arrived at 9:14 a.m.)
SW, Gary Gonzales - Present
WC, Brad Mason, Chair - Present
WU, Monica Oviedo - Present

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

*Dr. Marco Villegas and Dr. William Gideon arrived during closed session.

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 9:28 a.m.

1. Report of Actions Taken in Closed Session

No reportable action.

2. Approval of Agenda for August 24, 2022 meeting

Moved: Gary Gonzales

Seconded: William Gideon
 Vote: 7-0

3. Approval of Minutes for June 15, 2022 meeting

Moved: Marc Patterson
 Seconded: William Gideon
 Vote: 7-0

D. Community Comments

There were no community comments.

E. Consent Calendar

Moved: Marc Patterson
 Seconded: Monica Oviedo
 Vote: 7-0

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

Provider	Description	Dates	Cost
Jennifer S.Chang, Esq. Law Office of Jennifer S. Chang	Settlement Cost	08/25/2022 to 06/30/2023	Not to Exceed \$50,000
Adams Esq., A Professional Corporation	Settlement Cost	08/25/2022 to 06/30/2023	Not to Exceed \$150,000 (Additional \$100,000)

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

Conference/Workshop	Person(s) Authorized	Expense (Per Person)
CAPTAIN Summit <u>Riverside, CA</u>	Elvira Caro-Michel, Behavior Specialist/ Program Specialist	Registration: \$ 250.00

November 2-3, 2022	Inger Johnson-Quezada, School Psychologist Lisa Torres, Program Specialist	Related Expenses: \$ 565.00 Total: \$ 815.00
Nonviolent Crisis Intervention Blended Certification Training <u>Buena Park, CA</u> November 8-10, 2022	Kolia Ponce, Program Specialist	Registration: \$ 3,899.00 Related Expenses: \$ 141.75 Total: \$ 4,040.75
Mediating the Litigated Case - Special Education <u>Virtual</u> December 5- 9, 2022	Brandi Nerio, SELPA Liaison	Registration: \$ 5,200.00 Related Expenses: \$ 0.00 Total: \$ 5,200.00
Association of California School Administrators (ACSA) 2023 Every Child Counts Symposium <u>Palm Desert, CA</u> January 11-13, 2023	Janet Queneau, Executive Director Karla Rahiman, Program Manager Kristine Ramos, Program Manager Maria Huerta, Mental Health Liaison	Registration: \$ 550.00 Related Expenses: \$ 1,150.00 Total: \$ 1,700.00

F. Personnel Report

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

Provider	Reason	Dates	Cost
Yoncoli Torres, Communication Specialist	New Hire	TBD	Based on Salary Schedule

Lanchi Kim, Audiologist 0.6 FTE	New Hire	TBD	Based on Salary Schedule
Derek Edwards, Audiologist 0.6 FTE	Resignation	Effective 08/03/2022	Based on Salary Schedule

Moved: William Gideon
Seconded: Gary Gonzales
Vote: 7-0

G. New Business

There were no new business items.

H. SELPA Director Report

Ms. Janet Queneau reported that WACSEP had welcomed all staff back on August 15th and several staff members had worked throughout the summer on summer preschool assessments. She reported that WACSEP had begun holding trainings for teachers and service providers; to date, seven trainings had been held at WACSEP, which included SEIS trainings, classroom management strategies, and school psychologist orientation. She stated that everyone at WACSEP is excited to support students with special education needs throughout the SELPA in the new school year.

Ms. Janet Queneau reported that the Governor’s budget for 2022-23 was finalized. The approved budget included a \$500 million budget increase for special education which increased the base rate to \$820 per ADA. Additionally, she shared that part of the budget changed eligibility for Regional Center services from an overall delay of 33% to 25%. Due to the change in threshold, all WACSEP preschool intake assessment teams are anticipating the number of assessments to increase; it is required that all children who are Regional Center clients be assessed by school districts prior to turning three years old. WACSEP conducts all of these assessments on behalf of the member districts.

Ms. Janet Queneau shared that WACSEP was collaborating with the Eastern Los Angeles Family Resource Center (ELAFRC) to host trainings at WACSEP. ELAFRC recently received a grant to be a Family Empowerment Center. The ELAFRC office is located in Alhambra which is a long distance for some in our community to travel to for trainings, so it would be great to have them hold trainings in the area.

I. Board Member Reports

Marc Patterson, Superintendent of East Whittier City School District, welcomed the new Joint Powers Board members. He reported that the district has a new Director of Special Education, Mrs. Elisa Clark, and appreciated the support given as she transitioned into her new role.

Dr. Marco Villegas, Superintendent of El Rancho Unified School District, thanked the Joint Powers Board for the warm welcome. He shared that the district had a veteran director of special education with a good system in place. He was looking forward to growth.

Dr. William Crean, Superintendent of Little Lake City School District, welcomed everyone back. He shared that the district had a smooth opening of the school year and gave a shout out to the Whittier Union High School District Transportation Department for an incredible job in the summer and the beginning of the school year. He was impressed with the concern drivers showed with doing well with their routes and taking care of kids. Additionally, there have not been any disruptions in routes with the opening of the middle and high schools.

Dr. William Gideon, Superintendent of Los Nietos School District, thanked all the superintendents and Ms. Janet Queneau. He reported that he also was impressed with the Whittier Union High School Transportation Department and although Los Nietos School District had started sooner than other districts, he had not noticed any interruptions in transportation with the starting of school in other districts. He shared that he would be asking Ms. Janet Queneau for support as the district works with the Los Angeles County of Education on special education items. He thanked Ms. Kolia Ponce, Program Specialist, for the support she had provided to special education teachers.

Dr. Gary Gonzales, Superintendent of South Whittier School District, welcomed everyone back. He reported that the district had a good summer and complimented the summer school program. He shared that the district has continued to enroll students and had exceeded enrollment expectations.

Dr. Monica Oviedo, Superintendent of Whittier Union High School District, welcomed the new member to the Joint Powers Board. She reported that the Whittier Union High School Transportation Department had a new director, Karen Torres. Ms. Karen Torres had previously served as director in a big district and was a vocational specialist; she was building the team of drivers to know how important their roles were in setting the tone for the day. She also shared that their experienced Director of Special Education, Dr. Anthony Truong, was ready to take on the school year. Lastly, she shared that the Whittier Area School Administrators (WASA) welcome back breakfast would take place at Rio Hondo College on September 9, 2022 and the community breakfast would be held at the district on Friday.

Dr. Brad Mason, Superintendent of Whittier City School District, welcomed the new members to the Joint Powers Board which offered a lot of collaboration and support. He thanked Ms. Janet Queneau for her leadership. He also complimented the Whittier

Union High School District Transportation Department. He looked forward to a great start and great school year.

Adjournment - The meeting adjourned at 9:45 a.m.

Moved: Brad Mason

Seconded: Gary Gonzales

Vote: 7-0

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