

MORENO VALLEY UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

**MINUTES FOR THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION OF OCTOBER 8, 2002**

The minutes of the Regular Meeting of October 8, 2002, are being submitted to the Board of Education for approval at its Regular Board Meeting of October 22, 2002. The minutes are a complete and factual record of action taken by the Board of Education at its Regular Meeting of October 8, 2002.

**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 25**

CALL TO ORDER: The Board of Education opened the meeting at 5:05 p.m. to convene into Closed Session to discuss Special Education Private School Placement Cases, Hearing Officer Recommendations, Public Employee Appointments/Employment, Conference with CSEA, MVEA, and AMVMP Labor Negotiator, and Conference with Legal Counsel – Existing Litigation.

Members Present

Rick Sayre, President  
Jacqueline L. Ashe, Vice President  
Tracey B. Vackar, Clerk  
John Bailey, Member

Administration

Nick Ferguson

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

ROLL CALL: Present - Ashe Present - Bailey Present – Sayre Present – Vackar

REPORT OUT  
OF CLOSED  
SESSION:

The Board of Education concurred with staff recommendations on Special Education Private School Placement Cases and Hearing Officer Recommendations. There was no reportable action on Public Employee Appointments/Employment, Conference with CSEA, MVEA, and AMVMP Labor Negotiator, and Conference with Legal Counsel – Existing Litigation.

Administration Present

Pat Chandler, Assistant Superintendent, Curriculum and Instruction  
Robert Crank, Assistant Superintendent, Business Services  
Kathy Nordin, Director, Elementary Education  
Joe Palomino, Director, Secondary Education  
Cindy Gray, Principal, Palm  
Paul Rodriguez, Principal, Moreno Valley  
Mary Jones, Principal, Vista del Lago  
Kim Kruger, Principal, Valley View  
Bobbie Byers, Administrator, Bayside/Community Learning Center

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Administration Present (Cont.)

Jeff Jones, Principal, Cloverdale  
Penny Macon, Principal, Sugar Hill

Georgia Hampton, Principal, Midland  
Sharon Cirigliano, Executive Secretary, Board of Education

Visitors

Jesus Holguin	Karen Rumfola	Becky Shreiner
Katherine Underwood	Ann Adler	Louise Bigbie
Marilyn Rocchio	Terri Valenzuela	Janet Warner
Steve Rightnar	Becky Shreiner	Albert James
Christine John	Zenia Lowe	James Byun
Alma Martinez	Ardalan Azad	Marie Montecino
Kim Hendricks	Brett Conley	Gloria Burrowes
Andrea Stump	Tracey Stump	Carmen Bautista
Krystal Arroyo	Cynthia Dolan	Chrissy Dolan
B. Adams	Krystal Adais	Isabel Bautista
Martin Bautista	Nancy Stuller	Debbie McQuain
Carl Hughes	Louise Palomarez	Jose Aumentado
Fred Bailey	Victoria Baca	Jennifer Bailey
Raul Wilson		

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

PLEDGE OF

ALLEGIANCE: The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Student Board Representative James Byun.

INVOCATION: Board Member Ashe requested the audience to observe a moment of silence.

DATES OF FUTURE BOARD MEETINGS

October	15, 2002	5 p.m.	Special Board Meeting with RCC	Moreno Valley RCC Campus
October	22, 2002	7 p.m.	Regular Board Meeting	Board Room
November	12, 2002	7 p.m.	Regular Board Meeting	Board Room

RECOGNITION/COMMUNICATIONS/EVENTS

Midland Science Club advisor, Mr. Steve Rightnar, and students demonstrated several of the many lab experiments that take place during Science Club.

Louise Bigbie, Assistant Superintendent, Student Services; Cindy Gray, Principal, Palm; Marilyn Rocchio, Assistant Principal, Palm; Terri Valenzuela, Confidential Secretary, Fiscal Services; and Janet Warner, Principal, Hendrick Ranch, were recognized on their retirement.

Retirees not in attendance included: Karen Ford, Nutrition Services Field Supervisor; Ralph Edwards, Assistant Principal, Palm; Miles Morkert, Assistant Principal, Butterfield; and Christine Wallace, Assistant Superintendent, Fiscal Services.

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SCHOOL REPORTS

The following student Board representatives gave their school reports: James Byun, Canyon Springs, reported that a fall sports rally was held to inspire the football and cross country teams; a contest will be sponsored by KGGI Radio; senior/parent night is scheduled for October 9 at 7 p.m.; the Business

Academy is sponsoring a fundraising basketball game against the Golden Knights on October 12; and various activities are planned for Red Ribbon Week.

Alma Martinez, March Valley, reported that Back-to-School Night was very successful, well attended and included a barbeque; school site council is scheduled for October 15; 2001-02 test scores have increased by 11 percent in math and by 37 percent in English 37. March Valley's scores are 7 percent higher than the District's average.

Ardalan Azhad, Valley View, reported that a fall sports pep rally was held on September 27; Back-to-School was October 3; Homecoming is this week; and he extended an invitation for the community to attend the homecoming football game against Rubidoux at 7 p.m. on October 11. There will be a fireworks display when the winning float and court is presented.

Andrea Stump, Moreno Valley, reported on the various activities ASB planned for Homecoming last week; at the October 4 Homecoming football game, Moreno Valley beat Fontana 28-6; homecoming halftime show was successful; the football team is 4-0; the Homecoming dance was on September 28; Renaissance provided an awards assembly; Back-to-School Night was October 7; students will attend the Peer Leadership Conference on October 11; and the Friday Night Live club is hosting a pre-prom event against drugs and drinking. Students are excited, enthusiastic, and are taking more pride in the school.

Crystal Arroyo, March Mountain, reported that October 2 Back-to-School Night was very successful, well attended and included a barbeque; test scores from 2001-02 have increased by 3 percent in math and by 39 percent in English. This reflects a 2 percent growth in the county test scores.

Marie Montecino, Bayside/Community Learning Center, reported that student Pedro Morales has been selected to participate on the Riverside County Advisory Council; Mr. Bill Price is the new counselor; enrollment has increased from 132 last year to 154 this year; Back-to-School Night is scheduled for October 9 at 5:30 p.m.; and the school has an 88 percent attendance rate with 26 percent of those students having perfect attendance.

Crystal Adams, Vista del Lago, reported that the cafeteria and gym are now complete; a new club has been established – Friday Night Live; October 15 class elections will be held; October 25 is the fall dance; the football team scored its first touchdown; and she extended an invitation for the community to come to the next football game on October 11.

#### STAFF RESPONSE TO PUBLIC COMMENTS MADE AT PREVIOUS MEETINGS

Some Canyon Springs students and parents attended the last Board meeting in support of the band teacher. Because this is a confidential personnel issue, neither the school district administration nor the Board of Education is at liberty to comment on this matter.

At the last Board meeting, a parent expressed concern about the combined French I and French II classes at the new high school. Working with Riverside Community College, Moreno Valley campus, the school feels that French II can be offered as a community college class giving students an opportunity to earn college credit at no cost to the District.

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#### PUBLIC COMMENTS ON AGENDA ITEMS

Victoria Baca, community member, addressed concerns regarding the special education public agency services and non public school placements; what the cost to the District was; if the District was monitoring these schools; and an allegation that a District student had received injuries at one of these schools.

#### PUBLIC COMMENTS ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS

Raul Wilson, community member, spoke about the mismanagement of District funds, the allegation of a special education student being injured, no monitoring of special education private schools, students exercising their constitutional rights, and Board member behavior.

Jennifer Bailey, Carmen Bautista, and Chrissy Dolan, Canyon Springs band students, and Fred Bailey, and Cynthia Dolan, Canyon Springs parents, spoke in support of the band teacher.

Victoria Baca, community member, stated that teacher morale is low. She shared a concern about the endorsement of Board candidates by MVEA. She feels that the majority of its members do not agree with the endorsement. Ms. Baca addressed her concern about the District's mismanagement of funds.

Louise Palomarez, community member, shared her concern about the mismanagement of District funds; shortage of staff; special education teachers not having enough supplies and having to buy their own; and lack of air conditioning at Vista Heights. She asked where the special education and grant funds have gone.

Jose Aumentado, District parent, addressed the issue of overcrowding in classrooms at Sunnymead Elementary. There are too many students for the teachers to handle. Teachers do not have the time to explain homework assignments. He asked what a flex day was. He also spoke about his concerns on the budget.

#### CONSENT AGENDA

It was moved by John Bailey and seconded by Tracey B. Vackar that all Consent Agenda Items be approved as presented.

VOTE: AYE – 4

NAY- 0

ABSTAIN – 0

#### ACTION AGENDA

It was moved by Tracey B. Vackar and seconded by Jacqueline L. Ashe that Action Agenda Items be approved as presented.

VOTE: AYE – 4

NAY- 0

ABSTAIN – 0

Dr. Ferguson gave a little background on the new employees approved to fill the position of Nutrition Services Field Supervisor, Linda Hayes, and the Business Manager position, Estuardo Santillan. Mr. Santillan was introduced to those in attendance.

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#### IV. DISCUSSION ITEMS

##### EDUCATIONAL SERVICES

275 Class Size Reduction Presentation

This overview of class size reduction (CSR) has been designed by Educational Services, Business Services, and Human Resources. Dan Reed, Director, Accountability, Assessment, and Training, and Kathy Nordin, Director, Elementary Education presented information on the challenges facing education in California prior to CSR, major findings in national studies of CSR; and limitations in the California CSR study.

Some of the major findings in the fourth year of the California study included: School level analysis finds no relationship between CSR exposure and student achievement; CSR was associated with declines in teacher qualifications and a more inequitable distribution of qualified teachers; implementation has not affected special education identification or placement; students in reduced size third-grade classes receive more individual attention, but similar instruction and curriculum; parents rated reduced size classes higher on satisfaction factors; and classroom space and dollars were taken from other programs to support CSR.

A cost analysis was reviewed. Because of the recent budget cuts, the District is currently providing CSR in Kindergarten under Option 2 which saves the District \$1,235,835. This option reduces the number of teachers required for CSR. Overall, CSR shows that student achievement in District schools is improving, teachers are spending more time on instruction, students are more engaged, and parent/teacher satisfaction is higher.

There were several questions asked and answered. Board members agreed that CSR is beneficial; however, due to budget constraints, the District may not be able to fully restore CSR for another two or three years. It was suggested that CSR should be made a priority and brought back once the budget is able to handle this cost.

### BUSINESS SERVICES

#### 375 First Reading/Adoption of Board Policy 3100 – Budget

Robert Crank, Assistant Superintendent, Business Services, gave some background on the policy dealing with the budget committee. Previously, the District had a fiscal policy team and budget advisory committee. Through negotiations a joint fiscal management committee has been formed with three representatives from each of the associations. The Board policy reflects this change and outlines the purpose of the budget advisory committee and the constitution of the membership. It will be necessary for the Board to appoint two members to be part of this committee.

A request was made that the membership be left open. Dr. Ferguson stated that the purpose of the budget advisory committee is an educational process, which would include representation from the majority of constituencies in the community to provide information. This is an open meeting and anyone can attend. It was suggested that members of the District English Learners Advisory Committee and Community Advisory Committee have the opportunity to participate.

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It was moved by Tracey B. Vackar and seconded by Rick Sayre that this be policy be sent out for first reading for the public.

VOTE: AYE – 4

NAY- 0

ABSTAIN – 0

The Superintendent clarified that the committee is beginning meetings next week. Typically Board policies have a two reading process; however, an urgency can be called because of the timelines. This is an adoption this evening as opposed to a double reading.

It was moved by Tracey B. Vackar to amend her motion to include the formal adoption of Board Policy 3100 and seconded by Rick Sayre to approve as presented.

VOTE: AYE – 4

NAY- 0

ABSTAIN – 0

376 Appointment of Board Members to Budget Advisory Committee

It was moved by Rick Sayre and seconded by Jacqueline L. Ashe to appoint John Bailey and Tracey B. Vackar to participate on the Budget Advisory Committee. There was discussion to keep the alternate position flexible. The first meeting is scheduled for Thursday, October 17, at 5 p.m. in the Board room.

VOTE: AYE – 4

NAY- 0

ABSTAIN – 0

ACKNOWLEDGMENT ITEMS

V-A Administrative Regulation 3100 - Budget

The following items were brought forward:

John Bailey

- His colleagues were personally attacked tonight and he feels bad about that. However, people have the right to say what they want without accountability. Then we have to move on.

Tracey Vackar

- She stated that she is an advocate of getting students in the classrooms where they belong. She supports truancy sweeps if the District's truancy rates increase as they were in the past. The District needs to improve student attendance.

Jackie Ashe

- Truancy has been a problem for quite some time.
- Each Board member has had to make some difficult decisions; however, they are all here for the students. It has been a difficult job. She stated that the District has a great staff. The Board is doing the best job it can to provide quality education for the students. The Board is dedicated to the parents and community.

Rick Sayre

- Letters sent to the Board, Superintendent, or staff whether they are signed or not are addressed. He invited anyone to feel free to forward information. It will be looked into and the necessary action will be taken.

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- He referred to an article in the newspaper this morning regarding credentialed teachers in the classrooms. The Board has made a commitment to strive to have the best possible qualified staff to make a quality program for the community.
- Some of the site events he participated in last week include: Rainbow Springs open house; Valley View Health Academy open house; and Valley View open house. He was pleased with the manner of the teachers in the classrooms at Valley View open house and commended principal Kim Kruger and his staff. The Board is committed to the District, employees, and students.
- He was not able to attend the Celebrating Educators event October 4. There were many stellar employees who were honored for their dedication and commitment to the District.

Nick Ferguson

- The Board talked several times about topics it wanted highlighted. Tonight was an example in the Class Size Reduction presentation. Future topics to be addressed include: year round education,

community service as a graduation requirement, budget and budget revisions, and student assessment and achievement. He thanked Educational Services for the presentation in concert with Business Services and Human Resources.

ADJOURNMENT: It was moved by John Bailey and seconded by Tracey B. Vackar that, there being no further items to come before the Board of Education, the meeting was adjourned at 8:56 p.m.

VOTE: AYE – 4

NAY- 0

ABSTAIN – 0

**CONSENT ITEM - 001**  
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