



**LAKE TAHOE UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT
BOARD OF EDUCATION MINUTES
REGULAR MEETING OF DECEMBER 14, 2004**

DISTRICT OFFICE BOARD ROOM
1021 Al Tahoe Boulevard

5:00 - REGULAR CLOSED SESSION
6:00 - REGULAR OPEN SESSION

Board Members / Reps.	Staff Members Present	Guests Present	
Wendy David Barbara Bannar Sue Novasel Doug Forte Absent: Madeline Fernald Student Representatives: Mari Peshon Megan Roberto	Lori Garcy, Angie Freeman, Barbara Davis, Mike Curran, Beth Delacour, Steve Morales, Karen Gillis-Tinlin, Geoff Blachman, Jackie Nelson, Gretchen Zeller, Jodi Dayberry, Brittainy Lehmann, Pam Fritz, Nancy Muller, Karen Miner, Scott Ramirez, Marie Meagher, Cindy Clark, Bridey Heidel, Judy Schwartz, Vicki Dant, Bob Anderson, Beth Eskandanian, Jim Watson, Becky Fortier, Suzy Krzaczek	Carry Loomis, Laurel Sorenson, Phillip Sorenson, Trudy Matthews, Josephine Buchser, Lew Pedrazzi, Jen Hamburg, Kim Ilvento, Pam Singer, Cynthia Terry, Jannelle Burrow, Sue Zanatel, Andrea & Dave Marion, Leah Edge, Tamara Burns, Rene Brejc, Michelle Benedict, Kristi Leonard, Scott Leonard, Lauren Payne	Jim Elliott, Lovee Eliot, Carrie Garrett, Bill & Vickie Sluka, Alice Brady, Paige Cefalu, Shelley Bailey, Jen Bronken, Carol Daum, Lisa McAvoy, Chris Campion, Mark Garratt, Susie Colleton, Laura Curatolo, Ryan Miller, Karen Maack, Stacy Romagnolo, Bubba Romagnolo, Angela Swanson, Shannon Beni, Kelly Keiger, Charlie Linden, Harold Singer

Item 1. CALL TO ORDER

The Open Session of the regular meeting of the Lake Tahoe Unified School District Board of Education was called to order by Wendy David at 5:01 p.m. at the District Office Board Room, 1021 Al Tahoe Boulevard. (Barbara Bannar has laryngitis and is unable to provide much verbal input.)

Item 2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

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

Items 3-5. ADJOURN TO CLOSED SESSION / RECONVENE INTO REGULAR SESSION

Mrs. David announced the items to be discussed in closed session. The regular meeting recessed at 5:04 p.m. and reconvened into regular session at 6:02 p.m.

Item 6. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance was said.

Item 7. ACTION ON ITEMS FROM CLOSED SESSION

A. Conference with Labor Negotiators

A conference with the Superintendent was held regarding negotiations with South Tahoe Educators Association, California School Employees Association **No action was taken.**

B. Personnel Order No. 2004/05-13

Hire: teachers, substitute teacher, and instructional assistant. *Accept Leaves of Absence:* teachers. *Accept Resignation:* head varsity football coach.

Mr. Forte made a motion to approve the Personnel Order as submitted; Mrs. Novasel seconded the motion. Ayes: David/Bannar/Forte/Novasel. Noes: None. Absent: Fernald.

C. Employee Discipline/Dismissal/Release

No action.

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Item 7. ACTION ON ITEMS FROM CLOSED SESSION (CONTINUED)

D. Student Discipline

- i. No. 2004/05-08, Expulsion Recommendation
The student was under the influence of marijuana at school. This is the second drug related offense and the student was placed on a suspended expulsion with ten conditions.
- ii. No. 2004/05-10, Expulsion Recommendation
The student was under the influence of marijuana at school. This is the second drug related offense and the student was placed on a suspended expulsion with ten conditions.
- iii. No. 2004/05-11, Expulsion Recommendation
The student was caught smoking marijuana and in possession of marijuana and drug paraphernalia at school. This is the second drug related offense and the student was placed on a suspended expulsion with ten conditions.
- iv. No. 2004/05-12, Expulsion Recommendation
The student was under the influence of marijuana at school. This is the second drug related offense and the student was placed on a suspended expulsion with ten conditions.
Mrs. Novasel made a motion to approve the recommendations for expulsion as submitted; Mr. Forte seconded the motion. Ayes: David/Bannar/Forte/Novasel. Noes: None. Absent: Fernald

Item 8. COMMUNICATION FROM THE PUBLIC

Karen Miner, referring to a recent newspaper article, said that the proposed charter school does not seem to be offering anything that is not offered by LTUSD and she recommended Al Tahoe school rather than Meyers for more accessibility.

Lew Pedrazzi said that people are using school equipment for their own personal use and has photos to show the violations. Dr. Garcy said that she will be happy to meet with him.

Item 9 PUBLIC HEARING

i. Charter School Petition

Pam Singer said that the goal of the LTCA is to provide an option for parents in this community. She explained how the concept of this charter school came about and the background of the founding group. **Kim Ilvento and Jen Seeley-Hamburg**, teachers who worked over the summer to research curriculum, explained that the International Baccalaureate curriculum was originally developed for high-achieving, motivated high school students and is a methodology that is taught all over the world. They referred interested parties to the www.ibo.org website. **Kristi Leonard** addressed the governing structure and how teachers will be held accountable with credentialing. **Pam Singer** spoke about admission requirements, enrollment, and class sizes. **Harold Singer** reported on the projected budget, indicating that the first year's revenue is anticipated to be \$936,000 based on an ADA of 205 students, with expenditures slated to be \$914,000. He said that 75% of the budget would be for salaries and benefits. **Carry Loomis** addressed the transportation issue. The school will not be able to provide transportation and will depend on carpooling, etc. The calendar year will be the same as LTUSD and the instructional minutes will comply with Ed. Code. **Pam Singer** agreed that Al Tahoe would be the best location. They would have an all-day kindergarten program and a parental commitment contract which involves working in classroom and committee work (fund raising, gardening, painting, etc.) She considers this proposal to be a partnership with LTUSD and requested the Board to approve the petition.

The following teachers posed questions:

Vicki Dant: there is nothing in the budget for teacher training which costs about \$15,000 per teacher. **Cindy Gronwold:** how will SDC, RSP, English Learners, and other students with special needs be welcomed in class and how will their needs be met? **Nancy Muller:** are there any studies or standardized scores from similar charter schools to support this proposal? **Bob Anderson:** how much will be spent on textbooks and teaching materials, and what textbooks will be used? He has heard that the curriculum is aligned with state standards, but are textbooks state-approved? **Pam Fritz:** is there a signature list of 50% or more of families that intend to attend school? If the charter school is inclusive it should be located near center of the community. Why is Meyers a preferred location? **Jodi Dayberry:** parent involvement in our schools is nothing new. How can the charter school provide a more rigorous curriculum with fewer instructional minutes? How does this benefit the remaining 4000 – it would take away from those students for the sake of 200? **Judy Schwartz:** are all parents required to volunteer, and if so, will that exclude parents who have to work two jobs?

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Item 9 PUBLIC HEARING (CONTINUED)

i. Charter School Petition (continued)

Phil Sorenson, a parent and teacher, said that he supports charter school because class size is a big concern for him. A smaller community of learners offers more flexibility. He said that this is a way for LTUSD to show support for alternatives in this country and a way to keep parents like him in the district.

The Board of Education had the following questions:

Wendy David: what you will be using as instructional materials. Answer: Everyday Math, Language Arts (which will have a balanced literacy approach that will be teacher-developed), and a strong science curriculum.

Doug Forte: How will they deal with staff development? Answer: they will apply for a grant – staff training and staff development is built into IBO. **Wendy David:** how will they meet needs to special needs students?

Answer: they will negotiate with the District to provide those services. **Sue Novasel:** She does not see any

assumptions in the budget. Answer: Harold Singer can provide that later. **Wendy David:** what retirement plan will be used – STRS/PERS? Answer: they can roll into other plans. **Sue Novasel:** asked about a line item on the

budget for “school support cost”. Harold Singer later provided a breakdown. **Wendy David:** what is their

Emergency Response Plan ? Answer: there is none. **Doug Forte:** how and when will job descriptions be

developed? Answer: they need to finalize bylaws first. **Sue Novasel:** since they are not providing transportation, how will they address diversity? Answer: that’s why they want to be in Al Tahoe. They will be looking at

carpooling. **Wendy David:** will the parental commitment create elitism? Answer: if a parent can’t make the

onsite committee they can work out alternatives. **Doug Forte:** the District spends a lot of time and money to

meet the needs of a large percentage of special education students and English language learners – how are they going to deal with that? Answer: they will negotiate contracts with the District to provide those services.

ii. Pupil Textbook and Instructional Materials Incentive Program

Barbara Davis explained that, annually, the Board is required to make a determination as to whether each pupil in each school in the District has, or will have prior to the end of the fiscal year, sufficient textbooks or instructional materials, or both, in each subject. There were no comments.

Item 10. ANNOUNCEMENTS, CORRESPONDENCE, AND REPORTS

A. Report by South Tahoe Middle School Student Government

Suzy Krzaczek reported on attendance and grade improvement incentives. Cynthia Terry, student body president, told the Board how some of the money raised through the Kid-a-thon is going to be spent: 6th grade field trips, year book camera, ski equipment, AVID, 7th grade science, STAT, athletic team, Renaissance, TTV, music. Students received prizes for raising funds. She also reported on the PTA holiday dance, Leadership Christmas potluck, toy drive, and the trip to Anaheim for the California Association of Leaders.

B. Report by STHS Student Representative(s)

Mari Peshon reported on last week’s toy drive which was donated to Tahoe Magic. Mr. Viking was a huge success and was won by Nick Smith. The People’s Choice Award went to Russ Kaczmar and raised \$325 for the Susan G. Komen Breast Cancer Foundation. Mari reported on spirit activities and they are working on Snowcoming in January.

C. Support STAT (South Tahoe Athletic Teams) Report

Mark Garrett, chairman of Support STAT, said that the athletics teams’ performance this year is unprecedented with nine of nine fall sports teams going to post-season play and the cross country team competing in the Nationals. \$166,000 has been raised by the group of volunteers and they hope to raise \$34,000 more by January 14 to meet their goal of \$200,000. Mark has about 25 more Heavenly lift chairs for sale and STHS’ John Dayberry is fabricating swings for the chairs, which are also for sale. The Village Center merchants have reached their \$15,000 fund-raising goal and will be matching the goal for a total of \$30,000 to be donated to STAT (that’s already included in the \$166,000). Members of the community who have donated \$1,000 or more will be recognized at the Vikings vs. Bishop Manogue basketball game.

D. Board of Education Report

Wendy David said that many toys have been received from STHS, STMS and Tahoe Valley for Santa’s Magic Ride and a huge community wrapping party was very successful with lots of help from STHS Leadership and Whitell Leadership students.

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Item 10. ANNOUNCEMENTS, CORRESPONDENCE, AND REPORTS (continued)

E. Superintendent Report – Lori Garcy

Lori Garcy reported a breakfast will be held each quarter at STHS for those with perfect attendance. Eighty-eight students will attend the first one and all schools are working to provide incentives.

Item 11. DISCUSSION AND ACTION

A. Annual Organizational Meeting

- i. Elect President of the Board – **Ms. Novasel nominated Wendy David, Mr. Forte seconded the nomination. Ayes: David/Bannar/Forte/Novasel. Noes: None. Absent: Fernald**
- ii. Elect Clerk of the Board – Mr. Forte nominated Sue Novasel, Wendy David seconded the nomination. **Ayes: David/Bannar/Forte/Novasel. Noes: None. Absent: Fernald**
- iii. Appoint Representative to the County Committee on School District Organization. **Doug Forte was appointed.**
- iv. Appoint Representative to Central Sierra Regional Occupation Program. **Barbara Bannar was appointed.**
- v. Appoint Representative to El Dorado County School Boards Association. **Sue Novasel was appointed.**
- vi. Appoint two Representatives to the Facilities Committee. **Doug Forte and Madeline Fernald were appointed.**
- vii. Set Times, Dates, and Places of Regular Board Meetings. **Ms. Novasel made a motion to approve the schedule as submitted, Mr. Forte seconded the motion. Ayes: David/Bannar/Forte/Novasel. Noes: None. Absent: Fernald**
Wendy David will continue to be the representative to the Lake Tahoe Education Foundation.

B. Approve 2004/2005 First Interim Report

Mike Curran, CFO, presented the First Interim Report, which is based on actual revenue and expenditures from July 15th through October 31st with projections for the remainder of the fiscal year, ending on June 30, 2005. The District is projected to be in a deficit position by about \$1.4 million for the current year, leaving an ending balance of \$2.0 million. Approximately \$1.0 million of that amount, or 3% of total expenditures, is reserved for economic uncertainties. Administration is recommending an additional reserve of \$543,000 to assist in the management of a significant decline in enrollment, pegged at 300 students. That would leave an undesignated amount of \$337,000 projected for June 30, 2005, indicating that the District will end the year in a positive financial position. In addition, Curran's staff projected a positive financial position for the ensuing two fiscal years, although enrollment will continue to decline and the District will spend down their reserve to an amount barely above the necessary 3% reserve for economic uncertainties. **Mr. Forte made a motion to approve the 2004/2005 First Interim Report, Ms. Novasel seconded the motion. Ayes: David/Bannar/Forte/Novasel. Noes: None. Absent: Fernald.**

C. Proposal for a District Communication Plan and to Conduct a Survey for the Lake Tahoe Unified School District

Dr. Garcy explained that the Board directed the her to proceed with plans to place a parcel tax measure on the June 2005 ballot. To that end, she recommended that the District hire a consultant, Terry Price, to develop and implement a communication plan. Mr. Price told the Board that he will work with the Superintendent, using available resources, to disseminate factual information about the district and keep a positive perception of the schools in the community. He said that he will collaborate with another firm, Fairbank, Maslin, Maullin & Associates, a reputable opinion research and public policy analysis firm, and a small district committee to develop a survey which will be conducted in the South Lake Tahoe community in January. A discussion ensued as to the needs of the district and the plans for the future. **Ms. Novasel made a motion to approve proposal, Mr. Forte seconded the motion. Ayes: David/Bannar/Forte/Novasel. Noes: None. Absent: Fernald**

D. Approve Single School Plans for Student Achievement

- i. South Tahoe High School and ii. South Tahoe Middle School
- Barbara Davis said that the plans are a challenge because of changes and with STHS getting new categorical funding. Marcia Kaster is looking at reading intervention as an after-school program. Dr. Davis supports additional counseling for both schools. Jackie Nelson, STMS Principal, took on a Program Improvement School this year and is moving ahead with plans to deal with this issue. Wendy David said that the plans were very thorough and comprehensive. She asked how is accepting Title 1 dollars affecting STHS with regard to No Child Left Behind (NCLB).

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Item 11. DISCUSSION AND ACTION (continued)

D. Approve Single School Plans for Student Achievement (continued)

Dr. Davis said that the next two years would be the determination. She explained how STMS is dealing with offering alternatives by having an after-school program to support reading and math in lieu of school choice. **Mr. Forte made a motion to approve the school plans, Ms. Novasel seconded the motion. Ayes: David/Bannar /Forte/Novasel. Noes: None. Absent: Fernald.**

Item 12. CONSENT AGENDA

Approve Payment Order # 2004/05-06; Approve Resolution No. 2004/2005-14, Pupil Textbook and Instructional Materials Incentive Program; Approve Resolution No. 2004/2005-15, Interfund Transfer; Approve Resolution No. 2004/2005-16, Surplus Equipment; Approve Carl D. Perkins Vocational and Technical Education Grant Application; Approve Fifth Grade Ski Program Agreement with Heavenly Valley; Accept Donations; Adopt Board of Education Minutes.

Ms. Bannar, (by note since she had laryngitis), asked why the fifth grade ski week had been cut to three days. Steve Morales said that there was a problem with transportation and the solution was to have fewer days but extended time. Students are now back to their home school to catch buses. It is much more productive and there is less impact on instruction.

Mr. Forte made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda as submitted; Mrs. Novasel seconded the motion. Ayes: David/Bannar/Forte/Novasel. Noes: None. Absent: Fernald.

Item 13. ADJOURN

The meeting was adjourned at 8:25 p.m.

**DR. LORRAINE GARCY, INTERIM SUPERINTENDENT
AND SECRETARY TO THE BOARD OF EDUCATION**