

TEHAMA COUNTY SELPA
SELPA EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE -- REGULAR MEETING

Tuesday, December 15, 2020 -- 9:00 AM

<https://tcde.zoom.us/j/94096640544>

APPROVED MEETING MINUTES

PRESENT: Rich DuVarney, Todd Brose, Cliff Curry, Jared Caylor, Jeff Scheele, Jenny Montoya, Jim Weber, Jerry Walker, Rick Fitzpatrick, Brad Mendenhall, Cliff Curry, Michelle Farrer, Rachel Davis, Veronica Coates

ABSENT: Joey Adame

GUESTS: Diana Davisson, Wes Grossman, Sara Smith, Jim Southwick, Mark Pfaff, Loreina Santana, Aubrie Fulk, Cali Mckinzie, Angie Pacheo, Jillian Damon, Michelle Kinner, Suzanne Adkins,

1. Call to Order

Todd Brose called the meeting to order at 9:01 AM

2. Consent Agenda

This section is generally approved collectively; however, any item in this section may be considered individually upon request. All items in this section request council approval.

2.1 Adoption of Agenda

2.2 Approval of [October 20, 2020 Minutes](#)

Rick Fitzpatrick motioned to approve the consent agenda. Jared Caylor seconded. All in favor, motion carries.

3. Public Input

There was no public input. Veronica relayed that a member from the public, a parent representative from the Community Advisory Council, Cali McKinzie was present. She was welcomed and praised for her attendance.

4. Priorities Requests

There were no requests at this time.

5. LCI Requests

There were no requests at this time.

6. SELPA Finance Report

6.1 First Interim Report

6.2 First Interim Transportation Report

Veronica summarized the first interim SELPA and transportation reports. There was discussion about a decline in preschool referrals that appear to be related to the COVID 19 pandemic, which increased the per ADA rate for that particular service. The increases to the SELPA Low Incidence rate was summarized and how this positively impacted our SELPA. All expenses were reviewed.

Todd Brose relayed that we should continue to track this as there could be waves of referrals once we return to normalcy in our systems. There was discussion about the increased costs of speech and language services within the SELPA budget as we have had to increase our contract with Presence Learning, due to more students eligible and a shortage in the profession.

6.3 MOU Notification Reminder- January 8, 2021

There was a reminder that contracts and MOUs between districts and the county and/or SELPA have a due date of January 8, 2021 to request any desired changes.

7. Regional Program and Services update

7.1 School Nursing

All nurses have been engaged in a lot of work related to COVID-19, including school closures, positive cases, and contact tracing.

7.2 Gerber Programs

Mark Pfaff discussed the strong protocols in place related to COVID 19 at the Gerber Program and thus far the program has remained open during this time. The team is being very flexible and creative and working through a lot of IEP's, providing many options to families. Veronica provided praise for Mark and the TENS team for all of their hard work keeping students safe during the COVID 19 crisis, with a focus at keeping students in school, if able.

7.3 Pre-School & TALC

Loreina Santana provided updates on the regional preschool and adult programs. Both programs have had brief closures, but safety protocols and keeping strict cohorts have been successful in keeping students and staff safe. Staff are doing a great job of using precautionary measures and wearing masks. The preschool assessment team has done an amazing job at catching

up on the remaining assessments that had built up due to the time when all schools were shut down in the spring due to COVID. She relayed there are still parents requesting distance learning, mainly for preschool aged students. One of our preschool teachers has developed a creative and engaging distance learning preschool model.

7.4 Educationally Related Mental Health Services

Aubrie Fulk relayed that there are currently 89 students who are receiving ERMHS. Aubrie reported that all of the students are actively engaged in services right now, including an increase of services and supports to parents. It appears the need for mental health supports remains high during this time for both students and families.

7.5 Related Services

Veronica provided a summary of related services. All related services are either in person or distance learning, depending on the student circumstance. The motor team – APE, OI, OT, PT have been very creative at finding ways to deliver services to students both in person and those remaining in a distance learning format, providing some of the services at the Medical Therapy Unit Clinic.

Mark Pfaff provided an update on California Autism Professional Training and Information Network (CAPTAIN) and Crisis Prevention Institute (CPI). Loreina and Mark have become certified CPI trainers and are offering many trainings to district and county staff. Mark relayed that there was a recent regional CAPTAIN meeting and the types of training available for our member LEAs from Butte to Modoc was discussed. These opportunities are available for all of our member LEAs.

8. Special Education Accountability Update

8.1 CALPADS Certification

An update on statewide special education monitoring was provided. The CALPADS Fall 1 SELPA Certification date has been extended to January, rather than December. The SELPA recommends attempting to continue working towards that December certification date. If there are revisions needed, past the December LEA certification deadline, the SELPA needs two weeks to review all district data and the latest to certify the LEA data for SELPA review is 1/15/2021.

8.2 Special Education Plan (SEP)

A reminder that the Special Education Plans (SEPS) are due today, 12/15/2020. The CDE has relayed monitoring will not include new indicators for this year. All LEAs will be required to engage in the same monitoring areas as the SEP

completed and turned in this year. A new plan will not be required, but rather implementation of the current plan and documentation of these implementation efforts. The SELPA will assist the LEAs in documentation and monitoring the implementation of the SEPs.

8.3 Overdue IEPs and Assessments

Veronica provided a summary of the new and extra monitoring from CDE related to overdue IEPs and assessments, mostly due to the COVID 19 pandemic. The CDE is requiring overdue IEPs and assessments be reduced by 20%. Many LEAs received this number in September and were unable to meet the reduction rate, even though they held the IEPs. What we have found is that if these IEPs were not properly affirmed and attested and subsequently uploaded as a CALPADs transaction. The CDE is requesting a reduction in these overdue items, by 20% each month. Both special education and CALPADs staff need to be aware of this issue.

9. SEIS Electronic Signature

Our special education data base, SEIS, offered an electronic signature option for all IEPs free of charge for the last 6 months and will be charging a fee per student for this service now. Veronica relayed that the SELPA will be covering the cost for all LEAs for the remainder of this fiscal year to ascertain if this service is needed for all LEAs. The cost is fifty cents per student, with a proxy date of early January, being pulled directly by SEIS. We will analyze the level of use of this service to determine if we should continue as a SELPA or individual LEAs.

10. SELPA Administrator Report

10.1 Litigation Trends

There has been an increase in litigation and dispute in our area, almost all related to COVID-19. Veronica relayed that the SELPA has an Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR) team to assist in any cases that are facing disputes.

10.2 Legislative Update

The legislative calendar is just being released. It is looking like there will be limited bills introduced, much like last year, due to COVID. Veronica has had some discussions of bills related to funding and inclusive practices.

10.3 Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR) Grant

Veronica submitted a COVID ADR grant application and has been informally told that the grant will be funded. The funds will support dispute resolution strategies, training, and staffing related to disputes stemming from the COVID

pandemic. The statewide ADR conference is in March and there are many opportunities to send staff and team members, including some of our parents serving on our Community Advisory Council (CAC). Additionally, creating a SELPA website with resources and information for parents and staff to access is a goal and will be worked on this year.

10.4 State SELPA Finance November and December reports

Veronica provided the State SELPA finance reports in the packet. The reports are robust and include both special education, general education, and overall budget information.

11. District Reports

Districts discussed seeing an increase in disputes and litigation. There was discussion around compensatory education and the fiscal and staffing resources needed to provide for potential claims.

Veronica provided praise and encouragement to the successful and safe reopening of our districts and regional programs. The work is exhausting and difficult, but all have done a tremendous job to keep students and staff safe during this time. Todd Brose shared some positive strategies his district has employed during this time, including home visits during times the district shifted to a distance learning model, which has shown to greatly improve relationships between staff, families, and students.

12. Adjournment

Cliff Curry motioned to adjourn the meeting, Jim Weber seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carries.