

Tulare County
COMMUNITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE
For Special Education

MINUTES
April 8, 2010

The Tulare County Community Advisory Committee for Special Education met at Parenting Network located at, 1900 N. Dinuba Blvd, Suite C, in Visalia, CA at 1:30 p.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Claudia Garcia, Connie Acevedo, Tim Perrotta, Filomena Rocha, Tiffany Stark, Randi Kestner, Amy McMahon

MEMBERS ABSENT: Aimee Miculian, Dana Collins, Gary Kenny, Ramon Cervantes, Shelley Dever, Stephanie Caldera,

OTHERS PRESENT: Renae Bendix, Norma Erwin; Parent Liaisons / Tulare County Office of Education, Cyndi Ward; Public Member and Parent

WELCOME / INTRODUCTIONS: Tim Perrotta welcomed the committee and members of the public. Introductions were made. Mike Gibson, host and director of the Parenting Network Resource Center gave a warm welcome to the Community Advisory Committee.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: There were no comments from members of the public.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Chairman, Tim Perrotta requested a motion to approve the March minutes. A motion was made by Filomena Rocha and seconded by Amy McMahon. The CAC did not have a quorum at this meeting. It was noted that members had voted to move this meeting ahead a week in order for members to meet after spring break. Unfortunately, some were unable to attend. An email vote to accept the minutes will be taken.

D.O.S.E. REPORT: Aimee Miculian could not be present. Norma Erwin reported that DOSE reviewed the Tulare County/District SELPA Annual Service Plan for 2009-2010 and it would be made available for the members to review at the September meeting.

ANNUAL LUCHEOEN - FINAL PLANNING REPORTS: Renae Bendix gave the final entertainment report for the May 12 luncheon. She said Luis Gonzalez who just turned five years old will be performing at the luncheon. Luis is learning to read and write in Braille and has taught himself to play the keyboard. Luis will be playing several songs including nursery rhymes and a piece from Beethoven. His visual impairment teacher, Fredna Van Dellen and Luis's parents will attend with him. The CAC members were pleased with the selection.

Norma Erwin reported on the nominations received for special recognition and the Linda Hess Award. The CAC reviewed and approved the bios on nominees submitted by local districts. Norma recommended a subcommittee be named to

review the two parent nominations received and two more that were expected to arrive soon. CAC members, Tiffany Stark, Claudia Garcia and Amy McMahon volunteered to be on the sub committee to review the nominations for the Linda Hess Award and select an honoree.

Norma gave a brief report on Brenda's behalf concerning the awards and invitations and said the special recognition awards have been especially prepared and ordered and were expected to arrive soon. Member roles at the luncheon were discussed such as greeters, award presenters, and people to run the registration table and people to seat guests. Members volunteered to fill assignments and provide support wherever needed.

OTHER: Norma Erwin reported that an additional calendar theme had been submitted for review by the members. The theme highlighting the Bright Future program for the next calendar was submitted by Marilyn Rankin. The members discussed the idea. Norma pointed out that nearly all programs have been highlighted in the past except this one because it was a relatively new program.

Norma Erwin suggested members vote on a theme before breaking for the summer. She explained that selecting a theme early has allowed the staff to plan during the summer for the work to be completed in the fall instead of waiting to plan in September. The members agreed to take a vote by email to consider the Bright Future theme for the next calendar. Norma will send out an email for the members to vote on.

PARENTING NETWORK TOUR: The members were given a guided tour of the Parenting Network facility by Claudia Garcia. Claudia provided each member with an informational packet that included flyers and brochures of the many programs and resources available at Parenting Network. Members were impressed with the cultural relevancy, holistic approach to family needs and participation of a variety of agencies under one roof.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

1. Renae Bendix announced that the Collins family featured in last year's CAC calendar would be featured in a documentary on HBO. Renae will email the listing to all members. The title is "A Mother's Courage: Talking Back to Autism."
2. Tiffany Stark announced there would be an "Autism Walk" April 10 at the Exeter High School track. Tiffany will request information for CAC to consider for next year's event.
3. Renae announced that the Temple Grandin bio is due to be released on DVD July 10, 2010.

Meeting Adjourned: 2:45 p.m.

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ADDENDUM TO MEETING DATED APRIL 8, 2010

MEMBERS PRESENT TO VOTE THROUGH TELEPHONE / EMAIL IN ACCORDANCE WITH TULARE COUNTY CAC BYLAWS SECTION VI. DECISIONS:

Tim Perrotta, Claudia Garcia, Dana Collins, Gary Kenny, Stephanie Caldera, Tiffany Stark, Filomena Rocha, Aimee Miculian, Connie Acevedo, Amy McMahon

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Ramon Cervantes, Shelley Dever

VOTE TO APPROVE THE MINUTES FROM THE MARCH 9 CAC MEETING:

On April 14, 2010 the CAC members concluded their vote by way of e-mail to approve the minutes from the March 9, 2010 CAC meeting. Vote passed.

VOTE TO APPROVE BRIGHT FUTURE AS THE NEW CALENDAR THEME:

On April 14, 2010 the CAC members concluded their vote by way of e-mail to approve Bright Future as the new calendar theme. Vote passed.