

**Special Education District Advisory Committee Meeting  
Santa Monica – Malibu Unified School District**

**Meeting Notes**

**Tuesday, December 10, 2019 7:00 to 9:00 PM  
DISTRICT OFFICE – BOARD ROOM (2<sup>ND</sup> Floor)**

- I. CALL TO ORDER & INITIAL COMMENTS: 6:40pm call to order, adjourned 7:35 pm
  - January meeting moved to 1/14/20 board testing room; All meetings start at 6:30 pm
- II. ANNOUNCEMENTS: Members & Public: Welcome Grace (Muir) and Carthik (Will Rodgers)
- III. UPDATE: Special Education Director
  - Sites visits to all elem schools to focus on how to deal with behaviors in gen ed classes, how to refer a child for services, what other services can be offered outside of special ed
  - Grant Spec Ed parent resource and support group; well received
  - Conference for administrators and school psych on how to run an effective IEP: ADR techniques
  - Trial in Van Nuys Office of administrative hearings: 13 current cases this year 5-6 in active litigation now. Mediator runs admin hearings.
  - Circle of Friends at Samo: had 1<sup>st</sup> training; Franklin and Muir are next. Bill Himmelwright is running the trainings, former Spec ed coordinator and former Asst Principal at Franklin; one of the founders of the program, Malibu High and MS are doing best buddies
  - Working on getting google classroom up and running; new assistive technology coordinator (was speech path) hit the ground running
  - Adaptive PE specialist Debbie Vasquez
  - Trying to get kids back from NPS: ASD with additional behavior issues; starting with elementary kids, hiring a teacher with a behavior background. Deanna concerned about the travel time. Distance out of district, (tuition). NPS (non public school) and RTC (residential treatment Center have 5-6 kids in it) costs are the highest costs on the budget line
  - Dr. Drati budget subcommittee: special ed included? Dr. D understands what our challenges are for budget: gen ed, why are kids getting referred? building trust within community and schools; Can Deanna be on this committee to have a voice in where the cuts happen? All directors involved.
  - Introduction to coordinators: families need to know them.
  - Summer school: advanced summer placement and knowing who your teacher is ahead of time; earlier organization so parents and teachers can plan, district is legally required to offer summer school
  - Newsletter going out next week: how to get your child ready for the holidays, what is OT, PT, Adapted PE, why there is a shortage of special ed teachers (they don't stay long, not paid much more than gen ed) so much work, lack of appreciation. Teachers need appreciation, need to know what they are doing matters.

- Classroom pivotal response training (CPRT) finding the currency of each kid to make them want to engage- based on their incentive, their preferred activity can be the lead. Pilot program UCLA, UC Davis, UCSD working on a study ages 5-11, Franklin and Grant kids for ASD behavior kids
  - IEE requests: private evaluation requests are on the rise bc the child was denied services and the parents demand outside test that the district has to pay for. DSM diagnosis doesn't mean you meet IDEA criteria.
  - Special Ed Staff: 1 Director ,4 coordinators, 5 clericals (1 is a FT translator), psych for private schools, 2 behaviorists. Structure of coordinators: can this be updated?
- IV. UPDATE: BOARD LIAISON Jon Kean: No board update at this meeting
- V. DISCUSSION: 2019-20 Charges: draft to board members before the holidays. Meeting adjourned early to review draft of ad-hoc committees.
- a. Charge 1: Parent Portal
  - b. Charge 2: Transition Plan
- VI. DISCUSSION: OTHER OPEN ITEMS:
- a. PRN update: meeting once a month, 12/12/19 9:00 am district office; need calendar for Jan – May 2020
  - b. District-wide Parent Events: how to coordinate with Julie? Deanna spoke with a disaster preparedness person for special needs kids can run a seminar Early Feb. review protocol for special ed kids and how to prepare your own kid; can this be at the Library- Barry has the contact; Jen to email Barry
  - c. Need for parent mixer in the spring: parent breakfast? Happy Hour? Special ed PTA ask PTA council for \$
  - d. Human sexuality class for special Ed kids: when and how? Need a credential person who understand the special ed piece
  - e. Kid abilities presentation from Franklin LY- roll out to other sites?
- VII. MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC
- Drop box for business accounts that is free for non profits 501c3 get in touch with Cartik for more info
  - PRN website was very helpful for Grace moving from Chicago
- VIII. APPROVAL OF MINUTES : approved from 11/12/19 Jen Glazer, 2nd Jamie Angus

The SEDAC meetings for the school year 2019- 2020 are scheduled for the first Tuesday of the month at the Office Board Room. Upcoming 2 Meetings: 1/7/20 (tbc) and 2/4/20

If you will require accommodation to participate in the DAC meeting, please notify the Special Education Office at (310) 450-8338, ext. 70210, at least two business days prior to the meeting. Attendees 12/10/19

Payal Maniar, Meredith Feldman, Sarah Gardham Thomas, Grace Lanzetta (welcome), Carthik, Jamie Angus, Jen Glazer, Deanna Sinfield