

MORENO VALLEY UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

MINUTES FOR THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION OF SEPTEMBER 1, 2009

The minutes of the Regular Meeting of September 1, 2009, are being submitted to the Board of Education for approval at its Regular Board Meeting of September 22, 2009. The minutes are a complete and factual record of action taken by the Board of Education at its Regular Meeting of September 22, 2009.

**MORENO VALLEY UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT
25634 Alessandro Boulevard
Moreno Valley, California**

**THESE PROCEEDINGS ARE AUDIO/VIDEOTAPED PURSUANT TO GOV. CODE §54953.5
AND REBROADCAST ON CHANNEL 16**

CALL TO ORDER: The Board of Education opened the Regular meeting at 5:02 p.m. to convene into Closed Session to discuss Board Deliberation Regarding Student Discipline Cases; Public Employee Employment/Appointment; Public Employee Discipline/Dismissal/Release/Non-Reelects; Conference with Labor Negotiators; Conference with Legal Counsel – Existing Litigation; and Personnel Complaints.

PUBLIC COMMENTS
ON CLOSED
SESSION:

There were no public comments on the Closed Session agenda.

The Board of Education convened into Closed Session at 5:03 p.m.

Members Present

Tracey B. Vackar, President (late)
Jesus M. Holguin, Vice President (late)
Jacqueline L. Ashe, Clerk
Victoria Baca, Member
Rick Sayre, Member

Administration

Rowena Lagrosa
Barbara Davis

The Board of Education reconvened into Regular Session at 7:08 p.m.

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

REPORT OUT OF

CLOSED SESSION: The Board of Education gave direction to the Superintendent regarding Employee Discipline/Dismissal/Release/Non-Reelects. No other actions were taken by the Board of Education in Closed Session.

Administration Present

Rowena T. Lagrosa, Superintendent of Schools
Barbara Davis, Assistant Superintendent, Educational Services
Ken Schmidt, Director, Student Services
Peggy Reed, Director, SELPA
Kim Kruger, Director, Secondary Education
Betsy Sample, Director, English Language Learners' Program
Stan Brown, Director, Maintenance and Operations
Josie Ripoly, Director, Purchasing

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Administration Present (Cont.)

Aaron Barnett, Director, Information Systems
Willie Hasson, Director, Certificated Employee Services
Lasandra Fairchild, Director, Classified Employee Services
Nancy Anderson, Director, Risk Management
Laura Strachan, Principal, March Mountain
Dulce Leyva-Fernandez, Principal, Adult Education
Gil Ocegüera, Principal, Vista del Lago
Kristen Hunter, Principal, Valley View
Francine Story, Director, Budget
Estuardo Santillan, Business Manager
Sheryl Sanford, Administrative Assistant

Visitors

| | | |
|------------------|-------------------|---------------------|
| Michele Belz | Janet MacMillan | Lorri Limoges-Kerns |
| Pete Loza | Bertha Solares | Terezia Valle |
| Lilia Robles | Paula Chu Tanguay | Alma Serrano |
| Kelly Serrano | Magdalia Armas | Librada Murrillo |
| Roseann Reynolds | | |

NOTE: ALL BOARD ITEMS ARE SUBJECT TO: INFORMATION, DISCUSSION, ACTION

PLEDGE OF

ALLEGIANCE: The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Board President Vackar.

INSPIRATIONS: Board Vice President Holguin gave the Inspiration.

DATES OF FUTURE BOARD MEETINGS

| | | | | |
|-----------|----------|-----------|--------------------------------------|------------|
| September | 22, 2009 | 7:00 p.m. | Regular Board Meeting | Board Room |
| September | 24, 2009 | 5:30 p.m. | Special Study Session | Board Room |
| September | 29, 2009 | 5:30 p.m. | Special Study Session | Board Room |
| October | 13, 2009 | 7:00 p.m. | Regular Board Meeting | Board Room |
| October | 27, 2009 | 7:00 p.m. | Regular Board Meeting | Board Room |
| November | 17, 2009 | 7:00 p.m. | Regular Board Meeting | Board Room |
| December | 8, 2009 | 7:00 p.m. | Organizational/Regular Board Meeting | Board Room |

RECOGNITIONS/COMMUNICATIONS/EVENTS

Paula Chu Tanguay from the Alliance of School for Cooperative Insurance Programs (ASCIP), our District’s liability insurance program, recognized the District for its efforts, achievements, and ongoing commitment to making the Moreno Valley Unified School District a safe place for students, staff, and the public.

It was moved by Rick Sayre and seconded by Jacqueline L. Ashe to approve Resolution No. 2009-10-20 – Hispanic Heritage Month, as presented.

VOTE: AYES – 0 NAYS – 0 ABSTAIN – 0

Pete Loza, EL Specialist from Moreno Valley High School, was presented a copy of the resolution recognizing September 15, 2009 through October 15, 2009 as Hispanic Heritage Month.

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STAFF RESPONSE FROM PUBLIC COMMENTS MADE AT PREVIOUS MEETINGS

The following is staff response to public comments made at the August 18, 2009, Board Meeting on Agenda and Non-agenda items:

A District parent referred to a meeting which was held on August 4th in which there were several parents in attendance who expressed concerns regarding the intradistrict transfer requests which they had submitted for the 2009-10 school year. During the meeting, the Superintendent took note of each situation and responded accordingly. In some situations, issues regarding residency were taken into consideration and students were able to remain at their former school; however, in other cases, in accordance with District policies and procedures regarding the issuance of intradistrict transfers, the District was unable to grant the intradistrict transfer request. Many of our high schools are currently at capacity in terms of enrollment and thus we have been unable to accommodate the intradistrict transfer requests which have been submitted. The parent felt that the Superintendent did not understand or respect the concerns brought forth. She expressed that, at all times, she strives to address the concerns brought forward and holds staff accountable to do the same.

A parent from Palm Middle School expressed her concern regarding having two counselors at the site. The counseling ratio at the middle school level was determined by student enrollment. Therefore, two counselors were assigned at this middle school. The parent also referred to the 1802 Supplemental Counseling Funds. They were identified by the State as Tier III funds and the guidelines were lifted by the State so the funds were swept. Our current counselors will remain focused upon meeting the needs of our students.

PUBLIC COMMENTS ON AGENDA ITEMS

There were no public comments on agenda items.

PUBLIC COMMENTS ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS

A parent spoke regarding a newspaper article in which a former teacher was accused of committing a crime similar to a one he committed against her daughter. She stated that everyone should listen to the children when they speak because they have rights.

A District employee spoke about a newspaper article regarding summer jobs for youth. She was angry that the District decided not to accept the stimulus money to fund this program.

A parent questioned why the custodians, secretaries, and ELAC members were not recognized at a Board meeting for the hard work they do each day.

A parent was concerned about the tutoring programs being offered at program improvement schools. She felt the parents needed a workshop to explain the program. She is concerned about the representation at Butterfield Elementary School and stated that the Board does not understand the parents concerns because they have not walked in their shoes. The parent also questioned why the transfer paperwork for a student at Canyon Springs was being held up. She stated that it was an injustice and was affecting the student academically and socially.

A parent expressed her concerns regarding a transfer issue for her daughter to Canyon Springs. She stated that she filled out the paperwork and was told by the school that her daughter had a spot in the Health Academy. The transfer has been denied. She asked that the Board investigate the matter.

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Public Hearing – Energy Efficiency Project

The Board President opened the Public Hearing on Resolution 2009-10-19 – Energy Efficiency Project at all District Pools for public comments.

The Board President asked if there were public comments. There were no public comments.

Maintenance and Operations Director Stan Brown explained that the District desires to conserve energy by installing Variable Frequency Drives (VFD) for swimming pool pump and filtration systems on all District pools. The cost to the District would be approximately \$40,000 with an estimated annual savings of about \$36,000. Southern California Edison will also rebate the District \$23,000 when the project is completed and fully operational.

There was a brief Board discussion regarding the funding for the project.

It was moved by Rick Sayre and seconded by Jacqueline L. Ashe to close the Public Hearing.

VOTE: AYES – 5 NAYS – 0 ABSTAIN – 0

Approve Energy Efficiency Project at All District Pools

It was moved by Jesus M. Holguin and seconded by Jacqueline L. Ashe to approve the Energy Efficiency Project at All District Pools, as presented.

VOTE: AYES – 5 NAYS – 0 ABSTAIN – 0

CONSENT AGENDA

It was moved by Rick Sayre and seconded by Jacqueline L. Ashe to approve Superintendent Consent Items G-1 through 4; Business Services Consent Items H-1 through 6, and Human Resources Consent Items I-1 through 14, as presented, pulling Human Resources Consent Item I-2 – Differential Pay for Classified Management Personnel to be brought back at a later date.

VOTE: AYES – 5 NAYS – 0 ABSTAIN – 0

ACTION AGENDA

It was moved by Jacqueline L. Ashe and seconded by Rick Sayre, to approve Superintendent Action Item J –1, and Student Services Action Item K-1, as presented.

VOTE: AYES – 5 NAYS – 0 ABSTAIN – 0

DISCUSSION/ACTION AGENDA

Business Services

- Approval of Unaudited Actuals Report for 2008-09

Estuardo Santillan, Business Manager, gave a PowerPoint presentation regarding the Unaudited Actual Financial Report for 2008-09. The total income for the year includes: revenue limit (\$196,722,889); federal revenues (\$33,475,023); state funds (\$64,012,681); and local income (\$2,223,711), which equals \$296,434,304.

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The total expenditures include: certificated salaries (\$149,150,925); classified salaries (\$43,700,417); employee benefits (\$48,754,700); books and supplies (\$10,222,586); operational services (\$23,457,982); capital outlay (\$2,606,285); and other outgo (\$2,061,005), which equals a total of \$279,953,910. The General Fund beginning balance (\$42,390,356), plus income (\$296,434,304), less expenditures (-\$279,953,910), equals an ending balance of \$58,870,750. This ending balance less the restricted balance (-\$20,937,487), equals an ending unrestricted balance of \$37,933,263.

The available unrestricted balance (\$680,790) is calculated after deducting the following items from the ending unrestricted balance of \$37,933,263: revolving cash (-\$50,000); general required 2% reserve (-\$5,599,078); retiree benefits (-\$8,439,802); vacation payable (-\$1,736,728); school budget carryovers (-\$938,977); school donation carryovers (-\$151,490); \$252.83 per ADA to State (-\$8,590,417); net sweep for use in 09-10 (-\$5,946,062); reserve designated for 09-10 (-\$3,800,000); textbook delay (-\$2,000,000). The general reserve of \$5,599,078 and the available unrestricted balance of \$680,790 is equivalent to a 2.25 percent reserve.

Mr. Santillan reviewed the other funds, all of which have positive balances.

There was Board discussion and clarification regarding the budget.

It was moved by Rick Sayre and seconded by Victoria Baca to approve the 2008-09 Unaudited Actual Financial Report for 2008-09, as presented.

VOTE: AYES – 5 NAYS – 0 ABSTAIN – 0

Educational Services

- Approval of Counselor for Adult Education

Barbara Davis, Assistant Superintendent of Educational Services, and Dulce Leyva-Fernandez, Principal of Adult Education, expressed the need for a full time counselor to service students enrolled in Adult Education. The cost of the counseling position has been included in the \$539,994 budget allotted.

There was Board discussion and clarification regarding the position.

It was moved by Jacqueline L. Ashe and seconded by Victoria Baca to approve the Counselor for Adult Education, as presented.

VOTE: AYES – 4 NAYS – 1 (Sayre) ABSTAIN – 0

COMMENTS FROM MEMBERS OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION

Rick Sayre

- He wanted to thank the Moreno Valley Police Department for solving the robbery at one of our schools.
- He asked for an explanation about the District turning down a grant for the summer work program.
- He asked that staff investigate the concerns of the parent whose daughter was denied a transfer to Canyon Springs.

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Victoria Baca

- She would like an explanation regarding the grant.
- She was very relieved that the armed robber was caught and asked what measures were being taken to prevent this type of incident from happening again.
- She asked if we received ADA for preschoolers that turn five during the school year.
- She is glad that we are having a study session regarding the dropout rate and asked why the students are dropping out.
- She stated that Back to School Nights were very successful.

Jacqueline L. Ashe

- She thanked staff for the Adult Education information that will address the dropout rate.
- She stated that the Board of Education can make a difference and she has never deserted the community, Board, staff, or students even when making hard decisions.
- She is looking forward to higher graduation rate this year.
- She is also concerned for the Canyon Springs parent.
- She is concerned about the grant and asked for an explanation.

Jesus M. Holquin

- He is also concerned for parent from Canyon Springs and asked for a report on the investigation.
- He asked for an explanation for rejecting the grant money.
- He stated that the information to parents regarding tutoring and requirements for graduation is important and helps families.
- He asked why students aren't completing the credits and what do they need to do to complete them.
- He thanked staffs for being there for the parents on Back to School Nights.
- He also thanked the Moreno Valley Police Department for their quick work in capturing the robber.

Tracey B. Vackar

- She thanked staff and the community for a successful opening of the school year.
- She thanked the Canyon Springs parent for the documentation regarding her concern.
- She also thanked the Moreno Valley Police Department for the arrest after the robbery and stated that our Safety Committee is addressing the issues on our campuses.
- She welcomed the new Superintendent of Val Verde Unified School District and wished him success.
- She reviewed some of the reasons for the District's declining the work experience grant because she has been very involved with the program. The District did write for and receive the grant. She met with staff to find out what issues involving the grant could not be pulled together. She wrote for an emergency grant for additional funding through the Riverside County Office of Education. She stated that 150 students from Moreno Valley were served. She hopes that, next year, with additional time, we would be able to make it work. Funding did come late and conditions to put the grant in place were overwhelming in such a short period of time. She asked what we could do better next time to make sure the grant is successful.
- She attended the new Resource Center grand opening that will help the community with job searches, resumes, interviews, etc.

Rowena T. Lagrosa

- She welcomed the new Principal of March Mountain/March Valley, Laura Strachan
- She thanked the Moreno Valley Police Department for the arrest and the partnership we have to keep our sites safe

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ADJOURNMENT: There being no further business to come before the Board of Education, the regular meeting was adjourned at 9:42 p.m.

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