

Agenda

Meeting No. 5: 2023-24



[9300 Imperial Highway, Downey, CA 90242](#)
[\(562\) 803-8338](#)

Governance Council Meeting
June 20, 2024
8:00 a.m.

LACOE Education Center, Room 107
9300 Imperial Highway
Downey, CA 90242

Zoom Meeting Participant Information
[Join Zoom Meeting Link](#)
Meeting ID: 202 850 2366
Passcode: 1951

Governance Member Remote Participation

| | |
|--------------------|---|
| Xavier Reyes | Academia Moderna & Prepa Tec LA – 2410 Broadway, Walnut Park, CA 90255 |
| Courtney McCorkle | Heartland Charter School, 13829 Sherman Blvd., East Garrison, CA 93933 |
| Jose Fernandez | Irvine International Academy - 4782 Karen Ann Lane, Irvine, CA 92604 |
| Nadia Shaiq | ISANA, 3580 Wilshire Blvd., Suite 1130 Los Angeles, CA 90010 |
| Rebecca Rodriguez | Los Angeles College Prep Academy – 625 Coleman Avenue, Los Angeles, CA 90042 |
| Richard Moreno | Opportunities for Learning, Duarte, 1202 E. Huntington Drive, Duarte CA 91010 |
| Yelena Shapiro | Opportunities for Learning, William S Hart – 27616 Newhall Ranch Rd. Santa Clarita CA 91355 |
| Brock Champion | Options For Youth, Acton -17216 Slover Ave Suite L-102, Fontana, CA 92337 |
| Liliana Vasquez | Russell Westbrook Middle & High School, 1933 S. Broadway, Los Angeles CA 90007 |
| Wendy Shmaeff | Village Charter Academy, 7357 Jordan Ave. Canoga Park , 91303 |
| Zuzy Chavez | Jardin de la Infancia – 1400 S. Broadway, Los Angeles, CA 90015 |
| Mailelei Penn | Granite Mountain Charter – 19632 Westwinds Lane, Huntington Beach, CA 92646 |
| Beatriz Gutierrez | Soleil Academy - 3900 Agnes Avenue, Lynwood, CA 90262 |
| Padmini Srinivasan | ISSAC – 1770 Tustin Avenue, Costa Mesa, CA 92627 |
| Loretta Burns | Blue Ridge Academy – 26585 Golden Valley Rd., Santa Clarita, CA 91350 |
| Taylor Moore | ICEF Inglewood Elementary – 3855 W. Slauson Avenue, Los Angeles, CA 90043 |
| Alejandro Gomez | Bridges Preparatory Academy – 400 S. Santa Fe, Compton, CA 90221 |
| Erin Whalen | Da Vinci Rise High - 13634 Cordary Avenue, Hawthorne, CA 90250 |
| Sarah Bach | Sycamore Creek Community Charter – 17601 Morgan Lane, Huntington Beach 92647 |

I. PRELIMINARY ACTIVITIES

- A. Call to Order
- B. Ordering of the Agenda
- C. Approval of the Minutes
 1. May 23, 2024, Governance Council Meeting

II. COMMUNICATIONS

**Los Angeles County Charter SELPA - Governance Council
Agenda – June 20, 2024**

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A. Public Comment

III. HEARINGS (none)

IV. REPORTS / STUDY TOPICS

A. Membership Report – [2024-2025 SELPA Applications](#)

B. SELPA Reports

V. RECOMMENDATIONS

A. Approval of Explore Public Schools for SELPA membership commencing July 1, 2024 for the 2024-2025 school year

B. Approval of Mayacamas Countywide Middle School for SELPA membership commencing July 1, 2024 for the 2024-2025 school year

VI. CLOSING ITEMS

A. SELPA Governance Council Calendar

VII. ADJOURNMENT

LOS ANGELES COUNTY CHARTER SELPA
GOVERNANCE COUNCIL MEETING

May 23, 2024

The Governance Council Meeting of the LAC Charter SELPA was held on Thursday, May 23, 2024, at 9300 Imperial Highway, Downey California 90242 and remotely through Zoom.

PRESENT:

1. Loretta Burns (Blue Ridge Academy)
2. Mailelei Penn (Granite Mountain)
3. Courtney McCorkle (Heartland Charter School)
4. Nadia Shaiq (Isana Achnar)
5. Krystal Walton (LACOE)
6. Amber Cox (Lashon Charter Academy)
7. Amber Cox (Lashon Academy City Charter)
8. Rebecca Rodriguez (Los Angeles College Prep Academy)
9. Richard Moreno (Opportunities for Learning, Duarte)
10. Brock Champion (Options for Youth, Acton)
11. Paola Tapia (Russell Westbrook Why Not? High School)
12. Paola Tapia (Russell Westbrook Why Not? Middle School)
13. Wendy Shmaeff (Village Charter Academy)
14. Sarah Bach (Sycamore Creek Community Charter School)
15. Danny de Leon, Jr. (Edward B. Cole Sr. Academy)
16. Jose Fernandez (Irvine International Academy)
17. Zuzy Chavez (Jardin de la Infancia)

ABSENT:

1. Ricardo Mireles (Academia Avance)
2. James McGrath (Intellectual Virtues Academy)
3. Yelena Shapiro (Opportunities for Learning, William S. Hart)
4. Beatriz Gutierrez (Soleil Academy)
5. Anita Ravi (We the People High School)
6. Xavier Reyes (Academia Moderna)
7. Alejandro Gomez (Bridges Preparatory Academy)
8. Erin Whalen (DaVinci RISE)
9. Taylor Moore (ICEF Inglewood Charter Elementary Charter Academy)
10. Padmini Srinivasan (International School for Science and Culture)
11. Jolene Yee (Mayacamas Charter Middle School)
12. Xavier Reyes (Prepa Tec LA MS)

13. Jubria Lewi (SEEDS LA)

SELPA STAFF and GUESTS: Jim Anderson (LACOE); Damali Thomas (LACOE); Alyssa Martinez (LACOE); and Krystal Walton (LACOE).

I. PRELIMINARY ACTIVITIES

A. Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 8:10 a.m. with 17 LEA members in attendance.

B. Approval of the Agenda

The agenda was accepted as presented.

Moved Approval: Wendy Shmaeff; **Second:** Rebecca Rodriguez

Aye: 23; **Nay:** 0; **Abstention:** 0; **Motion:** Carried.

C. Approval of the Minutes

April 25, 2024, Governance Council Meeting

Moved Approval: Nadia Shaiq; **Second:** Wendy Shmaeff

Aye: 23; **Nay:** 0; **Abstention:** 0; **Motion:** Carried.

II. COMMUNICATIONS

A. Public Comment – there was no public comment.

III. HEARINGS

A. 2024-25 SELPA Local Plan Sections: *B. Governance and Administration, D. Annual Budget Plan, E. Annual Service Plan and Attachments*

IV. REPORTS / STUDY TOPICS

A. Membership Report

Wendy Shmaeff, Director of Student Support Services at Village Charter Academy, reported that her team completed their final initial IEP for the 2023-2024 academic year. Additionally, Sara Bach, Executive Director at Sycamore Creek Community Charter School, informed the membership that her school is obtaining WASC accreditation.

B. SELPA Reports

The SELPA team conducted a thorough review of the 2024-2025 Local Plan, specifically focusing on the Annual Budget Plan, Annual Service Plan, Governance, and Administration sections and their accompanying attachments. SELPA staff also provided information on SELPA applicants.

Information was provided on upcoming CALPADS and SELPA support meetings to assist LEAs in addressing warnings and errors, preparing them for the EOY submission deadline of July 26, 2024. Furthermore, information was shared regarding Education Code 51225.31, which outlines an Alternative Pathway to a Diploma for students with significant disabilities who are eligible to take the California Alternate Assessments, and AB 2173, a legislative change that revises the terminology from *Emotional Disturbance* to *Emotional Disability*.

V. RECOMMENDATIONS

A. Approval of the 2024-2025 Local Plan Sections: B. Governance and Administration, D. Annual Budget Plan, E. Annual Service Plan, and F. Attachments.

Moved Approval: Wendy Shmaeff; **Second:** Zuzy Chavez

Aye: 23; **Nay:** 0; **Abstention:** 0; **Motion:** Carried.

B. Approval of the 2024-2025 Governance Council Calendar of Meetings and other Committee Calendars

Moved Approval: Wendy Shmaeff; **Second:** Jose Fernandez

Aye: 23; **Nay:** 0; **Abstention:** 0; **Motion:** Carried.

VI. CLOSING ITEMS

A. SELPA Calendars

The date of the next Governance Council meeting as scheduled for June 20, 2024 was shared with the members.

VII. ADJOURNMENT

Meeting Adjournment

The Governance Council meeting was adjourned at 8:50 a.m.

DRAFT

Item IV. **REPORTS / STUDY TOPICS**

A. Membership Report – **Discussion and Information**

1. [2024-25 SELPA Applicants](#)
 1. Explore Public Schools – 5/28/2024 Application Submitted
 2. Mayacamas Countywide Middle School – 6/5/2024 Application Submitted
2. 2023-24 LAC Charter SELPA Members (**30 Members; 16 quorum**)
 1. Academia Avance
 2. Academia Moderna Charter School
 3. Blue Ridge Academy
 4. Bridges Preparatory Academy
 5. Da Vinci Rise Charter School
 6. Edward B. Cole Sr. Academy
 7. Granite Mountain
 8. Heartland Charter School
 9. ICEF Inglewood Charter Elementary
 10. Intellectual Virtues Academy
 11. International School for Science & Culture
 12. Irvine International Academy
 13. Isana Academies Achernar
 14. Jardin de la Infancia
 15. Los Angeles County Office of Education
 16. Lashon Academy Charter
 17. Lashon Academy City Charter
 - 18. Los Angeles College Prep Academy**
 19. Mayacamas Charter Middle School
 20. Opportunities for Learning, Duarte
 21. Opportunities for Learning, William S. Hart
 22. Options for Youth – Acton
 23. Prepa Tec Los Angeles Middle School
 24. Russell Westbrook Why Not? High School
 25. Russell Westbrook Why Not? Middle School
 26. SEED School of Los Angeles County
 27. Soleil Academy
 28. Sycamore Creek Community Charter School
 29. Village Charter Academy
 - 30. We the People High School**



June 12, 2024

Applicant: Explore Public Schools

Membership Year: 2024-2025

Executive Summary for the Governance Council

On May 28, 2024, Los Angeles County (LAC) Charter SELPA received the SELPA Membership application on behalf of Explore Public Schools for the academic year 2024-2025. On October 6, 2021, the Orange County Board of Education approved the charter petition to establish Explore Public Schools, a countywide charter for a five-year term from July 1, 2022, through June 30, 2027.

SELPA Application Rationale:

The rationale for applying to join the LAC Charter SELPA is rooted in the school's commitment to providing exceptional education to all students, including those with special needs. As a new school scheduled to open in August 2024 with over 120 registrations already, the LEA recognizes the importance of partnering with a SELPA that can offer comprehensive professional development, training, and resources. By aligning with the LAC Charter SELPA, the charter school aims to enhance its capacity to effectively serve students with diverse learning needs. It believes that access to specialized training and resources will enable its educators to create inclusive and supportive environments where every student can thrive academically, socially, and emotionally. In joining LAC Charter SELPA, the school looks forward to collaborating with experienced professionals and leveraging expertise to meet the unique needs of students with disabilities, ensuring they receive the highest quality education and support.

School Overview:

Explore Academy is a TK through 12th-grade public county-wide charter school committed to closing the achievement gap for Orange County's largest and lowest-performing subgroups: Hispanics, English Learners, Socioeconomically Disadvantaged students, and students with disabilities.

Explore Academy provides students with the power of academic choice, allowing each student to create a unique educational pathway in preparation for a college future. At Explore Academy, their goal is for all students to master the Common Core State Standards ("CCSS"), Next Generation Science Standards ("NGSS"), History-Social Science Framework, English Language Development ("ELD") Standards, and the remaining State Content Standards (collectively, "State Standards").

Across the curriculum, students will engage in differentiated learning seminars and "flavors," coursework that is inherently elective in nature, standards-aligned, and tailored to a student's choice of study. The Charter School's concept of "flavors" is akin to the college model wherein students choose courses each term to fulfill a general course of study or an academic major. Although bounded by general content requirements, students can enroll in seminars with different themes (flavors) that most interest them, seminars that simultaneously address academic standards and foster student interest and engagement.

This student-centered approach to learning prepares students for long-term academic success by helping them gain content knowledge as well as cognitive and non-cognitive skills required for college and beyond. One of the keys to success of this program is the ability to offer differentiated classes, or seminars, each with their own theme, or "flavor" affording students a nearly endless number of course options. Each school site will have a significant number of courses available onsite. However, each student will also be able to enroll in courses (flavors) at other sites across the Orange County network, accessing them virtually from their home campus and while under the supervision of a

credentialed teacher. This sort of “cross-pollination” is a significant differentiator and uniquely requires multiple school sites across the County in order to function at its highest level. This form of curricular networking allows all students to benefit from teacher creativity and academic diversity while the school avoids developing pockets of opportunity that may exist for students at only one particular campus. It further allows for an increased cumulative level of academic choice for students by forgoing the requirement that each campus provide the same common flavor sets, thereby truly embracing each teacher’s unique creativity while promoting the same academic opportunities for all students no matter where they reside.

Capacity Interview:

On June 10, 2024, a capacity interview was held to gather additional information about how the charter school plans to serve students with disabilities. LAC Charter SELPA interview panel members were Damali Thomas, Project Director; Krystal Walton, Coordinator; Alyssa Martinez, Financial Operations Consultant; Wendy Shmaeff, Director of Student Services – Village Charter Academy; Cindy Hall, Lead SES – Opportunities for Learning Santa Clarita, and Amber Cox, Special Education Coordinator – Lashon Academy and Lashon City. Charter school representatives in attendance were Laura Schlottman, Executive Director; Kelly Felton, Board President; Thomas Torkelson, Smart Management CEO; Calasia Carrion, Compliance Support; Isabel Perez, Office Manager; Michelle Perales, Special Projects Manager; Latonia Green, VP of Special Populations; Jeffrey Rothchild, COO, Management Company, and Roy Kim, COO, ICON School Management.

The capacity interview aims to evaluate the LEA’s understanding of the responsibilities of educating students with disabilities. The application materials can be accessed at the following link:

[2024-2025 SELPA Applicants](#)

Based on the review of the application and capacity interview, Explore Public Schools meets the minimum standards pertaining to all required elements. As such, **LAC Charter SELPA does recommend approval of the Charter School** and that the Governance Council consider this recommendation for approval at its next meeting scheduled for June 20, 2023.

Application Overview and Summary:

| Category | Description | Points Awarded |
|------------------------------|---|----------------|
| Required Elements | Completed application, Charter petition, Audit report, API Scores SARC, Details of credentialed staff, Signed SELPA assurances, SPED pupil Count and Notice of Withdrawal | 42 of 45 |
| Special Education Components | Child Find, General Ed program modifications, Referral process, Assessment procedures, IEP development process and suspension and expulsion data | 19 of 21 |
| Special Education Services | DIS Services, SAI, NPS/NPA, Inclusion, Transportation | 17 of 21 |

| | | |
|---------------------|---|----------|
| Compliance/Capacity | 504, Due Process, State complaints, ADA compliance, Service of students, Administration, Professional Development, Process for settling disputes and SELPA LEA Assurances | 24 of 27 |
| Fiscal | Budget, Special education accounting, Audit, CMO Affiliation | 47 of 60 |

Total Points Possible: 174

Minimum Acceptable points: 143

Total Points Awarded: 149

Recommendation: Approve SELPA Membership with the following conditions:

1. Signed Local Plan LEA Certification 5 by the Chief Executive Officer following SELPA Membership Approval on June 20, 2024, no later than June 25, 2024.
2. Receipt of a signed and executive SELPA Participants Agreement as early as the end of July but no later than the first day of school for the 2024-2025 school year.
3. Copy of credentials for all certificated staff that provide special education and related services no later than the first day of school for the 2024-2025 school year.
4. Submit two signed contracts from NPAs certified by the CDE to provide related services to students with disabilities no later than the first day of school for the 2024-2025 school year.
5. School administrator to attend new member orientation scheduled for August 12th from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m.
6. School administrator or special education teacher to attend the SEIS Code Stack Conference scheduled for October 9th through 11th in Anaheim and submit evidence of attendance no later than November 1, 2024.



June 12, 2024

Applicant: Mayacamas Countywide Middle School

Membership Year: 2024-2025

Executive Summary for the Governance Council

Mayacamas Countywide Middle School submitted a comprehensive application to the Los Angeles County Charter (LAC) SELPA on June 5, 2024. The LAC Charter SELPA reviewed the membership application on behalf of Mayacamas Countywide Middle School for academic year 2024-2025. Mayacamas Countywide Middle School desires to become its own LEA for special education purposes and agrees to operate a compliant program for students with disabilities. As such, they are seeking membership with the Los Angeles County Charter SELPA as required.

Mayacamas Countywide Middle School is a new charter school authorized by the Napa County Board of Education and will begin operation in the Fall of 2024. On May 7, 2024, the Board took action and approved the charter for a five-year term, July 1, 2024 through June 30, 2029.

SELPA Application Rationale:

Mayacamas Countywide Middle School is excited to apply to the LAC Charter SELPA. We believe our countywide benefit charter will be a good fit for the LAC Charter SELPA portfolio of schools, based upon our small initial size and innovative curriculum, and the fact that the foundation that will operate the Countywide has already established a very positive relationship with the SELPA. We are attracted to the fact that LAC Charter SELPA has a manageable number of charters in its membership, allowing for the establishment of healthy relationships between LAC Charter SELPA staff, the membership, and the member schools. Second, we trust our charter advisors immensely, and all have espoused the professionalism and helpfulness of the SELPA team, and we have experienced these traits firsthand with our first venture, Mayacamas Charter Middle School. In addition, we have found the staff to be extremely knowledgeable, with a strong command of the programs and the benefits provided to member schools. Given the responsiveness of previous communications with LAC Charter SELPA staff, their stellar reputations in the industry, and the smaller number of member schools in the portfolio, we feel we will be able to avail ourselves of the educational resources and assistance with less difficulty than in larger more impersonal Charter SELPAs. This will be especially helpful during our launch year as we navigate the rules, regulations, and processes. Finally, the LAC Charter SELPA has a strong reputation for providing its member schools with good service and vital resources in a challenging environment.

School Overview:

Mayacamas Countywide Middle School (Mayacamas) is a new, independent, countywide benefit charter middle school that will prepare grades 6-8 students for success in rigorous high schools, post-secondary education, and meaningful careers. Mayacamas is being founded by an engaged group of parents,

community leaders, and educators who seek to offer an alternative public education option for families in Napa Valley. Mayacamas' unique school model starts with the intentional recruitment and enrollment of a small, diverse student body. Students of different socio-economic status, race/ethnicity, home language, and life experiences will learn together with and from one another in an inclusive community celebrating the diversity of Napa County. The uniqueness of Mayacamas' Countywide opportunity is enhanced by the combination of innovative elements found together nowhere else in Napa County at the middle school level. These elements include:

- Academic mastery and application of California standards through New Tech Network's interdisciplinary project- and problem-based learning model.
- A highly personalized learning environment, including an Individual Learning Plan for every Student.
- A culture of social-emotional well-being and learning, with Advisory, Wayfarer, and monthly one-on-one meetings to review the Individual Learning Plan.
- College and career awareness: the Mayacamas College & Career Explorers Program.

These four unique elements are built on a foundation of effective teaching and family partnership. Effective teaching in the project-based environment is a critical part of our model. Our teachers will participate in extensive and comprehensive professional development and coaching in project-based learning instructional strategies and other topics to become experts in the delivery of every part of the Mayacamas program. Extensive summer sessions and "early release" time for two hours each Wednesday will allow teachers to hone their instructional skills, review student data, and collaborate with one another in planning differentiated curriculum and assessments.

Finally, parents, guardians, and families will be our partners in new ways in our collaborative school environment. Through volunteer participation in school life (never required but always appreciated), supporting the "Mayacamas College & Career Explorers Program," volunteering on the School Site Council or English Learner Advisory Committee, participating in parent education events, partnering with and simply communicating frequently with their child's advisor and teachers, parents will be an important part of their students' success at Mayacamas.

Capacity Interview:

The Los Angeles County Charter SELPA conducted the application review process, which included a capacity interview for membership consideration for the 2024-2025 school year. Below are the findings of the SELPA review:

On June 12, 2024, a capacity interview was held to gather additional information about how the charter school will serve students with disabilities. LAC Charter SELPA interview panel members were Damali Thomas, Project Director and Alyssa Martinez, Financial Operations Consultant. Charter school representatives in attendance were Catherine Adams, Head of School; Franci Sassin, VP of School Finance, ExEd; Gina Plate, Special Education Consultant, Deveau Burr Group; and Lynne Vaughn, Curriculum and Operations Liason, Napa County Office of Education. The purpose of the capacity interview was to evaluate the LEA's understanding of the responsibilities relating to educating students with disabilities. The application materials can be accessed at the following link: [2024-2025 SELPA Applicants](#).

Based on the review of the application and capacity interview, Mayacamas Countywide Middle School meets the minimum standards relating to all required elements. As such, LAC Charter SELPA recommends approval of Mayacamas Countywide Middle School and that the Governance Council consider this recommendation for approval at its next meeting scheduled for June 20, 2024.

Application Overview and Summary:

| Category | Description | Points Awarded |
|------------------------------|---|-----------------------|
| Required Elements | Completed application, Charter petition, Audit report, API Scores SARC, Details of credentialed staff, Signed SELPA assurances, SPED pupil Count and Notice of Withdrawal | 42 of 45 |
| Special Education Components | Child find, Gen. Ed program modifications, Referral process, Assessment procedures, IEP development process and suspension and expulsion data | 20 of 21 |
| Special Education Services | DIS Services, SAI, NPS/NPA, Inclusion, Transportation | 18 of 21 |
| Compliance | 504, Due process, State complaints, ADA compliance, Service of students, Administration, Professional Development, Process for settling disputes and SELPA LEA Assurances | 23 of 27 |
| Fiscal | Budget, Special education accounting, Audit, CMO Affiliation | 47 of 60 |

Total Points Possible: 174

Minimum Acceptable points: 143

Total Points Awarded: 150

Recommendation: Approve SELPA Membership with the following conditions:

1. Receipt of a signed and executed SELPA Participants Agreement as early as the end of July but no later than the first day of school for the 2024-2025 school year.
2. Board Approved and Signed SELPA Assurances SED-LP-5 no later than the first day of school for the 2024-2025 school year.
3. Signed Local Plan LEA Certification 5 by the Chief Executive Officer following SELPA Membership Approval on June 20, 2024, no later than June 25, 2024.
4. Official Minutes for the Napa County Board of Education Meeting held on May 7, 2024.

Item IV. **REPORTS / STUDY TOPICS**

- B. SELPA Reports – Information and Discussion
 - 1. Finance & Governance
 - a. No Fiscal Updates
 - b. Current Governance Documents
 - [Local Plan](#)
 - [Allocation Plan](#)
 - [Participant’s Agreements](#)
 - 2. Data, Accountability, Compliance & CDE - informational
 - CDE Monitoring & Reporting Compliance Improvement Monitoring (CIM)
 - Small LEA Monitoring (CIM-S)
 - IEP Implementation Due June 28, 2024
 - b. CALPADS
 - Student Degree of Support
 - Initial EOY Certification Deadline: July 26, 2024
 - Amendment Window Deadline: August 16, 2024
 - 3. [Ad Hoc Committee](#)
 - a. Meet next fiscal year to discuss revising the Local Plan Governance and Administration section to discuss streamlined SELPA membership application for existing members
 - 4. Ed Code, Policy and Legislative Updates – Open Discussion by Members
 - a. Assembly Bill 2173 Reducing Stigma in Education Act Assemblymember Dawn Addis Diploma. AB 2173 makes the term ‘emotional disability’ an acceptable statutory alternative to the existing ‘emotional disturbance’ label in California’s Education code and regulations.

Assembly Bill 2173

Reducing Stigma in Education Act

Assemblymember Dawn Addis

SUMMARY

AB 2173 makes the term 'emotional disability' an acceptable statutory alternative to the existing 'emotional disturbance' label in California's Education code and regulations.

BACKGROUND

The Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) is a federal law that ensures free and appropriate public education to eligible children with disabilities. Within the IDEA, there are thirteen categories of disability that establish eligibilities for special education services.

One of these thirteen categories is classified as an 'emotional disturbance', which includes a condition exhibiting one or more of the following characteristics over a long period of time and to a marked degree that adversely affects a child's educational performance. Contained within the 'emotional disturbance' category are:

- An inability to learn that cannot be explained by intellectual, sensory, or health factors.
- An inability to build or maintain satisfactory interpersonal relationships with peers and teachers.
- Inappropriate types of behavior or feelings under normal circumstances.
- A general pervasive mood of unhappiness or depression.
- A tendency to develop physical symptoms or fears associated with personal or school problems.
- Schizophrenia.

States use the IDEA to serve children with qualifying disabilities, through evaluation and providing special education and other related services. IDEA also provides safeguards and specific rights to parents of children with disabilities, such as consent to services.

PROBLEM

The term 'emotional disturbance' in the federal IDEA law is an outdated and potentially offensive term, which is currently used to describe a large group of children with special needs in California's public education system. The IDEA requires parents to give consent before services can be provided to students, a process that can be severely inhibited by offensive or confusing labels like 'emotional disturbance'.

Numerous studies have shown that when a student's disabilities are correctly identified and the appropriate services are provided, that student has a much greater probability of succeeding academically. Labels like 'emotional disturbance' create barriers to identification that ultimately harm the academic success of California's students.

SOLUTION

AB 2173 allows the term 'emotional disability' to replace 'emotional disturbance' for educational purposes by stipulating that the two terms are substantively the same under California Education code and regulations.

By making this change, individuals in public education will now be able to use a much more appropriate term instead of 'emotional disturbance', without worrying about potential legal repercussions from using language that doesn't conform to existing California code or regulations.

SUPPORT

- SELPA Administrators of California (sponsor)
- Association of California School Administrators
- California Association of School Psychologists
- California Charter Schools Association
- Coalition for Adequate Funding for Special Education
- Educate. Advocate.
- Los Angeles County Office of Education
- Santa Barbara County SELPA
- Yolo County SELPA

CONTACT

Jason Dell'Orto, Legislative Aide
916-319-2030 | Jason.Dell'Orto@asm.ca.gov.

Item V. **RECOMMENDATIONS**

- A. Approval of *Explore Public Schools* for SELPA membership commencing July 1, 2024, for the 2024-2025 school year.

Based on a review and evaluation of the *Explore Public Schools* SELPA Application, the June 10, 2024 LEA Capacity Interview, it is recommended the Governance Council vote to approve SELPA membership for the 2024-2025 school year to *Explore Public Schools* with the following conditions:

1. Signed Local Plan LEA Certification 5 by the Chief Executive Officer following SELPA Membership Approval on June 20, 2024, no later than June 25, 2024.
2. Receipt of a signed and executive SELPA Participants Agreement as early as the end of July but no later than the first day of school for the 2024-2025 school year.
3. Copy of credentials for all certificated staff that provide special education and related services no later than the first day of school for the 2024-2025 school year.
4. Submit two signed contracts from NPAs certified by the CDE to provide related services to students with disabilities no later than the first day of school for the 2024-2025 school year.
5. School administrator to attend new member orientation scheduled for August 12th from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m.
6. School administrator and/or special education teacher to attend the SEIS Code Stack Conference scheduled for October 9th through 11th in Anaheim and submit evidence of attendance no later than November 1, 2024.

Item V. **RECOMMENDATIONS**

B. Approval of *Mayacamas Countywide Middle School* for SELPA membership commencing July 1, 2024, for the 2024-2025 school year.

Based on a review and evaluation of the *Mayacamas Countywide Middle School* SELPA Application, the June 12, 2024 LEA Capacity Interview, it is recommended the Governance Council vote to approve SELPA membership for the 2024-2025 school year to *Mayacamas Countywide Middle School* with the following conditions:

1. Receipt of a signed and executed SELPA Participants Agreement as early as the end of July but no later than the first day of school for the 2024-2025 school year.
2. Board Approved and Signed SELPA Assurances SED-LP-5 no later than the first day of school for the 2024-2025 school year.
3. Signed Local Plan LEA Certification 5 by the Chief Executive Officer following SELPA Membership Approval on June 20, 2024, no later than June 25, 2024.
4. Official Minutes for the Napa County Board of Education Meeting held on May 7, 2024.

[Governance Council Meeting](#) – June 20, 2024

Item VI. **CLOSING ITEMS**

A. SELPA Governance Council Meetings Calendar



**2024-2025 Governance Council
 Calendar of Meetings**

8:00 A.M. - 9:00 A.M.

Ad Hoc Meeting to Follow the End of the Governance Council Meeting

| <u>MONTH</u> | <u>DATE</u> | <u>LOCATION</u> |
|-----------------------------|-------------|--|
| February | 27 | <u>LAC SELPA Office & Virtual</u> Room: Ed Center 107 9300 Imperial Hwy., Downey, CA 90242 |
| April (As Needed) | 24 | <u>LAC SELPA Office & Virtual</u> Room: Ed Center 107 9300 Imperial Hwy., Downey, CA 90242 |
| May | 22 | <u>LAC SELPA Office & Virtual</u> Room: Ed Center 107 9300 Imperial Hwy., Downey, CA 90242 |
| June (As Needed) | 26 | <u>LAC SELPA Office & Virtual</u> Room: Ed Center 107 9300 Imperial Hwy., Downey, CA 90242 |

*Revised 4/25/24 dt
 Approved: 5/23/24*