



San Joaquin County SELPA

COUNCIL OF DIRECTORS MEETING

September 15, 2021

MINUTES

COD

Present

Brandie Brunni – SELPA
NelLanie Kilgore – Banta
Wendy Frink – COSP
Staci Johnson/Monica Vallerga - County Programs
Nelarie Romo – Escalon
Monica Emeldi – Jefferson
John Saylor – Lammersville
Thomas Crocker - Lincoln
Jamie Hughes – Linden
Jody Burriss – Manteca
Steve Payne – New Jerusalem
Lisa Mazza- Ripon
Sean Brown - Tracy
Silvia De Alba – Venture

Absent

Thomas Crocker - Lincoln
Sean Brown - Tracy
Silvia De Alba - Venture

Support

Susan Scott – SELPA
Frank Souza – SELPA
Justin Albano – SELPA
Tracy Troche – SELPA

Brandie called the meeting at 8:50 a.m.

Approval of minutes-Brandie

No minutes approved

Public Input Session (10:15 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.)

There was no public input.



BUSINESS FINANCE

Finance Report – Brandie

Economic Update:

U.S. Market Conditions

- The U.S. unemployment rate fell 0.5% to 5.4% in July 2021.
- 943,000 nonfarm jobs were added in July 2021, with all major industries adding jobs.
- As of July 2021, the U.S. has recovered 74.5% of the 22.4M nonfarm jobs lost in March and April 2020.

California Labor Market Conditions

- The unemployment rate remained unchanged at 7.6% in July 2021
- 114, nonfarm jobs were added in July 2021.

California Building Activity & Real Estate

- The statewide median price of existing single-family homes decreased 1% from June 2021.

Monthly Case Report for July

- Cash receipts, Corporation tax receipts, and insurance tax receipts were all up.

SELPA SUPPORT/STAFF DEVELOPMENT

LI Update – Justin

- The current budget to spend is \$1,770,331.88. This amount includes \$870,434.19 of unspent money for the 2020-2021 school year that was rolled over to this year's budget. The amount already spent for this school year is \$57,937.31. There are pending amounts to be spent due to recently approved LI requests.
- The current number of LI requests: 26. 8 requests were recently approved which have not been processed through the budget yet. There are no pending requests.
- The LI Committee recently met last Friday to discuss ways in which to spend the money. Some discussions were to set a portion of the budget to pay for contractor services for LI disabilities, i.e., contractors to support VI students or an Audiologist. Another discussion was to place a set amount for specialized equipment and material to purchase extra specialized equipment as "loaners" in case there were repairs that needed to be made or if a new student became enrolled from another SELPA. There was discussion about setting aside money to pay for training for staff members who support students with LI disabilities, i.e., training for paras or continued education for teachers, as well as a discussion to hire a mentor or counselor for students with different LI disabilities, i.e., a VI mentor or counselor or a DHH mentor or counselor to talk with students who need support regarding the VI or DEAF community.
- Currently, money spent on contracted services for students with LI disabilities is funded through AB602. By using the money in the LI budget to pay for these contracted services, money from AB602 can be redistributed back into our districts.

COMPLIANCE/STATE REPORTS/DATA REPORTS

Learning Recovery Plan & Template – Brandie

We have to expend these in a variety of ways from March 2020 – September 2021-matching funds. There are various categories where we can provide support for learning recovery over the next few

years. This is about your population of foster youth, homeless, low economic status families. How are you going to support students in those categories? Brandie will keep the jam board in the folder.

Go through your SEP plans and consider some of those ideas that we can add to the jam board to support your efforts. The state is allocating a lot of funds but very hard to spend on people for a one-time fund. As of right now, it's difficult to find people to work. Also, the funds cannot be used for paying attorney fees. Business Office calculated based on Fall 1 and 2021 higher of the two years. The plan is to be unified as a SELPA. Monitoring of usage will be through the SELPA office. Brandie went over ideas of what topics could be added to and Brandie will be reaching out to you. If you like a topic, then put a plus on the stickies on the jam board. The Program Specialists will clump them together as like categories. This needs to go to CDE by 10/1. Please look at the latest Flash for information. Brandie asked if everyone was in support of doing it as one SELPA. The Directors unanimously agreed.

ADR Plan and Template – Brandie

ADR grant has about 1.2M for our SELPA. Discussed various ways to support families in the ADR process and resolve disputes at a lower level. Consider our population of our multicultural families, help them understand the IEP process, provide training to families. Train and support site admin with the ADR process. The SELPA office can keep track of all the funds and run things through the SELPA office. Or we can have the dollars flow to you to do the ADR.

PROGRAM AND INSTRUCTION

CARES Update – Susan

Currently, there are 7 active cases, one getting ready to leave and we have only one referral. Many students were on CARES (formerly known as ERMHS) for an extended time due to COVID, but are being faded out not that instruction is now in person.. To avoid slowing down the referral process, please use the newest info/forms in the SEIS document library.

WorkAbility- Frank

Frank thanked the Directors for sending in lists of teachers to get signed up for a service model teacher. WorkAbility is placing the first students this week. Due to COVID many businesses have forgotten about our program and have some restrictions. Some districts don't have job coaches, so we are looking for more on-site-based ideas, for example, a garden on a site.

PENT News – Website and nomination window – Susan

Susan shared the PENT website which is now much cleaner and easier to get around, The website has easy access and all the information can be used and it's free. Essential 10 is looking at the behavior plan and all the important characteristics. For now PENT will be virtual, 2023 it will get back to being in person. The northern and southern nominations will open in October. Brandie will get a form to say if anyone is leaving their position. We have a limited number in San Joaquin County, but we have more than most SELPAs. This is a great website for resources and you can also sign up to be on the mailing list.

Program Descriptions – Jody

Jody was inquiring about County Programs program descriptions a helpful way for Program Specialists to see if a certain program would fit a student. Brandie did state that county programs used to always have program descriptions, maybe they need to be updated. Monica returns on 11/15, Brandie asked if we can wait on that until she returns. If other districts would like for SELPA to compile program descriptions

they can. There was some discussion on country programs and district programs. Brandie will have Monica review the program descriptions when she gets back and Anna can work on a Believe! brochure. Discussion took place regarding program options for the smaller districts who do not have many options within their own district and the student is not as significantly involved as most students served by county programs. Maybe this is the time districts want county programs to develop a mild/moderate class for the smaller districts. Brandie explained when it comes to growth, it's not just County Programs that suggest growth, it comes from district input. Typically, in November is when Monica would come and say do, we see any growth or needs, not necessarily from the referrals, but overall. Last year we had no growth, and we have 29 more students than we had last year at this time. Brandie anticipates we will have growth needs this next year. Prepare the superintendents so there are no surprises on growth. Brandie asked the council if their superintendents are aware of slowing down the referrals to county programs?

Home Hospital – Jody

There is some concern HHI is being used for the long-term on students and not the short term. Parents do not want us in the home, how are we to do this? Some students have long-term disabilities not sure term and are on HHI, how do we serve these students? Brandie suggested we create a small group of directors to discuss HHI, what is our process as a SELPA with a checklist and flowchart. We can work as a small group and move forward as a SELPA to create a policy on how we want to do this in our SELPA. If you are interested in being part of a workgroup, send Tracy an email. It's not that this hasn't been an issue, it's more highlighted now in our situation.

Staci shared a rough draft of an HHI form with the directors. There was some input on this form and Staci will update it with the changes.

REGIONALIZED/COUNTY PROGRAMS/STUDENT SERVICES

County Program Update– Staci/Monica

Staci shared the data that is historically reviewed with the directors at COD-there is a given snapshot on a consistent date and time, this was pulled on 9/14/21.

Data highlights – Referrals are up from 581 last year to 629 as of this date. Preschool Autism referrals increased from 67-84. EIBT contracts continue to decrease from 17-11. Fall enrollment is up from 963 to 986. Referrals are up from 115 to 173. Transfer referrals increased by 26 requiring immediate 30 days like the placement. Staci reviewed the **Students Served in County** Programs chart going over last year's numbers against this year's numbers To the far left of the chart is the percentage of usage of county programs.

District Referrals for SJCOE Programs/Services as of 9/13/21. The chart shows the breakdown by districts and then FYI, the total number of transfers for each district, and the total of referrals from preschool to YA. **Usage of Regionalized Programs graph** was reviewed. This graph shows the % of District ADA in one column and the other column in red is the usage of county programs. The chart below shows the percentage by the district of the EIBT contracts.

There is a job fair next week on schedule at the Wentworth Building, it's a one-stop fingerprinting, assessments, HR interviews, trying to expedite the process. County Programs are looking for teachers and instructional assistants. County programs are looking for 64 permanent staff, besides that 1:1 and extras for ratio for classes that are in need. Staci stated they have reached out to NPSs to see if they have any instructional aides to help us out, we are strategically putting them where they are needed. In the discussion of shortages of staff, directors also stated they have reached out to noon supervision and current paraprofessionals to see if they are interested in helping out. The districts are feeling the pinch of not having enough teachers/instructional aides to fill classes.

COMMITTEES/COMMUNITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE

CAC Update -Justin

- No meeting was held in August or September. The next meeting will take place on October 21, 2021, from 6-7:00 p.m. through Zoom.
- As a friendly reminder, all CAC meetings for the 2021-2022 school year will be held on Zoom.
- There is currently one open educational representative voting membership position available as well as various district parent positions available.

SHARING

SELPA Wall Art-Brandie –

We want our office to reflect our SELPA, photos of the directors in the hallways. In the hallway are bulletin boards that we want to reflect our districts with artwork/activities. If you are interested in participating please send items to Tracy to display on the boards. The director's headshots will be sent out to the directors and will be printed/framed and on display.

Meeting adjourned: 11:00 a.m.