



Joint Communication
October 19, 2018

Good Afternoon Team PUSD,

As many of you are aware, the Special Education Advisory Committee (SEAC) has been meeting regularly over the last year and a half, working to identify opportunities to strengthen and improve our educational supports and services for students with special needs. Members of the advisory committee include teachers (special and general education, at all levels), special education support staff, parents, program specialists, related service providers, union leadership, principals, and District leadership. The SEAC has reviewed research, considered best practices happening in our own District and elsewhere, and gathered survey data from all PUSD stakeholders: staff, parents, and administrators.

After considering all of this data, the SEAC team has recommended the District begin piloting SAI as a service delivery model at 3-4 voluntary school sites. Stated concisely, the purpose of SAI is to ensure that students who receive special education services have appropriate access to the general curriculum in the least restrictive environment. In an SAI model, site teams *still determine* the most appropriate supports needed by our students to make educational gains including adapting the content, approach or delivery of instruction. Services may be provided to students in a regular education classroom, in a separate classroom, in a special day classroom (SDC), or a combination of any of the aforementioned. Based on the student's specific needs, the IEP team will determine specific core subjects, and the duration and location for SAI in the Least Restrictive Environment (LRE). As you all know, each student's educational needs are unique; thus, SAI and related services may vary greatly between students.

To increase understanding of the SAI model and the pilot process, we are hosting TK-12 forums for site level teams. Additionally, more information and next steps will be shared in the upcoming weeks with PUSD staff.

If you have any additional questions, please contact Greg Mizel (gmizel@powayusd.com), Courtney Davis-Martin (cdavis@powayusd.com), or Kelly Logan (klogan@powayusd.com).

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