

**Western Maricopa Education Center, District 402**

4949 W. Indian School Road – Phoenix, AZ 85031

September 2, 2009

**Governing Board Meeting Minutes**

1. Board President Dwight Amery called the Governing Board Meeting to order at 4:05pm. Board Members present were Dwight Amery, James Kaltenbach, Frank Straka, and John Atkins. Jack Lunsford arrived at 4:15pm. Others in attendance were Greg Donovan, Jim Brown, Chris Cook, Barbara Thompson, Dean Petersen, Debbie Holland, John Mulcahy, Arlene McLaughlin, Diane McCarthy, Cliff Migal, Mary Morrow, Michele Bush, Ron Kalmbach, Nichole Smith, Stephen Weltsch, Adriana Alvarado, Paul Johnson, Tony Maldonado, and Dee Dougan.

Those present were led in the Pledge of Allegiance by Tony Maldonado and then a moment of silence was observed.

The audience introduced themselves per Mr. Amery's request.

2. Mr. Kaltenbach made a motion to approve the August 5, 2009 Governing Board Meeting Minutes, the Payable and Payroll Voucher Reports, the Personnel Report, and travel for West-MEC staff to attend the NCLA Best Practices Conference in Austin. Mr. Straka seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Malnar was not able to attend the meeting and he requested that the Board try to contact him via his cell phone so he could attend by conference call. Mr. Straka tried calling him twice, but was not able to reach him.

3. Tony Maldonado, CTE Director of Paradise Valley Unified School District, gave a presentation on Career and Technical Education in his District. The Star Tech Professional Center is where the CTE classes are held. Mr. Maldonado spoke about three Specialized Projects ongoing in his District: CREST, Automotive, and Project Lead the Way. Each of these programs offer in depth training and advanced state of the art training for students. He demonstrated the manufacture of one of the projects the engineering students had to complete, from formation of a company, to design, to production.
4. Diane McCarthy relayed the information that Arizona still does not have a 2009 State Budget. She also presented to the Board a bulleted list of items that the JTEDs are proposing to have changed in the Legislature. A few examples are definition of program, changing and defining the yearly calendar, and computation of Average Daily Attendance. Mr. Lunsford suggested at the next JTED meeting that Mrs. McCarthy propose they use the wording of "Career and Technical Education" instead of Technical Education. Mr. Kaltenbach was concerned about the law of unintended consequences, and Mr. Lunsford wanted to make sure to try to encourage the Legislature to include 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> graders in CTE.

The Arizona Board of Regents has had a long standing position of not accepting as assured admission any CTE credits for college material. Mr. Donovan and Mrs. McCarthy have been having discussions with the Board of Regents regarding their position in this matter and the Regents have been supportive to West-MEC's efforts. Currently West-MEC is putting together a white paper to submit to the Board of Regents regarding the standing of current education today and how much more structured, how much more standards driven, and how industry based CTE is.

The Governing Council on Workforce Policy Grant applications are due October 20<sup>th</sup>. The CTE Directors are providing Mrs. McCarthy with their current lists of classes so a grant application can be sent in that shows the demands of energy efficiency and renewable energy in the in future CTE classes.

Diane McCarthy relayed the information that the West-MEC Alliance 501(c)(3) must have a Board of Directors that is appointed by West-MEC's Governing Board. The proposed initial officers are as follows: Jake Long (President), Joe Holcombe (1<sup>st</sup> Vice President), Frank Straka (2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President), and Diane McCarthy (Secretary/Treasurer). Our legal council, Gust Rosenfeld said that the Governing Board has to approve the initial officers, then once the corporation is formed, other officers will be named. There was some confusion amongst the Board Members as to this request. Mrs. McCarthy said that the Board wouldn't have to approve any future members and that the attorney is the statutory agent. Mr. Kaltenbach made a motion to appoint the listed Board of Directors for the West-MEC Alliance. Mr. Atkins seconded the motion and it was approved. Mr. Lunsford voted no and made it known it was because he was puzzled as to why The Board needed to do this since the West-MEC Alliance only exists to help West-MEC.

Information was given out regarding the Communiversity and Fab Labs. Mr. Kaltenbach understood the concept behind a Fab Lab, but wanted information how Fab Labs would relate to CTSO's, High School Programs, and the Communiversity. Mrs. McCarthy explained that this program would line up under Skills USA and Automotive Manufacturing. Mr. Lunsford commended the West-MEC staff for considering this concept.

5. Mary Morrow gave a short detailed report regarding Average Daily Attendance with student count, ethnicity, and central and satellite breakdown by district.
6. Public Relations Director Chris Cook outlined the West-MEC Marketing Plan for 2009-2010. He spoke about the following strategies and how they were being used: 1. Develop a compelling, interactive and informative social media campaign that relates to target markets 2. Build awareness of West-MEC brand through various media outlets and community presentations 3. Develop strategy to gain comprehensive data of district functionality 4. Build awareness of West-MEC satellite/central programs and the impact of CTE to member school district students, administrators and counselors through presentations and public relations events. Mr. Cook told the Board that the Public Relations Department currently is giving information regarding West-MEC's programs and goodie bags to the CTE teachers in our member districts. Counselors will be the next target area.
7. Greg Donovan informed the Board that the purchase of the Opus Buildings for the District Office/Training Center/Storage/Student Facility has moved along. Our attorney has met with the bankruptcy attorney and hopefully the Board will be voting on the purchase of the buildings before winter break.

The City of Surprise City Council has approved in concept the work with West-MEC in providing us 3 acres for a facility at some point in the future.

Mr. Donovan has spoken with City of Phoenix Council Member Bill Gates regarding the acquisition of land in the I-17 Corridor Commute Shed.

West-MEC has received 13 applications for the RFQ's for Design Build for Aviation. Four Companies will be giving presentations later this month, then a decision will be made as to which company will be given the contract.

West-MEC received a phone call from the Buckeye District office informing us that APS will be our neighbor on the North side of our property. APS will be using this land for training facilities, and potentially the facilities will be shared facilities.

8. Mr. Migal relayed the news that Williams Aviation Group is designing the curriculum for West-MEC's Aviation Program. West-MEC is now officially on file with the FFA, the site plan has been finalized, and we have met with the Airport Administration Group at the Glendale Air Park who has put a preliminary approval on the site plan. West-MEC is also working also with the City of Glendale in the application process.
9. Paul Johnson relayed how we are working with the Communiversy in forming a Dental Assisting Program which will begin October 26<sup>th</sup>. There will be 2 classes of 18 students each, 31 college hours with elective credits, and National Certification with the American Dental Association.
10. During the Call to Public, Mr. Donovan Informed the Board that the Annual Arizona School Boards Association County Meeting is Scheduled September 29, at the Kyrene District Office and urged the Board Members to consider attending.
11. Future agenda items should include regular reports.
12. Mr. Lunsford made the motion to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Straka seconded the motion and the motion was approved.

Respectfully Submitted

Dee Dougan  
Governing Board Secretary

