

McFARLAND UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT
BOARD MEETING MINUTES
March 10, 2009

The Regular Meeting of the McFarland Unified School District Board of Trustees was held on Tuesday, March 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
Marlin Isaacs, Member

Absent:

Rey DeLeon, Member

Student board members:

Jose Jaime
Ezenia Garza

Staff Present:

Gabriel McCurtis	Irene Melendez	Mary Williams Smith
Smith Efada	Kim McManaman	Martin Schmidt
Candi Clark	David Lopez	Cynthia Virrey
Raul Murrieta	Manuel Cantu	Javier Ruiz
Ty Bryson	Louie Gomez	Rick Sparks
Sandra Espinoza	Lori Schultz	Roberta Burgh
Claudia Rodriguez	Mike Elliott	Albert Melendez
Yolanda Gonzalez	Valerie Garcia	Julie Machado
Ernesto Diaz	Rigoberto Lara	
Numerous Others		

Community Present:

John Bernard	Isaac Arana	MaryAnn Rodriguez
Others		

Roll Call and Establishment of Quorum

Pledge of Allegiance

Invocation – Manuel Cantu

Recognition of Staff

Five year employees were recognized and presented with a certificate and pen for their years of service to the McFarland Unified School District.

Public Communication

Rick Sparks had comments regarding the decisions to be made in regards to layoffs.

Sophia Washington also spoke regarding layoffs and how it will affect her. She asked for the board's consideration of her circumstances.

Isaac Arana spoke on behalf of Mr. Brady and the music program at McFarland High School.

Closed Session

The board adjourned to Closed Session at 4:25 p.m.

Open Session

The board re-convened to Open Session at 6:02 p.m.

Report of Closed Session

A. Board president reported that in Closed Session, the Board took action to non-reelect Employees No. #2544, #2556, #2566, #2569, #2573, #2575, #2619, probationary certificated employees, pursuant to Ed Code Section 44929.21 (b), effective at the end of the 2008-2009 school year. The board directed the Supt. or designee to send out appropriate legal notices. Motion was made by David Arguello, seconded by Kaye Breyer for approval. The roll call vote was as follows: Marin Ortega – Aye, David Arguello – Aye, Kaye Breyer- Aye. Motion carried by a 3-0 vote.

Also, the Board took action to issue a notice releasing and reassigning the following administrative employee, Migrant Education Coordinator, pursuant to Ed. Code section 44951, effective at the end of the 2008-2009 school year, and directed the Supt. or designee to send out appropriate legal notices. Motion made by Kaye Breyer, seconded by David Arguello for approval. The roll call vote was as follows: Marin Ortega – Aye, David Arguello – Aye, Kaye Breyer – Aye. Motion carried by a 3-0 vote.

B. No Action

C. No Action

Board Member Marlin Isaacs arrived during Closed Session.

Board President added that Closed Session would continue after New Business.

Action Items

A. Revision and Agenda Approval of Agenda of March 10, 2009.

Motion made by David Arguello, seconded by Marlin Isaacs, to approve the Agenda of March 10, 2009. Motion carried by a 4-0 vote.

B. Approval of Minutes of February 10, 2009 (Regular Meeting) & February 19, 2009 & February 25, 2009 (Special Meetings).

Board president had a correction on the minutes on page 5; New Business C. should read 4-1. Also Presentations was moved to precede Reports.

Motion made by David Arguello, seconded by Marlin Isaacs, to approve the minutes of February 10, 2009, (Regular Meeting) and February 19, 2009 and February 25, 2009 (Special Meetings) with the correction. Motion carried by a 4 - 0 vote.

C. Consent Agenda

1. Approval of Warrant Registers
2. Approval of Interdistrict Agreements
3. Request to Reapply for Allocation Funds from the California Department of Education for continued participation in the Community-Based English Tutoring
4. Approval of Student Teaching Contract with Fresno Pacific University
5. Approval of Agreement for Speech Pathologist Services
6. Approval of Contract with the Office of Administrative Hearings for services on the Certificated Reduction in Force Hearing.

Motion made by David Arguello, seconded by Kaye Breyer to approve the Consent Agenda with item 5 to be conferred with legal counsel. Motion carried by a 4-0 vote.

Information and Proposals

Community Input

Raul Murrieta spoke regarding the elimination and cutback of the Ag Program and FFA at McFarland High School. He stated that if the Ag program is eliminated there won't be any Ag Science classes taught next year. He added that the Ag Program has been a long standing program in the community. He asked that the board look into it before making any decisions

Rick Sparks spoke regarding his concern on the readerboard and the amount of money to be spent on the purchase.

MaryAnn Rodriguez spoke in support of teacher Gerald Howze.

Superintendent's Report:

Supt McCurtis stated that the district is in the process of acquiring a new sound system for the board meetings. It should be ready by the next board meeting.

1. Attendance

Supt. McCurtis stated that the monthly total was 3208 students enrolled for the month. Last month there were 3184 and one year ago there were 3176 students. He added that the district is making attendance a priority. Also, the district loses ADA due to irregular student attendance.

He also added that he had met with Mr. Bryson and Kim McManaman at Kern Avenue and the special board meetings and study sessions will be held in room #74 at Kern Avenue from now on.

Board Member/Student Board Member Reports

Student Board member Jose Jaime reported that the Harlem Renaissance Festival was held on February 23 by Mrs. Rowland. He stated that all classes have started registering for next years classes. Also, Carly Marshall won the Lion's Club Zone level Speech Contest and will now compete at the region level which would be held in Bakersfield. The Spring Blood Drive was held on March 9th and it was a success.

Student Board Member Ezenia Garza reported on the winter sports. She stated that all four basketball teams got League and both Varsity teams were undefeated. The boy's soccer team did well and was co-champs with Farmersville. In wrestling, Jesus Urrea was 8th at Masters and was just one away from State. The team finished 4th in League along with Bakersfield Christian. The Spring Sports season is just starting. Congratulations went out to Round-bal Royalty winners: Jose Arreola and Kassie Gorman and to Soccer King and Queen: Rafael Serna and Stephanie Montes.

Marlin Isaacs reported that since the last board meeting he had attended a workshop on February 27th regarding the Brown Act and found it to be very interesting. He has also attended the North Kern Vocational Training Center board meeting and reported that MUSD is still in the running for the Firefighters Classes.

Kaye Breyer said she also attended the Brown Act workshop as well as the Institute for New Board Members held in February. She stated that she found it to be valuable information.

David Arguello – none

Marin Ortega – none

Presentations

1. Schools Legal Service – Grant Herndon of School Legal Service gave a brief presentation regarding the services provided by Schools Legal Service. They have added new attorneys that will provide great service to the District.

Reports

1. DAIT (Data Assistance Intervention Team) – William Spaulding and John Bernard gave a report regarding DAIT and all that that entails. They are here for monitoring and guidance to the district and report back to the State Department of Education. Connie Sharp also gave a report on QES (Quality Education Solutions) and state that she was here to help improve student achievement.
2. Reading First – Valerie Perez, Valerie Garcia and Jasmine Reed were present to give a brief report regarding Reading First. They stated that the district began implementation of Reading First Program since the 2003-2004 school year and continues to implement the program today. Valerie added that the program was established under the federal No Child Left Behind Act. The goal of the Reading First Program is to improve K-3 classroom instruction in reading so that by the end of the third grade, all students are grade level proficient readers in English. David DeMille, Director, from R-TAC (Regional Technical Assistance Center) also addressed the board regarding Reading First. They do the monitoring and measuring for Reading First.
3. MTA – None
4. CSEA – Rigo Lara addressed the board by reading a letter regarding classified staff and layoffs. He stressed the importance of the classified staff to the district.

Action Items (cont'd)

Old Business

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 4-0 vote.

B. Approval of 2009-2010 School Calendar

Motion made by Marlin Isaacs, seconded by David Arguello for approval of the School Calendar for 2009-2010. Motion carried by a 4-0 vote.

C. Approval of the MHS Single Plan for Student Achievement

This item was pulled.

D. Approval of 2nd Interim Report – Fiscal Year 2008-2009

Candi Clark gave a brief powerpoint presentation regarding the Interim Report.

Motion made by David Arguello, seconded by Marlin Isaacs to approve the 2nd Interim Report – Fiscal Year 2008-2009. Motion carried by a 4-0 vote.

E. Public Hearing

Board President opened the public hearing at 8:20 p.m. for input from the public. There was no input and the public hearing was closed at 8:25 p.m.

F. Approval of 2007-2008 Ending Fund Balance Flexibility

Motion made by David Arguello, seconded by Kaye Breyer for approval of 2007-2008 Ending Fund Balance Flexibility. Motion carried by a 4-0 vote.

G. Approval of Resolution #0809-09, Authorizing Inter-fund Borrowing between Funds in an Amount not to exceed \$8,000,000.

Motion made by David Arguello, seconded by Kaye Breyer to approve Resolution #0809-09, Authorizing Inter-fund Borrowing between Funds in an Amount not to exceed \$8,000,000. Roll Call: Marlin Isaacs – Aye, Kaye Breyer – Aye, Marin Ortega Jr. – Aye, David Arguello – Aye. Motion carried by a 4-0 roll call vote.

The board adjourned to continue Closed Session at 8:25 p.m.

Open Session

The board re-convened to Open Session at 9:20 p.m.

Report of Closed Session

C. Student Expulsion/Readmittance

1. Student #0809-23 – MMS – Motion made by David Arguello, seconded by Kaye Breyer to Suspend Expulsion of Student #0809-23. Motion carried by a 4-0 vote.
2. Student #0809-24 – MMS – Motion made by David Arguello, seconded by Marlin Isaacs for Expulsion of Student #0809-24. Motion carried by 4-0 vote.

3. Student #0809-25 – MHS – Motion made by Kaye Breyer, seconded by David Arguello to Suspend Expulsion of Student #0809-25 with transfer to the Learning Center. Motion carried by a 4-0 vote.
4. Student #0809-26 – MHS – Motion made by Kaye Breyer, seconded by David Arguello to Suspend Expulsion of Student #0809-26 with transfer to the Learning Center. Motion carried by a 4-0 vote.
5. Student #0809-27 – MHS – Motion made by Kaye Breyer, seconded by David Arguello to Suspend Expulsion of Student #0809-27 with transfer to the Learning Center with stipulations. Motion carried by a 4-0 vote.
6. Student #0809-28 – MHS – Motion made by Marlin Isaacs, seconded by David Arguello to Expel student #0809-28. Motion carried by a 4-0 vote.
7. Student #0809-29 – MHS – Motion made by Marlin Isaacs, seconded by David Arguello to Expel student #0809-29. Motion carried by a 4-0 vote.
8. Student #0809-30 – MHS – Motion made by Marlin Isaacs, seconded by David Arguello to Suspend Expulsion of Student #0809-30 with transfer to the Learning Center with stipulations. Motion carried by a 4-0 vote.
9. Student #0809-02 – MMS – Motion made by David Arguello, seconded by Kaye Breyer to approve Readmittance of Student #0809-02 to MMS with stipulations. Motion carried by a 4-0 vote.

Advance Planning

Motion made by David Arguello, seconded by Marlin Isaacs to approve the next regular board meeting date of April 21, 2009 at 4:00 p.m. and the Board Study Session date of March 26, 2009 at 3:00 p.m. at Kern Avenue Rm#74. Motion carried by a 4-0 vote.

Adjournment

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

Board President adjourned the meeting at 9:25 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted:

Gabriel McCurtis, Secretary to the Board

Marin Ortega Jr., Board President

David Arguello, Vice President

Kaye Breyer, Clerk

Absent

Rey DeLeon, Member

Marlin Isaacs, Member