

# CAC

## COMMUNITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE For Special Education

### ADVISING THE BOARD OF EDUCATION SAN DIEGO UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

#### General Membership Meeting: MINUTES

**Date:** Thursday, October 14, 2010

**Time:** 7:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.

**Location:** Harold J. Ballard Parent Center, 2375 Congress Street, San Diego, CA 92110

#### WELCOME & INTRODUCTIONS

##### **Meeting called to order at 7:08 pm**

The Chairperson, Moira Allbritton, welcomed attendees and introduced CAC member, district staff and administrators and acknowledged parents. The Vice chair reviewed the agenda, meeting format and structure, and process for providing public comment.

##### **Announcements:**

Next meeting will be held at Patrick Henry High School, 7pm on November 4, 2010 in the Multipurpose Room. 6702 Wandermere Dr.

December meeting will be held on the 9<sup>th</sup> at 7pm at Lindberg-Schweitzer in the West Campus Auditorium, 4133 Albertine Ave.

#### ROLL CALL/MEMBER ATTENDANCE

**Present:** Moira Allbritton, Joyce Clark, Bill Cary, Mary Conroy, Teresa Michel, Belquis Anders, Michelle Crisci, Ellen Herroon, Teresa Hilleary, Meghann Hughes, Pam McKinney, Nancy Stevenson

**Absent:** Christy Scadden, Stephanie Fimbres

**Ex-Officio:** Dr. Joe Fulcher-Chief Student Services Officer, Susan Martinez-Executive Director of Special Education, Jody Bondurant-Strong-Director of Special Education

**Quorum Established**

#### DISTRICT REPORT/PROGRAM/OPERATIONS UPDATE:

**Jody Bondurant-Strong:** Gave information on the Help Line Data from 2009-2010 and start of 2010-2011. Also gave information on Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR) Data from other districts. (See information posted on sandi.net)

Moira asked several questions related to ADR data from any large school districts in California or any other district than San Luis Obispo? Data from other districts, particularly any large district, have not currently responded to requests for data. Moira also wanted the CAC on record that a previous attempt at a "Facilitated IEP Process" in the district was not successful and not well received by parents. This process may be different, but parents who have been in the district for a long time will remember this and have a potential negative reaction to another attempt at this idea.

**Dr. Sid Salazar:** presented the findings from the Educational Opportunity Audit Report done by Education Trust-West and the A through G curriculum and implementation process requested

by the Board of Education and what it means for students in special education. (See presentation posted on sandi.net)

Q: Students at some schools are being told that A-G curriculum is not required for this year's 9<sup>th</sup> grade class, what do we do if our student is not currently taking the required classes yet?

A: This has been an ongoing question, but the board has stipulated it should begin with this year's class. This may not be the case as time goes on, but the aim is to start with this year's freshman class. There is a developing process that will have some type of "opt-out" option so students are not penalized during the transition process. The goal is to have access to A-G curriculum to all students this year.

Q: Is there an option for students who require extra supports in a class, for example math, to take extra time to complete the class or classes for A-G, perhaps an extra year?

A: These are questions coming up in the task force meetings and will be part of the development and implementation phase presented to the board.

Q: Will the option 2 diploma still be available to students without using the A-G curriculum?

A: Another question that needs to be investigated during the implementation phase which is still in development.

Q: Elimination of "D" grades? How is that possible? What are the implications for students and teachers? Isn't this already in place in certain schools and how is that fair?

A: The current advice coming from experts assisting in the development of the A-G curriculum is to avoid getting into this subject. The use of the "D" grade is not applied equally. It is currently a system that is individualized to each school and the principal. This will have to be revisited once the curriculum is in place to make for a more equitable system for students.

**Susan Martinez:** presentation on Review of Data 2010 Achievement Testing: (see slides on the sandi.net, under Departments, Special Education, then go to Parent Services) will post it under News and Events. (ongoing discussion of the challenges of finding anything related to special education on the website).

Q: Is there a list of what qualifies as proficient in the CAPA somewhere for parents to review?

A: Susan will research the information and get back to us.

Q: Is there any data indicating this data is from students who have had IEP's for some time, or is it including newly identified students who might be changing the ratio's and scores?

A: The data is mainly from student's who have IEP's for some time.

**Dr. Joe Fulcher:** presentation on Special Education Teacher Credential changes from the California Teacher's Commission. (Slides will be available for review on the news and information section of sandi.net)

### **PUBLIC OPEN FORUM: Q & A**

**Q:** Carolyn Standler-Reed- Review of Data 2010 Achievement Testing-I would like to see a list of skills that need to be mastered to achieve a proficient or advanced score in CAPA tests in math, English and any other subjects tested?

**A:** Susan Martinez (reference question from above)

**Q:** Michelle Crisci- 4 questions related to A-G presentation

1. Will new EXCEED IEP have "opt-out" option?
2. Is "opt-out" available for general education?
3. Will co-taught classes be offered in A-G?
4. Will I-High classes meet A-G?

**A:** Joe Fulcher-have not designed an "opt-out" option yet. The piloting phase of EXCEED should begin in the next month in four schools. This option is not currently available.

Susan Martinez-the co-taught and I-High concerns will be part of the ongoing discussions in the A-G task force meetings.

**Q:** Teresa Hilleary-transportation curbside vs. must be met-How can I obtain a copy of the SDUSD regulations that "Require" students who are picked up and dropped off at their home address to be classified as "must be met"?

**A:** Susan-was under the impression that Sam Coleman had addressed this problem and she will get back to him about this.

**Q:** A-G what year does this start?

**A:** Susan Martinez-The A-G starts in 9<sup>th</sup> grade, but the transition plan starts earlier. In middle school students, with and without IEP's, school counselors and staff develop a four year plan to complete graduation requirements.

**Q:** Mrs. Zarape-Why are students who are done in high school required to go automatically to TRACE? When her son graduated from high school he didn't have options?

**A:** When students fulfill the requirements for graduations than the districts obligation to the student ends. If a student with an IEP does not fulfill those requirements than the district is required by law to provide ongoing education/transitional services until the age of 22. Parents can voluntarily remove a student from TRACE, but the district will continue to send information until the age of 22. At age 22, anyone still needing assistance will become part of Adult Services.

**Q:** Bill Cary-(3 questions) ADA (average daily attendance) funding at schools-In SDUSD does special education students school they attend, receive ADA funding as every other student and category funding from the SELPA?

**A:** Joe Fulcher-funding is counted district wide, no one is omitted.

**Q:** 2<sup>nd</sup> question-6<sup>th</sup> grade camp-Can we develop a way to establish better supports for students with disabilities wanting to attend 6<sup>th</sup> grade camp? There are many unanswered questions and we are still not certain he can attend or that it will be a safe secure environment?

**Q:** 3<sup>rd</sup>-website-why can't special education have a direct link for special education on the front page of the website?

**A:**

**Q:** Belquis Ander-Placement- Where can one find the requirement for the IEP team to assign or place a student with a disability in a class taught by a teacher who is not credentialed, not certified and not authorized by the state requirement in that students primary disability?

**A:** Joe Fulcher-It is the parent's decision along with the IEP team to determine the best placement for your student. The district needs to make sure there are the right supports and teacher in place to work with your student.

**Q:** Wendy Lloyd (presented by Moira) - If the school is concerned the student will not be promoted to the next grade, what is the date by which the district is required to notify the parent?

**A:** Joe Fulcher-I will need to research and get back to you on the procedure or policy specific to this question.

**Q:** Ann - Is there a way for students to stay in high school for another year to complete the graduation requirements or is four years the max requirement for high school study?

**A:** Susan Martinez-It is not common practice, but these are questions coming out of discussions that some students need more time and how do we allow for that. Jody Bondurant-Strong-this is not uncommon for general education students who need time to complete their education.

**Q:** Michelle Guerrero/Mario Mares-Services and support for student and teacher-Transferring in from Alpine to SDUSD their student needs to be placed in a special day program and the student is severely struggling and where do we get additional assistance for creating supports for my student?

**A:** Susan Martinez- will work with you and your school site to make sure you have the supports you need.

**Q:** (translation) Trace students don't have their own classroom and they should have a place to be/classroom particularly when it is raining so they are not stuck outside?

**A:** Susan Martinez-Part of TRACE is learning to be in the larger community so they aren't typically in a classroom setting, but we will address a particular concern with a school.

**Q:** Alma Meza- How can I have help for my student with ADHD diagnosis in 5<sup>th</sup> grade? (Freese Elementary)

**A:** (question not presented during meeting)

## **CAC BUSINESS**

### **Approve CAC meeting minutes (action)**

Minutes from June are available to review. Joyce made a motion to approve the June minutes as presented. Pam seconded the motion. Minutes passed for unanimously.

Minutes from September are available for review. Bill made a motion to approve the September minutes as presented. Pam seconded the motion. Michelle requested adding her question as an addendum to the minutes. Motion passed unanimously as presented with the addendum.

### **Chair Report**

Moira presented information on membership changes- welcome to Ellen Herroon who was approved by the Board of Education last month, also two members on leaves of absence one until January the other till March. Four members terms expire next year and they have been notified of their need to submit renewal applications. Raylene Dickinson has been recommended for membership and her name will be presented at the School Board meeting on 28 Oct. Members have been assigned to committees and those meetings should start next month.

Executive committee-discussed the variety of initiatives to include the resolution, along with developing trainings for parents with the district. Feedback on Above and Beyond awards was mixed so we still need some more input for the public on continuing these awards.

### **Announcements**

**Down's syndrome Association Buddy Walk** is 16 Oct at the Balboa Park Organ Pavilion starting at 9 am with a resource fair and entertainment along with the walk.

**Proposition J** town hall meetings 20 Oct 2010 6:30 pm at Serra High School in the Media Center or 21 Oct 2010 6:30 pm Clairemont High School in the cafeteria

**CCC Kids sponsoring an Oktoberfest** on 23 Oct 2010 at Kid's Zone entry is \$5 adults; \$3 children

**Beyond High School Program** is 28 Oct 2010 6:00 to 8:30 pm Point Loma High School in the cafeteria. This is informational meeting for parents of any student with an IEP or 504 plan on the options and programs available after high school (only program offered this year). RSVP is requested Jane Doft (619) 223-3121x1167 or [jdoft@sandi.net](mailto:jdoft@sandi.net).

Resources for individuals transitioning from high school-Disability Help Center: free assistance for family and adult social services 1-888-418-8860 and online resource [www.casas.org](http://www.casas.org) for adults (out of high school) functioning at or below high school levels provide 8 different modules for skills training.

**21<sup>st</sup> Century Education Symposium** offered in conjunction with SDUSD: 3 days-11 November (staff), 12 November (modified for administrators) and 13 November (parents) 8:30-3:30 at the Handlery Hotel in Mission Valley. Registration will be online at [www.dsasd.org](http://www.dsasd.org). Fee is associated, but parents will be offered scholarships.

**Engaging in Challenging Conversations** Training 21-22 Oct. 8:00-4:00 Scripps Mesa Conference Center. Contact [pmoulton@sandi.net](mailto:pmoulton@sandi.net) for more information

### **MEETING ADJOURNED AT 9 pm**

Respectfully submitted by the secretary,  
Mary Conroy.