




APPROVED




Eric Lendvai, CAC Chairperson

January 21, 2015
Date

COMMUNITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING
Minutes
November 19, 2014
6:15 P.M. Networking 6:30- 8:30 P.M. Meeting
North County Regional Education Center
255 Pico Avenue, First Floor
San Marcos, CA 92069

- I. Welcome and Introductions – Eric Lendvai, CAC Chairperson
 - a. Meeting commenced at 6:37 pm.
 - b. Families and staff are encouraged to attend CAC meetings in person to participate in the discussions, ask questions, meet others, and find resources. But for those who are unable to attend, we are filming the meetings to see if it is effective in making the meetings accessible to more people. Meeting videos are posted in English and Spanish to the NCCSE website (www.nccse.org), with a link from the home page.
 - c. Those who do not wish their image to be on the video, be sure to stay well away from the area being filmed.
 - d. Everyone who speaks is asked to use the microphone. This is to insure that anyone who is otherwise unable to hear can participate fully in the meeting, as well as to capture sound for filming.
 - e. The Family page of the NCCSE website has been reconfigured so that information is more accessible.
 - f. The CAC newsletter has a new format and is now sent to over 4500 families, teachers and others.
- II. Focus Topic: Communication Strategies to Use at Home
 - a. Presented by Dawn Shirvanian, M.A. CCC-SLP, NCCSE Assistive Technology Program Specialist Dawn shared a brief overview of the strategies and tools that will be presented at the workshop on December 9. The power point and handout is available on the NCCSE website at <http://www.nccse.org/cac-meeting-videos-and-handouts>
- III. Program Director’s Report – Bruce Kramer, NCCSE Senior Director
 - a. California State Legislation: Not much legislation tends to happen between August and December. There were cuts in last year’s education budget, however due to increased revenues from property taxes, employment, etc. there might be a bit of increased funding for special education in the January 2015 budget revise.
 - b. Common Core State Standards (CCSS): In the spring of 2015 students in third grade and above will be given the new assessment based on the new CCSS curriculum. The new assessment is called the California Assessment of Student Performance and Progress (CAASPP) and will be given instead of the previous STAR assessment. The assessment for students who previously took the California Alternative Performance Assessment (CAPA) is not yet in place.
 - c. NCCSE staff created a four page document to help special educators understand their role in supporting the CAASPP. NCCSE staff is also creating a similar document for families.

- d. NCCSE budget: The NCCSE budget for 2014-2015 is 6.9 million. The funding is provided by all 14 of the NCCSE school districts and covers the services of about 120 employees, including assistive technology staff, teachers for students who are deaf and hard of hearing or who have visual impairments, program specialists, professional development, services to students with mental health related issues and more. The 2015-2016 budget is projected to be 7.6 million and is in the process of being revised. It is expected to be approved in January 2015 by the NCCSE Board of Governors, who are unanimously supportive. (The NCCSE Board of Governors consists of the superintendents of the 14 NCCSE member districts). The increase from last year reflects no new staff, just mandated costs associated with salary and fringe benefits, as well as a small increase in assistive technology equipment.
- e. Karen Thompson, WorkAbility Coordinator for San Marcos Unified School District shared information about the federal Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act of 2014. The Department of Rehabilitation (DOR) is now required to utilize 15% of its funding to work with school districts to transition students to competitive employment. The DOR expects to complete its first performance plan to meet this requirement by January 15, 2015. The act also requires the end of employment programs that pay sub-minimum wages. This may have an effect on WorkAbility programs.

IV. Approval of March 2014 Minutes - Eric Lendvai

- a. Approved and seconded with no changes.

V. Review of Community Advisory Committee (ICAC) Representative Meetings to Date – Michelle Wolfson, Past Executive Committee Chairperson

- a. Two meetings have been held this year for CAC Representatives (not public meetings).
- b. **The orientation for CAC Representatives** was held in September and included facts about NCCSE, the Community Advisory Committee and the role of CAC Representatives.
- c. NCCSE is comprised of 14 school districts and supports them to serve over 14,000 students who are eligible for special education services.
- d. The Community Advisory Committee is required by California education law and advises the superintendents of the school districts through participating in the Local Plan and the annual CAC Priorities Report.
- e. **The Representative-Director Priorities Meeting** was held in October. There are two meetings about the CAC Priorities Report each year – one in October and one in April. In October each district team (consisting of the special education director and CAC parent and staff representatives) decides on one or two goals from the Priorities Report to make progress on for the year. In April each district shares the progress they have been able to make and the entire group gives input for the next year's Priorities Report.
- f. At the last Board of Governors meeting of each year the new Priorities Report is presented to the superintendents.
- g. The current CAC Priorities Report is available on the NCCSE website at www.nccse.org/about-the-cac

VI. Public Comments – Eric Lendvai

- a. At each CAC meeting, time is set aside to accept public comments.
- b. We welcome public comments – they can be acknowledgement of good practices, or questions or concerns about special education services that impact groups of children.
- c. Comments are recorded in the CAC minutes, which are distributed to the NCCSE district superintendents and special education directors.
- d. A written version must be given to a CAC Executive Committee member so that it can be accurately recorded for the minutes and for a response.
- e. Your comment may be presented by yourself, or you may ask the CAC chairperson to read it, and it can be presented anonymously if you choose.
- f. In compliance with the Brown act, there will be no **action** taken at the meeting in which a comment is made, though there may be time for discussion.

- g. The executive committee will respond to comments at the following CAC meeting.
- h. In order to make sure we have time to finish required business, individual speakers are limited to three (3) minutes for their presentation. The total time allotted for public comment shall not exceed 15 minutes per meeting.
- i. If there is time left once all public comments are made at a meeting, the floor will open for discussion of any of the comments for the remainder of the 15 minute time allowed.
- j. There were no public comments.

VII. CAC Meeting and Subcommittee Sign Ups – Lisa Houghtelin – NCCSE Parent Liaison

- a. Sign-ups to help with CAC meetings and Subcommittees are available. Representatives please sign up as your time and interest allow.
- b. Thank you to Melissa Curras for greeting and assisting people to sign in at tonight's meeting.
- c. Thank you to Julie Widman, HOPE Infant Program representative for assisting late comers to sign in at this and at many, many past meetings.
- d. Thank you to Rachel Garcia, Cardiff Parent Representative; Alma Reed, Carlsbad Unified Parent Representative; and Michelle Wolfson, Carlsbad Unified Parent Representative and Executive Board Member for supporting the Transition Resource Fair on November 8. It was a well-attended and successful event.

VIII. Family Resources – Julie Law-Cheeseman, CAC Vice Chairperson

- a. Will be emailed next week.
- b. Please be sure to see resources in Spanish also.
- c. Telephone number for NCCSE workshop information in Spanish and English: 888-797-5575.

IX. Small group discussions

- a. Attendees briefly discussed information that was presented at the meeting.

X. Adjourn at 8:10 pm – Eric Lendvai

- a. The next public CAC meeting is on January 19, 2015 and the presentation topic will be including students with disabilities in electives and other school activities.
- b. Networking and refreshments followed.