What is the CAC?

Each SELPA (Ed Code 56190) in California is mandated to have a CAC that works with the SELPA to address the needs of the students in Special Education. The CAC includes parent representatives from each Area, educators, and community members.

What does the CAC do?

- ✓ Increases parent awareness of changes in special education laws
- ✓ Helps parents to understand Parent Rights and Responsibilities
- ✓ Informs parents of resources within the community
- ✓ Serves in an advisory capacity in the review and development of the Local Plan for Special Education
- ✓ Recommends annual priorities to be addressed by the SELPA
- ✓ Encourages community involvement in the development of the Local Plan
- ✓ Assists in parent education and recruitment

What issues are important to you? How can the CAC help *you* support your child in school?

Your voice is important!

Contact us with your thoughts and ideas. Be sure to include contact information. Send an email to SonomaCAC@gmail.com or call our toll-free number (855) 315-3119.

What can you do?

- Attend a meeting
- Increase community participation by inviting another parent or educator to attend a meeting
- Offer to represent the regional area of your district

Sonoma County SELPA
(Special Education Local Plan Area)

Adam Stein, Executive Director

5340 Skylane Blvd. Santa Rosa, CA 95403

(855) 315-3119 toll free

2018-19 Community Advisory Committee (CAC)
Mike Toby, Chairperson
Sarah Ponsford, Vice Chairperson

Districts by Area

AREA 1 – Sonoma Valley Unified School District
AREA 2 – Cinnabar, Dunham, Liberty, Old Adobe, Petaluma Elementary, Petaluma High School, Two Rock Union, Waugh, and Wilmar school districts
AREA 3 – Cotati-Rohnert Park Unified School District
AREA 4 – Bellevue, Bennett Valley, Kenwood, Mark West Union, Piner-Olivet, Rincon Valley, Roseland, Santa Rosa Elementary, Santa Rosa High School, and Wright school districts
AREA 5 – Forestville, Fort Ross, Gravenstein, Guerneville, Harmony, Monte Rio, Montgomery, Oak Grove, Sebastopol, Twin Hills Union, and West Sonoma County Union High School districts
AREA 6 – Alexander Valley, Cloverdale Unified, Geyserville Unified, Healdsburg Unified, Horicon, Kashia, West Side, and Windsor Unified school districts
AREA 7 – Sonoma County Office of Education
AREA 8 – California Virtual Academies, Pathways Charter School, and Sebastopol Independent Charter,

Revised 08/2019

Meeting Information

All meetings are open to parents, teachers, community members, and the public interested in special education in our schools.

Meetings are held at:

Santa Rosa School District
Office Board Room
211 Ridgway Ave., Santa Rosa
6:00 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.

Schedule and Topics

September 17, 2019
Topic: Understanding your child's IEP services

November 19, 2019
Topic: Advocacy for your child (subject to change)

February 18, 2020
Topic: Inclusion

April 21, 2020
Topic: Legal Issues and Hot Topics

Interpreter Services

Interpreter services for Spanish are provided at every meeting.

Publications

The following publications are available in English and Spanish from the Sonoma County SELPA website:

- Additional copies of the CAC Brochure
- Special Education Rights of Parents and Children

If you have talked with your child's special education teacher and principal and still need help, the Sonoma County Charter SELPA offers a toll free phone number for parent information (855) 315-3119.

You may also contact:

Matrix Parent and Resource Center
94 Galli Drive #C
Novato, CA 94949
Helpline (415) 884-3535
Toll free (800) 578-2592
http://www.matrixparents.org

For additional resources, please visit www.sonomaselpa.org

"The message is clear. It is simply impossible to have an island of excellence in a sea of community indifference, and when parents become school partners, the results can be consequential and enduring."

L. E. Boyer (1995). *The Basic School,* Carnegie Foundation.