

# SACRAMENTO CITY UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT BOARD OF EDUCATION

Agenda Item # 10.3

**Meeting Date:** April 3, 2014

**Subject:** Overview of Section 504 and Health Services

- Information Item Only
- Approval on Consent Agenda
- Conference (for discussion only)
- Conference/First Reading (Action Anticipated: \_\_\_\_\_)
- Conference/Action
- Action
- Public Hearing

**Division:** Student Support and Health Services

**Background/Rationale:**

The Student Support and Health Services (SSHS) Department oversees Section 504 accommodations for the district. The law that was passed in 1973 prohibits the discrimination against persons with disabilities and applies to schools that receive any federal funds. It requires school districts to provide qualifying students (those with diagnosed physical or mental impairments) with reasonable accommodations to enable students to participate and learn in the general education program.

The SCUSD Health Services department performs a wide range of health support functions throughout the district. Staff meets the healthcare needs of students throughout the life cycle, from birth to elder adulthood. Health Services staff focus primarily on children with specialized healthcare needs (CSHCN) and their families, as well as the site staff who must provide a safe environment in the absence of Health Services presence.

Health Services staffing has been cut drastically over the past decade. The number of students with specialized healthcare needs and the medical advances required to care for students have increased dramatically over the same time period. This gap produces a health service disparity within our district during each school day.

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## Section 504 Accommodations and Health Services

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to provide funding, while other sites and programs have practically no service at all.

### IV. Goals, Objectives and Measures:

The goal of SSHS is to ensure compliance with Section 504 law, support the implementation process at school sites and provide annual training.

The goal of Health Services is to comply with federal and state mandates regarding accommodation for students with specialized healthcare needs, provide safe environments for those students, link students and families to medical care and resources in the community, and prevent and control communicable disease. These services include:

1. IEP (Special Education) and 504 (General Education) Health Assessments
2. Emergency Medical Care Planning and Staff Training for Children with Specialized Healthcare Needs
3. Medical case management including communication with local physicians
4. Home and Hospital Instruction Programs
5. Hearing and Vision Screening
6. State reporting for immunizations, kinder dental exams, 1<sup>st</sup> grade CHDP exams
7. Urgent response to potential/actual infectious disease outbreaks at school sites
8. SCUSD Immunization Clinic
9. Staff and parent volunteer tuberculosis (TB) Screening
10. Blood borne pathogens training for specified groups-OSHA compliance
11. Suicide risk assessment
12. Clinical educational experiences for Charles A Jones Licensed Vocational Nursing (LVN) education program, California State University, Sacramento (CSUS) School Nursing Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BSN) and Registered Nurse (RN) to BSN programs, and University of California (UC) Davis School of Nursing Master's in Science of Nursing (MSN) programs in pediatrics, community health and mental health courses.
13. Community Partnering with local healthcare

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compromise safe care and support to sites. There are no subs in Health Services, and they are currently using vendor staffing to support students with specialized health care needs. School sites without health services have little capacity for community partnering with health related organizations.

Recently, Health Services composed a budget proposal that would necessitate increased funding for more staff to maintain the modest level of services currently offered. Without the increased funding, elimination of services will be necessary. In addition, to meet the demand of increased numbers of students with complex medical needs during the school day and in after school programs, Health Services requires many more health aides consistent with the staffing models of other local districts. Without school nurses and health aides, this care must be performed by school site staff, or not performed at all, resulting in liability for the district.

### VII. Lessons Learned/Next Steps:

SSHS will continue to provide annual training to school administrators, counselors, nurses, psychologists, program specialist and school social workers to increase capacity and ensure compliance.

School health services have been underfunded