

Board Report
LOCAL PLAN FOR SPECIAL EDUCATION

Introductory Statement

Title 30, Education Code Section 52000, requires that Local Plan for Special Education be periodically submitted to the Superintendent for Public Instruction that assures that the Special Education Local Plan Area (SELPA) has in effect policies, procedures and programs that are consistent with federal and state laws and regulations, listed in the Federal, State and Local Requirements of the Local Plan. As a single district SELPA, the San Diego Unified School District has reviewed Federal Requirements in its current Local Plan for Special Education as required by the California Department of Education (CDE). The resulting required revisions to district policy have been recommended.

Background

The Federal Requirements portion of the Local Plan is comprised of the signed assurances between the United States Department of Education and the California Department of Education that require policies and procedures are in place and include the following elements from Federal law:

1. Free Appropriate Public Education (FAPE) (20 USC 1412 (a)(1))
2. Full Educational Opportunity (20 USC 1412 (a) (2))
3. Child Find (20 USC 1412 (a)(3))
4. Individualized Education Program (IEP) and Individualized Family Service Plan (IFSP) (20 USC 1412 (a) (4))
5. Least Restrictive Environment (20 USC 1412 (a) (5))
6. Procedural Safeguards (20 USC 1412 (a) (6))
7. Evaluation (20 USC 1412 (a)(7))
8. Confidentiality (20 USC 1412 (a)(8))
9. Part C, Transition (20 USC 1412 (a) (9))
10. Private Schools (20 USC 1412 (a)(10))
11. Local Compliance Assurances (20 USC 1412 (a)(11))
12. Interagency (20 USC 1412 (a)(12))
13. Governance (20 USC 1412 (a)(13))
14. Personnel Qualifications (USC 1412 (a)(14))
15. Performance Goals and Indicators (USC 1412 (a)(15))
16. Participation in Assessments (USC 1412 (a)(16))
17. Supplementation of State/Federal Funds (USC 1412 (a)(17))
18. Maintenance of Effort (USC 1412 (a)(18))
19. Public Participation (USC 1412 (a)(19))
20. Rule of Construction (USC 1412 (a)(20))
(Federal Requirement for State Education Agency only)
21. State Advisory Panel (USC 1412 (a)(21))
(Federal Requirement for State Education Agency only)
22. Suspension/Expulsion (USC 1412 (a)(22))
23. Access to Instructional Materials (USC 1412 (a)(23))

24. Over identification and Disproportionality (USC 1412 (a)(24))
25. Prohibition on Mandatory Medicine (USC 1412 (a)(25))
26. Distribution of Funds (USC 1412 (a)(26))
27. Data (USC 1412 (a)(27))
28. Reading Literacy (State Board requirement, 2/99)
29. Charter Schools (E.C. 56207.5 (a-c))

CDE did not require the revision of the State and Local Requirements of the Local Plan for this Local Plan process.

Instructional Implications

The Federal Requirements of the Local Plan for Special Education includes assurances that students with disabilities will have full access to all district required core curriculum including state adopted core curriculum textbooks, supplementary textbooks and instructional materials available to students without disabilities. Per CDE regulations, an Annual Service Plan that provides these assurances is submitted to CDE.

The Annual Service Plan includes a description of services provided by the SELPA, including the nature of the services and the physical location at which the services are provided, including alternative schools, charter schools, and community day schools within the District. The Annual Service Plan also includes nonpublic schools. A description of programs for early childhood special education from birth through five years of age is included. This description illustrates that all individuals with exceptional needs have access to services and instruction appropriate to meet their needs as specified in their individualized education programs.

Budget Implications

The Local Plan for Special Education reflects policies and procedures that assure that State/Federal funds will be used to supplement and not to supplant state, local and other Federal funds. The Local Plan also assures that federal funds will not be used to reduce the level of local funds and/or combined level of local and state funds expended for the education of children with disabilities and thus ensures the Maintenance of Effort except as provided in Federal law and regulations. Per CDE regulations, the annual budget plan will be submitted each year.

The Annual Budget Plan identifies expected expenditures for all items required under education code section 56205, including, but not limited to, the following:

- (A) Funds received
- (B) Administrative costs of the plan
- (C) Special education services to pupils with severe disabilities and low incidence disabilities
- (D) Special Education services to pupils with nonsevere disabilities
- (E) Supplemental aids and services to meet the individual needs of pupils placed in regular education classrooms and environments
- (F) Regionalized operations and services, and direct instructional support by program specialists
- (G) The use of property taxes allocated to the SELPA

Public Support and Engagement Implications

Under Federal requirements, the Local Plan for Special Education must include policies and procedures regarding public participation in the review of the plan. Numerous meetings were held for the purpose of providing opportunities for public participation in the revision of district policies and procedures. The plan assures that members of the public, including parents or guardians of individuals with exceptional needs who are receiving services under the plan, may participate in the review of the Local Plan.

The Federal Requirements of the Local Plan were reviewed by a committee of representatives of special and general education teachers and administrators, selected by the groups they represent, and with participation by parent members of the Community Advisory Committee for Special Education. In addition, the SELPA's Community Advisory Committee (CAC) has verified that the plan has been reviewed by the CAC and that it has had at least 30 days to conduct this review prior to submission of the plan to the Board of Education.

Policy Implications

The Local Plan for Special must be supported by district policies that reflect federal and state laws and regulations as related to special education programs and students. The following policies related to the Federal Requirements which address special education programs, special education students, and assessment are recommended for revision as indicated:

F-2510
F-2515
F-2520
F-7106

Administrative and Special Education Procedures continue to be up-dated that address Local Plan requirements.

Recommendations

The Superintendent assures that the San Diego Unified SELPA has in effect policies, procedures, and programs that are consistent with state laws, regulations and policies governing those listed in the Federal Requirements of the Local Plan and recommends Board of Education approval.

Attachments:

1. Federal Requirements
2. Proposed revisions to Board Policy 2510
3. Proposed revisions to Board Policy 2515
4. Proposed revisions to Board Policy 2520
5. Proposed revisions to Board Policy 7106
6. Annual Service Plan
- 6a. Site Name and Types of Facilities
- 6b. Infant Services

- 6c. Pre-School Services
- 6d. Specialized Academic Instruction (information only)
- 6e. Related Services (information only)
- 7. Annual Budget Plan
- 8. Community Advisory Committee Certification (SED-LP-2)

Prepared by Roxie Jackson, Executive Director, Special Education Programs Division