

Eye On The Board

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Board Highlights April 28, 2009

Reported by Mariann Klinger

Migrant Ed cut, eligibility gets tougher

The district's Migrant Education Program can expect to see more than one-third cut from its budget, according to a report.

Director **Blanca Baltazar-Sabbah** told trustees that changes in the federal eligibility standards will mean fewer students qualify as migrant students. A rigorous interview and re-interview process will be put in place, she said.

In addition, the program lost summer migrant program students to the regular summer program, said Baltazar-Sabbah. "I think it's a good thing, but it has a negative impact on the funding."

The change in eligibility status and the decrease in migrant students would cut the entitlement from \$1.6 million to slightly under \$1 million for next school year, she said.

To meet the change, the district plans to focus efforts on essential services, including the CAHSEE classes, CST Saturday classes, the PASS program, health assessments, academic evaluations, monthly parent education trainings, leadership opportunities and teacher and counselor support.

The cuts are to hit in the area of non-essential expenses, like technology, supplemental books, materials, supplies, parent academies, educational trips, travel and conferences for staff.

In 2006-07, the district served 5,653 migrant students compared to 3,818 the following year, the report said.

Consent Agenda

Trustees passed the following by a vote of 6-1. Trustee **Phillip Tabera** was absent for the vote.

- Awarded the bid to resurface the SHS large gym floor to low bidder HY Floor and Gameline Painting Inc. The \$20,384 project calls for reinstalling the wall base, sanding the floors, sealing the wood and repainting game lines.
- Award the bid to resurface NSHS swimming pool to low bidder Burkett Pool Plastering Inc. The nearly \$50,000 project will allow for replacing pool plaster and tile.
- Award the bid to replace ESMS underground utilities to Nor-Cal Contractor. Gas, water and sewer lines were installed at the school in 1949. The project is to cost \$396,000.