



**Riverside County Special Education Local Plan Area
(SELPA)
Community Advisory Committee (CAC)
Spring 2017 Newsletter**



What is the SELPA?

In 1977, all school districts and county school offices were mandated to form consortiums in geographical regions of sufficient size and scope to provide for all special education service needs of children residing within their boundaries. These regions became known as a SELPA (Special Education Local Plan Area). Each SELPA has a local plan describing how it provides special education services across and within its Local Education Agency (LEA) members.

There are 131 SELPAs in California. The Riverside County SELPA is the largest multi-district SELPA in the state, with over 34,000 active special education students served each year. There are **twenty-six LEA** members of the Riverside County SELPA. . . All committed to ensuring access to students with disabilities.

What is the CAC?

The Community Advisory Committee is a team of parents and other individuals with a personal or professional interest in securing appropriate services for students with special needs. The CAC membership represents the geographic, ethnic, and socioeconomic makeup of the community it serves.

The mission of our CAC is to involve interested parents, students, teachers, education specialists, and consultants in establishing a networking system between the school and the community. and encourage parents to actively participate in becoming knowledgeable, empowered, and effective partners in the development and implementation of learning experiences for students with exceptional needs.

President's Message

As we get ready to spring clean for a fresh start, let's take a new glimpse at your child's teacher with a fresh look. For the many teachers I have met, I can honestly say most of the teachers are very dedicated to their field. Yes, there are exceptions, but those can be worked out with proper protocol. I have met many parents with very high expectations only to find some of their expectations are too extreme.

Some parents are expecting the school system to resolve all of their child's issues. We can't turn our back on our children and expect somebody else to fix them. Think about a classroom with 20-25 students and other support people—Can one teacher effectively deal with all students including the student who has angry outbursts, the student who doesn't understand, and the one with hyper activity? Can this one teacher really give 100% to all students? As families, we must do our part to ensure the student gets as much support and help at home as we expect to be given in the classroom.

We, as parents, are part of the TEAM that includes all those supporting and nurturing our children at school.

The next time you think about your child's teacher, please keep in mind those teachers that go above and beyond the call of duty working with children under sometimes chaotic circumstances.

Remember there are other students in the room who are also needing the same teacher.

Please be mindful of the **TEAM!**



Save the Date! May 18, 2017

Did you know for 9 years, we have been holding an **end-of-year awards celebration**, with over 100 members of the special education community including special educators, administrators, and support staff who gather at this time to be celebrated by their schools and their families that are part of the Riverside County SELPA! Our CAC proudly honors individuals who serve special needs kids and go above & beyond the “Call of Duty” making a difference in their lives.

Each honoree is selected by their CAC district representative, many times with input of district families, special education director, and others, and submit a written nomination celebrating their award-winning qualities ~ this is then read aloud, with a slide show presentation, as each recipient receives an award, and for this year, the 10th Annual Recognition Event on **May 18, 2017**.

This is a **fun, celebratory** and **welcoming** event rewarding those individuals who work tirelessly throughout the year for our children and students. Snacks and refreshments are provided for your enjoyment. If you’ve never been you are missing a once-a-year event honoring very special people that make a difference in kids lives ~ please watch for more details and RSVP to attend with us in May!

Here are examples for honoring 2015-2016 individuals:

- “He is an active member by putting together the t-shirt fundraiser that provides each classroom with extra money for positive reinforcement & raised money to support their program”
- “She welcomes trainings on special education, intervention and behavior for her herself and her staff to increase their ability to help students reach their potential”
- “He is dedicated to students, parents and staff”
- “He is supportive”
- “She has been observed going above and beyond in providing quality services to students”
- “She is a student-centered educator and puts student’s needs first by providing an environment, lessons and activities so that her students are engaged, motivated and able to learn.
- “She will research strategies so that she is able to address the needs of each individual child.
- “He is dedicated, kind, and caring – an excellent educator! He has been here for many years working right beside students who have the greatest need. Countless students have grown in confidence and knowledge with his guidance. Not only does he assist students with disabilities to learning coping skills, more importantly demonstrates to them how to live life with grace, honesty, and a quest for knowledge. . . . and many more positive and supportive comments demonstrated by many!

2015 2016 Recognition Event Recipients!!



Irene Cabral DSUSD	Linda Smith CVUSD	Ardythe Rodriguez AUSD	Rachel Post PUHSD
Robert Smith PSUSD	Dolores Gonzalez PESD	Marilyn Cohen AUSD	Anna Cole RESD
Ramon Marquez PSUSD	Hugo Esparza MUSD	Anna Martinez CVUSD	Lisa Daoust SCSD
Sheila Blythe SJUSD	Kathryn Winegar SRA	Jason Turletsky DSUSD	Crystal Vu SCSD
Erika Velasco VVUSD	Marcie Coon LEUSD	Ryan Seymour DSUSD	Barbara Sorter VVUSD
Leticia Chavez RESD	Jessica Stone PESD	Alfredo Alvarez LEUSD	Derrick Lawson DSUSD
Cheryl Smith PUHSD	Anna Rivera MUSD	Brent Wigand LEUSD	Lynn Braxton PUHSD
Linsey Krauss JUSD	Guadalupe Fierros PUHSD	Steven Clark LEUSD	Colleen Flavin HUSD
Mary Mertz MUSD	Laura Echeverria CVUSD	Tracy Baker MUSD	Fernando Betanzos VVUSD
Elle Mendoza MVUSD	Jeremy Stevens HUSD	Debbie Chaney MVUSD	
Shara Cabreros DSUSD	Laura Valencia MVUSD	Karen Hill PSUSD	
Marie Pilgrim BUSD	Judy Waite MVUSD	Erika Garvin PSUSD	

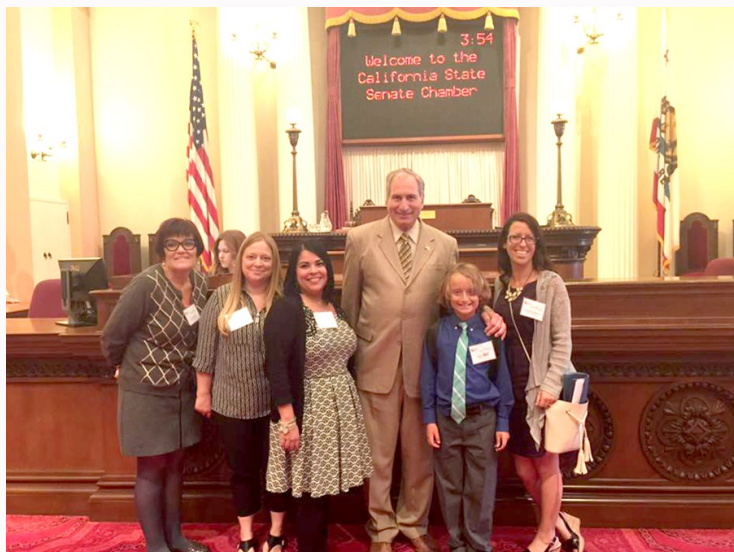


Inviting new visitors!

Did you know SELPA CAC meetings are open to all? We welcome all members of our special education community including parents, educators, providers and administrators to our bimonthly business meetings. At each business meeting we have an opportunity for members of the general public to share upcoming events and topics they face that are on their mind. We hope to see you there! If you need questions answered you can contact the SELPA office at (951) 490-0375 (ask for Delores and Roxana (Spanish speaking). We are here to answer all your questions!!!!

Review of upcoming Legislative Sharing Day!

In May members of our SELPA CAC including parents and children will go to Sacramento to speak with lawmakers on behalf of Riverside County Special Education Local Plan Area (SELPA) goals and objectives. We are the largest SELPA in the State of California and



sometimes there is power in a legislator meeting children he or she represents. Last year alone we had a very full schedule meeting with eight legislators in one afternoon including the ones serving Riverside, Murrieta, Lake Elsinore, Beaumont, Banning, and Palm Desert, and also the Chairs of the Education Committees for both the Assembly and the Senate. We encourage your to support your SELPA as they do this important work giving our families a voice at the state level.



Local Educational Agencies within the Riverside County Special Education Local Plan Area (SELPA) offer programs for youngsters, between the ages of birth and 21 years of age, who have: Communication challenges, Learning difficulties, Physical disabilities, Severe disabilities ~ If you think your child needs special help in school, call his/her school or district office of Special Education at the appropriate number listed below:

Alvord
951-509-5045

Banning
951-922-0224

Beaumont
951-845-1631 x 5379

Coachella
760-848-1135

Desert Center
760-392-7604

Desert Sands
760-771-8652

Empire Springs
951-225-7709

Harbor Spring
951-225-7709
Hemet
951-765-5100 x 4001

Jurupa
951-360-4144

Lake Elsinore
951-253-7130

Menifee
951-672-1851 x 271

Murrieta
951-696-1600 x 1020

Nuvew
951-928-0066

Palm Springs
760-416-8402
Palo Verde
760-922-4164 x 1242

Perris Elementary
951-940-4942

Perris Union
951-943-6369 x 81300

River Springs
951-225-7709

Riverside County Education Academy—Indio
951-863-3111

Riverside Co Education Academy—Moreno Valley
951-826-4901

RCOE
951-826-6476

Romoland
951-926-9244 x 1237

San Jacinto
951-929-7700 x 4249

Santa Rosa
951-672-2400 x 1210

Val Verde
951-940-6104

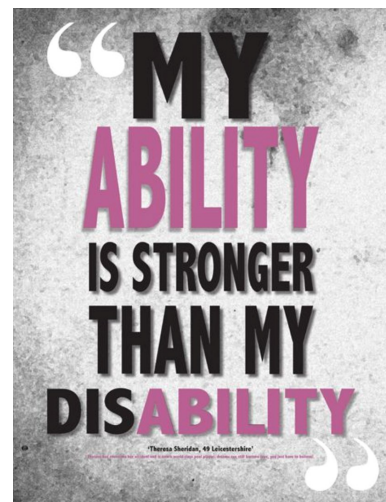


What Must the IEP Contain?

The form used to record the IEP is designed by the SELPA. It is up to the IEP team members to ensure that each IEP contains the following specific items:

- Parent consent and the signature of all IEP team members.
- Your child's present levels of educational performance.
- Annual goals and short-range instructional objectives, if appropriate.
- Method by which progress on goals will be evaluated and reported to parents/guardians.
- Persons responsible for implementation of the IEP goals.
- Determination of need for special factors:
 - ◊ assistive technology devices or services;
 - ◊ low incidence services, equipment and/or materials (for blind, visually impaired, deaf, hard of hearing, or orthopedically impaired);
 - ◊ regular or specially designed physical education;
 - ◊ none, regular education, or special transportation;
 - ◊ English language learner needs related to the IEP; and/or,
 - ◊ need for positive behavioral supports and interventions.
- Description of the accommodations and modifications to be used in the general education or special education classroom.
- Special education instruction, related services and supplementary aids and services, and program modifications or supports. Frequency and duration must be noted.
- Extent to which your child will participate in regular education programs. If your child changes program or placement, the IEP must include provisions to help your child make a successful transition. Also included should be an explanation of the extent of which your child will NOT participate in regular education classes and any harmful effects of this decision.
- Description of supports/modifications to school personnel, if needed.
- Reason for the type of educational placement/services.
- Projected initiation date and projected duration of IEP.
- Description of state approved accommodations and modifications to be utilized by child when taking LEA and state assessments. The accommodations and modifications listed must also be used for classroom use.
- For students with disabilities grades 7 and above, projected date of graduation with recommendation for diploma vs. certificate of completion which includes the number of credits required and earned. Additionally, CAHSEE scores are included.
- Determination of need for extended school year services and data to support decision.
- Pre-vocational/vocational and career development, as appropriate. For students 16 and older, the IEP must include transition goals and services which promote movement from school to post school activities based on interview of student/collaboration of team.
- Change in location transition plans (*i.e., preschool to elementary school; public school to adult service provider*).
- Information about the transfer of educational rights prior to age 18.

(This information is taken from the SELPA CAC "A Special Education Guide for Parents and Guardians, July 2015; if you do not have a copy of this guide and would like to, please contact the SELPA office at 951-490-0375)



Community Events



Hero Walk & Resource Fair for Autism
Saturday, April 8th ~ 11:00 AM ~ 2:00 PM
FUN ZONE AUTO CLUB SPEEDWAY, FONTANA



SATURDAY APRIL 1, 2017 @ 11 AM - 4 PM
 FAMILY FRIENDLY - SENSORY ORIENTED ATTRACTIONS - RESOURCE FAIR
 FULLERTON TRAIN DEPOT CENTER 110 E. COMMONWEALTH FULLERTON, CA 92832



February 10 & 11, 2017 ~ "Talk Tools" ~ A sensory-Motor Approach to Apraxia of Speech & Related Motor Speech Disorders

March 28, 2017 ~ Presenting Carol Gray creator of Social Stories will be at Club 21 for an all day conference! You won't want to miss this!

Contact Kristin Enriquez @



WHO: Individuals with developmental or physical disabilities – All ages welcome
WHERE: Palm Desert Community Center & Civic Center Park, 43-900 San Pablo Avenue, Palm Desert
WHEN: Saturday, February 25, 2017 – 10am to 2pm
FEE: FREE
EXTRA: Register ahead of time on our website @ www.myrecreationdistrict.com



DATE: 4/29/17—LOCATION: PASADENA ROSE BOWL
8:30 AM REGISTRATION—10:00 AM WALK STARTS
Contact: Shauna Tate—(323) 297-4729



A PONY BASEBALL & SOFTBALL LEAGUE

Registration now open for Spring 2017

Contact: lomalindaYBS@gmail.com
or call: (909) 246-3279



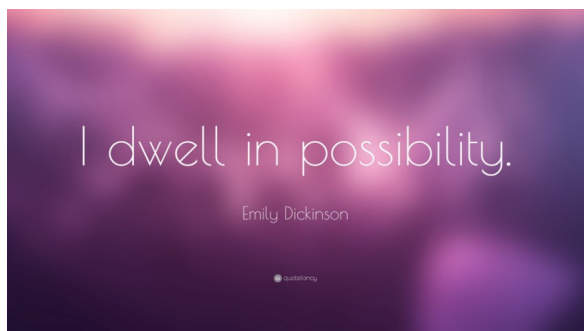
YEAH!

Thirteen-year-old Julianna, with autism and mild intellectual disability, is the

oldest of three siblings each with red hair! Julianna recently gave a talk to a large audience at her church for the first time and did a fantastic job. Her journey inspires Mom Kera to blog their journey at **The Special Reds**

and more recently, through large national platforms including the Washington Post, the Huffington Post and The Mighty. This year, Julianna made the honor roll with a 3.5 GPA and we celebrate her for success in her school and in her community!

Resources



Children & Adults with Attention-Deficit/Hyperactivity Disorder (CHADD)

<http://www.chadd.org>

Early Start Family Resource Network ~ (909) 890-4788

~ (800) 974-5553

<http://www.esfrn.org>

Community Access Center

<http://www.ilcac.org>

Disability Rights California

<http://www.disabilityrightsca.org>

Kinship and Youth WarmLine ~ (800) 303-0001

<http://dpss.co.riverside.ca.us/files/pdf/csd-kinship-and-youth-warmline.pdf>

Transition Partnership Program ~ (TPP) (951) 826-6763 ~ Desert (760) 863-3000

<http://www.rcoe.us>

Riverside County Department of Mental Health **In Case of an Emergency dial 911 (800) 706-7500 or (951) 358-4500**

<http://www.rcdmh.org/>

Social Security ~ (800) 772-1213 TTY (800) 325-0778

<http://www.ssa.gov>

National Alliance for the Mentally Ill (NAMI)

NAMI – Riverside ~ (951) 369-1913 NAMI ~ Temecula Valley ~ (951) 676-8365

NAMI – Mt. San Jacinto ~ (951) 765-1850 NAMI ~ Coachella Valley ~ (760) 342-1898

NAMI – California ~ (916) 567-0163

<http://www.namicalifornia.org>

Inland Regional Center (909) 890-3000 ~ Branch Office ~ (951) 826-2708

<http://inlandrc.org>

CAC Meeting

Business Meeting ~ March 15, 2017

6:00 ~ 8:00 PM ~ Free & Open to the Public

Topic ~ Positive Behavior Interventions and Supports

Location: 2935 Indian St., Perris, 92571~ contact Delores at (951) 490-0375 with questions

Location: Desert Sands USD ~ 47-950 Dune Palms Rd., Video Conference Rm., Technology Dept., La Quinta, 92253

Look for details on upcoming flyer

CAC Workshop

Workshop ~ March 11, 2017

Registration at 8:30 AM ~ 2:00 PM

Topic ~ Transition Planning ~ Post-Secondary to the Adult World ~ Mild Moderate to Moderate Severe

Individuals who require Mental Health ~ Exiting the school district. . . . now what. . . .

“Exploring Your Options”

Location: Desert Sands Unified School District ~ 47-950 Dune Palms Rd., Video Conference Rm., Technology Dept., La Quinta, 92253—

Look for details on upcoming flyer

CAC Executive Board

Phil Stein, President, Desert Sands USD, 760-832-4699, phiistein51@gmail.com

Jennafer Griswold, Vice President, Perris Union HSD, 951-219-0883, Jennafer.lapaglia@puhsd.org

Jess Block-Nerren, Public Information Officer, Alvord USD, 909-706-8525, Jess@FeltenMedia.com

Oron Jackson, Member at Large, Desert Sands USD, 760-285-2822, oron.jackson@desertsands.us

Debbie Zimmer, Member at Large, Meniffee USD, 951-672-3437, debbz@twc.com

Marie Smith, Past President, Lake Elsinore USD, 951-245-3592, leas_mom@hotmail.com

RIVERSIDE COUNTY SELPA

2935 INDIAN AVE., PERRIS, 92571

(MAIN) (951) 490-0375 ~ (FAX) (951) 490-0376

DISABILITY
DOES NOT MEAN
INABILITY