 **LOS ANGELES UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT**

**Office of Student, Family and Community Engagement**

**COMMUNITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

**Wednesday, November 20, 2024 10:00 a.m.**

**I. Call to Order**

Kristie Lacy, Vice President, was called to order at 10:02 a.m.

**II. Flag Salute**

The salute to the flag was led by Ana Carrión, a member. (English, Spanish).

**III. Public Comments**

Rep. Shanita Rodgers provided public comment. María DuránPaul Robak,

**President's Report**

No report from the president was presented.

**V. Division of Special Education (DSE) update.**

Mr. Soto, Executive Director of Special Education, addressed members to share an exciting update: Last week, at the **Ernest P. Willenberg** Career and Transition Center (CTC), ***Finn's Rolling Café*,** an electric food truck, opened. The truck, a classic blue and white Volkswagen from the 60s, will offer coffee, sandwiches and food to the community of San Pedro. It was first used at a football game, where fans bought food and supported students. The event was attended by Principal Gavin Mirigliani and the superintendent, who celebrated this achievement. This project not only gives students hands-on experience, but also strengthens their bond with the community.

Last week we celebrated **National School Psychologist Week**, highlighting their hard work through our social media and a **training** at 10th Street Elementary School. During the event, we took photos with the team of specialists and received a visit from the superintendent, who also joined the celebration. It was a wonderful experience to honor our school psychologists and recognize their invaluable work.

**Exemption from Alternative Curricular Evaluation:**

The LAUSD Board approved the diploma extension with the alternate assessment waiver for all students who meet the eligibility requirements. This move expands the opportunity beyond the initial rollout, which was limited to students who entered 9th grade in 2022-2023 or later. Families of students with disabilities are encouraged to participate in the **Diploma Information Session** to be held in the spring. By registering for https://bit.ly/altpathway-parentworkshop

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**Winter Academy:** From December 16-18, 2024, LAUSD will offer a Winter Academy for students in UTK **through 12th grade**, with hours similar to a regular school day. Students who receive transportation as part of their special education services will also have it available. You can enroll your child through **Nov. 29** at lausd.org/winteracademy or your regular school. Confirmation letters will be sent the week of December 9, and start and departure times will be communicated by December 16.  
**Campaign to Listen:**The Division of Special Education invites families to participate in the **Campaign to Listen**, an initiative that promotes open dialogue between school communities, families, and staff. The feedback gathered during the **Listen and Learn**  sessions and through this campaign will help define the division's future direction. Please complete the survey available in the brochure, as your ideas are essential for developing sustainable strategies that support the success of students with disabilities. Participate here: Survey of the Campaign to Listen.  
**Parent Workshops:**The **Division of Special Education**, in collaboration with Mental Health Counselors, will offer the virtual "**Parents as Partners"**  workshop on **December 8 and 10**. In this workshop, families will learn strategies for communicating effectively with the educational team, including teachers, counselors, administrators, and support staff. Please refer to the workshop catalog for login information. In January, the **Office of Instruction** will hold the workshop **"Legitimate Presence: Fostering a Sense of Belonging at School,"** as part of the **Special Education Parent Ambassador** program. This workshop will focus on the least restrictive environment for students with disabilities and how sharing time with peers in general education can improve their achievement and independence. More information in the brochure: https://www.lausd.org/cms/lib/CA01000043/Centricity/Domain/1220/2024- 2025\_DSE%20Virtual%20Parent%20Workshops%20Catalogue\_SPANISH.pdf

**IEP DATA**

Numbers of IEPs Completed 26,014Enrollments of Students with Disabilities 73,410

**VI. Roll call/establish quorum.**

Norma Gonzalez, Secretary, passed the attendance roll and a quorum was established with 19 members with alternates at 10:40 a.m.

**VII. Approval of the minutes: Wednesday, October 16, 2024**

Vice Chair Kristie Lacy asked members to make a motion to approve the minutes, October 16/2024, Ms. Kelly Bedford made the first motion and Ms. Ana Carrion seconded her, 19 members voted Yes, 0 members voted No and 0 abstented. The motion did pass.

**VIII. Provision of Related Services at LAUSD**

Mr. Ray Daniel McCoy introduced himself and shared a little about his journey. He is currently **the Director of Related Services** at LAUSD. He has been with the district for 29 years, serving in various roles, including special education teacher, elementary principal, and most recently, working in LAUSD's operations office. Mr. McCoy introduced to the related service administrators:

**Adapted Physical Education/Recreational Therapy Physical Education**

Lindsay Cecil lindsay.cecil@lausd.net  
**Language & Speech**Erin Hong erin.hong@lausd.net   
**Edtech/Assistive Technology Devices**

Steve Kim steve.kim@lausd.net  
**Visual Services** Jessica Melo jessica.melo@lausd.net  
**Occupational Therapy/Physical Therapy** Sandra Moreno Ramirez sjm9258@lausd.net **.**

**Objectives**

Provide information about related services performed at the school and the role of the related service provider. It will illustrate and provide an overview of the connection between a multi-tiered support system (MTSS) and related services.

**What are related services?**

A form of support for students with disabilities under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA). These services are designed to help students benefit from their special education program and achieve their goals.

**When Related Services Begin**

A student must undergo an evaluation to determine if they need related services. The decision is made by the IEP committee based on the student's individual assessments, observations, and needs. A student must undergo an evaluation to determine if they need related services. The decision is made by the IEP committee based on the student's individual assessments, observations, and needs. Affinity services begin after the IEP meeting is held and the parents consent to the IEP by signing their agreement to initiate services.

**Language and speech services performed at the school**

School-based speech therapy is one of the related services that supports access to the educational program for students who have a communication disorder in one or more of the following: •Articulation (speech sounds) •Language •Fluency (stuttering) •Voice  
**The role of the language and speech provider**

Our speech pathologists focus on helping students with a wide range of speech and language problems. Their work includes prevention, assessment, and intervention integrated into the school environment. LAS providers also collaborate with other school professionals to support students' needs.

**Instructional Technology (IT) and Assistive Technology (AT)**

Assistive Technology is any item, device, or product system, whether commercially purchased, modified, or customized, that is used to augment, preserve, or enhance the practical abilities of a child with a disability. (Source: IDEA, 2004)

**Adapted Physical Education (APE)**

Adaptive physical education (APE) is a physical education service designed to meet the unique needs of an individual with a disability who is unable to fully participate in the overall physical education program. The APE is a service, not an assignment. The APE is taught by an accredited teacher with an additional adapted physical education authorization.

**Blind/Semi-Blind (VS) Services Program**

It serves students who have visual impairment that, even with correction, negatively affects the student's educational performance. Legal standard for semi-blind (low vision) people Visual acuity from 20/70 to 20/200 in the better eye with the use of correction (CFR 20 404.1581). Legal Standard for Legally Blind People Visual acuity of 20/200 or worse in the better eye with the best correction, or a field of vision of 20 degrees or less in both eyes (CFR 20 404.1581).

**Occupational Therapy and School Physiotherapy**

School-based occupational therapy improves a child's ability to function in the educational environment. Occupational therapy (OT) deals with a child's physical, sensory, motor, and environmental factors, as well as activities that favor or limit their participation in school and access to their curriculum.

**Alignment of issues and connections to the Local Plan**

The presentation focuses on aligning the issue of special education-related services for eligible students in LAUSD with the local plan, similar to what was done in October. The goal is to familiarize yourself with the information available about these services and how they are offered. Section 8 of the local plan will be highlighted, which describes educational services, their location, and how they are provided. This document is reviewed annually to ensure that the requirements established by state law are met. In addition, emphasis is placed on the transparency of the services provided and what happens if a service is not currently available.

**IX. Activation of the 2024-2025 CAC Subcommittees**

The next meeting of the subcommittees will be on January 15, 2025 10:00 am 1:00 pm

**African American Students with an IEP**

We are continuing conversations about the support system in place with downsizing and how they will address the needs of students with disabilities.  
**Training & Education/IEP**As for IEP training, this month we reviewed the pre-launch documents, and in January we will continue to discuss related services that have not been covered in depth.

**Parent Ambassadors**

For parent ambassadors, they talked about how members have begun to form special education groups. Progress in connecting with parents will be discussed in January. Also, if you are interested in presenting in workshops, please contact us.  
**Temporary Committee for the Statutes**

We review the proposed changes and thank everyone for their participation. The changes will be on the agenda for the December 4 meeting, where we will vote on and adopt the new bylaws. If you were unable to attend the Nov. 18 meeting, details are on the CAC website.

**X. Office of Student, Family, and Community Engagement (SFACE) Update**

Dianna Panosia, the director of the Office of Student Family and Community Engagement. We deeply appreciate your commitment to the students and families of the Los Angeles Unified School District. In this time of reflection and thanksgiving, we want to express our sincere thanks for your service this year. The Office of Student, Family, and Community Engagement (SFACE) invites you to continue to participate in the learning opportunities offered by the district, while enjoying the holidays with your family and loved ones.

**LAUSD 2025: We Are One Campaign**

The outcome of the election may be raising concerns among members of our district community. That's why the Los Angeles Unified School District will relaunch our **"We Are One"**  campaign, now with a new name: LAUSD 2025: We Are One. This effort seeks to ensure that the Los Angeles Unified School District is a leader in providing a brighter, more inclusive environment for all students and families. The campaign will include Circles of Resilience and Healing for families and community members. In addition, the resources of

Know Your Rights will be updated and available as online guides and in PDF format. SFACE will provide ongoing updates to parents.

**The Winter Academy** offers academic and enrichment opportunities for students during winter break. This year's programming will be offered Dec. 16-18, with small-group instruction and meals offered throughout the week. The last day to register students is next week, November 29. Learn more and register for https://www.lausd.org/winteracademy

**The Family Academy** will offer trainings on the English Learner Advisory Committee and School Board. The first session for ELAC and SSC Parent Leaders, focused on Parliamentary Procedures, will be on Wednesday, November 20 from 5:30 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. The course catalog is available online. https://www.lausd.org/familyacademy  
**Office of Student, Family and Community Engagement**

**lausd.org/SFACE**

**(213) 481-3350  
XI. New issues that could be addressed at future meetings**

Vice President Christy Lacey shared with members about the bylaws meeting that will be held on October 30, so that we can observe all the work done last year at those meetings. The plan is to have a future meeting to vote on approving the bylaws this year.

**XII. Announcements.**

Announcement by Nancy Hernandez, Public Relations Officer: Our next subcommittee meeting will be held on January 15 from 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Also, don't forget that the CAC meeting will be December 4, 2024 from 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

**XIII. Closure of the meeting.  
The meeting officially ended at 12:50 p.m.**

**Minutes respectfully submitted by: Norma E Gonzalez CAC Secretary.**