

**TULARE COUNTY COMMUNITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE
FOR SPECIAL EDUCATION**

MINUTES

The Tulare County Community Advisory Committee for Special Education met on September 2, 2010 at Central Valley Regional Center, 5441 W. Cypress Ave. Visalia, CA at 1:30 p.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Blanca Florez, Cyndi Ward, Connie Acevedo, Tim Perrotta, Filomena Rocha, Amy McMahon, Dana Collins, Gary Kenny, Stephanie Caldera,

MEMBERS ABSENT: Randi Kestner, Tiffany Stark, Aimee Miculian, Claudia Garcia

OTHERS PRESENT: Norma Erwin; Parent Liaison/Tulare County Office of Education; Lori Collins, Parent Liaison/ Tulare County Office of Education

WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS: Chairman, Tim Perrotta welcomed everybody back for the start of a new year and asked everyone to share and introduce themselves. New members, Blanz Florez and Cyndi Ward were made welcome.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: There were no members of the public present to address the committee on agenda items.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: The motion to accept the minutes of April 8, 2010 and the follow up addendum was made by Gary Kenny and seconded by Filomena Rocha. The minutes stand.

TULARE COUNTY/DISTRICT SELPA ANNUAL SERVICE PLAN FOR 2009-2010:

This item will be tabled until next month when the DOSE representative can comment on it.

DISABILITY AWARENESS DAY EVENT REPORT: Norma Erwin reported that the COS Disability Resource Center has reported no plans to celebrate the annual event next month. Norma announced that members Stephanie Caldera and Filomena Rocha volunteered to be the parent panel for the COS course- Early Childhood Special Education and it would be considered a CAC community outreach.

CAC CALENDAR PROJECT REPORT: Norma Erwin explained the timeline and process to complete the 2011 Meeting Challenges Calendar. She thanked the committee

members for stepping up to the plate and taking the photos for the calendar. There have been a few inconsistencies because not all cameras are equal. Cyndi Ward offered to take photos for a local retake. Norma Erwin explained the process and coordination required and said it would be completed well enough ahead of schedule. Norma Erwin asked the committee members to consider what role they might play in the distribution aspect of the calendar as some assistance may be needed in that area when the calendars arrive. Norma Erwin shared comments made by parents at the photo shoots concerning their experience raising a child with Autism such as "This has been a learning journey." Amy McMahon commented that it will highlight the Bright Future program. Norma said the calendar will definitely inform the community about what Autism is and how families cope with it.

WORKSHOPS FOR PARENTS: Norma Erwin presented the "Workshops for Parents 2020-2011" schedule and explained the accessibility of all workshops to all parents.

REVIEW CAC DIRECTORY AND MEETING SCHEDULE: The member directory was reviewed for updates needed and the 2010-2011 meeting schedule was reviewed and approved.

REVIEW SPEAKER PRESENTATION AND PARENT INPUT FORMAT:

Tim Perrotta explained the format that would be followed each month to equip members to come better prepared to discuss the topic and allow CAC members to participate more fully in their responsibilities to provide feedback to the SELPA administrator:

- 1) Speaker Handouts will be sent to each member to review.
- 2) Members will forward questions they would like to ask.
- 3) Questions will be forwarded to the speaker to keep them on point as they present.