

MORENO VALLEY UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

MINUTES FOR THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION OF DECMEBER 13, 2005

The minutes of the Regular Meeting of December 13, 2005, are being submitted to the Board of Education for approval at its Regular Board Meeting of January 24, 2006. The minutes are a complete and factual record of action taken by the Board of Education at its Regular Meeting of December 13, 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 5:14 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; Conference with CSEA, MVEA and AMVMP Labor Negotiator; Conference with Legal Counsel – Anticipated Litigation; and Personnel Complaints.

The Board of Education convened into Closed Session at 5:14 p.m.

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 7:13 p.m. Board Member Ashe stated, for the record, that she was asked to leave Closed Session.

ROLL CALL: Present - Ashe Present- Coz Present - Holguin Present - Sayre Present- Vackar Student Board Representative – Jeryn Mays

**REPORT OUT OF
CLOSED SESSION:**

The Board of Education approved Item 903 – Public Employee Employment to reflect the employment of Jeff Peyton, teacher, Landmark to Assistant Principal, Landmark, effective December 14, 2005. By a vote of 4 Ayes and 1 Nay (Ashe), the Board of Education voted to uphold the suspension of Employee # 012827. There was no other reportable action on the Closed Session agenda.

Administration Present

Pat Chandler, Assistant Superintendent, Educational Services
Bob Crank, Assistant Superintendent, Business Services
Olivia Hershey, Assistant Superintendent, Human Resources
Kathy Nordin, Director, Elementary Education
Dianna Carberry, Director, Secondary Education
Michael Davitt, Director, Program Improvement

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Administrators Present (Cont.)

Dan Reed, Director, Accountability and Assessment, and Training
Dave Swift, Director, Facilities/Maintenance and Operations
Aaron Barnett, Director, Information Systems
Donna Farrell, Coordinator, Accountability and Assessment
Carol Allbaugh, Coordinator, Career Development
Estuardo Santillan, Business Manager
Jeffrey Hinshaw, Director, Business Services
John Baldaray, Director, Warehouse
Maribel Mattox, Principal, Moreno
Mary Jones, Principal, Vista del Lago
Kim Kruger, Principal, Valley View
Debbie Fay, Principal, Mountain View
Sharon Cirigliano, Executive Secretary, Board of Education

Visitors

Marciela Hinds	Stan Brown	Karen Senger
Ann Adler	Katherine Underwood	Harold Acord
Maria Madrigal	Jeryn Mays	Michelle Deyden
Teri Chelbana	Tom Chelbana	Jose Torres
Christina Torres	Brian Groves	Lena Groves
Carol Groves	John Orr	Mark Garcia
Nan Smith	Denise McCrea	Belinda Childrey
Helga Brown	Doug Haynes	Tom Lenaway
Art Montagna	Tablia Jackson	Frank Butler
Karen Lawson	Paul Baird	Margaret Helen Arter
Louise Palomarez	David Nesomony	

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

PLEDGE OF

ALLEGIANCE: The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Board President Holguin.

INSPIRATIONS: Board Member Coz stated that as we move into the Holiday season, we give thanks for Jesus and the sacrifice that he made for all of us. He asked that all the students and families enjoy their time off and return to school safely.

Board Member Ashe asked for a moment of silence to be observed in memory of the loss of Mountain View custodian, Richard Storey. She asked that everyone keep his family in their thoughts and prayers during this season.

DATES OF FUTURE BOARD MEETINGS

January	24, 2006	7 p.m.	Regular Board Meeting	Board Room
February	7, 2006	7 p.m.	Regular Board Meeting	Board Room
February	28, 2006	7 p.m.	Regular Board Meeting	Board Room

RECOGNITION/COMMUNICATIONS/EVENTS

Under the direction of Sandy Potter, Principal, Cloverdale, the Kindergarten students of teachers Ms. Kathryn Lannoye and Ms. Kellie Conner shared the holiday spirit by having their respective classes sing, "Christmas Bells" and "Little Round Man."

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It was moved by Tracey B. Vackar and seconded by Richard Coz that Jesus M. Holguin be elected delegate and Tracey B. Vackar be elected alternate delegate to the annual meeting of the County Committee on School District Organization for 2006.

AYE - 4

NAY – 1 (Ashe)

ABSTAIN - 0

2006 PROPOSED BOARD MEETING DATES

It was moved by Tracey B. Vackar and seconded by Richard Coz that the 2006 Proposed Board Meeting dates be approved as amended. The amendment reflects changing the proposed meeting of February 14, 2006, to February 7, 2006.

VOTE: AYE - 5

NAY - 0

ABSTAIN – 0

POLICIES, REGULATIONS, PRACTICES, and RESOLUTIONS OF THE DISTRICT

It was moved by Jesus M. Holguin and seconded by Rick Sayre to approve Policies, Regulations, Practices, and Resolutions 6.1 through 6.22 as presented.

VOTE: AYE - 5

NAY - 0

ABSTAIN – 0

SCHOOL REPORTS

The following High School Student Board Representatives gave their school report:

Michelle Deyden, Canyon Springs, reported that last week the guidance department held its annual "Pathways to Success" seminar for students and parents. This event provided many workshops focusing on college preparation. Homecoming week was a success, especially the assembly which has been considered the best and most spirited assembly in years. The 2005 Homecoming King was Brandon Sanchez and Wendy Ingram was selected as Homecoming Queen. Staff and students will begin collecting canned goods and other non-perishable food items for families in Moreno Valley on November 16 through November 30. This food program, "Feed a Family," is sponsored by the Community Assistance Program (CAP). Fall sports have ended and winter sports are beginning. PTSA is sponsoring a personal hygiene drive for the holidays. Second quarter concluded on November 10, which was a minimum day. Report cards are expected soon.

Jeryn May, Vista del Lago, reported that in early October, ASB held an academic assembly to recognize students with an outstanding grade point average. Mr. Rodriguez, who was nominated by his fellow teachers, was voted "Renaissance Teacher of the Year." Mr. Rodriguez will join the Hall of Fame in the front office. The California High School Exit Exam test results are in; however, this information is not available to bring forward. Counselors are working with students to provide adequate opportunities for students to pass this required test in order to graduate. The Homecoming activities and celebration was a success, which resulted in the largest class float competition. Patrick Salcido was crowned Homecoming King and Cheree Disney was selected Homecoming Queen. The art department has been chosen to paint a mural for the new super Wal-Mart store on Moreno Beach. Seventy students are busy working on this project. The fall sports season has ended, with the basketball season around the corner. The annual "Purple Black and Silver" game was held on November 18 at 5 p.m. in the gym.

Maria Madrigal, Moreno Valley, reported that every Thursday, students take practice tests to improve on the California High School Exit Exam. The students are taking the tests seriously. ASB held its annual canned food drive and collected over 2,000 cans for community members in need. Renaissance participated in an Adopt-A-Family program and contributed many gifts for needy families. Fall sports are over, and the site is proud of its accomplishments. The boys' varsity basketball team is doing well and the wrestling program has been reinstated this year. Renaissance rewards students who attend school daily. In November, 165 students had perfect attendance and were awarded gift certificates from local businesses. Ms. Madrigal wished everyone a wonderful break.

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Based on a recent statewide CSBA survey of school districts on this issue, the following is information on their positions:

- 32% have not yet created options.
- 26% offer Certificates of Completion to students failing the CAHSEE, but meeting local requirements.
- 22% offer Certificates of Completion to students failing the CAHSEE, but meeting all local graduation requirements AND having attended some form of supplemental education program.
- 27% other (includes Certificates of Attendance or Certificates of Completion for Special Education students only.)
- 36% have a policy that allows students who have failed the CAHSEE to walk.
- 64% have no such policy in place. Moreno Valley does not currently have a policy.

Staff is requesting direction from the Board. Other issues that need to be addressed and settled such as if a non-graduate is allowed to walk, policies will need to be revised, and the possibility of contract issues and practical application of any change in current policy need to be explored.

There were Board comments, discussion, suggestions, and clarification. Staff was directed to resurvey the stakeholder groups (parents, staff, leadership), discuss this issue again as a committee to see if the District's position has altered based on the new survey results, see what surrounding school districts are doing as well, in addition see what the feeling is about the separate ceremony concept. It is important for the stakeholders to see this data. Staff was also directed to bring a draft policy in January regarding graduation activities, in order to meet the timelines for graduating students this year.

BUSINESS SERVICES

375 First Interim Report

Bob Crank, Assistant Superintendent, Business Services, stated that the First Interim Financial Report reflects the adopted budget, expenditures and income to date, all projected expenditures, and income and fund balances being projected through June 30, 2006. Mr. Crank reviewed general information on the national and state economy. The Legislative Analyst indicates that the budgetary outlook has improved showing significant savings adopted in 2005-06 and a major increase in revenues. However, the State is still not out of the woods with multibillion dollar operating deficits which require significant actions.

Mr. Crank reviewed the budget assumptions to arrive at the District's budget. (Most of the District's budget is employee salaries). The District based its projections on the following assumptions:

- 4.23% COLA increase for the Revenue Limit and State Income for 2005-06 and deficit reduction.
- 4.4% COLA increase for Revenue Limit and State Income for 2006-07 and 3.2% COLA increase for 2007-08.
- Increase ADA of 700 per year for 2006-07 and 2007-08.
- Federal Income – no change – all years.
- Local Income – no change – all years.

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- Salaries and benefits:

Creekside	Move new (GC 63003) to Sunnymead Elementary
Edgemont	No Change (One relocatable is needed)
Hendrick Ranch	Review the impact of new section (GC75200) in 2007-08
Hidden Springs	Add four relocatables to accommodate areas from Honey Hollow (GC 10001) and Box Springs (GC 09005)
Honey Hollow	Move to a traditional school calendar. Move portions of area (GC 10001) to Hidden Springs, new (GC 09005) for portion 10001
La Jolla	No Change, four relocatables need to be added to accommodate future growth
Midland	No Change
Moreno	No Change
North Ridge	Continue YRE for 2006-07
Ramona	No Change
Ridge Crest	No Change
Seneca	Add area (GC 71001) from Town Gate with transportation
Serrano	No Change
Sugar Hill	Move to traditional calendar
Sunnymead (ES 26)	Will be traditional. Add new area (GC 63003) from Creekside
Sunnymeadows	Continue YRE for 2006-07
Town Gate	Move are (GC 71001) to Seneca with transportation, four relocatables are needed to accommodate future growth

Recommendations made for the middle schools include:

Badger Springs	Move to traditional calendar, adding four relocatables. Move areas (GC 73001, 73002, 74101, 74102, 74002, 74003, 70003) to Sunnymead Middle and add area (GC 56001) from Landmark.
Landmark	Move to a traditional calendar, adding six relocatable. Move area (GC 57000 and 56001) to Badger Springs.
Mountain View	Move to a traditional calendar, adding six relocatables. Move area (GC 63200, 69200, and 69201) to Sunnymead Middle.
Palm	Move to a traditional calendar, adding five relocatables. Move area (GC 10100) to Vista Heights.
Sunnmead	Expanding by accepting areas (GC 73001, 73002, 74101, 74002, 74003, 70003) from Badger Springs and areas (GC 63200, 69200, 69201) from Mountain View.
Vista Heights	Move to a traditional calendar, adding four relocatables. Add area (GC 10100) from Palm.

The main concern for Badger Springs, Landmark, and Mountain View, was the capacity of the schools and the ability to handle the enrollment. A recommendation was made to move them to a traditional schedule.

There were no boundary changes recommended for the high schools. Canyon Springs would need to add seven relocatables in order to increase capacity and implement recommendations to control enrollment. In order to increase capacity at Valley View, five relocatables are needed, and Vista del Lago would need an additional 18 relocatables.

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Mr. Crank stated that Cabinet members thought the committee's recommendation was excellent. There was discussion to change all schools back to a traditional calendar. However, the committee was concerned about having to convert back to a year round calendar in the

future because there is continuing residential development in some geographic areas of the District.

Dr. Chandler shared educational advantages of a traditional calendar year which include: providing appropriate intervention programs for every student; students who want to be in any program that is currently offered on only one track (i.e., band, GATE); research shows that teachers who collaborate together on student issues are more successful; it provides an opportunity to implement consistent professional development for all teachers; and it would provide the possibility of having summer school programs at the elementary and middle school levels. She has seen recent studies that correlate underperforming schools and poor student achievement with mulitrack schools.

Administration is recommending that these year round schools be returned to a traditional calendar. Currently, there is sufficient capacity to return them to this schedule because the building of additional schools during the upcoming years will handle students forthcoming from the new development. Mr. Crank stated that staff feels the broad based committee came up with a recommendation of all the stakeholders. All the principals have seen this plan and are in agreement. Mr. Crank agreed with the committee's recommendation, in addition to returning the four remaining year round education schools to a traditional calendar.

Frank Butler, community member, parent, and former District Board member, wanted to reemphasize that the decisions the Board is going to be making regarding boundary changes and year round education to a traditional calendar is not fun. He was on the Board when the District was growing in the 1980's. At that time, changing to year round education was an issue of money. Changes were being made on a yearly basis. Mr. Butler recommended that the Board make a decision soon and with the thought that those changes can be implemented by the staff.

There was Board discussion. Concern was expressed about the parent and community input and the communication that the District has done to get the word out. It is important to get buy-in from parents and staff. It was also brought up about the fact that, should the District change now, will it have to be looking at implementing year round education in the future because of all the new development in the community. There was discussion regarding the addition of relocatables at the school sites and the necessary funding. The committee was commended for a job well done.

Mr. Crank stated that by going to a traditional school year districtwide, the District will save approximately \$700,000, which can be used for student programs and meet the principals' requests. He feels if the District moves forward with the addition of portables and the building of new schools, the District is ahead of the game and should not have to reconsider returning to a year round schedule. There was a lengthy discussion on the timelines to proceed or what the consequences may be if a decision was delayed until the next Board meeting.

Staff was directed to put notifications in the newspaper multiple times, place on the educational television channel, send notification to parents and the community, and hold a public hearing about the change of year round education to a traditional calendar. This item was tabled for a Board vote at this time, and staff will bring this item back for further discussion and action at the January Board meeting.

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ACKNOWLEDGMENT ITEMS

V-A Administrative Regulations

- AR 5148 – Child Care Development

- AR 6145 – Extracurricular and Cocurricular Activities
- V-B Revised Certificated Job Description – Staff Development Specialist – English Language Development
- V-C Revised Certificated Job Description – Curriculum Specialist – Career Development

The following items were brought forward:

Jacqueline L. Ashe

- She stated that the Compact (Respect, Rights, and Responsibility) is always covered up and it makes her feel that we don't believe in it any more. It is not talked about enough and our actions do not show it. She has watched the staff's morale disintegrate. Staff is afraid to speak up because of reprisals. Staff has been shown that they are not valued. The Warehouse has been used as an example that if staff speaks out and does not agree with your philosophy they will be eliminated and/or punished. This is not consistent with District policies or past practices. Private investigators have been hired to investigate District employees at the District's expense. She feels that the District has become a district of reprisals.

"Tonight, she was asked by Mr. Disenhouse, to leave Closed Session during the discussion regarding the pending grand jury investigation. He was not hired by the District and had no right to tell her that. She is one-fifth of the Board of Education as an elected official. She feels that the Board abuses "power" and does not respect the opinions of others and chooses which staff to favor. It is her opinion that if all staff are not given a fair chance to show how they can benefit this District, how can you care about the children of this District? Schools are about exploring and learning not threatening and judgmental. Be the change you want to see."

Board Member Ashe left the Board meeting at 10:37 p.m., shortly after her comments.

Tracey B. Vackar

- She thanked Mr. Holguin for his time and service by stepping into the role of the Board President this past year.
- The District has issues and will continue to have them because the District serves such a diverse student population and the number of schools, programs, and services it provides.

She shared a number of accomplishments the District has made over the past several years including: deficit spending of over \$14 million has been eliminated and the budget has been balanced for the last four years with the assistance of the all stakeholders; the General Fund reserve levels have increased from less than one-half of one percent to five percent; a \$50 million school bond was passed with a 67 percent approval vote which resulted in building and opening four new elementary schools within the last two years; more than 200 bond projects have been completed at existing schools; a new financial computer system has been implemented and the District has achieved fiscal independence; a computerized energy management system has been installed at all sites and has saved thousands of dollars in energy savings as a result; a complete centralized custodial operation has been fully developed and implemented; the cafeteria income has steadily increased each year and is totally self-supporting; a full self-insured program for workers compensation, property and liability insurances has been implemented and adequate reserves have been established in all of these areas.

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Future school sites have been identified and a District Facilities Master Plan has been prepared in order to build new schools to keep pace with growing enrollment; an employee position control system has been implemented in order to ensure complete control of all positions and to ensure that positions are not added without proper approval and authorizations; provided on-site training

workshops for administrators, secretaries, attendance and ASB clerks, to review attendance and ASB procedures and all participants received a comprehensive handbook in these areas; a deferred maintenance program has been put into place during the last four years in order to remedy the neglect which occurred in the maintenance area in previous years; Certificates of Participation (COPs) debt was refinanced to take advantage of a lower interest rate and significant interest savings was achieved. This District applied for and received another round of QZAB funding of \$5 million which will be used to help improve the reading level of students. The District received a very high bond rating as a result of its strong financial position. This resulted in lower interest rates when issuing General Obligation Bonds and saved taxpayers thousands of dollars. In addition, the City has been able to “piggyback” on this rating in order to bring in additional development making this a stronger economy. These are just a few of the wonderful accomplishments made within the last four years.

Richard Coz

- He also thanked Mr. Holguin for his service as the Board President last year. He did admirably.
- He wanted to clarify some issues for the public and then close with an apology. At the last meeting there were questions raised by the Board regarding the contracting, other issues, and specifically custodial supply company (Hillyard). He felt that there was a back-handed slap against the Purchasing department. Later there was a newspaper article published about a complaint that had been filed with the grand jury with several allegations including the Hillyard contract. There was a comment made that one Board member was ashamed and disappointed in the Board.

He wanted to clarify this issue. He felt that the public knows that there was not mishandling of that contract. Staff did a good job. A bid went out for custodial services and it is believed that there was an unfair bidding process, when the truth of the matter is, out of all the bids, there was only one responsive bid. Although there was one responsive bid, the staff decided to go out to bid again to give an equal opportunity to everyone. The entire Board was fully briefed on this specific issue that is outlined in the complaint as early as last August. When this issue was brought forward then, everyone was aware. The staff was ahead of all of this and intent in keeping this above board to get the best price for services for the District. He was surprised to hear that staff is afraid of reprisals. He is not hearing it when they come to the podium. He feels that, as opposed to feeling reprisal, it represents an open and responsive Board that the staff feels comfortable enough to speak open about their supervisors and District policies. He doesn't feel that there is a fear of reprisal or being punished.

He wanted to close with an apology. He takes pride in an open, responsive government. An element of democracy is one of not always agreeing, but respectfully listening to and trying to understand the opposing perspective and views of others. When we, as elected officials, show disdain or disrespect of what others have to say, that defeats what this great democracy is founded on. His pledge is that he will always listen to the best of his ability, respectfully listen to his colleagues on the Board, and strive to always keep an open mind. He apologized about what we saw today in terms of not listening to what each of us had to say. This is not what our great country represents.

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Jesus Holguin

- He thanked the Board members for allowing him the opportunity to serve as President this past year. It was an honor. Every member was very supportive. He learned a lot. They are very professional in what they do all the time. He appreciates their respect. He respects them

individually and as a group. He will continue to serve on the Board and feel proud because this is a professional group.

- He also thanked the Cabinet members. They were always there to answer his questions. They showed a lot of respect and support.
- He could not forget to say thank you to Sharon. She was very supportive, always there, reminding him of things, and putting him in the right direction. There was communication every day. She always had the right answers, and reminded him of what he needed to do. Thank you, Sharon for all that assistance.
- He said that every student is still in his heart. Again, every single student. He does not want to exclude any student. He is here because he wanted to work for all the students and parents.
- He appreciates all the positive comments made by Ms. Vackar and members of the Board. He thinks that is a reflection of the Board, administration, and the whole team who have been working during the year. That is something to keep in mind – working for the students.
- He said that we all are going to celebrate the season in many different ways based on traditions, cultures, and beliefs. He hopes that we are all together with one single idea, that we always work with professionalism, with respect, and with the idea in mind that whatever we are doing is for the benefit of the children in this community. He is hoping that everyone present, watching the meeting, and in the community, has the opportunity to spend this time with their families. There is a small group of people who will not be able to do that.

He wanted to honor and remember those employees that we lost during the year in addition to the students we also lost. He wanted to take a minute to honor those students that, because of accidents or negligence, lost their lives. On April 15, a 15-year Moreno Valley freshman was killed by a gun shot; on August 10, a 8-year old, Hendrick Ranch second grader was hit and killed by a car; on November 6, one Landmark student and one Palm student were hit and killed by a drunken driver; on November 13, an 18-year old former Moreno Valley student was killed by a gun shot while delivering pizza; a 5-year female student died in a traffic accident during the Thanksgiving Day holiday.

He believes we are here for the students. We have lost these six students. However, we have some 37,000 in our District. We have the chance to provide those students with education and community opportunities for them to be successful. The message is that we have to be careful with our children, take care of them, and help them be successful in life. He hopes that we finish this year with all these positive comments and move onto the new year with the same commitment to provide those educational opportunities for the students.

Rick Sayre

- He asked the public to watch what is going on, make judgments based upon facts and figures, and look at how the Board conducts itself. The Board truly believes in the Compact. He has worked with these individuals over the years and has the greatest respect for the Board members, staff members, and employee groups. The District has done great things and will continue to do so. He feels fortunate to work with the Board and staff. This is a whole team. It simply is not one person's agenda. One person cannot drive the car. It takes everyone to make the things that Ms. Vackar talked about happen.
- He wished everyone Happy Holidays!

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S-C-15

The Board of Education recessed into Closed Session at 11:05 p.m.

The Board of Education reconvened into Regular Session at 11:20 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 11:20 p.m.

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