

**TEHAMA COUNTY SELPA
SELPA EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
REGULAR MEETING**

Tehama County Department of Education, Board Room
1135 Lincoln Street, Red Bluff, CA 96080

Tuesday, December 18, 2018

9:00 AM TO 10:30 AM

MEETING MINUTES

PRESENT: Richard DuVarney, Jim Weber, Rick Fitzpatrick, Jared Caylor, Brad Mendenhall, Lane Bates, Jerry Walker, Joey Adame, Clifford Curry, Todd Brose, Cindy Haase, Jeff Scheele, Veronica Coates

ABSENT: Marla Katzler, Jenny Montoya, Dane Hansen

GUESTS: Karin Matray, Wes Grossman, Mark Pfaff, Suzanne Adkins, Ashley Lovelace, Jennifer Jackson-Crespin, Renee Kennedy, Carli Forsythe

1. Call to Order

Vice-Chair Todd Brose called the meeting to order at 9:02 a.m.

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 16, 2018 Minutes

Jared Caylor motioned to adopt the Agenda and approve the October 16, 2018 meeting minutes. Lane Bates seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Vote in Favor: Richard DuVarney, Jim Weber, Rick Fitzpatrick, Jared Caylor, Brad Mendenhall, Lane Bates, Jerry Walker, Joey Adame, Clifford Curry, Todd Brose, Cindy Haase, Jeff Scheele

0 opposed; 0 abstained

3. Public Input

Ashley Lovelace and Jennifer Jackson-Crespin introduced themselves as TCDE staff for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing (DHH) program and indicated they are in attendance to present on the DHH model.

4. Priorities Requests

There were no priorities requests.

5. LCI Requests

Veronica indicated that there was one request reviewed by the Fiscal Appropriations Committee (FAC) on October 30, 2018. The request is for an NPS placement for an eligible LCI student and will be funded 100 percent by the SELPA. This will be reflected at first interim as it will decrease some of the subsidies to those with previous approved subsidies. The Fiscal Appropriations Committee approved the request and the SELPA Director recommends approval.

Todd Brose motioned to approve the LCI request. Clifford Curry seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Vote in Favor: Richard DuVarney, Jim Weber, Rick Fitzpatrick, Jared Caylor, Brad Mendenhall, Lane Bates, Jerry Walker, Joey Adame, Clifford Curry, Todd Brose, Cindy Haase, Jeff Scheele
0 opposed; 0 abstained

6. Program Spotlight: Deaf and Hard of Hearing Itinerant / Technology Program/Services

Veronica introduced Ashley Lovelace, Itinerant DHH Education Specialist/Teacher, and Jennifer Jackson-Crespin, DHH Technology Specialist. Jenny presented on the technology that is being used in classrooms throughout our county for our students with D/HH needs. The committee and guests were provided earplugs to be used during the PowerPoint presentation in order to gain a better understanding of what DHH students go through while in the classroom. Jennifer presented on the importance of updated technology and provided examples of normal, mild, moderate and severe losses for the committee and attendees to experience. The committee had questions about the use of low incidence funding for the technology. Veronica reported that the current updates described today are being funded through low incidence funding, however, the costs are exceeding the amount of low incidence revenue. The low incidence reserve is currently covering these costs, however the committee may need to make some priority decisions on the use of the funding in the future.

Ashley Lovelace, D/HH Teacher Specialist presented on the growing population of D/HH students in our county. She described the different educational and philosophical models serving students with D/HH needs. She emphasized promoting self-advocacy in these students as they can often appear as if they are receiving all the instruction, when in fact they are missing large chunks due to their hearing loss. Ashley summarized the need for collaboration with districts/LEAs and our regional D/HH program.

Ashley summarized her consultation and collaboration model with other educators: speech and language pathologists, nurses, special and general education teachers, to ensure that D/HH students have necessary supports at their school sites. The importance of students knowing how to troubleshoot their own technology and self-advocating were discussed. Ashley's goal for the regional D/HH Program is to create student independence. The current D/HH education program is student-focused and working to include a family-centered approach. Ashley described some challenges at sites such as a lack of quiet work spaces to work with students and provide assessments is a big issue at many of our sites in the county. Other barriers are the lack of education and knowledge about students with D/HH needs. Ashley is working to provide training and professional development to sites with students with D/HH needs and these trainings have had positive feedback. She will be providing a training to the entire staff of RBHS in January. Ashley advised she will be reaching out to district teachers and administrative staff to offer this training. Veronica stated that districts interested may also contact the SELPA. Todd Brose thanked the presenters and relayed that it was the first time that he had experienced a presentation for students with D/HH needs at the SELPA level and he would like to offer any support to the program at his site and throughout the SELPA.

7. Finance Report: First Interim

The First Interim Fiscal Report and assumptions were reviewed and discussed. The California Department of Education (CDE) allocated some of our funding differently, specifically in the Regional Program Specialist and Preschool dollars. At first glance it appears the SELPA received more funding but actually lost funds due to the change in allocation of the Regional Program Specialist revenue. Additionally, in the past, the Federal grant for preschool 3320 was separated out into its own fund. It has now been rolled into 3310. Due to our SELPA having both K-8 and high school only dollars, it is thought to be best to continue separating out these funds. Veronica met with the district CBOs and they recommend we continue this process going forward and reassess as needed.

There was a proration factor of 2.5 percent (deficit). During initial budget adoption we use P1 certified at the recommendation of Jack Lucas. Often when doing initial you do not have P2 and it was discovered there was a gap from initial using P1, there was an ADA decrease for P2. In discussing this with the district CBOs they prefer checking the numbers before budget adoption and using the lower number so they are prepared. The district CBOs indicated they would rather go in thinking they have less and be able to recapture more, or be accurate. The ADA numbers will be compared with TCDE numbers and adjustments will be made if number goes down and discussion held if numbers increase. The updated CASEMIS numbers will change revenue in regards to pupil count data. The proration factor was discussed and explained. There was a request for Veronica to bring a 5 year summary of the proration factor.

District shared costs discussed and Veronica stated the numbers are pulled from SEIS from December 1 CASEMIS reporting and the numbers will fluctuate depending on how many students require these program services throughout the year. There was a discussion regarding IBI, psychologist and nursing costs.

There were questions about the preschool expense and numbers. Veronica explained that preschool students come in on their third birthday causing an increase in December and leveling out in May/June. The preschool numbers at initial are lower as there are less students during that snapshot in time and they increase by first interim. The number of students increase later in the year as students matriculate to kindergarten and new referrals come in from Shasta County Office of Education and Far Northern Region Center. As more preschool students are served, costs will increase and the per pupil rate will also decrease. The numbers are captured in moment of time and we could look at including pending preschool numbers to be more accurate, as most of the students are coming in with qualified Infant Service Plans.

High school severe class flow through has increased. The SELPA provides a subsidy to the High School Districts as they operate the regional programs for severe students at their individual sites. There is an increase in severe disabilities in our SELPA at all levels, which is a statewide trend.

The comparison from initial to first interim was reviewed. Expenses for NPS were discussed and Veronica stated the SELPA pays all invoices and then bills districts for reimbursement, even for districts paying 100 percent. Veronica predicts we will still receive the out-of-home care funding of \$127,440 as it is being held harmless until 2020 when a new funding model from DOF and CDE is determined and implemented. A base grant similar to LCFF is being looked at as funding model based on amount of foster youth. This could be a gain for our SELPA as we have a lot of foster youth in our county, whereas the old model has higher funding rates for the bed capacity of group homes.

There was a discussion about the change in leadership at the IEP school site based in Tehama County. Veronica is meeting with IEP School Administrator, Josh McAuliffe, to discuss the transition and changes and invited Superintendents with students who are enrolled in NPS. Brad Mendenhall, Suzanne Adkins and Rick Fitzpatrick indicated they would like to attend the meeting. The costs to place students in IEP School were discussed and the majority of costs are for instruction and placement as LEAs provide all related services to students in this particular NPS.

8. Special Education Accountability and State Data

Veronica discussed CASEMIS reports and advised program operators that their reports were in their individual agenda packet. CASEMIS changed the extraction

process to CALPADs this year which caused several issues and some SELPAs are struggling with many errors. The SELPA locked users out of SEIS for a week in order to obtain an error free certification, giving permissions back to providers if / when they had an IEP during the lockout period.

The pupil count has increased and appears similar to statewide trends. Autism and Other Health Impairment are disabilities which have greatly increased in our SELPA. The ten year span was reviewed: Students found under the eligibility of Autism increased from 76 (2008) to 172 (2018) and students found eligible under Other Health Impairment increased from 79 (2008) to 169 (2018). There was a discussion around OHI, as Autism is often recorded in the media, but OHI is not really being talked about. Students can be found eligible under OHI for a variety of medical issues such as ADHD, Diabetes, Mental Health disorders, etc. Additionally, our SELPA is seeing many interims/new students coming in with this eligibility. There is a need to refine assessments and to move toward MTSS model. There is a hypothesis that students exposed to trauma and receiving psychiatric diagnosis are being found eligible under OHI. Students who have experienced life trauma does not always equate to a being disabled and many could be served under 504 or general education. If robust supports and better assessments are not put into place the OHI numbers will continue to increase.

There has been an increase in numbers for 1st, 5th and 8th grades and Veronica had to explain anomaly for an increase of 22 students in one year for the first grade level in our SELPA. There was a large increase in students found eligible in preschool. There is also a large 8th grade class ready to transition to high school and Veronica is working with the high schools to prepare for possible staffing needs.

CDE provided a preview of Annual Performance Reports (APR) at the December State SELPA meeting and reports will be sent to districts in early February. Veronica is reviewing data and will assist districts with Performance Indicator Reviews (PIR) and other accountability requirements such as Disproportionality. It is the first year data from the Dashboard will be included in the PIR as systems are being aligned. Currently there are no districts that have a level more than "Needs Assistance" which is positive. There was a question regarding how the SELPA geographic leads would assist with compliance. Veronica stated the role of the geographical leads are to build capacity within all SELPAs and not work directly with LEAs. Our SELPA would still be responsible for providing technical assistance related to compliance. Veronica further relayed that she has already received intensive training from the SELPA chosen as the geographical lead in Improvement and Implementation Science. Veronica further reminded the committee about AB 1808, the trailer bill from last spring, which requires LEAs to consult with SELPAs regarding their LCAPs and students with disabilities. Additionally, an annual assurances plan will need to be implemented within each SELPA local plan by 2020. The Statewide Systems of Support Committee is working with CDE on this plan. Veronica is on this committee, as well as the Legislation

Committee, and will report out on information. Veronica is also going to be meeting with Jacki Roach and Jim Southwick at TCDE on how to collaborate on LCAP development with our SELPA member LEAs to ensure duplication of work is not created or done.

9. Director's Report

Veronica reported that the revised local plan was submitted to CDE on November 1, 2018. The approval process generally takes three to four months and our plan was approved in about 40 days, which is a positive.

Assistive technology needs are increasing and the SELPA has created a temporary solution by contracting with Butte County Office of Education (BCOE) for services, in addition to a private contractor. Veronica has worked with TCDE and recruited a staff member versed in technology to add Assistive Technology to their job duties. Veronica reminded that the SELPA approved money to support certification for a staff member. It is thought the staff member will be certified by June 2019.

The Legislative Analyst Office for Special Education visited our SELPA on November 8, 2018. The visit included a tour of Gerber Elementary School and the D/HH site at Red Bluff High School. Veronica stated the LAO member relayed that he appreciated the visit, transparency, and strong relationships. He acknowledged our geographical span. If there are any reports generated from our visit, Veronica will pass those on to the SELPA Executive Committee. Veronica requested that the committee work on setting SELPA goals during an upcoming meeting this spring.

The January SELPA Executive Committee meeting needs to be rescheduled due to a calendar conflict with the Governor's Budget Workshop. Discussion held regarding cancelling the January SELPA Executive Committee meeting.

Rick Fitzpatrick motioned to cancel the January 15, 2019, SELPA Executive Committee meeting with the next meeting to be February 12, 2019 as scheduled. Clifford Curry seconded motion. Motion carried.

Vote in Favor: Richard DuVarney, Jim Weber, Rick Fitzpatrick, Jared Caylor, Brad Mendenhall, Lane Bates, Jerry Walker, Joey Adame, Clifford Curry, Todd Brose, Cindy Haase, Jeff Scheele
0 opposed; 0 abstained

10. District Reports

There were no district reports.

11. Adjournment

Richard DuVarney motioned to adjourn the meeting at 10:20 a.m. Rick Fitzpatrick seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Vote in Favor: Richard DuVarney, Jim Weber, Rick Fitzpatrick, Jared Caylor, Brad Mendenhall, Lane Bates, Jerry Walker, Joey Adame, Clifford Curry, Todd Brose, Cindy Haase, Jeff Scheele
0 opposed; 0 abstained