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Migrant Seasonal Head Start
Policy Council Special Meeting
Conference Call
May 7, 2009

1. WELCOME

Claudia Salazar, Policy Council President, welcomed everyone and called the meeting to order at 4:10 P.M.

2. ROLL CALL/INTRODUCTION/SIGN IN

Edna Valdez, MSHS Secretary for Policy Council, proceeded with roll call.

MEMBERS PRESENT ON THE TELEPHONE

Claudia Salazar, Policy Council President-Western Region
Maria Rios, Vice President-Wintergarden Region
Maria Esparza, Secretary-Indiana Region
Karla Valdez, Treasurer-Rio Grande Valley Region
Leeann Benavides, Member at Large-Wintergarden Region
Sonya Gonzalez, Member at Large-Wintergarden Region
Barbarita Ramon, Member at Large-Wintergarden Region
Nydia Palomo, Member at Large-Wintergarden Region
Odalis Zuniga, Member at Large-Rio Grande Valley Region
Patricia Carreon, Member at Large-Rio Grande Valley
Guadalupe Perez, Member at Large-Rio Grande Valley Region
Elizabeth Ibarra, Member at Large-Rio Grande Valley Region
Christopher Pena, Member at Large-Western Region
Guadalupe Andrade, Member at Large-Ohio Region
Miguel Torres, Member at Large-UMOS
Anita Cuevas Lomas, Community Representative-Wintergarden Region
Richard Langford, Community Representative-Ohio Region
Eddie Cortez, Community Representative-Western Region
Diana Palacios, Board Liaison

MEMBERS ABSENT

Veronica Solis, Sergeant At Arms-Rio Grande Valley Region
Edward Villarreal, Member at Large-Rio Grande Valley Region
Ismael Perez, Member at Large-Ohio Region

STAFF

Manuel E. DuQué, Chief Operations Officer
Nestor Atkinson, Interim Migrant Seasonal Head Start Director
Cesar Sotelo, Budget Director
Alicia Yanez, Family Partnership Director
Edna Valdez, MSHS Secretary for Policy Council

Having eleven (11) members present established a quorum.

3. REVIEW AGENDA

The Council reviewed the agenda.

4. APPROVAL ITEM

COLA and Quality Improvement Application

The information and details for this approval item was mailed out in advance. Nestor Atkinson, Interim MSHS Director, informed the Council that the information that was mailed to them is what will be submitted to the Feds to apply for \$6.5 million of additional fund for COLA and Quality Improvement. Cesar Sotelo, Budget Director,

1 explained how the funds will be used. Most of the funds are stimulus funds and will have to follow the
2 restrictions on how and where these funds can be spent.

- 3 ▪ COLA funds - 3.6 percent permanent pay increase retroactive back to February of this year will be given
4 to all employees across the board and to all line items.
- 5 ▪ The American Recovery Act funds- additional 1.84 percent pay increase guaranteed for one year to
6 begin when approval is received.
- 7 ▪ Quality Wage Increase- an additional 2.5 percent increase for one year for staff that is related to the
8 education of the children to help increase and retain educational staff: Child Development
9 Advocate, Family Service Advocate, Teacher, Teacher Aide, Special Needs Aide, Child
10 Development Coordinators, CP/ERSEA/Transition Coordinators, Family Partnership
11 Coordinators.
- 12 ▪ Wintergarden and Rio Grande Valley Staff will be called back to work for the HOME BASE a week early in
13 August
- 14 ▪ An incentive for the HOME BASE/Texas Staff who will go to the Northern state of Indiana and Ohio, who
15 are knowledgeable in Head Start and fluent in Spanish.

16 Quality Improvement Funds will be used on buses and facility renovations. One of the restrictions was that only
17 10 percent can be used for the purchase of buses.

- 18 ▪ This will only be enough funds to purchase four (4) disability buses that will be sent where ever they are
19 most needed.
- 20 ▪ These funds will also be used for renovations at the following centers where repairs or renovations are
21 most needed: San Juan, Mercedes, Shiloh, Willard, Falfurrias, Floydada, and the Roma II center.

22 UMOS will be spending these funds in a similar way. They will be spending fifty percent (50%) for Educational
23 Staff and fifty percent (50%) for classroom supply and playground equipment.

25 Eddie Cortez, Community Representative from the Wintergarden Region, made a motion to approve the COLA
26 application as presented. Leeann Benavides from the Wintergarden Region seconded. Motion carried
27 unanimously.

28 Patricia Carreon made a motion to approve the Quality Improvement application as presented. Guadalupe Perez
29 seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

31 5. ADJOURN

32 Leeann Benavides made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Eddie Cortez seconded. Motion carried unanimously.
33 The meeting adjourned at 4:40 P.M.

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SUMMARY OF DECISIONS MADE BY POLICY COUNCIL
MAY 7, 2009

1. COLA AND QUALITY IMPROVEMENT APPLICATION

APPROVED

APPROVED BY Maura Deegan / Secretary
NAME/TITLE

APPROVED ON 6/6/09
DATE