



# FRESNO COUNTY SELPA SPECIAL EDUCATION LOCAL PLAN AREA

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Trina Frazier, Assistant Superintendent

**Executive Committee Meeting  
November 3, 2025  
1:00 p.m. ~ 2:00 p.m. ❖ via Zoom  
Minutes**

*PLEASE NOTE: For public access instructions and opportunities for public comments, please contact [tfrazier@fcoe.org](mailto:tfrazier@fcoe.org) or (559) 265-3049 5:00 p.m. on November 2, 2025. Trina Frazier will respond with further instructions.*

- I. Call to Order** T. Frazier  
The meeting was called to order at 1:02 p.m.
- II. Adoption of Agenda** T. Frazier  
Mark Marshall / Ed Gomes
- III. \*Approval of Minutes from October 6, 2025** T. Frazier  
Orin Hirschhorn / Ed Gomes
- IV. Community Input**  
*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 Executive Committee meeting may contact the Executive Committee coordinator 72 hours prior to the meeting with the request.*  
None.
- V. \*Low Incidence Equipment Application Report** J. Silva  
Dr. Jenn Silva, Principal of Low Incidence programs, presented the Low Incidence Equipment Application Report and explained that the report summarized purchases made for students across the county in Low Incidence programs. Jenn highlighted one of the items purchased, an iPad voiceover switch controller intended to support a student with combined DHH, visual, and orthopedic impairment needs.  
*Orin Hirschhorn / Mark Marshall*
- VI. \*FCSS Operated Programs Class Size Capacity** K. Vieyra  
Kristi Vieyra, Director of Special Education, provided an update on class size capacity in county-operated programs. Kristi shared that the CIRCLE program remains at capacity, while there are limited openings in the TIES program. We will be opening a new TIES classroom in January at West Fresno Elementary. Kristi also shared that referrals are being actively processed and the number of students pending placement has been reduced.
- VII. \*Students Served in County-Operated Programs** K. Vieyra  
Kristi reviewed the Students Served in County-Operated Programs report and noted that the report shows the percentage each district makes up of the SELPA. The data reflected is from the 2024 census.

**VIII. \*Excess Cost Calculations for 2024-25**

E. Davidson

Eddie Davidson, Student Services Fiscal Director, presented the Excess Cost Calculations report and explained that the report is an annual federal requirement that is completed by district fiscal staff. Eddie explained that each row represents a member LEA and the calculation compares enrollment, average annual expenditures per student and special education student FTE to determine the minimum amount of state and local expenditures required before federal IDEA funds may be used. Eddie reported that the countywide average annual expenditure per student was just under \$25,000 and that the median was \$20,642. Eddie shared that all LEAs met the excess cost requirement and that the report would be submitted to CDE in the coming weeks.

**IX. \*Maintenance-of-Effort Update for SEMA for 2024-25 & SEMB for 2025-26**

E. Davidson

Eddie reviewed the MOE summary report and explained that maintenance-of-effort is run both for the year being closed, referred to as SEMA (actuals), and for the current budget year, referred to as SEMB (budget). Eddie reported that all LEAs met MOE for SEMA and therefore avoided financial penalties associated with noncompliance. Eddie further reported that several LEAs were not currently projected to meet MOE under SEMB and stated that he would work with those LEAs through First Interim and Second Interim to retest and mitigate any potential issues.

**X. \*SELPA 3-Year MOE Contribution Report**

E. Davidson

Eddie explained the SELPA 3-Year MOE Contribution Report noting that it should be reviewed carefully because local coding practices and the inclusion or exclusion of PCRA allocations can significantly affect comparability across LEAs. Eddie explained that the contribution percentage reflects the portion of special education expenditures funded through the general fund. He also reported that the SELPA member average contribution rate was 33.6%. Eddie explained that the statewide average contribution rate available for comparison (2023-24) was 60.4%, indicating the SELPA is below the state average.

**XI. \*Maintenance-of-Effort Exemption Review**

E. Davidson

Eddie reviewed the Maintenance-of-Effort Exemption Review form and explained that the SELPA provides this form to fiscal and program staff in order to identify allowable exemptions that may reduce MOE obligations while maintaining compliance. Eddie provided examples of exempt reductions, including savings related to voluntary retirements or resignations, replacement of higher-paid staff with lower-paid staff, capitalized equipment, and changes in special education pupil counts. Eddie emphasized that some exempt reduction categories require local documentation and input.

**XII. \*Review Reimbursement Claims for 2024-25**

E. Davidson

Trina Frazier, SELPA Administrator, facilitated a discussion regarding reimbursement claims for 2024-25 from the SELPA Legal Set-Aside Pool and reviewed the policy context for third-year claims. Trina explained that the SELPA policy previously required automatic denial of claims in a third consecutive year, but the language was revised to allow the Executive Committee to determine whether to approve or deny third-year claims. Trina reported that the Legal Set-Aside Pool currently held just under \$400,000, that \$75,000 is deposited annually, and that approval of all claims as submitted would leave approximately \$4,000 remaining in the pool. Trina and Eddie explained that claims were received from Riverdale, Sanger, and Central, and the SELPA reviewed each claim for required documentation, including whether SELPA was notified and whether ADR and mediation options were pursued when appropriate. Trina reported that one Sanger claim appeared invalid because the student never went on an IEP and recommended that claim be denied. Trina also stated that Central was asked to provide additional documentation for several claims but that the SELPA had not yet received all requested materials; Mark Marshall, Superintendent of Central Unified, said he would follow-up. Committee members discussed the purpose of the pool and expressed concern about maintaining equitable access for all districts. Members discussed possible safeguards, including instituting an annual cap per district

and limiting the percentage of pool funds that could be drawn down by a small number of LEAs. Eddie reviewed an adjusted scenario based on recommendations, which included denial of the invalid Sanger claim and denial of select Central claims lacking required documentation, while approving Riverdale's claim, approving Sanger's remaining eligible claims, and approving a reduced set of Central claims where the SELPA involvement and documentation supported reimbursement. Under the adjusted scenario, staff indicated the approved amounts would be approximately \$15,000 for Riverdale, approximately \$178,000 for Sanger (excluding the ineligible claim), and approximately \$47,000 for Central, preserving an estimated \$135,000 in the pool before subsequent year's annual deposit.

Following discussion, Orin Hirschhorn, Caruthers Unified Superintendent, made a motion to approve Riverdale's reimbursement claim, approve Sanger's eligible claims while denying the claim associated with a student who was never placed on an IEP, and approve Central Unified's reimbursement claims in adjusted amount of approximately \$47,747 consistent with recommendations, with the additional direction that the SELPA return the proposed policy revision and safeguards for future consideration. The motion was seconded by Ed Gomes. The motion was carried unanimously.

**XIII. Special Education MOE for 2025-26 SEMAI, Due 12/15/2025** E. Davidson

Eddie informed the committee that he will be working with district fiscal staff during First Interim, particularly with LEAs not currently projected to meet MOE in the budget year, and that he will report back to the Executive Committee regarding MOE status and mitigation steps as needed.

**XIV. Administrative Updates** T. Frazier

Trina updated members regarding the First Student contract addendums. Trina reported that following updated provided at the Superintendents' Governance Council (SGC) meeting, we received communication from First Student requesting a few adjustments related to liquidated damages in the 2026 agreement. Trina shared that the requested changes will be reviewed and we will determine whether the adjustments are acceptable.

**XV. Future Agenda Items** T. Frazier

Trina invited future agenda items and noted that the Legal Set-Aside Pool policy revision would return to the committee for further discussion. Orin raised a prior discussion regarding student program needs, specifically for students identified with both intellectual disability (ID) and autism. Trina explained that districts have repeatedly raised concerns that students with ID and autism are often not served well by current county autism programs and that the SELPA is evaluating whether it is meeting district needs for this population. Trina reported that a workgroup had previously made minor revisions to ID criteria but did not expand eligibility to include ID; however, additional recent cases indicate a continuing need. Trina shared that Wes Sever, Superintendent of Kingsburg Elementary District, has offered potential space for a new program, and the county-operated programs is exploring the possibility of developing a classroom model to serve younger students, possibly in grades one through three, using a careful slow-build approach.

**XVI. Upcoming Meeting Dates:** T. Frazier

- A. Operations Committee Meeting: November 12, 2025, 1:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m., Zoom
- B. SGC Meeting: November 20, 2025, 9:00 a.m. - 9:30 a.m., Room 201

**XVII. Adjournment** T. Frazier

The meeting was adjourned at 2:02 p.m.