

MORENO VALLEY UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL/STUDY SESSION OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION OF JULY 10, 2009

The minutes of the Special/Study Session of July 10, 2009, are being submitted to the Board of Education for approval at its Regular Board Meeting of August 18, 2009. The minutes are a complete and factual record of action taken by the Board of Education at its Study Session of July 10, 2009.

THESE PROCEEDINGS WERE AUDIO TAPED PURSUANT TO GOV. CODE § 54953.5

CALL TO ORDER: The Board of Education opened the meeting at 4:04 p.m. to convene into Closed Session to discuss Public Employee Discipline/Dismissal/Release/Non-Reelects and Conference with Labor Negotiators.

ROLL CALL: Aye – Ashe Aye – Baca Aye – Holguin Aye – Sayre Aye – Vackar

Administration Present

Rowena Lagrosa, Superintendent
Robert Crank, Assistant Superintendent, Business Services
Kathy Nordin, Director, Elementary Education
Kim Kruger, Director, Secondary Education
Dan Reed, Director, Accountability and Assessment, and Training
Ken Schmidt, Director, Child Welfare and Attendance
Willie Hasson, Director, Certificated Employee Services
Debbie Fay, Principal, Mountain View
Chris Schiermeyer Principal, Landmark
Sharon Cirigliano, Executive Secretary, Board of Education

Visitors

Ann Adler	Randy Dargitz	Janet MacMillan
Christina Thomas	Jose Gutierrez	Leona Gutierrez
David Cerrillo	Susan Young	Paula Pelton
Lorri Limoges-Kerns	Laura Patino	Adam Patino
Lorena Michel-Jasso	Renee Dargitz	Erin Dargitz
Lauren Dargitz	Samantha Harris	Amy Dargitz
Linda Harris	Joshua Parsons	Jeff Soria
C. Soria	Lupe Rodriguez	Nancy Hill
Claudine Bond	Juliann Burnham	Elena Telminova
Christine Graves	Anita Barragan	Christine Rightner
Karen Odle	Tim Whitton	Deborah Craig
Denora Valezuela	Janelle Kell	T. Trotter
Blanca Chiquito	Gabriela Serrato-Sanchez	Mario Mendoza
Karen Kyler	Nancy Noller	Ken Noller
Laurie Wolfe	Kaitlin Wolfe	Laurel Correlson
Robin Hile	M. King	Maria Gutierrez
Monica Lewis-Hamilton	Marge Dahl	J. Whalen
Melisa Siegel	Eduardo Garcia	Lisa Vines
Maria Adam	Chris Dolmage	Darcel Cannady
E. Ranzel	Denesa Lockwood	A. Masters
Karla Michel	Theresa Pierson	Angelina Sullivan
Veronica Munez	Gabriela Romo	Juanita Quiroz

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Visitors (Continued)

Laura Hernandez	L. Hernandez	D. Hernandez
Carol McCunn	Patricia Gomez	S. Fryer
Lisa Garcia	Julie Richards	Paulette McDole
Barbara Sabatini	Marisol Gallegos	Denise West
Michelle Dotterer	Erica Ochoa	Sima Abramson
Carmen Morales	Alison Feeken	Patrick Fulger
Cathy Fulger	Daisy Salazar	David Sanchez
Lizeth Piskulich	Megan Hannah	

PUBLIC COMMENTS ON CLOSED SESSION AGENDA

There were no public comments on the Closed Session agenda.

The Board of Education convened into Closed Session at 4:05 p.m.

ROLL CALL: Aye – Ashe Aye – Baca Aye – Holguin Aye – Sayre Aye – Vackar

The Board of Education convened into Special Session at 6: 10 p.m.

REPORT OUT OF

CLOSED SESSION: The Board of Education will be continuing this meeting on Monday, July 13, 2009, at 5 p.m. The Board of Education will continue in Closed Session.

The Board of Education recognized that there were several speakers and provided them the opportunity to make their comments.

The President of the California Teachers Association (CTA), spoke to the Board about how it needs to do the right thing and make the right decisions. He shared a concerns about the RIFs and how the District teachers have been told not once, but twice about the loss of their jobs. He indicated that there is a question of how to use the stimulus funds. The money should be used to mitigate *layoffs*.

The MVEA President spoke on behalf its 1,850 members, who were here in solidarity standing behind the 87 RIFed teachers, counselors, and EL Specialists sited in tonight's resolutions. She shared a concern about maintaining quality education programs and urged the Board of Education not to approve these RIF notices for August.

A TownGate teacher shared her concerns about being notified for a second time that she would not have a job, even though she signed a contract that was binding on June 26. She understood that the District was going to over *layoffs* and create new jobs. She feels that the RIFed employees are a symbol of how the District is not honoring the signed contracts. She feels that the District will be going backward by increasing class size reduction and create further problems because it is in Program Improvement. We need to keep class size reduction.

A Seneca teacher spoke about cutting equally amongst the entire District and using the stimulus money to end this financial war. To prevent unnecessary pain and suffering, don't use the heart of the education and the teacher as a negotiation tool. We are dealing with humans. Teachers are fragile too. Teachers are always asked to give more than they receive. He asked if this is how to repay people that care for the children. Losing my job is not the biggest tragedy is not being able to help those students. The new generation of teachers that you are letting go are the best trained. He asked that the teachers be treated with dignity and respect.

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A Box Springs teacher has been in the community 30 years and taken an active role in education as a parent volunteer and District teacher. He shared a concern about losing his family medical benefits after receiving his RIF notice. He feels that the money the District has now should be used to save the jobs. He urged the Board to spend the stimulus money now to save the community. The teachers need to be given the respect they deserve.

A 6th grade Mountain View teacher expressed her concern about signing a new contract in June. Within three hours of her unpacking her classroom to prepare for the new school year, she was notified that she would not have a job in August. She asked the District to keep its word and to set an example for the students based on honesty. She urged the Board to use the stimulus funds so those that have signed contracts can keep their jobs.

A Moreno Valley teacher shared her concern about how this affects the students. Initially she did not tell her students that she was RIFed. The teachers need to know what is going to happen to feel more stable. Not knowing what the future holds affects the students as well. Those kids are her kids. It is hard for students to not have her in the classroom.

A Landmark teacher shared what she experienced being RIFed. She first received a call to offer her job back. She signed a contract on June 25. On July 6, the District contacted her to let her know that it would need to take advantage of a RIF notification in August. The way the District is doing this is wrong and cruel. Teachers have passed up on new jobs or unemployment. She feels that real explanations need to be made. She feels that many people would take a 3% cut and furlough days. This also affects the students.

A Hidden Springs teacher spoke of how the RIF process has affected her emotionally and physically. She feels that there are difference ways to treat things and is sorry for what has happened to all of us.

ADJOURNMENT: There being no other business to come before the Board of Education, the Special/Study Session was adjourned at 6:35 p.m. The Board of Education will reconvened into Closed Session at 5:00 p.m. on Monday, July 13, 2009 to continue this adjourned meeting.

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