

**Lake Tahoe Unified School District
1021 Al Tahoe Blvd
So. Lake Tahoe, CA 96150**

**BOARD OF EDUCATION MINUTES
May 11, 2004**

Board Members Present: Wendy David, Madeline Fernald, Sue Novasel, Barbara Bannar.

Staff Members Present: Diane Scheerhorn, Anita McIntosh, Barbara Davis, Steve Morales, Ed Costa, Beth Delacour, Niall McGuinness, Pedro Aluiso, Becky Fortier, Jackie Nelson, Marcia Kaster, Don Borges, Karen Gillis-Tinlin, Carol Murdock, Steve Hall, Mike Greenfield, Joe Pfeil, Susan Baker, Chris Sowers, Jodi Dayberry, Eric Allmeroth, Michelle Reilly, Michael Davis, Loreen Norberg, Jerry Carter, Bridey Heidel, Diana Reiner, Joel Damerl, Karen Miner.

Guests Present: Megan Comlossy, Sue Abrams, Joy Rothschild, Bob Albrecht, Madonna Smith, Nancy Caro, Sarah Jepson, Denise Wagner, Devin Blann, Jorie Turner, Jessica Lopez, Issy Walters, Jeff Deguide, London Brown, Ashlee Pacheco, Rik Walowit, Grit O'Brien, Melinda Garratt, Larry Reilly, Randy Norberg, Sandie Finkel, Lynn Norton, Kerry Norton, Harley Norton.

Items 1. Call to Order/Pledge of Allegiance

The meeting was called to order at 11:18 am by Wendy David in the library conference room at South Tahoe High School, 1735 Lake Tahoe Blvd., South Lake Tahoe.

Item 2. Approval of Agenda

Item 10.B. Declaration of Need for Fully Qualified Educators was moved to Item 9. H. of the Discussion and Action section. **Mrs. Novasel made a motion to approve the agenda as amended; Mrs. Fernald seconded. Ayes: David, Fernald, Bannar, Novasel. Absent: Forte. Noes: None**

Item 3. Senior Students' Lunch

Wendy David, Madeline Fernald, Barbara Bannar, Sue Novasel, and Diane Scheerhorn met with seniors from South Tahoe High School over lunch. The seniors introduced themselves and shared their plans for after graduation. They talked about what they like, dislike, and made suggestions for improvement of their school. Compliments to many of the staff for their guidance, support, and encouragement were heard, along with appreciation of the sports programs available at the High School. Creativity, cheating, and food choices were among the topics discussed.

Item 4. Recess Regular Open Session

Wendy David called a recess to the regular open session at 11:57 am.

Item 5-6. Reconvene Into Regular Session at District Office Board Room

Wendy David reconvened the regular session of the Board of Education meeting at 6:06 pm in the Board Room of the Lake Tahoe Unified School District Office at 1021 Al Tahoe Blvd., South Lake Tahoe. The pledge of allegiance was said.

Item 7. Public Hearing Session

Bob Albrecht, a teacher from Lake Tahoe Community College, invited the Board to attend a lecture by Tom Whitaker. He is the first disabled person to climb Mount Everest. Tickets are \$5.00 and on sale in the bookstore of the College. He will speak next Monday in the theater. On Tuesday he will speak to disabled students and athletes at the High School. He is quite an inspiration.

Item 8. Announcements, Correspondence, and Reports

A. Report by STHS Student Representative to the Board of Education

Megan Comlossy thanked the Board for the senior lunch. They all had a great time and really appreciated the opportunity to meet with them. She wished they had more time. Spring String Fling went well. The 9th -11th grade students have been busy with CAT6 and STAR testing and AP testing will be over this Friday. There will be Mr. Viking competition this Friday. It is a spoof of the Miss Tahoe Contest and boys will compete in swim wear and talent categories at 6:00 pm this Friday in the theater. It should be great fun. Air Band is next Wednesday, May 19th. June 5th is Prom and the junior class is planning it. It will be held at Heavenly in the parking lot in the Pavilion. Pops will be held June 7th and 8th and the Senior Awards night will be June 3rd and senior projects are coming up. SMILE will visit the Middle School on June 3rd and Freshman orientation will be September 2nd.

B. Public Disclosure of Initial Contract Proposals for 2004/05 for STEA

Carol Murdock told the Board that STEA will continue with the items from 03/04. Once these items are completed they will bring forward any new items.

C. Young Partents Program / Alternative Education presentation

Susan Baker conducted a powerpoint presentation on Mt. Tallac alternative education. The Mountain News wrote a great article on the continuation school. The growth of this program has been strong. Their goals for the program are two new portables, ASAM score growth, an increase in graduation rate, a handbook, and WASC accreditation. Ms. Baker introduced Chris Sowers, Steve Simmons, and Dave Alexander, teachers from Mt. Tallac, and Ashlee Pacheco and London Brown, students from Mt. Tallac. Ashlee spoke of the lack of stress and pressure that she has to deal with in this learning environment. She is taking accounting at the College. London Brown appreciates that she is able to work at her own speed

and feels comfortable with the teachers. She is able to move ahead at her own pace. Her attendance has been good and has passed her High School exit exam on her first try.

Chris Sowers thanked many of the community agencies for their help and support. The services that they provide make a difference. The agencies are: Tahoe Youth and Family Services; Yellow Cab Company; Lake Tahoe Womens' Center; Soroptimists; ATM - Area Transit Management; and El Dorado County Health Department. They will be given Certificates of Appreciation.

Wendy David congratulated them on their growth

D. Presentation to Niall McGuinness and Bijou Community School

Wendy David presented a certificate to Niall McGuinness from the J. William Fulbright Foreign Scholarship Board and the U.S. Department of State in recognition of his participation in the program. He taught in Southern England for the 2002/03 school year. He also accepted an award for Bijou Community School for their participation.

E. Assistant Superintendent's Report

Barbara Davis credited the success of Mt. Tallac to the hard work by the dedicated staff members. The growth of the continuation school is a result of this dedication.

The Enhancing Education Through Technology grant will provide close to \$500,000 to the District over the next 3 years. Joe Pfeil, Diana Reiner, Carol Murdock, and Susie Marx worked together to write the application. This is a technology grant with a science focus. Funds will be spent on staff development, 4 carts with 120 laptops with wireless capabilities, and will service 4 science classes the first year and the whole school the following year. They will partner with many agencies, including the Forest Service, Agriculture Department, State Parks, and many local agencies around the lake.

Ms. Davis informed the Board that the District is applying for permission to become a supplemental education services provider. If approved by the State we will be able to provide tutors one on one or in small groups. In July, the Department of Education they will let us know if we have been approved.

F. Superintendent's Report

Dr. Scheerhorn informed the Board that the transition calendar has been updated and will continue to update on a weekly basis. All of the activities have been scheduled for the consolidation and many have begun. Visitations are taking

place at the sites on a weekly basis to answer questions. Meyers and Al Tahoe will be weekly, every other week for the other elementary sites and twice at High School and Middle School. PTA/PTO will be meeting with the principals to find out how they can be helpful during the transition process. Letters are being sent out to parents to find out their plans for the next school year. Closing and opening plans are being worked on. SEQUA, the negative declaration, has begun. We hope to file May 20th and have it posted for public input. District Office will be open on Thursdays from this point forward. Linda Kolesar, a retiree, will man the front desk for the next five weeks. After that, we will ask to have someone at the reception desk on a full time basis. The confidential staff gave up 5 days of work last year and we will request that those days be returned to them. The loss of work days has created hardships on the various departments. The work load was not lessened, just the time allotted to do the work. For the next fiscal year, mail delivery to the sites will be on a regular daily basis. The absence of regular deliveries has caused on going problems. These items will brought back to the Board in the future.

A homemade card sent to Lisa and Paul Huard from their niece and nephew was read. It was sent to them during the Measure L campaign. They wanted to help and each of them sent a dollar to help us out.

G. Board of Education Report

Sue Novasel said that lunch was wonderful with the seniors and she enjoyed listening to the positive and negative. They had kudos to all the High School staff. They felt that they had been touched.

Madeline Fernald has been questioned many times about what we are doing in the District. She likes the way that Jackie Nelson expressed that we are closing 5 schools and opening 3 schools. That perspective sums up the process that is at hand. The term transition is very appropriate for this process. Thank you for your support. She had a wonderful time with the seniors and enjoyed talking to them as they prepare for the future and hearing their view of the world. Thanks to the High School staff for reaching out to the students.

Barbara Bannar had accepted an invitation to attend a PTA meeting at Sierra House and finds herself unable to attend. Would another Board member be able to go? She will have a PTA/PTO meeting/potluck at her house. Would another Board member like to come? Sue Novasel will join her. The Al Tahoe visitation was good, but it can take an hour at the sites. Lisa Huard's Drug Store project meeting and feedback was very positive.

Wendy David told the Board of the upcoming TPNS fundraiser. It will be held on

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May 21st. They are working to raise funds for a new facility at Lake Tahoe Community College. If anyone is interested in being on a panel for Senior Projects, contact Wendy or Janna Gard. The Latino Commission will meet on May 18th at noon and has asked for update from a Board member. Perhaps we could have them update or Board as well. It would be helpful to many parents if they could visit the schools that their children will be attending next year.

Item 8.

Discussion and Action

A. Adopt the Decision of the Administrative Law Judge, dated April 26, 2004 - Regarding the Dismissal of Certificated Employees

Beth Delacour modifications as a result of the Administrative Law Judge's decision. **Mrs. Fernald made a motion to adopt the decision; Mrs. Novasel seconded. Ayes: David, Fernald, Bannar, Novasel. Absent: Forte. Noes: None.**

B. Approve Contract with Eagle Software

Steve Morales asked the Board to approve the purchase of this program with the various vendors needed to complete the package. The price is not to exceed \$147,000. He explained the background and research that has gone into this along with the training, proven track record and use in El Dorado county. The documents reflect the money required to purchase and run this system. The goal is to have this in place for summer school and ready at the other sites for at the start of the school year. Michelle Reilly took the training and has such enthusiasm because it worked. She said it was unbelievable and fantastic. The report card format will improve and accurate transcripts will be possible. The District plans to maintain our own servers. Currently with Schoolmax, we work off of servers in Sacramento. **Mrs. Novasel made a motion to approve the purchase; Mrs. Fernald seconded. Ayes: David, Fernald, Bannar, Novasel. Absent: Forte. Noes: None.**

C. First Reading of Board Policy Additions, Deletions, and Revisions

ADD BP 4112.24, Teacher Qualifications Under the No Child Left Behind Act

BP 6173.1, Education for Foster Youth

REVISE BP 1330, Use of School Facilities

BP 4112.2, Certification

BP 4113, Assignment

BP 4119.11; 4219.11; 4319.11, Sexual Harassment

BP 5112.1, Exemptions from Attendance

BP 5116.1, Intra-district Open Enrollment

BP 5131, Conduct

BP 5141.21, Administering Medication and Monitoring Health Conditions

BP 5145.3, Nondiscrimination/Harassment

BP 5145.6, Parental Notifications

BP 6141.2, Recognition of Religious Beliefs and Customs

BP 6164.5 Student Study Teams

BB 9200, Limits of Board members Authority

Members of the Board asked for clarification and explanation of some of the changes. An option regarding cell phones needs to be chosen and use of facilities needs to be reviewed more closely with the Business Office. Questions surrounding medication given to students at school and the training of staff were brought up. Special Education areas were questioned in regards to study teams and success teams. A review of the 9000 policies was requested for the future. The changes of 5116.1, Intra District Transfers, is to allow students of employees to attend the same school where their parent works, homeless exceptions, and program improvement schools were explained by Barbara Davis. Data sheets were handed out showing the number of intra district transfers at the sites currently. Open enrollment laws were discussed. Dr. Scheerhorn will provide answers to the Board in these areas. **No Action.**

D. Approve New Course of Study for Speech & Debate

Eric Allmeroth spoke about this course and shared that a speech course was a motivating factor in his college education and hopes that this will motivate students. Ms. David shared her experience with speech classes and Ms. Fernald said she would love to be able to participate in this course. **Mrs. Fernald made a motion to approve the new course of study; Mrs. Novasel seconded. Ayes: David, Fernald, Bannar, Novasel. Absent: Forte Noes: None.**

E. Pay for Participation

Larry Reilly spoke to the Board about athletics at the High School. He has a background as an educator, athletic director and coach, but is here as a parent. He urged the Board to be careful with the elimination and/or reduction of the athletic budget. He feels his son needs sports in his academic career. Without the athletic piece available, he will pull his son from the school. He feels that athletics are important, and if you start dropping programs, you will lose students.

Sandie Finkel asked the Board not to forget the parents when making decisions. Parents may be able to help with the transportation for sports or even donations. She asked for a break down of where the donation money will go. Through athletics, college may be an avenue for some and a motivator for others. She may pull her son if athletics are dropped.

Mike Greenfield developed an athletic plan for the Middle School with an estimated budget for the 04/05 school year of \$18,000. Their total for the 03/04 year was \$46,000. He has looked at an intermural sports program with a participation fee of \$25.00 per sport and hosting tournaments. He is working toward keeping as many students involved as possible. Funds raised will supplement the athletic program.

Don Borges and Marcia Kaster joined the Board in a discussion about the options for high school athletics for the 04/05 school with the budget dollars

available to them. Maintaining competitive athletics is the goal. To remain in NIAA, they will have to make a decision by May 25th. Donations by the athletes range from \$60.00 to over \$400.00 per athlete depending on whether or not a budget increase can be provided. Ed Costa explained that the dollars allotted to High School athletics is based on the directive from the Board in their resolution. It stated that the District was to charge for sports. Marcia Kaster read a letter sent to NIAA about the status of sports at the high school. They respected our position and keeping them informed. It is possible that with less participation in athletics that 1 to 2.5 more physical education teachers may be needed in order for students to meet their graduation requirements.

Sue Abrams commented that hiring more teachers would be a misuse of budget dollars to offset budget cuts.

It was determined that more discussion is needed. Another meeting is planned for Tuesday at 10:00 am in Marcia Kaster's office. Sue Novasel and Wendy David will join them. If needed, a special Board meeting will be held. Ed Costa asked that direction be given as soon as possible. Any decision made will affect the preparation of the 3rd Interim Report, which has been required by El Dorado County Office of Education. A reasonable solution needs to be found.

No Action.

F. Approve Resolution 2003/04-24, Resolution for Budget Increase and Interfund Transfund.

Ed Costa explained the use of the Special Reserve Fund for Other Than Capital Outlay Projects. It will allow the Board to access funds from the lease with South Tahoe Public Utility, should they wish to use them for a purpose other than capital outlay. **Mrs. Fernald made a motion to approve the resolution; Mrs. Bannar seconded. Ayes: David, Fernald, Bannar, Novasel. Absent: Forte. Noes: None.**

G. Approve Resolution 2003/04-25, Resolution for Budget Increase and Interfund Transfer. Ed Costa explained that this resolution is the second stage needed to move the funds from the lease. **Mrs. Novasel made a motion to approve the resolution; Mrs. Fernald seconded. Ayes: David, Fernald, Bannar, Novasel. Absent: Forte. Noes: None.**

H. Approve Declaration of Need for Fully Qualified Educators.

Beth Delacour explained the purpose of the declaration. Should the District find that a teacher needs an emergency credential in order to teach a particular subject, we are able to request one. It does not mean that it will be used. **Mrs. Fernald made a motion to approve the declaration; Mrs. Bannar seconded. Ayes: David, Fernald, Bannar, Novasel. Absent: Forte. Noes: None.**

Item 10. Consent Agenda

Mrs. Bannar made a motion to approve the consent agenda; Mrs. Fernald seconded. Ayes: David, Fernald, Bannar, Novasel. Absent: Forte. Noes: None.

Item 11-12. Announcement of Items to be Discussed in Closed Session/Adjourn to Closed Session - The items to be discussed in closed session were announced and the Board adjourned to a short recess at 9:29 pm and into closed session at 9:45 pm.

Item 13. Reconvene into Regular Session - The Board reconvened into regular session at 11:43 pm.

Item 14. Action on Items from Closed Session

A. Personnel Matter

Mrs. Novasel made a motion to Support the recommendation of the Superintendent; seconded by Mrs. Bannar . Ayes: David, Fernald, Bannar, Novasel. Absent: Forte. Noes: None.

B. Personnel Order 2003/04-19

- i. Hire: softball coaches; swim coaches; sub teachers; teacher; sub bus driver; student workability; inst assistant; asst. Baseball coach; track coach.
- ii. Hire for extra duty services: track coaches; CASHEE Review curric.; reading coordinator; softball coach; senior project read; ELD/SDAIE presenter; WASC coordinator; lead teacher; golf coach; baseball coach; summer school prep secretary.
- iii. Retirements: administrative assistant; teacher.
- iv. Resignations: instructional assistants; cafeteria asst.; basketball coach.
- v. Leaves of Absence: teachers.
- vi. Change of Status: teacher.
- vii Temporary Assignment: principal.

Mrs. Fernald made a motion to approve the personnel order; seconded by Mrs. Bannar . Ayes: David, Fernald, Bannar, Novasel. Absent: Forte. Noes: None.

C. Conference with Labor Negotiators

No Action.

D. Administrative Contract Review

No Action.

E. Discipline

- i. *Recommendation for Revocation of Suspension of Expulsion No. 2003/04-22.* - The student violated the conditions of the suspended expulsion and will be expelled until May 24, 2004.
- ii. *Recommended Expulsion No. 2003/04-24* - The student will be expelled until April 1, 2005 for theft.

- iii. *Recommended Expulsion No. 2003/04-25* - The student will be expelled until April 27, 2005 for possession and sale of a controlled substance.
- iv. *Recommended Expulsion No. 2003/04-26* - The student will be expelled until April 27, 2005 for possession and providing drugs another student.
- v. *Expulsion Recommendation No. 2003/04-27* - The student's expulsion for purchase of a controlled substance will be suspended if nine conditions are met.
- vi. *Expulsion Recommendation No. 2003/04-28* - The student's expulsion for possession of a controlled substance will be suspended if nine conditions are met.
- vii. *Expulsion Recommendation No. 2003/04-29* - The student's expulsion for being under the influence will be suspended if nine conditions are met.
- viii. *Expulsion Recommendation No. 2003/04-30* - The student's expulsion for being under the influence will be suspended if nine conditions are met.
- ix. *Expulsion Notice - Out of District* - The student is expelled until November 4, 2004 under an expulsion notice from another school district. Enrollment in an alternative education program through the county is recommended.

Mrs. Fernald made a motion to approve the recommendations; seconded by Mrs. Novasel . Ayes: David, Fernald, Bannar, Novasel. Absent: Forte Noes: None.

F. CFO Position
No Action.

Item 15. Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned by Mrs. David at 11:49 pm.

Diane Scheerhorn, Superintendent and Secretary to the Board of Education