

East Valley SELPA
COMMUNITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES
September 17, 2018

REPRESENTATIVES:

Paula Bailey	Rialto Unified School District, Vice Chairperson
Katie Castruita	Redlands Unified School District, Chairperson
Raymond Espudo	Yucaipa-Calimesa Joint Unified School District
Dr. Patty Metheny	East Valley SELPA
Mirta Selbert Ramos	Yucaipa-Calimesa Joint Unified School District
Pamela Valdez	Colton Joint Unified School District (not present)

OTHERS PRESENT:

Susanne Ferguson	East Valley SELPA, Secretary
Dr. Rick Homutoff	East Valley SELPA
Mary Anne Klenske	East Valley SELPA
Colleen Meland	East Valley SELPA
Shannon Vogt	East Valley SELPA

1.0 CALL TO ORDER: SELPA Administrator Dr. Patty Metheny, at the East Valley SELPA Office, 144 N. Mt. View Ave., San Bernardino, California, called the meeting to order at 9:34 a.m. Dr. Metheny called Raymond Espudo, new representative from Yucaipa-Calimesa Joint Unified School District (YCJUSD), who participated over the phone.

2.0 DISCUSSION/PRESENTATION

2.1 Welcome & Introductions

Those present introduced themselves.

2.2 Getting to Know One Another

Dr. Metheny asked everyone to share how they became connected with the world of Special Education. Shannon Vogt, EV SELPA Program Specialist, talked about her journey from teaching a pilot Applied Behavior Analysis (ABA) program in Redlands Unified School District to currently working as a Program Specialist at EV SELPA. Katie Castruita, Chairperson, shared information about her son with Autism as well as her volunteer work and long-term substitute assignment within the Redlands Unified School District. Colleen Meland, EV SELPA program specialist, spoke of her work as a Special Education Teacher. Colleen is celebrating her 19th anniversary as an EV SELPA program specialist. Mirta Selbert Ramos, new representative from YCJUSD, shared her experiences of parenting a freshman with disabilities as well as her long career with the

Riverside Superior Court. Dr. Rick Homutoff, EV SELPA Program Manager, gave an account of his long career in K-12 special education, teaching adults at Azusa Pacific University, and working as an administrator before coming to EV SELPA as a Program Manager. Susanne Ferguson, EV SELPA Autism Program Specialist, noted how she started her career as a Speech-Language Pathologist and worked as both an Inclusion and Behavior Specialist before starting with the EV SELPA. She also recounted her experiences as a mother of a son with Autism. Raymond Espudo, new representative from YCJUSD, shared his positive experience with his daughter's progress and IEP team. Mr. Espudo has served as a LEA representative on the Medical committee at YCJUSD and currently works as a Building Inspector for the state of California. Dr. Metheny noted how a prematurely-born family member with disabilities influenced her decision to enter the field of Special Education. Dr. Metheny worked as a teacher, psychologist, and Special Education Director before taking on the position as Administrator for the EV SELPA.

2.3 Norms for Meeting

Dr. Metheny reviewed norms established by the CAC two years ago. They include: 1) Active listening, 2) Silent electronics, 3) Solution focused, 4) Remain positive, 5) Use simple language, and 6) Email communications. Dr. Metheny suggested adding a 7th norm titled "Participate Electronically." The CAC agreed.

2.4 What is a SELPA?

Dr. Metheny presented a PowerPoint with information about the history of SELPAs, listed the SELPAs in San Bernardino County, and provided detailed information about the make-up of EV SELPA. She also described the pupil count multi-year analysis of 2013-2017. EV SELPA is seeing a significant increase in the number of students receiving Special Education services combined with a general decrease in the number of General Education students. In 2013 the EV SELPA included 9,746 students with disabilities. On 12/1/17 the number of students had increased to 10,642. In addition, Dr. Metheny reviewed the overarching goal of the EV SELPA which includes the delivery of high-quality Special Education programs and services to students with disabilities in the most effective, efficient, and cost-effective manner practicable. Dr. Metheny presented the EV SELPA Information Guide. She pointed out the various EV SELPA staff positions and their duties and highlighted the new addition of Program Manager of Regional Services which monitors compliance and IEP data. Dr. Metheny will email the EV SELPA Information Guide to Raymond Espudo.

2.5 What is a CAC

Dr. Metheny continued with the PowerPoint presentation. She reviewed the definition of a CAC and the roles and responsibilities of its members. She also provided the link to the EV SELPA website. The EV SELPA CAC is open to community input and

representatives are encouraged to identify community contacts. Representative and Vice Chairperson, Paula Baily, joined the meeting, and Dr. Metheny introduced her.

2.6 Review of Minutes – April 23, 2018 Meeting

The committee approved the minutes from the April 23, 2017, meeting. Next, Dr. Metheny reviewed all sections from the CAC bylaws and noted the names of the current officers. Previously it was established that a quorum consists of those present at the meeting. As such, no head count or percentages are needed. Dr. Metheny continued with the review of the minutes. Assembly Bill 3136 was not sent to the governor for signature, but a potential new bill is on its way. Ms. Bailey asked if Transitional Kindergarten is funded. Unfortunately, funding is only provided for children when they turn 6 years of age. Mr. Espudo shared the privately insured services his daughter received before attending school. The state requires private insurers to fund ABA. Dr. Metheny mentioned the Autism presentation provided by Mrs. Ferguson at the last CAC meeting. Dr. Metheny will send the presentation to Ms. Selbert Ramos and Mr. Espudo.

2.7 EVSELPA Parent Trainings 2018-2019

Dr. Metheny presented the East Valley SELPA Special Education Parent Handbook which was developed two years ago during the 20016/17 school year. This handbook was developed as an IEP resource for parents. It is available electronically on the EV SELPA website. Ms. Bailey asked if she could distribute it to other parents and permission was granted. Dr. Metheny reviewed four free EV SELPA parent workshops. They include Dealing with Challenging Behaviors at Home on 11/5/18, Post-Secondary Transition on 1/7/19, Alternative Dispute Resolution on 3/11/19, and Effective Strategies for Children with Autism Spectrum Disorder on 4/8/19. Ms. Ferguson reviewed flyers with information about local events from the website of the Autism Society Inland Empire.

2.8 East Valley SELPA CAC Meeting Dates 2018-2019

Dr. Metheny mentioned the dates for the remaining 2018-2019 CAC meetings which are scheduled for December 3, 2018, February 25, 2019, and April 22, 2019. All meetings will begin at 9:30 a.m. and end at 11:00 a.m. unless otherwise notified. The EV SELPA is scheduled to move to another facility later in the school year. When this happens CAC meetings could possibly be moved to the evenings. Ms. Bailey had questions about preschool assessments. Specifically, some parents are having difficulty getting their children assessed when outside evaluators have developmental concerns. Dr. Metheny advised parents to send their written request for assessments directly to the Special Education directors of their respective districts. She confirmed the CAC is open to assisting parents with these types of issues. Ms. Bailey also asked which districts have developed their own behavior supports. Ms. Vogt shared her knowledge about a variety of behavior-based programs, and Dr. Homutoff described the mental health services provided in the Redlands Unified School District. Each district is unique in how it

provides behavior and mental health services to students. Ms. Ferguson brought up the topic of flyer dissemination for parent trainings since attendance is poor. Ms. Vogt suggested Program Specialists could pass out flyers at schools. Ms. Bailey mentioned PeachJar as an avenue for flyer dissemination. Dr. Metheny will ask directors for their assistance in getting the training information to parents.

3.0 ADJOURNMENT: Meeting adjourned at 10:55 a.m.