Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR) Services

Santa Clara SELPAs I, II, III, IV & VII offer no-cost ADR services to assist school districts and parents in proactively resolving special education disagreements and disputes brought about by the COVID-19 pandemic. These ADR services aim to provide parents and school districts within Santa Clara SELPAs I, II, III, IV & VII with a continuum of dispute resolution processes and practices to engage in different levels of intervention – prevention, disagreement, and conflict.

Please complete this form to request a service/s. A member of the SELPA Team will review your request and contact you for additional information. For any questions, email selpa-adr@sccoe.org.

MEET OUR ADR FACILITATORS AND MEDIATORS

ELAINE TALLEY (IEP Facilitation and Mediation)
- Elaine Talley has conducted more than 2,500 successful mediations and facilitations in California and other jurisdictions, with extensive experience in special education.
- She has extensive experience in local and state-level mediations and mediates cases pending appeal in Federal Court.
- She also has expertise in coaching mediators and has served as California’s Mediation Coordinator, supervising all state-level due process mediators. She trained the Administrative Law Judges at the Office of Administrative Hearings.

KIMBERLY SCHULIST, J.D., LLM (IEP Facilitation and Mediation)
- Kimberly Schulist is an independent special education mediator and facilitator for school districts and SELPAs in California, a special education mediator for the State of Connecticut and a special education mediator and IEP facilitator for the State of Ohio. In addition to her law degree, she has a Master of Laws (LLM) in Dispute Resolution from Pepperdine’s Straus Institute for Dispute Resolution.
- She has presented on several special education ADR topics throughout California and is also a visiting trainer for the Straus Institute for Dispute Resolution’s week-long special education mediation training "Mediating the Litigated Case - SELPA."
- Prior to becoming a full-time mediator and facilitator, Kimberly was a special education attorney for 21 years and enjoyed focusing on her expertise in the field of Alternative Dispute Resolution/Mediation.

MARC PURCHIN (IEP Facilitation and Mediation)
- Marc Purchin has personally conducted more than 2,000 mediations, mostly through contracts with the California Special Education Hearing Office, the Department of Developmental Disabilities, various School Districts, as well as with numerous non-profit organizations.
- He has been the Director of Alternative Dispute Resolution Services with the Southwest SELPA, supporting 13,000 students, families, 12 School Districts, Los Angeles County Office of Education and 21 Charter Schools with their alternative dispute resolution needs.
- He attained certification as a mediator through the Los Angeles City Attorney’s Office.