

Report of the Community Advisory Group for the Stockton Unified School District

For the meeting of May 13, 2020

What is the Community Advisory Group (CAG)?

CAG is an important component of a formal, court-approved, five-year agreement (Agreement) between the Stockton Unified School District (District) and the California Department of Justice (DOJ). It is intended to provide members of the community with an opportunity to review and comment on changes made by the District and approved by DOJ as they comply with mandates intended to better serve the needs of its students. The CAG is required to meet on a quarterly basis with a written overview of the meeting being published within 45 days. The report is intended to be reviewed by the DOJ appointed monitor, School Superintendent, the Chief of the school police department, and the public.

How was the CAG formed?

Per the DOJ Agreement, members of the CAG represent various stakeholders concerned with how the District provides education and safety to its students. They include School Board member appointees, educators, administrators, parents, students, and members of affected community organizations.

What is the primary purpose of the CAG?

The CAG provides comment on District changes in policy, practice, and procedures intended to accomplish the following:

- Reduce student referrals to law enforcement
- Reduce disproportionality of any referrals to law enforcement
- Reduce the amount of citations and bookings by law enforcement, and any disproportionalities within these classifications

To accomplish the above, 74 specific and measurable tasks have been established by the Agreement and these are to be accomplished within a five-year period. As the District completes these tasks, and after review by the Monitor and approval by DOJ, the CAG is provided the opportunity to review and comment on what changes have been made to comply with DOJ mandates. Feedback from CAG is then reviewed and given consideration by the District Superintendent and the Chief of the school police department.

How are the meetings conducted?

The first CAG meeting was held on August 14, 2019. Subsequent formal meetings are required to be held quarterly, and dates are currently being selected. The results of the quarterly meetings are to be published within 45 days. The quarterly CAG meetings are currently expected to be facilitated by a consultant hired by the District per the DOJ Agreement. The role of the consultant is to serve as a bridge between the District (primarily the District's school police department) and the CAG, to ensure the timely and accurate flow of information. If desired, The CAG may choose to meet on a more frequent basis and to structure meetings to meet their needs.

*What took place at the CAG meeting on May 13th, 2020? **

Note: This meeting was conducted remotely via computer.

Members present: Julie Schardt, Sammy Nunez, Gracie Madrid, Irene Calimlim, Gauri Sanchez, Gary Gershon, Erich Myers, Destiny Rivas, Jasmine Dellafosse, Tim Polinsky

Staff: Karen Coleman, Alan Caddell, Mary Jo Cowan, Michael Gennaco, Stephen Connolly, Teresa, Sophary Touch, Jovan Jacobs , Erik Swanson

- 1) Welcome & Check in (roll-call)
- 2) Meeting called to order at 4:06pm
- 3) Overview Agenda: Destiny
- 4) Updates from Alan Caddell: Meditation program for police personnel complaints update: Will allow for a more transparent process and allow for more communication to occur.
- 5) Updates from Monitor Gennaco: Thanked everyone for joining given challenging times.
 - a) Introduced Stephan and Teresa who are both staff.
 - b) Since February in early March we provided a snapshot of where each of the tasks are at. Since that time there are a number of new protocols and processes to be implemented.
 - c) Most of the policy discussed came from the police department, most of the updates provided today will be coming from district staff and working groups.
 - d) The agreement has basic minimum requirements for what is needed to be done in order for the settlement to be met. For some of the tasks there haven't been board policies that haven't been reviewed, although the settlement doesn't call for the district to revise BP the working group took initiative to make amendments to BP.
- 6) Guest speaker: BP 5141.8 "Mental Health Needs of Students" (Karen Coleman Director of Mental Health Services).
 - a) Questions and Feedback:
 - i) Sammy: would recommend there is a specific trauma informed process and plan for the district.
 - ii) Maryjo: These board policies will go to the board in June for approval.
 - iii) Gennaco: You have a chance to provide feedback until June 9th and beyond. It will have two reads before it gets adopted.
 - iv) Maryjo: high level overview:
 - v) Karen: The flow chart shows how site administration engages site based mental professionals to engage students to triage them: what type of services are needed. School counselors are the first line of contact. If counselor cannot help this student the mental health crisis member will step in, can call an on call mental health clinician.
 - vi) Maryjo will share a flow chart with the committee to present to the CAG.
 - vii) Sammy: Having proper assessments are good, and having triage processes in place. It's important that we create a culture and climate for this process. Can there be separate tracks or processes for students, and educators. How do we leverage this opportunity to shift culture? How can we add to this process?
- 7) AR 5144.2 "Suspension and Expulsion- Due Process for Students with Disabilities (Karen Coleman).
 - a) Questions and Feedback.
 - i) Dr Jovan director of special education: This is a standard bp, aligned with education.

- ii) Julie: questions of change of placement?
 - iii) Sammy: how many students qualify? How do you assess what the incident itself was and its relationship to its disabilities?
 - iv) 20 days of suspension studies show out of classroom time chances are more harmful to student outcomes.
 - v) Jovan: we have roughly around 3,800 students and tk-12 we have roughly 4,200 of students with disability. If you take any race and ethnicity, we are meeting the average count that consists of the state and national rate. Minor changes were made.
- 8) AR 6159.4 "Behavior Interventions for Special Ed Students" (Mary Jo Cowan & Jovan Jacobs).
- 9) Questions & Feedback:
- 10) What is Federal Ed code: Destiny: Who is being trained? How many people are being trained? How is documentation being saved? Law has changed in regard to who needs to be trained, currently special education population there is a number of therapeutic programs. Are these training that you are mentioning Karen listed on a document? I know we have asked for all trainings that is required for law enforcement related to the settlement.
- 11) Erik updates: To save time will review at once questions and concerns at the end. Will share the draft proposal and resolution, will also invite partners to future meetings.
- 12) BP 5144 "Discipline" (Erik Swanson) Director of Education Services.
- 13) AR & BP 5145.10 "Student Assistance and Referral Policy (Erik Swanson).
- 14) AR & BP 5145.11 "Student Questioning and Apprehension", & EXHIBIT 5145.11 "Questioning and Apprehension Log" (Erik Swanson).
- a) Questions & Feedback:
 - i) Is that reporting system the same that collects students' discipline data? How comprehensive is that tool?
 - ii) BP 5145.12 "Search and Seizure" (Erik Swanson & Mary Jo Cowan)
 - iii) Questions & Feedback:
 - iv) Gary Gershon: For future meetings, it would be really helpful if the policy being discussed could be shown on the screen. We have been doing that in NAACP meetings. It helps those of us who understand better if we can see the words. Thanks. Is there a long-term plan that implements the Restorative training to teachers? Who typically provides the training to SUSD staff on the use of restraints and trauma informed training /de-escalation strategies mentioned? Are these training that you are mentioning Karen listed on a document as it relates to special education?
 - v) Erik: Matrix still needs updates and review regarding student safety.
 - vi) Next steps: Maryjo: Will share a flowchart to CAG. Send updated Matrix.
- 15) Meeting adjourned at 6:03. The next meeting is scheduled for August 20, 2020.

What if I have questions about the CAG?

Inquiries about the Community Advisory Group can be sent via email to consultant Alan Caddell at AlanCaddell@gmail.com or to the monitoring team at michael.gennaco@oirgroup.com.

Report prepared by Alan Caddell.

*Accounts of the meeting prepared by Destiny Rivas.