

MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF  
THE McCURDY SCHOOL OF NORTHERN NEW MEXICO

August 20, 2008

Members present: Manuel Valdez, Marilyn Peabody, Murray Ryan, Robert DeVargas, Deborah Anderson, Bethany Carpenter, and Anthony VanderVossen

Members absent: Kelly Armstrong, Al Hernandez, and Ruth Montoya

Others present: Dan Garcia, Ken Martinez, Pam Miller, and Eufemia Romero

CALL TO ORDER. Chairperson Marilyn Peabody called the meeting to order at 6:04 PM and Rev. Dan Garcia led in prayer.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA. Murray Ryan moved, seconded by Anthony VanderVossen to approve the agenda for tonight's meeting. Motion passed.

APPROVAL OF JULY 17, 2008 BOARD MEETING MINUTES. Anthony VanderVossen moved, seconded by Manuel Valdez to approve the minutes of the July 17, 2008 Board meeting as presented. The motion carried.

CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT. Marilyn Peabody indicated that the school started off with 341 students in grades Pre-kindergarten through twelfth, which is more than what was expected. At Marilyn's suggestion, it was the consensus of the Board to host an appreciation picnic for staff and volunteers and their families on September 20, 2008 prior to the football game taking place that day. The Board of Trustees will provide food and beverages for this event. Marilyn will notify staff and volunteers via e-mail.

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS.

Scholarship and Tuition Assistance Committee – Bethany Carpenter reported that this committee met on July 30, 2008. Pam Miller and Norma Herrera provided information on the school's process for providing financial aide and tuition scholarships to students. Bethany informed the Board that this committee will continue to look at ways to generate scholarship monies from different churches.

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Fundraising and Community Outreach Committee – Manuel Valdez reported that the First Annual Bazaar was sparsely attended and netted \$1,100. He expressed appreciation to Lori Valdez and Marilyn Peabody and Deborah Anderson and their husbands for their hard work during this event. Manuel mentioned that Espanola Spirit Days will soon take place and it would be a good public relations effort if McCurdy had a team to represent the school during this event. This year, Spirit Days will feature raft races and bike races. This committee will meet on September 3 and the entire Board is invited to attend the meeting where packets of information will be prepared to distribute to students in preparation for the McCurdy School Walk-A-Thon Fund Raiser. Manuel also mentioned that monetary donations are needed to purchase the prizes that will be awarded to students raising the most money during the Walk-A-Thon.

Deborah Anderson explained how participation in the Weather Bug Station would benefit McCurdy School. Pam Miller indicated that she submitted a grant in May and the school received \$1,500 towards this project, however, the cost for McCurdy to participate is \$6,500. Deborah suggested that the school and Foundation Board raise money together for this worthwhile project.

## SPECIAL COMMITTEE REPORTS.

Alumni Association – Ruth Montoya, Alumni Secretary/Treasurer, provided a written report to the Board which was inclusive of minutes from the Alumni Meeting held on August 11, 2008 to plan Homecoming events. Events planned are as follows: Reception at Anthony's at the Delta on Friday, September 26<sup>th</sup>; Banquet at McCracken Gym on Saturday, September 27<sup>th</sup>; and Sunrise Worship Service at the Santa Cruz United Methodist Church on Sunday, September 28<sup>th</sup>. This committee will meet on September 27<sup>th</sup>.

## ADMINISTRATION REPORTS.

Elementary/Middle School Principal – Principal Pam Miller reported that the elementary started the school year with 117 students and middle school with 79 students. Middle School students used the Olympics to kick off the

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year by placing a large Olympic Torch on the wall in the Middle School wing with the words “Be the Light” underneath it. Inside the torch they wrote how they can be the light this year. The annual elementary fundraiser will launch at 9:00 AM on September 9<sup>th</sup>. There will be an open house for elementary students and their parents on September 9<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 PM.

High School Principal – Principal Ken Martinez’ highlighted his written report. Orientations were held for new ninth graders and for all returning students prior to start of school. Fifteen new students have enrolled at the high school level bringing the total to 145 compared to last year’s start of school of 125 students. The graduating class of 2008 took senior pictures on August 18<sup>th</sup>.

Office of Church Relations – Rev. Dan Garcia reported that the Advance Specials received by McCurdy School from GBGM will now be decreased from three to one. All future school mailings pertaining to Advance Special numbers will reflect this information so that donors will know that we will have only one school program number to direct donations to.

Pam Miller is preparing a proposal to the Division of United Methodist Women for A Call to Prayer and Self Denial which is due to GBGM by September 1, 2008. Applications for this grant which could be as much as \$25,000 will be screened by a Women’s Division Committee, and recipients will be approved by the Women’s Division Board of Directors. Notification of acceptance or rejections of this grant will be made by May 30, 2009.

Superintendent’s Report – Dan Garcia’s written report included a recommendation that the Board consider a 2% salary increase for staff who were employed during the close of the 2007-2008 school year contingent on the enrollment of 340 students as was discussed in previous Board meetings. The total amount of the increase at 2% will total \$25,852.84. More discussion will take place during the executive session of this meeting.

At a recent meeting of the South Central Jurisdictional Conference of the United Methodist Church, Dan was elected to the Mission Council of the Jurisdiction. Dan has also been elected to the General Commission on Christian Unity and Inter-religious Concerns of the United Methodist Church. At a meeting of the National Association of Colleges and Schools

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of the United Methodist Church, Dan Garcia, was elected to the University Senate, an accrediting agency of the UMC, related to the General Board of Higher Education and Ministry. The senate meets twice a year, and visitations are made by members of this committee to review schools for continued accreditation.

The Finance Committee together with the Fund Raising Committee will meet on Monday, September 15, 2008 at 6:30 PM in the Elementary/Middle School Conference Room to discuss the school's unpaid debt to Valley National Bank and to the McCurdy School Foundation.

Murray Ryan moved, seconded by Anthony VanderVossen that the next regular meeting of the Board of Trustees be held jointly with the McCurdy School Foundation on Saturday, September 27, 2008 at 8:00 AM in the High School Library. Motion Carried. Eufemia Romero will notify members of both Boards of date, time, and location of joint meeting via e-mail.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS. None

NEW BUSINESS.

- a. Dan read aloud a resolution written as requested by a donor and to be signed by the chair and secretary of the Board regarding a donation made to the school. Deborah Anderson moved, seconded by Bethany Carpenter to adopt the resolution as stated. Motion carried.
- b. Anthony VanderVossen moved, to accept the resignations of Monica Garcia and Ernest Sanchez from the Board with regret, seconded by Deborah Anderson. The motion carried. Dan will deliver certificates of appreciation to both Monica and Ernest for their service on the Board.
- c. Pam Miller distributed copies of the monthly financial report to the Board. Marilyn Peabody, on behalf of the Board, thanked Pam for her hard work in the Business Office.

RECESS FROM REGULAR SESSION. Chairperson Marilyn Peabody recessed the meeting at 7:35 PM to go in to Executive Session.

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The Board came out of Executive Session at 8:35 PM.

Anthony VanderVossen moved, seconded by Robert DeVargas to approve Thomas McReynolds as assistant cross country coach for the 2008-2009 school year and to approve him as high school science teacher (.5 time). Motion carried.

Anthony VanderVossen moved, seconded by Robert DeVargas to approve Holly Tsoodle as assistant football coach and John McLaughlin as assistant middle school football coach pending certification from NMAA. Motion carried.

Anthony VanderVossen moved, and was “enthusiastically” seconded by Manuel Valdez that all teachers and staff employed at the end of the last semester be granted a 2% salary increase retroactive to the beginning of the fiscal year, August 1, 2008. Motion carried. An addendum to the current contracts will be added to reflect this increase.

ADJOURNMENT. Manuel Valdez moved, seconded by Murray Ryan to adjourn tonight’s meeting at 8:40 PM. Motion carried.

Eufemia Romero  
Recording Secretary

Bethany Carpenter  
Board Secretary