

VICTOR VALLEY UNION HIGH SCHOOL  
BOARD OF TRUSTEES



James (Chief) Moitoso  
Board Clerk

James (Chief) Moitoso is the newest member on the Board of Trustees, being selected in August, 2009. The Chief is a 26-year Air Force veteran and holds the highest enlisted grade. He is a well traveled individual, either working in or visiting more than 20 countries covering 4 continents. After his retirement from the Air Force, the Chief was hired on at Victor Valley High School and started the Air Force Junior Reserve Officers Training Corps (AFJROTC) program. He has been a member of the National Youth Leadership Forum National Nominating Committee, an Educational Advisor to the National Young Leaders Conference, and a member of the Congressional Youth Leadership Council. He is also a member of the Noncommissioned Officers Association and the Air Force Sergeant's Association.

In 2005, Chief Moitoso was selected by AFJROTC Headquarters in Montgomery, Alabama to teach new instructors entering the AFJROTC program. Additionally, in 2007 and 2008, the Chief was selected to teach AFJROTC's Aerospace and Technology Honors Camp at the University of New Mexico. Worldwide, he was selected as AFJROTC's Instructor of the Year 10 times and was included in the 10<sup>th</sup> edition of "WHO'S WHO AMONG AMERICA'S TEACHERS" for the 6<sup>th</sup> consecutive time. In 2006, he was selected as one of the top 3 finalists for the California Troops to Teachers Teacher of the Year Award, and in 2004, he was selected as Victor Valley High School's Teacher of the Year. Besides his AFJROTC duties, the Chief has assisted with school security, been a member of the school's discipline committee, and was a reader of the graduates for 10 consecutive years. Chief Moitoso retired in 2009 after 15 years as an educator.

The son of a Portuguese immigrant, he attributes all his life's successes to the influences his Mother and Father had on him. "They pushed me to go to school and succeed", he said. "They were my heroes". Because of this, he is a die-hard believer in public education and is ecstatic that he will now be able to continue to work for our kids. His motto of "Never Say I Can't" has been an inspiration to the hundreds of students that he has had the pleasure to teach. The Chief holds a Bachelor of Science Degree in Occupational Education from Southern Illinois University and a Master of Arts Degree in Education from California State University San Bernardino. He has been a Victorville resident for 20 years and is married to the former Peggy Gamino of San Bernardino, California. He has four adult children and 8 grandchildren.