



FRESNO COUNTY SELPA SPECIAL EDUCATION LOCAL PLAN AREA

Trina Frazier, Assistant Superintendent

Superintendents' Governance Council February 26, 2026 ♦ 8:30 a.m. – 9:00 a.m., Room 201 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 January 14, 2026. Trina Frazier will respond with further instructions.

- I. Call to Order** M. Copher
The meeting was called to order at 8:30 a.m.
- II. *Adoption of Agenda** M. Copher
Dr. Mark Marshall / Rafael Iniquez
- III. *Approval of Minutes from January 15, 2026** (pgs. 3-5) M. Copher
Jeff Percell / Gary Cunha
- IV. Community Input** T. Frazier
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 SGC meeting may contact the SGC coordinator 72 hours prior to the meeting with the request.
None.
- V. Communications** T. Frazier
None.
- VI. Standing Committee Reports** T. Frazier
A. None
- VII. Information and Reports**
A. Administrator's Report – Highlights of Current Information T. Frazier
Trina Frazier, SELPA Administrator, reported that the final date for introduction of new legislative bills was February 20. A summary of newly introduced bills will be provided at the next meeting, with the reminder that some may be spot bills subject to amendment. All special education items in the trailer bill remain intact, including the cost-of-living adjustment (COLA) of 2.41% and the proposed increase to the base rate. If adopted, the base rate would rise from \$917 per average daily attendance (ADA) to roughly \$999 per ADA representing a significant increase for districts across the SELPA. Trina also noted that the First Student transportation contract will take effect in July 2026, reflecting a 39% cost increase. If the state's proposed home-to-school transportation increase is approved, this would help offset the expense. First Student is currently providing consistent service, including standby drivers who have reduced the number of late or uncovered routes. Trina updated members regarding the Commission on Teacher Credentialing approving the extension of the 60-day substitute teacher limit for general education only. Trina informed members that the first meeting of the workgroup to discuss the CIRCLE program eligibility criteria is scheduled for March 27. Trina also announced the completion of the sound booth installation at Ramacher which will significantly

**indicates handout*

reduce the wait time for audiological assessments. Members were invited to the ribbon cutting ceremony on March 3 at 10:30 a.m.

- B. *FCSS Operated Programs Class Size Capacity** (pgs. 6-7) T. Frazier
Trina reported that county-operated programs currently serve 402 Extensive Supports Needs (ESN) students with a total enrollment of 629 in all programs. All pending ESN referrals will be placed in program. A new TIES class has opened in Washington Unified, and a new CIRCLE class will open at Roosevelt in Central Unified which will serve 8-10 students.
- C. *Percentage of Students Served in County Programs by DOR** (pg. 8) T. Frazier
Trina shared the percentage of students served by county-operated programs which shows the number of students served in each program along with corresponding service percentages.
- D. *Federal IDEA Expenditure Report 1 for the 2025-26 Grant Award** (pgs. 9-10) E. Davidson
Eddie Davidson, Student Services Fiscal Director, shared that the SELPA has not yet received the 2025-26 IDEA grant award but anticipates receipt within the next week. Claims totaling just under \$10 million have been prepared for submission once the award is released. The balance report shows approximately \$9 million remaining, which aligns with an estimated \$20 million grant award and allowable carryover.
- E. *Federal IDEA Expenditure Report 5 for the 2024-25 Grant Award** (pgs. 11-12) E. Davidson
Eddie shared that most funds for the 2024-25 grant cycle have been fully expended, with less than \$100,000 remaining. Districts were advised to review balances in the private school (3311) account, which carries approximately \$66,000 across the SELPA and is historically challenging to spend.
- F. *SELPA Special Education P-1 Apportionment for 2025-26** (pgs. 13-34) E. Davidson
Eddie noted that CDE certified the P-1 funding on February 18. Eddie reviewed the monthly payment schedule and the exhibit showing statewide funding sources and SELPA allocations. Out-of-home care funding decreased by approximately \$400,000 due to lower counts and increased statewide participation in the funding pool. Eddie reminded members that the base funds support the regionalized service model adopted by the SELPA, and allocations reflect the collective commitment to county-operated programs.
- G. Maintenance-of-Effort SEMAI for 2025-26, Due 3/15/26** E. Davidson
Eddie reminded members that MOE submissions are due March 15. He noted that CDE recently contacted him regarding eight LEAs that did not meet MOE in the prior budget cycle. Six of the eight now meet requirements. Eddie is working with the other two LEAs. Eddie shared that a new MOE review tool will be rolled out in July, allowing program and fiscal staff to analyze MOE compliance after June payroll posts but before fiscal year close. This process is intended to prevent audit findings and avoid opening board-approved books.
- H. *Proposed Changes to the Funding Allocation Plan, First Reading (Legal Cost Pool Changes)** (pgs. 35-47) E. Davidson
Eddie presented the proposed changes to the Funding Allocation Plan for consideration at the next meeting, outlining three major changes. The first revision updated eligibility language to require that ADR activities occur before any legal cost reimbursements are requested, unless the parent declines to participate. The second proposed change clarifies that LEAs may access the legal cost fund for two out of three consecutive years, with the Executive Committee retaining discretion to approve exceptions. The third proposed change introduces annual reimbursement caps by LEA, applying to total yearly reimbursements rather than individual claims with proposed limits set at \$75,000 for LEAs with more than 5,000 ADA, \$50,000 for

LEAs with ADA between 2,500 and 5,000 and \$25,000 for LEAs with fewer than 2,500 ADA. The intent of these changes is to maintain the long-term sustainability of the legal cost pool. During discussion, a question was raised regarding whether the ADA categories should include an additional tier for larger LEAs (e.g., 10,000+ ADA); this suggestion will be forwarded to the Executive Committee for further review.

VIII. Action Items

M. Copher

A. *SELPA Annual Treasurer's Report for 2024-25 & Proposed One-Time Distribution of Fund Balances for 2025-26 (pgs. 48-52)

Due to lack of a quorum, no action was taken. This item was deferred to a future meeting.

IX. Future Agenda Items/Updates

M. Copher

None.

X. Next SGC Meeting is March 26, 2026, at 8:30 a.m., Room 201

M. Copher

XI. Adjournment

M. Copher

The meeting was adjourned at 8:52 a.m.

Dr. Dennis Weichmen / Wes Sever