

MORENO VALLEY UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

MINUTES FOR THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION OF SEPTEMBER 27, 2005

The minutes of the Regular Meeting of September 27, 2005, are being submitted to the Board of Education for approval at its Regular Board Meeting of October 11, 2005. The minutes are a complete and factual record of action taken by the Board of Education at its Regular Meeting of September 27, 2005.

**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 5:15 p.m. to convene into Closed Session to discuss Special Education Private School Placement Cases; Hearing Officer Recommendations; Public Employee Employment; Public Employee Discipline/Dismissal/Release/Non-Reelects; Public Employee Reasonable Accommodation, Conference with CSEA, MVEA and AMVMP Labor Negotiator; and Personnel Complaints.

Members Present

Jesus M. Holguin, President
Richard Coz, Vice President
Rick Sayre, Clerk
Jacqueline L. Ashe, Member
Tracey B. Vackar, Member

Administration

Pat Chandler
Bob Crank
Ollie Hershey

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

ROLL CALL: Present - Ashe Present- Coz Present - Holguin Present - Sayre Present- Vackar
Student Board Rep. – Michelle Deyden

REPORT OUT OF

CLOSED SESSION: The Board of Education took action to approve Reasonable Accommodation for Employee #033308. The Board of Education will reconvene into Closed Session after the Regular Board meeting.

Administration Present

Pat Chandler, Assistant Superintendent, Educational Services
Robert Crank, Assistant Superintendent, Business Services
Olivia Hershey, Assistant Superintendent, Human Resources
Ann Vessey, Director, SELPA
John Baldaray, Director, Warehouse
Maribel Mattox, Principal, Moreno Valley
Patty Rucker, Assistant Coordinator, Student Services
Kim Kruger, Principal, Valley View
Mary Jones, Principal, Vista del Lago
Debbie Fay, Principal, Mountain View
Magdalena Ruz Gonzalez, Principal, Sunnymead Elementary
Martha Palomino, Principal, Serrano
Estuardo Santillan, Business Manager
Sheryl Sanford, Administrative Assistant

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Visitors

Marciela Hinds	Ann Adler	Katherine Underwood
Jeffrey Hinshaw	Philip Blackmon	Shelsea Shofner
William Kalogonis	Roberto Gomez	Karla Quintero
Raul Wilson	Sonia Quinn	Janet MacMillan
Ruth Green	Scott Johnson	Tim Nguyen
Emil Dragovich	Courtney Davis	Christine Little
Patricia Gomez	Denise McCrea	Belinda Childrey
Larissa Sanchez	Jatrona Smith	Amelia Juarez
Patricia Baneto-Estrada	J. Hough, Jr.	

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

PLEDGE OF

ALLEGIANCE: The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Board Member Coz.

INSPIRATIONS: Board Member Sayre was hopeful for a safe school year, the success for students we are charged with serving, and that staff has the insight to guide problems through the proper channels for solutions. We are fortunate to be living in this great country of the United States of America.

DATES OF FUTURE BOARD MEETINGS

October	11, 2005	7 p.m.	Regular Board Meeting	Board Room
October	25, 2005	7 p.m.	Regular Board Meeting	Board Room
November	15, 2005	7 p.m.	Regular Board Meeting	Board Room

RECOGNITION/COMMUNICATIONS/EVENTS

Martha Palomino, Serrano Elementary Principal, and staff showcased programs at Serrano Elementary School that are used with students who are learning English as a second language.

The Board of Education brought forward Action Items 228 – Resolution No. 2005-06-49 – National Character Education Month – October and Action Item 229 - Resolution No. 2005-06-49 – National Character Education Month - November.

It was moved by Richard Coz and seconded by Jacqueline Ashe that Action Items 228 through 229 be approved as presented.

VOTE: AYE - 5

NAY - 0

ABSTAIN – 0

Patty Rucker, Assistant Coordinator, Student Services, was presented a copy of the resolution recognizing October, as School Safety Month and a copy of the resolution recognizing National Character Education Month – October.

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The following High School Student Board Representatives reported the following: Shelsea Shofner, March Valley and Philip Blackmon, March Mountain, reported that on September 29, there will be a dunk tank on campus. A dance contest that will provide different types of music is scheduled for October 7. Students attended the Joan Butter's suicide prevention assembly. Exit exam testing was held for juniors and seniors. March Mountain improved their API scores by 79 points and March Valley improved by 73 points. A trip to Knott's Scary Farm is scheduled for October 14. On October 20, Back-to-School night is scheduled. Red Ribbon week will be celebrated in October to show the school sites are drug free. Students and staff are helping in the relief efforts for the people of New Orleans by holding a car wash, donating clothing, and having a penny drive.

Terry Gibb, Valley View, reported that Back-to-School night will be held on October 10. A new marquee was installed at the main entrance and will be used to highlight school events happening. The sports teams (cross country, volleyball, and football) are doing well. The cheer squad is preparing for competition and will also be hosting a competition on November 19. Back-to-School night will be held on October 6. Flex days will begin next week. Friday Night Live is planning a money drive for the hurricane victims. Homecoming activities, including a football game will take place on October 14. There will be a field trip to Knott's Scary Farm on October 21. A focus group meeting will be discussing self-study in preparation for the WASC visit next year.

Jeryn Mays, Vista del Lago, reported that they have started the self-study report for WASC. A flex day was held on September 21. Students, parents, and staff members, met to review the test data from the Spring 2005 testing. Students had the opportunity to take the California High School Exit Exam on September 13 and 14. On September 16, "Day of the Constitution" was celebrated which provided information on the writing and signing of the Constitution and its importance in American history and Mexican Independence Day was sponsored by MECHA, which is an on-campus club dedicated to helping preserve Mexican culture in our society. Back-to-School night is scheduled for September 28. Fall sports teams (volleyball, tennis, golf, and football) are off to a great start. In October, Vista del Lago will hold its first homecoming including floats, a parade, and other exciting activities. The band, dance team, pep squad and cheerleaders have performed at pep rallies and games. ASB is hard at work.

Maria Madrigal, Moreno Valley, reported that SAT 9 scores have improved by 72 points. She introduced the new principal, Maribel Mattox. The cafeteria has been remodeled with a seafood theme. Moreno Valley won their first football game. On September 9, the annual luau was held which provided a Hawaiian barbeque and pool party. A senior breakfast will be held at Hometown Buffet on September 29. Homecoming is October 14 and preparations are underway.

Michelle Deyden, Canyon Springs, reported that the school was decorated with welcoming signs and chalk messages to guide new students. ASB held a Back-to-School assembly which featured the band, color guard, and pep squad performances. Fall sports teams (cross country, football, water polo, and volleyball) have begun competing. Flex days have started. Several clubs and individuals have boosted their volunteer efforts in response to Hurricane Katrina - ASB is collecting baby items, blankets, sleeping bags, and bed linens; ROTC and AVID have coordinated a clothing drive; and NHS is organizing another drive. Many students and teachers have volunteered or donated money. Spirit days are held every other Friday. Each Spirit day has a theme and music and class competitions will take place at lunch. October 21 was Constitution Day where the significance of the Constitution was discussed throughout the day. ASB is currently working on Homecoming which is planned for November. The senior class is working on a senior activities.

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S-C-4

STAFF RESPONSE TO PUBLIC COMMENTS MADE AT PREVIOUS MEETINGS

Several parents expressed concerns regarding safety issues and readiness of the new elementary school sites. Due to the weather conditions, several projects are still being worked on. All classrooms were ready for students the first day of school and the schools are safe for students.

A parent brought forward a concern regarding the construction, safety, demolition of the bicycle area, and the lack of assistance from the SRO at a middle school site where her student's bicycle was stolen. Staff has investigated the incident and found that safety issues were addressed and the SRO did indeed investigate the parent's allegations.

A high school parent spoke of a concern about violence and gang activity at the high schools. The principal has insured that appropriate action has been taken with regards to this particular incident.

A parent of an elementary and middle school student spoke about the lack of transportation for her students because of the distance as stated in Board Policy. Staff was directed to review this policy and bring to the Board for further discussion.

There were concerns shared with the Board regarding transportation for special education students not being picked up or dropped off on time, being late to school, and phone calls not being returned. Efforts are being made to hire additional drivers and all phone calls are being returned.

A community member indicated that the District is out of compliance regarding the education of English Learner students. District programs for English Learners are according to State regulations. The most recent achievement data indicates that English Learners are showing growth in academic achievement and in learning English.

A parent requested that the Board review its policy on the grade point average of incoming freshmen and eligibility for participating in an athletic program. Staff is reviewing the relevant Board policy regarding student eligibility.

PUBLIC COMMENTS ON AGENDA ITEMS

None

PUBLIC COMMENTS ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS

Christine Little, Community Advisory Committee (CAC) chairperson, shared concerns about special education transportation. She asked that the District be proactive with parents by communicating with them. Ms. Little asked that the transportation committee begin to meet. She stated that a CAC meeting is scheduled for October 12 at 6:30 p.m. Alfredo Villa, transportation consultant, will attend to discuss transportation issues in the District. Ms. Little invited Board members to attend.

Raul Wilson expressed concerns about the English Learner Program, particularly in the area of comprehension. He agrees that we must have safe schools. He has requested minutes from English Learners Advisory Committee (ELAC) and the District Bilingual Advisory Committee (DBAC).

CONSENT AGENDA

It was moved by Rick Sayre and seconded by Richard Coz that the Consent Agenda be approved as amended. Consent Item 402 was amended to reflect the employment of Dr. Michael Davitt, Director, Program Improvement, and Dr. Dianna Carberry, Director, Secondary Education. Consent Item 403 was amended to reflect the appointment of Tim Nguyen, Assistant Principal, Valley View. Ollie Hershey was asked to review one of the salary amounts on the amended agenda under Item 405.

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S-C-5

VOTE: AYE – 5

NAY - 0

ABSTAIN – 0

ACTION AGENDA

It was moved by Rick Sayre and seconded by Jacqueline Ashe that the Action Agenda be approved as presented.

VOTE: AYE – 5

NAY - 0

ABSTAIN – 0

DISCUSSION/ACTION AGENDA

EDUCATIONAL SERVICES

275 The LEA Plan Addendum Update

Pat Chandler, Assistant Superintendent, Educational Services, introduced Roberto Gomez, Armada Elementary teacher, and Ruth Green, Sunnymeade Elementary teacher. They attended the AB 466 *Lectura* training. The *Lectura* training is the Spanish version of the elementary Houghton-Mifflin adoption. They gave an overview of how the program works. They felt the training was beneficial because it helped them implement the program more effectively. They feel training is needed for their colleagues. There was Board discussion and clarification of several items.

BUSINESS SERVICES

375 Hardship Construction Funding

Bob Crank, Assistant Superintendent, Business Services, explained how the district qualifies for hardship funding. Financial hardship is available for districts that cannot provide all or part of their share of a school facility project. A district must have made all reasonable efforts to impose all levels of local debt capacity and development fees prior to requesting financial assistance. A formula is used to determine bonding capacity (2.5% x assessed valuation), hardship (60% of bonding capacity) and debt (1.5% x assessed valuation). In July, 2004, the District qualified for hardship funding. In July, 2005, due to the assessed valuation (an increase of 28%), the District no longer qualifies for hardship funding. There was Board discussion and clarification of several items. There is a concern that, during the bond election, the voters were informed that the District would qualify for hardship funds. A review of the data was suggested.

376 Board Policy and Administrative Regulation

- BP/AR 3720 – Transportation

Bob Crank stated that the Board Policy needs to be updated. The changes to the policy will be reflected more specifically in the Administrative Regulation. It has not been revised since 1989. During the budget reductions, it was decided the District would cease the transportation of high school students. That language needs to be updated. Staff was directed to collect and look at data (including a public hearing) in regards to changing the language for K-3 and 4-5 busing distances to a single K-5 distance, special safety conditions, whether this policy is still current for our needs, what the surrounding districts are doing, and the costs (including parent pay).

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ACKNOWLEDGMENT ITEMS

V-A Delete Administrative Regulation

- AR 0510 – School Accountability Report Card

The following items were brought forward:

Rick Sayre

- The Board is concerned about the transportation problem and the smooth operation of a multi-million dollar organization. He feels that the District is not doing the best we can with what we've got. There is adequate staff, but we have a slow system of recruiting and training to qualify someone to be a bus driver. He asked staff to look at an option of privatizing or contracting on a short term basis with a vendor that can assist us until we get this problem resolved. The District is faced with getting students to school on time and it doesn't seem to be happening.

Tracey B. Vackar

- She agreed with Board Member Sayre regarding his comments about the transportation issue and how it is affecting the families and community.
- The Riverside County School Boards Association (RCSBA) has a general meeting this month. A flyer will be sent out.
- She indicated that the Masters in Governance program will be held locally on weekends, which will provide a savings of approximately 60% in costs. She suggested that it might be a worthwhile venture if all five Board members attend with the new superintendent.
- CIF is forming a new league in the area. The new name of the league is being discussed in other districts but not here in Moreno Valley. She asked that this item be placed on the October 11 Board agenda for discussion. She feels it is important for the Board to hear the names that are being suggested by District athletic directors. It should be valued in our community to create a new league name. We haven't had the opportunity to be part of this before. Those things have always been in place and we just joined in to different leagues.

Jacqueline L. Ashe

- She attended the ELAC training. It provided very good information but there were some things that were lacking from the booklet and minutes. There was not good parent participation. Maybe some of the DELAC parents can get the word out. It is important that we have a representative from March Mountain or March Valley on either or both committees. If we are moving to a new program, the parents need to know what is going on to help their students and themselves.

Richard Coz

- He agreed about the transportation issue and feels that this is an area where the District is stumbling. This is one of the fundamental responsibilities. Board members have received a number of complaints about basic services. It is important that our parents know we are going to act on it. There is no intent to privatize our transportation department; however, we are faced with a pretty significant challenge to provide service. The District intends to get this taken care of very quickly.

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S-C-7

Richard Coz (Continued)

- There were concerns about the safety of the new schools. Some construction is still going on, but staff is checking daily to make sure the sites are safe for our kids. By the end of the year,

everything will be in place in all the schools. If parents see a hazardous situation while construction is still going on, they should call the school site and speak to the administrator regarding their concerns. Everyone is interested in making sure the sites are safe for the students.

Jesus M. Holquin

- He appreciated the Board thinking about a study session or public hearing regarding gang prevention programs, discipline, and all the things that should make our schools safe for our students.
- He reminded the Board members that they will continue Closed Session tonight after the regular meeting to discuss Public Employee Employment.

The Board of Education reconvened into Closed Session at 9:10 p.m.

The Board of Education reconvened into Regular Session at 10:11 p.m.

REPORT OUT
OF CLOSED
SESSION:

There was no reportable action on the Closed Session Agenda.

ADJOURNMENT:

There being no further business to come before the Board of Education, the meeting was adjourned at 10:11 p.m.

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