



Community Advisory Committee
Business Meeting

Tuesday, October 18, 2022
10:00 p.m. – 1:00 p.m.

Minutes

Call to Order

John Perron, Chairperson, welcomed all at 10:00 am.

Pledge of Allegiance

John Perron, Chairperson, led the flag salute.

Public Comment

Paul Robak, Parliamentarian, recognize the public comment.

1. Ms. Maria Palma
2. Ms. Diana Guillen

Chairperson's Report

The chair spoke about the meetings that he had with PCS and the Division of Special Education to develop a series of presentations to spread the word about this CAC committee.

Roll Call and Seating of Alternates, Establishing Quorum

Ms. Ariel Harman Holmes conducted the roll call.

3 alternates were seated - for a total of 20 members. Quorum was established at 10:25 AM.

Action Items

Election of Secretary: Ms. Lisa Porter took the floor and clarified that the alternates could vote but could not run for any position. She reviewed the duties of the secretary.

Nominations:

- Paul Robak nominated Ms. Mirna Sweeney; she accepted the nomination.
- Gabriel Rangel nominated Ms. Rocio G Elorza; she accepted the nomination.
- Rocio G Elorza nominated Ms. Gabriela Rangel; she accepted the nomination.

Ms. Lisa asked 3 times if there were any more nominations, but there were none.

She asked for a motion to accept the three nominations. Ms. Ingrid Levy made the motion and Ms. Miho Murai seconded.

Ms. Porter gave the nominees the opportunity to introduce themselves and to express why they would like to serve as secretary.

The voting was done by roll call. The results of this vote were as follows:

- Ms. Mirna Sweeney received 4 votes
- Ms. Gabriela Rangel received 2 votes
- Ms. Rocio G Elorza received 12 votes

The new CAC Secretary is Rocio Elorza

Action Item

Activate Legislative and Bylaws Working Groups

The chairperson mentioned that last year we had IEP and Parent Ambassadors subcommittees. At 10:59 am, the Legislative and Bylaws groups were activated.

The bylaws group would focus on the change from the Brown Act to the Greene Act that was signed by the governor in September 2022.

Minutes Approval

Approval of minutes for September 21, 2022. We had difficulties so the notes would not be approved but would be delayed until our next meeting.

Division of Special Education (DSE) Update

Ms. Kristin Lambert, Data, Planning and Operations Administrator, gave information about the following items:

1. Between July 1, 2022, to August 9, 2022, more than 14,985 IEP meetings were held.
2. October is Dyslexia Awareness Month. Members were invited to visit the office website.
3. Update on Compensatory Education due to COVID-19. Soon we would know about the Compensatory Education Plan, meanwhile, it is available on the website
4. Update on Harbor Regional Center There would be a meeting on Zoom about transition on Wednesday, October 26, 2022.

5. Trainings from the Department of Special Education. Webinars are being offered during the months of October and November about rehabilitation and the behavioral systems in the student's IEP. During January, the topic would be Support at Home for Students with Disabilities
6. Resources and support with homework 24 hours a day. There are two providers. One is Paper and offers support to elementaries (TK-8) in the following languages: English, Spanish, Korean, Mandarin and French. The other is Tutor.com and offers support for secondary level, (or Spanish schools grades 6-12 and TK-12) and it is available in Spanish, English and soon there will be more languages.
7. She invited parents that do not have a Parent Portal, to update it since there they can check the IEP documents and reports.
8. She provided the websites and contact information for the Division of Special Education so that we could get in touch.

Presentation on the Overview of LAUSD Compensatory Education Plan for Students with Disabilities Impacted by Remote Learning During the COVID-19 Pandemic.

Ms. Diane Massaria DSE Administrative Coordinator from the Due Process Department and Ms. Annmarie Serrano, Administrator, DSE, East, Compensatory Education Plan

Students with an IEP affected by the pandemic began by an investigation conducted by the Office of Civil Rights that focused on the District's Plan for compensatory education. They spoke about the objectives about this compensatory plan. The district commits to provide this plan as part of their responsibility of providing a free and appropriate public education (FAPE) to students with disabilities, determine the services to provide including the criteria to be used by the IEP and section 504 plans including data entry for IEP and section 504 teams.

Compensatory Education: these services are required to improve academic or other deficits that result from the student with disability not receiving the evaluations or services to which they were entitled during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Recoupment Services: these services are for support and additional services for general and special education students to address learning loss caused by pandemic due to school closures.

Section 504: This requires that districts conduct a student assessment due to a disability or a belief that there is a disability before placement in academic education.

Parent/guardian notification: from the process to refuse a determination for compensatory education that includes safeguards. This includes reimbursement for costs incurred by the family for services required by the IEP and section 504 teams from March 2020 until the end of 2021-2022. The right to refuse the IEP or section 504 team determination is done through an impartial due process hearing.

When considering Compensatory Education, the teams have process steps.

1. The District's Compensatory Education determination will follow the IEP and section 504 process to be aligned with federal law and District policy procedures to discuss if the student received or did not receive the required services during the pandemic.
2. Documenting the determination for Compensatory Education will be in Section N of the IEP or in Welligent for Section 504.
3. The procedural safeguards are the same ones in place and parents, or legal guardians are informed about them. The right is granted to reject a determination made by the IEP and section 504 teams and this is done through due process.

Standing Subcommittees Update.

Parent Ambassadors: Ms. Ingrid Levy spoke about the invitation to participate in some District meetings to create awareness about this committee. For example, the meeting with the principal, ELAC study groups, LCAP study groups in the different local districts. She also spoke about creating a LAUSD page directly to the CAC, and this is in development.

IEP Training and Education: Ms. Miho Murai spoke about the dynamic for the meeting held on October 12, 2022, where there were small groups to look at topics and types of training that they would like to see in the future. It was also mentioned that we could invite more speakers and not just LAUSD and she motivated them to suggest topics or new speakers to reach more parents.

Update about Parent and Community Services

Updates on items pertinent to parent committees and the CAC.

Ms. Panossian gave an update. She expressed that this report was on the website for those that wanted to see it, and only highlighted a couple of points. For example, the CAC joined the Superintendent's Virtual Academy to share learning about IEP's and section 504, as well as supports that are offered. She also shared that in two weeks the chair and the Board of Education would meet again.

She spoke about the new law signed by the Governor last month in September that directed the CAC to be under the Greene Act and not the Brown Act. This means that we could have hybrid meetings, we could continue with the bylaws and the parliamentary procedure. The Parent Portal and volunteering was mentioned. These were not affected by the cyberattack and are available. Members were encouraged to register. Members were invited to the virtual academies.

She spoke about ELAC and SSC that were already established and stated that although you might not be members, you can still attend and elevate your voice.

Mr. Antonio Plascencia stated that they are on their way with the Strategic plan. With this plan, we would see where to focus. They are waiting for CAC Ambassadors and the IEP so that we can connect with more parents. He also stated that this weekend the SSC and ELAC Ambassadors would begin. This is the beginning that the state requires for the students and parents.

Action Items, New Business for Possible Action Items in Future Meetings

The Chair John Perron spoke about suggestions that Ms. Murai gave about having other speakers and not only from the Division of Special Education. He also spoke about the survey sent by Ms. Miho but thought that it should be more personal via email. He stated that the CAC should have an in-person conference and go to other events.

Mr. Davis suggested to activate a working group for African American students since they are the most underrepresented and tried to make a motion although it was not on the agenda. This working group was activated a little before 11:00 am.

Announcements

Ms. Arlaina Jackson, Public Relations Officer, communicated in the chat that there were announcements like the Dyslexia Conference that would take place on December 10-12 and also students with dyslexia could attend individually. Other resources were added to the chat and the subcommittees would have a meeting on November 2, 2022. They would also have a Training and Engagement Family Meeting on Tuesday, November 16, 2022.

The Chair asked for members to receive the chat for those that requested.

Action Items

Closing:

The meeting was adjourned at 12:37 PM by John Perron, Chair.