

## A MESSAGE FROM DR. TURNER, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



Happy New Year! 2022 was a year full of progress as we emerged from the COVID-19 pandemic and the SELPA looks forward to what 2023 has to bring. Although we are only halfway through the 2022-2023 school year, there is still a lot on the horizon! The SELPA looks forward to many events, including our remaining professional learning opportunities, parent trainings, and our CAC's "Making a Difference Awards". The SELPA is also in the process of gathering input from a diverse group of educational partners for our required three-year revision of the ESGV SELPA Local Plan.

In this first edition of the ESGV SELPA News, you will learn more about upcoming events and important updates. Moving forward, the ESGV SELPA News will be released three times per year in January, May, and August of each school year. As always, please feel free to reach me at [sturner@esgvselpa.org](mailto:sturner@esgvselpa.org) or 626-966-1679 with any questions or needs. 2023 will be amazing!

## SELPA NEWS / HIGHLIGHTS

### Special Education Leadership Academy

The SELPA is excited to launch the Special Education Leadership Academies, with two cohorts participating this year. This 3-day event is spread throughout the year to equip our current and aspiring leaders with additional capacity related to special education. On January 9th, the SELPA will launch Cohort 2, with over 30 participants from throughout the SELPA. Cohort 1 has their last day on January 17th, with Attorney Dan Harbottle, JD, PhD, of Harbottle Law Group attending as a guest speaker.



### Inclusive Practices Professional Learning Opportunity

On January 24th, 2023, the SELPA is excited to have Dr. Belinda Karge presenting on her newly published book, "Watch, Listen, Ask, Learn: How School Leaders Can Create an Inclusive Environment for Students With Disabilities". The professional learning opportunity will be held at the Covina-Valley District Field Center and all attendees will receive a copy of her book and lunch! Limited slots are still available and like all other professional learning opportunities, interested staff may contact their Special Education Director to request to register.



## SELPA AUTISM PROGRAM NEWS / HIGHLIGHTS

The SELPA Autism Team supports over 30 classes in five member school districts, providing two additional placement types on the SELPA's continuum of placement options that are available to students with disabilities based upon unique needs. In recent years, the SELPA's Autism Coordinator, Jennifer Wolfe, was selected as the Regional Lead for our region of Southern California representing the California Autism Professional Training and Information Network (CAPTAIN). This grant award required the SELPA to lead capacity building activities related to evidence-based practices for individuals with Autism throughout our SELPA and larger region, which has included developing our SELPA Autism Implementation Team (SAIT) and more recently has focused on developing our Demonstration Site at Gladstone Elementary in Bonita USD. The Gladstone Elementary programs will serve as the exemplar demonstration site in the years to come, allowing for districts throughout our region to similarly build capacity in the EBPs that are effective for individuals on the Autism spectrum.



**Our program has adopted the element "GOLD" as our symbol. Not only does the AU represent Autism, but it also represents the fact that our students & families are precious, rare, and highly valued.**

**Save the Date - March 23, 2023, CLIC CAPTAIN Conference - Covina-Valley USD District Field Center.**

**Please contact Jennifer Wolfe, SELPA Autism Coordinator, at [jwolfe@esgvselpa.org](mailto:jwolfe@esgvselpa.org) with questions.**

### CALPADS CORNER



All Special Education (SPED) related fatal Certification Validation Rules (CVRs) and certification data discrepancies (CDDs) that were temporarily moved to “warnings” on Tuesday, November 30, 2022, returned to fatal errors on Tuesday, December 20, 2022. Any revisions during this time are now obsolete and LEAs must take action on revisions dated after December 20, 2022. LEAs with remaining SPED-related fatal errors should disapprove their revisions dated prior to December 20th and work on the most current "Revised Uncertified" revision.

Final Fall 1 certification is due on January 20th, 2023. For technical support or assistance with CALPADS, please contact Lucky Do at ldo@esgvselpa.org

### FISCAL CORNER

Through the AB-130 Omnibus Trailer Bill, enacted by the legislature and Governor Newsom in the 2021-2022 school year, the SELPA received significant funding for both Dispute Prevention/Dispute Resolution and Learning Recovery for students with disabilities impacted by the COVID-19 school closures. After allocating funding to all member LEAs, the SELPA has been working closely with the LEAs to monitor expenditures and progress towards implementing plans developed in collaboration with the SELPA. The next progress report for all LEAs is due to the SELPA by January 15th, 2023, and will be used to provide technical assistance to LEAs and/or consider possible adjustments in allocation in order to ensure that all funds are encumbered by June 30th, 2023 and fully expended by September 30th, 2023. For questions about the AB-130 progress reports, please contact the SELPA Financial Operations Analyst, Michelle Dela Cruz @ mdelacruz@esgvselpa.org.



**"Every child has a right to the general education fund because they are a general education student first."**

THE LATE SARGE KENNEDY, TEHAMA COUNTY SELPA

### TRANSPORTATION CORNER



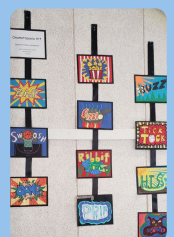
The SELPA Transportation team looks forward to the New Year! We continue to work closely with Durham School Services to have a full team of permanent drivers and cover drivers. Durham School Services did a great job of getting 1200+ students and staff to our 8th Annual Festival of the Arts and the SELPA will continue to monitor the performance of over 127 routes. Staff from any sites or district offices are encouraged to contact Casiano Perez, SELPA Transportation Director, or Marisela Fiscel, SELPA Transportation Router, with any service challenges or requests at 626-966-1670, option 2.

### CAC ARTS FESTIVAL

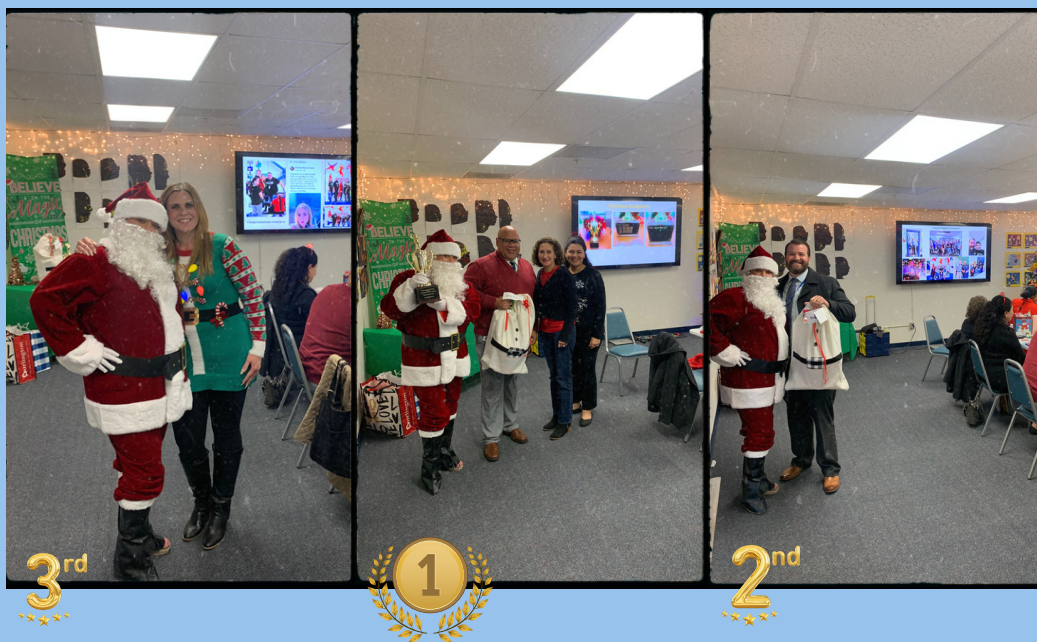
On October 24th, 2022, the SELPA held the 8th Annual Festival of the Arts at Royal Oak Middle School in Charter Oak USD. This year's theme was "Mighty Forces, Moving Forward Together" to celebrate our ability to come together again, with the previous two years being held virtually due to COVID-19. The event had over 1200 students and staff who submitted amazing art and participated in the days activities, including a magic show in the ROMS Theater.

Thank you to all who volunteered and to our wonderful classes who attended!

### COMMUNITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE

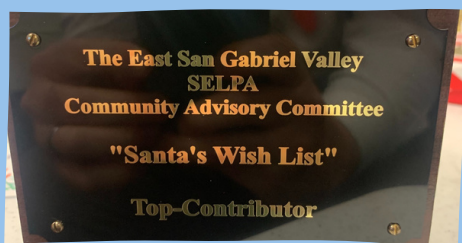
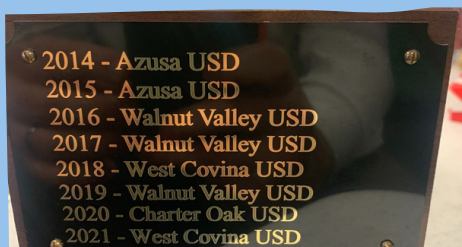






**CAC SANTA'S WISH LIST CONTEST**

Each year, the Community Advisory Committee recognizes Special Education Directors for our 15 member LEAs who have gone above and beyond in supporting students with disabilities and their families through the CAC Santa's Wish List Contest. Directors score points throughout the year in various ways of supporting the CAC. This year, Bassett Unified's Gretchen Carrera took third place, Charter Oak Unified's Jonathan Raymond took second place, and Covina-Valley Unified's Dr. Rene Valdez took home the coveted Santa's Cup for his contributions over the year. The SELPA is fortunate to have a highly collaborative and dedicated CAC that aims to support students, families, and staff throughout the year, and it was great to have the Annual Holiday Luncheon back in person for the first time since 2020. Thank you to all educators and staff for you dissemination of CAC activities throughout the year!



East San Gabriel Valley SELPA  
 esgvselpa.org | (626) 966.1679  
 1400 N. Ronger Dr., Covina, CA 91722