

IRVINE UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT
Special Education Department

Community Advisory Committee (CAC) Meeting
9:00 – 10:30 September 14, 2016
IUSD Learning Center
3387 Barranca, Irvine CA

AGENDA

September 14, 2016

Call to Order: (Chair) Meeting started: 9:01 am

Welcome to Guests

- Board Member(s): None in attendance
- Program Specialists and District Staff-
 - Erica Hawkes, Director of Operations Preschool/Elementary,
 - Allison Robbins, Director of Operations Secondary/Adult Transition
 - Stacy Kredel, Program Specialist Elementary
 - Angela Weedn, Lead Psychologist
 - Melanie Hertig, Executive Director, SELPA

Attendance: Introductions/Roll Call (Chair)

- New Members- welcome and please fill out a membership application.
- Voting Members Present 11 parents in attendance

Reading of last Minutes (Secretary)

Approval of the Agenda and Minutes of last meeting

Moved by: Heather Halterman

Second by: Director Hertig

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.

Reports of Officers

Chairwoman Report- Danielle

- Business Meetings will be held November 16 from 3:30-5, February 15th from 9-10:30 and April 19th 3:30 to 5
- Parent Workshops
 - October 25th there will be a panel on Collaboration and Communication 6-7 pm. It will be held at the IUSD Learning Center, Portable 5. The address is 3387 Barranca Pkwy.
 - Parent Questions for mediator:
 - For schools like Vista Verde- there are a large amount of parent volunteers. Are the parents informed of whom have special needs and best ways to work with them?-

- Other than getting a copy of the IEP interventions, what else do school do to support General education teachers, push in aides and support staff (PE) to understand best practices when working with specific children? An example: do they meet prior to school as a whole group and discuss each child? RTI?
 - Are there ways to improve School/district/parent communication when things are not going well?
 - What is done currently to ensure that parents feel part of the IEP team?
 - What steps do parents need to do to really get things moving for Social programs in the high school? Beyond contacting teacher and program specialist, how do we get these started?
- PTA Liaison
 - There are wonderful happenings at each school site PTA. Each school should have a PTA Liaison that could inform their site of what CAC is doing and parent education opportunities at each site. We can attend PTA at other sites.
- A needs survey will be sent to registered members to gain insight to what and how we want to move forward on workshops.
- 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.
- Please check the web site at www.IUSD.Org/education_services/SpecialEduucation.html There you will find both the Program Specialist assigned to each school as well as "Whom to Call".

Secretary Report- Danielle

- Review of Networking binders-and community upcoming events.
 - State Council on Developmental Disabilities has released its upcoming events- you can find them at www.SCDD@ca.gov
 - CHADD (Children and Adults with ADD) will have its International Conference here in Costa Mesa- November 10-12. www.CHADD.org
 - The Segerstrom Center for the Arts in Costa Mesa now offers Sensory Friendly shows for people on the spectrum and their families.
 - These shows are designed specifically for audiences with autism and other sensory sensitivity. These shows feature a reduction of loud sounds and bright lights. Patrons can talk and move around the theater as much as they wish during the show. The house lights are kept partially on so people can see as they move about the theater. The subject matter is geared towards individuals with a developmental age of 4-10. Tickets are only \$20 each. For more information: www.scfta.org/sensoryfriendly
 - TACA is hosting a Autism Conference in October 21-23, 2016 at the Hilton Orange County, in Costa Mesa. www.TACAnow.org
 - Best Day Foundation is hosting a wonderful opportunity on Saturday October 8th & 9th, at Doheny State Beach from 8 am to 2 pm. Some of the activities will be Tandem Surfing, Body-Boarding, Stand up paddling, and Kayaking. A beach obstacle course and so much more beach fun. For more information go to www.bestdayfoundation.org
 - Helping the Behaviorally Challenged Child is hosting a moderated support group to families looking for interventions beyond reward and punishments and for families that would like to learn more about Collaborative Problem Solving. 2nd Friday of each month. 17782 Cowan Stu. C-2, Irvine. www.HBCC.us
 - The Center for Autism & Neurodevelopmental Disorders is hosting a 12 week course on Taking on Transition: A workshop series for young adults 949-267-0471
- Please send Danielle any upcoming events that you know of and wish to have put out. She will either add it to the agenda for our Business meetings or will get it out via our Monkey Mail.

- Family Networking sub committee meeting will be Meeting at Danielle's 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 September 20, October 18, November 15, and Dec13.

Reports from District –

Executive Director Report – Melanie Hertig

- The district is focusing on Professional Learning Communities (PLC). This is where all support services came together with teachers to do training and reflection on best practices. The PLC reflection includes how to include special needs in general education. This combination of staff and support services utilize observations of students, evaluation of how they are learning, using assessments and classwork samples to see progress and success. They then will make changes to the instruction based on the feedback of the team. District commitment for PLC to stem overall improvement for learning of all students.
- We have staggered meetings support staff and parent attendance.
 - Legislation report- the 2 -year session is over and most of the educational bills were not signed by governor. Some will die and others will be rewritten for next session. What was passed is the Bill 277- vaccines. If you are having concerns about vaccinations and your child in special education, you are not required to vaccinate in order to receive FAPE- you may contact the district. The bill for dyslexia also passed. There are not guidelines, but the district is taking steps to address making sure we address the needs of those with dyslexia.
- PEERS- Many teachers and support staff were trained in PEERS, each site will facilitate how they will implement the program. Two groups over 10 weeks will be facilitated within the district office. This group is for high school children. The sessions will be offered, one in fall and one in spring. Require student and parent buy in and participation. If interested please let our district specialist get on list. Class time at district will be after school.
 - Question: what are the prescribed entry requirements?
 - Response: each school has their own ideas, as well as the district level.
- We would like to have a Special Education recognition dinner/tea. Send Danielle the name and reason an employee of IUSD made a difference in your child's life. The nominee will be written up in our newsletter and honored at our tea/Dinner in May. The Parent Network Committee will initiate the process. Please send photos and information to Danielle. If you have a name or suggestion for a name of the thank you tea/dinner please let Danielle know
- Website will be updated by first of the year- the IT group did not know that it would take so long- as the year goes on it will be more accessible.

Directors Reports – Erica Hawkes-Elementary and Preschool –

- Year-round schools are getting ready for their first break.
- 25th new school- Beacon Park opened
- New teachers hired are top notch
- 26th school Eastwood will open next year.

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

- New teachers at all levels
- Portola High school just opened. Currently has a mild/mod and autism specific programs. Starting with 9th grade open new grade each year and adding mod-sever

Committee Reports

Discussion/Action Items (Chair)

New Item:

Open discussion

Question: can we have an archive the agendas

Response : yes

Question: Can we improve our communication and acknowledgement of our existence.

Response : We need to get our information out at Back to school night. Get flyer and network with other parents. Get every principal to add us to their weekly communication. Add it to the procedural safeguards.

Open Responses: We need to use PTA at each site. Make more connections with every school.

NEXT MEETING

- Items tabled –
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Adjourn Time: 10:06 am

Motion: Heather Halterman

Seconded: Saleema Hashuan