

**Mt. Diablo Unified School District**  
1936 Carlotta Drive  
Concord, CA 94519  
(925) 682-8000

**COMMUNITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE (CAC)  
MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION FORM**

The mission of the Mt. Diablo Unified School District (MDUSD) Community Advisory Committee (CAC) for Special Education, is to advise on quality instructional services to all children with disabilities in compliance with Federal and State laws and District policies and procedures. A majority of the CAC membership shall be parents of students with special needs enrolled in the Mt. Diablo Unified School District.

**General Information**

Name: Bianca Koutakos Home Phone: [REDACTED]  Work Phone: [REDACTED]
Street Address/City/Zip: [REDACTED] Mobile Phone: [REDACTED] Email: [REDACTED]

**Please check one or more categories below as appropriate to your application:**

- Parent of a child with a disability enrolled in public or private school.
- Parent of other students(s) enrolled in the District.
- Student and/or adult with disabilities. Please specify:
- General education teacher. Please indicate grade level, site and subject:
- Special education teacher. Please indicate position, site, grade level(s) and subject(s) if applicable.
- Administrator. Please indicate position/school/division/department:
- Other school personnel. Please indicate position/school/division/department:

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Representative of public and/or private agency concerned with children with disabilities.

Please specify agency:

Person concerned with the needs of children with disabilities.

**Additional Information**

Have you been a member of any district or school-based committee?  Yes  No

If so, give the name of the committee, dates of membership, and your role.

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Do you have children or grandchildren currently enrolled in the District?  Yes  No

If yes, which school(s)?

Robert Shearer Preschool

List present or past membership in any community service, civic, or youth organizations:

Junior League of Pasadena

Alumnae Volunteer Advisor, Delta Delta Delta

Urban Land Institute

List participation in relevant seminars, workshops, volunteer work, professional organizations:

Women's Network, CBRE

**Qualifications**

Describe your connection or concerns related to educational disabilities. You may attach additional pages, if desired.

My daughter was diagnosed with Autism at the age of 3. She is now 4.5, entering kindergarten next year. She was at Shadelands last year and currently attending Robert Shearer.

Explain why you would like to be appointed to the CAC committee. You may attach extra pages if desired.

I've been attending CAC meetings for almost a year and found them to be a great source for networking and understanding the resources available. I would love to grow with CAC and help other families understand the resources available to them. I believe the key to success is to leverage the resources and support available to become an effective advocate for my daughter within the school system. With the right knowledge and involvement, I can ensure she and others receive the appropriate education and accommodations.

Explain what you can contribute to the CAC committee. You may attach extra pages if desired.

I've been involved in several organizations over the years, and I understand how to lead with grace and come from a place of knowledge when presenting my thoughts. I think there is a lot of opportunity for CAC, specifically with outreach and education for the autism community. I hope I can help with the organizational and advocacy effort.

**The CAC is an advisory committee. Members are required to be actively involved and participate on at least one CAC subcommittee. Attached is a list of our subcommittees with a general descriptor of their purpose. If your membership is approved, which subcommittee(s) will you join?**

- Community Outreach and Parent Education (COPE) Committee
- Legislative Committee
- Dyslexia Subcommittee

**Commitment Statement of Applicant:**

The Community Advisory Committee (CAC) for the Mt. Diablo Unified School District (MDUSD) is an active committee. In accordance with the requirements, the committee is called to advise the Board of Education about issues related to special education. The committee fulfills duties in accordance with the State Education Code and the Bylaws. Each member is required to

participate on committees and support other activities on behalf of the CAC.

It is the intent of the CAC to strive to maintain a voting membership of "Parent of Students with Disabilities" representatives reflective of the diversity and geographic location in the MDUSD. Furthermore, the CAC strives to ensure the committee has balanced representation from other groups.

I commit to be an active participant on the committee. In doing so, I will work to improve outcomes for all students by supporting needs based learning, equal opportunities and free appropriate public education (FAPE) in the least restrictive environment. I will work collaboratively and follow the CAC Bylaws and Code of Ethics.

I hereby submit my application for membership to the Community Advisory Committee and certify that this information is correct to the best of my knowledge and belief.

Signature Date: *Bianca Koutsakos* April 9, 2024

**Please send completed application and any attachments to:**

Community Advisory Committee (CAC)  
Attention Wendi Aghily, Executive Director, Special  
Education/SELPA Mt. Diablo Unified School District  
1936 Carlotta Drive  
Concord, CA 94519

**Or email completed application and any attachments to Dr. Wendi Aghily**

at: [aghilyw@mdusd.org](mailto:aghilyw@mdusd.org)  
Subject: CAC Application

**If you have any questions, please call or email the Mt. Diablo Unified School District Parent Liaison, Melody Royal at (925) 682-8000, ext. 4297 and [royalm@mdusd.org](mailto:royalm@mdusd.org)**  
**CAC Subcommittees**

**Local Plan Review and Policy-Making Committee:** Will continually review the local plan and receive input from the community regarding the plan. Be involved in developing and amending the local plan.

**Community Outreach and Parent Education (COPE) Committee:** Will assist in inservice activities and parent education and will encourage parent awareness. Assist in educating the community about individuals with disabilities through newspapers, newsletters, media and school personnel. Information gathered will be used to assist in personnel trainings. Be responsible for recruiting membership that reflects the community that the SELPA serves. Provide CAC orientation packets and application forms to interested persons. Stay in contact with the CAC secretary and director regarding vacancies, members' terms and role of person needed to fill the vacancy (e.g., parent, teacher). Ensure membership stays within accordance of the CAC bylaws and the California Education Code. Provide newspaper and media with information regarding the CAC and inservice activities.

**Program Needs and Priorities/Personnel Development Committee:** Shall gather information on programs in the community and the needs of students, parents, teachers, and school personnel. Information gathered will be used to assist in personnel trainings and provide input to the SELPA on program, resource allocation and personnel needs.

**Legislative Committee:** Will communicate and work with local legislators, board members, advocates and agencies that impact education and disability legislation and funding in California. It presents recommendations to the CAC and participates in the annual SELPA Legislative Day.

**Dyslexia Subcommittee:** Will serve as a gathering place for parents/guardians of dyslexic

students to advocate for equitable access to evidence based service, support, resources and advice for all dyslexic students in the district. The subcommittee will work to provide education, insight and awareness of the experiences of the dyslexic child; develop strong partnerships with other district programs, initiatives, community partners and seek out resources to help dyslexic students in MDUSD. The subcommittee will partner with the legislative committee to help inform policy makers on best practices and necessary supports for identification and remediation of the dyslexic learner.