

WHITTIER AREA COOPERATIVE SPECIAL EDUCATION PROGRAM

8036 SOUTH OCEAN VIEW AVENUE, WHITTIER, CA 90602

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JANET QUENEAU
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Community Advisory Committee
10:00 a.m. on March 16, 2023
8036 Ocean View Avenue
Whittier, CA 90602

MINUTES

A. Roll Call - The meeting was called to order at 10:08 AM

East Whittier - Present
El Rancho - Present
Little Lake - Present
Los Nietos- Absent
South Whittier- Absent
Whittier City - Absent
Whittier Union - Present

B. Approval of Agenda for March 16, 2023

Moved: Hilda Lopez
Second: Lacey Harris
Vote: 4-0

C. Approval of Minutes for January 19, 2023

Moved: Hilda Lopez
Second: Veronica Ramirez
Vote: 4-0

D. Public Input

Lia Cervantes Lerma, parent of the Whittier City School District, looked forward to the revamped WACSEP website launching, and hoped its information would be accessible and easy to find for parents. She commented on the posting timeline of the agenda and minutes and asked if it was possible to see the minutes before approving them at the meetings as she would like to be prepared when attending the meetings.

Micahlle Sepulveda, of the Family Empowerment Center, thanked the Board for allowing time to share upcoming events. On March 21, 2023 there would be a workshop via Zoom, Autism 101 Spectrum Disorder. They are also offering Incredible Years which focuses on the social emotional development of 0-10 year olds. Once a wait list has

been established they will survey registrants to see what the best date and time for this workshop will be. Lastly, there is an English support group via Zoom; they also have Spanish and Cantonese support groups. They are trying to get a Vietnamese support group started.

E. Budget Review

\$5,000 has been budgeted for CAC for the 2022-2023 school year.

i. Approved Expenses thus far for 2022-2023 \$5,000 budgeted at the maximum amount and actual totals, if available.

- a) Not to exceed \$450 to pay for a CAC tablecloth and a Disability Resource and Transition Fair banner. Actual cost \$312.97.
- b) Not to exceed \$800 for interpretation and translation services for CAC sponsored 2022-2023 parent events. Actual cost pending.
- c) Not to exceed \$250 for materials/supplies, snacks, and beverages for the CAC sponsored parent training. Actual cost \$81.13.
- d) Not to exceed \$1,000 for food vendor at the Disability Resource and Transition Fair. Actual cost \$983.98.
- e) Not to exceed \$300.00 for supplies and presenter gifts for the Disabilities Resource and Transition Fair. Actual Cost \$298.42.
- f) Not to exceed \$2,500 for two CAC representatives to attend the Sacramento Legislative Sharing Day in May 2023. Actual cost pending.

The CAC Board reviewed the approved budget and expenses.

F. Discussion Items

a. Debrief Disability Resource and Transition Fair (DRTF)

Ms. Janet Queneau shared that there was an increase in attendance this year; there were 104 people signed in but several participants also went straight to the workshops and did not sign in. There are several local districts/SELPA hosting resource fairs around the same time so it seemed like we were competing for resources, but it all came together in the end. She will reach out to other SELPA directors to discuss potentially having a regional fair or spreading out throughout the year. There were great prizes including a beautiful basket donated by Ms. Hilda Lopez and gift cards donated by Ms. Lorrie Ruiz' company. She thanked all presenters, Lacey Harris, Blythe Sayler-Loe, Liz, and Luis Menodza. All three workshops had an engaged audience and well attended. Lastly, the hamburgers were a hit with families. Overall, it was a great event for families.

Ms. Gloria Ruiz commented on how satisfying it is to see the Disability Resource and Transition Fair grow each year. She liked the new CAC tablecloth and thought it was

a good investment in order to have it look nice. She appreciated the signs created by the Whittier Union High School Transition team that helped direct people to the correct place.

b. Assemblymember Lisa Calderon Visit

Ms. Janet Queneau reported Assemblymember Lisa Calderon was visiting WACSEP for the first time at the request of CAC. The Assemblymember would be provided with a tour of WACSEP, and meet with the CAC Board and some of district leadership to talk about special education legislation. This visit would be closed to the public.

c. Legislative Sharing Day -May 3, 2023 in Sacramento

Ms. Janet Queneau shared that Ms. Hilda Lopez and Ms. Gloria Ruiz are scheduled to attend Legislative Sharing Day with her. The event consists of a morning of speakers and then bussing parents to the capitol to meet with legislators. This event is often attended by CAC board members with the SELPA director. This year, Senator Ochoa Bogh will be honored for her work on inclusion. Additionally, WACSEP CAC has meetings set up with two legislators to talk about special education.

G. Action Items

- a. It is recommended that the CAC Board approve, not to exceed, \$250.00 for materials/supplies, snacks, and beverages for the Assemblymember visit.

Lacee Harris
Hilda Lopez
4-0

H. Director's Comments

- a. Returning Board Members for 2023-2024

Ms. Janet Queneau surveyed present CAC Board Members to see who would be returning for the 2023-2024 school year. The following Board Members indicated they planned to return: Veronica Ramirez, Hilda Lopez, Gloria Ruiz, Lacee Harris, and Alexandria Duchi. There would be follow up with absent Board members.

- b. WACSEP website launch anticipated date - April 4-5, 2023

Ms. Queneau reported that the new website would soon be launching. We were trying to be strategic with the launch, waiting for the Disability Resource and Transition Fair to be over, and tweaking some final details. During the transition to the new website, the current website might be down to make the switch. The goal is to make it as parent friendly as possible, more easily accessible and expandable.

Additionally, the goal remains the same for launching the new Instagram account.

Ms. Gloria Ruiz asked if there was a way to link the Advisory Committee on Special Education (ACSE) meetings on the website in hopes of increasing participation.

c. Other items

Ms. Janet Queneau shared that she was getting information on special education bills. There was SB 561, an intent bill, which did not have all the information fully listed yet. However, it was similar to SB 1113 which did not pass as it was deemed duplicative of previous bills by the Governor. This bill is specific with a focus on training for administrators on inclusive practices; in order to get inclusive practices in place, administrators have to support it.

There was also bill AB 1517 which addresses the role of the SELPA.. The technical assistance support codifies the work of SELPAs in education code. It allows each SELPA to do what is needed based on the needs of the districts. WACSEP has been supporting students with disabilities since before SELPAs became a part of California's master plan and were required to work as a regional organization. She hoped to have Assemblymember Lisa Calderon support the bills.

I. Adjournment - The meeting was adjourned at 10:47 AM

Moved: Hilda Lopez

Second: Lacey Harris

Vote: 4-0