

IRVINE UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT
Special Education Department
Community Advisory Committee (CAC) Meeting
February 13, 2020 – 6pm-8pm
Meadow Park Elementary (50 Blue Lake South)

MINUTES

Call to Order, Welcome and Introductions

Call to order at 6:04pm

Welcome and Introductions

- **District Office:** Melanie Hertig, Lisa Torkzadeh, Angela Paterson, Casey Kramer, Sean Viney, Taryn Dreifus
- **IUSD School Board:** Paul Bokota
- **CAC Board:** Robin Cowan, Bernadette Ah-Hing, Valerie Nelson

Attendance

- **Voting members:** 8

Approval of the February 13, 2020 agenda: Ayes: (8) Noes: (0)

Approval of the minutes from the November 14, 2019 Meeting:

(Chair) Minutes from the November 14th, 2019 meeting are still under discussion, and therefore approval has been tabled for now.

CAC Board Introductions

Chair: Robin Cowan

Co-Chair: Bernadette Ah-Hing

Secretary: Valerie Nelson

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. We have provided a form to document your comments and facilitate CAC follow-up. When you are called upon, please provide your name. If you do not wish to speak, you may ask someone to speak for you or submit your input in writing. Please note that time limit of 3-minutes per presentation may be applied to maximize community participation. Please submit your form to the Secretary prior to the start of the meeting. Thank you.

Parent

- Inquired about Extended School Year (ESY) start time for her son, who will be entering Middle School
- Lisa Torkzadeh confirmed that Middle School ESY will begin at 8:20am and High School ESY will begin at 7:30am
- Ms. Torkzadeh explained that once the ESY information has been finalized, it will be posted to the IUSD website

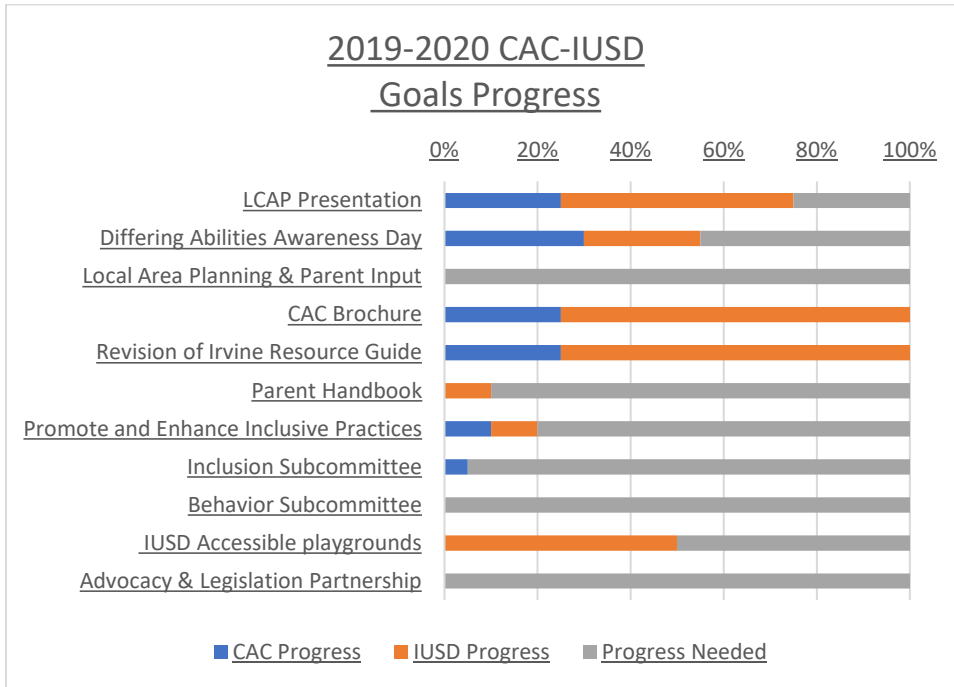
Donnella Andraos- Owner, "I AM Movement"

- Opening a new gym for people with all abilities, near John Wayne Airport
- Certified dance teacher, intended for everyone
- Seeking approval and collaboration from IUSD as an alternate to Physical Education
- Gym will expand to include Pilates, "Rock Steady Boxing," (for those with Parkinsons Disease) and more

Committee Report/Discussion/Action Items

- Good news:
 - (Chair)
 - Differing Abilities Awareness Week (DAAW)
 - The Special Education department sent an email to all Principals within the district
 - Parents encouraged partnering with Principals and PTA
 - Westpark has requested the creation of a logo for future banner and annual events for DAAW
 - CAC is hopeful that all schools will participate this year
 - (Co-Chair)
 - At previous CAC meeting, Bernadette shared about a fieldtrip experience where a 3rd grade general education teacher ensured that all students were being included
 - This teacher, Ms. Julie Dent of Bonita Canyon, was later nominated as teacher of the year at her school site
- Parent Partnership needed
 - The CAC is seeking parents to assist creating a Parent Handbook
 - Other opportunities to help are also available
- LCAP Feedback
 - The CAC is seeking clarification of LCAP data
 - The chair requested that parents email the CAC with further context
- CAC is requesting IUSD to create a board policy regarding parent volunteering
 - Policy should be
 - Non-discriminatory
 - Equitable for parents in both the general education setting and special education setting
 - Volunteering is valuable for both families and the school
- 2019 Goal Updates:
 - Subcommittee updates:

-CAC is thankful the Special Ed Department has agreed to support the Inclusion and Behavior sub-committees with educators and staff and will offer time, and substitutes when needed.



Directors Report

Melanie Hertig, Executive Director

- Special Education brochure now contains a list of Special Ed staff assigned to each site
- Accessible playgrounds at IUSD schools
 - The Special Education Department is excited to begin updating playgrounds to be more accessible
 - Springbrook is currently being updated
 - Facilities will begin looking at campuses like Meadow Park, Portola and Bonita Canyon for updates
- Local Plan update
 - All Special Education Local Plan Areas (SELPA) have a Local Plan
 - The State of California is requiring all SELPAs to update their Local Plan utilizing a new template
 - There is a sample of the new template on the table in the back
 - A draft will be presented to the CAC in April.
- Alternative Assessments
 - California School Dashboard provides a report card about schools and districts
 - All kids have the option to “opt out”
 - Opting out has unintended consequences, as it counts against the district
 - A student with a low score, is better than not taking it at all
 - Parents can reach out to the District Office with further questions
- Professional Learning, February 3, 2020

- District-wide training conference
- Special Education department hosted approximately 30 different sessions, examples include:
 - Functional strategies
 - Instructional Assistant Roles and Responsibilities
 - Supporting kids with IEPs in General Education
 - Facilitated IEP
 - Modified PE Equipment
 - Collab, Co-teaching
 - Mental Health

Lisa Torkzadeh, Director Elementary Education

- Shared how there was lots of excitement for Differing Abilities Awareness Week (DAAW)
 - Hopeful that all sites will participate in either March or April
- Unified Basketball
 - Special Needs students from Woodbridge played a scrimmage during half-time with students from Portola High School
 - There was lots of energy and excitement, hoping to see more activities like this

Adjourn Meeting at 6:32pm

Presentation: Community Panel

- Police Commander, Noelle Smiley nsmiley@cityofirvine.org 949-724-7025
- Irvine City Commissioner, Lauren Johnson-Norris lauren@laurenforirvine.com
- OC Deaf and Hard of Hearing Principal, David Longo DavidLongo@iusd.org
- Irvine Public Schools Foundation (IPSF) Chief Program Officer, Cheryl Braun cbraun@ipsf.net
- Irvine Residents with Disabilities Advisory Board (IRDAB) Vice-Chair, Carol Constantin <https://www.cityofirvine.org/disability-services/irvine-residents-disabilities-advisory-board>
949-724-6637 (Disability Services)

Question & Answer Panel