



**Tuesday, September 17, 2019
Special Education District Advisory Council (SEDAC)
Minutes**

**9:15 AM - General Meeting
11:30 AM - Executive Board Meeting**

Location: University Multipurpose Room (MPR) - 2801 Atlas Ave., Thousand Oaks, CA

SEDAC EXECUTIVE BOARD

**Cindy Liu, Chairperson
Erin Bell, Vice-Chairperson
Carole Shelton, Secretary
Rachel Brusseau, Parliamentarian**

ADMINISTRATION

**Dr. Lisa A. Miller, Assistant Superintendent, Student Services
Erika F. Johnson, Director, Special Education
Kate Potter, Senior Administrative Assistant
Kathy Stevens, Administrative Assistant**

If you are on the agenda to present a report and need the use of a computer and audio equipment, please contact the Assistant Superintendent of Student Services' Office 24 hours prior to the meeting (805-497-9511 x2301).

If you wish to address the Special Education District Advisory Council (SEDAC), then it is necessary to complete a speaker form (salmon) and hand it to the secretary. If you would like to make comments about items not on the agenda, a speaker form should be completed and turned in prior to the Public Comments section of the agenda. If you wish to address an agenda item, please submit your form prior to the Action portion of the agenda.

Pursuant to the Greene Act, members of the public have an opportunity to speak during Public Comments only. The Special Education District Advisory Council cannot enter into formal discussion nor can a decision be made in regard to public comments. However, the Special Education District Advisory Council may briefly respond to comments or questions from the public, and ask clarification questions or make announcements. The Special Education District Advisory Council may provide a reference to District staff or other resources of information; request District staff to report out at a subsequent meeting or may request the Special Education District Advisory Council Executive Board to place an item on a future agenda.

PLEASE NOTE: Public Comments will be limited to three minutes. On those occasions where there are 5 or more speaker cards, the Chairperson of the Special Education District Advisory Council may make the decision to decrease the time.

Please present your comments in a factual, respectful, and dignified manner that models how we expect our members to participate in the democratic process.

If you wish to register your opinion on a topic but not speak, then please fill out a public written statement form (yellow) and hand it to the secretary. Special Education District Advisory Council Executive Board members will review these forms following the General Meeting.

Your input is greatly appreciated!

1. GENERAL SESSION

- A. Meeting called to order
- B. Roll Call
- C. Pledge of Allegiance
- D. Approval of Agenda – All Approved

2. REPORTS

A. Executive Team - Board of Education Meeting Updates

- Chairperson Liu navigated members through Board Docs to access Board meeting agenda, minutes, past videos and also links to SEDAC meeting agendas. (www.conejousd.org click on Board of Education then Meetings and Agendas or Board Meeting Videos)
- Informed group that SEDAC meeting agendas, minutes and presentations are located on CVUSD's Special Education webpage www.conejousd.org click on Departments then Student Services then Special Education or use the following link to go directly to the webpage www.conejousd.org/Departments/Student-Support-Services/Special-Education
- Chairperson Liu navigated members to the Special Education Programs webpage located on CVUSD's website. Log onto www.conejousd.org then click on the Special Education



Programs infographic icon to access information on Special Educations Programs and FAQs [Special Education Programs](#)

B. SEDAC Standing Committee Reports

- None

C. Community Reports - Special Education Local Plan Area Community Advisory Committee

- Ms. Holland reported on SELPA and CAC
 - Conducting review of local plan this year to adapt the plan to the new local plan template and will go live in the 2021 school year.
 - Promote connection collaboration between parents
 - Promote ability awareness
 - Promote inclusive practices and social/emotional learning
 - Judy French with Pacer – Bullying
 - Pacer Center partnered with Cartoon judy.french@pacer.org

D. Community Reports - United Association of Conejo Teachers (UACT)

- Mrs. Briner-Schmidt and Special Education administrators meet monthly to collaborate on topics regarding special education, inclusiveness, professional development and other important topics. Mrs. Briner-Schmidt thanked the SEDAC members for inviting her to meetings. She expressed that she is glad to be part of the team.

E. Comments – Public

- Mr. Gorback – Thanked and welcomed members of SEDAC. “You are the ones that get the work done by being interactive and representing your schools.” He wished everyone a good year.
- PTA Representatives informed members about the National Reflections Program Contest – This year's theme is “Look Within”. There are six categories: Dance Choreography, Film Production, Literature, Music Composition, Photography, and Visual Arts. Applications are available at school sites.
- Mrs. Shelton - Rainbow Connection Family Resource Center is a program of Tri-Counties Regional Center. While our priority is to support families that have an individual receiving services through Tri-Counties, we also support self-advocates and those in the community who have special needs who aren't receiving TCRC services. Upcoming Events: Rainbow at CRPD Old Meadow Center held the first Friday of every month from 9:00 AM to 12:00 PM while school is in session. Saturday's at Rainbow held the third Saturday of the month from 9:00 AM to 12:00 PM. Meet the Manager's 9/21/19. Zumba Dance Party 9/30/19 from 10:00 AM – 11:00 AM. End Epilepsy Workshop and Social is on 10/19/19 from 10:00 AM to 2:00 PM.
- Mrs. Levenson – NPHS – Her youngest child is now a senior and is in the NPHS SDC class. Mrs. Levenson expressed a challenge with the bus schedule and times general education

students are released vs. special education students. Concerned that academic minutes and the shortened day. Asking for change.

F. Comments - SEDAC Chair

- North Star - Where collaboration and accountability of District Leadership, Teachers, Staff, Parent and students meet.
- CA Dashboard (State Data) – It is important to know how to access the dashboard. <https://www.caschooldashboard.org/reports/5673759000000/2018>
18/19 dashboard did not report well for Students with Disabilities. We are all hoping for improvement in this area for the 19/20 school year.
- SEDAC Impact 18/19
 - Established 5 standing committees
 - Met with State Representatives
 - Expanded community outreach
 - Established and strengthened cross district synergies
 - SEDAC and other DACS have regular reports to The Board of Trustees
 - SPSA Plans – Proposed changes that were adopted by the District
 - How are you going to help SEDAC make an impact? The impact we make will improve our children's lives and the community.

G. Comments - SEDAC Members - Site Concerns and Successes (Blue Card)

- Maple – SEDAC coffee and Parent Venturing Partnership are successes. School is celebrating unity day October 23rd. Landmark unity tree with inclusive messages. Site concern – similar problems with buses at Maple arriving late. Also, when returned to school this year parents learned that no basics courses were available and would like better communication.
- Colina co-teaching classrooms and unified games will be offered at the middle school level this year! First game is Colina vs. Redwood.
- Wildwood – PTA created care committee focus to support all students particularly those with disabilities. Ability awareness, acceptance and tolerance.
- Thousand Oaks High – Green sheet is now including SEDAC information. PTSA student group including inclusive schools week. School will encourage special education students to not only participate in the National Reflections contest but to also win it!
- Sycamore Canyon – Due to reallocations the school lost part time special education teacher. Also lost foundation course. Students were placed in CP class even if not ready. Large student count of 34. How are they going to be successful in large setting?
- Sycamore Canyon– PTA president and SEDAC reps are meeting monthly. Already see improvement of inclusive events with both special education and general education students participating.
- Post-Secondary – Student's graduate with a certificate of completion, school offers small class sizes and this school year is off to a good start! Parents, students and staff are appreciative of the new disabled vans! Vans are wonderful because they allow students to access outside activities. Post-Secondary is always looking at new job sites, please recommend our students to friends and businesses willing to hire them. Current microbusinesses are bracelets and snack shack bagging.
- NPHS – Mrs. Alvarez held meeting regarding unified sports. Kickball at WHS is first event. Three of five co-teaching opportunities are now taking place. A special education student is assisting with raising flag each day. Feels communication of coordinators being reclassified to Assistant Principals and located at high schools could have been done better. Parents not aware that principals of middle and elementary schools were now coordinators for their sites.

H. Comments - Assistant Superintendent, Student Services

- Ms. Johnson shared the dates of the District Transition Nights. October 22 for students transitioning from Be-Me Preschool to Elementary school. October 28 for students transitioning from elementary school to middle school and October 29 for students transitioning from middle school to high school. School choice opens November 1st.
- Dr. Miller informed the members about special education staffing allocations. Staffing does require looking at all staffing across district, keeping within contractual boundaries and most importantly meeting students' needs. Unfortunately, some sites did have staffing changes. Dr. Miller offered to do a presentation on staffing allocations at a future meeting if that is what members would like.
- Communication has improved; are we going to continue to improve...yes.
- Special Education coordinators were reclassified to assistant principals and assigned to sites. The reason for the change is that the District learned that coordinators were distant from campuses and not part of the school culture. Coordinators parachuting onto a site did not develop capacity building or building cohesive parent and student relationships. Our focus this year is to empower our school principals to lead for all students, including special education students. We need campuses to lead and respond. School sites are the main

support. District Office staff supports school leadership. Special Education administrators developed procedures and guidance for school site staff. Site has knowledge and capacity to respond to the needs of your child. Principals are the main contact for special education parents and students.

- Dr. Hayek – please email transportation concerns directly to him vhayek@conejousd.org and he will work with Mrs. Boland, Transportation Specialist, to resolve the issues. It is difficult for Durham to provide drivers. The District is currently working to get bids for the 2020/2021 school year from companies that fit our schedules and not theirs.

3. INFORMATION/DISCUSSION SESSION

A. Presentation: School Plan for Student Success (SPSA) by Mr. Lou Lichtl, Assistant Superintendent, Instructional Services

- Mr. Lichtl discussed his presentation – This is the guiding document for campuses as far as actions and services with targeted dollars. Generally running the school programs. This is a compliance document, our district choice is to include process to incorporate parents input to include all groups and not just state and fed requirements. Information provided today will be available to all DACS.
- The main topics of the SPSA presentation were reviewed with the members: Purpose of Presentation, What the District Learned Last Year, SPSA Memo & Timeline, Guide for Developing the SPSA, DTS Template (software used to develop SPSAs), Dashboard and the SPSA Monitoring & Accountability Tool.
- Mr. Lichtl shared that a great process leads to great SPSAs! Please feel free to email Mr. Lichtl at llichtl@conejousd.org if you have questions about the SPSA or his presentation.

B. Presentation: Universal Design for Learning (UDL) Framework, by Mr. Kenny Loo, CVUSD Director of Middle Schools and Professional Learning and Mr. Jeremy Resnick, VCOE Director, Curriculum and Instruction

- Mr. Jeremy Resnick – Director, Curriculum and Instruction VCOE, introduced himself to the SEDAC members and explained that his role is not one of oversight, but that of support for Ventura County School Districts. Mr. Resnick has hundreds of hours of learning about, and training staff on, UDL. Mr. Resnick is CVUSD born and raised. Happy to be here today to help explain UDL.
- Mr. Loo and Mr. Resnick co-teaching today on UDL! They shared the UDL presentation used at the 8-19-19 CVUSD professional development day with the SEDAC members.
- What is UDL? UDL is a way of teaching and learning that helps to give all students an equal opportunity to learn and succeed. Teachers use the thought process “What are the barriers and how do I remove them” when they are developing lessons.
- CVUSD is one of the leaders in bringing on UDL, however, we are at the beginning of the process on learning and using UDL so ways to support us are to be supportive of PD days and bell schedule changes at sites. It may feel like time is being taken away from class, but in fact it is giving teachers the opportunity to be capable of teaching UDL. Which in the end will benefit all students.
- Mr. Resnick walked the group through a POP activity. **P**redict barriers **O**ptions to overcome **P**lan. The activity was a problem solving process to get to heart of what UDL is all about. It’s about intentionality and using suggestions for overcoming barriers.
- The UDL Rubric contains suggestions (bullet points) for overcoming barriers. Emphasis is that it is not all about strategies, it’s about meeting student’s needs. Understand learning barriers and how to overcome them. You still teach the standards, it’s just a different way of teaching to help all students learn and succeed.
- Design is the keyword of UDL. Designing lessons from the start. Hard work and collaborative work. This is a lot to do. Building in collaborative times is step CVUSD took to make this happen.
- Mr. Loo explained that classroom teachers are starting the journey, so we need to be patient. Support the teachers by giving them kudos if you recognize a UDL strategy being used.
- CVUSD On-Going steps – Mr. Loo provided the dates for this year’s UDL training for staff.
- The group asked for a website and were referred to CAST.

4. ACTION ITEMS - GENERAL

A. None

5. ACTION ITEMS - CONSENT

A. Approval of Minutes – Minutes approved

6. ADJOURNMENT

A. Adjournment – Meeting adjourned at 11:45 AM