

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

**BOARD OF EDUCATION MINUTES  
October 19, 2004**

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

**Staff Members Present:** Lorraine Garcy, Anita McIntosh, Barbara Davis, Beth Delacour, Mike Curran, Jim Watson, Pedro Aluiso, Jodi Dayberry, Vivian Rider, Mark Romagnolo, Linda Wysong, Karen Miner.

**Guests Present:** Ann Rasmussen, Michele Strieck, Del Laine, Sandra Hibler, Lynn Dupree, Cookie Rork, Julie Butler, Peter Butler, Peter Grant, Jim Weinberg, Bernadette Santana, Chris Campion, Stacy Romagnolo, Mary Carter, Linda Amundson.

**Items 1 - 2. Call to Order/Pledge of Allegiance**

The meeting was called to order at 6:05 p.m. by Wendy David 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 3. Approval of Agenda**

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

**Item 4. Discussion and Action**

***Preliminary Factors Pertaining to a Possible Parcel Tax Election***

Dr. Lorraine Garcy presented options to the Board for their consideration. Seven different creative variations were created and they were finally narrowed down to two which more closely meet the letter of the law that governs parcel taxes. Questions which the Board will be asked to answer tonight will be: what option to further explore; what rate to use; is a survey needed; March, November or no election; how many years for the tax; escalation clause; exemptions for those over 65 whose property is their primary residence.

Khushroo Gheyara, from Caldwell, Flores, and Winters, explained the two options that were being presented. Scenario 1 would tax all residential units and other parcels (20,641 residential units and 23,059 commercial parcels) at the same rates, while Scenario 2 would tax all parcels (16,673 residential parcels and 23,059 commercial parcels) at the same rate.

Questions from the Board and community included: charging fractional owners of property at a different rate; legal challenges; who creates the tax roles; Mr. Gheyara was asked about his background and success rate; and will the timeshares contribute to the campaign.

Some community members voiced their concern over setting the tax fee at a level that will not add back the programs that they find to be most beneficial to the students. The most desired programs seem to be Class Size Reduction, Athletics, and an elementary physical education program.

Declining enrollment and the reasons students are leaving was discussed. The majority of those leaving have gone to other districts or out of state. Housing and jobs were cited by those who filled out exit surveys.

The opposition during the Measure L campaign was not focused on the amount but other reasons. As a general rule 20% of communities have voters who will always vote no on any tax increase. Many in attendance urged the Board to set the amount for the tax at a rate that will bring in the money that is needed to sustain existing programs and bring back programs that are important to the community.

The importance of student attendance effects the financial standing of the District also. We need to make parents aware that pulling their children out for the day or keeping them home is costing the District approximately \$5,000 a day in revenue.

The board was asked to consider \$80 if not \$100 by several attendees.

The questions before the Board were addressed.

1. Option 2 shall be explored further.
2. The rate shall be \$120 by consensus of the Board.
3. A survey is deemed not to be necessary.
4. The election date of March 8, 2005 is selected.
5. Length of time for parcel tax - 6 years.
6. No escalation rate to be included.
7. Exemption for seniors 65 and over whose property is their principal residence and to simplify the filing of exemptions for seniors.

The Board was asked about exemption for those with disabilities - the information will be gathered.

Use of the funds from a parcel tax will be for maintaining current programs and add back the class size reduction, athletics, elementary PE program, and other programs.

No action will be taken on October 26, 2004. It will be a regular Board meeting and a public hearing on the resolution. Action on the resolution going for the parcel tax will be taken on November 9, 2005.

**Item 5. Adjourn**

The meeting was adjourned by Mrs. David at 8:17 p.m.

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**Lorraine M. Garcy, Superintendent and  
Secretary to the Board of Education**