

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

August 20, 2009

Members present: Kelly Armstrong, Robert DeVargas, Ruth Montoya, Ricardo Cordova, Chris Martinez, Bethany Carpenter, Greg Kennedy, and Marilyn Peabody

Members absent: Al Hernandez, Manuel Valdez, and Anthony VanderVossen

Others present: Deborah Bennett Anderson, Pam Miller, Ken Martinez, Ruth Stambach, Tescia Schell, and Eufemia Romero

CALL TO ORDER AND PRAYER. Interim Chairperson Ruth Montoya called the meeting to order at 6:02 PM. Rev. Greg Kennedy led in prayer.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA. Agenda items added were 1) Presentation from Student Council, 2) Foundation Board Bylaws and Purpose (under Executive Session). Greg Kennedy moved, seconded by Ricardo Cordova to approve the agenda for tonight's meeting as amended. Motion passed.

Interim Superintendent Deborah Bennett Anderson introduced John Lamenzo, Business Manager, and Ruth Stambach, volunteer, to the Board.

APPROVAL OF JULY 16, 2009 BOARD MEETING MINUTES. Bethany Carpenter moved, seconded by Robert DeVargas to approve the minutes of the July 16, 2009 Board meeting as presented. The motion carried.

REPORTS.

Student Senate Report – High School Senior Tescia Schell, on behalf of the Student Senate, gave a brief report on activities taking place. A high school luau was held to welcome new freshmen and to promote school spirit the first Friday of school. Homecoming plans are underway and this year's theme is "Disney". Tescia mentioned that the Student Senate fully supports the Discipline Matrix and the Dress Code set forth by Administration.

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Interim Superintendent Deborah Bennett Anderson informed the Board that the written monthly reports provided the Board from Administrators, namely: Elementary/Middle School Principal Pam Miller; High School Principal Ken Martinez; Athletic Director Eric Vigil; and Maintenance Director Mike Hibner are for information purposes and not action items.

BUSINESS MANAGER – John Lamenzo, newly hired Business Manager, reported that he is reconstructing the operating chart of accounts of the general ledger and reviewing all the other accounts. He will also work on improving office protocols. John will present information regarding the business office during executive session of this meeting.

SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT. Deborah Bennett Anderson presented a written report to the Board inclusive of general status; business operations; infrastructure and maintenance; productive performance environment; and staff relations. Current enrollment is 297 students. Tom Hoffman is working with administration to prepare a strategy to revamp existing donor management activities. There is a need for an integrated fire alarm system. Currently there are five buildings with students that do not have fire alarms.

CHAIRPERSON’S REPORT. Ruth Montoya provided a written report She attended the All Staff Retreat at Ghost Ranch, NM on August 9, 2009 and reminded the Board that an individual \$50 donation would be appreciated to cover the cost of the retreat luncheon. Ruth’s report contained detailed information on the upcoming 6th Annual McCurdy School Foundation Edward “Big Dawg” Quintana Memorial Golf Tournament. This fundraising event is scheduled to take place on Sunday, September 27, 2009. Ruth also emphasized the importance of the Board maintaining strict confidentiality especially when it pertains to sensitive issues.

OLD BUSINESS. Discussion took place regarding Interim Superintendent Deborah Bennett Anderson’s willingness to continue to serve in this capacity during the entire school year. A meeting took place between Dr. Veronica Garcia, Secretary of Education, Ruth Montoya and Deborah Anderson to discuss administrative state certification for the position of superintendent. There are two principals who possess administrative state licenses and therefore the school is in compliance with the state regulations.

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Deborah has agreed to continue to serve as head of the school and the Personnel Policy Committee will meet with her to discuss a salary package for the remainder of the school year.

Ruth Montoya mentioned that since she stepped from vice-chairperson to chairperson, a vice chair will need to be appointed.

NEW BUSINESS. Deborah reported that administration is exploring the possibility of requiring each school employee to wear an identification badge and also to hire a full time security guard on campus. Discussion took place. Ricardo Cordova moved, seconded by Greg Kennedy to fund the position of security guard with a salary of up to \$22,000 and to leave the rest of the details for Deborah Bennett Anderson and Principals Ken Martinez and Pam Miller to establish. The motion carried.

Deborah gave copies of Student Discipline Matrix and Dress Code for the Board's information. The Principals and Interim Superintendent have developed these policies and the Student Senate has expressed support. Implementation of these policies will take place immediately and will be provided to parents and all students.

BYLAWS MODIFICATIONS. Deborah suggested that the Bylaws Committee meet to review and look at areas that might need modification recommendations. In particular, consider approval of new staff through phone and e-mail instead of having to wait for meetings to take place. This Committee consists of Bethany Carpenter, Kelly Armstrong, Ricardo Cordova, and Chris Martinez.

BUSINESS Deborah presented the idea of advertising McCurdy School as a college prep institute for the valley since we already have 95% of our graduates go on to higher education.

Marilyn Peabody suggested that one of the school buildings be named in honor of Vernon Pack, alumni and supporter. This will be an agenda item for discussion at the next meeting.

RECESS FROM REGULAR SESSION. Ruth Montoya recessed the meeting to go into Executive Session at 7:42 PM.

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EXECUTIVE SESSION. The Board of Trustees convened into Executive Session at 7:46 PM until 8:49 PM.

It was moved and seconded to approve the list of coaching staff recommendations as presented. Motion carried.

NEXT MEETING. The next regular meeting of the Board of Trustees is scheduled to take place on Thursday, September 17, 2009 at 6:00 PM in the Student Center Conference Room.

ADJOURNMENT. Ruth Montoya adjourned the meeting at 8:59 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Eufemia Romero
Recording Secretary

Bethany Carpenter
Board Secretary