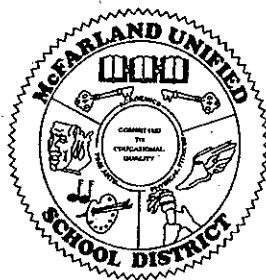


# McFARLAND UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

## Board of Trustees

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



Gabriel McCurtis  
Superintendent

## REGULAR MEETING

February 12, 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. Presentations

1. Reading First presentation -- Valerie Garcia & Valerie Perez
2. Recognition of Reclassification of LEP students

### VII. Public Communication

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

### VIII. 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 #0708-20 MHS -- Expulsion recommendation
- D. Student #0708-21 MMS -- Expulsion recommendation
- E. Student #0708-22 MHS -- Expulsion recommendation
- F. Student #0708-23 MHS -- Expulsion recommendation

### IX. Open Session

### X. Report of Closed Session

McFarland Unified School District  
601 Second Street  
McFarland, CA 93250

Agenda -- February 12, 2008  
Page 1

(661) 792-3081  
[www.mcfarlandusd.com](http://www.mcfarlandusd.com)

## **XI. Action Items**

- A. Revision and Approval of Agenda of February 12, 2008
- B. Approval of Minutes of January 15, 2008 (Regular Meeting).
- C. Consent Agenda
  - 1. Approval of Warrant Registers
  - 2. Approval of Travel, Conference, and Related Expenses
  - 3. Approval of Adjustment to Salary – MOT Director

## **XII. 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. M/O/T Dept. – Robert Matheny
- 2. Migrant Dept. – Sandra Espinoza
- 3. MTA
- 4. CSEA

## **XIII. Action Items (cont'd)**

## **XIV. Old Business**

### **A. Approval of New/Revised Board Policies – Second Reading**

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

## **XV. New Business**

### **A. 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.

### **B. Approval of Resolution #0708-07 to Reduce or Eliminate Classified Position**

Due to a lack of work and/or lack of funds, the administration has recommended that one classified management position (Assistant Director of MOT) be eliminated by layoff. The layoff will be effective after giving the affected employee(s) the required 45-day notice. The affected employee(s) will be afforded bumping and reemployment rights according to statute. Approval is requested.

### **C. Approval for Migrant Education Close-Up Program to travel to Washington D.C. on May 4-10, 2008.**

Migrant Education Close-Up Program in requesting approval to attend an educational field trip to Washington D.C. The following students will be attending on May 4 – 20, 2008: Cinthia Nunez, Jose Carmona, Jose Arreola, Ruby Montes, Jorge Aguilar, Emmanuel Medina, Rogelio Medina, Jesenia Gonzalez, Andrea Lopez, Marco Lopez, Elias Medina, Alexandra Rodriguez, Noemi Sanchez, Angelica Sanchez and Elvia Gonzalez (Chaperone). Funded by Migrant Education. Approval is requested.

### **D. Approval of Agreement for Consultant Services from Total Renewal (Dr. Rene Quispe).**

Dr. Quispe is a well-known psychologist and educator in the Hispanic world. His academic training includes two masters and a Ph.D. in psychology with emphasis in marriage and family counseling. Presently, he is the Family Life Director at Pacific Health Education Center. During these presentations, Dr. Rene Quispe will not only give practical counsel regarding the best methods of discipline, but will also teach parents how to reach the heart of their children. They will receive tools that will empower them to be a calm, cheerful, and loving parent. Funded by Migrant Education. Approval is requested.

### **E. Approval of Agreement for Consultant Services from Parent Institute for Quality Education (PIQE)**

PIQE is working to create a community in which parents and teachers collaborate to transform each child's educational environment, both at home and at school, so that all children can achieve their greatest academic potential. PIQE's philosophy is based on the simple premise that all parents love their children and want a better future for them. Every child can learn and deserves the opportunity to attend and complete a college education, and parents and teachers must work together to ensure the educational success of every child. For children, learning is a natural process that parents and teachers can facilitate. Funded by Migrant Education. Approval is requested.

- F. Approval of Agreements between McFarland Unified School District and Extreme Learning for Migrant Education, McFarland Middle School, and McFarland High School.

Extreme Learning, Inc. was founded in 2002 by four former school principals eager to work with families and school districts to ignite students' passion for learning and boost academic achievement. Extreme Learning programs complement rather than compete with current day programs, helping students do better with their homework and in your curriculum. Their focus is on helping students learn and helping educators meet their performance goals. Extreme Learning programs work because they offer personalized educational services, academic assessment and skill building to small groups of up to 10 students, that combine specially trained tutors with best-in-class technology that gets kids excited and engaged. The following categorical funds will be utilized: Migrant Program – Migrant Education Funds, MMS – EIA/LEP (serving English Lang. Learners), MHS – CAHSEE Intensive Instruction (serving 11<sup>th</sup> & 12<sup>th</sup> graders). Approval is requested

- G. Approval of 2007-2008 Consolidated Application for Funding Categorical Aid Programs – Part II

Part II of the Consolidated Application for Funding Categorical Aid Programs for 2007-2008 primarily contains information related to entitlements, allocations, and numbers of participants in specified programs. Approval is requested.

- H. Approval of Title III Year 4 Action Plan for McFarland Unified School District

The California Department of Education recommended the State Board of Education require each local educational agency to modify its curriculum, program and method of instruction, as the preferred sanction for each of the 95 local educational agency's that have failed to meet their Annual Measurable Achievement Objective targets for four consecutive years. Approval is requested.

- I. Approval of Contract with Total School Solutions on the Early Reading First Grant Application.

District agrees to pay Consultant for services rendered pursuant to this agreement, upon receipt of grant allocation letter by the district, an amount not to exceed the indirect cost rate allowed by the grant. Approval is requested.

- J. Approval of Contract between Eminence HealthCare, Inc. and McFarland Unified School District for Professional Development Services

This contract is a follow up to the presentation made at the October board meeting. Eminence will provide substance abuse treatment and counseling services to identified students at McFarland High School. MUSD will provide a space to conduct confidential individual and group counseling to the students. Per contract language Eminence agrees to receive zero compensation from MUSD for services provided. Approval is requested.

K. Approval of Contract between Quality Education Solutions and McFarland Unified School District for Professional Development Services

As part of McFarland Unified School District's Program Improvement plan QES will work with administrators and teachers to strengthen their skills, improve their analysis of data and expand the focus on how to improve student achievement. QES will provide direct services to Browning Road (PI Year 4) and McFarland Middle School (PI Year 5). Categorical professional development funds will be utilized. Approval is requested.

L. Approval of Middle School and High School Supplemental Counseling Program

In 06/07 the State Department of Education provided new resources enabling Districts to provide counseling services to students at risk of not graduating from high schools with their class. Per Education Code section 52378 school boards must adopt a counseling program that includes a provision for counselors to identify at risk pupils and inform them of the availability of intensive instruction and services two consecutive years after completion of grade twelve or until the pupil has passed both parts of the CAHSEE. In order to meet the requirements of the program the district will post the availability of extra duty time for interested staff members, who hold a Pupil Personnel Services Credential, to meet with identified at risk middle and high school students. Recommendation for the 08/09 school year is to hire one additional counselor, utilizing the Supplemental Counseling funds, to meet the needs of at risk youth at the middle and high school. Approval is requested.

M. Approval for parent to attend Kern Autism Network's Annual "Autism Awareness Conference" February 29, 2008 in Bakersfield, California.

It is estimated that 1 in every 150 live births will result in a student with a disorder on the autism spectrum. Each February, the Kern Autism Network sponsors an Autism Awareness Conference geared toward parents, teachers, school administrators, psychologists, health care providers and mental health workers. This year's conference will keynote Drs. Lynn and Robert Koegel, both international authorities in the field of autism. An excellent partnership occurs when both parents and educators are as knowledgeable as possible about disorders and disabilities. We wish to send a district parent of a student with autism, our Community Advisory Committee representative and the Special Education Director to this workshop. The cost is \$85.00 per registrant. Approval is requested.

N. Approval of 2008 McFarland High School WASC Self Study Report

A finalized comprehensive self-study report is provided for your review. Approval of this document from the board is a necessary part of the WASC accreditation process. This document represents hours of work and is an ongoing school improvement process that assists a school in an in-depth look at what currently exists and what needs to be improved in relation to student learning and the school's program. The accreditation process is an ongoing perpetual cycle of assessment, planning, implementing, monitoring, and reassessment. The Accrediting Commission for Schools, Western Association of Schools and Colleges (WASC) grants accreditation to a school based upon the following:

The presumption that the primary goals of accreditation are; certification to the public that the school is a trustworthy institution of learning, the improvement of the school's programs and operations to support student learning. The school's self-study and the visiting committee's report provides compelling evidence that; the school is substantially accomplishing its stated purposes and functions identified as appropriate for an institution of its type, and the school is meeting an acceptable level of quality in accordance with the WASC criteria adopted by the Accrediting Commission. Approval is requested.

- O. Approval of McFarland High School Discretionary Block Grant and Kern Avenue Discretionary Block Grant

Discretionary Block Grant Funds are one time categorical monies that may be expended for any educational purposes designed to close the achievement gap. Plans must be approved by both Schools Boards and School Site Councils. Approval is requested.

- P. Approval of request for Academic Award Field Trip to Magic Mountain for 250 students on March 26, 2008.

Motivating students to do their best on the California Standards Test (CST) is extremely important. Most educators and administrators believe that on standardized tests like the CST the majority of students are not motivated to do their best. There is nothing in it for them. There is no reason for students to give 100% effort. There is no penalty to them if they do poorly. Even our top students often "blow off" this test. Because our District lives and dies by these test scores, it is imperative that we give our students one or more incentives to do their best on this test. In the past students at MHS have been promised rewards for doing well on the CST and only to find that these promises were not kept. We propose to reward student who jumped to a higher performance band on the 07 CST by taking them to Magic Mountain and to tell students that any student who jumps to a higher performance band on the 08 CST will be awarded the same privilege next year. Our staff feels very strongly that this incentive will have significant positive impact on our CST scores. Approval is requested.

- Q. Approval of Resolution #0708-09, Requesting the Board of Supervisors of Kern County to Issue and Sell General Obligation Bonds of McFarland Unified School District, (Kern County, California) Election of 2004, Series 2008C.

Request approval of Resolution #0708-09, per bond counsel. This resolution allows us to issue bonds.

- R. Approval of Resolution #0708-10, Providing for the issuance and sale of 2008 Refunding General Obligation Bonds of the District in the aggregate principal amount of not to exceed \$3,000,000 to refund the District's 1998 General Obligation refunding and approving related documents and actions.

Request approval of Resolution #0708-10, per bond counsel. This resolution allows us to refinance existing bonds and realize a financial savings.

S. **Approval of Joint Use Agreement with McFarland Recreation and Parks District**

The purpose of this agreement is to provide for cooperative use of School District and Recreation District fields and facilities at no cost other than the direct utilities and maintenance/custodial costs. Approval is requested.

T. **Approval of Resolution #0708-08, Protect our Students Protect Prop. 98**

The state budget proposed by the Governor is a giant step backward for our students that would create chaos in our public schools with cuts of historic proportion that would derail the progress and threaten the education of millions of California students and school district funds will be cut. Our students didn't create this budget crisis and their education shouldn't be ransomed to solve it with proposals that don't just mortgage their academic futures, but amount to a foreclosure of hope for generations of families. Therefore the McFarland Unified School District Board calls on the governor and the legislature to put our students first, reject across-the-board cuts that would damage our public schools and protect the voter-approved, minimum school funding law, Proposition 98. Approval is requested.

**XVI. Advance Planning**

A. **Future Meeting Dates**

1. **Regular Board Meeting – March 11, 2008 at 5:00 p.m.**

**XVII. Adjournment**