

**McFARLAND UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT**

**BOARD MEETING MINUTES**

**February 12, 2008**

The Regular Meeting of the McFarland Unified School District Board of Trustees was held on Tuesday, February 12, 2008, at the McFarland High School Multi-Purpose Room. The meeting was called to order by Board President at 5:05 p.m.

**ROLL CALL**

Ramon Melendez, President  
David Arguello, Clerk  
Rey DeLeon, Member  
Jim Kasiner, Member

Absent: Marin Ortega Jr., Vice President

Student board members: Israel Guerrero

Absent: Ivan Marquez

**Staff Present:**

Gabriel McCurtis	Irene Melendez	Cynthia Virrey
Smith Efada	Roberta Burgh	Lori Schultz
Candi Clark	Chris Breyer	Margie Perez
Mario Torres	Mary Williams Smith	Teresa Arvizu
Javier Ruiz	Sandra Espinoza	Martin Schmidt
Yolanda Gonzalez	Ty Bryson	Mike Elliott
Melissa Melendez	Maria Salgado	Robert Matheny
Valerie Perez	Valerie Garcia	Michelle Rubio
Rick Sparks	Kim McManaman	
Others		

**Community Present:**

Nitasha Sawhney  
Jim Bartleson  
Parents and students  
Gary Farrell

**Roll Call and Establishment of Quorum**

**Pledge of Allegiance**

**Invocation – Chris Breyer**

**Presentations**

1. Reading First – Valerie Garcia & Valerie Perez

Valerie Perez and Valerie Garcia gave a power point presentation regarding the district's Reading First Program. They stated the Major Components: Reading First is established under the Federal No Child Left Behind Act, Improve K-3 classroom instruction in reading so that by the end of third grade, all students are grade level proficient readers in English, and The California Reading First Plan calls for the use of one of two current State adopted, scientific research and standards-based English reading/language arts instructional programs – MUSD uses SRA Open Court.

## 2. Recognition of Reclassification of LEP Students - Teresa Arvizu

Teresa Arvizu gave a brief summary of the Reclassification process. She stated that school districts are to develop student reclassification policy and procedures based on the four criteria set forth in the reclassification guidelines approved by the State Board of Education (Ed. Code Section 313(d)). The four criteria can be used by school districts/schools when evaluating a student's readiness for reclassification from English learner (EL) to fluent English Proficient (RFEP). The criteria are: Assessment of English Proficiency, Comparison of Performance in Basic Skills, Teacher Evaluation of Student Academic Performance, Parent or Guardian Opinion and Consultation and the last step is Reclassification. She then proceeded to present the Certificates of Reclassification to the students present. The Board Members, staff and community applauded the students and as well as their parents for their great accomplishment. Fifty - seven students were awarded certificates.

### **Public Communication**

None

### **Closed Session**

The board adjourned to Closed Session at 5:33 p.m.

### **Open Session**

The board re-convened to Open Session at 7:02 p.m.

### **Report of Closed Session**

- A. No Action
- B. No Action
- C. Student #0708-20 MHS - Motion made by Rey DeLeon, seconded by Jim Kasiner for Suspended Expulsion for the remainder of the 2007-2008 school year with stipulations. Motion carried by a 4-0 vote.
- D. Student #0708-21 MMS - Motion made by Rey DeLeon, seconded by Jim Kasiner for student to return to school with stipulations for the remainder of the 2007-2008 school year. Motion carried by a 4-0 vote.
- E. Student #0708-22 MHS - Pulled
- F. Student # 0708-23 MHS - No Action taken, student will return to school.

### **Action Items**

- A. Revision and Agenda Approval of Agenda of February 12, 2008

Motion made by Rey DeLeon, seconded by David Arguello, to approve the Agenda of February 12, 2008. Motion carried by a 4-0 vote.

**B. Approval of Minutes of January 15, 2008 (Regular Meeting).**

Motion made by Rey DeLeon, seconded by David Arguello, to approve the minutes of January 15, 2008. Motion carried by a 4-0 vote.

**C. Consent Agenda**

1. Approval of Warrant Registers
2. Approval of Travel, Conference and Related Expenses
3. Approval of Adjustment to Salary – MOT Director

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

**Information and Proposals**

**Community Input**

Melissa Melendez Martinez on behalf of the Student Support Services Dept. as the Community Advisory Committee Representative of the district addressed the board. She stated, "We invite you to our Special Education Self Review Meeting. This is a meeting for parents and guardians of Special Education students. This will be a chance for them to tell us about the special education services their child has had. We would like to hear about what they think works and what areas could be made better. The parent or guardian meeting is an important part of the California Dept. of Education's Special Education Self Review process for school districts. It is one way that school districts can examine their compliance with the law as stated in the Individuals with Disabilities Ed. Act (IDEA). This meeting is designed to gain as much information as possible from parents and guardians about key areas in the district's implementation of IDEA. The meeting will be held at the McFarland High School Multipurpose Room on Thursday, February 21, 2008, at 5 – 7:30 p.m. Dinner will be served to all who RSVP and there will be a raffle for those completing the survey. Also provided will be a supervised movie night for the children. She distributed an invitation to each of the board members and Supt. and asked if there were any questions and if they planned to attend the Self Review they could call Jackie Hernandez at the Student Support Services office. She thanked the board for their time.

**Superintendent's Report:**

Superintendent McCurtis gave the attendance report.

1. Attendance - Superintendent Gabriel McCurtis gave the attendance report in which he stated that the monthly total was 3145 students enrolled. One month ago there were 3198 and one year ago there were 3071 students. He is monitoring the district reports and it looks like the student body is going up and the district is not declining enrollment. That is a good thing. He continued that he had attended the Superintendent's Symposium and was able to meet with other superintendents. He stated, "We met with three members of the State Board of Education who is going to make recommendations on sanctions to school districts and we were able to address some of the positive things that we're able to address. Some of the positive things that we're doing in our district. One of the things I've found and I've learned is our Governor and one of the things that's strong on his agenda is to make sure students are achieving and its going down from him to the State Supt. coming through me. And so when you see some of the recommendations, especially the outside entities that we're having come in and we're going to be presenting tonight for you to move on, I highly recommend

that we move on them. One of the things they're saying and that's what the various districts can't understand, here's what we're doing so that we're moving forward. Because one of the sanctions that can happen if they see that we're not moving forward, they'll make some unilateral decisions and they'll give us directives in terms of what we should be doing. So, I think we're moving in the right direction and some of the organizations that we continually want to bring in, my recommendation is we continue to do that. I believe its March, sometime in Mid-March we will know the sanctions that have come down and what the sanctions will be for our school district." Supt. McCurtis thanked the Board President and the Board.

### **Board Member & Student Board Member Reports**

Israel Guerrero gave the report for McFarland High School. He reported on weekly activities for FFA for next week. He stated that CSF and ASB students will be participating in the Read Across America and read to the students at Browning Road School on February 29<sup>th</sup> for Dr. Seuss Birthday. He also added that on Wednesday, McFarland High School will have twenty-two Chinese foreign exchange students visiting. They will give them a small tour of the high school. The AP Literature Class will be going to Paris and Rome on March 13<sup>th</sup>. Regarding sports, Baseball started last week and the first game is in two weeks, Wrestling is going on to Divisionals, Soccer will have finals in Farmersville and they are seeded in 5<sup>th</sup> place. He will report back on their trip at the next board meeting.

Jim Kasiner – None

Rey DeLeon – None

David Arguello – None

Ramon Melendez – He thanked everyone that was present for attending the meeting and also thanked Teresa Arvizu and the parents for the work with the students and stated that it is great that they are improving.

### **Reports**

1. MOT Dept. – Robert Matheny gave a brief power point presentation regarding the MOT Dept. He listed the services that the dept. needs to provide as: Upkeep of all facilities, Provide a service that is an asset to the district, Insure safety at all sites, Communicate with administrators, Supt. and school board. Regarding Transportation the needs are: Home to school safety, Clean & safe vehicles & to insure that all students' needs are being met and are transported in a timely manner to insure no interruptions to their education will exist. In his Overview he listed these items: Needs of Dept.- Maintenance Personnel, Needs of Personnel – Training, Facilities – Aggressive action, Budget – Work with CBO to insure that all money is spent to the benefit of the district and community, Change – transfer personnel to position that will benefit the school site and the district & Insure that all school board members and Supt. goals are met with prompt action. He added that windows had been replaced at Kern Avenue School and also regarding an old Relocatable building at Browning Road that will be refurbished. The library has been put in place at Browning Road.

2. Migrant Dept. – Sandra Espinoza gave a power point presentation in which she noted all the different aspects of the Migrant Education Program. The mission statement is: "The mission of the Migrant Education Program Region V is to provide leadership staff development and other services that empower the school community to provide appropriate supplemental educational opportunities to ensure that migrant students succeed in the basic curriculum". The goal of Migrant Education is to identify and recruit eligible migrant students in order to help them meet California and local standards for student achievement through educational instruction and health services, and For Migrant students to graduate

with a high school diploma. They service children: prek (0-5 yrs – 109 students, Browning Road School – 148 students, Kern Avenue School – 175 students, Middle School – 139 students, McFarland High School – 176 and OSY – 26 students. She stated the services available to Migrant families include: Extended Day Classes, PASS Program, Close Up Program, MEES Classes, Saturday School, Work Study Program, Summer Program which includes: Summer School, Summer Outreach and PASS Program. The offer Support Services: Medical/Dental Services & Social Services, Parent Education: Local and Regional Classes, Family Literacy: MEES and Academics/Leadership. Their parent advisory committee includes: Rogelia Medina – President, Imelda Juarez – Vice President, Leticia Castan – Secretary – Alma Medina – Treasurer and Maria Lopez – Sergeant at Arms. The Pac committee's goals are to actively participate in establishing goals, objectives and priorities of the Migrant Education Program for the McFarland Unified School District, Be actively involved in the planning and negotiation of program applications and Service Agreement and they meet 6 times during the school year. She stated that some of the parental involvement included: Parenting skills with Rocio Magallanez, Dr. Quispe, and Guest speakers. Also, PIQE Classes, Parenting Classes (FRC), Family project (Region), Leadership Skills like Proyecto PADRE (Region) and Family Literacy with Latino Family Project and Family Storyteller (Region). Staff Development includes Project Write, Thinking Maps, Lit ART, Excel Math, Summer Outreach Training, MEES/MELA Meetings @ County Office and Identification and Recruitment Conference (Sacramento). Parents also attend PAC Meetings, RAC Meetings, Local CAFE Conference (Fresno), Regional Parent Conference, MEES Conference and the State Parent Conference. She thanked the board for their support.

3. MTA – None

4. CSEA – None

### **Old Business**

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

Motion made by Rey DeLeon, seconded by David Arguello to approve the Second Reading of the new/revised board policies. Motion carried by a 4-0 vote.

### **New Business**

A. Personnel Register

Item 1. Employment B. #3 was pulled from the Personnel Register

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

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

Motion made by Rey DeLeon, seconded by David Arguello to approve Resolution #0708-07 to Reduce or Eliminate Classified Position. Roll Call Vote: Jim Kasiner – Aye, Rey DeLeon – Aye, David Arguello – Aye, Ramon Melendez – Aye. Motion carried a 4-0 vote.

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

Motion made by David Arguello, seconded by Jim Kasiner, to approve the Migrant Education Close-Up Program to travel to Washington D.C. on May 4-10, 2008. Motion carried by a 4-0 vote.

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

Motion made by David Arguello, seconded by Rey DeLeon, to approve the Agreement for Consultant Services from Total Renewal (Dr. Rene Quispe). Motion carried by a 4-0 vote.

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

Motion made by David Arguello, seconded by Jim Kasiner to approve the Agreement for Consultant Services from parent Institute for Quality Education (PIQE). Motion carried by a 4-0 vote.

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

Motion made by Rey DeLeon, seconded by David Arguello to approve the Agreements between McFarland Unified School District and Extreme Learning for Migrant Education, McFarland Middle School and McFarland High School. Motion carried by a 4-0 vote.

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

Motion made by Jim Kasiner, seconded by David Arguello to approve the 2007-2008 Consolidated Application for Funding Categorical Aid Programs – Part II. Motion carried by a 4-0 vote.

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

Motion made by David Arguello, seconded by Rey DeLeon to approve the Title III Year 4 Action Plan for McFarland Unified School District. Motion carried by a 4-0 vote.

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

Motion made by David Arguello, seconded by Ramon Melendez to approve Contract with Total School Solutions on the Early Reading First Grant Application. Motion was defeated by a 2 – 2 vote.

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

Motion made by Rey DeLeon, seconded by Jim Kasiner to approve the Contract between Eminence Health Care, Inc. and McFarland Unified School District. Motion carried by a 4-0 vote.

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

Motion made by David Arguello, seconded by Rey DeLeon to approve the Contract between Quality Education Solutions and McFarland Unified School District. Motion carried by a 4-0 vote.

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

Motion made by David Arguello, seconded by Rey DeLeon to approve the Middle School and High School Supplemental Counseling Program. Motion carried by a 4-0 vote.

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

Motion made by Rey DeLeon, seconded by Jim Kasiner to approve for parent to attend Kern Autism Network's Autism Awareness Conference, February 29, 2008, in Bakersfield, California. Motion carried by a 4-0 vote.

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

Motion made by David Arguello, seconded by Jim Kasiner to approve the 2008 McFarland High School WASC Self Study Report. Motion carried by a 4-0 vote.

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

Motion made by David Arguello, seconded by Rey DeLeon to approve the MHS Discretionary Block Grant and the KA Discretionary Block Grant. Motion carried by a 4-0 vote.

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

Motion made by David Arguello, seconded by Jim Kasiner to approve the request for Academic Award Field Trip to Magic Mountain for 250 students on March 26, 2008. Motion carried by a 4-0 vote.

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.

Motion made by Jim Kasiner, seconded by Rey DeLeon to table Resolution #0708-09. Roll Call vote: Jim Kasiner - Aye, Rey DeLeon - Aye, David Arguello - Aye, Ramon Melendez - Aye. Motion to table Resolution #0708-09 carried by a 4-0 vote.

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.

Motion made by Rey DeLeon, seconded by Jim Kasiner to table Resolution #0708-10. Roll Call vote: Jim Kasiner - Aye, Rey DeLeon - Aye, David Arguello - Aye, Ramon Melendez - Aye. Motion to table Resolution #0708-10 carried by a 4-0 vote.

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

Motion made by Rey DeLeon, seconded by Jim Kasiner to approve the Joint Use Agreement with McFarland Recreation and Parks District. Motion carried by a 4-0 vote.

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

Motion made by Jim Kasiner, seconded by David Arguello to approve Resolution #0708-08, Protect our Students Protect Prop. 98. Roll Call vote: Jim Kasiner – Aye, Rey DeLeon – Aye, David Arguello – Aye, Ramon Melendez – Aye. Motion carried by a 4-0 vote.

**Advance Planning**

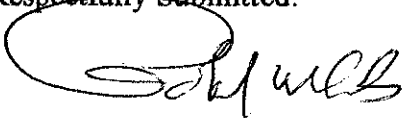
Motion made by David Arguello, seconded by Rey DeLeon to approve the next regular meeting date of March 11, 2008 at 5:00 p.m. at the McFarland High School Multipurpose Room. Motion carried by a 4-0 vote.

**Adjournment**

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

Board President adjourned the meeting at 8:50 p.m.

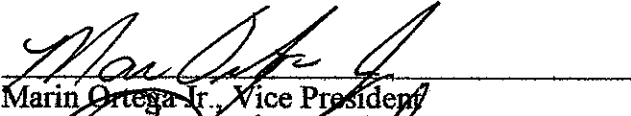
Respectfully Submitted:



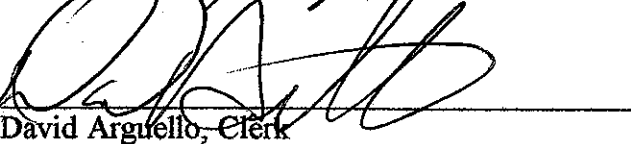
Gabriel McCurtis, Secretary to the Board



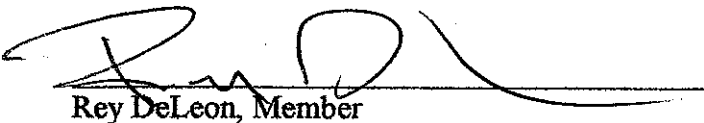
Ramon Melendez, Board President



Marin Ortega Jr., Vice President



David Arguello, Clerk



Rey DeLeon, Member

Absent

Jim Kasiner, Member