

**RIVERSIDE COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION  
3939 THIRTEENTH STREET • P.O. BOX 868 • RIVERSIDE, CA 92502-0868**

**MINUTES  
REGULAR MEETING  
December 12, 2007**

**OPENING PROCEDURES**

1. Call to Order by the President

The Regular Meeting of the Riverside County Board of Education was called to order by President Conyers at 9:02 a.m. on Wednesday, December 12, 2007 at the Riverside County Office of Education, 47-336 Oasis Street, Indio.

2. Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag

The pledge of allegiance to the flag was led by Member Craig.

3. Attendance

a. County Board of Education Members

Dr. Lisa Conyers, President, Moreno Valley  
Dr. Vick Knight, Vice President, Canyon Lake  
Mr. Gerald P. Colapinto, President, Corona  
Mrs. Lynne D. Craig, Riverside  
Mrs. Betty Gibbel, Hemet (Absent)  
Dr. William R. Kroonen, Palm Desert  
Mr. Adolfo Mediano, Jr., Banning

b. Secretary to the Board

Mr. Kenneth M. Young, Riverside County Superintendent of Schools  
Ms. Monica Martinez, Secretary to the Board of Education

c. Invited Guests and Visitors

Ms. Karen Arnett, River Springs Charter School  
Dr. Dean Berry, Moreno Valley Charter Academy  
Mrs. Georgia Berry, Moreno Valley Charter Academy  
Ms. Nancy Branchard, River Springs Charter School  
Ms. Barbara Davis, Moreno Valley Unified School District  
Ms. Debbie Daniel, River Springs Charter School  
Ms. Debbie Essel, River Springs Charter School  
Dr. Kathleen Hermsmeyer, River Springs Charter School  
Ms. Kristi Kahle, River Springs Charter School  
Ms. Cynthia Markham, River Springs Charter School  
Ms. Robin Mammoth, River Springs Charter School

Ms. Amy Podratz, River Springs Charter School  
Ms. Diane Robson, River Springs Charter School  
Ms. Katherine Rogers, River Springs Charter School  
Mr. Warren Stratton, River Springs Charter School  
Mr. Karl Yoder, River Springs Charter School

d. Staff Members

Mrs. Diana Blackledge, Mr. Mike Barney, Ms. Sharon Baskett, Mrs. Maria Deharo, Mr. Rollin Edmunds, Dr. Nicolas Ferguson, Mrs. Theresa Hyden, Mr. Paul Jessup, Dr. Mike Jones, Mr. Jose Martinez, Dr. Sandra Schnack, Mrs. Ofelia Valdez-Yeager, Dr. Diana Walsh-Reuss,

4. Public Comments

Pursuant to **Government Code Section 54954.3 and Education Code Section 35145.5** any person wishing to speak to any item on the agenda, or any other relevant matter, was given the opportunity to do so.

There were no requests to address the Board.

5. Public Hearing: River Springs Charter School

A public hearing on the petition for charter school renewal was presented by the River Springs Charter School to the Riverside County Board of Education. The hearing was conducted pursuant to Education Code section 47605 and Board Policy 0421.41.

Mr. Paul Jessup, Deputy Superintendent of the Riverside County Office of Education, provided a brief overview of the charter school renewal process. He noted that River Springs Charter School presented its initial petition in September, 2005 as Eagles Peak Inland Empire for a three-year term which will expire on June 30, 2008. The Riverside County Office of Education is collecting data that is required for the County Board of Education to make an informed decision. Initial reports from staff that have worked with River Springs have been positive. Findings and recommendations will be presented to the County Board of Education at the February 13, 2008 Board of Education meeting.

Dr. Kathleen Hermsmeyer shared information on demographics and plans for the next five years. River Springs Charter School has 2,650 students, 1,700 of them home school. The also have learning centers which are located in Riverside, Wildomar and Hemet which operate 1-4 days a week to support home school students. Last year 150 field trips were available to students.

River Springs' strategic plan for the next five years include: expanding the GATE program, upgrading facilities, establish a learning center in Irvine and San Bernardino, continue to stay connected with parents, expand their middle school program, and career technical education.

There were no requests to address the Board by the public.

6. Public Hearing: Moreno Valley Charter Academy

A public hearing on the Moreno Valley Charter Academy charter petition was presented to the Riverside County Board of Education, on appeal, following denial by the Governing Board of the Moreno Valley Unified School District.

Pursuant to EC 47605 (a) the purpose of the public hearing was to review the provisions of the charter and to consider the level of support for the petition by the teachers, employed by the district, other employees of the district, and parents.

Dr. Dean Berry was present on behalf of Moreno Valley Charter Academy.

Dr. Barbara Davis, Assistant Superintendent, Educational Services, Moreno Valley Unified School District and Ms. Melanie Peterson, Attorney, Fagan Freedman and Fulfrost

Mr. Paul Jessup, Deputy Superintendent of the Riverside County Office of Education, noted that Moreno Valley Charter Academy presented their petition to the Riverside County Office of Education for appeal upon the denial by the Moreno Valley Unified School District. The exact petition that was provided to Moreno Valley Unified School District will be considered by the Riverside County Board of Education. Riverside County Office of Education staff will prepare the findings and provide recommendations that will be presented to the County Board of Education at the February 13, 2008 meeting of the County Board of Education.

Dr. Berry, shared several handouts with the County Board of Education which gave an overview of the Moreno Valley Charter Academy. The Moreno Valley Charter Academy would provide small group instruction, multi-media video labs, computer labs, tutorial centers and advisory groups to students who are at-risk. Mr. Berry shared that all students would receive curriculum that is appropriate for their individual needs.

Dr. Barbara Davis, Assistant Superintendent, Educational Services, Moreno Valley Unified School District shared that the petition process began October 12, 2006 and has been brought to the Moreno Valley Unified School District Governing Board a total of three times. The petition was withdrawn once and denied twice by the Moreno Valley Unified Governing Board.

Ms. Melanie Peterson, Attorney, Fagan Freedman and Fulfrost noted that district believes that the proposed charter school presents an unsound education program for students that would be enrolled in the charter school. The district feels that Moreno Valley Charter Academy would not be able to successfully implement the program that is put forth in the petition.

There were no requests to address the Board by the public.

7. Approval of Agenda

It was moved by Member Knight and seconded by Member Colapinto.

That the agenda for the December 12, 2007, Riverside County Board of Education meeting be approved.

6 Ayes: Members Colapinto, Conyers, Craig, Knight, Kroonen and Mediano  
1 Absent: Members Gibbel

Motion adopted.

**CONSENT CALENDAR**  
**Items 8-11 were enacted with a single motion.**

It was moved by Member Knight and seconded by Member Colapinto.

That the Consent Calendar be approved as presented.

6 Ayes: Members Colapinto, Conyers, Craig, Knight, Kroonen and Mediano  
1 Absent: Members Gibbel

Motion adopted.

8. Approval of Minutes – October 10, 2007

Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Riverside County Board of Education, October 10, 2007.

9. Approval of Minutes – November 14, 2007

Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Riverside County Board of Education, November 14, 2007.

10. Personnel Services

Certification List #CL 12-07, as recommended for approval by the Riverside County Superintendent of Schools.

11. Acceptance of Donations

- 1 chrome Edelbrock intake manifold, 8 pistons, 8 connecting rods, 2 cylinder heads and 2 chrome rocker covers donated by Art and Terri Foltz, to be used at Rubidoux High School, Auto Technology Class. Estimated value: \$800.
- B&M Shifter, Vintage air conditioner, oil pump and pan, distributor, and Sanderson porcelain coated & aluminized headers donated by Art and Terri Foltz, to be used at Rubidoux High School, Auto Technology Class. Estimated value: \$1,000.

**ACTION**

1. **Resolution No. 18-07, Riverside County Office of Education – Declaration of State of Emergency**

It was moved by Member Kroonen and seconded by Member Mediano

That the Riverside County Board of Education approves and adopts Resolution No. 18-07, for a State of Emergency due to damage caused by severe winds at Mt. San Jacinto Regional Learning Center.

6 Ayes: Members Colapinto, Conyers, Craig, Knight, Kroonen and Mediano  
1 Absent: Members Gibbel

Motion adopted.

2. **Resolution No. 19-07, Remuneration of the Board, Betty Gibbel**

It was moved by Member Craig and seconded by Member Knight.

That the Riverside County Board of Education approves and adopts Resolution No. 19-07, approving the reasons for absence of Member Gibbel from the December 12, 2007 meeting and order that she be paid for the meeting as she had an excusable absence.

6 Ayes: Members Colapinto, Conyers, Craig, Knight, Kroonen and Mediano  
1 Absent: Members Gibbel

Motion adopted.

3. **County Nomination for CSBA Delegate Assembly – Region 18: Riverside and Imperial Counties.**

It was moved by Member Craig and seconded by Member Kroonen.

That the Riverside County Board of Education nominate Susan Manger, Imperial County Office of Education or support nomination by the Imperial County Office of Education.

6 Ayes: Members Colapinto, Conyers, Craig, Knight, Kroonen and Mediano

1 Absent: Members Gibbel

Motion adopted.

4. **Approval of Written Decision Regarding Expulsion Appeal Hearing #110907E**

It was moved by Member Knight and seconded by Member Craig.

That the Riverside County Board of Education approves the written decision regarding Expulsion Appeal Hearing #110907E before the County Board of Education on November 14, 2007.

6 Ayes: Members Colapinto, Conyers, Craig, Knight, Kroonen and Mediano

1 Absent: Members Gibbel

Motion adopted.

5. **Second Reading of Board Policies and Approval**

It was moved by Member Kroonen and seconded by Member Knight.

That the Riverside County Board of Education approves the following new Career Technical Education (CTE) courses: Education, Child Development, and Family Services Industry Sector; Finance and Business Industry Sector; Health Science and Medical Technology Industry Sector; Manufacturing and Product Development Industry Sector; Marketing, Sales, and Service Industry Sector; and Transportation Sector.

6 Ayes: Members Colapinto, Conyers, Craig, Knight, Kroonen and Mediano

1 Absent: Members Gibbel

Motion adopted.

**INFORMATION/DISCUSSION ITEMS**

**1. Migrant Head Start Update**

Mr. Jose Martinez, Director of Migrant Education, presented a PowerPoint presentation and overview of the Migrant Head Start program. Migrant Head Start is a child development program serving farm worker children and their families in the Coachella and Imperial Valleys (Riverside and Imperial Counties) through family child care homes and center based services. The program is funded through a Department of Health and Human Services' Head Start Bureau federal grant and supplemented with Imperial County Children and Families First Commission funding. Migrant Head Starts goal is to promote school readiness by enhancing the social and cognitive development of children of low income families through the provision of health, educational, transportation, nutritional, social, and other services based on family needs assessments. Recruitment and enrollment of children with disabilities is a major priority.

Mr. Martinez shared that the 37<sup>th</sup> National Migrant and Seasonal Head Start Conference will take place from February 26-29, 2008 in Washington D.C. and will feature Mr. Chauncey Veatch as the closing speaker.

**2. Team Response for Achievement through Collaboration (TRAC) Program**

Dr. Mike Jones, Assistant Superintendent, Educational Services introduced Mr. Mike Barney, Director, Instructional Support Services, Division of Educational Programs, Riverside County Office of Education; Ms. Eileen Nurani, Director, State and Federal Programs, Desert Sands Unified School District; and Ms. Molly McCabe, Coordinator, Reading, Instructional Support Services, Division of Educational Services, Riverside County Office of Education who provided a presentation and written overview of the TRAC program which assists program improvement schools and helps build capacity among school principals and their teams in collaboratively working to improve student achievement. Van Buren and Kennedy Elementary Schools in the Desert Sands Unified School District are actively participating in the program with much success.

**3. 2007-2008 First Interim Financial Report**

Mrs. Theresa Hyden reviewed the 2007-2008 First Interim Financial Report.

**4. Fiscal Update**

Mrs. Theresa Hyden reviewed the budget transfers and adjustments for November 2007.

**5. Legislative Update**

Mr. Paul Jessup provided and reviewed a written legislative update from Teri Burns, Director of Legislative Advocacy, School Innovations and Advocacy.

6. **Facility Update**

Mr. Paul Jessup provided and reviewed a written facility projects update.

7. **Introduction of Issues That May Be Addressed at Future Meetings**

Member Craig requested information on Foster Care services that the Riverside County Office of Education provides.

President Conyers shared information on a possible Board Planning session to be held on Friday, May 9, 2008 pending availability of other Board members. Discussed was a training for the Board on the Expulsion process by the firm of Miller, Brown and Dannis. President Conyers also shared the possibility of visiting school sites/programs after the March 12, 2008 County Board of Education meeting in Indio.

8. **President/Board Member/Superintendent Comments**

Member Craig and Mediano both shared information from sessions she attended while at the California School Boards Association (CSBA) conference in San Diego.

Member Craig shared election results from CSBA Delegate Assembly and also noted also noted that Mrs. Maggie Little, Corona-Norco Unified School District, is the new president for the Riverside County School Boards Association (RCSBA) and 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President is Ms. Marla Kirkland, Val Verde Unified School District.

Mr. Kenneth Young shared that he will be the speaker at the next RCSBA General Meeting will take place on February 13, 2008 at the Riverside County Office of Education. Mr. Young will speak on the topic of program improvement. Mr. Young also noted that the Riverside County Office of Education will host a reception at the next California School Boards Association Conference.

**Break: 10:00 am – 10:11 am**

**Adjournment 11:34 a.m. in memoriam of Mrs. Maxine Frost**

**NEXT REGULAR MEETING - 9 a.m., Wednesday, January 9, 2007, Riverside County Office of Education, 3939 Thirteenth Street, Riverside.**

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President

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Secretary