

Meeting Date: March 17, 2021
Chairperson's Name: Lisa Mosko

Meetings/Trainings attended:

02/19/2021 Local Plan Revision Working Group
02/22/2021 By Laws Ad Hoc Committee
02/22/2021 Parent Ambassadors Working Group
02/22/2021 IEP Ad Hoc Committee
02/23/2021 CAC Presentation to the Committee of the Whole
02/24/2021 CAC Officers Agenda Planning Meeting
02/26/2021 Local Plan Revision Working Group
02/27/2021 Return to Campus Input Session with Dr. Baca
03/05/2021 Local Plan Revision Working Group
03/08/2021 By Laws Ad Hoc Committee
03/08/2021 Parent Ambassadors Working Group
03/13/2021 Local Plan Revision Working Group

Dear Membership:

On March 9, 2021, LAUSD and UTLA announced that they had reached an agreement around reopening schools. The agreement details reopening plans in mid-April that will offer a hybrid schedule to elementary school students and in-person services for students with exceptional needs. Secondary students are to report to their Advisory class every day, where they will receive in-person learning in Advisory, and then tune in to their devices to remote classes in other subjects offered by teachers who will be teaching them virtually from home.

As I write this, a few questions are, to my knowledge, still being hammered out between LAUSD and UTLA:

- will secondary school students in special day classes or who attend special education centers, CTCs or non-public schools also only receive in-person instruction for Advisory at school, and then continue with remote learning for the rest of their classes?
- will secondary school students with (dis)abilities in general education settings be receiving in-person services?
- will students who need the in-person support of a behavioral aide be able to have one with them in the classroom?
- what will the plan be to compensate students for the lost time of many months of services rendered virtually, from which so many students did not derive meaningful benefit due to their inability to learn via a screen?

Lastly, another issue was recently brought to my attention around service delivery tracking. One parent has told me that when she logs into the Parent Portal to review the services her child receives as per his IEP, instead of minutes/hours logged for each service, the following message appears:

“DUE TO COVID 19, WE ARE SUSPENDING UPDATING THE SERVICE TRACKING DATA FOR THE REMAINDER OF 20-21 SCHOOL YEAR.”

If a parent can't easily access information about their child's services, how do we properly account for each child's access to a Free and Appropriate Education? How can we, as a committee dedicated to special needs kids, advocate for improved access to information?

On the agenda for today, is a training by the Division of Special Education on the Special Education Local Plan. The Local Plan governs how special education is programmed and implemented throughout LAUSD. I'm looking forward to putting our minds together to give input on this crucial document.

Also, today we will welcome Mr. Scott Schmerelson, LAUSD School Board Member. Board Member Schmerelson has been an advocate on the Board for students with (dis)abilities over the past several years and he will connect with us and answer questions we may have around our special needs kid.

Thanks everyone, and I look forward to leaning into this work with you! Now, without much further ado, let's get to work!

Sincerely,

Lisa Mosko