

Ontario-Montclair

School District

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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OMSD granted waiver to become a single district Special Education Local Plan Area (SELPA)

On January 11, 2017, at the regularly scheduled State Board of Education (SBE) meeting, the SBE accepted the California Department of Education's (CDE) recommendation and unanimously approved the Ontario-Montclair School District's (OMSD) request and granted a two year approval (effective July 1, 2017) for the District to operate as a single-district SELPA, with conditions.

For many years, OMSD has been a part of the West End SELPA (WESELPA), a multi-district SELPA comprised of ten member districts. In September 2015, the WESELPA Superintendents' Council voted to terminate OMSD from the WESELPA effective June 30, 2017, unless the District's Board of Trustees voted to approve the revised WESELPA Local Plan prior to December 31, 2015. The Local Plan describes how the SELPA will provide special education services to the students from each district in the SELPA. The District's Board of Trustees did not approve the revised WESELPA Local Plan by December 31, 2015 due to the Board of Trustees having several concerns regarding the contents of the WESELPA Local Plan and its operation.

After a lengthy process, which included a wide range of input from all stakeholders and the support of the San Bernardino County Superintendent of Schools, in July 2016, OMSD submitted a proposed Local Plan with the required Certification to the CDE. The CDE denied OMSD's request to become a single-district SELPA due to the District not meeting the specific "size and scope requirements" (K-12 and 30,000 or more pupils). As a result, OMSD submitted a request for a waiver of the size and scope requirement to the CDE to become a single-district SELPA.

"The Board of Trustees is very proud of the services our District continually provides to students with special needs. As a single district SELPA, the District will continue to provide the full continuum of services to all students. We are also thankful to our staff and community members who have worked tirelessly to get this accomplished for our families", stated Board President Elvia M. Rivas.

"Our Community, Our Children, Our Commitment, Our Future"