



Jim A. Yovino
Superintendent

fresno county superintendent of schools



Special Education Local Plan Area
Trina Frazier, Assistant Superintendent

Operations Committee Meeting

March 23, 2021

1:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m. ✦ Zoom

Members: Region I: Hillary Reid, Teresa Page, David Paliughi **Region II:** Gloria Reiger, Anthony Evaristo, Joy Bratton, Cindy Schreiner, Jodie Wiens, Jason Stricker **Region III:** Elizabeth Runyon, Tod Tompkins, Jennifer Pinto, Betty Carmona, Keith Mackey, Melissa Andresen, Jojo Reyes, Terry Hirschfield, Christy Grace, Jeff Moore, Derek Cruz, Christine Doughty, Diane Gischel-Lingo **Region IV:** Tangee Pinheiro **SELPA Staff:** Trina Frazier, Eddie Davidson, Romy Chachere, Laura Wascher, Monica Raigoza **Guests:** Christina Borges, Dana Budd, Jennifer Rowe Gonzalez, Trish Small, Michelle Roberto, Allie Witt, Marlene Pena, Kathy Davis

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| <p>I. Call to Order
The meeting was called to order at 1:01 pm.</p> | <p>T. Frazier</p> |
| <p>II. Introductions</p> | <p>T. Frazier</p> |
| <p>III. *Adoption of Agenda
<i>C. Schreiner / J. Moore</i></p> | <p>T. Frazier</p> |
| <p>IV. *Approval of Minutes of February 17, 2021
<i>C. Schreiner / J. Moore</i></p> | <p>T. Frazier</p> |
| <p>V. Standing Committee Reports</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Executive Committee 2. SGC Committee | <p>T. Frazier</p> |
| <p>VI. Information and Reports</p> <p>A. Administrator’s Report – Highlights of Current Information</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Fiscal Update
Trina Frazier, SELPA Administrator, informed the committee that information will be shared regarding a federal audit. 2. Legislative Update
Trina reported to the committee on AB968 regarding Special Education COVID- 19 Fund. This bill would establish Special Education funds in the state treasury. The funds would be used by the California Department of Education (CDE) for purposes to provide matching funds on a one-time basis to support Local Educational Agencies (LEAs) in conducting activities to prevent and intervene in early conflicts. 3. First Student Update
Trina shared that an agreement has been negotiated for settling with First Student. The amendment has been reviewed by our legal counsel and is now under review by the finance department. | <p>T. Frazier</p> |

**indicates handout*

4. **Behavior Intervention Team/All 4 Youth Workshops** T. Small
Trish Small, Senior Director of Pupil Personnel Services, informed the committee of consulting and coaching available for districts by the Behavior Intervention Team. Trish reviewed upcoming workshops and trainings available for parents and staff.

B. FCSS Operated Program Updates T. Pinheiro

1. ***Class Size Capacity**
Tangee Pinheiro, Executive Director of Special Education, reported that as of February 27, 2021, enrollment numbers are as follows: 386 students with moderate to severe intellectual disabilities, 107 students for the CIRCLE and PIP programs, 75 students for ED/TIES, and 47 students for DHH, totaling 615 students. There are 21 students enrolled in Non-Public Schools (NPS). There are 43 pending referrals.
2. ***Percentage of Students Served**
Tangee reviewed the handout titled “Students Served in County-Operated Programs by District of Residence”. The handout displays each district’s number of students enrolled in each program.
3. **Updates**
Tangee explained to the committee the current process for referrals. At the moment, priority is that any enrolled students who have not been attending in-person instruction are offered the opportunity to return. Students’ in-person instruction days are being increased from two to four days a week. Once all currently enrolled students are confirmed for in-person instruction, referrals will be reviewed for placement. Tangee asked that districts contact the appropriate Principal or herself regarding information on pending referrals. It is anticipated that students return to in-person instruction full time in August 2021. The Extended School Year (ESY) program this year will continue with in-person and distance learning instruction. In addition to ESY, a Summer Academy will be held at each of the centers for in-person instruction only. This is not included in the IEP and is strictly to address the needs of the students and the prioritization within Ed Code 435321. The prioritization is in youth at risk of abuse or neglect, foster, homeless, English learners, access to education and disengagement.
Tangee also shared with the committee, that at the moment, a majority of busses are at capacity following the six feet social distancing guideline within busses. Transitioning to the updated guideline of three feet social distancing will allow for double the capacity within busses.

C. *State Apportionment for 2020-21 P-1 E. Davidson

Eddie Davidson, Student Services Fiscal Director, reviewed the handout titled “State Apportionment for 2020-21 P-1”. The handout displays each district’s State Apportionment amount. The increase of \$1,367,613 is due mostly to the increase in the Low Incidence funding and will be used for Low Incidence services.

D. *Federal IDEA Expenditure Report 1 Update for 2020-21 E. Davidson

Eddie reviewed handout titled “Federal IDEA Expenditure Report 1 Update for 2020-21” and informed the committee that IDEA funds for this year have not been received. Last year’s funding was used as an estimate. Displayed on the handout are actual expenditures reported by each district’s fiscal team. CDE has not released the Grant Award Notice. As soon as the Grant Award Notice is available, this report will be submitted to receive funding.

E. *Federal IDEA Expenditure Report 5 Update for 2019-20 E. Davidson
Eddie reviewed the handout titled “Federal IDEA Expenditure Report 5 Update for 2019-20”. Eddie explained to the committee that there are still federal funds with balances that should be expended within 27 months of being awarded. Eddie asked that districts review and look into how the balances can be expended.

F. Federal Audit E. Davidson/T. Frazier
Eddie explained to the committee that for the first time know there is a federal audit for IDEA funds. The US Department of Education has submitted an audit request. Records were audited for IDEA expenditures. The counties affected by the audit had a short turn around and requested an extensive amount of backup documentation. The audit has brought much conversation on how the Fresno County SELPA can prepare for any unanticipated audits that may request extensive backup documentation.

G. SEIS/CALPADS R. Chachere

1. SEIS/CALPADS

a) Overdue Initial Eligibility, Evaluations, IEPs

Romy Chachere, SELPA Compliance Officer, asked that districts with overdue initials ensure that SEIS transactions have been recorded to CALPADS and should connect with their CALPADS team for 16.8 Reports to see updates. Districts can reach out to Romy for a list of those students with overdue initials. Romy shared that they would like to hold a May workshop prior to End of Year 3 and 4 reporting.

2. Monitor and Compliance Reporting

a) Special Education Plan

Romy advised districts that they continue to implement their Special Education Plans, hold meetings and collect data and agendas.

b) Disproportionality/Significant Disproportionality

Romy informed the committee that they are still waiting for notifications from CDE regarding disproportionality. Notification is expected at the end of March 2021 or early April 2021.

c) Personnel Data Report

Romy shared that no new information for the Personnel Data Report has been received. Dominic Johnson, Special Education Department Automation Specialist, will be working closely with each district once the report is received.

d) *Local Plan Review

Romy explained to the committee that an extension was received for submitting the Governance and Administration piece due to COVID. Romy reviewed a calendar of due dates for each component for the Local Plan as well as necessary backup documentation for each area. Romy would like to move forward in phases. Initially providing the information available and utilizing the template provided for the first phase to indicate that compliance was met. For the second phase, she would like to consider consulting with key stakeholders and consider making major changes, adding policies or procedures, or a SELPA handbook for the Local Plan.

H. Professional Development

R. Chachere

Romy informed the committee of the upcoming Nonviolent Crisis Intervention (NCI) Refresher Training that will be held on March 25, 2021. The ASIST training scheduled for April 8, 2021 has been cancelled. A new date in May will be provided once available for the ASIST training.

I. Community Advisory Committee

M. Pena

Marlene Pena reported that there was parent participation for the last Community Advisory Committee. Parents who participated the meeting in March provided feedback and shared their specific concerns. Marlene asked that district's share contact information of any parents who may share interest in involvement with the CAC.

J. LCAP

M. Baker/D. Budd

Dana Budd provided an update on clarification received from CDE. Districts are required to include an action specific to students with disabilities in their LCAP and must consult with SELPA on these actions in alignment with the district's Local Plan.

VII. Hot Topics

T. Frazier

Jennifer Rowe Gonzalez, Legal Counsel, provided clarification that a district must maintain Special Education files for preschool students or any student who has started in a County-Operated Program and continues being served through the county beyond preschool. As far as a cumulative file, those would be kept and maintained at the site where the student is attending.

VIII. Future Agenda Items/Updates

T. Frazier

None.

IX. Next Operations Committee Meeting, April 15, 2021, via Zoom

T. Frazier

X. Adjournment

T. Frazier

The meeting was adjourned at 2:25 p.m.