

**SELPA PROGRAM ADVISORY COUNCIL  
Standing Committee of the Consortium**

**October 10, 2023**

**8:00 am – 10:00 am  
SELPA Conference Room  
3570 Rancho Road, Ste. 9; Redding, CA 96002**

**MINUTES**

**1. Call to Order at 8:00 am**

Christian Patz, SELPA Executive Director, called the meeting to order at 8:00 am.  
SELPA Program Advisory Council members roll call:

- |  |         |
|--|---------|
| ● REGION 1 – Cecile LaMar, SUHSD                             | Present |
| ● REGION 2 – Randy Morphew for Brandt Shriner, Anderson UHSD | Present |
| ● REGION 3 – Rick Jordan, Redding ESD                        | Present |
| ● REGION 4 – Annie Payne, Enterprise ESD                     | Present |
| ● REGION 5 – Ray Witte, Mtn. Valley JPA                      | Present |
| ● REGION 6 – Nate Solus, Gateway USD                         | Present |
| ● REGION 7 – Brent Beyer, Fall River JUSD                    | Present |

Others present were:

- Christian Patz, SELPA Executive Director
- Nick Syrrist, SELPA
- Autumn Ervin, SELPA Admin Asst / Data

Discussion: None.

*(Rick Jordan present at 8:02 am)*

**2. Approval of the Agenda**

Discussion: Dr. Patz stated that items 10 through 12 all concern subsidies and will be discussed altogether as informational items for member feedback.

**ACTION:** Ray Witte motioned to approve the Agenda as presented. Nate Solus seconded the motion. The motion passed by majority vote 7-0, no opposition, no abstentions, no absentees.

**3. Public Forum / Hearing of Persons Wishing to Address the Program Advisory Council**

None.

#### 4. Spotlight on Success

##### 4a. Ray Witte, Mountain Valley JPA

Discussion: Mr. Witte informed members Governor signed SB648 and the JPA is now in Ed Co allowing it's district to collect \$500k in ADA funds. The JPA is celebrating it's fourth year and continues to hire many new staff for the JPA and participating districts. They now have five SDC classes, while they started with one. Mr. Witte emphasized they could easily open a few more classes and are excited for the year to come.

#### 5. SELPA Director's Report

##### 5a. Reach University

##### 5b. Paraeducator Academy – Nov. 9, 2023 – Shasta Hall, PDC (*Innsbruck Drive, Redding*)

##### 5c. Standing Items:

- Monthly trainings – SELPA Professional Development Calendar ([link](#))
- Itinerant Updates
- SEIS and Data
- Director Notes from State

Discussion: Dr. Patz provided a slide presentation and informed members of the Community Advisory Committee (CAC) Resource Fair open house with Halloween and allergen free theme on Saturday, October 28th and urged members to promote the event providing flyers to distribute. Resource exhibitors will include Far Northern Regional Center, Rowell Family Empowerment, Disability Action Center and NorCal Services for Deaf and Hard of Hearing.

Dr. Patz continued discussion regarding a partnership with Reach University to assist those interested to obtain a Bachelor's degree. Participants with an AA degree will receive two years' credit towards a BA, others will receive three years' credit. The program is online only and will provide a Bachelor's degree in Liberal studies to increase teacher hiring pools. Cost to participants is \$75/month, \$900/year, and includes books, materials, etc. This is NOT an opportunity to get teaching credential, as Tehama Co and SCOE have those programs already. Many members agree they have people to refer.

Autumn Ervin, SELPA Admin. Assistant / Data Manager, just attended SEIS Codestack Conference and informed members of many SEIS changes coming on the case manager side – including additional fields, etc. To avoid errors - plan effective date = date of the meeting, unless date enrolled in school. The CalPADS 16.8 monitoring reports going away. SEIS to add a 5th file type. Ms. Ervin will distribute information to district data managers as soon as possible. Dr. Patz encouraged members to send data teams to SELPA trainings, etc. All monitoring to come from data must be accurate. Ms. Ervin reminded members that IEP implementation audits will now be 2 months, although no dates have been confirmed by the CDE yet.

**6. Consent Items** – *(These action items are of a routine nature or items for which no discussion is anticipated, and are acted upon by a single vote. Members may request that any item be removed and given individual consideration.)*

##### 6a. Approval of Minutes for August 8, 2023

Discussion: None.

**ACTION:** Ray Witte motioned to approve the Consent item as presented. Nate Solus seconded the motion. The motion passed by majority vote 7-0, no opposition, no abstentions, no absentees.

## **7. SCOE / EXCEL MOU – Discussion / ACTION**

Discussion: Dr. Patz informed members that there is no current MOU regarding terms of enrollment between SCOE, EXCEL or SELPA, and has provided a draft template to members for consideration. All members agree an agreement is needed. The draft provides more liability terms, plus terms regarding 10 school days' notice regarding disenrollment for weekends and holidays. If members approve, it will be provided to the SELPA Governing Board and SCOE to negotiate.

Mr. Witte referred to page 1 of the draft and suggested giving the district of accountability editable access to the record. Ms. Payne disagrees with SCOE making unilateral enrollment decisions without specified criteria. Members agreed criteria is necessary to better understand what students SCOE will accept. Dr. Patz reminded members that whoever runs the program is in charge of the criteria. Members also agreed with the need to evaluate the EXCEL program's effectiveness.

Members suggested additional terms regarding collection and credit of ADA and credit, plus terms defining transportation to and from locations. Others suggest expanding terms regarding indemnity regarding LEAs holding all the risk for negligence and assessments. Dr. Patz stated the MOU is the only way to have some control, but still needs to be reviewed by the attorney and SCOE.

No action taken.

## **8. Spectrum Center – Update**

Discussion: Mr. Glover, SELPA Support Services Consultant, emphasized the positives of Spectrum having more personnel invested within the last few weeks, and is "Cautiously optimistic". Dr. Patz informed members of SELPA staff of daily and weekly tracking and assistance for Spectrum, as Shasta County has no other options for these students, and will continue to work with Spectrum for the realignment of classes.

Dr. Patz will send members a survey to districts for students they want to serve. Ms. Payne voiced concern about Spectrum certificate submission to CDE. Ms. LaMar confirmed Shasta UHSD is building programs in her district.

## **9. Preschool Responsibility Policy – Discussion**

Discussion: Mr. Witte suggested the removal of "amended" from the title, as it is adopted. Mr. Syrrist suggested a county program to take all preschool-age students to allow for geographical variances. Ms. Payne stated that EESD had previously offered to serve kids from other districts and was denied by the

county as “gatekeeper”. Melissa O’Dell, Pacheco ESD, has two classrooms - 1 county, 1 local, and is willing to serve all.

Discussion continued regarding the high cost of SCOE assessments. Dr. Patz noted the challenge being reciprocal among all districts though dependent on resources, and agrees with centralized services for early intervention, although unsure we have the numbers to support the idea.

Members agree a subcommittee to discuss ideas and possible policy revisions is a good idea.

## **10. ERICS Requirements / Expectations**

Discussion: Dr. Patz suggested the need to increase the current ERICS \$35k subsidy to allow sufficient funds to properly run classrooms and likes the idea of ERICS being a service and eliminating the RRC process entirely. Mr. Witte stated the RRC does force teams to revisit services, but some students do need longer than 18 months. Mr. Witte stated the proposed ERICS guidelines lack specification that students in an ERICS program should have an IEP, as the program should not be used to support general education behavior problems with special education funds. Dr. Patz will follow up with ERICS classrooms to ensure all are properly filled to receive the subsidy.

## **11. Local and Allocation Planning**

11a. Driving Principals “Success Equals Local Control Powering Action”

11b. Local Plan Updates ([link](#))

11c. Service Plan Revisions ([link](#))

Discussion: The new driving goal of SELPA is “SELPA - Success Equals Local Control Powering Action” and - wants to pass through the majority of special education funds to promote local control/funding and local accountability. Dr. Patz will provide members a relined version of the Local Plan with proposed revisions. Low incidence services will be regionalized.

11d. Budget Plan Revisions ([link](#))

Discussion: Dr. Patz indicated Budget Plan revisions may include changes to the Regional Resource Committee (RRC), Out of Home (OOH) funds, Low Incidence funding, extraordinary cost pools, and the remote subsidy. Regional Resource Committee (RRC) offers a 25% subsidy and proposed changes include a 25% subsidy for the first year of placement, 15% the second year, 5% for the third year. It would eliminate justifying placement and encourage serving students on campus. Member discussion included concerns with subsidy oversight. All members agree a three-year plan would give districts time to plan and budget for programs on school sites. Dr. Patz confirmed that any student who changed districts while in the graduated plan would start new at 25% for the new district, but the Governing Board would make the final decision.

Discussion continued regarding Out of Home (OOH) funds - last year OOH funding was cut to reflect the correct number of beds available, but we now have an increase in requests for RTCs with no options. Dr. Patz presented the same idea of starting with a 25% subsidy with incentives to look into current spaces available in ERICS classrooms, etc. to provide districts some relief and time to budget and plan with

incentives to serve locally. Juvenile Court School receives a \$108k subsidy with SELPA having no involvement as to who is served.

## **12. Subsidies**

- 12a. Regional Resource Committee (NPS, Countywide)
- 12b. ERICs Classrooms
- 12c. Legal Fees
- 12d. Remote
- 12e. Other

Discussion: Dr. Patz continued his slide presentation and discussion regarding subsidies, suggesting eliminating the \$25k legal risk pool and rolling funds into the extraordinary cost pool. The Governing Board previously approved the reduction of the \$83k remote subsidy for Fall River JUSD beginning next year. Dr. Patz inquired if members wanted fewer committees and more financial pass-throughs. Mr. Witte agreed to reduce committees and reminded members of the importance of maintaining oversight. Members agree.

## **13. Low incidence Funds**

Discussion: Dr. Patz suggested the SELPA shift low incidence funds for districts to buy equipment under \$1k directly from vendors and would then own and track each device. The 2023-24 estimated allocation is approximately \$611k, with the itinerants costing \$1.2m, and the equipment set aside of \$50k, leaving \$450k to pay off the top w/ subsidizing MediCal paydown also. Districts will get more funds and save time with faster turnaround. Dr. confirmed districts pay for online or in-person interpreters. The current model is first in, first out, and the challenge is the allocation of services. Members asked Dr. Patz to provide the Finance Advisory Council's (FAC's) recommendation at the next meeting.

## **14. Future Agenda Items**

- Subsidies
- Low Incidence Funds

**15. Next meeting:** Tuesday, December 12, 2023, 8:00 am – 10:00 am, SELPA Conference Room

Adjourned at 9:20 a.m.