



FRESNO COUNTY SELPA SPECIAL EDUCATION LOCAL PLAN AREA

Trina Frazier, Assistant Superintendent

Operations Committee Meeting October 24, 2024 1:00 PM to 3:00 PM Room 201 Meeting Minutes

PLEASE NOTE: For public access instructions and opportunities for public comments, please contact tfrazier@fcoe.org or (559) 265-3049 5:00 p.m. on October 23, 2024. Trina Frazier will respond with further instructions.

Members: Region I: Anne Franco, Steve Rosa, Calisha Chatter-Fitzhugh **Region II:** Julie Rocha, Tamara Sebilian, Anthony Evaristo, Erin Pasillas, Marina Ferry, Vanessa Gaona, Amie Visser **Region III:** Jennifer Pinto, Betty Carmona, Craig Hartsell, Denise Bedoian Jeff Moore, Patricia Gaffney, Brad Black **Region IV** Christine Borges **SELPA Staff:** Eddie Davidson, Romy Chachere, Laura Wascher **Guests:** Joy Bratton, Trish Small

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| I. Call to Order The meeting was called to order at 1:01 P.M. | T. Frazier |
| II. Introductions | T. Frazier |
| III. *Adoption of Agenda <i>J. Moore/ E. Pasillas</i> | T. Frazier |
| IV. Community Input <i>The public may address the Fresno County SELPA Policy Committee pursuant to established procedures and will have up to three minutes to do so. No action shall be taken (E.C. 35145.5). Members of the public who have a disability in need of a modification or accommodation in order to participate in the Operations Committee meeting may contact the Operations Committee coordinator 72 hours prior to the meeting with the request.</i> | |
| V. *Minutes from September 12, 2024 <i>J. Moore/ J. Pinto</i> | T. Frazier |
| VI. Standing Committee Reports A. Executive Committee B. SGC Committee | T. Frazier |
| VII. Information and Reports A. Administrator's Report – Highlights of Current Information 1. Fiscal Update Trina Frazier, the SELPA Administrator, informed the committee the state's revenue sources, which include personal income tax, corporation tax, and sales and use tax all exceed the estimate. | T. Frazier |

**indicates handout*

2. **Legislative Update**

Trina discussed key dates released in the Legislative calendar. On January 3, 2025 the legislature will reconvene for the second year of the 2023-24 Legislative Session. On January 10, 2024, the budget bill must be submitted by the Governor. Traylor bill language is released February 1. Trina reviewed the status of bills that would impact the SELPA. AB 2173, which seeks to replace "Emotional Disturbance" with "Emotional Disability" has been chaptered. To create a standardized IEP template, SB 445, has been amended and signed by the governor, stating by January 1, 2027, or within 18 months of finalizing the state standardized IEP template in digital format, the department will translate the IEP template into the top 10 most spoken languages (excluding English) and provide these on the department's website. As well as notifying school districts, county offices, charter schools, and stakeholders about the availability of the IEP templates online and through other dissemination methods. The bill has been ordered to engrossing and enrolling. SB 483 regarding elimination of prone restraint has been signed by the governor and effective by January 1, 2025. AB 438, which addresses postsecondary goals and transition services, has been signed by the governor and is effective by July 1, 2025.

3. **First Student Update**

Trina reported to the members that there are two First Student routes that are not covered. One is a vacancy, and the other is a leave of absence. We did not need to add one more route for the new classroom opened in Caruthers.

B. FCSS Operated Program Updates

C. Borges

1. ***Class Loading**

Chris Borges, Special Education Executive Director, reviewed the handout titled "Class Loading 2024-2025" as of October 2, 2024. Chris reported the enrollment numbers are as follows: 412 students within the Extensive Support Needs (ESN) program, 92 students for the CIRCLE programs, 21 students for the PIP program, 35 students for DHH, and 73 students for TIES, totaling 633 students. Chris highlighted the challenges of placing TIES referrals due to the high student turnover and the available classroom space does not correspond with the areas of need. Chris has invited members who are interested in joining an ad hoc committee to explore the current locations of TIES classrooms and to discuss ways to enhance support for our TIES students.

2. **Referrals**

Chris informed members that there are a total of 38 referrals.

3. ***Percentage of Students Served**

Chris reviewed the handout titled "Students Served in County-Operated Programs by District of Residence" as of August 29, 2024. The spreadsheet displays the percentage each district makes up of the SELPA based on the last census data from October 2023 and the percentage of enrollment in county-operated programs.

4. **Save-the-Date: Kids Day – May 9, 2025**

Joy Bratton, Special Education Director, informed members that Kids Day will be held at the Fresno Chaffee Zoo on May 9, 2025.

- VIII. *Funding Allocations for 2024-25 Quarter 1** E. Davidson
Eddie Davidson, Student Services Fiscal Director, reviewed the handout titled "Funding Allocations for 2024-2025 Quarter 1". The data presents the projected funding allocations for each Local Education Agency (LEA) for the 2024-2025 period. Please note that the IDEA grant award has not yet been received.
- IX. *Private School Proportionate Share for 2024-25 Quarter 1** E. Davidson
Eddie discussed the handout titled "Private School Proportionate Share for 2024-25 Quarter 1". Eddie clarified the difficulty in utilizing the funds due to the specific restrictions governing how this funding can be allocated. Eddie is available to offer guidance on how to effectively utilize these funds.
- X. *Transportation Billback Update for 2024-25 Quarter 1** E. Davidson
Eddie shared a detailed summary of transportation expenses. The cost per rider amounts to \$7,221.63. Districts must transport students assigned to their respective areas and have the option to also transport those outside of their district. Parents have the option to transport their children for reimbursement. The county-operated programs can provide a template that includes approved language for contracting with a parent to facilitate this transportation. The SELPA is accepting bids from new vendors as the existing contract with First Student will conclude in June 2026.
- XI. Member LEA Mental Health Funds Review** E. Davidson
Eddie discussed the changes in restrictions surrounding Mental Health Funds, which have expanded the options for utilizing these resources over the past few years. The California Department of Education (CDE) Special Education Division has asked that the funding in resource 6512 be fully utilized by the end of the fiscal year. Eddie is advising the members to prioritize spending these funds and to collaborate with their fiscal team.
- XII. *Federal IDEA Expenditure Report 7 for the 2022-23 Grant Award** E. Davidson
Eddie shared with the members that the handout contains Report 7, which serves as the final expenditure report for the 2022-2023 IDEA grant award. He also discussed the remaining balances for some members that were designated and allocated for county operated. This approach ensures that the funds are utilized effectively and helps reduce the reliance on state aid.
- XIII. SEIS/CALPADS/Compliance Reporting** R. Chachere
- A. SEIS/CALPADS**
- 1. *Fall 1**
Romy Chachere, SELPA Director, discussed upcoming dates for Fall 1 submissions. The FALL 1 LEA Certification deadline is December 13, 2024. Romy's goal is to achieve zero fatal errors by December 2, providing herself and Monica Ruiz, the SELPA lead department automation specialist, with ample time for review and assistance. The ultimate deadline for SELPA certification is set for January 24, 2025.
- B. Monitor and Compliance Reporting**
Romy advised members to execute their Compliance Improvement Monitoring (CIM) Plan while diligently maintaining records. Progress Reports are to be submitted to SELPA by December 2, 2024, and to the CDE by January 10, 2025. The annual determination letters are expected to be distributed in February 2025.
Romy also introduced the new requirement for CIM SELPA assurances for small LEAs. The deadline for submitting SELPA assurances and certifications concerning Targeted Level 2 LEAs in the 2022 or 2023 CIM Cohort is January 16, 2025. By signing the form, the SELPA confirms that the LEA has submitted the CIM Progress Reports by the specified dates of July

10, 2024, and January 10, 2025, and that these reports included all necessary information. Additionally, Romy shared other key dates relevant to Small LEAs. Romy reviewed Desired Results Developmental Profile (DRDP) reminders for what to expect for 2024-2025 and resources available to members. Romy talked about The Alternative Diploma Pathway and The Inclusive Access to a Diploma: Alternative Means of Expression. The website for The Inclusive Access to a Diploma: Alternative Means of Expression will remain accessible until January 31, 2025, and is open for feedback during its development. Upcoming Virtual Town Hall meetings are scheduled for November 21, 2024, and January 7, 2025. Members are encouraged to review the information and share their thoughts.

XIV. Professional Development

R. Chachere

A. 2024-2025 Workshops

Romy reviewed the upcoming 2024-2025 workshops that are listed on the SELPA website. “Mental Health Strategies Series: Session 1” is scheduled for October 30, 2024. The next Nonviolent Crisis Intervention (NCI) training sessions will be on November 6, 2024, and November 20, 2024. There will be dates available in January focusing on the de-escalation component from NCI.

XV. *Community Advisory Committee

R. Chachere

Romy provided feedback on the first Community Advisory Committee (CAC) meeting that was recently held. Attendees received an overview of the SELPA, along with a discussion regarding training requests. She has requested that districts which have not yet submitted a representative do so at their earliest convenience.

XVI. Hot Topics & Lesson of the Month

T. Frazier

A. First View

S. Guzman

Salina Guzman, transportation router, provided an overview of the First View feature for parents and how to navigate the application.

B. IEE

R. Chachere

Romy provided a preliminary list of potential Independent Educational Evaluation (IEE) assessors and assessed the cost constraints available for Local Education Agencies (LEAs) to consider. She is working alongside F3 Law to finalize the list, ensuring it adheres to the relevant guidelines and policies.

XVII. Future Agenda Items/Updates

T. Frazier

None.

XVIII. Next Operations Committee Meeting, November 13, 2024, at 1:30 PM via Zoom

T. Frazier

XIX. Adjournment

T. Frazier

The meeting was adjourned at 2:25 P.M.
S. Rosa/ J. Moore