

# WHITTIER AREA COOPERATIVE SPECIAL EDUCATION PROGRAM

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PHONE: (562) 945-6431  
FAX: (562) 945-5855

8036 SOUTH OCEAN VIEW AVENUE, WHITTIER, CA 90602

JANET QUENEAU  
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

## **Joint Powers Board Regular Meeting**

**August 25, 2020**

**2:00 PM**

**(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 2:05 p.m.

#### 1. Roll Call

EW, Marc Patterson, Vice Chair- Present

ER, Frances Esparza - Present (arrived at 2:11 p.m., left at 3:55 p.m.\*)

LL, William Crean - Present

LN, Jonathan Vasquez - Absent

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 2:06 p.m.

#### 1. Conference with Legal Counsel-Anticipated Litigation

Significant exposure to litigation pursuant to paragraphs (2) or (3) of subdivision (d) of Government Code Section 54956.9: One potential case.

No reportable action.

#### 2. Public Employee Discipline/Dismissal/Release/Reassignment/Employment

No reportable action.

#### 3. 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 3:23 p.m.

1. Report of Actions Taken in Closed Session

No reportable action.

Approval of Agenda for August 25, 2020 meeting

Moved: William Crean

Seconded: Marc Patterson

Vote: 6-0

2. Approval of Minutes for June 18, 2020 meeting

Moved: Martin Plourde

Seconded: Marc Patterson

Vote: 6-0

**D. Community Comments**

There were no community comments.

**E. Consent Calendar**

Moved: Marc Patterson

Seconded: Frances Esparza

Vote: 6-0

1. It is the recommendation of the SELPA Director that the following expenditures be approved for the 2020-2021 school year:

| Provider   | Description  | Dates                    | Cost                         |
|--|--|--------------------------|------------------------------|
| Whittier City School District  | Increase in Rent for CCS Classroom                       | 07/01/2020 to 06/30/2021 | \$51,480<br>(prev. \$45,000) |
| Light Street Special Education Solutions (Formerly Learn-It Systems LLC) | Speech and Language Pathologist Services and Assessments | 07/01/2020 to 06/30/2021 | \$138,000                    |

|  |                  |                          |   |
|--|------------------|--------------------------|---|
| N Jane Dubovy, A2Z Educational Advocates | Settlement Costs | 07/01/2020 to 06/30/2021 | Increase of \$50,000<br>Not to Exceed \$100,000 |
|--|------------------|--------------------------|---|

**F. Personnel Report**

1. It is recommended that the amendment to the employment contract for Janet Queneau, Executive Director of WACSEP, be approved as provided under separate cover.

Moved: William Crean  
Seconded: Maria Martinez-Poulin  
Vote: 6-0

2. It is recommended that the amendment to the employment contracts for D. Barber and J. Rytky, Legal Counsel of WACSEP, be approved as provided under separate cover.

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

**G. New Business**

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

| District      | 2020-2021<br>Off the Top<br>Estimated Budget<br>(approved in May) | 2020-2021<br>Off the Top<br>Updated Budget | Difference   |
|---------------|---|--|--------------|
| East Whittier | \$1,970,359.00  | \$1,962,270.41                             | -\$8,088.59  |
| El Rancho     | \$972,132.00  | Same                                       |              |
| Little Lake   | \$363,790.50  | \$390,970.00                               | +\$27,179.50 |
| Los Nietos    | \$890,065.00  | same                                       |              |

|                |                |              |               |
|----------------|----------------|--------------|---------------|
| South Whittier | \$842,036.00   | \$734,506.00 | -\$107,530.00 |
| Whittier City  | \$1,269,055.52 | same         |               |
| Whittier Union | \$2,534,484.00 | same         |               |

Moved: Maria Martinez-Poulin  
Seconded: William Crean  
Vote: 6-0

2. Special Education Local Plan Area (SELPA) Programs - An overview of the programs and supports provided by WACSEP. Presented by Executive Director, Janet Queneau. INFORMATION ITEM

Ms. Queneau gave an overview of programs and supports provided by WACSEP.

#### H. Future Meeting Dates

The September Joint Powers Board meeting date has been changed to September 23, 2020 at 9:30 a.m.

#### I. SELPA Director Report

Ms. Queneau reported that WACSEP officially welcomed staff back for the new school year on August 10, 2020 and is doing all it can to support the member districts and families. WACSEP staff is also working on putting together parent trainings.

Ms. Queneau thanked the Whittier Union High School District IT department for all their help in gaining access to staff technology trainings.

Ms. Queneau reported that the WACSEP site put protocols in place to make WACSEP safe for staff, and eventually, visitors. She thanked Mr. Marc Patterson, the East Whittier City School District Assistant Superintendents, the M&O department, and custodial staff for taking care of the facility's needs.

Ms. Queneau additionally thanked Mr. Martin Plourde and the Whittier Union High School Personnel department and Business department for all their help in obtaining PPE for staff.

Lastly she reported that all the Special Education Directors are doing an amazing job and have been communicating on a regular basis so that everyone is on the same page.

\*Dr. Esparza left the meeting.

**J. Board Member Reports**

Marc Patterson, Superintendent of East Whittier City School District, thanked the Joint Powers Board for all the collaboration as everyone deals with this situation.

Dr. William Crean, Superintendent of Little Lake City School District, reported that he was glad to have the school year officially open and have the program in place.

Dr. Maria Martinez-Poulin, Superintendent of Whittier City School District, thanked Ms. Queneau and Ms. Burgos for their support and looked forward to the parent workshops. She asked that the flyers be shared once available so that they could be shared with the families. Lastly, she wished everyone a year of health and happy learning.

Martin Plourde, Superintendent of Whittier Union High School District, reported that Whittier Union High School District placed measure AA on the November ballot; this measure would not increase taxes but would continue when measure C ends, if passed. Additionally, he shared that Whittier Union High School District is monitoring the daily rate of COVID-19 cases in Los Angeles County. Whittier Union is currently planning stage 2 of re-opening when possible.

Dr. Gary Gonzales, Superintendent of South Whittier School District, echoed Mr. Marc Patterson's comments regarding the communication and collaboration of the Joint Powers Board. He wished everyone a good and healthy year.

**Adjournment** - The meeting was adjourned at 4:03 p.m.

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 [jbargos@wacsep.org](mailto:jbargos@wacsep.org) if you would like to view copies of the exhibits.