

## Community Advisory Committee Division of Special Education Report October 2021

## Status on Individualized Education Program (IEP) team meetings

During this global pandemic LAUSD and the Division of Special Education continues its commitment to holding IEP team meetings on time. As of 9/30/2021 LAUSD has conducted approximately 16,691 IEP team meetings during the 2021-22 school year. Parents are encouraged to participate in IEP team meeting, in-person, virtually and/or via telephone, and if there are any questions on how to do so, please reach out to your child's case carrier or administrator. The District is continuing to send text message reminders to parents regarding scheduled IEP team meetings and reminders on returning the consent page (either in agreement or disagreements to all or part of the IEP). Parents will now be able to use the Adobe sign feature to electronically sign IEP documents such as the consent page and notification to participate in IEP team meeting form. In addition, the "Virtual IEP Team Meeting Informational Video for Parents" is available in English and Spanish on the Division of Special Education – Parents webpage at <a href="https://achieve.lausd.net/spedParents">https://achieve.lausd.net/spedParents</a>

## **Virtual Academy - Online Program Status**

As of October 6, 2021, the total enrollment for our City of Angels Virtual Academies is approximately 16,000, 13% of which are students with disabilities (SWD). Over 2,100 IEPs have been held to list City of Angeles Independent Studies as placement. Each IEP is tailored to describe the students' supports and services available at City of Angels. A SWD must have an Individualized Education Program (IEP) that specifically provides for participation in independent study prior to participation (*Education Code* [*EC*] section 57145[c]). A child does not lose their rights to services and supports under their IEP by enrolling in independent study.

## **Message from Division of Special Education**

On August 16<sup>th</sup> we welcomed back our students to in-person instruction on school campuses. Although there have been some challenges, we are excited that students now have opportunities to learn on campus and interact with their peers. Our commitment to ensuring safe learning environments while maintaining compliance during constantly changing times remains our priority. As such, the Division of Special Education will resume sending out Service Delivery Parent Notification letters to students who receive less than 70% of their services as required by their IEP. The Fall Service Delivery Parent Notification letters will be mailed out November 2021. More information will be forthcoming.

#### **OCTOBER IS DYSLEXIA AWARNESS MONTH**

Dyslexia is a language-based disability that exists on a continuum and is characterized by difficulties in learning how to read fluently. Students with Dyslexia can also experience difficulties with oral language, spelling, and writing skills.

Dyslexia Parent Workshop English Video // Spanish Video

Addressing the needs of struggling readers requires a wide range of supports at schools and at home. With appropriate identification, tailored instruction, dedication, and support from family, teachers, and community members, individuals with Dyslexia can improve their reading skills and succeed in school and life. Visit our website for additional parent resources on dyslexia. <a href="https://achieve.lausd.net/Page/14872">https://achieve.lausd.net/Page/14872</a>



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## Parent Webinar: Pathways to Lifelong Success!

Hosted by LAUSD Adult Transition Programs, this webinar will provide information about programs offered at LAUSD Career and Transition Centers, including pathways to success for students ages 18-22 identified by their IEPs as using a modified core/alternate curriculum.

Please join us for this informational webinar.

Date: Wednesday, October 20, 2021

<u>Time:</u> 5:00 p.m.

Registration is required.

https://lausd.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN\_jlGs7kUgQcmkjAzcEB2fDQ

#### **Parent Portal**

As a friendly reminder, we highly encourage all parents to access the Parent Portal where various special education documents (i.e., IEP) and reports (i.e., service tracking) are available. To access the Parent Portal, visit: <a href="https://parentportalapp.lausd.net/parentaccess/">https://parentportalapp.lausd.net/parentaccess/</a>

## **Phone Numbers**

LAUSD General Hotline: 213-431-4300

Division of Special Education School and Family Support Services: 213-241-6701

LAUSD School Mental Health Hotline: 213-241-3840

Technology Access: 213-443-1300

#### **Websites**

Division of Special Education: https://achieve.lausd.net/sped

General Resources Welcome Back to School: <a href="https://achieve.lausd.net/resources">https://achieve.lausd.net/resources</a>
Office of Parent and Community Services (PCS): <a href="https://achieve.lausd.net/pcss">https://achieve.lausd.net/pcss</a>



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#### **SELPA/CDE Information**

## **Assembly Bill 130 Frequently Asked Questions**

These Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) assist local educational agencies (LEAs) in implementing Assembly Bill 130. This collection represents commonly asked questions, but is not intended to be a complete list of all possible questions or scenarios. Answers can be found by clicking on this link: AB 130 FAQs.

- 1. What are the changes to independent study that have occurred through Assembly Bill (AB) 130?
- 2. Is independent study available for students with disabilities (SWD)?
- 3. Are there any changes through AB 130 specific to special education?
- 4. What should I do if I think independent study is right for my child or if my child is in quarantine? What are the steps?
- 5. Is independent study a change of placement for a special education student?
- 6. Can the local educational agency and parent/guardian agree to make a change in placement via an IEP amendment?
- 7. Are students required to complete work independently to qualify for independent study?
- 8. If a parent/guardian of a student with special needs requests independent study, may a local educational agency make an offer of FAPE without considering whether FAPE can be provided via the independent study program?
- 9. What are the options when a parent/guardian and the local educational agency disagree about a student's placement?
- 10. Is independent study available for preschoolers or 18–22-year-olds receiving special education supports and services?

Questions: Special Education Division | email: SEDinfo@cde.ca.gov | 916-445-4613