

Community Advisory Committee (CAC)
Meeting Agenda (Zoom Video Conference)
February 17, 2022
6:00pm-7:30pm
Meeting Minutes

1. General

1.1. Call to Order by Melinda Barrera at 6:02pm.

1.2. Introductions made by all attending

PRESENT in order of introduction:

Melinda Barrera- Chairperson -parent-Manteca

John Barrera- parent-Manteca

Frank Souza, Program Specialist SJCOE

Lisa Mazza, Ripon Unified School District

Dena Hernandez- Regional Manager State Council on Developmental Disabilities (SCDD) North Valley Hills office

Monique Guerrero-Family Resource Network (FRN)

Danielle Wells- VMRC

Jody Burriss- Director of SpEd Manteca/District Rep

Jerry Xiong- Department of Rehabilitation/Blind Field Services

Thomas Crocker- Lincoln Unified School District

Brandie Brunni- Assistant Superintendent SJCOE/ SELPA Director

2. Parent Portion

2.1 Parent Topic -Inclusion- unfortunately had to be canceled for this evening as the person had another meeting. In the absence of the speaker- Tom Souza & Brandie shared that this person is with SJCOE as a new position that is shared between special & general education. Join with the Ed Services side of the house at SJCOE. Its an opportunity as a split funded position. Brandie explained the details of how this came to be and how it will work within the SELPA. Only SELPA and County Office in the state that has created this joint position. Hired Deanie Coleman for this position. Very excited for this groundbreaking opportunity. Discussion about what Inclusion would look like for children with different abilities occurred. Person Centered is key.

2.2 Upcoming meetings and discuss presenters

March 17, 2022- Topic: Young Adult to Adulthood

May 12, 2022- Transition Services

3. CAC Business

3.1. Reviewed/Approved the CAC Meeting Minutes dated **October 21, 2021 & December 16, 2021**. Danielle Wells made the motion/Jody Burriss seconded/Motion passed.

4. SELPA Representative Business

4.1. Frank Souza – shared notes from Justin. Couple of trainings that have happened. One on notetaking and one on Alternative Dispute Resolution both done virtually. Also had training for the Speech Therapist on Dyslexia. We have a couple of new administrative assistants- Nina O'Regan- Work Ability and Pam Abercrombie picking up where Alex Hinson left off.

4.2. Brandie Brunni– Council of Directors report-have been very busy.
-Districts are working on plans for next year- how many classes increase/decrease, lots of training, upcoming ADR conference, and planning for extended school year.
-The Governor's Budget proposal for next year- last two years lots of dollars funneled into special education which was great. Brandie shared numbers- bumped up from \$715 per student this year and it is anticipated to be bumped up to \$820. This will be statewide equalization of the dollars. She explained further on details.
-Alternative Pathways to get a diploma is a task being looked at.
-New dates- Sept to April for birthday months for Early Childhood Education Options.
-Mental Health dollars- change is instead of the mental health dollars flowing to the SELPA directly will now flow directly to the districts. Some SELPA will have a significant impact and other may not. These dollars have been used in our SELPA regarding the CARES & Belief Programs.

5. District Representative Business

5.1 Jody Burriss – Manteca Unified- working on projections for next school year as Brandie stated. Will have an extended school year & summer learning series. Training in our district and working with staff to develop meaningful goals that drive our services and placements.

5.2 Lisa Mezza-Ripon Unified School District-Ditto on the extended school year. This year it will be called Summer Safari and at the end of the summer, the kids will get to go to a place where there are animals. Back on Jan 4- we had a day long professional development day- all teachers gen/spec ed. Frank and Justin provided great trainings on transition and writing goals. It was a hands-on type of training, and it was appreciated. We are busy moving forward.

5.3 NeLaine Kilgore-absent

5.4 Thomas Crocker- Lincoln Unified School District -Special Ed Director- stated that like the other districts Lincoln is also looking at projections for next school year, summer school, extended school year classes. Very similar as Manteca and Ripon in planning. Potential changes for pre-K and K and preschool programs that will impact providers/services. A lot is happening. Trying to hire staff is very difficult- anyone no anyone interested- please call him! It is a huge challenge in our work.

6. Agency Representative Business

6.1. Danielle Wells – VMRC, lots of growth for the agency and have expansive positions – we are continuing to hire to support people. If you know anyone interested, please let them know that VMRC is hiring www.vmrc.net VMRC hired a Deaf and Hard of Hearing service coordinator and will start soon to support that

population. Resumed the Person-Centered Planning training- but first training is full so next raining will be in July. Lots going on in the Self Determination Program- hired new positions to help with the high demand for this program. The Social Recreation and Camp services that can now be funded again by regional centers is happening. It included nonmedical therapies that other generic resources cannot provide.

Discussion about Challenger Sports Leagues that currently can be funded but once Home & Community Based Setting Rule (HCBS) goes into effect March 2023 it might not. HCBS is all about inclusion and not segregated activities.

6.2. Monique Guerrero - Family Resource Network (FRN)- Our SJ Teeth program is back and FRN can help work with families to get their kids into the dentists. It's a helpful program! Another program called Project DATA for those who have regional center services and need help getting the internet or a device to access the internet.

6.3. Jerry Xiong - Department of Rehabilitation (DOR) Blind Field Services- he introduced himself and shared his role at DOR Blind Field Services. He further explained DOR Services and how to access those services. He covers a large part of California (Merced, Tuolumne, Calaveras, Tracy and the Bay Area) and said he will go where he is needed. He spoke about the Federal Vocational Title 1 grant- part of it is supposed to go to student services- but not getting a lot of student referrals. We have a pot of money that can be used for students with disabilities. He wanted ideas on how referrals can increase. FCCC Contract- Competitive Integrated Employment - he shared how the contract can be handy to the school district. The contract pays the student. He shared information about additional services that DOR can provide. He is happy to communicate with anyone about DOR services moving forward. A question about Work Ability was explained regarding Certificate of Completion and/or Diploma Track by Frank Souza.

6.4 Dena Hernandez - State Council on Developmental Disabilities- North Valley Hills-

- SCDD new 5 year State Plan is underway- it began October 2021. For tracking and federal funding- we have developed Disability Experts Advisory Panels (DEAPS) to work toward systems change, advocacy and capacity building. The DEAPS are working on the following goal areas Employment, Education through the life span, Self-Advocacy, Self Determination, Health & Safety, and Housing. Due to this shift of focus- I may have to resign from the CAC- however- I will finish out this school year. Our Community Program Specialist- Chanel Murray will be happy to represent SCDD moving forward. SCDD will also be putting together a Learning Management Services -on line training on the different topic areas- they will be free and in multiple language. More info to come as it is developed.
- Senate Bill 639- elimination of sub minimum wage – there will be virtual Community Conversations all around the state to get input. Our office will be hosting one on April 5, 2022 from 10am-12noon and will have Spanish interpretation. Once the flyer is developed- it will be shared far and wide.

- VMRC Transition Fairs will be happening- meeting tomorrow. Asked CAC if they would like to be included – Melinda is the chair so will let her know once a date is settled and if it will be virtual or in person.
- CHOICES 2022- It is going to be on Friday, May 20, 2022 and it will be virtual from 10am-12 noon and it will be FREE again this year. This is for adults 18 and over so we hope to encourage the Transitions students/Classes to participate. The theme is “Everyday CHOICES, Everyday Heroes”. All the speakers are folks with disabilities. The Advocates will entertain again. There is also a free t-shirt. Registration will be live at the end of Feb and will be shared.
- VMRC did a drive thru to give out At Home Covid tests that were given to providers in San Joaquin County. SCDD, FRN, and Self Advocacy Council 6 will be passing out these tests in our 5 counties soon.

7. Public Comments –

- A parent shared her that she thought this meeting was very refreshing, she said she like the way the CAC held the meeting and followed the agenda- she said thank you for that.
- Tom, Justin & Brandie shared that they will be out of town for the next CAC meeting for a training- day time meeting and they will try to connect or possibly record a presentation and send.

8. Future Meeting Info: Continuance to meet virtually:

Per AB 361, regarding the next scheduled meeting, the CAC discussed exemption from traditional teleconference requirements as still necessary. The CAC has considered the state of emergency circumstances and that the state of emergency continues to directly impact the ability of the members to meet safely in person, as well as local officials continuing to recommend measures to promote social distancing. A **motion** was made by Danielle Wells and seconded by Dena Hernandez- motion passed.

9. Adjournment – Meeting ended at 7:30pm. Next Meeting February 18, 2022 – 11:30am-1:00pm

Minutes respectfully submitted by Dena Hernandez- SCDD North Valley Hills/ SJCOE CAC Secretary

10. Voting Members

Parent Representatives (14) – (10) Open Positions

County Programs (2)

- *Open*
- *Open*

Escalon (1)

- *Open*

Jefferson (1)

- *Open*

Lammersville (1)

- *Open*

Lincoln (2)

- *Open*
- *Open*

Linden (1)

- *Open*

Manteca (2)

- Melinda Barrera (Chair)
- John Barrera

Ripon (1)

- *Open*

Small Schools (Banta) (1)

- *Open*

Tracy (2)

- Crystal Pelayo
- *Open*

Educational Representatives (4) - Full

- Manteca Unified - Jody Burriss
- Banta Elementary - NellLaine Kilgore R
- Ripon Unified- Lisa Mazza
- SJCOE - open

Agency Representatives (5)

- Valley Mountain Regional Center (VMRC) – Danielle Wells
- Family Resource Network (FRN) – Nicki Moss
- Department of Rehabilitation – Joe Stansil
- State Council on Developmental Disabilities - Dena Hernandez

Non-Voting Membership

Ex-Officio Representatives

- SELPA Director – Brandie Bruni
- SELPA Program Specialist – Justin Albano
- SELPA Administrative Assistant – Open
- Council of Directors Representative – 1 rotating position among directors; 1 position appointed on an annual basis
- Assembly member’s Office
- Senator’s Office
- Attendees