

SCUSD CAC
March 15, 2022
General Meeting

Meeting Notes

Recording

https://scusd.zoom.us/rec/share/m1WsbRtWSAJ1AARSgA8MPfKWuxs6pwYEnEJYbCQVutzXufr1_gpfzefqvZ9HD5wr.OM75iKD9Xwq59F1h

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Public Comment

None

MTSS Subcommittee Update

Renee Webster-Hawkins introduced the MTSS Subcommittee.

Our District began its MTSS effort last year. Renee shared and walked through some slides that the District's MTSS coordinator prepared. General introduction.

MTSS can support students with disabilities by moving away from the historical "wait to fail" model. The District is attempting to rewrite the script to a "new way."

Sarah Williams Kingsley: Schools are all split into three different cohorts. Task is so large that supporting school sites in this work requires smaller pieces.

Renee, responding to question from Dennis Mah: When school sites report out, they will hopefully report out to the public so we can monitor alongside them. Remains to be seen.

We hope to see district-wide positive change, especially in areas that were solely

Sarah: We have lost thousands of students. Where are we misaligned? Parents don't know that.

- o Geo: Who has credentials? Where can we align with other areas that we have a District focus on? One of those areas is MTSS. What are the needs of our students coming back to school?

Kim Taylor: How are we going to fulfil the needs of SpEd students who need specific services with the number of BCBA people? Today they can barely manage existing case loads.

- o Geo: No specific provider required. We can look at other positions to do that. Other support systems, e.g. school psychologists and social workers. Not just taking work from one group and giving it another. It's how to meet needs in a MTSS way. Ultimately, teacher credentials are valuable. School psychologists are not credentialed in that fashion. Get credentialed teachers into classrooms.

Kim: Nice that you respect the teachers and their positions (and need for that credential), but you never even spoke to them about that – just told them they lost their BIS role.

Also: systemic problem in District that SpEd positions aren't filled in the first place.

Deirdre: Share my experience over the last couple of months. I feel connected to CAC, great way to know what's going on. We've had quite a contentious experience with the IEP process. Some of these newly created positions were assigned to work with us.

Changed how IEPs are done. These folks are amazing and so good to work with. Before: suggestions then yes/no. Now with those people they know if something will work and if not what else will.

Kenya: A lot of what we're speaking about right now – shortage of teachers across the country. Newsom passed a bill to ease hiring and grant credentials. Psychologists and BCBA's need to hold credentials. We want credentialed staff psychologists and BCBA's. Some students do not need a BCBA or behavior intervention plan, but some students do. When speaking about community as a whole, keep in mind IEP is individualized.

Taylor: We are solving a particular acute need for classroom teachers by gutting our SpEd department. Our SpEd issues are long term. Unfortunate other District staff not here to share their thinking and to hear our emotion. I expect we'll be talking about the Board's March 3rd decision to reassign these positions 5 years from now. The positions being realigned are some of the hardest to fill. This is misguided and is helping larger district problems on the backs of our SpEd kids.

Jason: We are not serving a higher number of kids. We are taken from a large pool of kids we currently serve to a small pool. If we want to work as many kids as we can, moving to a surplus classroom is not the answer. MTSS position does not exist yet.

Takeaway: general reduction of services for SpEd kids.

David: I've seen this happen for so many years. The work doesn't go away – the needs don't go away. You can't do addition by subtraction. We aren't widgets that can just be moved around the chess board. We need to fill all the holes. Larger hiring issue. I know hundreds of teachers who went to the Elk Grove hiring event. This will be a downward spiral.

Geo: Board members not here because of board meeting going on right now that started at 4pm.

Dennis: There does seem to be a systemic problem in the budgeting process. It looks at one year at a time based on projected ADA. Misses the 5- or 10-year outlook that we

should look for in Sac City. In the long view, we should not be laying off people this year. Advocating that someone tell the decision makers to look at the big picture.

Kenya: Can David tell us difference between being laid off and surplussed?

- David: Lay off is pink slip. The District does this every year, then tries to hire back in the summer. Surplussed means site or department loses a position but you're not losing your job.

Kim: How many Functional Behavioral Analyses (FBAs) are performed annually in the District?

- Geo: I don't know off the top of my head but can bring it back to the group.
- Dr. Hedegard: Difficult to analyze across the District. A number of functional behavioral assessments completed through legal processes as well.

Kim: Lots of effort to go through and make necessary recommendations and changes