

# Workforce Investment Board of Merced County Youth Council

Valley Community School, Library  
1850 W Wardrobe Avenue, Merced

Wednesday, March 12, 2008 – 3:30 p.m.

## Meeting Minutes



<http://web.co.merced.ca.us/wi/youth/meetingpkts/meetingpkts.html>

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**Members Present:** Bob Bittner, Stephanie Busbea, Claudia Corchado, Ben Duran, Rennise Ferrario (Chair), Alexander Hall, Kathy Hassett, Mary Jane Hawkes, Wendy Lomeli, Richard Mahacek, Holly Newlon, Edgar Perez, Nancy A. Silva, Vann (Mike) Smith, Nancy Vega-Mendoza, Mayra Vega-Ramirez

**Members Absent:** Martha Dueñas, Taide Hernandez, Stefani Martinez, Sheena Murry, Rick Osorio, Rebecca Rodriguez-Lincoln, Deloris Sharp, Nathan Timmerman

**Others Present:** Derrek Dean, Patricia Hinson, Alfredo Mendoza

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- 1. Tour of Valley Community Campus:** Mr. Derrek Dean gave members a tour of Valley Community Campus.
- 2. Call to Order/Roll Call:** The Chair called the meeting to order at 3:55 p.m. Roll call was taken.
- 3. Approve Agenda:** It was *M/S/C Corchado/Hassett* to approve the agenda.
- 4. Approve Minutes:** It was *M/S/C Newlon/Corchado* to approve the February 13, 2008 minutes.
- 5. Public Opportunity to Speak:** None.
- 6. Announcements:** Ms. Rennise Ferrario noted Ms. Mayra Vega-Ramirez will be resigning from the Youth Council as of 3/12/08. Ms. Ferrario thanked Ms. Vega-Ramirez for all her hard work and support she gave the Youth Council. She will be missed. Ms. Sheena Murry has moved out of state and will no longer be part of the Youth Council.

Mr. Bob Bittner noted Ms. Martha Dueñas is recuperating from surgery, and will not be attending the next Youth Council meeting.

Ms. Holly Newlon noted the Merced County Office of Education (MCOE) Regional Occupational Program (ROP) will have a visit from the Western Association of Schools and Colleges (WASC), April 6- 9, 2008. Everyone who participated in the Focus Groups meetings is invited to attend the dinner, April 6th, 5:30 p.m., at MCOE. MCOE/ROP is working together with local employers to have a job fair on May 8<sup>th</sup>, 1:00 to 7:00 p.m., at MCOE Building J-2. Currently, there are about 3,000 students enrolled in ROP, and this job fair will give the students an opportunity to get positive feedback from employers regarding their portfolio, which is part of the ROP training program.

Mr. Alexander Hall noted the City of Merced Parks and Community Services will offer Summer Camp at numerous school sites throughout the city. There will be a public meeting April 10<sup>th</sup> at Golden Valley High School to talk about the Summer Camp. The cost will be \$10.00 for registration and \$30.00 for 8 weeks. More information will be available at the next Youth Council meeting.

**7. Presentation: Central California Regional Obesity Prevention Program:** Ms. Claudia Corchado gave a PowerPoint presentation on Child Obesity Prevention Program. Ms. Corchado noted most children are becoming overweight at a very early age.

Children who are overweight are at a greater risk to develop health problems like: Diabetes, asthma, high blood pressure and heart diseases. Since 1970 the incidence of obesity has doubled in children ages 2-5, doubled for adolescents between the ages of 12 and 19, and tripled between the ages of 6 and 11 years old. Some of the contributing factors of obesity are; Lack of exercise, poor eating habits, video games, too much television, and food product marketing. Most overweight children unfortunately become overweight adults. The cost for obesity healthcare has increased.

**8. Action Agenda:**

**a. Selection of Youth Council Vice Char:** It was *M/S/C Hall/Silva* to approve Ms. Claudia Corchado as the Vice Chair for the Youth Council.

**9. Discussion Agenda:**

**a. Formation of Ad Hoc Website Committee:** The following Youth members volunteered to be part of the Ad Hoc Committee: Mr. Hall, Ms. Corchado (Chair), Ms. Vega-Mendoza, Ms. Lomeli, and Mr. Bittner. This committee will focus on accomplishing the following goals:

- Raise awareness of High School dropout issues
- Promote Youth Development Assets/Principles to parents and organizations
- Facilitate Labor Market Information (LMI) for high school educators, employers, and parents; and
- Insert newsletters from other sources into the website (i.e. Housing Authority Newsletter)

**10. Information Agenda:**

**a. CalGRIP Funding:** Staff noted this project will provide educational, job/vocational supportive and counseling services to youth enrolled in the Merced County Department of Probation Bear Creek Academy program. A highly collaborative approach between the Department of Workforce Investment, Probation and Merced County Office of Education will provide the youth with a comprehensive service plan and pathway that will help them identify their strengths, develop positive goals and strategies for eventual self-sufficiency.

**b. Youth Resource Directory Presentation:** Staff asked Youth Council members to provide names of local agencies/organizations that would benefit from viewing the presentation. The presentation takes 10-15 minutes, with printed directories made available to attendees. For more information, contact Mr. Alfredo Mendoza at 724-2044.

**11. Chair Comments/Roundtable/Future Agenda Items:** The Chair thanked everyone for attending the meeting.

**12. Date, Time and Location of Next Youth Council Meeting:** April 9, 2008, 4:00 p.m., Merced County Department of Workforce Investment, Large Conference Room, 1880 W. Wardrobe Avenue, Merced.

**13. Adjourn:** The meeting adjourned at 5:05 p.m.