



## COMMUNITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING

Approved Minutes

November 16, 2016

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 – Michelle Wolfson, CAC Co-Chairperson
  - a. Meeting commenced at 6:38pm.
  - b. Families and staff are encouraged to attend Community Advisory Committee (CAC) meetings in person to participate in the discussions, ask questions, meet others, and find resources. For those unable to attend, meetings are filmed to make them accessible. Meeting videos are posted in English and Spanish to the NCCSE website (English link: [www.nccse.org/cac-meeting-videos-and-handouts](http://www.nccse.org/cac-meeting-videos-and-handouts) Spanish link: [www.nccse.org/videos-y-notas-de-las-juntas-del-cac](http://www.nccse.org/videos-y-notas-de-las-juntas-del-cac)).
  - 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. A warm welcome to Heidi Marshall, who is a new Parent Liaison with NCCSE, working two days a week. Heidi brings experience as a parent as well as a provider of early childhood early intervention services to children birth to three years of age and their families.
- II. Focus Topic: Introduction to Accessibility Tools on Google Chrome – Jeff Adams and Denise Hernandez, NCCSE Assistive Technology Program Specialists
  - a. An overview of Google Chrome and sample apps and extensions were demonstrated.
  - b. Jeff and Denise are also offering an open lab on December 9 from 10 am – 12 noon at the NCCSE office building.
  - c. Questions and answers followed the presentation.
- III. Program Director’s Report – Theresa Kurtz, Senior Director, North Coastal Consortium for Special Education
  - a. Alicia Alvarez has taken the NCCSE position providing support to teachers of students with moderate to severe disabilities that used to be filled by Audrey Weed.
  - b. The State of California has a new Special Education Director, Kristen Wright, who was involved with the State Advisory Commission on Special Education and is also a parent of a child with special needs. Her main priority is to create a single system of support in California.

- c. Assembly Bill 104 (AB104) – Multi-Tiered System of Support (MTSS). This is a general education initiative to create a system that provides focused and tiered academic and behavioral intervention for all students (including those receiving special education services). A system for accountability is imbedded.
  - d. Governor Brown has set aside \$30 million to implement the MTSS. The overview of the plan so far is as follows, with the purpose of making MTSS available uniformly throughout the state:
    - 1. The Orange County Office of Education has been given \$10 million to work with all the county offices of education throughout the state. They will support selected schools to become Knowledge Development Sites. Two schools within the San Diego Unified School District were selected to be these sites in San Diego County.
    - 2. Additional school districts will be able to apply to be part of a series of three cohorts in April 2017, December 2017, and May 2018.
    - 3. Answers to questions: California is not the first state to implement a similar system. Unsure if Gifted and Talented Education is specifically mentioned in the bill, but the intent is to include all students.
  - e. New legislative initiatives are expected after the New Year.
- IV. Review of CAC Orientation and Priorities Meetings – Monica Hans, Executive Board Member
- a. In September, CAC representatives attended an orientation meeting to learn about NCCSE and their role as a representative. NCCSE has 14 school district members which collectively serve over 16,000 students who have Individualized Education Programs (IEPs).
  - b. In October, CAC representatives and district special education directors met and each district chose one or two goals from the CAC Priorities Report to work on for this school year. This year the general areas that were chosen focus on: Student participation in their educational meetings, ability awareness and peer supports, supporting students and families during all school transitions (into preschool, kindergarten, middle school, high school, transition programs, and into adult services), and encouraging special education parents to be represented on their local parent-teacher associations (PTAs).
  - c. In April they will meet again to: report and celebrate progress on the chosen goals and to give input for next school year’s Priority Report. Once the report is approved by the CAC. The new CAC Priorities Report will be presented to the NCCSE Cabinet (special education directors) and the NCCSE Board of Governors (superintendents) in May and June.
- V. Excellence in Special Education Award Nominations – Terri Stashak, Executive Board Member
- a. Award nomination forms are available on the NCCSE website ([www.nccse.org](http://www.nccse.org)) as well as at the NCCSE office.
  - b. There are 11 categories of nominations, including teachers, administrators, related services providers, support staff, families, students, and employers.
  - c. Anyone can make a nomination. This is an opportunity to recognize and reward those who are making a difference in our students’ lives.
  - d. A selection committee meets in April to choose those who will be recognized at

the NCCSE Awards Ceremony, being held on May 31, 2017 this year. Awardees are chosen anonymously – the committee members have no information about the district, the school, the nominator or the nominees.

- e. The Awards Ceremony is an event that the CAC hosts and is well worth attending.
  - f. Even if a nominee is not chosen to receive an award, they are notified after the Awards Ceremony has taken place, that they were nominated and by whom. Their supervisors are also notified that they were nominated.
- VI. Public Comments – Stephanie Rubino, Executive Board Member
- 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 Board 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. Each speaker is limited to three minutes. The total amount of time allotted for public comment at each meeting is fifteen minutes.
  - g. There will be no action taken at the meeting in which a comment is made, though there may be time for discussion.
- VII. CAC Meeting and Subcommittee Sign-Ups – Lisa Houghtelin, NCCSE Parent Liaison
- a. A sign-up sheet was passed around for CAC representatives to volunteer to come a bit early and help visitors and CAC representatives sign in to the meeting.
  - b. At the January CAC Meeting, signup sheets will be passed around for the following sub-committees: Priorities Report, Awards Selection, and Awards Ceremony.
- VIII. Family Resources – Lisa Houghtelin
- a. Upcoming workshops were highlighted and are in the meeting packet.
  - b. Additional resources are available on the resource table.
  - c. Telephone number for NCCSE workshop information in Spanish and English: 888-797-5575.
- IX. Adjourned at 7:50 pm – Michelle Wolfson
- a. The next public CAC meeting is scheduled for January 16, 2017 and the presentation will be an overview of the structured social supports available in schools throughout the NCCSE member districts.
  - b. Small group discussions followed.