

CSHA Workload/Caseload Taskforce

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Purpose of the committee:

In keeping with CSHA's mission to serve our professions and members, the purpose of the Caseload/Workload task force is to improve caseload and workload conditions for school-based speech-language-hearing providers in California through collaboration with other organizations having interest in workload issues, gathering member input to illustrate the need for change, and strategic legislative advocacy.

Taskforce members

The taskforce is made up of 8 members from throughout the state. In addition, the California SEAL and the CSHA Advocacy Chair sit on the committee.

Mission statement

The mission of the Caseload/Workload Committee is to develop a framework, timeline and action plan to educate and inform state legislators, school administrators and the California Department of Education on the needs of California students with speech and language development needs, the workload of school-based SLPs and the burnout it causes and the need for manageable caseloads/workloads in order to serve identified students with critical needs. The goal is to change the Education Code caseload language in order to better serve our students ages 3-22 by implementing a free and appropriate education for all students. Further, improving caseload and workload will improve compliance and help address the shortage of school-based SLPs.

Summary of Activities

It must be noted that contract issues may vary from location to location, so we are focusing on legislative issues that we feel would cross all areas in California. The aim of the Taskforce is to develop several talking points for legislators. To this end, we developed draft talking points and a survey in order to gather data about caseloads and workloads across the state. A summary of the survey results, entitled "A Closer Look at Caseloads" is available on this website.

CSHA has met with several stakeholders including California Teachers Association, Association of School Administrators, the office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction, the Financial Accounting Office, members of the SELPA administrators, the California School Boards Association, and members of the legislature. Our mission at this time is two-fold: to clarify and align the Title 5 Regulations and the Education Code so that there can be more accountability for hiring entities; and to introduce legislation to move to a workload cap instead of a caseload average.

We encourage all our members to be involved in educating their school boards and their local legislators on the role of a school based SLP. You will find talking points on this website. Feel free to download and modify this document as would be needed for your school district.