

## **SMMUSD Special Education District Advisory Committee**

**February 7th, 6:30pm Via ZOOM**

### **Minutes**

#### **Attendees:**

Deanna Sinfield, Jennifer Glazer, Meredith Feldman, Jon Kean, Gerald Seiner, Jennifer Smith, Payal Manier, Connie Gregory, DeAnne Ozaki, Grace Lanzetta, Denise O'Connor, Guest speaker Lupe Ibarra  
Absent: Gina Hope (Chair), Angela D. Scott

1. Call to Order: Meeting called to order at 6:34 by Deanna Sinfield
2. Initial Comment: There were no initial comments.
3. Announcements: Members & Public
  - a. Julie Ginsberg (Member) shared that there is a special needs baseball program in the city of Beverly Hills starting soon.
4. Approval of Minutes:
  - a. November 2022 Minutes: approved by Julie Ginsberg and Connie Gregory.
  - b. December 2022 Minutes: approved by Julie Ginsberg and Connie Gregory.
5. Special Education Chair update: Special Education Director Deanna Sinfield
  - a. Exploring curriculum for sex education within Special Education – UC Davis is doing a study in this area, and we are conferring with them as well.
  - b. Moving forward with purchase of Touch Math – plan to present it to the board.
  - c. Deanna continues to offer inclusion training to elective providers. Currently providing additional training for the music teachers.
  - d. Deanna has been out to many district school sites to provide support to principals and staff.
  - e. Still hiring: Ongoing because some people are on leave. (Noted that Chris Cole is covering for standing in for coordinator Carmen Durant for two months while she is on leave).
6. School Board Update: Board Liaisons Jon Kean and Jennifer Smith
  - a. District offices are moving next to Santa Monica High School. Office building next to the Hilton hotel.
  - b. Shared appreciation for the Samo High Principal attending our meeting last month to explain the potential change in the high school schedule as well as the exploratory process.
  - c. SEDAC meetings – beginning in March 2023 scheduled to meet onsite at District office.
  - d. Superintendent search – soon will be hiring a firm for this national search.
  - e. School Board is meeting on new athletic pathway from elementary school to high school. Supporting both inclusivity and also creating a path forward for those interested in competitive sports.
  - f. Discussion in School Board meeting about tardiness, suspensions and D/F grades, and how they impact specific identified populations. Request to agendaize this in the future as it relates to students with IEPs.

7. Lupe Ibarra – guest speaker – Lupe is a Santa Monica parent who had two children with IEP's who graduated from the district. Lupe showed video- shared her story of her children going through SMMUSD school system, and were able to get their needs met. In addition, she is starting a resource website that will bring together resources and also let families share their stories. Website is called "My Kid too".
8. Discussion
  - a. Updates for Charges
    - o Communications Structure Review- Gerry met with Gail Pinsker, and he has a tool that might work well with a newsletter. He was going to test it but is not able to because he does not have an SMMUSD email address. Gail is looking at how to create a way to test this tool.
    - o Transitions Support – members of the committee had a meeting with three parents who have children in the transitions program, and this was helpful.
      - o Also learned that the college Fair is run by the PTSA parent Alyssa Stewart. She mentioned a few particular programs that are designed for people with certificates not degrees: West LA, Long Beach and Taft, Fresno, UC Davis.
    - o Social Justice (3 subcommittees)
      - *Electives* – On hold.
      - *PTSA counsel/DEI* - Exploring whether special education have representation at the council level. Interested in having us there at the table, however, unclear if we will be able to have a vote.
      - SMMUSD Diversity Equity and Support – No update at this time.
    - o Human Development Education –They have an upcoming meeting on Thursday with Deanna S. to review curriculum and they will provide feedback.
9. Comments Members & Public - there were no public comments.
10. Adjourned: motion to adjourn by Jenn Glazer, seconded by Julie Ginsberg. Meeting adjourned at 7:39.