

MORENO VALLEY UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

**MINUTES FOR THE SPECIAL MEETING OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION OF OCTOBER 15, 2002**

The minutes of the Special Meeting of October 15, 2002, are being submitted to the Board of Education for approval at its Regular Board Meeting October 22, 2002. The minutes are a complete and factual record of action taken by the Board of Education at its Special Meeting of October 15, 2002.

**MORENO VALLEY UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT**

**25634 Alessandro Boulevard  
Moreno Valley, California 92553**

**THIS PROCEEDING IS AUDIOTAPED PURSUANT TO GOV. CODE §54953.5**

CALL TO ORDER: The Board of Education opened the joint meeting with Riverside Community College (RCC) at 5:10 p.m. to discuss the Passport-to-College Program; Moreno Valley Middle College High School Program; Vista del Lago High School; and Other Collaborative Efforts.

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

Present

Nicolas Ferguson  
Sharon Cirigliano  
Grace Slocum  
Mary Figueroa  
Linda Lacy  
Diana Webster

Pat Chandler  
Mary Jones  
Kathleen Daley  
Mark Takano  
Lisa Conyers  
Heidi Wills

Joe Palomino  
Salvatore Rotella  
Jose Medina  
Richard Tworek  
Daria Barnett

PUBLIC COMMENTS ON AGENDA ITEMS

None

AGENDA ITEMS

• Passport-to-College Program

Dr. Linda Lacy, RCC Associate Vice President, Student Services, presented information on the Passport-to-College Program. The Educational Foundation of RCC set up a program to identify elementary students who would receive scholarships to RCC if they met certain conditions. Moreno Valley participated in the program. Students still involved are now in high school.

Dr. Lacy stated that one barrier for students to attend college is the cost. It is important for parents and students to understand that it is possible to attend college regardless of the cost. Financial aid workshops are planned to assist the parents and students in obtaining funds to attend college. There is a summer orientation scheduled for Passport-to-College students where the students have a tour of the RCC campus, walk through the enrollment process; and meet with counselors to determine their class schedule. Riverside Community College is hoping to continue these students in the Passport-to-College Club to provide the opportunity to visit various universities and to participate in career fairs.

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High school student eligibility to participate in this program is determined by the high school counselor. As long as the student has completed all coursework to meet graduation requirements, the student can enroll in the Passport-to-College Program regardless if they have passed the high school exit exam. Students still need to meet the UC eligibility requirements and grade

requirements. Of the original 1060 students enrolled in the program, there are 75 percent still active.

- Moreno Valley Middle College High School Program

Diana Webster, RCC, stated that the Middle College High School Program is now in its fourth year. This program is a partnership with RCC, Moreno Valley Unified School District (MVUSD), and Val Verde Unified School District. It is the first and only multi-district agency partnership in California. There are currently 127 students in the program – 68 juniors and 59 seniors. Of the 127 students, 89 are Moreno Valley students. To enroll in the program, each student must submit an application and be interviewed. Initially, there were 400 applications received. This number increases each year.

Students who participate in this program must meet criteria such as having two or more at-risk factors; evidence that they are capable of doing college work; ability to attend classes on the college campus; and/or they may be struggling in the traditional high school setting. The college-going rate of these students has been 100 percent. Success of the program is measured by student and parent feedback. The program changes the attitude of the students regarding education and their motivation changes. To date, 95 percent of the students have graduated from high school and 20 percent of those students have received their associate's degree.

There was a concern in that some parents are reluctant to have their students attend classes with adults. Ms. Webster stated that this is a different kind of program to meet different needs of the student. Vista del Lago will be a different program to assist students with other kinds of needs. Currently there are seven to eight middle college students in a college classroom.

A question was asked about the kind of remediation available for students whose skills may not be at the college level. Ms. Webster indicated that remediation is built into the program to bring the skills of these students to the college level. Students who have gone through the program are thankful for having the opportunity to become successful, productive adults.

- Vista del Lago High School

Lisa Conyers, Dean of Instruction for the RCC, Moreno Valley campus, and Mary Jones, Vista del Lago High School Principal, presented information on the new program offered at Vista del Lago High School.

This program is a work in progress and provides the opportunity for high school students to transfer sequentially or directly to a two or four-year college, or enter the workforce with marketable skills. There are four academic career pathways – health sciences; pre-engineering; telecommunications/multimedia; and performing arts (orchestra).

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The commitment to the program is that state, federal, and private funding will be sought. It is the desire to establish advisory committees for each pathway to include administrative and faculty representation, as well as business/industry. This would afford internships and eventual employment opportunities for those students.

In grades 9 and 10, all students select a career pathway. All core and electives are provided by MVUSD. In grades 11 and 12, English, language arts, history, and social sciences are provided by MVUSD with the option of math and science provided by RCC. Career pathways are aligned with RCC. The UC “a through g” requirements, Tech Prep, and ROP are embedded within the career pathways during grades 9-12.

As the program continues, it is the desire of staff to articulate with high school teachers and colleges teachers to integrate content standards of high school and college curricula, and to provide opportunity for college readiness to all students.

The vision of this program is to promote concurrent enrollment in college courses, in addition to courses designed to fulfill high school graduation requirements; to assist students to gain job skills by integrating career education throughout curriculum via four pathways; and to facilitate completion of postsecondary options (career education certificate, associate degree; or a four-year degree).

- Other Collaborative Efforts

Grace Slocum, RCC Board President, stated that we should not overlook the value of the partnerships and uniqueness of these programs. There is a lot to be said about these programs. She applauded the efforts of staff and administrators on working together for the success of these programs.

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 6:25 p.m.

VOTE:                      AYE – 4    NAY – 0    ABSTAIN – 0

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