

MORENO VALLEY UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

MINUTES FOR THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION OF OCTOBER 13, 2009

The minutes of the Regular Meeting of October 13, 2009, are being submitted to the Board of Education for approval at its Regular Board Meeting of November 17, 2009. The minutes are a complete and factual record of action taken by the Board of Education at its Regular Meeting of October 13, 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 5:01 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
Jesus M. Holguin, Vice President (Late)
Jacqueline L. Ashe, Clerk (Absent)
Victoria Baca, Member
Rick Sayre, Member

Administration

Rowena Lagrosa
Barbara Davis

The Board of Education reconvened into Regular Session at 7:16 p.m.

**REPORT OUT OF
CLOSED SESSION:**

The Board of Education listened to Expulsion Case 017-09-10 and did not take any action on the case in Closed Session. Action will take place during the Regular Session. There was no further action taken on the Closed Session Agenda to report out. The Board of Education will reconvene into Closed Session after the Regular Session adjourns to continue discussion on the remaining Closed Session Agenda items.

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

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
Kathy Nordin, Director, Elementary Education
Stan Brown, Director, Maintenance and Operations

Administration Present (Cont.)

Sergio San Martin, Director, Facilities
Aaron Barnett, Director, Information Systems
Lasandra Fairchild, Director, Classified Employee Services
Laura Strachan, Principal, March Mountain
Maribel Mattox, Principal, Moreno Valley
Gil Ocegüera, Principal, Vista del Lago
Kristen Hunter, Principal, Valley View
Cheryl Smith, Principal, Sunnymeadows
Bobby Byers, Administrator, MVCLC
Francine Story, Director, Budget
Estuardo Santillan, Business Manager
Sheryl Sanford, Administrative Assistant

Visitors

Bill Kalogonis	Janet MacMillan	Lorri Limoges-Kerns
Lisa Broomfield	Eulaine Melanson	Susan Woken
Paula Pelton	Ann Adler	Connor Smith
Lawanda Hodges	Daniel Holm	Rick MacPherson
David Nesamony	Rhodes Williams	Patricia Holguin
Laura Woken		

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

PLEDGE OF

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

INSPIRATIONS: Board Vice President Holguin gave the Inspiration.

SCHOOL REPORTS

The following Student Board Representatives gave their high school reports:

Meyghan Aguilar, Bayside
Katrina Honer, Vista del Lago
Kevin Herrera, Moreno Valley
Genevieve Newton, Valley View
Sandra Gonzalez, March Mountain
Kristian Wright, Canyon Springs

RECOGNITIONS/COMMUNICATIONS/EVENTS

The Board of Education supports October 23-31, 2009 as Red Ribbon Week and encourages all citizens to participate in tobacco, alcohol, and drug prevention programs and activities.

It was moved by Jesus Holguin and seconded by Victoria Baca to approve Resolution No. 2009-10-23 – Red Ribbon Week, as presented.

VOTE: AYES – 4 (absent – Ashe) NAYS – 0 ABSTAIN – 0

Ken Schmidt, Director, Student Services, was presented a copy of the resolution recognizing October 23, 2009 through October 31, 2009 as Red Ribbon Week.

INSTRUCTIONAL HIGHLIGHTS

Moreno Valley High School's Principal, Maribel Mattox, introduced Rick MacPherson and Daniel Holm from their Math Department. They presented an overview of the Professional Learning Community process used in the Math Department.

A Professional Learning Community is a community of professionals committed to continuous improvement of student learning through collective inquiry. The teachers examine data from common assessments and they make changes in their teaching strategies with the result to improve student learning. A PLC is also a paradigm shift from teaching behind closed doors to having an open mind and a generous attitude about helping all students.

There are six principles:

- Expect improvement to be continual, gradual, and incremental
- Maintain a constant focus on student learning goals
- Focus on teaching, not teachers
- Make improvements in context
- Make improvement the work of the teachers
- Build a system that can learn from its own experience

PLC leaders are trained to keep groups focused upon a protocol for looking at data that needs to be discussed and planning for future needs. PLCs are subject specific. The math department has three groups, Algebra I, Geometry, and Support Class.

The PLC processes data from common assessments (quizzes). They look at the data, decide what to do with the data, and plan to make changes in their teaching to improve student learning. Each meeting is started by every teacher sharing some of the successes their students are having and how they taught that material that resulted in success. After successes, they look at where students are still being challenged by the material being taught. They brainstorm and discuss how they can make improvements in their teaching strategies and methods to help more students be successful. They design a new quiz and plan how to teach the material to be assessed so the students can be successful.

The components of the PLC are:

- Student based protocols (weekly quizzes)
- Major test protocol with SMART goals
- Strategies and pedagogy
- Common grading
- Pacing guide and calendar

Using this protocol, a 2 point gain in API was achieved.

There was Board discussion regarding the PLC process. The Board was invited to see the process in action by joining the PLC meeting on any Wednesday from 2:00 – 3:00 p.m. This PLC has been recognized as an exemplary program by the Riverside County Office of Education.

STAFF RESPONSE FROM COMMENTS MADE AT PREVIOUS MEETINGS

The following is staff response to comments made at the September 22, 2009, Board Meeting on Agenda and Non-agenda items:

The Superintendent met with the parent who was seeking the District's approval for her daughter's intradistrict transfer. She has informed the parent that she will stay in communication with her and continue to monitor the high school's enrollment. Furthermore, a District committee to review the

District's current policy on intradistrict transfers is being reconvened to examine the current policy as it relates to issues similar to those involved in this situation.

A parent from Palm Middle School expressed concerns regarding the lack of notification for CELDT testing and a lack of preparation for the tests. The English Language Learners' Department established a timeline which was sent on April 6, 2009 and it clearly stated that an automated phone message be sent to notify parents of the CELDT administration dates and indicated that a follow up letter should also be sent to parents. Schools were to then identify the CELDT Lead and a training for the CELDT leads/EL Specialists was held on May 21, 2009. The CELDT administration options/timeline of tasks was reviewed at this training; however, the EL Specialist for Palm Middle School did not attend. The CELDT administration timeline was also emailed to the EL Specialists on May 27, 2009. The above were the District's steps to ensure that communication was delivered to parents in a timely manner.

A request was made to have further information for the Board of Education regarding Supplemental Educational Services which is to be made available to qualifying students in Program Improvement School Districts. A presentation is being provided this evening by our Categorical Coordinator, Lisa Broomfield on this topic as she has responsibility for coordinating SES services within the District.

A request was provided of the steps addressing safety issues which the District has taken as a result of the analysis which was conducted of the Adult School by Code 4. To date, the District has worked with the school principal to begin addressing the points which were addressed by Code 4. Modifications were made to the facility and staffing is being provided when it is most needed. Lighting issues were also addressed by Maintenance and Operations. The adult school site is also included in the draft Facilities Master Plan.

A request was made as to why the painting of the "curbs", also known as the wheel stops, at Vista del Lago High was denied if other schools were allowed to paint their wheel stops. Maintenance and Operations revealed that the wheel stops, which are made of cast concrete with no finish, require no maintenance for the life of the wheel stop. Unfortunately, once they are painted, the paint will eventually peel, fade, and weather requiring repainting. If they were to break, they would require replacement and the paint would need to match. When the asphalt in the parking lots is seal coated, the wheel stops have to be removed. Typically a percentage of the wheel stops will break and have to be replaced. They will also need to be painted. Essentially, wheel stops should not be painted because of the maintenance that it incurs. The three sites which did paint their wheel stops did so without permission. This is why the Capital Outlay process was established and we thank the administration at VDLHS for ensuring that this project followed the established process. The District encourages students to focus on campus projects that would reduce work and maintenance, but as importantly, enhance the overall appearance and cleanliness of the school.

A concern was expressed regarding the required use of lanyards by students at Canyon Springs High School and that the enforcement of the policy could impact instructional time. Students who are not wearing their lanyard are referred to the office; however, the school administration does not feel instructional time has been lost. All staff are assisting in the enforcement and the school has commented that this has greatly assisted in seeing that visitors on campus are not inadvertently mistaken as students. Overall, it has provided for a greater level of safety on the school campus during the instructional day.

A request was made for further information related to the McKinney Vento Act which ensures that provisions are in place for students identified as "homeless." Since the elimination of the Coordinator of Attendance, responsibility for oversight of the program has been transferred to the Director and any other Coordinator, who will be providing an update in this week's Board Bulletin.

A concern as to whether the dress code was being enforced at our schools was made and this topic was discussed with the high school principals last week. They have requested that the District's policy be revisited which will involve input from stakeholder groups, in order to gain buy in regarding enforcement by all members of the school community

A request was made to have the District address the granting of Physical Education credit for courses such as Band and ROTC. Many districts are reviewing their current policy and some Boards have taken action to approve P.E. credit for such courses. The District's Secondary Director is currently working with each of the high schools in order to review whether our current electives meet the required criteria in order to determine as to whether they qualify for Physical Education credit. A recommendation will be presented to the Board once this process is completed.

PUBLIC COMMENTS ON AGENDA ITEMS

There were no public comments on agenda items.

PUBLIC COMMENTS ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS

A District employee spoke regarding the need for counselors. She asked that the Board understand the services they provide in assisting the District meet their goals. Some of these goals are the dropout rate, students connecting to school, college awareness, academic achievement, and providing interventions for students. Counselors play a key role in these areas. She asked that the Board reexamine increasing counselors as they discuss the budget throughout the year.

A District employee thanked the Superintendent for visiting the Transportation Department and for going on a ride along. She stated that the Superintendent touched many District issues and reminded them that we all have a role in the daily needs of Moreno Valley students. The Superintendent held an open question and answer session and the department is patiently waiting for the responses to their concerns/questions.

CONSENT AGENDA

It was moved by Rick Sayre and seconded by Victoria Baca to approve Superintendent Consent Items F-1 through 2; Educational Services Consent Items G-1 through 3; Business Services Consent Items H-1 through 10; and Human Resources Consent Items I-1 through 23, as presented, pulling Human Resources Consent Item I-10 – Ratify Extended Day Activities Personnel Employment (6-8) for the 2009-10 School Year; Item I-11 – Ratify Lead Teacher/Team Leader Employment (6-8) for the 2009-10 School Year; and Item I-13 – Approve Certificated Substitute Personnel Employment for the 2009-10 School Year, for a separate vote.

VOTE: AYES – 4 (absent-Ashe) NAYS – 0 ABSTAIN – 0

It was moved by Rick Sayre and seconded by Tracey B. Vackar, to approve Human Resources Consent Item I-10 – Ratify Extended Day Activities Personnel Employment (6-8) for the 2009-10 School Year, as presented.

VOTE: AYES – 3 (absent-Ashe) NAYS – 0 ABSTAIN – 1 (Holguin)

It was moved by Jesus M. Holguin and seconded by Victoria Baca, to approve Human Resources Consent Item I-11 – Ratify Lead Teacher/Team Leader Employment (6-8) for the 2009-10 School Year, as presented.

VOTE: AYES – 3 (absent-Ashe) NAYS – 0 ABSTAIN – 1 (Vackar)

It was moved by Jesus M. Holguin and seconded by Victoria Baca, to approve Human Resources Consent Item I-13 – Approve Certificated Substitute Personnel Employment for the 2009-10 School Year, as presented.

VOTE: AYES – 3 (absent-Ashe) NAYS – 0 ABSTAIN – 1 (Sayre)

ACTION AGENDA

It was moved by Victoria Baca and seconded by Jesus M. Holguin, to approve Superintendent Action Item J –1; Educational Services Items K-1 through 2; Business Services Items L-1 through 3; and Student Services Action Item M-1, as presented.

VOTE: AYES – 4 (absent-Ashe) NAYS – 0 ABSTAIN – 0

DISCUSSION/ACTION AGENDA

Educational Services

- Supplemental Educational Services (SES)

Barbara Davis, Assistant Superintendent of Educational Services introduced Lisa Broomfield, Coordinator of Categorical Programs, who described Supplemental Educational Services (SES) that is required under No Child Left Behind at Program Improvement Schools.

The goal of SES is to provide additional academic support for low income disadvantaged students beyond the regular educational day.

The companies that provide these services are approved by the California Department of Education. Parents have a right to choose their provider from the 34 approved companies on our current list that have agreed to come to Moreno Valley to provide services.

The students that are eligible to receive SES must attend a Program Improvement school and come from a low income family. Low achieving students receive priority for services. Over 2000 applications have been processed so far. With the funding available, we should be able to service 1,113 students at \$1,220.32 per pupil for a total of \$1,358,371.

The provider is responsible for a student learning plan, pre and post test report, and submitting a monthly invoice and attendance for payment. Provider quality is monitored by the California Department of Education. They will take feedback from districts and parents if there are concerns with a provider. Quality is based on the increase in student achievement from the provider’s end of year report. Moreno Valley sends out parent surveys to solicit feedback.

There was Board discussion and clarification regarding the service.

Business Services

- Report on ARRA/Stabilization Funds

Estuardo Santillan, Business Manager, gave a PowerPoint presentation regarding the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA).

The Moreno Valley Unified School District is eligible to receive \$25,000,000 in funds from the federal government over the next two years. The funds are placed into seven accounts.

Fund 3011 – Title I, Pt A, Basic Grants, Low Income will receive \$4,770,411. We have received 45% of the money at this time and have spent \$453,125. A portion of the money is encumbered

to cover future salaries, benefits, and other expenses. With the encumbered amounts factored in, we have spent \$2,334,311 so far.

Fund 3200 – State Fiscal Stabilization Fund will receive \$12,671,577. We have received 73% of this amount and have spent \$1,114,073. We plan to use \$6,000,000 this year and \$6,000,000 next year.

Fund 3313 – IDEA, Part B, Basic Asst. will receive \$6,976,247. Fifty percent of these funds can be used, one time only, to assist with the Special Education encroachment. The additional \$3.5 million will go to the committees to determine how to spend it.

Fund 3319 – IDEA, Part B, Preschool Grants will receive \$242,240. We have received 20% of this amount and have spent \$9,633.

Fund 3324 – IDEA, Part B, Preschool Local Entitlement will receive \$204,631. We have received 20% of this amount. No money has been spent from this fund yet.

Fund 4811 – IDEA, Part B, Preschool Local Entitlement will receive \$147,666. No money has been received for this fund.

Fund 5635 – Education for Homeless Children will receive \$14,700. We have received 20% of this amount and have spent \$599. \$2,594 has been encumbered for RTA bus passes for students to attend school.

All the funds must be spent by September 2011.

There was Board discussion and clarification regarding the funds.

COMMENTS FROM MEMBERS OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION

Board of Education comments were suspended for this meeting because the Board of Education would be reconvening into Closed Session.

ADJOURNMENT: There being no further business to come before the Board of Education, the regular meeting was adjourned at 9:18 p.m. The Board of Education will continue in Closed Session to discuss the remaining Closed Session Agenda items.

The Board of Education reconvened into Open Session at 10:32 p.m.

REPORT OUT
OF CLOSED
SESSION:

The Board of Education gave direction regarding the discipline cases.