

# Community Advisory Committee (CAC): Summer Planning Session

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#### Presented by:

CAC Executive Team
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#### SCUSD Core Value & Guiding Principle

#### **CORE VALUE**

We recognize that our system is inequitable by design and we vigilantly work to confront and interrupt inequities that exist to level the playing field and provide opportunities for everyone to learn, grow and reach their greatness.

# SCUSD GUIDING PRINCIPLE

All students are given an equal opportunity to graduate with the greatest number of postsecondary choices from the widest array of options

## Agenda

- Brown Act Training with F3
- Role of CAC
- Lunch
- 2024-2025 Planning
  - Mission
  - Yearly Events
  - Meeting schedule
  - Workshops
  - Communications
  - SELPA



# What is a Special Education Local Plan Area (SELPA)?

In 1977, all school districts and county school offices in California were required to form geographical regions of sufficient size and scope to provide for all special education service needs of children residing within the region's boundaries. Each region became known as a Special Education Local Plan Area – SELPA.



#### **Key Functions of a SELPA**

**Coordination:** Organize and integrate special education services within SCUSD through SELPA Local Plan

**Compliance:** Ensures that district adheres to state and federal special education laws and regulations.

**Resource Allocation:** Receives and distributes funding and for special education programs to SCUSD Special Education Department.

**Professional Development:** Provides training and support for educators and administrators.



## **Benefits & Impact of a SELPA**

- Consistency: Strive to provide a consistent approach to special education across district. (Curricular audit/ MTSS)
- Efficiency: Enhances resource utilization and reduces duplication of services.
- Support: Offers specialized support to district and schools to improve outcomes for students with disabilities. (Compliance monitoring/ technical assistance/ Consultation)
- Advocacy: Represents the needs of students with disabilities without being directly tied to the implementation of the day-to-day operations of the special education program).



# What is a Community Advisory Committee (CAC)?

- **Definition:** A CAC is a group of parents, educators, and community members that advises on special education programs.
- **Purpose:** To improve special education services and ensure they meet the needs of students with disabilities.
- Role: Provides feedback, advocates for students, and facilitates communication between families and schools.

# What is a Community Advisory Committee (CAC)?

CACs have specific and important roles and responsibilities which are grounded in California Education Code. CACs are designed to be a dynamic collaborative partnership of educators, parents, and community members. The active participation of the membership of each CAC meets the mandate of informed parent-community involvement between those who *provide* Special Education programs and services and those who *receive* Special Education programs and services.

#### Education Code Section 56190:

- Establishes the requirement for CACs in school districts.
- Mandates CACs to advise on special education programs and services.

#### • Education Code Section 56191:

 Outlines CAC membership requirements, including parents, public/private agency reps, and other relevant members.

### **CAC Role & Responsibilities**

The role of a Community Advisory Committee (CAC) in special education is multifaceted and focuses on improving educational services and outcomes for students with disabilities. Here are the key roles and responsibilities:

- Advisory Function: Provide input and feedback on special education programs, policies, and practices. This includes reviewing and suggesting improvements to how services are delivered.
- Advocacy: Advocate for the needs and rights of students with disabilities. This may involve raising awareness about issues or challenges that families and students face.
- <u>Communication</u>: Facilitate communication between parents, educators, and the community. The CAC serves as a bridge, ensuring that diverse perspectives are considered in decision-making processes.
- <u>Monitoring and Evaluation</u>: Monitor the implementation of special education services and evaluate their effectiveness. The committee may review data and provide recommendations for adjustments or enhancements.

#### **CAC Role & Responsibilities**

- <u>Training and Support</u>: Help provide information and training to parents and community members about special education policies and practices, thereby increasing their understanding and engagement.
- <u>Policy Development</u>: Assist in the development and review of policies related to special education to ensure they align with best practices and legal requirements.

#### Education Code Section 56192:

- Advises on the local plan for special education.
- Reviews program performance and makes recommendations for improvement.

#### Education Code Section 56193:

- Evaluates effectiveness of special education programs.
- Suggests improvements based on assessments.



#### Why CACs Matter

- **Enhanced Services:** CACs help tailor special education services to meet students' needs.
- Informed Decision-Making: Provides valuable insights and feedback to improve programs.
- **Community Engagement:** Promotes collaboration between schools, families, and the community, fostering better educational outcomes for students with disabilities.

#### CACs Focus Areas for 2024-2025

The CAC Executive Team identified the following as focus areas for the 2024-2025 school year.

- Family/ Community Engagement
- Inclusive Practices

During the Planning Session, the team can provide guidance on the specifics of what that may look like for the year.

#### **LUNCH**



# **Planning Session**

#### Mission for 2024.2025

- Family Engagement
- Inclusive Practices



## **Planning Session**

- Yearly Events
  - Brainstorm & Discussion
- Monthly Schedules
  - Brainstorm & Discussion
- Workshops/ Campaigns
  - Brainstorm & Discussion

## **Planning Session**

- Start of Year Communication
  - Brainstorm & Discussion
- Board Report
  - Brainstorm & Discussion
- Other Communications
- Resources
  - High Quality IEPs
- Social Media



#### **SELPA**

- Office Hours
- Monthly Reports
- Focus Areas for 2024.2025
  - BPSB Implementation
  - Local Plan Meetings
  - Curricular Audit



#### **Next Steps**

- Immediate Priorities:
  - CAC- SELPA Parent Handbook
  - Updated Procedural Guide
  - Updated Board Policies
  - Data Policy (SELPA)
- Long-term Goals:

# **Questions?**