

Tulare County  
COMMUNITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE  
For Special Education

MINUTES  
October 1, 2009

The Tulare County Community Advisory Committee for Special Education met in the Board Room of the Tulare County Office of Education at 1:30 p.m.

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Filomena Rocha, Amy McMahon, Tim Perrotta, Gary Kenny, Stephanie Caldera, Connie Acevedo

**MEMBERS ABSENT:** Claudia Garcia, Shelley Dever, Dana Collins, Tiffany Stark, Ramon Cervantes

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Norma Erwin, Brenda Beatty, Renae Bendix; Parent Liaisons /Tulare County Office of Education

**WELCOME / INTRODUCTIONS:** Tim Perrotta opened the meeting and welcomed everyone. Self introductions were made.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS:** There were no members of the public present.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** The Community Advisory Committee did not have a quorum to approve the minutes. Norma Erwin informed the committee that a vote can be taken by email as stated in the bylaws. Tim Perrotta, CAC Chairperson requested an email be sent to the committee members to approve the minutes.

**D.O.S.E. REPORT:** Tim Perrotta informed the committee members that Aimee Miculian could not be with us due to family illness and called upon the good will of Kaye van Gilluwe to provide a report of the Directors of Special Education September meeting. Kay van Gilluwe informed CAC that Aimee Miculian was appointed by DOSE to serve as the DOSE representative on CAC.

Kaye van Gilluwe also reported on ABX42 and explained that the "X" stands for extraordinary. Kaye van Gilluwe reported that starting this year, students with a 504 or IEP will not have to take the CAHSEE. They can demonstrate their knowledge through alternative means. Kaye van Gilluwe stated that for the last three years, students who did not pass the CAHEE did not receive a diploma.

Kaye van Gilluwe informed the committee members about the RtI process utilized by Dinuba Unified School District. She said all students are tested, interventions are

implemented and progress monitoring is kept for a period of time. She said Dinuba Unified now has proven academic outcomes and other school districts have expressed an interest in RtI. In addition, Dinuba Unified has board policies in place to support the RtI process.

**PARENT SELF ASSESSMENT REPORT:** Kaye van Gilluwe presented the “Special Education Self Review Parent Survey” She reported that every district in our SELPA goes through this process and that 20% of parents with students in Special Education are surveyed. Large districts are required to hold a parent meeting and conduct the survey in Spanish and English. The meeting is scripted and in some cases members of the Community Advisory Committee can be requested to assist if parents need help understanding.

**REVIEW OF OT/PT COUNTY MODEL:** Kaye van Gilluwe cited research that showed consultation to classroom teachers is more effective than direct instructional service to the students. Kaye van Gilluwe provided a comparison model of a student who is pulled out for thirty minutes twice a week verses a student who participates in a classroom that is intentionally structured through collaboration with the OT. Kaye van Gilluwe explained that in the first model the student receives sixty minutes a week while in the second model the student receives eleven hours and fifteen minutes a week. She informed the committee that the Tulare County Office of Education is adopting this model. Currently, the OT is going from classroom to classroom to consult with the teacher. Kaye reports that teachers like that because the OT is in the classroom more often and they can ask questions. The PT is also in the classroom more often now and can provide consultation for all students.

**2009 MEETING CHALLENGES CALENDAR REPORT:** Brenda Beatty reported having met twice with the Assistive Technology staff who know the students served. Brenda Beatty provided sample pictures for the “Meeting Challenges” calendar which illustrated 1<sup>st</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> grade students. She pointed out the fair multicultural and geographical representation. She said students are representative of both county and local district classrooms. Members present commented on the variety of low to high tech illustrations and that it showed students succeeding and doing things. Brenda Beatty requested a vote to accept the current work on the CAC calendar. Since the committee did not have a quorum, it was agreed that an email would be sent to all the members for a vote.

**CAC Mailing List Updates and Meeting Schedule Updates:** The members received updated copies of the CAC directory and membership listing. Norma Erwin informed the committee that CVRC agency representative, Amy McMahon had at least two clients interested in the “Exceptional Individual” slot. They will be invited to attend. Norma Erwin stated that the SELPA policy did not stipulate an age requirement for a student but the expectation is that they be able to participate in discussions and make decisions.

Norma Erwin presented two items related to the December and January meetings that required a quorum. They will be carried over to the November meeting.

**COS DISABILITY AWARENESS DAY:**

Norma Erwin presented information on the COS sponsored Disability Awareness Day and read the stated purpose of the event; to “provide information to sensitize the community regarding disabilities, as well as to make individuals with disabilities aware of community resources available to them.” Norma affirmed the event is in line with the priorities of CAC and that a booth has been confirmed for Tuesday, October 13<sup>th</sup>, from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Norma Erwin invited the participation of the committee members. Amy McMahon, CVRC representative volunteered to participate. Staff will be available to participate.

**Announcements:** Amy McMahon announced that “Autism Speaks” would hold an informational and activities event at Vossler Frams on October 10, 2009. The event will be from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Meeting Adjourned 2:20 p.m.