

**SELPA Governing Board
Minutes
December 16, 2025
8:00 AM – 10:00 AM**

**SELPA Conference Room
3570 Rancho Road, Ste. 9; Redding, CA 96002**

1. Call to Order, Roll call.

Kyle Turner, SELPA Governing Board Chairperson, called the meeting to order at 8:01 a.m.

Roll call:

- | | |
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| ● Owen Crosby, Ph.D., Shasta UHSD - Region 1 | Present |
| ● Brian Parker, Anderson UHSD – Region 2 | Present |
| ● Cynthia Bishop, Redding ESD – Region 3 | Present |
| ● Heather Armelino, Enterprise ESD – Region 4 | Present |
| ● Doug Geren, Cottonwood USD – Region 5 | Present |
| ● Kyle Turner - CHAIRPERSON, Gateway USD – Region 6 | Present |
| ● Morgan Nugent, Fall River JUSD – Region 7 | Present |

2. Approval of Agenda

Discussion: None.

ACTION: Motion to approve the Agenda as presented.

Motion made by: Owen Crosby

Motion seconded by: Doug Geren

Voting (vote weight):

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| ● Owen Crosby, Shasta UHSD - Region 1 (3): | Yes |
| ● Brian Parker, Anderson UHSD – Region 2 (2): | Yes |
| ● Cynthia Bishop, Redding ESD – Region 3 (2): | Yes |
| ● Heather Armelino, Enterprise ESD – Region 4 (2): | Yes |
| ● Doug Geren, Cottonwood USD – Region 5 (3): | Yes |
| ● Kyle Turner, Gateway USD – Region 6 (2): | Yes |
| ● Morgan Nugent, Fall River JUSD – Region 7 (1): | Yes |

Motion passed.

3. Public Forum / Hearing of Persons Wishing to Address the Shasta SELPA Governing Board of items off and on the agenda.

Discussion: Dr. Patz requested members of the public who wish to comment on Siras, Agenda item #9, be allowed to do so at the time of discussion. All agreed.

4. SELPA Director's Report

4a. IDEA Anniversary

Discussion: Dr. Patz reminded members of the 50th Anniversary of IDEA, and stated the two merging school districts discussed in the news are still both located in Region 5 and will remain as JPA and Shasta SELPA members, so there is no impact to voting structure.

4b. CHYBA SELPA MOU

Discussion: None.

5. State of the SELPA – Discussion

Discussion: Dr. Patz emphasized his appreciation for all SELPA staff and the Board allowing the SELPA to grow in such a way to efficiently and effectively assist districts in serving all students with special needs and introduced members of SELPA departments to provide insight and updates of their department to Board members:

Workability - Tiffany Cool, Workability Coordinator and Amanda Werth, Workability Coach: Since July, Workability has placed 49 students at employment sites, with 54 businesses offering available jobs. Two students have completed their allotted hours and were hired permanently at Holiday Market and Tractor Supply. This is the goal of our job placements and the SELPA is very proud of all working students and their accomplishments. A new Workability Coach was hired and will begin in January.

Mrs. Bishop praised the program for its success.

Vision Impaired team - Doug Handley, Teacher for Vision Impaired: With a personal caseload of 18 students, most range from low vision to legally blind, with a few totally blind. The majority are impaired w/ other disabilities. VI program brochures are distributed to schools to promote awareness of services, and recently welcomed a new student in Burney. Mr. Handley thanked all teachers who provide services to students. Mrs. Bishop voiced appreciation for the “beautiful impact” the program has made on students. Dr. Patz added that the CDE recommends 15-25 students per teacher caseload, and the SELPA staff averages right in the middle.

Deaf / Hard of Hearing team - Marlene Giuntini and Roy Terry, Teachers: Mrs. Giuntini informed members she is in her 35th year serving deaf / hard of hearing students, and currently serves 5 students aged infant to 3 years, and 8 students aged TK through high school, including providing home support to parents to teach families how to navigate the DHH world.

90% of deaf students are born to hearing parents, with then less than 5% becoming ASL literate nationwide. Language development is the biggest goal for students. Mrs. Giuntini shared that 15 of her students have continued to college, becoming mechanics, and a local physician. Her goal is to continue spreading a message of hope to all deaf and hard of hearing students.

Mr. Terry, continued the DHH Team update, stating he has worked with SCOE for over 24 years, while living 38 years with hearing aids, and received cochlear implants 18 years ago. He helps educate students and parents with cochlear implants and all supporting hearing equipment teaching sign language and speech. Mr. Terry serves about 30 students in Shasta County, including Fall River and Black Butte from infant age to 22 years. Mrs. Bishop praised the DHH team for their many years of support to families and teachers.

Vision Impaired team – Stephanie Constantinou, Lead Sign Language Interpreter: Ms. Constantinou coordinates all interpreters in 4 districts, including 8 students and another potential new student. The SELPA currently

has 5 interpreters and is actively trying to hire more. We are considering two potential interpreters as interns as a way of “building our own”- pending certifications. Dr. Patz emphasized the increased need for interpreters, as we increased from 6 to 8 students this year.

Data – Autumn Ervin, SELPA Program Technician: Ms. Ervin congratulated all districts for just certifying at the SELPA level – UNLESS the CDE releases new validations. Data collected for the December 12 deadline is used for annual determination for DIPSRO dashboards and members were urged all to check and cross-check all data sources, as some demographic data in SEIS is aligning with CalPads. Dr. Patz recognized Ms. Ervin for her continued efforts in assisting district staff in cleaning up data records and SELPA certifying all districts.

SELPA Program Directors – James Glover and Kristin Sigurdson: Dr. Patz informed members of SELPA’s two Program Directors who are available to districts to help train and walk through the IEP process, attend IEPs, assist and participate in dispute resolution and compliance issues districts and parents, and much more. Both also serve as trainers of Crisis Prevention Intervention and Ukeru trainings and all are encouraged to utilize their services as needed.

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 Meeting Minutes from September 23, 2025
- 6b. Low Incidence Equipment & Reimbursement Requests:
 - 6b1. LI Equip. Reimb. Request #107 – Fall River JUSD – Mt. Burney High (OI Equip) \$2,478.25
 - 6b2. LI Equip. Request #108 – Pacheco ESD – Pacheco Elem (DHH Equip) \$5,267.20
 - 6b3. LI Equip. Request #109 – SELPA Stock (DHH Equip) \$ 525.15
 - 6b4. LI Equip. Request #110 – SELPA Stock (DHH Equip) \$ 103.24

TOTAL: \$8,374.36
- 6c. Budget Corrections from Reserves
 - 6c1. Gateway USD NPS Subsidies
 - 6c2. Redding ESD RTC Subsidies
- 6d. 2025-26 MTU Budget
- 6e. SELPA Policies
 - 6e1. WorkAbility I Policy
 - 6e2. Independent Educational Evaluation

Discussion: Dr. Patz clarified that the Low Incidence equipment purchased as SELPA Stock is consumable inventory used for low incidence qualified students such as hearing aid batteries, walking canes, emergency signs, etc.

ACTION: Motion to approve the Consent items as proposed.

Motion made by: Brian Parker

Motion seconded by: Cindy Bishop

Voting (vote weight):

- Owen Crosby, Shasta UHSD - Region 1 (3): Yes
- Brian Parker, Anderson UHSD – Region 2 (2): Yes
- Cynthia Bishop, Redding ESD – Region 3 (2): Yes
- Heather Armelino, Enterprise ESD – Region 4 (2): Yes
- Doug Geren, Cottonwood USD – Region 5 (3): Yes
- Kyle Turner, Gateway USD – Region 6 (2): Yes
- Morgan Nugent, Fall River JUSD – Region 7 (1): Yes

Motion passed.

7. 2026-27 SELPA Budget – Discussion

Discussion: Dr. Patz noted the ongoing federal and state fiscal uncertainty, noting that future budgeting will be influenced by three primary factors: the federal budget, the State COLA, and the SCOE COLA. Funding sources include federal IDEA funds and state AB 602 funds, which are allocated to SELPA and passed through to districts, with continued attention to maintaining equity related to off the top (OTT) costs. AB 602 funding is based on the highest ADA for each LEA over the past three years, which is anticipated to be favorable this year due to increased enrollment. Additional state funding includes program specialist funds, low-incidence funds, and out-of-home (OOH) funds, which are projected to remain stable. The projected base funding is approximately \$21 million, with supplemental allocations for program specialists, low-incidence, and OOH funding, and reserves remain healthy. The OOH budget is based on funds generated from old bed counts, however our RTC needs have increased, so those funds will likely be utilized over the next few years. Administrative costs are expected to remain flat, service costs will be driven by the SCOE COLA, and no significant budget increases are anticipated at this time; adjustments will be revisited if COLA changes dramatically. Dr. Patz encouraged input for mental health fund spend down at the next budget meeting. Member discussion emphasized the appropriate use of reserves to support current student needs, particularly for interpreter services, with overall agreement that reserves should be strategically spent without creating long-term district service obligations.

8. Preschool Subsidy – Update / ACTION

Discussion: Dr. Patz stated that both the FAC and PAC discussed changes to the Preschool Subsidy, noting that the only adjustment would be how students are counted. PAC agreed it should exclude students enrolled in TK, as those students are already funded separately. FAC agreed with this recommendation, recommending implementation begin next year. Approximately 301 students are impacted, and updated counts will be brought forward after the next reporting period. Members clarified and Dr. Patz confirmed that the exclusion would be based on TK enrollment status in CALPADS Fall 1 Certified reports rather than age or SEIS data, and agreed that a subsidy remains necessary and that removing TK counts is appropriate.

ACTION: Motion to remove TK counts from the Preschool Subsidy beginning next fiscal year.

Motion made by: Heather Armelino

Motion seconded by: Morgan Nugent

Voting (vote weight):

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| ● Owen Crosby, Shasta UHSD - Region 1 (3): | Yes |
| ● Brian Parker, Anderson UHSD – Region 2 (2): | Yes |
| ● Cynthia Bishop, Redding ESD – Region 3 (2): | Yes |
| ● Heather Armelino, Enterprise ESD – Region 4 (2): | Yes |
| ● Doug Geren, Cottonwood USD – Region 5 (3): | Yes |
| ● Kyle Turner, Gateway USD – Region 6 (2): | Yes |
| ● Morgan Nugent, Fall River JUSD – Region 7 (1): | Yes |

Motion passed.

9. SIRAS – Update / ACTION

Discussion: Dr. Patz seeks approval to continue exploring a potential transition from the SEIS special education data system to SIRAS, clarifying that the request was not to rush adoption but to allow continued negotiation, planning, and refinement of pricing, training, and implementation details. Dr. Patz addressed prior concerns related to data transfer, confirming that there is no cost for standard data migration and that most student information, including goals and reports, can be imported, although some more detailed data elements may require cleanup or re-entry. SIRAS provides expanded functionality—including more integrated forms, IFSPs, SST and 504 forms, built-in electronic

signatures, validation “stop-gaps,” and Medi-Cal billing exports—generally comparable or for a lower per-student cost than SEIS. Additional training options, transition supports, and customizable rollout plans were requested, with assurances that rates would remain flat if a transition occurred.

Extensive discussion continued on implementation timing, staff workload, and the importance of meaningful teacher and end-user input. Members expressed concern about implementing a major system change during the current school year, given existing demands on district employees, and emphasized the need for adequate professional development with teachers and data staff, and sufficient planning time. Questions were raised regarding tiered participation, potential impacts of operating dual systems, data archiving costs, and the handling of transferring students. Public comment from Raye Witte, Director of Mountain Valley JPA, supported adoption of SIRAS, citing positive pilot experiences and improved usability compared to SEIS. Ultimately, Board members reached consensus to slow the process, explore pilot opportunities, gather additional cost and implementation details, and seek additional staff feedback. The item was tabled to the February meeting for further information and discussion prior to any decision.

10. Future Agenda Items

- 10a. 2026-27 Budget Adoption
- 10b. SELPA Director mid-year evaluation

Discussion: Dr. Patz added Siras, Budget adoption, and Director evaluation

11. Next meeting date: Tuesday, February 24, 2025 – Regular meeting & Budget Study - 8:00 a.m., SELPA Conference Room; 3570 Rancho Road; Redding

12. Adjourn

Meeting adjourned at 9:45 am