



OAKLAND UNIFIED  
SCHOOL DISTRICT

*Community Schools, Thriving Students*

# Regular Meeting of the Community Advisory Committee for Special Education (CAC)

Zoom Link: [ousd.zoom.us/j/83948199967](https://ousd.zoom.us/j/83948199967)

Meeting ID: 839 4819 9967

By Phone: 1-669-900-9128

**March 10, 2025**

**ALL BODIES ARE UNIQUE AND ESSENTIAL.**

**ALL BODIES ARE WHOLE. ALL BODIES HAVE STRENGTHS AND NEEDS THAT MUST BE MET.**

**WE ARE POWERFUL NOT DESPITE THE COMPLEXITIES OF OUR BODIES, BUT BECAUSE OF THEM.**

**WE MOVE TOGETHER, WITH NO BODY LEFT BEHIND.**

**THIS IS DISABILITY JUSTICE.**



**TODOS LOS CUERPOS SON ÚNICOS Y ESENCIALES.**

**TODOS LOS CUERPOS SON COMPLETOS. TODOS LOS CUERPOS**

**TIENEN FORTALEZAS Y NECESIDADES QUE SE DEBEN SUPLIR.**

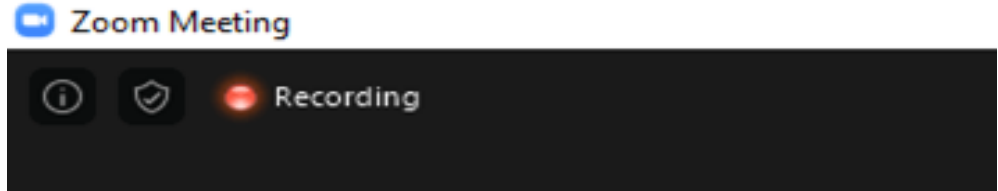
**SOMOS PODEROSOS NO A PESAR DE LAS COMPLEJIDADES DE NUESTROS CUERPOS, SINO DEBIDO A ELLAS.**

**NOS MOVEMOS JUNTOS, SIN DEJAR NINGÚN CUERPO ATRÁS.**

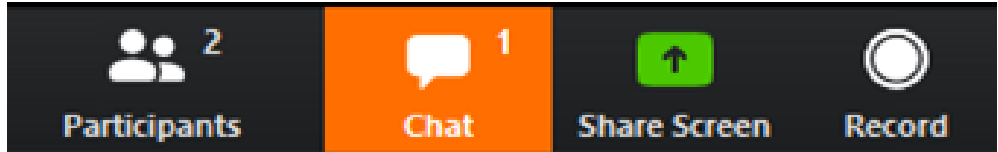
**ESTO ES JUSTICIA DE DISCAPACIDAD**

<https://www.sinsinvalid.org/>

**We are recording.**



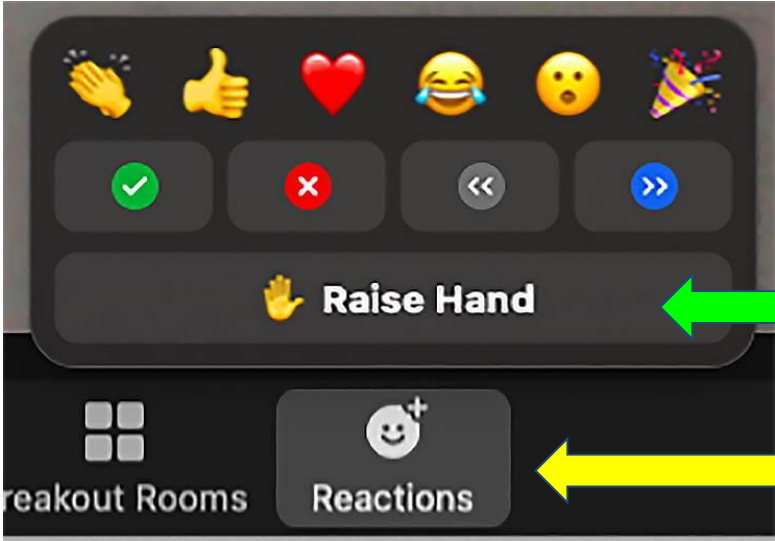
**We invite you to use the chat.**



**Reminder: We can see and hear **EVERYONE**.**

**Please keep your sound turned off until you ask a question or make a comment.**

**Please raise your hand to speak.**



# Security Instructions

Please Use the  
Sign-In Sheet

You can find links for tonight's documents at [ousd.org/LCAP](https://ousd.org/LCAP) . The folder for the **Community Advisory Committee for Special Education** is at the bottom of the page. Look inside for today's date.

# CAC Members and Special Education/Central Office Administrators

Please remember to rename yourselves  
starting with the abbreviations

**CAC or CEN**

Example: **CAC-Corvette Kirtman**



# Who Is Helping Us Today

<b>Facilitators/Chairs</b>	<b>JD Woloshyn, Coriander Melious</b>
<b>Timekeeper</b>	<b>Melisha Linzie</b>
<b>Zoom Host</b>	<b>Raquel Jimenez</b>
<b>Notetaker</b>	<b>Cintya Molina</b>
<b>Chat Monitor</b>	<b>Lena Anthony</b>
<b>Link Monitor</b>	<b>Lena Anthony</b>

Thank you!

**An Announcement  
about Proposed Cuts  
to Federal Funding  
for Public Education**

## **An Announcement from *Great City Schools***

"The House of Representatives is currently considering a FY 2025 Budget Resolution which proposes to cut \$880 billion from the Medicaid program over the next ten years and an Appropriations Bill that could potentially cut Title I by 25% and Title II and Title III entirely next school year.

Please make phone calls, use social media, enact emergency board resolutions, and send letters to members of the House of Representatives opposing this bill and opposing cuts to any education programs.

Further, please encourage your principals, teachers, central office staff, school board members, community and parent organizations, members of your Chamber of Commerce, and all civic leaders in your communities and across the state to oppose any cuts to K-12 Education."

# You can contact our US Congresswoman.

Phone: (202) 225-2661

Email Me

Address: 1023 Longworth House Office Building, Washington, DC 20002



SELECT LANGUAGE



UNITED STATES CONGRESSWOMAN  
**LATEEFAH SIMON**  
REPRESENTING THE 12TH DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA

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## CONTACT

### Send an Email

You can send us an email by entering your address and completing the **Email Me** form or **contact one of our offices** via phone or US mail.

## CONTACT

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Office Locations

**Below is the link to a letter describing the proposed federal cuts in detail and ways to speak out:**

**<https://tinyurl.com/ycx8wkke>**

# **Meeting Goals and Agreements**

## **Tonight, we will:**

- 1. find out what level of access OUSD disabled students are having to Athletics and Visual & Performing Arts**
- 2. learn about ongoing to work to improve access in these areas and offer feedback**
- 3. learn about 2025 Special Education Extended School Year and other summer programs**
- 4. hear from CAC members about progress on current initiatives and other activities of the CAC**

# Our Agreements

- One person speaks at a time (one microphone)
- Take space; make space
- Honor the agenda
- Tough on problems; easy on people
- Listen to understand
- Offer solutions



# **Review of the Agenda**

6:00 30 mins.	<b>Welcome, Goals, Agreements, Introductions, Roll Call</b>
6:30 20 mins.	<b>CAC Member Updates</b>
6:50 20 mins.	<b>Special Education Updates: Extended School Year, OUSD Summer Programs, Other Summer Resources in the Community</b>
7:10 10 mins.	<b>Break</b>
7:20 60 mins.	<b>Updates: Improving Access and Accessibility for Disabled Students in OUSD (Athletics, Visual and Performing Arts)</b>
8:20 10 mins.	<b>Announcements, Appreciations, &amp; Public Comments</b>

# **Introducing Ourselves**

# The Special Education Leadership Team

# Executive Director



**Jenn Blake**, Executive Director,  
Special Education and Health Services

[Jennifer.Blake@ousd.org](mailto:Jennifer.Blake@ousd.org)

# K-12 School Support



**Theresa Lozach**

[theresa.lozach@ousd.org](mailto:theresa.lozach@ousd.org)  
Director, Special Education  
ECE



**Micaela Reinstein**

[micaela.reinstein@ousd.org](mailto:micaela.reinstein@ousd.org)  
Director, Elementary  
Programs [Network 2]



**Liana Nelson**

[liana.nelson@ousd.org](mailto:liana.nelson@ousd.org)  
Coordinator, Elementary  
Programs [Networks 3 & 4]



**Cary Kaufman**

[cary.kaufman@ousd.org](mailto:cary.kaufman@ousd.org)  
Director, Middle School  
Programs and Legal Support



**Dr. Bianca D'Allesandro**

[bianca.dallesandro@ousd.org](mailto:bianca.dallesandro@ousd.org)  
Coordinator, Secondary  
Programs



**Stephen Raser**

[stephen.raser@ousd.org](mailto:stephen.raser@ousd.org)  
Director, High School  
Programs

# Transition Services



**David Cammarata**

[david.cammarata@ousd.org](mailto:david.cammarata@ousd.org)

Director, Young Adult and  
Transition Services



**Jake Hall**

[james.hall@ousd.org](mailto:james.hall@ousd.org)

Assistant Principal, Young  
Adult and Transition Services

# Related Services



**Anne Zarnowiecki**

[Anne.Zarnowiecki@ousd.org](mailto:Anne.Zarnowiecki@ousd.org)

Director, Related Services  
(SLPs, OT, PT, Low Incidence)



**Dr. Betty Lin**

[Betty.Lin@ousd.org](mailto:Betty.Lin@ousd.org)

Coordinator, Related Services  
and Support Staff



**Dr. Stacey Lindsay**

[Stacey.Lindsay@ousd.org](mailto:Stacey.Lindsay@ousd.org)

Director, Psychological and  
Mental Health Services



# SELPA, IEP Quality, and Access



**Aruna Subramanian**

aruna.sokol@ousd.org  
Coordinator, Disability Access



**Rain Johnson**

rain.johnson@ousd.org  
SELPA Director [Nonpublic,  
Private, Child Find,  
Governance, and Contracts]



**Peggy Forbes**

peggy.forbes@ousd.org  
Program Manager, IEP Quality

[Click Here](#) to view the Special Education Teacher on Special Assignment caseloads for 2024-25 in case you need to contact a member of our team about your child's special education services.

# Who Is Here Today?

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Please introduce yourself in the chat with your name and the name of your school, program, role, and/or organization.

You can also share the disability categories or identities with which you are most familiar from personal or family experience.



# Roll Call

# Members of the CAC for Special Education

Jonah Zimmerman-Bloch, Lateefa Ali, Lena Anthony,  
Mike Beebe, Jennifer Blake, Carol Delton, Ashley Demelo,  
Cynthia Gutiérrez, Sheila Haynes, Denise Huffstutler,  
Patty Juergens, Corvetta Kirtman, Alan Pursell, Joe Manekin,  
Coriander Melious, Anna Realini, Tiffany Stewart,  
Sayuri Valenza, Inga Wagar, JD Woloshyn, Kristen Zimmerman

**Quorum: 11**

# CAC Member Updates

6:30 pm 20 minutes

**You can become a CAC member at any time.**

If you are interested, contact Cintya Molina at 510-491-6069 or [cintya.molina@ousd.org](mailto:cintya.molina@ousd.org).

Nominees must attend a minimum of 3 CAC meetings to become CAC members.



# For additional information about the CAC:



**OAKLAND UNIFIED  
SCHOOL DISTRICT**  
Community Schools, Thriving Students



Special  Education

## **Community Advisory Committee for Special Education**

### Role, Responsibilities, and Membership

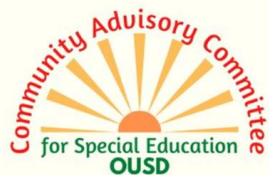
Spring 2025

[www.ousd.org](http://www.ousd.org)



@OUSDnews

Link: [tinyurl.com/4p3d7wh9](https://tinyurl.com/4p3d7wh9)



Join the parents, caregivers, students, teachers, staff, and community members of the **COMMUNITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE FOR SPECIAL EDUCATION (CAC)**.

Let's advocate together for the belonging and support that all disabled students deserve!

- ✓ Attend our meetings on second Mondays. Meeting information at [ousd.org/calendar](https://www.ousd.org/calendar).
- ✓ Check us out on Facebook at [facebook.com/CAC4SpEdOUSD](https://facebook.com/CAC4SpEdOUSD).
- ✓ Email us at [cacoakland@gmail.com](mailto:cacoakland@gmail.com).



## COMMUNITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE FOR SPECIAL EDUCATION

**2<sup>ND</sup> MONDAY OF THE MONTH**  
(except for holidays) **6-8:00 pm**

Meeting details & Zoom link at [www.ousd.org/calendar](https://www.ousd.org/calendar)

We provide Spanish, Arabic & Chinese interpretation.

Additional languages by request.

Meeting materials in committee folder at [www.ousd.org/LCAP](https://www.ousd.org/LCAP)

For more information, contact:  
[cintya.molina@ousd.org](mailto:cintya.molina@ousd.org) 510-491-6069

### MEETING DATES

AUGUST 19

SEPTEMBER 9

OCTOBER 21

NOVEMBER 18

DECEMBER 9

JANUARY 13

FEBRUARY 10

MARCH 10

APRIL 14

MAY 12

**Folder with CAC Flyer and Calendar of Meetings in Multiple Languages:**  
[tinyurl.com/2mta7y7t](https://tinyurl.com/2mta7y7t)

**Meeting Details and Zoom Link:**  
[ousd.org/calendar](https://ousd.org/calendar)

**Attend our public meetings on 2nd Mondays.**  
When there is a holiday, we meet on the next available Monday.



# Our Ongoing Initiatives & Member Leads

- Issues on which we are focusing
- Looking for additional members and others to help move the work forward

## **1) Board Adoption of *Resolution to Promote School Stability and Belonging for Disabled Students in OUSD***

Stopping the Expulsion of Disabled Students from their Schools to Close their Programs

We will work with our Board liaison to reintroduce this resolution and related policy this month.

## **2) Implementation of Plan to Reduce Suspensions for Disabled Black Students in Middle School**

The Working Group for this initiative meets every 3rd Thursday.

This initiative was the topic of the 1/13 meeting. You can find the meeting presentation and recording in the CAC folder at [ousd.org/LCAP](https://ousd.org/LCAP). Go to the bottom of the page.

### **3) Implementation of *Board-Adopted Resolution No. 2021-0159 - Ensuring Access to Social-Emotional and Academic Supports for Students with Disabilities***

[After-School, Visual-Performing Arts, Athletics, Work-Based/Linked Learning, etc.]

This is the main topic of tonight's meeting.

### **4) Access and Equity for the Young Adult Program: Work-Career Opportunities for Disabled Students**

For an in-depth report about this initiative, see the meeting presentation and recording from the 2/10/25 meeting.

## 5) School Board Legislative Priorities Related to Special Education

Carol Delton reporting

**On Wednesday 2/12/2025, the OUSD Board of Education had a first read of their Legislative Priorities. The CAC priorities are included under the title *Special Education*:**

OUSD supports educational and fiscal policies that, when accompanied by adequate resources, serve students with disabilities in learning environments where they can thrive. We believe that students should be given the opportunity to learn among their peers in classrooms where they are supported by staff and resources designed to eradicate barriers to their academic success.

*Continued on the next slide*

## 5) School Board Legislative Priorities (Continued)

We believe charter schools should be required to join the SELPA of the district in which they are located as a condition of granting or renewal of their charter.

We believe in increases to the scope of the extraordinary cost pool so that districts are reimbursed for a larger portion of the costs for students requiring residential placements, individual aides, and other intensive services.

We believe in requiring charter schools to have certificated staffing with credentials in extensive support needs (ESN) in alignment with AB 1505, and mandating the disclosure of student data between charter schools and their authorizers.

*Continued on the next slide*

**6) Sufficient Special Education Staffing for Disabled Students with IEPs: Special Education Teachers, Paraprofessionals, Instructional Support Specialists, etc.**

This was the main topic of the 2/10/25 meeting.

A working group focusing on this initiative meets every 3rd Thursday.

The group will be hosting a Listening Circle with Paraeducators on April 9th at 4pm.



**Let Us Know If You Want to Help.**

**Write to us at [cacoakland@gmail.com](mailto:cacoakland@gmail.com)  
if you would like join a specific initiative  
or support our committee in any way.**

**2025 TRANSITION  
CONFERENCE &  
RESOURCE FAIR**

**Diablo Valley College**

**321 Golf Club Road**

**Pleasant Hill, CA 94523**

**Saturday, March 15, 2025**

**8:30 AM - 3 PM**

**ALL ARE WELCOME !**

**[https://drive.google.com/file/d/1HgZNnZvIOAbi-QoPRX3tJwV-bwDvhuzR/view?usp=drive\\_link](https://drive.google.com/file/d/1HgZNnZvIOAbi-QoPRX3tJwV-bwDvhuzR/view?usp=drive_link)**

**[https://drive.google.com/file/d/1aMVXDshx\\_uric1A7Ixdd7CmBe1UfDv1p/view?usp=drive\\_link](https://drive.google.com/file/d/1aMVXDshx_uric1A7Ixdd7CmBe1UfDv1p/view?usp=drive_link)**



## Upcoming Meetings

<b>Wednesday, 3/12</b>		<b>CAC Report at School Board Meeting</b>
<b>Wednesday, 3/19</b>	<b>5:30 pm</b>	<b>CAC Report at PSAC Meeting</b>
<b>Thursday, 3/20</b>		<b>Working Groups</b>
<b>Monday, 4/14</b>	<b>6:00 pm</b>	<b>CAC Public Meeting</b>

# Special Education Updates

Jennifer Blake, Special Education Executive Director

6:50 pm 20 minutes

**2025 Extended  
School Year (ESY)**

**Other Summer  
Programs for  
Disabled Students**

# **Other Resources For Families**

# IEP Support Sessions

**IEP Drop-In Session** designed to support you in navigating the IEP process and ensuring your child's educational needs are met. During this session, you'll have the opportunity to meet privately with an experienced **special education attorney** (appointment required) and **family navigators** who are well-versed in the IEP process. They will be available to answer your questions, provide guidance, and share valuable resources to help you confidently advocate for your child.

## ★ Drop-in Sessions

**Date:** Tuesday, March 25th & Thursday March 27th

**Time:** 10 AM - 12 PM (March 25th only) 6 PM - 7 PM

**Registration Link:** <https://forms.gle/XqPEocHPjRYo4L9k8>

## ★ Transition & Triennial

**Date:** Thursday, April 24th 2025

**Time:** 6 PM - 7 PM

**Link:** [Virtual](#)



# Thriving Parents Learning Portal

★ **This platform provides access to a range of expert resources and strategies on topics like:**

- Positive parenting techniques Managing challenging behaviors
- Supporting neurodiverse children and those who learn differently
- And much more!

**Getting started is easy! Simply visit and follow the instructions to sign up for FREE.** [English Link](#) [Spanish Link](#)

★ **Beyond Self-Care Sunday: 10 Strategies to Reduce Stress When Parenting a Child Who Learns Different** - Parenting a child who learns differently doesn't have to be a daily struggle!

**Date:** Thursday, March 27th, 2025

**Time:** 5:30 PM - 6:30 PM

**Link:** [Virtual](#)

# Upcoming Workshops/Events

## ★ Friends Learning with Inclusive Play (FLIP)

**Date:** March 1, 2025    **Time:** 10 AM - 12 PM

**Place:** Burbank PreSchool 3550 65th Avenue, Oakland, CA 94605

[English Flyer](#) & [Spanish Flyer](#)

## ★ Special Education Annual Resource Fair [Flyer](#)

**Date:** Saturday, May 3, 2025

**Time:** 12 PM - 3 PM

## ★ Other Resources

- [Family Workshop](#)
- Special Education Website - [Family and Caregiver Resources](#)
- [Parent Square \(Special Education Group\)](#) Login required

# Upcoming Workshops/Events cont.

## ★ CPR Training

**Date:** TBD (May)    **Time:** 5:30 PM - 8:30 PM

**Place:** Sante Fe Campus 915 54th Street, Oakland, CA 94608

[English Flyer](#) & [Spanish Flyer](#)

**Brief Updates  
about the OUSD  
Budget Process and  
Special Education**



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gzmA1kkk660>

Break 7:10 pm 10 minutes

# Updates & Discussion: Increasing Access & Accessibility for Disabled Students (Athletics, Visual & Performing Arts)

7:20 pm, 60 minutes

## SEGMENT OUTLINE

<b>Background and Key Questions</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>Updates from Athletics</b>	<b>15</b> <b>10</b>
<b>Updates from Visual &amp; Performing Arts</b>	<b>15</b> <b>10</b>
<b>Closing</b>	<b>5</b>

## **Link to Related Presentation from October 2023**

Visual & Performing Arts: [tinyurl.com/33u792bz](https://tinyurl.com/33u792bz)

Athletics: [tinyurl.com/4ha78td9](https://tinyurl.com/4ha78td9)



**The slides that follow contain related information and data from the October 2023 CAC Meeting. The information and data will be updated live at this meeting on 3/10/25.**

# **Athletics**

# Collaboration with Oakland Athletics League

- Joint presentation with Special Olympics to Athletic directors in August 2023
- Creating partnership opportunities with BORP - Bay Area Outreach and Recreation Program
- Promoting events and tryouts to families through Parent Square
- Planning unified sports field day events at several schools -
  - Grass Valley, Fremont, Bret Harte, Skyline, Oakland Tech
- Creating opportunities for students and families to attend sporting events for free

# Data from OAL Eligibility Roster

- Added Special Education as a filter/status in the OAL Eligibility Roster - currently this is only at the High school level.
- As of October 2023, 13% of the 751 total OAL student roster have special education status and are currently participating in Athletics at their sites. This number varies according to seasonal sports.
- School highlights:
  - Castlemont: 18 out of 98 students (18.3%)
  - Fremont: 15 out of 102 students (14.7%)
  - Madison Upper: 8 out of 46 students (17.3%)
  - McClymonds: 12 out of 78 students (15.3%)
  - Oakland High: 15 out of 125 students (12%)
  - Oakland Tech: 19 out of 182 students (10.4%)
  - Skyline: 8 out of 116 students (6.8%)

# Questions



# **Visual and Performing Arts**

# Professional Development

- Professional Development: “Promoting Inclusive Practices” was provided for VAPA teachers in Spring 2023 and again in Fall 2023.
- VAPA 9-15 Workshop - Promoting Inclusive Practices : UDL
- VAPA teachers have taken this on as their yearlong inquiry theme along with “Design Thinking.” Their central question is: “How can we design for access, belonging, and engagement?”
- Monthly support at 2nd Wednesdays starting November 8, 2023

# Questions





# Announcements, Appreciations Comments

10 minutes

**ALL BODIES ARE CAUGHT IN THE BINDINGS OF ABILITY,  
RACE, CLASS, GENDER, SEXUALITY AND CITIZENSHIP.  
WE ARE POWERFUL NOT DESPITE THE COMPLEXITIES  
OF OUR IDENTITIES, BUT BECAUSE OF THEM.**

**ONLY UNIVERSAL, COLLECTIVE ACCESS CAN  
LEAD TO UNIVERSAL, COLLECTIVE LIBERATION.**

**THIS IS DISABILITY JUSTICE.**



Written by Aurora Levins Morales, Patty  
Berne and Micah Bazant for Sins Invalid.

**TODOS LOS CUERPOS ESTAN ATRAPADOS EN LAS ATADURAS  
DE LA CAPACIDAD, RAZA, CLASE, GENERO, SEXUALIDAD Y  
CIUDADANIA.**

**SOMOS PODEROSOS NO A PESAR DE LAS COMPLEJIDADES DE  
NUESTRAS IDENTIDADES, SINO DEBIDO A ELLAS.**

**SÓLO EL ACCESO UNIVERSAL Y COLECTIVO NOS PUEDE LLEVAR  
A LA LIBERACIÓN UNIVERSAL Y COLECTIVA.**

**ESTO ES JUSTICIA DE DISCAPACIDAD.**

<https://www.sinsinvalid.org/>

# Appendix

**About Us:**

**The Community Advisory  
Committee for Special Education**

# Who can be part of the CAC?

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**Parents of disabled students in public or private schools**

**Parents of other students**

**Disabled students and adults**

**General Education teachers**

**Special Education teachers**

**Other school personnel**

**Representatives of other public and private agencies**

**Persons concerned with the needs of disabled people**

*Source 30 EC 56192*

# Our committee is required by law.

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**All Special Education Local Plan areas must establish and support a **Community Advisory Committee for Special Education** or **CAC**.**

*CA Education Code Section 30 EC 56190*

# OUSD is a one-district SELPA.

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## The OUSD Board of Education **IS** the SELPA Board.

Board Directors review, adopt, help to implement, and evaluate the *Local Plan for Special Education* in partnership with our committee and community.

# What We Do

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- a) Advise on the **development, amendment, and review of the Local Plan for Special Education**
- b) Recommend **annual priorities**
- c) Assist in parent education and in recruiting parents and volunteers who may help to **implement the plan**



# What We Do

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d) Encourage **community involvement** in the development and review of the **local plan**

e) Support **activities on behalf of disabled people**

f) Assist in parent awareness of the **importance of regular school attendance**

# What We Do

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g) Support **community involvement in the [LCAP] parent advisory committee . . .**  
to make sure that the parents of disabled students are included