

Community Advisory Committee (CAC)

The Ventura County SELPA CAC fosters effective and positive parent-professional collaboration to continue improving the special education system in meeting the educational needs of students with disabilities.

MINUTES

2024-2025 CAC EXECUTIVE BOARD

Amanda Alfred, Chair
Parent Representative
Oxnard Union High School

LeeAnn Holland, Vice Chair
Parent Representative
Conejo Valley Unified School District

Vacant, Recording Secretary

Jasmine Duran, Membership Secretary
Agency Representative
Autism Society of Ventura County

Ashley Pope, Treasurer
Agency Representative
Autism Society of Ventura County

Denise Benic, Parliamentarian
Agency Representative
Rainbow Connection Family Resource and Empowerment Center

Flavia Seawright, Public Information Officer
Parent Representative
Pleasant Valley School District

SELPA STAFF

Joanna Della Gatta
Executive Director
Ventura County SELPA

Regina Reed
Director of Personnel Development
Ventura County SELPA

Kerry Newlee
Director of Technical Support and Transition
Ventura County SELPA

Stacy Alvey
Director, Family & School Collaboration
Ventura County SELPA

CAC Committee Meeting

DATE: March 3, 2025

4 p.m. – 6 p.m.

**Meeting will be held in person
Zoom link available upon request
VC SELPA – Santa Paula Room
5100 Adolfo Road
Camarillo, CA**

Operations Cabinet Representatives:

**Dawn Thomas, Conejo Valley Unified School District
Darlene Garcia, Oxnard Union High School District
Neil Virani, Ventura Unified School District**

The CAC is a public meeting, and any information that members choose to share about their children is not considered to be confidential. However, members of the CAC are encouraged to show sensitivity when considering sharing information with others.

4:00 I. Welcome/Introduction

Amanda, Lee Ann Holland, Flavia Seawright, Denise Benic, Jasmine Duran, Ashley Pope, Kerri, Joanna, Regina, Dawn Thomas, Jessica Goldstein-VUSD, Trina Rodriguez CVUSD, Sandra Contreras- Hueneme, Nancy Hernandez-Fillmore, Neil Virani, VUSD

Do not have quorum.

Be aware of Owl for microphone

4:05 II. Approve Agenda Amanda Alfred, Chair

4:10 III. Review of Minutes Amanda Alfred, Chair
[January 27, 2025 minutes](#)

4:15 IV. Public Comment

The Ventura County SELPA Community Advisory Committee (CAC) offers anyone with an interest in Special Education an opportunity to ask

questions, voice concerns, share information, express opinions, or otherwise bring matters to the attention of the members of the CAC. Matters discussed in this meeting may need further inquiry or verification in order for the committee members to have a more complete understanding of the issues involved. The CAC may direct the speaker to various avenues of recourse, or it may ask a member of the Special Education administration to follow up, or a member of the committee may be assigned to make inquiries. In most cases, an update on the issue will take place at the next CAC meeting. **No public comments.**

4:20 V.

Community updates

- **What's new in your agency/district/organization that supports families or students with disabilities?**

Amanda- Oxnard Union - none

Lee Ann-CVUSD - Admin. did great about communicating about the transition fair, CVUSD recognizes March as Disability History Month, hosted a resource fair for students with IEP/504, the district is a SIP grantee, updating Strategic Plan for Inclusion.

Dawn Thomas, Director, CVUSD - SIP have been able to go to model teams, SEDAC is meeting tomorrow.

Flavia-PVSD- Presenting at VCOE, input surveys were sent out, LCAP being updated, survey helps guide the LCAP, middle schools made it to top, looking for spec ed assistance, celebrated reading.

Jasmine- Autism Society - pre-teen/girls meet up, Day at the Park, Panda Express fundraiser, art show, submissions up to March 14th, Autism basics 3/19, Virtual Art classes on Tuesdays, ASVC Ribbon Cutting;
Ashley - actively recruiting for advocacy committee, book club, Equity Conference panel discussion, and presentation- Neurodiversity Affirming Practices, Aut2Run 13th annual, Question on Aut2Run - have you invited local legislators?

Jessica - VUSD - SEDAC met on Friday, received an update on activities on district pro development, and TK/K for inclusion for mild/mod, had a class/workshop on "What is Autism?" The speaker was a Program Specialist, Neil Vlrani, Executive Director, VUSD - upcoming on inclusion, expanding co-teachers, TK/K inclusion will expand next year to 1st grade.
Nick Vlahos, Deputy Director, VUSD - professional development plan for next year is in the works.

Sandra - spec. ed teachers will have training for new assessment tool this weekend.

Nancy - Fillmore - shout out to spec ed dir. who received ACSA Admin of Year award. All schools have a parent/student dance, they had a sensory-friendly experience for families before the dances. Celebrating DS Awareness Month, and wellness

4:35 VI. Commendations

4:45 VII. Committee Reports

A. Executive Board-

1. Nomination Committee

Denise Benic, Parliamentarian

Amanda, Flavia, & Lee Ann will be the nominating committee.
Reach out to Denise if you have questions or interest.
The next meeting is on Cinco de Mayo, should we move it?
Discussion - keep it the same day for meeting and exec. board meeting

B. Ad Hoc Committees

1. Parent Group Outreach Committee Lee Ann Holland, Vice Chair

Another great turnout. focused on welcome flyer, if approved will be translated and distributed to families. Talked about creating a Google slide and Instagram story to match flyer, also discussed outreach groups, and resource creating for PTAs/PFAs for more inclusive activities at schools.

Will try to vote next time and will have a Spanish translation. Lee Ann will send canva link

C. Parent Education & Training Regina Reed

March Carpe Diem Thursday 12X people - annual conference for encouraging collaboration in Mental Health
March 26 - transition to adult life 32 parents registered at TCRC in Oxnard, someone ready to present in Spanish if needed.
April 30 - CAPTAIN - End of year busyness
Supposed to have a committee for parent ed, - don't have one, to suggest topics for parent ed. after reviewing survey and based on priorities Parent education - spring parent survey, Laurie, Ashley, Lee Ann and Amanda will be on the committee

Lunch Chat with ADR team, May 14

D. Public Information

Flavia Seawright

- **February CAC Newsletter**

Can we add Special Olympics to the newsletters? Add them as a community agency? They can be added as a community resource.

5:20 VIII. Liaison Reports

- **SELPA Updates**

Joanna Della Gatta

Data update

CAPTAIN - CA Autism professional training and information network - put on parent workshops. Showed and discussed evidence-based practices.

ES update - for next month

Inclusion Update- for next month

Information about upcoming annual Local Plan review - Annual budget and services plan must be updated. Can ask questions, give input.

5:35 IX. Membership Secretary Report - Jasmine Duron

5:45 X. Treasurer Report

Ashley Pope

5:50 XI. Agenda items for the May 5th meeting - Special Olympics as a resource.

CTE and spec ed.

Community update for next month- how is your district supporting transition through the grade spans?

Topics that were missed this meeting

6:00 XII. Meeting Adjourned