

MORENO VALLEY UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

MINUTES FOR THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION OF SEPTEMBER 22, 1998

The minutes of the Regular Meeting of September 22, 1998, are being submitted to the Board of Education for approval at its Regular Board Meeting of October 13, 1998. The minutes are a complete and factual record of action taken by the Board of Education at its Regular Meeting of September 22, 1998.

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

THESE PROCEEDINGS ARE BEING AUDIO/VIDEOTAPED PURSUANT TO GOV. CODE §54953.5.

CALL TO ORDER: The Board of Education opened the meeting at 5:07 p.m. to convene into Closed Session to discuss Private School Placements; Hearing Officer Recommendations; Public Employee Appointments; Conference with MVEA Labor Negotiator; and Public Employee Employment.

Members Present

Alex T. Candelaria, President
Bernadette Burks, Vice President
Charles W. Ledbetter, Clerk
Tracey B. Vackar, Member
Jacqueline L. Ashe, Member

Administration

Anita L. Suazo
Jack Clarke, P/T

The Board of Education reconvened into Regular Session at 7:02 p.m.

REPORT OUT
OF CLOSED
SESSION:

The Board of Education discussed Private School Placement Case Nos. 07-98-99 through 09-98-99; Hearing Officer Recommendations Case Nos. 062-96-97, 117-96-97, 148-96-97, 010-97-98, 036-97-98, 053-97-98, 067-97-98, 173-97-98, 5005-97-98, 5076-97-98, and 5192-97-98; Public Employee Appointments – there was no reportable action on the Interim Assistant Superintendent salary and the Board approved the appointment of Beatrice Garcia as Coordinator of Multilingual Programs, effective date to be determined. There was no reportable action on Public Employee Employment.

ROLL CALL: AYE-Burks AYE-Candelaria AYE-Vackar AYE-Ledbetter AYE-Ashe

VOTE: AYE - 5 NAY – 0 ABSTAIN – 0

RATIFICATION: It was moved by Charles W. Ledbetter and seconded by Tracey B. Vackar to ratify the Closed Session discussion.

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Anita L. Suazo, Superintendent of Schools
 Ronald Bennett, Interim Deputy Superintendent, Schools/Educational Programs
 Suzanne Pickup, Interim Assistant Superintendent, Human Resources
 Christine Wallace, Assistant Superintendent, Fiscal Services
 Jeff Okun, Assistant Superintendent, Support Services
 Willie Williams, Director, Facilities Planning
 Dean Olson, Principal, Moreno Valley
 Joseph Palomino, Principal, Valley View
 Mary Jones, Principal, Badger Springs
 Debbie Fay, Assisant Principal, Vista Heights
 Martha Palomino, Assistant Principal, Serrano
 Sharon Cirigliano, Executive Secretary, Board of Education

Visitors

Carl Curling	Dave Swift	Jackie LePore
Jenelle M. Beard	Carol Allbaugh	Nancy Penn
Ronald W. Visser	Bob Washington	Deanna Hendrickson
Betina "Tina" Smith	David Lara-Tellez	Jan Thaxton
Ron Crothers	Letetia Reed	Belinda Williams
Karen Rumfola	Rebecca Shreiner	Tyrie Stout
Brett Turnage	Miriam Blum	Don Miller
Joyce Brown	Jim Brown	Diane Webster
Geoff Wilson	Susan Plesko	Jesus Holguin
Patricia Holguin	Vera Anderson	Marva C. Horn
Ralph Smith	JoAnn Gillespie	Paul Baird
Darlene Dolan	Roberta Pepitone	

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

PLEDGE OF

ALLEGIANCE: The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Dr. Suzanne Pickup, Interim Assistant Superintendent, Human Resources.

INVOCATION: The Invocation was given by Board Member Charles W. Ledbetter.

DATES OF FUTURE BOARD MEETINGS

October	13, 1998	7 p.m.	Regular Board Meeting	Board Room
October	27, 1998	7 p.m.	Regular Board Meeting	Board Room
November	10, 1998	7 p.m.	Regular Board Meeting	Board Room

RECOGNITION/COMMUNICATIONS/EVENTS

Heraclio "Junior" Espinoza and Rudy Casados, Jr., substitute employees in the District, were recognized for their actions in protecting the well-being of a Badger Springs student on September 2, 1998.

Moreno Valley High School students, Courtenay Justice, Chad Simko, Corrine Nickel, Robert Lozano, and Elisa Counts, presented a skit on the School-to-Career Plan.

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Brett Turnage, Moreno Valley High School Student/Board Representative, reported the following activities: September 22 – tennis against Poly; September 23 – ASB members to attend an ASB tournament at Murietta Valley High School; September 24 – cross country city run; September 25 – football against Valley View; October 10 – Homecoming dance. There are numerous junior varsity and freshman athletic activities scheduled.

Tyrie Stout, March Mountain High School Student/Board Representative, distributed student handbooks to the Board of Education, Superintendent, and staff, which outline school and Board policies and dress code. He reported the following upcoming events: A monthly newsletter is being printed and he will have it available at the next meeting; an assembly is being planned to review student dress code and safety; Red Ribbon Week activities are also being planned; October 14 – Back-to-School Barbeque at 6:30 p.m. and everyone is welcome to come. He stated that there is always something interesting happening at March Mountain. The boys' and girls' volleyball team is being coached by Coach Peckles and they will not be defeated. The first game is October 9 at home.

STAFF RESPONSE TO PUBLIC COMMENTS MADE AT PREVIOUS MEETINGS

None.

PUBLIC HEARING

Action Item – 225 – Adoption of Staff Development One-Time Waiver for 1998-99

Administration is requesting that Education Code Section 44579.4 be waived only for purposes of conducting and claiming instructional time in 1998-99. Non-student staff development days corresponding to days that were properly authorized and utilized in the previous year, the instructional time requirement applicable to Moreno Valley Unified School District, are set forth in Article 8 (commencing with Section 46200) of Chapter 2 of Part 26.

Deanna Hendrickson, Moreno Valley Educators Association President, spoke in support of this waiver. She feels it will give the schools needed days to work on school plans. It will also give a transition year so the schools can decide how to provide school planning without non-attendance days in the future.

Board Member Vackar asked for clarification as to the number of days being added back into the school year, when the days are scheduled, and if they are specific to each school site or districtwide activities.

Dr. Suazo indicated that two days are scheduled as stated in Action Item 225 on this agenda. One staff development day is being planned for the Willard Daggert presentation, March 9, 1999. This has not been finalized as yet because of his schedule. The second day is still pending and will be flexible to decide if it will be site specific or districtwide. There are numerous things that need to be covered in one day and priorities need to be determined.

It was moved by Tracey B. Vackar and seconded by Charles W. Ledbetter that Public Hearing – Adoption of Staff Development One-Time Waiver for 1998-99 be closed with Board action being taken on the Action agenda.

PUBLIC COMMENTS ON AGENDA ITEMS

David Lara-Tellez shared a concern about improper release of information from Closed Session and the resulting controversy that has arisen. He feels Board business is being leaked to the press and that a particular Board member is doing this. He stated negotiations are confidential, and until the contract is agreed to, it has no impact on the public. He feels this is only a continued attack on Dr. Suazo. He is tired of it. He indicated that the Board needs to have a more professional atmosphere.

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Mr. Lara-Tellez stated that the community has the opportunity to change this atmosphere in the November elections. He stated that Dr. Suazo is good for the district, and this attack is centered on a positioning for political power rather than centering on what is best for the students, classrooms, and teachers. He indicated that the public does have a right to know about the final contract, but negotiations need to stay in Closed Session. He feels the Board needs to show a more professional manner during this process.

Jenelle Beard shared a concern about information being leaked to the press. She feels Dr. Suazo has proven herself above the call of duty. She stated that because information has been made public and in writing, Dr. Suazo can sue the District and walk away. She doesn't feel that Dr. Suazo is requesting anything unusual for the job she is doing. She stated that if the Board is here for the students, then the Board needs to be here for the students. The Board should not set the District up for litigation as it has done time and time again.

The Board was in agreement to bring forward Discussion 275 – School-to-Career and Discussion Item 375 – Special Education Audit at this time.

Dr. Bennett stated there has been discussion about higher standards in California and across the nation. Recently the Board approved a more rigorous language arts and math curriculum. The Board will be approving the history/social studies and science curriculum in the future which are much more rigorous. There is discussion statewide about retaining more students. The District's concern is that standards may be raised, but more students would fail and that is not acceptable. The future goal is to find a better way to teach and motivate students so they can all be successful. The District's School-to-Career plan is designed to make the more rigorous curriculum relevant for students. The plan provides for actively engaging students in learning so they will have the kind of experiences that the students demonstrated this evening.

Carol Allbaugh commended the Moreno Valley High School students' presentation and their instructor, Roberta Pepitone. Mrs. Allbaugh introduced Nancy Penn, March Mountain High School resource and SDC teacher, Jan Thaxton, Vista Heights counselor, and Ronald Visser, a community member. They have been actively involved in the School-to-Career process during the past year.

Mr. Visser addressed the Board. "She said they were presenting a plan that has evolved through time and energy of many educators and business leaders who have worked for the past year to determine the progress Moreno Valley Unified School District has made in School-to-Career efforts. This plan represents a vision for future implementation that will enable our students to compete in the twenty-first century.

During the 1997-98 school, Moreno Valley Unified School District received a School-to-Career Implementation Grant from Riverside County Office of Education. Our District developed a School-to-Career Institute, established School-to-Career site liaisons, participated in numerous staff development activities, developed a Youth Opportunity Guide, initiated a Business Roundtable, and created Educator Intern positions. These activities made Moreno Valley Unified School District a leader in the county and gave staff the impetus to develop the plan being submitted to the School Board this evening.

The Secretaries Commission on Achieving Necessary Skills (SCANS) published in 1991, outlines the necessary skills and competencies needed in the workforce of tomorrow which sits in classrooms today.

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We know that the economy of the next century will depend upon a skilled and knowledgeable workforce. Many of the jobs of tomorrow don't even exist today. It is imperative that schools of today provide foundation skills such as reading, thinking, and personal qualities and promote competencies that will transfer into the future, such as:

- Allocating time, money, materials, space and staff.
- Working on teams, teaching others, serving customers, leading, negotiating, and working well with people from culturally diverse backgrounds.
- Acquiring and evaluating data, organizing and marketing information, interpreting and communicating.
- Using computers to process information.
- Understanding social, organizational, and technological systems, monitoring and correcting performance, and designing or improving systems.
- Selecting equipment and tools, applying technology to specific tasks, and maintaining and troubleshooting technologies.

There is a movement across the country to raise standards. The District has recently adopted state standards in the core academics. The proposed plan will provide a mechanism of interfacing high academic standards and utilizing resources available in the District. The School-to-Career Plan submitted to the staff will allow for coordinated and planned efforts promoting academic and systemic change.”

Carol Allbaugh reviewed the matrix that was distributed and noted that there are many good things being done in Moreno Valley at all grade levels. The career pathways developed were based on economic and demographic trends. The K-5 level focuses on an awareness plan and grades 6-8 focuses on an exploration plan with the District's magnet schools being targeted. At the high school level, there are many academy programs that are operational. There are ROP programs in operation and work is being accomplished through the junior colleges and universities.

Jan Thaxton and Nancy Penn gave an overview of the School-to-Career Plan. Three of the four School-to-Career objectives are based on the District's Strategic Plan. The plan requires that all students will develop a life plan, successfully complete their prescribed educational program, and enter a post-secondary learning environment or occupation of their choice.

The key to motivating students is assisting them to see the connection between potential career options for tomorrow and classroom learning today. A clear intent of the plan is to identify students' career interests and teach to make curriculum relevant and meaningful to the student.

Goals are related to the mission statement and the strategic plan which include:

- Students will identify and explore career options based on their interests and strengths.
- Students will develop a Life Plan leading to the accomplishment of their educational and career goals.
- Students will monitor and evaluate their progress in their Life Plan leading toward their goals on an ongoing basis.

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Objectives of the School-to-Career Plan include:

- Counseling - as a result of the counseling program, every student will develop a Life Plan based on career interests and strengths.
- Relevant Curriculum - as a result of career-related curriculum and experiences, students will receive a seamless educational program leading naturally to apprenticeships, technical schools, community colleges, four-year colleges and universities, or directly to the world of work.
- Staff Development - as a result of staff training, students will see the connection between what they learn in school and achieving their career goals. Students will be motivated and actively engaged in meaningful learning activities.
- Work/Community/Service Based – as a result of the work/community/service-based opportunity, each student will experience a career option firsthand and share that experience with classmates.
- Academies – as a result of academy options for students, CORE courses will be taught in ways that capitalize on students' career interests resulting in high motivation because of the clear connection between the classroom learning and the world of work.
- Parent Involvement – as a result of effective communication, parents will value and support the School-to-Career opportunities provided for their children.

Board President Candelaria thanked students and staff for the presentation and indicated he was impressed. Dr. Bennett stated this item would be brought back to the next Board meeting for approval.

Board President Candelaria brought Discussion Item 375 forward at this time. Dr. Wallace addressed the special education audit. She has contacted School Services regarding a special education audit, the financial component and a program quality review. School Services indicated they could not conduct the program quality review part of the audit for the District and recommended Dr. Johnny Welton. He is highly qualified to do a special education program quality review. The purpose of Dr. Welton's review identifies the following issues:

- To maximize the reported operated units and certify actual operation of special education programs and services, of which the District is operating approximately 191 special education units.
- To maximize the funding for special education programs and services.
- To review current service delivery, pupil count and expenditure reports, and recommend improvement to maximize funding and minimize expense.
- To review the continuum of services offered and recommend expense effective and student effective improvements.
- To validate and improve the special education programs and services offered by the Moreno Valley Unified School District.

Dr. Wallace stated that if the Board desires, she will contact Dr. Welton to obtain the cost for his services. She reported on the financial part of the special education audit. She introduced Cecile Nunley who explained what the audit entails. She indicated that all the district funds: general, revenue of categorical programs which includes the special education program, ASB, and the certificates of participation are part of the complete audit and certifies that the financial statements are correct. The auditors are certifying 90 percent that all reports are correct by contacting all outside agencies.

A line-by-line audit for the special education program would look at each expenditure to include a purchase order, invoice, that the items had been received, correct coding, and items agree with date and amount, that items were ordered, the ordered quantity agrees, who ordered, who approved and if that individual is authorized to approve this expenditure. Dr. Wallace indicated that the Board could specify what items need to be reviewed or audited, not necessarily all the above items.

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A line-by-line audit for all funds would include the same process. She stated this audit would cover approximately 8,000 invoices and would cost \$7-\$8 per invoice. If there are any problems with the invoices, i.e., missing items or not correctly completed, it would take longer to review. She asked for specific direction from the Board.

Board President Candelaria asked if purchases are checked to make sure they are actually received. Ms. Nunley stated this is part of the state guidelines. An equipment inventory listing is obtained and the auditors physically check the items. If an item is purchased with Title I funds or from any federal program, these items need to have a specific tag specifying the program. Board President Candelaria asked if it is possible for an item to be purchased, not tagged, and the location is unknown. Dr. Wallace stated the process is that the merchandise is delivered to the Warehouse to be checked in and tagged before it is delivered to the site. Board President Candelaria feels the line-by-line audit costs a tremendous amount of money.

Board Member Ashe asked if the cost for a line-by-line special education audit or full audit would be the same. Ms. Nunley stated that special education would have fewer things to look at, but all eleven items would need to be looked at for each purchase.

Board Member Burks asked if the attorney fees spent on due process hearings would be included in the audit. She shared a concern about inconsistency with special education students. The District has been consistently losing instructional assistants because the District cannot afford to give them more hours. She wants to know why smaller districts can afford instructional assistants for a longer day and this District cannot.

Dr. Wallace stated that Dr. Welton would make recommendations and look at resources that the District should be utilizing. He would find ways to minimize expenses so these funds can be utilized in other areas. Board Member Burks asked if unnecessary spending would be looked at, and if the District is actually getting what it's paying for. Ms. Nunley stated that an audit is after the fact.

The Board directed staff to bring back a discussion/action item with a cost analysis of Dr. Welton's services.

CONSENT AGENDA

It was moved by Jacqueline L. Ashe and seconded by Charles W. Ledbetter that Consent Agenda Item 101 under Superintendent, Items 201 through 211 under Curriculum and Instruction, Items 301 through 304 under Fiscal Services, Items 401 through 416 under Human Resources, and Items 601 through 603 under Support Services be approved as presented.

VOTE: AYE – 4 (Absent – Vackar)

NAY- 0

ABSTAIN - 0

SUPERINTENDENT

101 Minutes of the Regular Board of Education Meeting of September 8, 1998.

CURRICULUM AND INSTRUCTION

- 201 Out-of-State Overnight Field Trip – Valley View Band and Color Guard
- 202 Out-of-State/Country Overnight Field Trip – Vocal Music Program – Canyon Springs
- 203 Conference Attendance – California Mathematics Conference
- 204 Overnight Field Trip – Valley View Band and Color Guard
- 205 Overnight Field Trip – Future Business Leaders of America Executive Leadership Conference – Canyon Springs

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CONSENT AGENDA (CONT.)

CURRICULUM AND INSTRUCTION (CONT.)

- 206 Overnight Field Trip – Catalina Island – Vista Heights
- 207 Overnight Field Trip – Lake Gregory – Vista Heights
- 208 Extra Pay for Extra Duty – GATE and VAPA Programs 1998-99
- 209 Extra Pay for Extra Duty – Great Expectations – Valley View
- 210 Extra Pay for Extra Duty – Literacy Site Leaders K-8
- 211 Amend Extra Pay for Extra Duty – Alignment of Content Standards to District Curriculum Materials
- 212 Extension of Work Week for Adult Education Teacher

FISCAL SERVICES

- 301 Direct Purchase List
- 302 Purchase Order List No. 4
- 303 Approval of Resolution No. 1998-99-16 to Expend Excess Funds
- 304 Acceptance of Donation/Approval of Resolution No. 1998-99-18 to Expend Excess Funds

HUMAN RESOURCES

- 401 Short-Term Managerial Personnel Employment
- 402 Certificated Personnel Resignations
- 403 Certificated Personnel Non-Paid Leaves of Absence for the 1998-99 School Year
- 404 Certificated Personnel Reduced Assignment for the 1998-99 School Year
- 405 Certificated Personnel Job Share for the 1998-99 School Year
- 406 Certificated Personnel Employment for the 1998-99 School Year
- 407 Lead Nurse Employment for the 1998-99 School Year
- 408 Department Chairperson Employment (9-12) for the 1998-99 School Year
- 409 Certificated Substitute Personnel Employment for the 1998-99 School Year
- 410 Classified/Noon Duty Personnel Resignations
- 411 Classified Personnel Non-Paid Leave of Absence
- 412 Classified Personnel Promotions
- 413 Classified Personnel Employment
- 414 Noon Duty Aide Employment
- 415 Classified Substitute Personnel Employment for the 1998-99 School Year
- 416 Amendments to Consent Agenda Items

SUPPORT SERVICES

- 601 Personnel Services Agreements
- 602 Contractual Agreements – 1998-99
- 603 Contractual Agreements – 1998-99 RCOE

ACTION AGENDA

It was moved by Jacqueline L. Ashe and seconded by Charles W. Ledbetter that Action Items 225 through 228 under Curriculum and Instruction, Items 325 through 327 under Fiscal Services, and Items 525 through 535 under Student Services be approved as presented.

VOTE: - AYE – 4 (Absent – Vackar)

NAY - 0

ABSTAIN - 0

CURRICULUM AND INSTRUCTION

- 225 Public Hearing - Adoption of Staff Development One-Time Waiver for 1998-99
- 226 Special Education Private School Placement Nos. 07-98-99 through 09-98-99
- 227 Resolution No. 1998-99-14 – School Safety Month, October 1998

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ACTION AGENDA (CONT.)

CURRICULUM AND INSTRUCTION (CONT.)

228 Resolution No. 1998-99-15 – National Red Ribbon Celebration

FISCAL SERVICES

325 Award of Bid for Warehouse Supplies

326 Approval of AB 1200 –Implementation of July 1 Budget Adoption 1999-2000

327 Approval of Resolution 1998-99-17 Establishing Appropriations Limit Pursuant to Article XIII-B of the California Constitution

STUDENT SERVICES

525 Expulsion Re-Entry Hearing Officer's Recommendation Case No. 062-96-97

526 Expulsion Re-Entry Hearing Officer's Recommendation Case No. 117-96-97

527 Expulsion Re-Entry Hearing Officer's Recommendation Case No. 148-96-97

528 Expulsion Re-Entry Hearing Officer's Recommendation Case No. 010-97-98

529 Expulsion Re-Entry Hearing Officer's Recommendation Case No. 036-97-98

530 Expulsion Re-Entry Hearing Officer's Recommendation Case No. 053-97-98

531 Expulsion Re-Entry Hearing Officer's Recommendation Case No. 067-97-98

532 Expulsion Re-Entry Hearing Officer's Recommendation Case No. 173-97-98

533 Expulsion Re-Entry Hearing Officer's Recommendation Case No. 5005-97-98

534 Expulsion Re-Entry Hearing Officer's Recommendation Case No. 5076-97-98

535 Expulsion Re-Entry Hearing Officer's Recommendation Case No. 5192-97-98IV.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

CURRICULUM AND INSTRUCTION

275 School-To-Career

FISCAL SERVICES

375 Special Education Audit

376 1998-99 Budget Update

Dr. Wallace presented a 1998-99 budget update. At the last Board meeting a question was asked about what the District does with the money it already receives. She stated that of the total expenditures of the adopted budget, 81 percent goes to salaries and does not include the 4 percent salary increase that all employees received July 1, 1998. It has been asked about where the money has gone with the closure of schools. These funds follow the students. Salaries and benefits will increase to approximately 85 percent by the First Interim Financial Report to be presented in January. Categorical funds which are restricted monies such as Title 1, SIP, JTPA, and Vocational Education, which equals 5.4 percent of the budget.

Dr. Wallace stated that although the estimated additional funds for the 1.5 percent salary increase have been identified, she recommended that those funds not be released until after the First Interim Financial Report and the First Period Attendance Report have been completed in January 1999. The District must first determine whether it will meet its ADA projections in light of the new positive attendance accounting procedure.

Dr. Wallace brought to the Board's attention that the Budget Subcommittee met on Monday to review the 1997-98 unaudited actuals and the 1998-99 Governor's budget. The subcommittee is made up of representatives from MVEA, CSEA, and AMVMP. The subcommittee knew that Dr. Wallace was going to bring this recommendation to the Board.

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Dr. Suazo stated that the District has the expectation that it will have the 1.5 percent for the increase, however, it is better to be safe and to make sure the funds are available to expend.

The Board directed staff to endorse Dr. Wallace's recommendations. Dr. Wallace indicated she could restrict these funds in a special account for salary increases.

SUPPORT SERVICE

675 Senate Bill 50

Mr. Okun stated that Senate Bill 50 was recently approved and is subject to many regulations that are yet to be developed. It is the first major piece of school facility legislation for many years. He reviewed major provisions that will directly affect the District.

- Places a school facility bond issue on the November ballot: Proposition 1A.
 - A \$9.2 billion bond issue. This bond is the highest that has been before the voters in California and would require a majority vote statewide.
 - For K-12 a \$6.7 billion facility bond would allow for one-half (\$3.35 billion) to be sold in 1998 and \$3.35 billion to be sold after July 1, 2000. Money would be made available for future sites. The allocation of money would include: \$2.9 billion for new construction, \$2.1 billion for modernization, \$1 billion for hardship applications, and \$.7 billion for class-size reduction. Board President Candelaria asked for clarification on the hardship application. Mr. Okun stated that hardship is a process to appeal to the state for funding. A district could have an emergency where there is no local money available, yet there is an immediate need for school facilities.
- Reforms the State School Building program and will only take place if the bond issue passes. If the bond does not pass, the current program would stay in place. This is previously known as the Leroy Greene Lease Purchase Act. The new program is the Leroy Greene School Facilities which includes the following:
 - It is the first comprehensive reform since 1976.
 - There will be no more 100 percent state funding.
 - All growth projects would be a 50/50 state/local match.
 - All modernization projects would be an 80/20 state/local match.

State School Building Program would include:

- Priority 2 (100 percent) applications that are in the pipeline must either be withdrawn and resubmitted under the new program or be converted to a 50/50 application. The District currently has several applications at the state that would have to be converted to a 50/50 application. They will no longer be 100 percent funded by the state.
- No longer lease/purchase.
- No more state liens on District property.
- It is now grant based.
- Grant amounts are the state's responsibility. Once a grant is awarded, a district cannot request additional funds from the state.
- Districts are responsible for a 50 percent match or change orders that result in project increases.
- Districts can keep 100 percent of the savings if projects can be done at a lesser cost.
- Eligibility – Growth is basically the same, and modernization has been changed from 30 years old to 25 years old.

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- Revises developer fee and mitigation procedures which will only take place if the bond issue passes.
 - Mitigation fees levied under Mira, Hart and Murritia court decisions are suspended until 2006. Basically, this means the mitigation cases will be obsolete.
 - Districts are limited to charging statutory fees of \$1.93 per square feet for residential development.
 - The adequacy of school facilities is prohibited from being considered in the land use approval process. The district can no longer ask the city not to approve a project. The developer fee of \$1.93 per square foot fee can be exceeded under certain circumstances and subject to specific requirements.
- Changes dates for local bond elections.
 - Local school bond elections can take place on any Tuesday during the year regardless if it is a holiday.
 - Impacts on the District's State School Building Program – eligibility would need to be determined and if there are any changes.
 - \$18 million in local match for current applications that are now in process would be required. This includes the fourth high school and modernization projects the District has in process. The District would need to pay for \$18 million.
 - High School 4 is waiting eligibility. The total project is estimated at \$33 million and the local share is estimated to be \$16.5 million. This does not include money for a stadium.
 - Moreno Valley High School modernization is at phase C awaiting funding. Because the state ran out of funds, this project now has to be converted to 50/50. This is a \$3 million project and the local match (20 percent) would be \$600,000 plus for non-state approved improvements.
 - Elementary schools: Arnold Heights, Edgemont, Midland, Moreno, Sunnymead, and March Mountain are in the final design. The local match for these modernization projects would be \$1.4 million.
 - Change in the modernization program would be from 30 to 25 years old.
 - More square footage would become eligible sooner.
 - Additional matching funds would be needed (\$1.2 million).
 - Impact on District developer fees – existing agreements are grandfathered and the District would collect less. The District does not have many existing agreements. Existing conditions expire January 1, 2000. This would also impact the CFD 91-01.

In conclusion, Mr. Okun reviewed the advantages and disadvantages of Senate Bill 50:

- Advantages
 - Bond issue for now and the future.
 - State program should have money.
 - State program should be user friendly.
 - More flexibility in holding local bond elections.
 - Proposition 1A should be supported.
- Disadvantages
 - No more 100 percent state funding.
 - No grandfathering of projects in process.
 - Local match for growth is 50/50.
 - District needs \$18 million to match existing projects in process.
 - Developer fee reform.
 - Impacts on school facilities no longer can be considered in the project approval process.

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- Proposition 1A and adoption of regulations.

Locally

- Revisit the bond issue, maybe looking at a local match.
- Review CFD 91-01 to see if there are any changes necessary.
- Review eligibility under the new proposal to see if eligibility can be increased to provide funding for high school 4.

Board President asked about the District's plan to obtain the matching \$20 million fees for projects in the process. Mr. Okun stated that a districtwide needs assessment is in progress. He indicated that whenever a bond issue is done, the higher the bond issue the higher the tax, and the less likely the voters would approve the bond. He is working on bringing in a consultant to speak to the Board with additional information and strategies on this issue.

PUBLIC COMMENTS ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS

Belinda Williams, President of North Ridge PAGE (Parents Advocates for Gifted Education) addressed the Board. She indicated that this group was formed by concerned parents of North Ridge GATE students. The group recognizes the need to advance the gifted program and strengthen parent/teacher relationships in the demands of these special students. This group is committed to motivate parents of other schools to form similar groups so that all Moreno Valley students identified as gifted or potentially gifted receive the guidance and opportunities to become successful students.

Jenelle Beard, shared a concern about the 3R's Project Conference, certain individuals being invited to this conference, and the phone call she received from the newspaper. She indicated the individuals invited were people who attend Board meetings, concerned parents, and people who have participated in District committees in the past. She did not appreciate the call or questions asked.

Ms. Beard learned at Vista Heights' Back-to-School night that students cannot take math books home. She stated that when the CPM Program was reviewed, administration indicated that students would have two sets of books, one for the classroom and one to take home for homework. The teacher indicated to Ms. Beard that she could purchase a book for \$35. She is not happy about this. She asked why there are a number of literature books in the library to check out which cost \$65 each. She stated that her student has yet to use the literature book. She shared a concern that two math books can be purchased for the price of one literature book and math is used on a daily basis. She feels if literature books can be provided for the library, math books should also be available to the students.

Board Member Ashe asked if Dr. Suazo was aware of this. Dr. Suazo stated that she had discussed this with Dr. Wisher. Board Member Ashe asked for a report back.

ACKNOWLEDGMENT ITEM

- V-A Review of 1998-99 Financial Statements ending July 31, 1998
- V-B Review of 1998-99 Financial Statements ending August 31, 1998

CONSENT ITEM - 101

SUPERINTENDENT
OCTOBER 13, 1998

S-C-15

Dr. Suazo asked to present several items.

Amita Sharma asked Dr. Suazo for a copy of the District's travel request and reimbursement procedures. It seemed the question was raised why the Board had not approved the 3R's Conference on the agenda. Dr. Suazo pointed out to Ms. Sharma that conferences that are approved are out-of-state or when a manager authorizes five or more employees to attend a conference at one time. The reason was that when the sites released so many employees to attend conferences, there was a substitute shortage. Dr. Suazo stated that the Board has received three pieces of correspondence regarding this subject.

Board Member Ashe stated that she never received a copy of the flyer. She stated she feels the conference is a good thing but she wished it could have been closer. She was not going on anything she had received. Dr. Suazo stated that she had found out after the fact that these dates were in conflict with Board Member Ashe's calendar.

The District has received a three-year Magnet School Assistance Grant. The first year the District will receive \$1,991,371 to assist and enhance curriculum offerings of the following schools: Moreno Valley High, Badger Springs, Sunnymead Middle, Sunnymead Elementary, Edgemont, and Sunnymeads. This will invite districtwide transfers into these schools because of the specialized programs being developed and would provide more ethnic balance.

All three comprehensive high schools, Canyon Springs, Moreno Valley, and Valley View, are eligible to apply for Digital High School grant funds. The District will receive \$2.4 million for technology. This was done by random drawing. Hopefully, Bayside, Charter School, and March Mountain will be chosen in the future. There is a dollar for dollar match. Dr. Suazo stated that the amount of money received from Riverlink, and E-Rate should cover the match.

Dr. Suazo received a call from Gene Rogers. She had requested an earlier date for the Board and Council to meet. Mr. Rogers discussed this with the City Council. They can find a date in December if the Board so desires. However, given the demands of the council's schedule and that council members are running for reelection campaigns, the council feels it would be best to wait until the new council and Board members are seated. There is also a concern that the topics will become election campaign issues. One of the topics asked to be discussed is the truancy issue. The city council wanted the Board to know the council is moving forward on a discussion of this issue on October 20, 1998.

Board President Candelaria asked what time this meeting is scheduled to begin. He doesn't feel the city is serious about truancy.

Dr. Suazo asked if the Board still desired to look at scheduling a meeting in December.

Board Member Burks feels a meeting needs to be held now. She stated that the city has made information public on the Charter School without having any discussion with the Board. She feels truancy is not a campaign issue. This needs to be resolved. She feels the city does not want to include the Board of Education in any of these issues. Board President Candelaria and Board Member Burks asked where the District fits into all these issues. Board Member Burks stated that she does not want to have anything to do with the fact that the city will place a lien on a person's home if the student is found truant. She doesn't want the District to be responsible for a family losing their home if they cannot pay the fine.

CONSENT ITEM - 101
SUPERINTENDENT
OCTOBER 13, 1998

S-C-16

Board President Candelaria feels the truancy ordinance is about cutting down on crime and not about getting students back in school. It is about punishment. A truant cannot be jailed unless

it is a court order for a student who is on probation. It is against the law. If it were truly a truancy ordinance, the Board of Education would be involved to resolve this now. Dr. Suazo stated that the ordinance is looking at getting the habitual truants back in school.

Board Member Burks asked about the crossing guards. From what she understands the city may be looking at having the District pay for the crossing guards next year. This needs to be discussed because the District has a budget to work with and be responsible for. She shared a concern about the District now having to pay close to one million dollars for the SROs, when initially this cost was shared equally with the city and the District.

Dr. Suazo stated that Mr. Candelaria, Mr. Okun, and she met with Mr. White of the city council when this discussion first came up. Dr. Suazo feels that initially the city was hoping crossing guards would gradually be charged wholly to the District. She will speak to Mr. Rogers and express the Board's desire to meet as soon as possible. Board President Candelaria also asked Dr. Suazo to express to the city that the Board feels the Charter School issue is way out of line.

Dr. Suazo indicated that everyone needs to know the District has the components to take the District where it needs to go without outside interference.

Board President Candelaria does not feel the 3Rs Project Conference needs to come before the Board for approval because the Board only approves out-of-state conferences or the ability to meet staff requirements. Board Member Burks stated that educational funds are to be used to support the education of the community.

Board Member Ashe feels the Board needs to be consistent in informing the community through the Board process. She feels conferences should come to the Board as a matter of discussion because of the use of public funds and the liability issue. She stated the process needs to be consistent.

Dr. Suazo stated it might be in the best interest of the District to put this item on the agenda for insurance purposes because there are non-employees participating. The Board agreed and staff was requested to bring a discussion/action item on the 3Rs Project Conference at the next Board meeting.

BOARD DISCUSSION

Jacqueline L. Ashe brought forward the following items:

- She visited Back-to-School nights at her cluster school sites. They were very nice. Staff seemed lifted and enthusiastic. Students seemed excited.

Tracey B. Vackar left the meeting early due to illness. Therefore, she was not present for this portion of the agenda.

CONSENT ITEM - 101

SUPERINTENDENT
OCTOBER 13, 1998

S-C-17

Charles W. Ledbetter brought forward the following items:

- He attended the Canyon Springs football game. It was terrific even though they lost. The bands were very demonstrative.
- He feels that we have a good functioning school district. We need to stick behind the administrators so they can do their job.

Bernadette Burks brought forward the following items:

- She asked what was the status of a follow-up meeting for the Strategic Plan. It has been five years since it was approved. Now it is time to have the original committee come back together to assess what goals the District has accomplished and what goals still need to be addressed. Dr. Suazo stated that this has been discussed.
- She shared a concern about the middle school textbook issue. She recalls the Board was told that the students would have one set of textbooks at school and one set at home.
- She has visited her cluster school sites.
- She asked about the status of the Title 1 classroom at Badger Springs. Dr. Suazo indicated that she has been discussing this issue with Mr. Okun. He will be working on this. Mrs. Burks shared a concern that these are federal funds and the students need to be served.
- She suggested that a special meeting about SAT 9 testing, scoring, and how the District can raise test scores. She asked about the status of this meeting. Dr. Suazo indicated that data is being disaggregated in various ways, which will be shared with the Board. Mrs. Burks hopes that spelling and phonetics is being covered in the classroom. If the students are not being taught this, they will not pass the test.
- She asked that the student representatives that attend the Board meetings have the opportunity to participate in the CSBA conference. She feels this would be a good experience. Dr. Suazo stated she would meet with the students and share this information with them.
- She stated that UCR has a Saturday Academy Program, which is a supplement in math, science, and English for African American students. She indicated that this information needs to be shared with the students.
- She attended Landmark Back-to-School and was very excited about the teacher's information that technology is being purchased to communicate with the students in Japan. This is in connection with the Student Exchange Program.
- She asked the status of Arnold Heights and how the District will be utilizing this site. She shared a concern about losing the property if it is not put to use within one year. Dr. Suazo stated that the District needed to see how the enrollment would fall with the new school year. The enrollment is still being monitored. Dr. Suazo indicated that a master plan with recommendations for the utilization of both Arnold Heights and Alessandro would be brought back to the Board.

CONSENT ITEM - 101
 SUPERINTENDENT
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S-C-18

Alex T. Candelaria brought forward the following items:

- He commended the Board and administration for working very hard to make the meetings more efficient.
- He was glad to see some of the school Board candidates at the meeting and looks forward to seeing them again.

ADJOURNMENT: It was moved by Bernadette Burks and seconded by Charles W. Ledbetter that, there being no further items to come before the Board of Education, the meeting was adjourned at 9:40 p.m.

VOTE: AYE – 4 (Absent – Vackar)

NAY – 0

ABSTAIN - 0

CONSENT ITEM - 101
SUPERINTENDENT
OCTOBER 13, 1998