



**LAKE TAHOE UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT
BOARD OF EDUCATION
MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL MEETING OF
March 29, 2005**

**DISTRICT OFFICE BOARD ROOM
1021 Al Tahoe Boulevard**

**4:00 p.m. Special Closed Session
4:30 p.m. Special Open Session**

Board Members Present	Staff Members Present		Guests Present
Wendy David Sue Novasel Madeline Fernald Barbara Bannar Absent: Doug Forte	Lori Garcy Barbara Davis Angie Freeman Beth Delacour Marie Meagher Steve Morales Shelley Giannotta	Jackie Nelson Jim Watson Karen Gillis-Tinlin Mark Romagnolo Marcia Kaster Jim Valdes Marilyn Pawling Kathi Jensen	None signed in

ITEMS 1. CALL TO ORDER

The Open Session of the special meeting of the Lake Tahoe Unified School District Board of Education was called to order at 4:01 p.m. at the District Office Board Room by Wendy David.

ITEM 2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

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

ITEMS 3-5. ANNOUNCEMENT/ADJOURN TO CLOSED SESSION/ RECONVENE TO SPECIAL SESSION

Mrs. David announced the items to be discussed in closed session, adjourned the meeting to closed session at 4:02 p.m., and reconvened to special open session at 4:34 p.m.

ITEM 6. ACTION ON ITEMS FROM CLOSED SESSION

A. Public Employee Discipline / Dismissal / Release

No Action.

ITEM 7. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance was said.

ITEM 8. COMMUNICATION FROM THE PUBLIC

No comments.

ITEM 9. BOARD / LEADERSHIP TEAM WORKSHOP

A. Discussion Regarding the Future of the District

The Board and Leadership Team continued discussions they began at the Special Meeting of March 11, 2005 regarding what the District should look like for the next five years.

i. High School Schedules

Suzy Allione and Janna Gard said that they have been researching all sorts of schedules and believe that the Four Day schedule would be a fit for LTUSD. They explained the concerns, benefits and possible solutions of the proposed four-day school week schedule, which would add about an hour and ten minutes to the day, and also how it would impact sports, student jobs, etc. Apart from the cost saving, academic achievement seems to be better and attendance rates increases. They suggested Monday as the non-school day, which could be used for remedial programs and academic support options such as academic centers, targeted labs, homework center, and AP support and review.

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ITEM 9. BOARD / LEADERSHIP TEAM WORKSHOP (continued)

A. Discussion Regarding the Future of the District (continued)

Bob Grant suggested "4 x 4 Semester Block Schedule" which would need more work to implement. It would be four semester-long blocks per day, with the same four subjects being taught each term. He said there would be wider range of electives, less homework, and seniors would be able to take six instead of eight blocks if they are on track for graduation. A survey of teachers indicates that two-thirds are in support of such a proposal and a presentation will be made at Open House on the concept.

ii. Alternative Education

Susan Baker described the alternative programs that are currently available: Transitional Learning Center, Independent Study, Home School Outreach, Mt. Tallac, CARE II, and the Young Parents Program. Five hundred and twenty-five students are involved in one way or another; about 47 students to each teacher. Of these, 27 are new to the district and there is a waiting list for some of these programs. Ms. Baker said that there is a definite need as all programs are currently at capacity or over. Barbara Davis said that we are looking to the future in exploring magnet schools, charter schools, and fee-based adult education. Counselor Amy Jackson said she counted about 40 students who would have not been in the District had they not had these options. The counselor ratio is 400/1 and a counselor is crucial for success. A discussion ensued regarding alternative programs for students not "at-risk", cyber high school, a life skills class, college a-g requirements, offering CSU/UC requirements, another way to provide alternative for skiers, and how to bring back students lost to other schooling options.

iii. English Language Learners

Barbara Davis explained teacher training options and requirements for credentialing and their funding sources. Sue O'Connor explained the District Articulated Program – Structured English Immersion, mainstream classes, and additional classes. They are looking for resources for a possible newcomer program. Barbara Davis rounded the discussion off with a summary of the API (Academic Performance Index) and AYP (Annual Yearly Progress) of the Hispanic subgroup for the past three years indicating that all schools made their gain growth targets this year and she is pleased with the progress of the English Learner (EL) program.

ITEM 10. ADJOURN

Mrs. David adjourned the meeting at 7:06 p.m.

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