

WHITTIER AREA COOPERATIVE SPECIAL EDUCATION PROGRAM

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JANET QUENEAU
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Joint Powers Board Regular Meeting

June 30, 2021

9:00 AM

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

9401 S. Painter Ave.

Whittier, CA 90605

MINUTES

A. Opening of Meeting by Chairperson- The meeting was called to order at 9:17 a.m.

1. Roll Call

EW, Marc Patterson, Vice Chair - Absent

ER, Frances Esparza- Present

LL, William Crean - Present

LN, Jonathan Vasquez - Present

SW, Gary Gonzales, Chair- Present

WC, Maria Martinez-Poulin- Absent

WU, Martin Plourde- Present

B. Closed Session – By general consent of the Board, the Board moved into Closed Session at 9:18 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 meeting reconvened at 9:54 a.m.

1. Report of Actions Taken in Closed Session

No reportable action.

2. Approval of Agenda for June 30, 2021 meeting

Moved: William Crean
 Seconded: Jonathan Vasquez
 Vote: 5-0

3. Approval of Minutes for May 19, 2021 meeting

Moved: Martin Plourde
 Seconded: Frances Esparza
 Vote: 5-0

D. Community Comments

There were no community comments

E. Consent Calendar

Moved: Jonathan Vasquez
 Seconded: Martin Plourde
 Vote: 5-0

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

Provider	Description	Dates	Cost
Pamela K. Daves, Attorney at Law	Settlement Costs	06/14/2021 to 06/30/2021	Not to Exceed \$50,000
Pamela K. Daves, Attorney at Law	Settlement Costs	07/01/2021 to 06/30/2022	Not to Exceed \$50,000
East Whittier City School District [Exhibit E.1]	Drinking Fountains/Water Bottle System	06/17/2021 to 09/30/2021	\$9,610

2. 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 Budget April Update	2020-2021 Off the top June Update	Difference
LN	\$984,618.00	\$981,868.00	-\$2,750.00

3. It is the recommendation of the SELPA Director that the 2021-2022 Updated Off the Top Budget as shown below be approved:

District	2020-2021 Off the Top Budget April Update	2020-2021 Off the top June Update	Difference
LN	\$1,023,307.00	\$1,020,557.00	-\$2,750.00

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

Conference/Workshop	Person(s) Authorized	Expense (Per Person)
Special Education Local Plan (SELPA) Administrators of California Meetings <u>San Diego, CA</u> September 7, 2021 November 2, 2021 February 1, 2022 March 29, 2022 May 31, 2022	Janet Queneau, Executive Director	Registration: \$ 0.00 Related \$ 400.00 Expenses: Total: \$ 400.00 (Per Trip)

F. Personnel Report

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

Position	Reason	Cost
School Nurse/ EWCS	Hernandez, Debbie Reimbursement for Nurse Services for Summer Assessments Not to Exceed 50 hours (increased by 20 hours) 06/03/2021 to 08/06/2021	Based on Salary Schedule
DHH Itinerant	Nanez, Maria Summer Assessments and Services Not to exceed 60 Hours (Increased by 30 hours) 06/07/2021 to 08/06/2021	Based on Salary Schedule

SELPA Liaison	Smoot-Guerrero, Kristen Start Date to be Announced	Based on Salary Schedule
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Moved: Martin Plourde
Seconded: William Crean
Vote: 5-0

G. New Business

1. Nomination and Election of Officers to the Joint Powers Board

It was recommended that Marc Patterson serve as the Joint Powers Board Chair for the 2021-2022 school year.

Moved: Jonathan Vasquez
Seconded: William Crean
Vote: 5-0

It was recommended that Dr. Frances Esparza serve as the Joint Powers Board Vice Chair for the 2021-2022 school year.

Moved: Jonathan Vasquez
Seconded: William Crean
Vote: 5-0

H. SELPA Director Report

Ms. Queneau thanked Dr. Gary Gonzales for his support and leadership as the Joint Powers Board 20-21 Chair and for always being available and responsive. Additionally, she thanked Dr. Frances Esparza for stepping up to the role of Vice Chair. She looks forward to working together with both Mr. Patterson and Dr. Esparza next year.

Ms. Queneau reported that WACSEP is working hard to complete any outstanding assessments due to COVID-19. She also reported that WACSEP itinerant staff is working at various school sites to support students through the extended school year. Lastly, she reported that she and Ms. America Saisho would be meeting with the Assistant Superintendent of Business and Director of Fiscal Services from Whittier Union to discuss updating the SELPA Administrative Unit (AU) Agreement. She thanked Ms. Saisho for all of her support to the districts.

Ms Queneau shared that the Annual Budget and Service Plans had been submitted to the California Department of Education (CDE). She was waiting to get approval for those sections of the Local Plan, as well as the Governance and Administration section that was submitted several months ago. She was confident that all sections will be approved by CDE.

Ms. Queneau thanked both the Whittier Union High School District and the El Rancho Unified School District for inviting her to the Adult Transition Program graduation ceremonies. It was a highlight of the year to see the adult students graduate and see what they accomplished in the midst of the pandemic. She reported that WACSEP was working with the Whittier Union High School District to potentially make WACSEP a work site for students in the Adult Transition Program. Lastly, she thanked the Little Lake City School District for allowing her to observe their extended school year program; she was excited to see students back in the classrooms, and engaged. She looked forward to visiting classrooms in the Los Nietos School District on July 6th.

I. Board Member Reports

Dr. William Crean, Superintendent of Little Lake City School District, congratulated the new Chair and Vice Chair and thanked Dr. Gary Gonzales for his service as this year's Chair. Additionally, he reported that the District hired a full-time social worker to add a double layer of support to the counselors and psychologists currently in place.

Martin Plourde, Superintendent of Whittier Union High School District, thanked Dr. Gary Gonzales for his leadership and wished Mr. Marc Patterson and Dr. Frances Esparza well as the new Chair and Vice Chair. He wished everyone some downtime and looked forward to in-person instruction in August.

Jonathan Vasquez, Superintendent of Los Nietos School District, thanked Kristine Ramos for her input at the LCAP meetings. Additionally, he thanked Dr. Gary Gonzales for serving as the Joint Powers Board Chair and Ms. Janet Queneau for her service to the districts.

Dr. Hilda Flores, Assistant Superintendent of Educational Service of Whittier City School District, thanked the Joint Powers Board for allowing her to take notes for the Interim Superintendents. She shared that the District will be working with a search firm to help in the search for a new superintendent; currently, Dr. Raquel Gasporra, Ms. Jennifer Flores, and herself were assisting the Interim Superintendents. Dr. Hilda Flores reported that the district would also be adding a social worker in order to have one per elementary school, and also adding some behavior specialists, a special education coordinator positions, and an MTF coordinator and a teacher on special assignment (TOSA).

Dr. Frances Esparza, Superintendent of El Rancho Unified School District, thanked the Joint Powers Board for the continued collaboration. She reported that the district had opened its Special Education program in May which allowed for a seamless transition into the extended school year. She thanked Ms. Janet Queneau for attending the Adult Transition Program culmination ceremony. She reported that the district hired a new principal to support the Adult Transition Program (ATP) and other schools. Lastly, she thanked Dr. Gary Gonzales for his leadership and supporting all members of the Joint Powers Board and congratulated Dr. Maria Martinez-Poulin for her new position at the Los Angeles County of Education (LACOE).

Dr. Gary Gonzales, Superintendent of South Whittier School District, reported that the district hired several new staff to replace positions on their district leadership team.

J. Adjournment -The meeting was adjourned at 10:09 a.m.

Moved: William Crean

Seconded: Martin Plourde

Vote: 5-0

**NEXT JOINT POWERS BOARD MEETING
August 18, 2021**

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.