

McFARLAND UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT
BOARD MEETING MINUTES
February 10, 2009

The Regular Meeting of the McFarland Unified School District Board of Trustees was held on Tuesday, February 10, 2009, at the McFarland High School Multi-Purpose Room. The meeting was called to order by Board President at 4:04 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Marin Ortega Jr., President
David Arguello, Vice President
Kaye Breyer, Clerk
Rey DeLeon, Member
Marlin Isaacs, Member

Student board member: Jose Jaime

Absent: Ezenia Garza – Student

Staff Present:

Gabriel McCurtis
Smith Efada
Candi Clark
Cynthia Virrey
Albert Melendez
Rick Sparks
Roberta Burgh
Yolanda Gonzalez
Jackie Hernandez
Melissa Melendez
Numerous Others

Irene Melendez
Kim McManaman
David Lopez
Teresa Arvizu
Ty Bryson
Sandra Espinoza
Claudia Rodriguez
Valerie Garcia
Delia Garza
Ernie Diaz

Maggie Gore
Martin Schmidt
Margie Perez
Raul Murrieta
Louie Gomez
Lori Schultz
Shirley Ritchey
Julie Machado
Courtney Lancaster

Community Present:

John Bernard
Others

Nitasha Sawhney

Mark Thompson

Roll Call and Establishment of Quorum

Pledge of Allegiance

Invocation – Manuel Cantu

Public Communication

Board President asked if there were any public requests to comment regarding the closed session agenda items. There were none.

Closed Session

The board adjourned to Closed Session at 4:06 p.m.

Open Session

The board re-convened to Open Session at 6:05 p.m.

Report of Closed Session

- A. No Action
- B. No Action
- C. No Action
- D. Student Expulsion/Readmittance
 - 1. Student #0809-19 MHS – Motion made by Rey DeLeon, seconded by David Arguello for Expulsion of student #0809-20. Motion carried by a 5-0 vote.
 - 2. Student #0809-20 MHS – Motion made by Marlin Isaacs, seconded by David Arguello to Suspend expulsion with stipulations for student #0809-20. Motion carried by a 5-0 vote.
 - 3. Student #0809-21 MHS – Motion made by Marlin Isaacs, seconded by David Arguello to Suspend expulsion with stipulations for student #0809-21. Motion carried by a 5-0 vote.
 - 4. Student #0809-22 MHS – Motion made by Rey DeLeon, seconded by Kaye Breyer to Suspend expulsion with stipulations for student #0809-22. Motion carried by a 5-0 vote.

Action Items

- A. Revision and Agenda Approval of Agenda of February 10, 2009.

Motion made by David Arguello, seconded by Rey DeLeon, to approve the Agenda of December 18, 2008. Motion carried by a 5-0 vote.

- B. Approval of Minutes of January 13, 2009 (Regular Meeting) & January 22, 2009 (Special Meeting).

Motion made by David Arguello, seconded by Rey DeLeon, to approve the minutes of January 13, 2009, (Regular Meeting) and January 22, 2009 (Special Meeting). Motion carried by a 5 - 0 vote.

- C. Consent Agenda

- 1. Approval of Warrant Registers
- 2. Approval of Interdistrict Agreements
- 3. Consolidated Application Part II – 2008-2009
- 4. LEA Plan Addendum Revision
- 5. Child Development Continued Application Funding – 2009-2010
- 6. Approval of Kern County Substance Abuse Prevention Education
- 7. Approval of MHS Wrestling Team Overnight Trip to Mendota, CA on Feb. 20, 2009
- 8. Approval of FFA Leadership Conference MFE and ALA Overnight Trip to Visalia, CA on Feb. 20 & 21, 2009
- 9. Approval of FFA Leadership Conference State FFA Leadership Conference Overnight Trip to Fresno on April 18-21, 2009.
- 10. Approval of Out-of-State Trip to attend SIOP Coaches Training – March 23-24, 2009.
- 11. Approval of Job Description – Special Education Teacher – Mild/Moderate
- 12. Approval of Job Description – Special Education Teacher – Moderate/Severe

Motion made by David Arguello, seconded by Rey DeLeon to approve the Consent Agenda as presented. Motion carried by a 5-0 vote.

Information and Proposals

Community Input

Rick Sparks requested to speak regarding New Business items B, C & D. Regarding Item B, he had concerns regarding the time frame of the 8th period. Regarding item C, he questioned the expense of the readerboard and regarding item D, he understood that that the class was currently being held.

Superintendent's Report:

Supt McCurtis stated that he and the CBO had been to Sacramento at the Capitol to meet with Jean Fuller and Danny Gilmore. They had discussed the need for a Budget as well as the impact if not approved soon. He had also attended a conference on civil rights minorities. There was much dialog, good dialog in meetings with the assistant to O'Connell, Jean Thomas and had discussed strategies helping minority children. He and Kim McManaman had also attended a PLC meeting at the County Office regarding high dropout rates. There was a real collaboration. He also attended the Superintendent's Symposium. The district is looking at the Budget and Budget cuts.

1. Attendance

Supt. McCurtis stated that the monthly total was 3184 students enrolled for the month. Last month there were 3208 and one year ago there were 3145 students.

He added that the Student Services complex behind Kern Avenue School is just about complete and are awaiting electrical installation as well as carpet installation and would be ready for moving in. Within the next three week should be up and running.

Board Member/Student Board Member Reports

Student Board member Jose Jaime reported that on Tuesday, February 3rd MHS began the 8th period class, February 3-4 sophomores took their high school exit exam, and they had a sports rally and announced the winter sports members. He added that on February 20 they will have their academic awards assembly and on February 21 MHS will have their Winter Formal known as Noche de Gala.

Student Board Member Ezenia Garza – absent

Rey DeLeon – None

Marlin Isaacs stated that he has been trying to visit school sites and meet with department heads. It has been very informative and he is impressed with the teachers. He also mentioned he is the district representative to NKVTC board and had a meeting three weeks ago. The district may have an opportunity to have a Firefighters Program here at MHS. It will be big plus for the district.

Kaye Breyer said she has also been visiting school sites and departments. She stated she is impressed with the teaching going on. She will be attending a workshop for New Board members as well as one on the Brown Act.

David Arguello – none

Marin Ortega also stated that he will also be attending the workshop on the Brown Act in Visalia. He added that he had also attended a conference for Board Presidents where the emphasis was on the importance of Educational student learning and student teaching.

Reports

1. McFarland High School – Martin Schmidt and Lori Schultz gave a report on MHS and some of the topics discussed were:
Professional Development and Early Release Days, Benchmarks and Data Teams, Support Classes, 8th Period Intervention, After School Supplemental Instruction, College Going Culture and a 10th Grade Supplemental Counselor.
2. Browning Road School – Maria Salgado gave a presentation to the board that included board participation as students in a classroom. She gave examples of Engaging Thinking Skills and Engaging Students regarding Think, Write, Pair & Share from the Task Oriented Question Construction Wheel based on Bloom's Taxonomy.
3. Kern Avenue School – Professional Learning Communities – Ty Bryson and staff from Kern Avenue School gave a brief presentation titled "Analyzing data through collaboration to ensure student success." Various teachers presented regarding Professional Learning Communities and how teachers collaborate to share ideas, strategies, and student needs. Also, DATA Teams and RTI (Response to Intervention) were included.
4. MTA – Rick Sparks greeted the board and congratulated the new board members. He reported that on March 2nd Read Across America and Dr. Suess' Birthday will take place at Browning Road and Kern Avenue Schools. If anyone would like to read to the students notify the school. He added that they have negotiations scheduled for tomorrow and he has some concerns regarding the process. Regarding Interest Based Bargaining he has noted that there has not been much interaction within the group. There needs to be more collaboration in problem solving and get refocused. He does understand that there is a problem regarding budget cuts. They would like to keep the cuts as far away from the classroom. He asked that his concerns be taken under consideration and keep open the lines of communication. He added that on March 25th CTA will be having a dinner at the Petroleum Club in Bakersfield and he invited the board members to attend.
5. CSEA – Albert Melendez notified the board members that Rigo Lara was the new CSEA president.

Presentations

1. Atkinson, Andelson, Loya, Ruud & Romo – Mark Thompson from the Law Firm gave a brief presentation regarding the law firm. He stated that the law firm had made some changes and they now had more attorneys and more offices statewide. They are a prominent law firm, a #1 diverse law firm. He stated that they look forward to a renewal of contract with McFarland Unified School District.

Action Items (cont'd)

Discussion

A. School Calendar

Discussion was held regarding the School Calendar for the 2009-2010 school year. It will be brought back to the next regular board meeting for approval.

Old Business

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

Motion made by David Arguello, seconded by Marlin Isaacs to approve the Second Reading of the New/Revised board policies. Motion carried by a 5-0 vote.

New Business

A. Personnel Register

Motion made by David Arguello, seconded by Kaye Breyer, to approve the Personnel Register as presented. Motion carried by a 5-0 vote.

B. McFarland High School requests that the Board approve the following expenditure: \$10,000 from Title I categorical budget to fund the 8th period intervention program.

Motion made by Kaye Breyer, seconded by David Arguello to approve the McFarland High School request for approval of the expenditure: \$10,000 from Title I categorical budget to fund the 8th period intervention program. Motion carried by a 5-0 vote.

C. Approval of McFarland High School expenditures: \$11,367.44 from the Discretionary Block Grant categorical budget to purchase an electronic readerboard from Signtronix and \$12,500 from the Discretionary Block Grant categorical budget to pay for the Magic Mountain reward trip for students who jumped one performance level on the 2008 CST.

Motion made by David Arguello, seconded by Kaye Breyer to approve the MHS expenditures: \$11,367.44 for the electronic readerboard and \$12,500 for the Magic Mountain reward trip for students who jumped one performance level on the 2008 CST. Motion carried by a 4-1 vote.

D. Approval of Five New Courses of Study at McFarland High School: AP Studio Art, AP Government, AP Chemistry, Guitar, and Video Production.

Motion made by David Arguello, seconded by Kaye Breyer to approve the Five New Courses of Study at McFarland High School as listed. Motion carried by a 5-0 vote.

E. Approval of Donation of Obsolete Electronics to Bakersfield Association of Retarded Citizens (BARC).

Motion made by Marlin Isaacs, seconded by David Arguello, for approval of donation of obsolete electronics to BARC. Motion carried by a 5-0 vote.

F. Approval to Apply to E-Rate to use Verizon for T-1 Interconnection of sites.

Motion made by Rey DeLeon, seconded by David Arguello for approval to apply to E-Rate to use Verizon for T-1 Interconnection of sites. Motion carried by a 5-0 vote.

G. Approval of Resolution #0809-07 approving Behavioral Intervention Plans (Hughes Bill) Mandated Cost Claim Settlement and Waiving Rights to File any Claim regarding the Hughes Bill Statute and regulations in the future.

Motion made by Rey DeLeon, seconded by David Arguello to approve Resolution #0809-07 as presented. Motion carried by a 5-0 vote.

Advance Planning

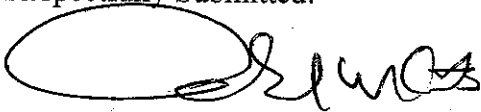
Motion made by Rey DeLeon, seconded by Kaye Breyer to approve the next regular board meeting date of March 10, 2009 at 4:00 p.m. and the Board Study Session date of February 17, 2009 at 3:00 p.m. at the District Office. Motion carried by a 5-0 vote.

Adjournment

Motion made by David Arguello, seconded by Rey DeLeon to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried by a 5-0 vote.

Board President adjourned the meeting at 8:22 p.m.

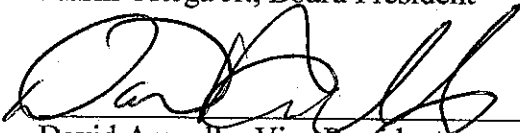
Respectfully Submitted:



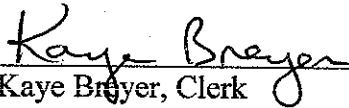
Gabriel McCurtis, Secretary to the Board



Marin Ortega Jr., Board President



David Arguello, Vice President



Kaye Breyer, Clerk

Rey DeLeon, Member



Marlin Isaacs, Member