SONOMA COUNTY SELPA
FINANCE COMMITTEE

AGENDA
September 4, 2012
1:00 – 3:00 p.m.
SCOE Oak Room D

1. OPENING
   1a. Call to Order
   1b. Welcome New Member(s)

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES
   2a. Minutes of May 16, 2012

3. ADJUSTMENT OF AGENDA

4. DISCUSSION/INFORMATION ITEMS
   4a. Update on Special Education Funding for 2012-13
       Catherine Conrado
       • Fair Share Contribution of Basic Aid Districts
       • California Children’s Services Update
       • Educationally-Related Mental Health Services
         o 2011-12
         o 2012-13
         o 2013-14 Projected to be an ADA allocation
       • Special Education Growth
   4b. SCOE Preschool Program Planning for 2013-14
       Ron Whitman

In compliance with Government Code § 54954.2(a), the Sonoma County SELPA will, upon request, make this agenda available in appropriate alternative formats to persons with a disability, as required by Section 202 of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (42 U.S.C. § 12132) and the federal rules and regulations adopted in implementation thereof. Individuals who need this agenda in an alternative format or who need a disability-related modification or accommodation in order to participate in the meeting should contact Lynda Scigliano, Administrative Assistant to the SELPA Director, Sonoma County SELPA, 5340 Skylane Boulevard, Santa Rosa, CA 95403, phone (707) 524-2752. Agenda and content materials are available for inspection at the SELPA Office located at the above referenced address.
4c. Update of SELPA Allocation Plan (Policy 8) and Provision of Services to Students Voluntarily Enrolled in Charter Schools (Policy 18) Deborah Malone-Larson

4d. Review Charter School Exit Letters Catherine Conrado

4e. Discussion of the SELPA Allocation Plan: i.e., 50/50 model Member Request

4f. American Institutes for Research (AIR) Paper on Special Education Funding in California by Tom Parrish

4g. SCOE Special Education Organization Chart Member Request

5. ANNOUNCEMENTS

6. PUBLIC INPUT

7. ADJOURNMENT
## SONOMA COUNTY SELPA

**FINANCE COMMITTEE**

**Date:** September 4, 2012

**Agenda Item #:** 2a

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### Summary of Key Issue(s):

Approval of Minutes of May 16, 2012 meeting.

### Summary of Previous Finance Committee Discussion & Action:

Not applicable.

### Fiscal Analysis (as appropriate):

None.

### Recommendations:

- [ ] Steering Committee
- [ ] Superintendents’ Council
- [ ] Other

None.

### Attachment(s) to this Agenda Item:

1. Minutes of May 16, 2012
SONOMA COUNTY SELPA
FINANCE COMMITTEE
MINUTES
May 16, 2012

1. CALL TO ORDER
The meeting was called to order at 8:34 a.m. Members in attendance were: Kim Agrella, Diane Ashton, Ann Barron, Annabel Bentley, Denise Calvert, Jan Frey, Eric Hoppes, Steve Jorgensen, Nanci Matheson, Patty Murch, Joe Pandolfo, Tony Roehrick, Ann Savvidis, Ron Whitman, Deborah Malone-Larson, Greg Englar and Catherine Conrado.

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES
The minutes of the March 16, 2011 meeting were resubmitted with one change: include the request of Joe Pandolfo for organization charts from both the SELPA office and the SCOE Special Education Department as well as the minutes from May 1, 2012. The motion for the minutes was approved unanimously. There was a request to note in the minutes if a motion carried unanimously or by majority vote.

3. ADJUSTMENT OF AGENDA
There was no adjustment of the agenda.

4. DISCUSSION/INFORMATION ITEMS
4a. Update on Special Education Funding for 2012-13
Catherine Conrado reported on information from the May State SELPA Directors Association meeting.

- Fred Balcom, State Director of Special Education, told attendees to plan for a 10 percent cut in federal IDEA funds, in spite of the legal requirement for the State to augment revenue to compensate for any federal reductions. As a result of this information, Deborah Malone-Larson prepared spreadsheets listing the impact to all member districts in the SELPA for 2012-13. School Services and CDE fiscal staff did not corroborate Fred’s prediction. Districts may revise their budgets if they believe it will be necessary.

- Catherine Conrado reminded members to ensure that there is accurate coding in SACS for the use of the counseling and other related mental health services for the current year and next year. While County Mental Health agencies were not accountable for 25 years of AB3632 funding, local education agencies will need to demonstrate compliant use of the funds for the short term.

- Failure of a district or SELPA to meet the Maintenance of Effort (MOE) requirements will be subject to a new federal practice. Previously, an agency that was not able to meet MOE could pay
the penalty and be re-benched at the lower level. For the future, there will be no re-benching and agencies will have to meet the “old” MOE benchmark in the subsequent year. The State of California is predicted to fail its MOE by $5 million to $6 million for 2012 and fail MOE by $100 million for 2013. Consequences are unknown at this time.

5. ACTION ITEMS
5a. Review SRCS DHH Program Budget for 2012-13
This item was reviewed at the May 1, 2012 meeting where a motion to approve the budget passed with a majority vote. At the request of a member, the item was re-presented at the May 16, 2012 meeting. Catherine Conrado obtained an attorney’s review and written memorandum on the topic of the validity of votes made beyond the posted meeting time. The vote was valid because the item was on the agenda, the committee was working through the agenda and a quorum was present at the time of the vote. SRCS reported on their current program structure. The committee did not present a desire to re-do the motion.

5b. Review the Preschool Funding Allocation Plan
The Finance Committee engaged in proposing a variety of options for revising the allocation plan which has been under discussion most of this school year. A reduction in funds to SCOE will necessitate an increase in the preschool fee, raising concerns for those who use the service and concerns for the fiscal implications, both from districts who don’t use the SCOE SHAPE program and those districts who do use it.

Based on a suggested option from the May 1, 2012 meeting, Deborah Malone-Larson produced a spreadsheet to illustrate the impact. The funding level is the allocation from AB02 revenue (rather than the propose SCOE SHAPE budget). She divided by the total preschool count for children with severe disabilities plus the count of those preschoolers with intensive autism service needs. This calculation will result in preschoolers with intensive autism service needs being counted twice and, therefore, receiving twice the allocation of preschoolers without autism to be used for fees in SCOE or a consortium. The SCOE SHAPE fee will double but the students in the program will generate twice the revenue to help offset the fee increase.

*The motion to approve the revised funding formula was approved by majority vote; the motion included the stipulation that implementation will begin in 2013-14 with 50 percent change and at the 100 percent level in 2014-15.*

5b. Establish Board and Care Reimbursement Rates for 2012-13
The committee has reviewed this issue for several meetings and established a consensus that reimbursement should not be 100 percent that could serve as an unintended incentive. It was proposed that there be a specific set-aside fund for board-and-care and
reimbursement would vary depending on the number of students in placement. Based on the 2011-12 estimated usage and placements, Deborah Malone-Larson prepared a spreadsheet for members to review with a pool of $1,250,000. The data showed that estimated reimbursement rates are approximately 86 percent of board and care costs. Deborah will calculate and distribute funds in the same manner as the NPS/A pool.

**Motion to approve the Board and Care Reimbursement Pool at $1.25 million for 2012-13 and beyond carried unanimously.**

6. **ANNOUNCEMENTS**
   There were no announcements.

7. **PUBLIC INPUT**
   There was no public input.

8. **ADJOURNMENT**
   The meeting was adjourned at 9:59 a.m.
SONOMA COUNTY SELPA
FINANCE COMMITTEE

Date: September 4, 2012

Agenda Item # 4a

Subject: Update on Special Education Funding for 2012-13

Action

Information/Discussion

Public Hearing

Summary of Key Issue(s):

Several items of information on funding are key to the 2012-13 school year that were not yet determined in the State budget when the Committee last met in May.

• There is discussion that Basic Aid Districts may need to contribute their "fair share" of the schools' revenue reduction. Special education is included in the categoricals this year. As of this writing, there is no determination of the percentage. Should this occur, the SELPA will distribute funds per the allocation plan and districts will refund dollars directly to the State.
• The legislature did not institute a family income cap for California Children's Services (CCS); therefore, no change to obligations. It is anticipated that the issue of educational services from CCS will re-emerge.
• Educationally-Related Mental Health Services (ERMHS) funding continues to evolve:
  - 2011-12: The estimates for board and care expenses in Sonoma County were higher than actuals. This resulted in a higher allocation to districts this summer. The Finance Committee should discuss implications. A comparison chart is attached for review.
  - 2012-13: The State will distribute funds on an allocation based on ADA with the small portion of federal funds based on the weighted formula. There will be little change to Sonoma County in the allocation amount from last year.
  - 2013-14: The State indicates that the ERMHS funds will no longer be a separate allocation but folded into the total special education allocation. Updates will be provided when available.

Summary of Previous Finance Committee Discussion & Action:

The Committee finalized an allocation process for ERMHS funds in 2011-12.

Fiscal Analysis (as appropriate):

See attachments.
Recommendations:

- Steering Committee
- Superintendents’ Council
- Other

None

Attachment(s) to this Agenda Item:

1. Revised 2011-12 Mental Health Revenue Allocations
2. 2011-12 Mental Health Revenue LEA Allocation Comparison
3. 2012-13 Mental Health Revenue Allocations
4. 2012-13 Mental Health Revenue LEA Allocation
SONOMA COUNTY SELPA  
FINANCE COMMITTEE  

Date: September 4, 2012  
Agenda Item # 4b

<table>
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<th>Subject: SCOE Preschool Program Planning for 2013-14</th>
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Summary of Key Issue(s):

Assistant Superintendent, Ron Whitman, will provide the Committee with a report on pending program services changes to preschool children with autism. The current model was established in 2001 prior to current research on effective practices and national standards in programming for preschool students with autism. Implementation is planned for the 2013-14 school year and specifics have not yet been determined.

Summary of Previous Finance Committee Discussion & Action:

None.

Fiscal Analysis (as appropriate):

None.

Recommendations:

☐ Steering Committee  
☐ Superintendents’ Council  
☐ Other  

None.

Attachment(s) to this Agenda Item:

1. Preschool Standards for a Comprehensive Autism Program
Summary of Key Issue(s):

The Finance Committee has altered or added several provisions of the Allocation Plan over the past two (2) years with official approval by the Superintendents' Council. The Allocation Plan document was not revised at the time of the changes. The Committee should review the revised document to ensure accuracy. Some edits were made to background information.

Summary of Previous Finance Committee Discussion & Action:

The Allocation Plan document was last revised in October, 2010.

Fiscal Analysis (as appropriate):

No changes.

Recommendations:

☐ Steering Committee
☐ Superintendents’ Council
☐ Other

None.

Attachment(s) to this Agenda Item:

1. Revised Allocation Plan (Policy 8)
2. Revised Provision of Services to Students Voluntarily Enrolled in Charter Schools (Policy 18)
SONOMA COUNTY SELPA
FINANCE COMMITTEE

Date: September 4, 2012
Agenda Item # 4d

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Summary of Key Issue(s):

Charter schools have the option of exiting their current SELPA as members with written notice by June 30 of the year prior to exit. The Sonoma County SELPA received letters prior to June 30, 2012 from three (3) charter schools: Woodland Star (Sonoma Valley), Live Oak (Petaluma), and Credo (Cotati-Rohnert Park). Letters of intent to exit provide the charter schools with options for SELPA membership and are not "final" notices. These charter schools also have an option to apply for LEA membership in the Sonoma County SELPA. The Committee should review the fiscal impact to the SELPA should all schools exit.

Summary of Previous Finance Committee Discussion & Action:

The Finance Committee recommended changes to the SELPA Allocation Plan effective July 1, 2011, which were approved by the Council. As a result, charter schools with LEA status in the Sonoma County SELPA receive the same funding as charter school LEA members in the El Dorado County Charter SELPA. Charter schools in the Sonoma County SELPA also have representation on the Council, Finance and Steering.

Fiscal Analysis (as appropriate):

See attachment.

Recommendations:

☐ Steering Committee
☐ Superintendents’ Council
☐ Other

None.
Attachment(s) to this Agenda Item:

1. Exit Letter from Woodland Star Charter
2. Exit Letter from Live Oak Charter
3. Exit Letter from Credo High Charter
4. Impact on Special Education Funding to the Sonoma County SELPA
5. 2011-12 SELPA-wide Special Education Revenue Certified July 2012 (Possible Departure)
6. 2011-12 SELPA-wide Special Education Revenue Certified July 2012
**SONOMA COUNTY SELPA**  
**FINANCE COMMITTEE**

**Date:** September 4, 2012  
**Agenda Item #** 4e

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**Summary of Key Issue(s):**

A committee member requested a discussion of the implications on programming and identification of eligible students for the 50/50 model.

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**Summary of Previous Finance Committee Discussion & Action:**

None.

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**Fiscal Analysis (as appropriate):**

See attached Comparison Data Charts for 2010-12.

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**Recommendations:**

- [ ] Steering Committee
- [ ] Superintendents’ Council
- [ ] Other

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**Attachment(s) to this Agenda Item:**

1. Comparison Data Charts 2010-2012
Subject: American Institutes for Research (AIR) Paper on Special Education Funding in California

Summary of Key Issue(s):

Tom Parrish, a key analyst with the American Institutes for Research (AIR), produced a paper on special education in May 2012 at the request of the State Board of Education and the Advisory Commission on Special Education. It is provided here as information on both programmatic and fiscal trends in California and comparisons to the national levels.

Summary of Previous Finance Committee Discussion & Action:

None.

Fiscal Analysis (as appropriate):

None.

Recommendations:

Steering Committee
Superintendents’ Council
Other

None.

Attachment(s) to this Agenda Item:

1. Special Education Expenditures, Revenues and Provision in California by Tom Parrish
Date: September 4, 2012

Subject: Review SCOE Special Education Organization Chart

Summary of Key Issue(s):
A committee member requested a review of the organization chart, including office staff.

Summary of Previous Finance Committee Discussion & Action:
The SCOE Special Education organization chart was first presented to members in May, 2012, as part of the discussion around preschool program options.

Fiscal Analysis (as appropriate):

Recommendations:
- [ ] Steering Committee
- [ ] Superintendents’ Council
- [ ] Other

None.

Attachment(s) to this Agenda Item:
1. SCOE Special Education Organization Chart