

WHITTIER AREA COOPERATIVE SPECIAL EDUCATION PROGRAM

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**JOINT POWERS BOARD
REGULAR MEETING
September 27, 2018
9401 S. Painter Avenue, Board Room
Whittier, California 90605
8:30 a.m.**

MINUTES

A. Opening of Meeting by Chairperson - The meeting was called to order at 8:31 a.m.

1. Roll Call

EW, Marc Patterson- Present
ER, Karling Aguilera-Fort - Present
LL, William Crean, Vice Chair - Present
LN, Jonathan Vasquez - Present
SW, Gary Gonzales - Present
WC, Maria Martinez-Poulin - Present
WU, Martin Plourde, Chair - Present

B. Closed Session- By general consent of the Board, the Board moved into Closed Session at 8:31 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 8:45 a.m.

1. Report of Actions Taken in Closed Session
The Joint Powers Board Chair reported there was no action taken in Closed Session.
2. Approval of Agenda for the September 27, 2018 meeting

Moved: Karling Aguilera-Fort
 Seconded: Maria Martinez-Poulin
 Vote: 7 - 0

3. Approval of Minutes for the August 16, 2018 meeting

Moved: William Crean
 Seconded: Jonathan Vasquez
 Vote: 7 - 0

D. Community Comments

Ms. Jill Frieze Prado, parent advocate, expressed concerns regarding the Board’s response to her inquires during the Board meetings, the low proficiency rates of Whittier students in Language Arts and Math, and the recent 9th Circuit Case regarding a student in the SELPA.

E. Consent Calendar

Moved: Marc Patterson
 Seconded: Gary Gonzales
 Vote: 7 - 0

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

Provider	Description	Dates	Cost
Janina Botchis (previously approved as Law Office of Janina Botchis)*	Settlement Costs	07/01/2018 to 06/30/2019	Not to Exceed \$50,000
Carly Christopher & Evan Goldsen, Special Education Collaboration Project*	Settlement Costs	07/05/2018 to 06/30/2019	Not to Exceed \$50,000
Christopher H. Knauf, Knauf Associates*	Settlement Costs	07/25/2018 to 06/30/2019	Not to Exceed \$50,000

*Previously approved on August 16, 2018 agenda. Resubmitted due to end date correction (listed as end date of 6/30/18)

- It is the recommendation of the SELPA Director that the following agreements be approved for the 2018-2019 school year:

Provider	Service	Dates	Expense/Income
Whittier College	Agreement for Speech and Language Internship	09/04/2018 to 06/30/2019	N/A
San Gabriel/Pomona Regional Center	Agreement for Early Start Part C Services	07/01/2018 to 06/30/2019	N/A

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

Conference/Workshop	Person(s) Authorized	Expense (Per Person)
California Autism Professional Training and Information Network Summit Ventura, CA December 3-5, 2018	Elvira Caro-Michel, Behavior Specialist Inger Johnson-Quezada, Behavior Support Liaison Lisa Torres, Program Specialist	Registration: \$ 200.00 Related Expenses: \$ 541.00 Total: \$ 741.00
Devereux-Florida Viera, FL September 17-19, 2018	SSID# 5167184062 Travel for parent to transport student to RTC for student placement	Registration: \$ 0.00 Related Expenses: \$ 1,177.00 Total: \$ 1,177.00

F. Personnel Report

No reportable action.

G. New Business

- It is the recommendation of the SELPA Director that the Policy for Travel Expenses, updated September 2018, be reviewed – First Reading. INFORMATION ITEM
- It is the recommendation of the SELPA Director that the following contract be approved for the 2018-2019 school year:

Provider	Description	Dates	Cost
Savannah Aguilar	School Psychology Intern	08/30/2018 to 06/30/19	\$25/ hr. Not to Exceed \$18,000

Moved: Gary Gonzales
 Seconded: Maria Martinez-Poulin
 Vote: 7 - 0

H. SELPA Director Report

Janet Queneau announced that WACSEP welcomed a new Program Manager, Karla Rahiman beginning September 4, 2018.

Janet Queneau also announced that the Community Advisory Committee (CAC) Board elected a new Chair, Gloria Ruiz, and CAC Vice Chair, Hilda Lopez. Additionally, a small CAC workgroup made up of Board members and Directors of Special Education has been assembled to improve communication with families regarding CAC events.

Janet Queneau shared that WACSEP has conducted multiple staff trainings at various sites including a training by Kristine Ramos on the transition of CASEMIS and CALPADS. Janet thanked Kristine for a job well done in explaining how to capture the data that will be shared with the state.

Additionally, WACSEP continues to work on getting bids for the heating and cooling system to have a comfortable training environment at WACSEP. She also advised that WACSEP is taking preliminary steps in making the campus safe and is now a closed campus which will require visitors to sign in and wear a visitors badge while on campus.

I. Board Member Reports

Marc Patterson, Superintendent of East Whittier City School District, shared that he attended the last CAC Board meeting and commended the CAC Board for discussing some of the programs offered and how they can support students and families.

Maria Martinez-Poulin, Superintendent of Whittier City School District, reported that teachers are preparing for parent conferences and are in full swing in regards to parent outreach.

Karling Aguilera-Fort, Superintendent of El Rancho Unified School District, reported that the initial challenges experienced in the first few weeks with transportation are being resolved. He has noticed improvements in communication and in customer service.

Gary Gonzales, Superintendent of South Whittier School District, agreed that initial transportation challenges were smoothing out. He also suggested that districts post links on their website to DataQuest once the embargo is lifted so that anyone interested could leisurely look through the data.

Jonathan Vasquez, Superintendent of Los Nietos School District, appreciated the improvements made to WACSEP website. He expressed thanks to Darin Barber for leading a professional development for staff regarding understanding students and correcting IEP mistakes.

William Crean, Superintendent of Little Lake City School District, shared that they are completing many IEPs at this time and appreciates the help with positive support for parents that WACSEP has provided.

Martin Plourde, Superintendent of Whittier Union High School District, welcomed Karla Rahiman. He reported that the district continues to train bus drivers especially around Special Education and thanked Jackie Leigh, Director of Special Education, for her help with special issues in transporting special education students.

J. Adjournment- The meeting was adjourned at 9:03 a.m.