

# SACRAMENTO CITY UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT BOARD OF EDUCATION

Agenda Item 7.3

**Meeting Date:** May 4, 2017

**Subject:** Special Education Review

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

**Division:** Special Education Department

**Recommendation:** NA

**Background/Rationale:** In the fall of 2016, Sacramento City Unified School District (SCUSD) voluntarily requested that the Council of the Great City Schools (the Council) to review district services for students with disabilities and provide recommendations to improve performance and narrow the achievement gap between these students and their nondisabled peers. To conduct its work, the Council assembled a team of experts who: a) have successfully administered and operated special education programs in other major urban school districts across the country, b) have firsthand expertise with the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) and c) are well versed in best practices in the administration and operation of special education programming.

The review occurred in November 2016 and the Council team pursued its charge by conducting interviews and focus groups with district and site-based staff members and California Department of Education personnel, the Community Advisory Council executive committee, representatives from the SCTA and SEIU, and many others. (A full list of those interviewed is included in the appendices of the full report). In addition, the team reviewed numerous documents and reports, analyzed data, and developed initial recommendations and proposals before finalizing the report.

This special presentation is a summary of the Council's findings and recommendations which are designed to help SCUSD achieve its goal of continuous improvement and to

