

Ventura County Special Education Local Plan Area Community Advisory Committee (CAC)

The Ventura County SELPA CAC fosters effective and positive parent-professional collaboration to continue improving the special education system in meeting the educational needs of students with disabilities.

2022-2023 CAC BOARD

Carole Shelton, Chair
Agency Representative
Rainbow Connection Family
Resource Center

LeeAnn Holland, Vice-Chair
Parent Representative
Conejo Valley Unified School
District

**Amber Christensen, Recording
Secretary**
Parent Representative
Ojai Unified School District

**Myra Medina, Membership
Secretary**
Agency Representative
California Children's Services

Amanda Alfred, Treasurer
Parent Representative
Pleasant Valley School District

Vacant, Parliamentarian

**Flavia Seawright,
Public Information Officer**
Parent Representative
Pleasant Valley School District

SELPA STAFF

Emily Mostovoy-Luna
Associate Superintendent
Ventura County SELPA

Regina Reed
Director of Personnel
Development
Ventura County SELPA

Joanna Della Gatta
Director of Technical Support
and Transition
Ventura County SELPA

Jeanine Murphy
Assistant Director, Family &
School Collaboration
Ventura County SELPA

Kim DeAnda
Program Specialist
Ventura County SELPA

MINUTES

May 1, 2023
4:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m.

Meeting will be held in person
VC SELPA – Santa Paula Room
5100 Adolfo Road
Camarillo, CA

Operations Cabinet Representatives:

Neil Virani, Director, Ventura Unified School District
Holly Minear, Director, Ventura County Office of Education
Danielle Jefferson, Director, Oxnard School District

The CAC is a public meeting, and any information that members choose to share about their children is not considered to be confidential. However, members of the CAC are encouraged to show sensitivity when considering sharing information with others.

("HO" indicates "handout")

4:11 Meeting called to order

4:00 I. Welcome/Introductions.....Carole Shelton, Chair

4:05 II. Agenda – AdditionsCarole Shelton, Chair
Agenda reviewed. LeeAnn Holland made a motion to approve.
Seconded by Amanda Alfred. No suggested additions or changes.
The motion passes unanimously.

4:10 III. Public Comment

The Ventura County SELPA Community Advisory Committee (CAC) offers anyone with an interest in Special Education an opportunity to ask questions, voice concerns, share information, express opinions, or otherwise bring matters to the attention of the members of the CAC. Matters discussed in this meeting may need further inquiry or verification in order for the committee members to have a more complete understanding of the issues involved. The CAC may direct the speaker to various avenues of recourse, or it may ask a member of the Special Education administration to follow up, or a member of the committee may be assigned to make inquiries. In most cases, an update on the issue will take place at the next CAC meeting.

No public comments

4:15 IV. Meeting Summaries.....Carole Shelton, Chair

- [January 9, 2023](#): Amanda Alfred made a motion to approve the meeting minutes as written. Motion seconded by Mayra Medina. No discussion/additions/changes. The motion unanimously passes.
- [April 3, 2023](#): Mayra Medina made a motion to approve the meeting minutes as written. Motion seconded by LeeAnn Holland. No discussion/additions/changes. The motion unanimously passes.

4:20 V. Community Updates.....Carole Shelton, Chair

- What's new in your agency/district/organization that supports families or students with disabilities?
 - LeeAnn Holland, Conejo. Shared the District Special Education Advisory Council has their final meeting next week and there will be presentations by three committees. The Safety Committee focusses on Restorative Justice. The district has offered training in Restorative Justice and the committee would like to make sure students with disabilities are thought about during that process. Curriculum and Inclusion committee, led by LeeAnn Holland. Focusing on asking questions and meeting with administrators, talking about co-teaching specific reading instruction for students with intellectual, developmental and learning disabilities. Making sure everything is evidenced-based and consistent and pathway and scope along the way. Lastly, LeeAnn shared that the Disabilities Celebration Toolkit is being updated. Announced Conejo, at Newbury Park High School is hosting the annual Special Olympics event on May 20th.
 - Amanda Alfred, Pleasant Valley. Amanda shared the PTAs in the school district honored a couple of amazing people that have helped out students with special needs. The speech and language pathologist along with a couple of special day teachers were honored. There is an addition to the Pleasant Valley Special Education Padlet, has a google form about questions about your IEP or special education, and the questions will be answered within 1-3 days. Shared also on the padlet is a flyer that SELPA is offering de-escalating challenging behaviors training this coming Friday, May 5th.

- Katie Spore, Fillmore. Katie Shared they just finished open house for the elementary sites. The middle and high school open houses are held later in the month. Katie shared that she was excited when one of the students who is mainstreamed for part of the day in her class showed up in her classroom for open house. It was the highlight of her day.
- Socorro Eilar gave a shout out to the legal clinic for being helpful. They have excellent webinars. Shared there is a documentary coming out called SPELLERS, about nonspeakers with Autism. LeeAnn Holland shared there is a screening of SPELLERS on May 6th at 6:00 p.m. at the Borchard Community Center.
- Ashley Pope, President of Autism Society of Ventura County. Shared they had 11th annual Aut. to Run yesterday with 3000 participants and 2500 walkers/runners. Largest resource faire with over 70 resource booths and more parents than ever coming for the first time. First time had major sponsors that are not autism businesses such as T Mobile Foundation.
- Simone Mongiello, CCS –Unit in Conejo being moved to Glenwood. Shared that at the last Board of Supervisor's meeting, the medical therapy program was highlighted as the moment of inspiration. Simone is part of a nonprofit organization called OT/PT Inc., which brings in continuing education courses for pediatric therapists. She is happy to share when courses are offered. Lastly, one of the therapists is working on having a park day at Arroyo Verde, which has an inclusive play area. The date is yet to be determined.
- Monica Torres, VCBH. Shared that VCBH continues internal and external collaboration. A follow-up from last time; ICPM finished their training collaboration and continue to enhance accessibility.
- Brenda Hurtado, Tri-Counties Regional Center-Have experienced lots of growth within the agency. Now have an office in Fillmore and have Rainbow Connection there-The littles are being supported out of 2 offices-Simi and Oxnard; More growth in the future. Grow at Oxnard location as well. Have hybrid team that covers transition and adults and a second children's team. The new services, now funding social recreation and camp again. Working on how will benefit families. Service Coordinators are pushing out information during family meetings.
- Emily Mostovoy-Luna, Associate Superintendent. Emily shared that tomorrow she and LeeAnn Holland would travel to Sacramento for legislative sharing day. They will meet with Assembly member Bennett and Senator Limone. Will partner with Santa Barbara SELPA when meeting with Senator Limone and will focus on legislative priorities. Specifically, SELPA sponsored bills. One related to inclusive practices and UDL SB354 and administrative credentials program, course work specifically in inclusive practices and UDL. (B1517) Codifying the roles of SELPA. Looking at where SELPAs are directly supporting our districts.

- Next week is the culminating event with Shelley Moore and Katie Novak. Emily shared that she hopes everyone can join. If you can't join in person, there is a virtual option. Monday, May 8th, there will be site visits at Moorpark Unified and Oceanview School with a lunch meeting afterwards, engaging in a deep dive into the work we hope to do. Including students with disabilities throughout this event. Students are helping set up, center pieces are from Oxnard Union's post-secondary program, a welcome video from Triton Academy, and some other surprises. Trying to secure a graduate from a local district that is a DJ.
- Emily shared that we are the statewide lead in ADR. The appeal process has now ended. We will continue to support our local districts and broaden that support state-wide with Tehama County SELPA and Tehama County Office of Education and most importantly, with Rainbow Resource Family Empowerment Center. This is the only statewide lead grant that has a parent organization as the partner, ensuring the parent voice is at every meeting as we engage in this important work over the next 5 years.
- Carole Shelton-Carole shared Rainbow Family Resource Center supports anyone served by the Regional Center, 0 through end of life. They are also now a Family Empowerment Center, which allows them to expand their services to students with an IEP and will help both people served at the Regional Center and those with served through Tri-counties and are now a FEC and can support students w/an IEP. This will help those served by the Regional Center and those within our Ventura County SELPA area. Continue to run support groups, trying to bring them all back in person. Groups in Fillmore and Santa Paula are in person. Now have Down Syndrome in both English and Spanish, an Autism support group in both English and Spanish, and an early start support group in both English and Spanish. The Early Start group is held virtually. All the groups offered are on the web site. Continue with IEP training and support vendor connections with monthly visits to answer questions from staff about services and the process. Continue partnership with Amigo baby with weekly virtual instruction for little ones. Continue Zumba virtually and First 5 comes out to Fillmore once a month. Please join the email list serve to learn about all the things Rainbow does or look on Instagram or Facebook to stay connected.

4:45 VI. Committee Reports

A. Executive Board**Carole Shelton, Chair**

Carole shared what a pleasure it has been serving on the CAC board and with LeeAnn as Chair and Co-Chair for the past four years. This is her last meeting as Chair.

Emily led the recognition of outgoing Executive Board Members

- Recognition of Carole Shelton for amazing work as Chair.
- Recognition of Darylene Williams -Carole shared a moving tribute to

Darylene, mentioning her strong advocacy and support for the Autism Society of Ventura County. She will be missed!

- Recognition of Socorro Eilar-Emily shared memories and gratitude for her efforts and for being a phenomenal representative for CAC and a fierce advocate on legislation day. Emily shared how welcoming Socorro was to our new families. Thank you for your work within our County and our CAC

B. Executive Board Elections**Lee Ann Holland, Vice Chair**

- LeeAnn led the nominating committee due to the resignation of the parliamentarian mid-year. A slide with the officer positions and responsibilities was shared. LeeAnn read 5.09 of bylaws that pertain to elections. LeeAnn shared the slate of nominees:

Chairperson-Amanda Alfred

Vice-Chairperson-Carole Shelton

Secretary- Open

Parliamentarian=LeeAnn Holland

Treasurer= Ashley pope

Membership Secretary=Flavia Seawright

Public Information Officer-Open

Slate of officers as presented: Amanda Alfred made a motion to approve slated officers as presented. Motion seconded by Katie Spore. Motion passed unanimously.

Public information Officer position is open and LeeAnn Holland nominated Carole Shelton to serve as dual role. Carole Shelton accepted. Katie Spore made the motion to approve, and the motion was seconded by Amanda Alfred.

The recording secretary position remains open.

C. Parent Education and Training**Regina Reed**

- [CAC Survey](#)
Emily shared we would love your input on professional development next year. The link is above. Please share out with other parent groups and have shared out to the Directors and asked them to send to parent email groups.

D. Public Information**Flavia Seawright/Joanna Della Gatta**

Joanna Della Gatta shared that *Flavia is the outgoing public information officer and she has been doing the monthly Smore newsletter. Keep looking for the May version to share out, which includes lots of summer activity options.*

Carole shared you can find the S'more Newsletter on the SELPA website and it is also sent out to the listserv. Joanna also shared that it is forwarded out to Special Education Directors, so may receive a couple of ways. Emily

acknowledged all of Flavia's hard work.

5:10 VIII. Liaison Reports

- Operations Cabinet/Superintendents' Policy Council**Emily Mostovoy-Luna**
Highlights: Districts are in heart of compliance time and working on the SIM plan and are also finishing up their ELCAPs and have been in consultation with the SELPA to look at data and ways to support students with disabilities in their plans.

Most recently compliance work related to IEP implementation. Reviewing a number of IEPs to identify the number of services a student has received. This is a new component of our compliance work.

- SELPA IMPACT – ADR Conference
SELPA Impact is a quarterly newsletter that goes out across the state and the most recent version has an article about the ADR conference with a picture on the front page of the Oxnard Elementary participants, who had a large group attend.
- [Local Plan](#)
We are in local plan time frame; Emily shared last time about the local plan how we are approaching the deadline of June 30th. From 3-4 today, Emily shared the supplemental report. Emily, again, walked through what our annual budget is and the services plan. The conversation opens our 30-day window. Emily highlighted what it is and the proposals for both plans. Key components; need to ensure we are doing is reviewing the information today to open the 30-day review and in addition, 15 days prior to public hearing, which is on May 26th. Every school district and school site need to post public hearing notice. On June 9th, will hold a public hearing and take action on the annual budget and annual services plan.

Every SELPA needs to have an administrative unit and for us, that is the Ventura County Office of Education. Please see the Local attachment above for specific information.

- Interagency Transition Coordinating Council (ITCC)**Joanna Della Gatta**
Joanna shared ITCC stands for Interagency Transition Coordinating Council and parents are always welcome to attend. Last meeting for this school year was held last week. A couple of items discussed: LEAP program which is offered through the department of rehabilitation. Students can qualify for government jobs and is happening in our area; AFA hub (used to be actors for autism), which is a local agency holding 2 current programs are taking referrals from now until the end of the school year and through the summer in graphic design, writing and acting. Also had a special presentation from Maria Morales from Goodwill Industries in Oxnard. They do lots of employment training for youth and adults and she reviewed the programs they offer. Additionally, the

Department of Rehabilitation, also has a program for small and medium sized business and if a business wants a grant, they can apply for a grant amount to improve their business and the trade-off is hiring a student with disabilities. Also discussed the “save the date” for transition fair: Wednesday, Nov. 15th 5:30-8:00p.m. and is held virtually; The spring transition faire is set for March 16th and is in-person from 9a.m.-12:00p.m. here in this building; Joanna shared that we have an electronic version of the agency booklet. Every one is on a padlet in both Spanish and English; once have final schedule for ITCC meetings for next year, will push out to interested parties including CAC members;

DOR [EmployABILITY program for employers](#)

- Transition Fair 23-24 Save the Dates: Wednesday, November: 5:30pm-8:00pm (Virtual) and
- Saturday, March 16th, 2024, from 9:00am-12:00pm

[Agency Directory English](#)

[Agency Directory Spanish](#)

LeeAnn shared there is a push for a CTE that has students with disabilities involved in pathways; help in planning of what pathways are offered and accessible for students with disabilities

- Autism Steering/Conference **Regina Reed**
 - Carpe Diem **Regina Reed**
 - Early Start/Walking the Path **Regina Reed**
 - Ability Awareness **Regina Reed**
- Emily shared Regina is beginning to set up meetings for the committees listed above for next year.

5:30 IX. Parent Leadership Development Jeanine Murphy

- [Operating from the 3rd Side: Supporting Others to Navigate Conflict](#)
 - Jeanine shared again about the upcoming training, bringing educators and parents together to enhance skills in collaboration. The training is free and there is still time to sign-up
- [Updated ADR Brochure-Pathways for Collaboration](#)
- [Updated ADR Brochure-Pathways for Collaboration-Spanish](#)
 - Jeanine shared the updated Alternative Dispute Resolution brochure, which has a QR code that leads directly to information on the SELPA web page.

- 5:50 X. [Treasurer's Report](#)..... **Amanda Alfred, Treasurer**
Amanda shared that there haven't been any changes and the balance is \$994.95
- 5:55. XI. **Membership Secretary Report**.....**Myra Medina, Membership Secretary**
Mayra shared she has nothing to report
Emily shared that she has 2 additional parents from Las Virgenes that are interested in joining.
- 6:00. XII. **Meeting Adjournment-**
The meeting was adjourned at 5:42 p.m.

In attendance:
Carole Shelton
Amanda Alfred
Katie Spore
Socorro Eilar
Lee Ann Holland
Simone Mangiello
Monica Torres
Myra Medina
Brenda Hurtado
Danielle Jefferson
Emily Mostovoy-Luna
Regina Reed
Joanna Della Gatta
Jeanine Murphy
Kim De Anda