



North Region SELPA

**Community Advisory Committee**

*What Is the North  
Region SELPA  
Community Advisory  
Committee (CAC)?*



# North Region SELPA Community Advisory Committee (CAC)



- Established to create a forum to engage families and local community involvement in the provision of special education within the Special Education Local Plan Area (SELPA)
  - The North Region SELPA is comprised of five school districts: Alameda, Albany, Berkeley, Emeryville and Piedmont
- The CAC advises the SELPA on the development, review and implementation of the [SELPA Local Plan](#)
- California State Education Code mandates that every SELPA have a Community Advisory Committee and that the majority of CAC members be parents/caregivers

# CAC Advocacy In Action



- Written letters to State Assembly members and Senators to support legislative bills that support students with disabilities
  - Ex: AB 2222 - Requiring the updating of teacher credentialing standards, curriculum, and professional development and training based on the science of reading and effective means of teaching literacy
- Hosted several educational events and webinars that have formed our [video library](#)
  - Screening of the documentary film "[Hopeville](#)", followed by a riveting panel discussion with several educators and advocates
  - Literacy Roundtable bringing together district superintendents from across our SELPA to discuss literacy programming and student progress data
  - Panel discussion on inclusive post-secondary education programs for students with intellectual and developmental disabilities, featuring the UC Davis Redwood SEED program and CSU's Think By The Bay
  - Follow-up panel discussion on post-secondary transition planning to help families prepare for the transition from high-school and provide knowledge of the types of programs and services that are available

# CAC Committee Member Responsibilities



The CAC has 4 main sub-committees:

**Education | Advocacy | Membership & Engagement | Communications**

- Sub-committee members are expected to attend all sub-committee meetings and actively support the agreed-upon goals and activities of that sub-committee
- Each sub-committee can report monthly (if there are items to report) on activities and bring decisions that need to be made to be voted on at the monthly CAC meeting.
- Any Member of the CAC or member of the general public may participate on all sub-committees

# CAC Voting Members Meeting Schedule



- Monthly meetings are current held on the 4<sup>th</sup> Monday of each month from 6-6:30pm
  - Some meetings are just CAC business meetings, other meetings may also feature a programming component
  - Programming may also be scheduled separately, not necessarily on the 4<sup>th</sup> Monday of each month
- Executive subcommittee meetings are held on the 1st Tuesday of each month. If you decide to be a part of the executive committee, you will be expected to attend these meetings where the primary purpose is to create the agenda for the monthly business meeting
- Subcommittee meetings are held once per month (unless otherwise discussed within the subcommittee) and schedule based on the schedules and agreement of sub-committee members

# CAC Voting Members Membership Terms



- The members of the community advisory committee are appointed by, and responsible to, the governing board of each participating district
- Membership in the CAC as a whole is comprised of at least two, and no more than three voting representatives from each district in the SELPA
- Term of membership: Two years (from January until the January two years later)



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## Community Advisory Committee

Current Officers and Voting Members:

Caroline Brossard – Chair – Alameda

Eliza Noh – Secretary – Berkeley

Jill Hunter- Alameda

Monika Russi - Alameda

Kelley Callahan – Albany

Dinesh Kumar – Albany

Alexis Gonzales - Berkeley

Eliza Noh - Berkeley

Bill Schwulst – Berkeley

**\*We currently have no voting members from  
Piedmont or Emery Unified School Districts**



# CAC Voting Members Expectations



- Voting Members are expected to attend all CAC business meetings. Failure of a member to attend two consecutive meetings, or three in one calendar year, without a valid excuse, is grounds for termination from CAC membership
- Voting Members **are expected to be an active participant in at least one committee** - Education | Advocacy | Membership & Engagement | Communications
- Voting Members are encouraged, but not required, to attend school board meetings where special education is discussed and the CAC has an identified position
- Voting Members should communicate with and solicit feedback from their districts' Special Education groups and other interested affinity groups about the implementation of Special Education in the district and the activities of the CAC



# CAC Executive Committee Member Responsibilities



## **Chairperson (or Co-Chairpersons):**

- Runs the CAC meetings according to Education Code 56194 and/or Roberts Rules of Order
- Serves as the point person for collaborating with the SELPA Director and as committee spokesperson to the North Region SELPA

## **First Vice-Chair/Director of Education (currently vacant):**

- Assists the Chairperson(s) and assume those responsibilities in the absence of the Chairperson(s) and serves on the Education Committee

## **Second Vice-Chairperson/Director of Membership (currently vacant):**

- Serves on the Membership and Engagement Committee, which is responsible for outreach and facilitating the application process to fill open membership seats

## **Secretary/Director of Communications:**

- Oversees our monthly agenda. Maintains all meeting recordings (we use Otter.ai and it does all of the work), correspondences, and lists of members
- Oversees marketing strategy for CAC meetings and ensures community accessibility with the SELPA

# CAC Subcommittees Priorities for 2024-25 School Year



## **Advocacy/Education**

- Continuation of literacy panel; continuation of legislative action
- Presentation on alternative pathway to earn H.S. diploma
- Explore programming on Executive Functioning
- Update CAC ByLaws
- Inviting SpEd Directors to discuss SpEd accountability (and loopholes) in each district and how SpEd parents/caregivers are included in the LCAP development process
- Examination of CDE Compliance Complaints across our five-district SELPA - looking for trends and opportunities for Local Plan focus

# We Need YOU!



- It's no accident that CAC begins with "Community". It takes an active community to be successful
- You don't have to be a voting member to serve on a subcommittee (Education, Advocacy, Membership & Engagement and Communications) we could really use your time and talent!

**Membership Application (to become a voting member):**

**<https://forms.gle/3h6UaH73uiVhTxwr8>**



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Thank You!

