

**Regular Meeting of the Governing Council
Mission Valley Regional Occupational Center/Program
Wednesday, January 16, 2008**

President Larry Sweeney called the meeting to order at 3:33 p.m.

President: Larry Sweeney, President
Ray Rodriguez, Alternate
Gertrude Gregorio, Alternate

Absent: Jenn Stringer
Jan Crocker

Board of Education Items #1

Election of Officers

Larry Sweeney made a motion to elect Ray Rodriguez, Newark Unified School District, to the office of President of the MVROP Governing Council. Gertrude Gregorio made a second to the motion. Members voted 3-0 to elect Ray Rodriguez as President of the MVROP Governing Council. Mr. Rodriguez will serve in that office for the remainder of the school year through January of 2009.

Mr. Sweeney made a motion to elect Jenn Stringer, New Haven Unified School District, to the office of Vice President of the MVROP Governing Council. Ray Rodriguez made a second to the motion. Members voted 3-0 to elect Jenn Stringer to the office of Vice President of the MVROP Governing Council. Mrs. Stringer will serve in that office for the remainder of the school year through January of 2009.

Ray Rodriguez made a motion to elect Larry Sweeney to serve as clerk of the MVROP Governing Council. Gertrude Gregorio made a second to the motion. Members voted 3-0 to elect Larry Sweeney as clerk of the MVROP Governing Council. Mr. Sweeney will serve in that office for the remainder of the school year through January of 2009.

Following the election process Larry Sweeney turned the gavel over to Ray Rodriguez who presided over the meeting as the new president of MVROP Governing Council.

Communication:

a. Items from the Board

President Ray Rodriguez thanked members for selecting him to serve as president of the Governing Council. "I have been on the ROP board for about eight of the twelve years I have served as a member of the Newark Unified School District Board." "It is an honor." Mr. Rodriguez stressed the tough year education will be facing with proposed budget cuts coming through from Sacramento, and said he looked forward to working with

Superintendent Brown to minimize the effect of the budget cuts on MVROP in the year ahead.

Mrs. Gregorio mentioned the recent tragedy that took place in front of Bernard-White Middle School the last day of school before the winter break. The district received an overwhelming show of support from the community as evidenced at the prior evening's board meeting. The tone was very supportive and the situation has brought the community together in a move to find solutions against violence in the community.

Ray Rodriguez reported on the advisory meeting he attended recently for the Automotive Tech Program. Mr. Herrmann added that we are changing the location of our advisory meetings for Auto Tech by rotating to each of our sites; thereby, providing an opportunity for advisory members to view each of our facilities throughout the district.

b. Items from the Staff

Mr. Brown suggested moving Oral Communication before Items from the Staff to allow our culinary instructors to give a presentation about their programs.

c. Oral Communications

Shelley Adams introduced Chef Moschetti (Bridgepoint High School, Mission San Jose High School, and American High School), Chef Le Biavant (Logan High School), and Chef Carey (American High School). Instructors gave a short update of their background before coming to teach at MVROP as well as an update on the instructional programs at each of their locations.

Following the instructors' presentation, Mr. Herrmann introduced Enrique Palacios, Executive Director for Operations at New Haven Unified School District. New Haven Unified is in the transitioning process of taking their current foods program to a full-fledged, state-of-the art culinary arts program. The culinary program will be a model for the entire state! Mr. Palacios presented slides showing the new facility which is targeted to open in June of 2009. The 8,513 square foot building will have a total construction cost of \$5,279,916. The district is applying for a Prop 1D Grant of \$2,639,958. The full service restaurant and teaching facility is projected to serve 500 ROP and adult education students.

Mr. Rodriguez asked Mr. Palacios if students from outside New Haven Unified can participate in the Culinary Arts Program. Mr. Herrmann said MVROP and New Haven are looking to develop a program for students who are really interested in going into the culinary field. Mr. Herrmann also stated that we are looking into a fee based East Bay Culinary Academy. Our academy would be comparable, but more affordable than

the 18 month \$55,000 fees charged by area culinary academies. Initially, the academy would serve Logan students, then adults; and then expand later to a full-fledged academy.

Mr. Sweeney thanked Mr. Palacios for his vision and for his creative approach to putting the funding together for this project. "It will not only grow the reputation of ROP," Mr. Sweeney stated, "but it is a tremendous opportunity for people who see this as a means to achieve their career." Mr. Palacios added that New Haven Unified is also pursuing additional pathways in other areas including a proposed Performing Arts Center which will include a 600 seat theater, choir and band rooms and house a stagecraft classroom for ROP students. That proposal is being planned with the access of Prop 1D Grant money. "Logan," Mr. Palacios stated, "is looking forward to a long lasting partnership with Mission Valley ROP."

Mr. Rodriguez added his thanks to Mr. Palacios and the ROP staff. He also thanked the ROP staff for locating an instructor to take over the Newark Memorial Home Economics class. The former instructor passed away suddenly over the winter break. Staff at ROP worked diligently over the break to find a replacement instructor.

b. Items from Staff

Superintendent Brown introduced Allison Aldinger who was hired to take the position of Public Relations Administrator/Administrative Assistant to the Board and Superintendent. Allison previously worked as an Aide for Senator Liz Figueroa, Senator Ellen Corbett, and currently is employed with Scott Haggerty, Alameda County Supervisor. Allison will begin her new position with MVRP on Monday, January 28.

Superintendent Brown invited board members to attend the CTE Advisory Committee meeting scheduled for this Thursday, January 16. The committee is helping in an advisory capacity for our Prop 1D projects. The meeting will begin at 5:30 p.m. and will focus on the 2nd round of Prop 1D proposals. After the opening meeting, members will have dinner and then go into individual cluster meetings. We are working on proposals for our K4 and K1 buildings.

Mr. Brown and Marie dela Cruz, Business Director, attended meetings regarding the Governor's budget. The process starts with the Governor's Budget in January; but until the May revise, we won't know for sure how the budget will affect ROCs. There are mid year cuts to education for 2007-08 of about 400 million. We expect up to a half percent cut. The 2008/2009 year, however, will be extremely difficult. ROCs will have deeper cuts than school districts. We expect a 10.9% cut across the board. This will result in not receiving COLA along with a 6-1/2 to 7% cut

to our budget. The governor's budget is just a starting point. CAROCP, our state association, is lobbying to have the governor treat ROPs the same as districts. If that happens, we would end up with no COLA and a 2.4% cut to our budget. Mr. Rodriguez asked Mr. Brown to let board members know if there is anything they could do to help. If information is put together regarding the budget proposal, board members could share the information with local legislators when they visit them. Mr. Sweeney commended the ROP staff for building up the reserve and taking fiscal responsibility.

Mrs. Gregorio asked about the personal fitness program included in the high school catalog. Mr. Herrmann said it is just being offered at Irvington High School and is a new program for this next school year. Mr. Brown added that the Physical Fitness and Sports Therapy courses should be articulated with Ohlone. Mr. Sweeney said Irvington dedicated a lot of their block grant money to provide a sequence of career pathway courses.

Consent Section:

Mrs. Gregorio made a motion to approve all items included in the Consent Section of the Board packet. Mr. Sweeney made a second to the motion. Members voted 3-0 to approve all consent items included in the January Board Packet.

The meeting adjourned at 4:40 p.m.

Ray Rodriguez, President

Larry Sweeney, Clerk