



Jim A. Yovino
Superintendent

fresno county superintendent of schools



Special Education Local Plan Area
Trina Frazier, Chief Student Services Officer

Operations Committee Meeting
March 14, 2019
9:00 a.m. – 10:30 a.m. ✦ FCSS, Room 201
Minutes

Members: **Region I:** Teresa Page **Region II:** Gloria Regier, Anthony Evaristo, Joy Bratton, Cindy Schreiner, Jason Stricker, Diane Gischel-Lingo **Region III:** Tod Tompkins, Catherine Mears, Keith Mackey, Melissa Andresen, Denise Bedoian, JoJo Reyes, Derek Cruz, Christine Doughty **Region IV:** Tangee Pinheiro **SELPA Staff:** Eddie Davidson, Romy Chachere, Laura Wascher **Guests:** Liza Stack

- I. **Call to Order** T. Frazier
The meeting was called to order at 9:00 a.m.
- II. **Introductions** T. Frazier
Trina had members introduce themselves.
- III. ***Adoption of Agenda** T. Frazier
C.Schreiner/ J. Bratton
- IV. ***Approval of Minutes of February 7, 2019, Meeting** T. Frazier
C.Schreiner/ J. Reyes
- V. **Communications** R. Chachere
None.
- VI. **Standing Committee Reports** T. Frazier
 - 1. **Executive Committee- March 4, 2019**
- VII. **Information and Reports** T. Frazier
 - A. **Administrator’s Report – Highlights of Current Information**
 - 1. **Bill Updates**
Trina Frazier, SELPA Director, informed the committee members that Special Education funding is represented by proposals by the governor, the assembly and the senate. The bills were introduced on February 22, 2019, and reviewed for the following 30 days. Trina added that many of the bills were spot bills, and amended may be within the first week of March. The intent of bill AB428 is to bring SELPAs up into the 95th percentile in funding. Trina added that by equalizing at the 95th percentile, Fresno County SELPA additionally receive \$13 million in additional funding. Fresno County SELPA currently lies under the state target rate of \$546/Average Daily Attendance (ADA), coming in at \$498/ADA in funding. Bill AB428 also allocates additional funding for preschoolers with special needs and low incidence. Trina strongly encourages the committee to advise their district's superintendent to mail a letter of support, if they would like to support this bill. Trina and the committee shared the concern that the funding provided is through Local Control Funding Formula (LCFF) is not specifically designated to Special Education.

**indicates handout*

Trina addressed bill SB217 which provides an additional \$4,000 for every preschool student with special needs, expanding to transitional kindergarten students with exceptional needs. Trina stated that State SELPA Administrators would be taking on support of bill AB428 which was the most beneficial to our SELPA. Trina concluded that AB236 has also been supported by the SELPA which provides additional funding to empowerment centers.

2. **Behavioral Health Update**

Trina shared that the year two districts onboarding meetings continue and 11 of the 16 districts have all met or have been scheduled to meet. Trina raised the concern that a lack of information and knowledge of the new Behavioral Health initiative may be the result of those districts whom have not yet scheduled an onboarding meeting.

3. **Low Incidence Case Manager**

T. Pinheiro

Tangee Pinheiro, Senior Director of Special Education, shared that Low Incidence individuals served by a provider within the district would be receiving the SEIS record of the individual as of July 1, 2019. She clarified that the records returned to the districts are only of those served by the district. All county level service provided cases would remain internally. Leslie Cox, Principal, shared that the new practice allows parents the convenience and access with the case manager at a school site, ensuring quality communication at first contact. The recent change in CASEMIS to CALPADS and the California Commission of Teacher Credentialing (CTC) interfacing within the system has brought up concerns on credentialing. Tangee added that with the guidance from the credential department, clarification was provided and the new changes are related to the course and not necessarily the disability.

B. *FCOE Operated Programs Class Size Capacity/Attendance Monthly Update T. Pinheiro

Tangee has reported that as of March 4, 2019, enrollment numbers are as follows: 426 students with moderate to severe intellectual disabilities, 102 students for the CIRCLE and PIP Program, 47 students for DHH, totaling 654. The first round of projections for 2019-2020 is 617. Tangee reminded the committee that April 15, 2019 is the deadline for referrals to ensure enrollment in the appropriate placement and staffing is available for August 2019. Tangee also shared the Sun Empire classroom is the most recent addition for Circle and PIP program. She added that the Ramacher class size has decreased and that the 2019-20 year will be the last year serving Fresno Unified School District students. As of March 3, 2019 there are currently 18 students enrolled in Non-Public Schools (NPS). Tangee also reported a total of 64 referrals. The committee inquired on the availability for students at a lower grade for the Emotionally Disturbance (ED) program and Trina addressed the issue of availability for space in order to expand the program. Trina added that staff should take into consideration the ability to eventually mainstream students in the ED program.

C. *Percentage of Students Served

T. Pinheiro

Tangee shared the handout titled “Students Served in County-Operated Programs by District of Residence as of March 3, 2019”, providing a breakdown for each district. The 2018 census enrollment information has not been released; Tangee will update the committee once the information is available. The information compares district’s enrollment of students with IEPs to the district’s total enrollment. It also compares the percentage of SELPA enrollment to general education enrollment.

D. Transfer of Expenditures from AB 114 to AB 602

E. Davidson

Eddie Davidson, Student Services Fiscal Director, shared that over the last couple of years, AB114 funds are being expended. He shared prior to having designated funding for programs a reserve of funds was built, which was applied to ED courses, TIES classrooms and NPS reimbursements. As a result this year, the reserve funding will be fully expended. Recently, The California Department of Education (CDE) reached out to districts with available funding in reserves, which created the concern of funding being removed or reduced in future grant award funding. Funding in AB602 has been kept down to allow for additional funding for districts. Expenditures used with reserve funding remain which will be transferred to AB602; approximately \$1 million dollars is needed to keep the ED programs functioning without the additional AB114 funding. Eddie clarified that it is not yet confirmed and he is currently working on utilizing other funding sources. The change may result in less funding from AB602 for districts because the available funding has been expended. Eddie plans to notify fiscal staff at districts of the potential available funding with AB 602 projected for fiscal year 19-20. Trina added her concern of districts holding funds within reserve especially when the unexpended funding is in question. Trina again strongly encouraged districts with difficulty allocating funds from reserve funding to reach out to the fiscal team for assistance in appropriately encumbering the funds.

E. *State Apportionment for 2018-19 P1

E. Davidson

Eddie discussed the handout titled "State Apportionment for 2018- P1" sharing that 3% more was received than projected. The handout displays what each district has projected for AB602 allocation amounts. Eddie reiterated that Special Education receives less than the statewide target rate, which is a shortfall of about \$2.8 million dollars. This is a result of the hold harmless clause, in which districts with higher J50 Allocations would now benefit from it. In addition, funding was also prorated resulting in a cut of about \$1.2 million dollars. Trina again advised how vital it is for districts to reach out to their superintendents in submitting a letter of support in regards to underfunding.

F. *Federal IDEA Report 1 Update for 2018-19

E. Davidson

Eddie reviewed handout titled "Federal IDEA Expenditure Report 1 for 2018-19" reflecting actual expenditures from July 1, 2018 to December 31, 2018. It will not be reported to the CDE until the grant award notification is received.

G. *Federal IDEA Report 5 Update for 2017-18

E. Davidson

Eddie also shared the handout of an expenditure report titled "Federal IDEA Expenditure Report 5 for 2018-19". He added that there are now seven reports for each grant award. Eddie shared a concern of those districts who have not spent all of their funding identified on the table "Federal 2017-18 IDEA Fund Balance". He advised any district that is facing difficulty allocating funds to contact him. Eddie informed the committee if he receives no response in regards to any remaining balances, funds would be allocated to the appropriate areas to avoid the loss of future funding. Eddie will communicate with district superintendents in regards to spending challenges for remaining balances.

H. SEIS/CASEMIS

R. Chachere

1. SEIS 2.0

a) CASEMIS to CALPADS

Romy Chachere, SELPA Compliance Officer, had no updated information for CASEMIS to CALPADS to share to the committee. She shared that Dominic Johnson, Department Automation Specialist, sent an email that Desired Results Developmental Profile (DRDP) assessment window opened on March 1, 2019,

which needs to be affirm and tested by May 17, 2019. Romy asked committee to inform staff of the flash updates on SEIS.

2. Monitor and Compliance Reporting

a) Disproportionality- Corrective Action

Romy shared that some districts should have received notification regarding disproportionality, corrective action from CDE on their approvals. Romy asked for district notification from those that were approved for her own records. Romy informed the committee of an upcoming conference call with the CDE consultant for disproportionality and significant disproportionality for the districts identified. Specifically requesting clarification on notification received at the SELPA level whereas no notification was received by districts. Romy asked that any questions or concerns districts may have be emailed to her so that she may address them.

b) Annual Determination Reports

Romy clarified Annual Determination Reports were received at the SELPA level. Romy can disseminate the final versions identifying all 17 indicators if they have not been received at the district level.

c) Performance Indicator Review

Romy informed the committee that April 30, 2019 assurances for Performance Indicator Review are due to CDE. The internal deadline for SELPA is April 23, 2019. Plan are due July 30, 2019 to the CDE. The SELPA deadline will follow prior to the July 30 deadline to allow for suggestions. Romy added CDE has provided a sample template and tools providing guidance.

I. Professional Development

R. Chachere

Romy reviewed upcoming professional development dates. Romy informed the committee that on August 29, 2019 the first Training of Trainers for SEIS staff will be held. Romy advised available SEIS staff from each district to participate and eventually provide support to their district SEIS staff. The Patterns of Strength and Weaknesses for administrators training will be held on May 2, 2019. The link and flyer will be provided via email.

J. Community Advisory Committee

M. Pena

Romy shared that on April 3, 2019 the next Community Advisory Committee (CAC) meeting focusing on promoting the Positive Behaviors at Home event will be held. The location has not been determined; Romy encouraged any interested districts to reach out to her. Romy will be working with Marlene Pena to get the flyer shared and promote the event to families.

VIII. Discussion Agenda

T. Frazier

Committee inquiry was made in regards to adding mild/moderate Special Day Classes (SDC). Committee member suggested looking into numbers for mild/moderate SDC to see if it was feasible and to consider looking long term, to ensure numbers are needed.

IX. Future Agenda Items/Updates

T. Frazier

None.

X. Next Operations Committee Meeting, April 11, 2019, Room 201

T. Frazier

XI. Adjournment

T. Frazier

The meeting was adjourned at 10:20 a.m.