

McFARLAND UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT
BOARD MEETING MINUTES
September 9, 2008

The Regular Meeting of the McFarland Unified School District Board of Trustees was held on Tuesday, September 9, 2008, at the McFarland High School Multipurpose Room. The meeting was called to order by Board President at 5:05 p.m.

ROLL CALL Ramon Melendez, President
Marin Ortega Jr., Vice President
David Arguello, Clerk
Rey DeLeon, Member

Absent Jim Kasiner, Member

Staff Present: Gabriel McCurtis Candi Clark Irene Melendez
Cynthia Virrey Kim McManaman Ty Bryson
Martin Schmidt David Lopez Albert Melendez
Rick Sparks Lori Schultz Josie Ortega
Louie Gomez Sandy Hannah Mary Williams Smith
Roberta Burgh Mike Elliott Maggie Gore
Maria Salgado Shirley Ritchey Amador Ayon
Melissa Melendez Susana Bustillo Ernesto Diaz
Angelica Gonzalez
Others

Community Present: Nitasha Sawhney John Barnard Carmen Rico
Robert Thornton Jeff Foy
Others

Roll Call and Establishment of Quorum

Board President asked Irene Melendez if Mr. Kasiner had received his packet. She responded that she had sent him his agenda and that she had left messages at both the McFarland address as well as the Oklahoma address but had received no response from him. Board member DeLeon stated that he had received a call from Mr. Kasiner and that he was in Oklahoma but would be present at the next meeting. Board President asked Irene if the packet could be sent to him. She stated that she would send it by overnight mail to Oklahoma.

Pledge of Allegiance

Invocation – Louie Gomez

Public Communication

Rick Sparks – He wanted to speak to the board about the Golden Handshake and he knew they would be discussing labor issues in closed session. He voiced his concerns regarding a memo that he presented to the district two weeks ago and was still waiting for a response on whether the Golden Handshake would happen or not. He stated that they had never really had any kind of communication as to whether the district was

going to do it or not. He added that they would like a response so that they may make a choice one way or another to move forward. He stated he had given the board members a copy of what the district had received and added that he had not heard anything from the district about the Golden Handshake and that it was still definitely a big concern. He stated that he has expressed that they are willing to negotiate if it's going to cause these kinds of problems in the future and maybe they need to take a look at another way. He expressed concern for employees not receiving the Golden Handshake.

Closed Session

The board adjourned to Closed Session at 5:11 p.m.

Open Session

The board re-convened to Open Session at 7:11 p.m.

Report of Closed Session

A. – E. No Action taken

F. Student #0708-07 – Readmittance - Motion made by Rey DeLeon, seconded by Marin Ortega Jr. to Re-admit student #0708-07 as recommended. Motion carried by a 4-0 vote.

G. Student #0708-13 – Readmittance – Motion made by Rey DeLeon, seconded by David Arguello to Re-Admit Student #0708-13 as recommended. Motion carried by a 4-0 vote.

H. Student #0708-15 – Readmittance – Motion made by David Arguello, seconded by Rey DeLeon to Re-Admit student #0708-15 as recommended. Motion carried by a 4-0 vote.

Action Items

A. Revision and Agenda Approval of Agenda of September 9, 2008.

Motion made by Rey DeLeon, seconded by Marin Ortega Jr., to approve the Agenda of September 9, 2008. Motion carried by a 4-0 vote.

B. Approval of Minutes of August 12, 2008 (Regular Meeting).

Motion made by David Arguello, seconded by Rey DeLeon to approve the minutes as presented. Motion carried by a 4-0 vote.

C. Consent Agenda

1. Approval of Warrant Registers
2. Approval of Interdistrict Agreements for the 2008-2009 school year
3. Approval to Contract with Interquest Canines of Central Valley

Motion made by Rey DeLeon, seconded by David Arguello to approve Consent Agenda items 1-3 as presented. Motion carried by a 4-0 vote.

Information and Proposals

Community Input

None

Superintendent's Report

Supt. McCurtis greeted the board president and board members. He stated that starting this new school season he will make it a priority to be in the classrooms at least forty minutes for all the new teachers. He takes daily a different school. He'll start off at the middle school; go to both the elementary schools and then the high school. He is in the classroom and he's able to see there is some great teaching going on and he is pleased to say that. He continued, "We will have a presentation from Mrs. McManaman today. We got our scores back from the State and you will see when we make the presentation that the district made tremendous growth in our API scores." "He also wanted to say Mrs. Roberta Burgh and the middle school, the middle school for the last five years have shown no growth in terms of their AYP & API and this year they have shown tremendous growth and they made the most gains in the district and they made API and also in many areas they made a certain thing called Safe Harbor and that will be explained to you when Mrs. McManaman makes her report and I am very pleased to say that. I am also pleased to say the high school made some tremendous gains, the high school and the continuation high school. So, district-wide we see improvement going on and I'm very pleased to say that." He went on to say that he had spent some time with the athletic dept. He went out and watched the football team and this past Friday they won their game and it was a great win for them. They have about eighty people on JV and Varsity this year and that's good for McFarland. He also attended a VB practice and it looked like they have a good group of people working. So it looks like we're starting off this year academically, all the things that we're doing to make gains in the district is positive. We see a football team that looks like it's going to have a good season and a VB team and other teams and that's positive.

Attendance Report – He gave the totals for the district as 3097 excluding Adult Ed. One month ago there were 3157 that would have been the end of the last school year. One year ago there were 3230. The numbers do change significantly. We still have students that are enrolling so give us a few more weeks and you'll find that the numbers are back up. He stated he had an opportunity to sit down and have a significant discussion with the principals. He added, "At the last board retreat we had we took the district priorities and the board did include accountability and we've been talking about accountability and what it looks like, holding people accountable for fidelity to the curriculum and all the things that it takes to make sure that they're doing the right job so our students are learning. So that was put out as the Board directed me to. We had those conversations with the principals, they will have those conversations with their staff and I really believe by the end of this year the growth that you've seen in AYP & API will go even further and upward. That is my report."

Board Member Reports

David Arguello – None

Rey DeLeon – None

Marin Ortega Jr. – None

Ramon Melendez – He stated, "It's good to hear when the Superintendent has good positive things to say. I know he can't mention everyone by name but I'm sure everyone out there is trying to do the best that they can. Keep it going throughout the year."

Reports

1. AYP & API – Kim McManaman stated, “We did receive the scores last week and as Director of Categorical Programs & Testing I asked Sandra Espinoza to put together some information for you. Sandra Espinoza continued, “Good evening Superintendent and Board President and Board members. As you heard there was growth throughout the school sites and we’re pretty happy about that.” She began her powerpoint presentation regarding the API & AYP scores for 2007-2008. Browning Road’s target growth needed was 5 points and they only made 1 point of growth so they did not make API and they also did not meet AYP for this year. Kern Avenues’ target growth needed was 5 points and they made 4 points of growth so they did not make API, but they will be looking over the scores and the numbers may change. They also did not meet AYP for this year. She stated she was happy to announce that McFarland Middle School did make their API target. They had a growth of 18 points and their target was 9 points and so they did make API.

Supt. McCurtis acknowledged Mrs. Burgh and the McFarland Middle School for their accomplishment. Mrs. Burgh acknowledged her staff and stated that they did an awesome job and worked really hard. Supt. McCurtis added that he had told the board last year that Mrs. Burgh is an instructional leader and this is the result of strong instructional leadership. Also in many areas, there’s a thing called Safe Harbor, which means that although they didn’t make the amount of points, that there was such significant growth that that area is recognized. He added that they made Safe Harbor in many areas and for the middle school that made +18 points growth and only needed to make 9, they doubled it. He added, “I really believe they have the potential to make API and AYP this year. I think they are going to do it.”

Sandra Espinoza continued with the fact that they did not make AYP but in certain areas they made Safe Harbor because there was significant growth in that group and were able to make it based on the criteria. There are other sub-groups that didn’t make it by one student and they will be re-analyzing the data and looking to see if there are places that may need to be looked at and updated. They have until December to make corrections on the data. McFarland High School made tremendous growth in API. They made 23 points and they needed 9 points, but they didn’t make API because all the sub-groups didn’t make the growth.

Supt. McCurtis added that one of the things happening is, they talked about accountability from the board, accountability started before they gave him the directive. He is working with the Principals, they spoke about working bell to bell, fidelity to the curriculum, ongoing and frequent monitoring of the classrooms making sure there’s a positive learning environment in the classrooms. When he goes to each school, and as he’s gone to each classroom he’s seen the things that are going on. You can go and see the kids learning, see the kids in their uniforms, see the teachers teaching. He added, “You can see why we’re moving upward and I believe with all my heart that by the time, give it about two years, change doesn’t happen overnight, change takes place between 3-5 years. We’re moving in the right direction and I believe all our schools will have made API & AYP growth within the next two years.

Sandra Espinoza continued with the presentation. She added that San Joaquin High School made a growth of +45 points.

Supt. McCurtis acknowledged the school on the great growth made in API.

Sandra continued that they didn’t make AYP and they are not in Program Improvement Status because they are not a Title I School. She thanked Mr. Ruiz and Mr. Lopez for putting together the presentation for her. She also thanked the school sites for working hard and the growth made.

2. MTA – Rick Sparks – None

3. CSEA – None

Presentations

1. MHS Cross Country Trip – Amador Ayon gave a brief overview of the teams planned trip. He stated that seven boys would be making the trip along with two coaches. They are ranked first in State. He stated he was here to ask regarding the possibility of using a district vehicle to drive the team to Portland due to the fact that the ticket prices for airfare had gone up immensely it would be more feasible and less expensive to drive the team to Portland. The trip scheduled for October 11, 2008 had already been approved at a previous board meeting. He was here to ask the board if it would be possible to use a district vehicle.

The Board asked the Supt. to could look into it and check on the liability for the district and if a vehicle would be available for them to use.

2. Construction Update – Taylor Teter Partners & S.C. Anderson, Inc. gave a brief presentation regarding the Two Story High School Classroom Project. In it they included information: Program Overview, Drawing Overview, Project Schedule and Project Budget. The Program Overview was a space description for: Science Labs, Science Storage, Gen. Classroom, Computer/Video Lab, Restrooms, Faculty Restrooms, Janitor/Storage, Electrical/IDF and Circulation/Walls for a square foot total of 12,413ft. The drawing overview included site plans for the building as well as first floor plans and second floor plans. The Project Schedule included time frames for Planning/documents, DSA Approval and Bidding/Construction with the total of 18 months for Site Construction and 11 months for Modular Construction. The start dates of Oct. 2008 for Site Construction and Modular Construction. Opening dates are scheduled for March 2010 for Site and Sept. 2009 for Modular. Project Budget listed the amounts of State and Local Funding at \$4,600,000 from 189 Eligibility Grants and \$3,500,000 from Construction Budget. Site Construction: \$300,000 for Site Cost, \$3,200,000 for Building Cost for a total cost of \$3,500,000. Modular Construction: \$300,000 for Site Cost, \$2,100,000 for Building Cost for a total cost of \$3,400,000. They also stated that the Preliminary information is based on potential state funding and conceptual cost estimates. Does not account for potential utility site upgrades.

Action Items (cont'd)

Old Business

Approval of New/Revised Board Policies – BP 3513.1 & AR 3513.1 – Second Reading.

Motion made by Rey DeLeon, seconded by David Arguello to approve the Second Reading of board policies BP 3513.1 & AR 3513.1. Motion carried by a 4-0 vote.

New Business

A. Approval of Superintendent's Contract

Tabled

B. Personnel Register

Motion made by Rey DeLeon, seconded by David Arguello to approve the Personnel Register as presented. Motion carried by a 4-0 vote.

- C. Approval of Provisional Intern Permit for Maria Rodelo, Mathematics Teacher at McFarland High School

Motion made by David Arguello, seconded by Marin Ortega Jr. for approval of Provisional Intern Permit for Maria Rodelo, Mathematics Teacher at McFarland High School. Motion carried by a 4-0 vote.

- D. Approval of Provisional Intern Permit for Nicholas Ray, Special Education Teacher at McFarland Middle School

Motion made by David Arguello, seconded by Rey DeLeon for approval of Provisional Intern Permit for Nicholas Ray. Motion carried by a 4-0 vote.

- E. Approval of New/Revised Board Policy – BP 9270 – Conflict of Interest

Motion made by Rey DeLeon, seconded by David Arguello to approve the First Reading of Board Policy BP 9270. Motion carried by a 4-0 vote.

- F. Approval of Lease-Leaseback Provider for the 2-Story Addition at McFarland High School

Motion made by David Arguello, seconded by Rey DeLeon for approval of Lease-Leaseback Provider for the 2-Story Addition at McFarland High School. Motion carried by a 4-0 vote.

- G. Approval of the Pre-Construction Services Agreement with S.C. Anderson, Inc. Lease-Leaseback Provider, for the 2-Story Addition at McFarland High School

Motion made by Rey DeLeon, seconded by David Arguello for approval of the Pre-Construction Services Agreement with S. C. Anderson, Inc. Lease-Leaseback Provider, for the 2-Story Addition at McFarland High School. Motion carried by a 4-0 vote.

- H. Approval of a Donation of \$1,285.59 from a Parent Organization to the McFarland High School Band Program

Motion made by Rey DeLeon, seconded by David Arguello to approve the donation of \$1,285.59 from a Parent Organization to the McFarland High School Band. Motion carried by a 4-0 vote.

- I. Approval of No Child Left Behind – Program Improvement LEA Plan Addendum

Motion made by David Arguello, seconded by Rey DeLeon for approval of No Child Left Behind – Program Improvement LEA Plan Addendum. Motion carried by a 4-0 vote.

- J. Approval of Unaudited Actuals for 2007-2008 School Year

Motion made by Rey DeLeon, seconded by David Arguello to approve the Unaudited Actuals for 2007-2008 school year. Motion carried by a 4-0 vote.

K. Approval to Utilize SISC to Offer Flex Plans to all Staff – Resolution #0708-03

Motion made by Marin Ortega Jr, seconded by David Arguello for approval to Utilize SISC to offer Flex Plans to all Staff – Resolution #0708-03. Roll Call vote: David Arguello – Aye, Rey DeLeon – Aye, Ramon Melendez – Aye, Marin Ortega Jr. - Aye. Motion carried by a 4-0 roll call vote.

L. Approval to Authorize the CBO Transfer up to \$200,000 to Fund 20.

Motion made by David Arguello, seconded by Rey DeLeon, to approve to Authorize the CBO Transfer up to \$200,000 to Fund 20. Motion carried by a 4-0 vote.

M. Approval of Enrollment Projection Contract

Motion made by Marin Ortega Jr, seconded by David Arguello to approve the Enrollment Projection Contract. Motion carried by a 4-0 vote.

N. Approval to Authorize the CBO Transfer \$300,000 to Fund 17.

Motion made by Rey DeLeon, seconded by David Arguello to approve to Authorize the CBO Transfer \$300,000 to Fund 17. Motion carried by a 4-0 vote.

Advance Planning

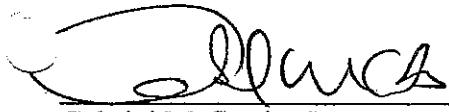
Motion made by Rey DeLeon , seconded by David Arguello to approve the future meeting date of October 14, 2008 Regular Meeting at 5:00 p.m. at the MHS Multipurpose Room. Motion carried by a 4-0 vote.

Adjournment

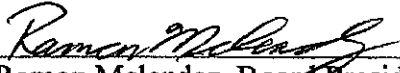
Motion made by David Arguello, seconded by Rey DeLeon to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried by a 4-0 vote.

Board President adjourned the meeting at 8:38 p.m.

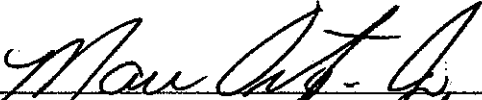
Respectfully Submitted:



Gabriel McCurtis, Secretary to the Board



Ramon Melendez, Board President



Marin Ortega Jr., Vice President



David Arguello, Clerk



Rey DeLeon, Member

ABSENT

Jim Kasiner, Member