

# CAC

## COMMUNITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE for Special Education

ADVISING THE BOARD OF EDUCATION  
SAN DIEGO UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

### General Membership Meeting: MINUTES

**Date:** December 9, 2010  
**Time:** 6:30-9:30 pm  
**Location:** Lindberg Schweitzer Elementary West Campus Auditorium,  
4133 Mt. Albertine Ave. San Diego, CA 92111

### WELCOME & INTRODUCTIONS

#### **Meeting called to order at 7:05 pm**

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

### ROLL CALL/MEMBER ATTENDANCE

**Present:** Moira Allbritton, Joyce Clark, Bill Cary, Mary Conroy, Belquis Anders, Michelle Crisci, Raylene Dickinson, Stephanie Fimbres, Teresa Hilleary, Ellen Herron, Meghann Hughes, Pam McKinney, Nancy Stevenson

**Absent:** Christy Scadden, Teresa Michel

**Ex-Officio:** Bill Kowba, Superintendent of SDUSD; Dr. Joe Fulcher, Chief of Student Services; Susan Martinez, Executive Director Special Education; Jody Bondurant Strong, Director Special Education

#### **Quorum Established**

**Presentation: Protecting Civil Rights and Ensuring Quality Instruction** by Frankie Husson and Joyce Clark

Frankie Husson gave a presentation about his experience as a student in the district, originally presented to the Board of Education on November 30th. This was followed by Joyce Clark presenting the final proclamation voted on and approved by the Board of Education protecting and preserving civil rights for all students, including students with disabilities.

**Remarks/Q and A:** Bill Kowba, Superintendent of SDUSD gave an overview of the district and answered questions.

### PUBLIC OPEN FORUM: Q & A

**Q:** (Monica Fuentes) Disabled Parking/Taft Middle School-trying to secure \$275 funding for disabled parking adjacent to Taft Middle School for disabled persons who want to visit the accessible nature garden.

**A:** Dr. Fulcher-please reference Sally Tucker who handles all ADA claims in the district, as well as contacting the principal to Taft. Contact information is available on sandi.net

**Q:** (presented by Joyce Clark) Trace/IEP dispute-Paul Abramson has requested CAC intervention/follow up with regards to his son and dispute about option 2 diploma, GPA

requirements and TRACE program. Complaints have been filed at district and state level and are currently under investigation.

**Q:** (Elliot Spagat) Mainstreaming/Teacher “push-in” to general education- Silver gate student w/autism-Special Ed. teacher spending more time in general ed. classrooms and the child is receiving more education from aide and not progressing on goals? Student is placed in general education classroom with questionable benefits?

**A:** Susan Martinez- The district is making an effort to improve the outcomes of students and placing more students in least restrictive environment to encourage full education. Stressing SAI and IEP team meetings and planning for each student in determining best placement. There is support/assistance on-site through cluster support teachers and area superintendents.

**Q:** (Rania Azzazi) Pershing-lack of support and bullying by staff at the school-parent is concerned about tedious repetitive suspensions and referrals for student with disabilities. I have asked for assistance and support from vice-principal with no response. I have contacted area superintendent with little response.

**A:** Susan Martinez-will follow up.

**Q:** (Virginia Rivera) Parent with a student at Benchley-Weinberg transitioned from SEEC to kindergarten-Student entered school with 13 hours of SAI on IEP. Student did not receive any SAI hours for Sept. Parent did not receive notice of IEP meeting that was due. IEP meeting Nov 10 finally-SAI hours received only about 5 hours at that point when the child should have received 100 + hours. At IEP meeting only 4 hours/week was offered as resource did not have ability/staffing to provide more. How do I get the staffing/support in place to meet the needs of my child?

**A:** Susan Martinez will follow up.

**Q:** (Maximiliano Garcia) Parent of a TRACE student-why are corporations/companies unwilling to partner with TRACE to provide meaningful employment.

**A:** Susan Martinez- follow up with Bob Morris and myself.

**Q:** Request that program managers and other employees who are on vacation or unavailable that they leave a point of contact for them so we don't have to wait weeks for response or follow up?

**A:** Susan Martinez will forward the request to all.

**Q:** (Maria Zuniga-translated) My son will receive a “Join Diploma” (sic), because she does not have the A-G requirements. He has always been with IEP. Is there an extra resource or support so that he can attend Community College? Or will it be better for him to stay one more year in High School? He attends Mark Twain High School and supposedly he will graduate school year.

**Q:** (Maria Corral-translated) My daughter Soledad Corral attends Cherokee Point Elementary School. My daughter's IEP states that she has to have a person to accompany her in all activities that she has outside of the classroom, such as going to the music class, take her to the restroom, take her to lunch.

It so happened that on November 29<sup>th</sup>, I received a call from the office of Sonia Picos and she told me that my daughter already had her Special Education teacher and that she was going to be the one to take her to the outside activities, the problem is that she has two other students and with my daughter three. There is a child with behavioral problems and there is no one to help her with them.

I want you to tell me or reply to me where do I have to go, because there have been three instances in which my daughter has not been taken out to lunch, because there is no one to help the Special Education teacher.

**Q:** (Ellen Herroon) Special Ed. Credential- I understood my son's long term sub to say that he has a teaching credential, but not a special ed. credential. I am concerned about my child's IEP goals; both being achieved and writing classroom goals all for our annual IEP in June.

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

Dr. Joe Fulcher- special ed. is looking at \$6 million in cuts for next year. We have not identified where those cuts might be. EXCEED (new IEP computer program)-a month or so behind in implementing the pilot program; hopefully by January 2011.

Susan Martinez spoke of AB 3632- governor vetoed funding for mental health services to schools. The SELPA directors and county department of mental health are trying to restore \$7 million in funding for this fiscal year to bridge the gap while alternatives can be found to provide the services necessary for students needing mental health services.

Jody Bondurant Strong-The district is looking at offering the training again in May 2011 for the Alternative Dispute Resolution Panel. The current team will continue practicing in January. The District aims make it available to parents and schools in February 2011.

## **CAC BUSINESS**

**Approve CAC meeting minutes (action)** - Michelle Crisci made a motion to approve the general membership meeting minutes for November. Bill Cary seconded the motion. Motion passes.

### **CAC Chair Report:**

Membership-Moira Allbritton, Christy Scadden and Michelle Crisci have all submitted renewal membership applications that will go before the board soon.

Moira reaffirmed the school boards quick approval of the proclamation on November 30<sup>th</sup> and thanks to Joyce Clark for her tremendous amount of work and collaboration with Dr. Fulcher in writing, revising and getting approval from the board.

Tabled open forum accountability tabulations until next month.

Above and Beyond Awards-Raylene Dickinson will head up awards

Move June meeting to 2<sup>nd</sup> June with Above and Beyond Awards at Lindberg-Schweitzer so it won't conflict with the end of the school year graduations, etc.

The sub-committee meetings will be from 6:00-6:45 on 13 January, prior to the next general meeting at Ballard Center. These are also public meetings and all are welcome to attend.

### **Announcements:**

ASA (Autism Society of America San Diego Chapter) holiday party 10 December, 6:00-8:00 pm at the Clairemont Boys and Girls Club-please bring cookies; refreshments will be provided.

13 January next CAC general meeting at 7:00 pm at the Ballard Center

18 January Area Board 13 is offering a Lanterman Act Training at their Mission Valley office from 10:00-1:00

SDUSD looking for School Site Wellness volunteers for every school to improve school lunches and healthy living for students. Special education is under represented, please consider volunteering.

Joyce Clark made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Stephanie Fimbres seconded the motion. Motion passed.

## **MEETING ADJOURNED AT 8:55 pm**

Respectfully submitted by the secretary,  
Mary Conroy