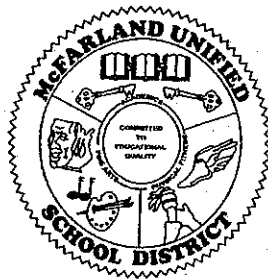


McFARLAND UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

Board of Trustees

Ramon Melendez
Marin Ortega, Jr.
Rey De Leon
David Arguello
Jim Kasiner



Gabriel McCurtis
Superintendent

REGULAR MEETING January 15, 2008

BOARD MEETING PLACE
McFarland High School Multi-Purpose Room
259 Sherwood Avenue
McFarland, CA

I. Call to Order 5:00 p.m.

II. Open Session

III. Roll Call and Establishment of Quorum

IV. Pledge of Allegiance

V. Invocation

VI. Public Communication

The public is invited to comment on any matter appearing on the closed session agenda.

VII. Closed Session

- A. Public Employee Discipline, Dismissal/Release {G. C. 54957}
- B. Conference with Labor Negotiator (G.C. 54957.6)
 - Employee Organizations: MTA and CSEA
 - Labor Negotiators: Nitasha Sawhney & Kim McManaman
- C. Student #0708-18 - Expulsion recommendation
- D. Student #0708-19 - Expulsion recommendation
- E. Student #0708-06 - Re-admittance

VIII. Open Session

IX. Report of Closed Session

X. Action Items

McFarland Unified School District
601 Second Street
McFarland, CA 93250

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(661) 792-3081
www.mcfarlandusd.com

- A. Revision and Approval of Agenda of January 15, 2008
- B. Approval of Minutes of December 11, 2007 (Organizational & Regular Meeting) and December 5, 2007 (Study Session).
- C. Consent Agenda
 - 1. Approval of Warrant Registers
 - 2. Approval of Travel, Conference, and Related Expenses
 - 3. Consideration and Approval of Superintendent Designee
 - 4. Approval of Student Teaching Agreement TCH0814

XI. Information and Proposals

A. Community Input

This is an opportunity for any member of the public to address the Board on matters pertaining to the school district that are not listed on the agenda. For items on the Agenda, the public will have an opportunity to address the Board when that item is acted upon. Unless otherwise determined by the Board, each person is limited to 3 (three) minutes. If a large number wish to speak on a specific item, there is a limit of 20 minutes total input on any item.

B. Superintendent's Report

The Superintendent will report to the Board about various matters involving the District.

1. Attendance Report

C. Board Member Reports & Student Board Member Reports

This is an opportunity for board members to report on conferences, workshops and other school/school board meetings attended as well as provide recognition/information about the schools. It is also an opportunity to calendar a conference, workshop, and/or meeting for future attendance.

D. Reports

- 1. Family Resource Center
- 2. M/O/T Dept.
- 3. MTA
- 4. CSEA
- 5. Williams Act Uniform Complaints Quarterly Report (Irene Melendez)

E. Presentations

- 1. Recognition – Cross Country
- 2. MMS – Roberta Burgh

XII. Action Items (cont'd)

XIII. Old Business

- A. None

XIV. New Business

- A. Approval of New/Revised Board Policies – First Reading

New and Revised Board Policies are being presented in order to insure current District Policy. Approval of First Reading is requested.

- B. Personnel Register

The personnel register is listed as one item. The Board can approve the entire register in one vote or can approve each employment, resignation, transfer, reassignment, etc., individually. If the Board has any questions regarding a particular item on the register, the item can be modified to follow Closed Session. This will allow the Board to discuss that item in Closed Session before making a decision.

- C. Approval of Contract between Kern County Superintendent of Schools and McFarland Unified School District for Title I External Monitor & Review Services

KCSOS agrees to provide the technical assistance required under NCLB Program Improvement. KCSOS will work with Leadership Teams from both Browning Rd. (PI Year 4) and McFarland Middle School (PI Year 5). In addition, KCSOS will work with a District Leadership Team as part of the District's PI Year 3 status. Services provided includes: monitoring and reviewing district and site plans; overseeing implementation of revised plans; providing coaching-consultation services based on site and district needs; and providing technical assistance to Browning Rd. and McFarland Middle School in the development and implementation of the Alternative Governance plans. It is essential that district begin this work as soon as possible in order to meet state Program Improvement requirements. Approval is requested.

- D. Approval of Agreement between McFarland Unified School District and the following Supplemental Educational Service Provider: Club Z! In Home Tutoring Services, Inc.

On January 8, 2002, President Bush signed his education plan, No Child Left Behind, into law. The law united both political parties behind the principle that schools must be held accountable for their results and that every child must learn. As part of that law, when a disadvantaged child is attending a low performing school, federal funds can be used to provide supplemental services for that child. Parents of eligible children can choose from the list of state-approved providers. When parents have made their selection, the District must then contract with that provider to deliver the services. The law requires that supplemental education service providers adhere to high-quality, research-based instruction. The law states that a provider must continue to provide SES to eligible students until the end of the school year in which those services were first received. Approval is requested.

- E. Amendment to Contract Between McFarland Unified School District and the following Supplemental Educational Service Providers: A+ Educational Centers, Academic Tutoring Services, National Farm Workers Services Center Field, Fresno CORAL Inc. DBA CORAL & Extreme Learning

In late November 2007, the CDE posted the new rate per pupil allotment for the 2007-08 school year. The new rate per pupil allotment for this year will be \$1293.43 as opposed to \$1369.55, a decrease of \$76.12 per student. Approval is requested.

- F. Approval to purchase Acoustical Panels for the High School Band Room.

The high school is seeking approval to purchase acoustical panels for the Band Room using \$6,000 from their Discretionary Block Grant Fund. The school site council has approved this purchase. The room being used for the band room has no acoustical paneling. The teacher and students have complained that they leave the room with their ears ringing. This could be a serious health hazard. Acoustical panels need to be attached to the walls as quickly as possible to help absorb the sound and prevent injury to the students hearing. Approval is requested.

- G. Approval of 3 year Contract for Telecommunication Services including DS-3 connection to Kern County Superintendent of Schools by AT & T for E-Rate Application.

At the end of this fiscal year our 3 year contract for telecommunication services will expire. We have gone out for bid according to the E-Rate requirements for another 3 year contract. For our DS-3 (network connection) to the Kern County Superintendent's Office, AT & T was the lowest bidder with their CalNet State Contract Pricing. They also won the contract for telephone services through the CalNet State Contract Pricing as they were the only ones to place a bid. E-Rate is a federal program that pays for a percentage of telecommunications services provided to Schools and Libraries. With our current standing we should receive a 90% discount on our rates through e-Rate and an additional 50% discount on our telephone services through the California Teleconnect fund. Approval is requested.

- H. Approval of 3 year Contract for SmartNet Services from Nexus IS for E-Rate Application.

SmartNet is the warranty for the District's Cisco networking equipment. If the equipment is damaged or we need support on an item, this warranty guarantees service and/or replacement of equipment. We went out to bid according to E-Rate requirements for a 3 year warranty contract. Nexus IS was the winning bidder for the Smartnet contract at a cost of \$155,297.10 for the three years or \$51,765.70 per year. If we are funded at the 90% level, the District would be responsible for \$5,176.57 per year. E-Rate is a federal program that pays for a percentage of telecommunications services provided to Schools and Libraries. With our current standing we should receive a 90% discount on our rates through E-Rate. Approval is requested.

- I. Approval to award bid ER 11-001 for voice/data video station cables to AT&T.

The District went out to bid to install networking drops at Kern Avenue, Browning Road, McFarland Middle School and McFarland High School and replace some failing video equipment at Kern Avenue. The total Bid amount is \$166,144.56. \$110,477.85 of the total is eligible for E-Rate purposes. This means that the district will be responsible for \$66,714.50. E-Rate is a federal program that pays for a percentage of telecommunications services provided to Schools and Libraries. With our current standing we should receive a 90% discount on our rates through E-Rate. E-Rate has a 2 in 5 rule that states that internal connections, which include all networking equipment and wiring, can only be applied for twice in any five year period. This is why we are going out to bid for wiring, network equipment and wireless networking equipment all at the same time. Approval is requested.

- J. Approval of Bid ER 11-002 for Networking Equipment to AT&T.

The last time the District replaced networking equipment was three years ago and only half of the equipment was replaced at that time. The rest of the networking equipment in place in the district is at least six years old and some are 10 years old. Most of the older equipment is past end of life, meaning it is no longer supported by the manufacturer. With this in mind, the District went out to bid to replace all of the older equipment. AT&T was the winning bidder at a cost of \$432,560.39. If we are funded by E-Rate at the 90% level, the district will be responsible for \$43,256.03. E-Rate is a federal program that pays for a percentage of telecommunications services provided to Schools and Libraries. With our current standing we should receive a 90% discount on our rates through E-Rate. E-Rate has a 2 in 5 rule that states that internal connections, which include all networking equipment and wiring, can only be applied for twice in any five year period. This is why we are going out to bid for wiring, network equipment and wireless networking equipment all at the same time. Approval is requested.

- K. Approval of Bid ER 11-003 for Wireless Networking Equipment to AT&T.

The District currently has several laptop labs, multiple laptops and PDA devices. With this in mind, the District went out to bid to create a wireless network that would blanket the campuses. This would allow for better utilization of portable technology in the district by allowing network access anywhere on campus. Security officers or Principals can look up schedules using a PDA to see where a student should be. AT&T was the winning bidder at a cost of \$80,773.61. If we are funded by E-Rate at the 90% level, the district will be responsible for \$8,077.36. E-Rate is a federal program that pays for a percentage of telecommunications services provided to Schools and Libraries. With our current standing we should receive a 90% discount on our rates through E-Rate. E-Rate has a 2 in 5 rule that states that internal connections, which include all networking equipment and wiring, can only be applied for twice in any five year period. This is why we are going out to bid for wiring, network equipment and wireless networking equipment all at the same time. Approval is requested.

- L. Approval of 2 year Contract of Services with Sprint Nextel for Cell Phone Service.

The District went out to bid for Cell phone services according to the rules set forth by E-Rate. Nextel was the winning provider at a cost of \$56,146.33 per year. If we are funded at the 90% level, the District will be responsible for \$5,614.63. E-Rate is a federal program that pays for a percentage of telecommunications services provided to Schools and Libraries. With our current standing we should receive a 90% discount on our rates through E-Rate. Approval is requested.

- M. Approval of Resolution 0708-06 for Contingent Tax Liability

Certain monies due to this District from the County as local tax revenues have pending claims before the Assessment Appeals board. By recent letters the County Counsel has notified the District of potential adverse consequences to local tax revenue should pending court action settle in favor of the taxpayer. Approval of Resolution 0708-06 is requested to impound local tax revenue in the amount of \$232,500 to anticipate pending claims and/or litigation. Approval is requested.

- N. Approval of Contract between Springboard Schools and McFarland Unified Schools District for Administrative Professional Development

Springboard Schools will provide Professional Development for approximately 25-30 current and aspiring administrators. The focus of the Professional Development Series will be to prepare administrators to work with their teachers in analyzing student performance data and developing instructional interventions to improve student learning. The involvement of Springboard Schools compliments and supports the technical assistance provided by Kern County Superintendent of Schools. As a Program Improvement Year 3 District it is essential that the district demonstrate to the State Department of Education that we are being proactive and diligent in pursuing quality assistance from outside entities as required by NCLB. Approval is requested.

XV. Advance Planning

- A. Future Meeting Dates

1. Regular Board Meeting – February 12, 2008 at 5:00 p.m.

XVI. Adjournment