

IRVINE UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT
Special Education Department

Community Advisory Committee (CAC) Meeting
3:30-5:30 pm November 16, 2016
IUSD Learning Center
3387 Barranca, Irvine CA

AGENDA

November 16, 2016

Call to Order: (Chair) Meeting started 3:35 pm

Welcome to Guests

- Board Member: none in attendance
- Program Specialists and District Staff-
 - Erica Hawkes, Director of Operations Preschool/Elementary,
 - Allison Robbins, Director of Operations Secondary/Adult Transition
 - Melanie Hertig, Executive Director, SELPA
 - Stacy Kredel, Program Specialist

Attendance: Introductions/Roll Call (Chair)

- New Members- welcome and please fill out a membership application.
- Voting Members Present

Reading of last Minutes (Secretary)

Approval of the Agenda and Minutes of last meeting

Moved by: Melanie Hertig

Second by: Erica Hawkins

Public Comments

The CAC invites members of the public to present information to the Committee and District about topics of interest or concern to individuals. Please fill out a card with your name with your questions and concerns. We will address these during our open forum. At any time during the meeting, you may hand these cards to any of the district personnel or Committee members. When you are called upon, we request to keep a time limit of 3-minutes per presentation, so that we are able to address as many members as possible. Any questions that are specific to a child or situation, or any cards that are not attended to during this business meeting will be addressed at the next meeting or forwarded to the appropriate sub-committee to support you. Thank you.

Dana M. Mother of two (ECLC & Springbrook). Irvine Residence Disability Board (IRDAB)- A volunteer commission that is working with the City of Irvine to identify the needs and wants of residents with disabilities. They will be sending a disability needs assessment for City of Irvine- What could the city do for you and your family? The needs assessment is not issued yet, but please monitor your emails and mail for upcoming assessment. Meeting dates and survey will soon be open. If you have questions please feel free to contact Danielle, CAC chairperson.

Richard Robert- (IRDAB) Able body & Para athletics coach is seeking children with physical disabilities that wish to participate as part of the CIF state champion Competitions. Children with cognitive or developmental delays do not qualify for this level, but are encouraged to seek out challenger level sports. This level is for physical that are ambulatory and/or seated. Two students have participated and medaled; Woodbridge Kelly and Kirt. Kirt is at U of Oregon. Richard works with coaches to get students in. He will send the CIF regulations. Currently, he is working with the Irvine Junior Games- he wants to create events 4-8 grades for athletes. These events are for only physical disabilities. Please contact for more

information. Richard Robert, M.A. Certified IAAF Level 4/USATF level 3 Coach. USATF Certified Master Level Official IPC International Technical Official and Certified Educator. 949-390-3754 or email richrob@pacbell.net

Reports of Officers

Chairwoman Report- Danielle

- Business Meetings will be held February 15th from 9-10:30 and April 19th 3:30 to 5
 - Risk management for the district states that we are unable to provide child care on district grounds during our meetings. For our off campus meetings we need a volunteer to see about alternative location such as a rec center or library that would provide no-cost location.
- Audience feedback on Flyers.
 - Too difficult to get to all schools. Some schools do better with email. Such as Springbrook. Most schools with self-contained find it easier to get the word out to parents.
 - It seems that SLP and RSP have more difficulty to get them dispersed. Since Roxanne is sending out the emails, we will add (Target) those teachers.
 - Discussion also led to the need to add administrators to the emails, and make sure that they are included in the newsletters principals send out to the whole school. **Jamie to follow up.**
- Our last workshop was a parent panel and several questions submitted were not on the topic of collaboration and communication. Those additional questions will be discussed at our family network meeting in Dec and then fully written response will be written and dispersed. **Please email any questions to Danielle.**
- Parent Workshops are not set up for the future. Vote to hold an EF workshop in January, March TBA, and Summer program expo for April.
 - Vote was moved by: __Jennifer Martinez
 - Vote was Second by: Jane
- We are still short of school representatives, Legislative Committee Leader, Secretary, and Parent Networking Committee leader. Vote or Volunteers accepted. If we do not have volunteers we will add it the next agenda for next meeting.

Secretary Report- Danielle

- Review of Networking binders-and community upcoming events.
 - **Open Mind Lecture hosts Kevin Hines *Cracked Not Broken***
 - **Tuesday, December 13, 2016 , UCLA Semel Auditorium 6:30 entry is FREE, RSVP Required**
Kevin Hines is a global speaker, best-selling author and mental health advocate who reaches audiences with his story of an unlikely survival and his strong will to live. For questions call 310-825-3119 or wkelman@mednet.ucla.edu
Parking is available for \$12 in [Structure 9](#)
 - **Open Mind Lecture Hosts One Minute of Happiness**
 - **Monday, January 16, 2017 UCLA Semel Auditorium 6:30 entry is FREE, RSVP Required**
One Minute of Happiness is a tale of sisterhood and baking, written and performed by Nanci Christopher. This one-person play is a poignant, tragic, and often humorous account of Ms. Christopher's relationship with her severely bipolar sister, Gloria. For questions call 310-825-3119 or wkelman@mednet.ucla.edu Parking is available for \$12 in [Structure 9](#)
 - IATP Family Workshops **Karena Gibbs** karenagibbs@iusd.org **(949) 936-8638**
 - **2016-17 IUSD Parenting Support and Classes Call Susan Holt 949-936-7502**
 - Classes for January are filling up: Positive Discipline, Active Parenting for Teens, Active Parenting Now, Why is school for hard, Helping Your Child Succeed in School

If any parent knows of upcoming events please inform Danielle, and she will email them out to the committee

- Family Networking sub committee meeting will be Meeting at my house the third Tuesday of each month (except in Dec.) from 6 to 7:30. Address will be emailed to interested parents- please contact Danielle at 949-378-3002 or by email, SpecialNeeds_OC@Yahoo.com Dec 13.

Reports from District –

Executive Director Report – Melanie Hertig

- Our purpose is to connect community with IUSD.
- Melonie will follow up with Richard Robert with other possibilities and connect him with the 504 coordinator.
- CalABAL- 2015 Able Act allow to tax Free saving accounts without losing medical, SSDI benefits. Contact information for CalABLE at <http://treasurer.ca.gov/able/>
 - Until recently, individuals receiving federal benefits have been restricted in the amount of money they can save, essentially keeping them in poverty and preventing them from planning for the future. With the Stephen Beck Jr. Achieving a Better Life Experience (ABLE) Act, signed into federal law by President Obama, these thresholds are no longer an obstacle. In 2015 Governor Brown signed the California ABLE Act into law. CalABLE allows qualified individuals with disabilities and their families to open tax-free savings accounts without the worry of losing vital government assistance. The law establishes a board that will administer the CalABLE savings program. The CalABLE program in California will open up life-improving opportunities for people with disabilities and their families in much the same way California's ScholarShare 529 plans formed educational opportunities for the state's students. Contributions to an ABLE account, currently limited to \$14,000 per year, can be made by family, friends, or the beneficiary themselves. The account's earnings are allowed to accumulate tax-free, and the withdrawals, provided they are applied to qualifying disability expenses, are tax-free.

Read more about the CalABLE program by accessing our Fact Sheet at <http://treasurer.ca.gov/able/faq.asp>

- IT Update- each section that works within the SpEd department will have their own link. March fully running. Updates will continue as we go.
- MTSS- Multi Tier Support System, combination of PBIS with RTI. OC and Butt County will be oversite (30 Million) to pilot this new program. MTSS is general ed, and we have not yet been informed if Irvine will be included.
- Legislation: so far, nothing new for SpEd.
- TOSA teacher will be supporting new teachers and of upcoming trends and programs.
- Referenced the school assignments and for contact information if you have questions or need clarification on a topic.

Directors Reports –Erika Elementary and Preschool –

- Transitions ECLC teams visited Springbrook and Portola springs and the programs there.
- Elementary teachers were able to see the progress of students coming in and pre planning. Fall, winter and spring visits to see the progression and development. Allows to help with the recommendations from ECLC to kindergarten.

- TOSA been doing PLC training on the topics Executive Functioning, Autism and Grading students with children with different abilities. What and if the children are learning and making changes as needed to improve the learning for all.

Director Report- Allison Robbins– Director of Operations, Secondary and High School

- First PLC (Professional Learning Communities) for mod/sev teachers. This is a great opportunity for teacher to work with other teachers from other sites and share ideas and thoughts on improving educational instruction and learning environments. They will meet throughout November to January and this will include crossing grade levels to ensure consistency.
- The Transitional School on Oct 27, had a meeting about post school employment- adult service provider night. The next event is Dec 2 movie night for high school for mod/sev IATP at Irvine Adult Transition Program.
- Transition meetings are happening now. Teachers from several schools will be coming to the high schools for teachers and psy looking at programing for the next year.

Committee Reports

PTA- Meeting was held this morning. Increased participation on district level surveys. Food drives for holidays. Reflections special section submission. **Mental Health NAMI coming for Middle and High Schoolers** for Recognizing Stressors and Concerns in Teenagers. Irvine High January 31 and Northwood HS March 23 from 7-9 pm. **Open to everyone.**

Discussion/Action Items (Chair)

New Item: none

Open discussion

Question: There is a School Board policy on homework, I could not find it online. How does it relate to my child with an IEP?.

Response: As a child with an identified disability, your child is covered under a Federal Law IDEA. The education board has their own guidelines, but the Federal Law that backs your child's IEP supersedes the Board Policy of 6154. That means what is written in regards to homework, testing, and such within your IEP is what is deemed appropriate for your child and must be adhered to by teachers and staff.

Question: Other children have Canvas and Aries - why doesn't my child have this access to this type of support for knowing what they are working on?

Response: Each child with an IEP are working on specific goals in a specialized program designed for them as individuals. Parents should have access to Aries and Canvas, the information posted you're your specific specialized program cannot be posted there. Parents need to reach out to the individual teachers and establish a system of communication. Write an email with specific questions of what you are needing. If you have reached out repeatedly and do not feel that the needed information is being provided, please contact your program specialist to help. Sometimes we need support in finding collaborative communication methods.

Question: What are the AT available to students.

Response: There are lots available. There are two staff persons that work on this. Springboard-school have been using this, and licensing is limited to a few sites. As well as a slew of other programs are available. Its about getting the right one for your child. Write a letter to your teacher, outline what you

think your child needs. i.e. Joey is struggling learning his spelling words what can we do? Spelling City is one option. Maybe your child is having difficulty with reading RAZ (Reading A to Z), SmartyAnts, Bookshare and other tech supports may be the answer. Your Curriculum coordinator may be able to help.

Question: As a new mom to school district, there is not a list of school that have specific programs. It was only after enrolling in one school, that she was told she would have to bus her child to another school due to the level of autism support her child requires. If she had known that this program for significant autism needs she would have bought a home in that neighborhood. Where is it listed what neighborhoods have what programs at those schools?

Melonie Responded: All schools have programs for children with special needs. As the need changes in the district the specialized programs move as needed. It is the job of the IEP team to make matching at IEP meeting for the child to be close to school near them and most appropriate for child. There is an Autism Coordinator that supports all programs.

Question: Dana- IEP progress reports, I am not getting them. How often when I am supposed to get them.

Response: Melanie stated that they should be arriving with your report card. If not, then you need to contact your program specialist and follow up. Stacy also agreed that you can also ask for them from the teacher.

Additional questions that Melonie and Stacy will address privately with parents:

Mom- wants daily communication. Not getting it and have asked several times. Teacher seems reluctant. What can she do to change this?

Jane- SAS program- Allen is in charge. Is it still available? - Melonie to follow up- unknown if till available.

Suggestion: Irvine World Games- volunteer? Who can go with them? IPSF sponsored. Melonie will get us- next meeting-

Meeting ended 6:05pm

NEXT MEETING

- Items tabled –
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Adjourn Time: _____ am

Motion:

Seconded: