

SCUSD CAC
7/7/2021
Planning Meeting

Zoom Recording

https://scusd.zoom.us/rec/share/iEUyU7IWCO_TVpFShVO1mKtQqHFRU6b7GdmXZxkQVaNMNUrlm5Aol7GujpgC2SHx.6hG6j1zNmSR0fag9

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Introduction

Everyone in attendance introduced themselves

Benita Shaw opened up the meeting to see what topics members and District representatives would like to see next year

Discussion related to a CAC facilitator

Dr. Hedegard asked if we are setting the goals of the organization vs. what do we want for adult professional learning. She asked Kenya, Benita, and Taylor to summarize the conversation they had with the district last Wednesday.

Benita said that the idea is to talk about

lot of responsibilities including notes, Facebook page, etc. She noted that there has been a lack of trust in collaborating with the District on some of these issues, and so the facilitator could help build that trust between the CAC and the District.

Member Murawski offered to introduce the facilitator's background.

Rose said we should not vote on the facilitator tonight since it was not agendaized, so we should share the letter and agendaize the decision at another meeting. She noted that some members have been obstructing the business of the CAC, which is now resulting in the District having to pay for a babysitter. She said we should pivot to planning for next year (it is now 6:38pm).

Lisa Arnold-Fernandez said it would be a benefit to have a facilitator for the reasons stated – to bring together the constituencies within the CAC. She said she does not see a facilitator as an attack on the CAC, and said it would help to have a neutral party. She referenced "nit picking" issues like Brown Act issues that distract from advocating for kids in the District.

Sarah Williams Kingsley took issue with calling it "nit picking" when some members insist that laws be followed.

Kenya said that she has volunteered sweat and tears for this District and noted that her children are none the better due to that work. She said that distractions have been drowning out voices of other parents and members. She said that these personal issues are about adults not children.

Benita agreed with Rose that this topic should be brought up at a subsequent meeting. She noted that she has been on this committee for a long time and her time has been transparent. She said that it seems that some issues are being brought up to others instead of her, which is why the superintendent has taken interest in the CAC's functioning. She said that in the past the CAC has had smaller meetings without attacks about bylaws (violations for the past 8 years), so we should not focus on that now. She said we have been transparent and not tried to break bylaws, and conversations about it have taken away from the CAC's work.

Member Murawski said that she did not doubt that all CAC members and those here today share the goals of improving things for students – including District staff. She noted we have a collective challenge of how to coalesce that into positive change. She recommended inviting the proposed facilitator to the meeting so we could get to know her.

Renee Webster-Hawkins agreed with Member Murawski that we are all here to make things better for the kids. She noted that things have been tense this year, but we keep showing up in the hopes to work on behalf of our kids. She promised to take into consideration the fact that some members may be drowning out others. She noted that she is, quote, nitpicking because she is not sure how otherwise to engage with the CAC. She said in the past the bylaws and Brown Act were not used to exclude members, and the goal with complaints now is to ensure there is a big tent and that all members can be part of the solution.

Benita asked Renee to share with her, her specific issues so that they can be addressed.

Discussion related to meeting planning

Dennis Mah said that the goal of the CAC next year should be to focus on how we can make an impact on the local plan, for example amendments around inclusive practices and transitions. He noted that we need more information from the District, and said a facilitator could maybe help with that. He also said site visits and other information gathering is possible for the CAC. He suggested soliciting feedback from various stakeholders including unions, Coalition for Students with Disabilities, etc. – and to have the Board liaison take that back to the Board. He noted that last year we did not necessarily meet the spirit of the law by actively discussing what can be changed in the SELPA.

Dr. Hedegard returned to Dennis'