

SPECIAL EDUCATION PROGRAM UPDATE

5-7-2020

Sarah Drinkwater, Assistant Superintendent
Alma Ellis, Director of Special Education
Amy Fickenscher, SEDAC Chair
Stephanie Fraumeni, Principal, Meadow Heights

OUTCOMES FOR TONIGHT

- ❑ Review of 6 Audit Areas for Improvement - Recommendations
- ❑ Communication of Audit Findings and Prioritization of Areas for Improvement
- ❑ Preliminary Work on Recommendations
 - ❑ Status on Priority Recommendations
 - ❑ Status on Areas of Vision, Communications, Staffing, Curriculum/Professional Development, Fiscal

Audit Recommendations

☐ 6 Areas:

- ☐ Vision
- ☐ Communications
- ☐ Staffing
- ☐ Curriculum/Prof Development
- ☐ Procedures/Compliance
- ☐ Fiscal

☐ 66 Recommendations from the Auditors within the 6 Areas

☐ Staff have been assigned to each area



Smartsheet tracking

Student Services

File Automation Forms Special Ed Audit Recommendations and Status Share

Grid View Filter				Arial	10	B	I	U		A							
				Areas of Recommendations	Vision	Communications	Staffing	Curriculum/Professio... Development	Procedures/Complia...	Fiscal							
1				TEAM MEMBERS	Sarah, Joan, Alma, Amy Fickenschner, Jennifer Mayman	Sarah, Alma, Dianne, Tracey	Sarah, Alma, Sue, Tracey, Christine	Sarah, Alma, Tracey, Program Specialists	Sarah, Alma, Tracey, Program Specialists	Sarah, Patrick, Alma, Christine, Tracey							
2				Joan Rosas, Sarah Drinkwater, Sue Wieser, Patrick Gaffney, Alma Ellis, Christine Gong, Tracey Berliner	Continue work of the Special Education Advisory Committee SEDAC in developing a mission and vision for the collaborative work with the District	Provide paraeducators with background information about assigned students before beginning the work assignment	Consider adding another Administrative Assistant and assigning one of the 4 to the Director of Special Education to be her Administrative Assistant	Provide training to teachers regarding tiered interventions/MTSS	Develop a Special Education Procedural Manual to address the need for consistency in procedures in all disciplines, as well as compensatory services.	Conduct periodic salary comparison studies with surrounding districts							
3																	
4					Develop a vision and plan for implementation of inclusionary practices including representatives from all teaching and administrative	Utilize a clear "chain of command" for staff to follow when issues arise	Evaluate caseloads of psychologists as well as how many open assessments each psychologist has to complete	Have School Nurse Team provide training to paraeducators on medically related procedures, as well as lifting and transferring procedures	Monitor the implementation of the PIR Plan to address the non-compliant findings in ELA and Math achievement as well as the disproportionate	Consider creating a separate pay schedule for Related Services Personnel (i.e. Speech/Language, O PT)							

Communication - Audit Sharing with Key Leadership Groups

- ☐ Board of Trustees – February 2020
- ☐ SEDAC Chair/Co-Chair– February 2020
- ☐ Special Education Leadership Team – March 2020
- ☐ SMFCSD Admin Leadership – Feb 2020
- ☐ SELPA Director – March and May 2020

Prioritized Actions Requested By Leadership Groups

- ☐ Development of SEDAC Mission and Vision, By-laws (Vision)
- ☐ Implementation of inclusionary practices (Vision)
- ☐ Review of RSP & School Psychologists caseloads (Staffing/Compliance)
- ☐ Response time: 2-day turn around time (Communications)

Prioritized Actions Requested By Leadership Groups (cont.)

- ☐ Behavior training for paraeducators
(Curriculum/Professional Development)
- ☐ Development of Special Education handbook
(Procedures/Compliance)
- ☐ Transition agency contracts to HR (Staffing)
- ☐ Re-invigoration of Special Education Leadership
Team (Communications)

Communications:

- ☐ Response time: 2-day turn around time (Communications) – Initiated/Ongoing
- ☐ Re-invigoration of Special Education Leadership Team (Communications) – Completed/Ongoing
- ☐ Published on website Special Education staff organizational chart – Completed/Ongoing
- ☐ Holding regular job-alike meetings with Special Education staff – Initiated/Ongoing
- ☐ Initiated meetings with SMETA and CSEA reps- Ongoing

Vision/Communications: SEDAC Update

- ☐ Mission and Vision Work (Draft Completed)
- ☐ By-Laws Work (Subcommittee work Completed)
- ☐ SEDAC Meeting
 - ☐ April meeting update/Website update
- ☐ Next Meeting: May 12, 2020, 7PM

Special Education/SEDAC Website Pages

The screenshot shows a web browser window with the San Mateo-Foster City School District website. The browser's address bar shows the URL <http://www.smfcgsd.net>. The website's navigation menu on the left includes the following items:

- Educational Equity-Title IX (Nine)
- + Employment & Human Resources
- + Measure L
- + Measure X
- Measure V
- OpenGov Interactive Financial Portal
- + Nutrition & School Meals
- + Parent Reference
- + Partnering with SMFCSD
- + Registration & Enrollment
- + Schools & Preschool Programs
- Special Education
 - Special Education
 - Special Education Acronyms
 - SEDAC: Special Education District Advisory Committee
- + Superintendent
- + Contact Us

The main content area features a large banner image of students with the text "SAN MATEO-FOSTER CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT" and a "Welcome!" message. Below the banner are three tabs: "NEWS", "BOARD AGENDAS", and "NONDISCRIMINATION". The "NEWS" tab is active, displaying the article "SENATOR JERRY HILL 'VISITS' EIGHTH-GRADE SOCIAL STUDIES CLASS". A small video thumbnail of Senator Jerry Hill is shown below the article title. To the right of the article is a section titled "CORONAVIRUS AND RESOURCES" with the text "Please read the Full Update from Dr. [Name] Superintendent." and a "READ MORE" button.

<http://www.smfcgsd.net/en/special-education/sedac-special-education-district-advisory-committee.html>

Vision:

Inclusion Initiative

Site Administrators: Stephanie Fraumeni, Annaben Kazemi, Christian Rubalcaba, Amanda Goll, Karrie Haselton

District-level Staff: Sarah Drinkwater, Alma Ellis, Tracey Berliner, Jocelyn Perlow, Kathie Nguyen

Our Data and History:

- ☐ Performance Indicator Review (PIR)/ Law
- ☐ Data shows we can continue to improve LRE (Least Restrictive Environment) – time spent in general education
- ☐ LCAP 2018-2019/History of the cohort
- ☐ Special Education Audit 2020

Inclusion Vision (*Draft*)

In the San Mateo-Foster City School District, we believe in inclusive practices for all students, staff, family and community members. Inclusion is the mind-set and practice of welcoming, valuing, empowering and supporting the diverse academic, social-emotional, language and communication learning of all students in our community. We believe that all students belong in the school environment to access learning, peers and the community.

Staffing:

- ☐ Review of RSP and School Psychologists caseloads – Completed/Ongoing
 - ☐ 2 School Psychologists hired
 - ☐ 4 RSP/SDC teachers hired
 - ☐ 2 SLPs hired
- ☐ Transition agency contracts to Human Resources (Staffing) – In progress
- ☐ Local Solutions Grant-tuition assistance for 4 Sped teachers- Continuing
- ☐ 2 Inclusion TOSA positions for 3 schools (GH, Laurel, MH)-New
- ☐ Mentors for new teachers and administrators - Ongoing

Curriculum/ Professional Development:

- ☐ Behavior training for paraeducators provided in January 2020 and April 2020 - Ongoing
- ☐ Tracey Berliner offered inclusion class for general education and special education teachers this year (Wednesday PD)
- ☐ Sped Leadership conducted needs assessment related to program and curricular support (e.g., admin/gen ed teachers/sped teachers/preschool) -Institute Fall 2020
- ☐ Consistent curricula: Goalbook/SPIRE & Sound Sensible/Benchmark/Unique Learning System -Ongoing

Procedures/Compliance:

- ❑ Monitor RSP caseloads to provide additional support when required – Ongoing review of caseloads and service minutes
- ❑ Monitor School Psychologist assessment caseloads- Ongoing
- ❑ Special Education Procedural Handbook – Draft in process with procedures identified for chapter development (SELPA)
- ❑ Summary of Findings (Complaints/legal cases) – District's attorney develops summary to prevent recurring errors- Ongoing

Fiscal:

- ☐ Reviewing current related services provided by agency staff and job descriptions to hire as district staff - Ongoing
- ☐ Utilized employment incentive to make SMFCSD special education teaching positions more attractive – stipend of \$2500 – In Place
- ☐ Developing efficient tracking system of agency personnel –Collaborating with HR/School sites
- ☐ Investigating a tuition-support program for SLPs with a local university (SJSU) – In process

Questions?

Thank you.