

McFARLAND UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT
BOARD MEETING MINUTES
April 21, 2009

The Regular Meeting of the McFarland Unified School District Board of Trustees was held on Tuesday, April 21, 2009, at the McFarland High School Multi-Purpose Room. The meeting was called to order by Board President at 4:00 p.m.

ROLL CALL
Marin Ortega Jr., President
David Arguello, Vice President
Kaye Breyer, Clerk
Marlin Isaacs, Member
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	Ty Bryson	Louie Gomez
Rick Sparks	Sandra Espinoza	Lori Schultz
Roberta Burgh	Claudia Rodriguez	Mike Elliott
Albert Melendez	Larry Watts	Ed Levenson
Yolanda Gonzalez	Valerie Garcia	Julie Machado
Ernesto Diaz	Rigoberto Lara	Socorro Zavala
Sonia Bangi	Johnny Salinas	Araceli Arroyo-Jara
Corina Nunez	Cheri Pennywitt	Mary Garcia
Numerous Others		

Community Present: Jeff Kirby Humberto Topete
Others

Roll Call and Establishment of Quorum

Pledge of Allegiance

Invocation – Louie Gomez

Recognition of Staff

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

Public Communication

Corina Nunez commented regarding the classified instructional aides and possible cutbacks and layoffs.

Mike Elliott had comments regarding the decisions to be made in regards to layoffs. He added that he wanted the board to familiarize themselves with the process and to become educated in the process of negotiations and the mediation and impasse process.

Ed Levenson addressed the board he also distributed a flyer with figures and he also commented regarding cutbacks and the budget and interim report and the figures mentioned in the report. He asked that the board review the projected totals.

Sonia Bangi also addressed the board and distributed a flyer from the funding advisory update on the Federal Stimulus Package and the Impact on California School Districts. She also distributed a letter from Congress and committee members to Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger, Jack O'Connell State Superintendent and Dr. Glen W. Thomas Secretary of Education for the State of California expressing their concern regarding how the funds should be spent.

Rigo Lara addressed the board regarding the classified cutbacks.

Edie Ramos also addressed the board regarding the instructional aide layoffs. She stated that she has been an aide for 13 years. She asked that the board come and see what the aides do in the classrooms with the children. She read a letter from the KA aides.

Closed Session

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

Open Session

The board re-convened to Open Session at 7:12 p.m.

Report of Closed Session

- A. Board president reported that in Closed Session, the Board took action to approve a six-month leave of absence w/o pay and with benefits for employee #1205. Motion was made by Marlin Isaacs seconded by Rey DeLeon. Motion carried by a 5-0 vote.

Also, the Board took action to approve to extend leave of absence w/o pay and with benefits for employee #1267. Motion made by Rey DeLeon seconded by David Arguello. Motion carried by a 5-0 vote.

- B. No Action
C. No Action
D. Student Expulsion/Readmittance
1. Student #0809-31 – MMS – Motion made by Rey DeLeon, seconded by David Arguello for Expulsion of Student #0809-31. Motion carried by a 5-0 vote.
 2. Student #0809-32 – MMS – Motion made by Rey DeLeon, seconded by David Arguello for Expulsion of Student #0809-32. Motion carried by 5-0 vote.
 3. Student #0809-33 – MHS – Motion made by David Arguello, seconded by Rey DeLeon for Expulsion of Student #0809-33. Motion carried by a 5-0 vote.

Action Items

- A. Revision and Agenda Approval of Agenda of April 21, 2009.

Motion made by David Arguello, seconded by Marlin Isaacs, to approve the Agenda of April 21, 2009. Motion carried by a 5-0 vote.

- B. Approval of Minutes of March 10, 2009 (Regular Meeting) & March 26, 2009 & April 6, 2009 (Special Meetings).

Motion made by Marlin Isaacs, seconded by David Arguello, to approve the minutes of March 10, 2009, (Regular Meeting) and March 26, 2009 and April 6, 2009 (Special Meetings). Motion carried by a 5 - 0 vote.

C. Consent Agenda

1. Approval of Warrant Registers
2. Approval of Interdistrict Agreements – 2008-2009 & 2009-2010
3. Approval of MHS Travel Club Trip to Italy – March 23 to April 1, 2010
4. Approval of MHS Literature Club Trip to Europe during 2010 Spring Break
5. Approval of Contract Renewal with Interquest Detection Canines of Central Valley – 2009-2010 School year

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

Information and Proposals

Community Input

Jose Arreola addressed the board regarding teacher and aide layoffs. He stated that the teachers and aides are the ones who actually work with the students and are very important.

Cheri Pennywitt also spoke regarding the classified staff and cutbacks. She commented regarding the accreditation status of the district.

Superintendent's Report:

1. Attendance

Supt. McCurtis gave the attendance report in which he stated that the monthly total was 3218 students enrolled for the month. Last month there were 3208 and one year ago there were 3172 students.

2. CSBA 2009 Delegate Assembly Run-off

Discussion was held and a motion made by Marlin Isaacs, seconded by David Arguello to approve vote for Deanna Rodriguez-Root as the delegate. Motion carried by a 5-0 vote

Board Member/Student Board Member Reports

Student Board member Jose Jaime reported on Sports. He stated that on April 17 MHS Track team attended the Gary White Invitational at CHS where 17 schools participated with MHS placing 2nd in winning the most medals. Baseball/Softball have begun league. The JV Softball was cancelled due to a lack of participation. Boys Tennis has also begun league. He stated that Spring Sports will end on May 16th.

Student Board Member Ezenia Garza reported that during Spring Break the Literature Club took a trip to Europe with Mrs. Rowland. The Travel Club will be traveling to Italy next Spring Break. She added that Mrs. Rowland and Mrs. Whealy are also planning a World War I trip for the following year. Career Day was a success. They had many different workshops of career choices that were very beneficial to the students. The Kern County Leadership will be attending the annual Spring Banquet next Tuesday at

Stockdale High School. The Prom is scheduled for May 9th at the Petroleum Club of Bakersfield. She also stated that on April 17th, 250 students who advanced their placement on last year's STAR test were rewarded with a trip to Magic Mountain. Also congratulations to Nicole Lara who placed 3rd in the Vocational Training Center Olympics in the Medical Assisting event. MHS students will be STAR testing this week.

Rey DeLeon – None
Marlin Isaacs – None
Kaye Breyer – None
David Arguello – None
Marin Ortega – None

Presentations

1. MHS Literature Club – tabled
2. Textbook Adoption Committee – The committee comprised of several teachers and staff gave a powerpoint presentation regarding the adoption process for Math. They also included the textbook selection process.

Reports

1. McFarland Teachers Association (MTA) – Sonia Bangi, Jasmine Reed, Valerie Garcia and Valerie Perez reported on the Read Across America activity on Dr. Seuss birthday held at the elementary schools in collaboration with MTA. It was a huge success with many volunteer readers attending. She reported that MTA had spent about \$1100 in materials for the event. She also reported on a CTA workshop attended by 17 teachers that included classroom management, powerpoint, discipline and writing strategies/reinforcement workshops that were very beneficial to teachers.
2. Classified School Employees Association (CSEA) - None

Action Items (cont'd)

Old Business

None

New Business

A. Personnel Register

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

B. Approval of Resolution #0809-12 STRS Retirement Incentive Program

Motion made by Rey DeLeon, seconded by David Arguello for approval of Resolution #0809-12 STRS Retirement Incentive Program. Roll Call vote: Rey DeLeon – Aye, Marlin Isaacs – Aye, Kaye Breyer – Aye, Marin Ortega – Aye & David Arguello – Aye. Motion carried by a 5-0 vote.

- C. Approval of Resolution #0809-13 to Decrease the number of Classified Employees Due to a Reduction in Particular Kinds of Services.

Motion was made by David Arguello, seconded by Rey DeLeon to table this item to Monday, April 27, 2009. Motion carried by a 5-0 vote.

- D. Approval of a New Freshmen Transition Program for At-Risk Freshmen

Motion made by Rey DeLeon, seconded by Kaye Breyer for approval of the New Freshmen Transition Program for At-Risk Freshmen. Motion carried by a 5-0 vote.

- E. Approval of Math Textbook Adoption for grades K through 12 and correlating Courses of Studies

Motion made by David Arguello, seconded by Rey DeLeon for approval of the Math Textbook Adoption for grades K through 12 and Correlating Courses of Studies. Motion carried by a 5 – 0 vote.

- F. Approval of Service Fees totaling \$2500.00 per fiscal year from Shinault Baker & Company

Motion made by Rey DeLeon, seconded by Marlin Isaacs for approval of Service Fees totaling #2500.00 per fiscal year from Shinault Baker & Company. Motion carried by a 5-0 vote.

Advance Planning

Motion made by Rey DeLeon, seconded by David Arguello to approve the next regular board meeting date of May 12, 2009 at 4:00 p.m. and the Special Board Meeting date of April 27, 2009 at 4:00 p.m. at Kern Avenue Rm. # 74. 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 8:05 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