

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

**August 8, 2023**

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

**MINUTES**

**1. Call to Order at 8:04 am**

Christian Patz, SELPA Executive Director, called the meeting to order at 8:02 am.

SELPA Program Advisory Council members roll call:

- |  |         |
|--|---------|
| • REGION 1 – Cecile LaMar, SUHSD           | Present |
| • REGION 2 – Brandt Shriner, Anderson UHSD | Present |
| • REGION 3 – Rick Jordan, Redding ESD      | Present |
| • REGION 4 – Annie Payne, Enterprise ESD   | ABSENT  |
| • 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 | • Susan Hayes, Rowell Family Emp.   |
| • Nick Syrrist, SELPA                      | • Elena Bramble, Rowell Family Emp. |
| • James Glover, SELPA                      | • Carie Webb, SCOE / EXCEL          |

Discussion: None.

**2. Approval of the Agenda**

Discussion: None.

**ACTION:** Brandt Shriner motioned to approve the Agenda as presented. Brent Beyer seconded the motion. The motion passed by majority vote 6-0, no opposition, no abstentions, Annie Payne was absent.

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

None.

#### **4. Rowell Family Empowerment – Susan Hayes, Elena Bramble - Discussion**

Discussion: Dr. Patz welcomed Susan Hayes and Elena Bramble with Rowell Family Empowerment, and emphasized that SELPA has worked hard to establish good relations with Rowell over the last few years, including the sponsorship of Rowell employees to attend ADR conferences using Covid ADR funds.

Ms. Bramble provided flyers regarding Rowell, who serves nine counties, six with special education services, and help families through the special education process or help connect to other support services for children aged early start thru high school. Dr. Patz reminded members that Rowell is state funded to keep parents involved and helps bridge parents to missed services if there are staffing challenges through districts by documenting efforts to deliver.

Ms. Bramble continued promoting their Slate program funded via Far Northern Regional Center that teaches social skills and emotion regulation for students with autism. The Fall/Winter Slate program is for any child after school ages 3-18, and offered to have a Slate class on site if a district requests. Ms. Hayes informed members of their Make & Take class on the first Friday monthly, providing visual icons.

#### **5. Spotlight on Success**

##### 5a. Welcome new and returning Directors activity

Discussion: Dr. Patz reminded members of starting the Spotlight on Success last year after the Director's Retreat, and found responses from last year's peer success stories. Dr. Patz invited all new and returning members to share their first job, favorite job, best advise, theme for the year, current stress concerns, plus goal for the year, and shared that he hopes to have the itinerant program improved under SELPA. All members shared their responses.

##### 5b. Spotlight on Success - Sign up for the year

Discussion: Dr. Patz shared a sign -up sheet for all members to volunteer to share their success stories. Members volunteered as follows:

- October – Ray Witte, Mtn. Valley JPA
- December – Brandt Shriner, Anderson UHSD
- February – Cecile LaMar, Shasta UHSD
- April – Rick Jordan, Redding ESD
- May – Brent Beyer, Fall River JUSD
- June – Nate Solus, Gateway USD

#### **6. SELPA Director's Report**

##### 6a. Support Services Consultant update

Discussion: Dr. Patz introduced James Glover, the new SELPA Support Services Consultant from Shasta UHSD. Previously a paraprofessional for mod/severe classroom in Tehama County, his favorite was being a classroom teacher, especially in SDC realm. Dr. Patz confirmed the SELPA will have Nick Syrrist dedicated to working with the DHH team and help Gateway USD. Dr. Patz provided a handout of a sample MOU from Merced Co where the author emphasized the importance of noting that a credentialed teacher is in charge of the kids - for union and court support. The better you document staffing creativity beforehand the better defense of all efforts. Members are welcome to use the handout as a guide.

- 6b. IEP, Goalbook & Behavior Trainings – Aug. 10, 2023
- 6c. Private School and Sunday Training – Aug. 11, 2023
- 6d. Credential Bridge – Aug. 14, 2023
- 6e. ParaEducator Academy – Aug. 14-15, 2023
- 6f. CalPADS Data Roadshow – Aug. 21, 2023

Discussion: Dr. Patz informed members of upcoming SELPA trainings and emphasized staff attendance. SELPA can loan a Sunday System kit while supplies last, and the training fee covers the cost of food.

The Credential Bridge training will cover mod/severe, extensive and early childhood, and will provide certificate of completion for CDE to update antiquated credentials. The goal is to get credential titles lined up, similar to the prior autism add-on, to get everyone qualified for the classes they're teaching - teachers are the target audience. Dr. Patz offered to teach on site for Gateway. Trainings are required to be 2.5 hours long and can complete it over two paid days. The Paraeducator academy will be August 14<sup>th</sup> with an elementary focus speech path & BCBA, then the 15<sup>th</sup> will focus on high school SELPA will offer the same training again on November 9<sup>th</sup>.

**7. 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.)*

- 7a. Approval of Minutes for June 8, 2023

Discussion: None.

**ACTION:** Ray Witte motioned to approve the Consent item as presented. Brandt Shriner seconded the motion. The motion passed by majority vote 6-0, no opposition, no abstentions, Annie Payne was absent.

**8. EXCEL Academy – Carie Webb, SCOE – Update / Discussion**

Discussion: Carie Webb, Special Education Director for SCOE and Executive Director of EXCEL and Juvenile Court, informed members that EXCEL Just filled their last two staff positions on Friday.

EXCEL is opening three classrooms. Michelle Kuehl is out through September. Cheyenne Mizenko is Principal over all three programs, and facilitation IEPs. Ms. Webb indicated the Juvenile Court School is working on liaison between districts and students, and stated Rivers Edge Academy is having good outcomes with students housed in facility but attending district schools.

Ms. Webb continued her report informing members that EXCEL is full with 36 kids, and a waitlist will be shared with SELPA and elementary districts showing openings by class. Dr. Patz reminded members a student MUST have an IEP with parent signature BEFORE placement at EXCEL. Students may not be sent then assessed. Ms. Webb confirmed the cost per student per day is \$300 from \$250 last year. Dr. Patz reminded members that Spectrum Center is \$250/day, but EXCEL is School counseling positions added back. Spectrum is \$250, but EXCEL is a less restrictive environment, then ERICS below EXCEL.

**9. Spectrum Center – Update**

Discussion: Dr. Patz confirmed Spectrum is staffed, and still has a low enrollment count, though pending Redding ESD and Gateway USD placements. Members are encouraged members to contact Spectrum and enroll students.

**10. Part C to B – Discussion**

10a. FNRC Coordinator Kacie Sanders

10b. SELPA liaison/ tracking

Discussion: Dr. Patz met w Kacie Saunders of Far Northern Regional Center last week. Ms. Saunders is a liaison for FNRC, but NOT a case manager, so she has no contact with districts. When student turns 3 trans from FNRC to schools. Gateway and Redding were previously using FNRC for assessments. Gateway is still negotiating a MOU at this time. James Glover will be the lead SELPA contact for Part C to B transitions with FNRC and be included on all notices to districts in hope to improve communication and tracking between districts and FNRC, including transition notices. All members agreed it would help districts with Child Find.

**11. Future Agenda Items**

Discussion: Dr. Patz reminded members of SELPA monthly trainings, including IEP and behavior concerns, and the new Director / Hot Topics legal training on September 14, 2023.

**12. Next meeting:** Tuesday, October 10, 2023, 8:00 am – 10:00 am, SELPA Conference Room (3570 Rancho Rd.)

Adjourned at 9:20 a.m.