



**LAKE TAHOE UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT
BOARD OF EDUCATION MINUTES
REGULAR MEETING OF JANUARY 24, 2006**

EDUCATION CENTER BOARD ROOM
1021 Al Tahoe Boulevard

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

Board Members / Reps.	Staff Members Present		Guests Present
Wendy David Barbara Bannar Doug Forte Angela Swanson Sue Novasel Student Rep: Mari Peshon	Dr. James Tarwater Beth Delacour Wilma Hoppe Harriett Lacey Sue O'Connor Scott Ramirez Karen Gillis-Tinlin	Katrina Sanford Mark Romagnolo Vicky Pierce Susan Willmet Jim Watson Carol Murdock Jackie Nelson Cari Nelson	Les Wright Karen Houser Gerry Willmet

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 5:00 p.m. at the Education Center Board Room.

Items 2. ANNOUNCEMENT OF CLOSED SESSION ITEMS

Wendy David announced items to be discussed in closed session at 5:01 p.m.

Items 3-4. ADJOURN TO CLOSED SESSION/ RECONVENE TO OPEN SESSION

Wendy David adjourned the regular meeting to closed session at 5:02 p.m. and reconvened into regular session at 6:12 p.m.

Item 5. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance was said.

Item 6. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

An amended Personnel Order No. 2005-2006-11 was submitted. Dr. Tarwater requested that the Board adjourn to closed session again at the end of the meeting to continue discussions on **Labor Negotiations (Item 3.B.)**

Mrs. Novasel made a motion to approve the agenda as amended; Mrs. Bannar seconded the motion. Ayes: David/ Bannar/Forte/Swanson/Novasel. Noes: None.

Item 7. ACTION ON ITEMS FROM CLOSED SESSION (Government Code Section 54954.5)

A. Personnel Order No. 2005-06-11 (Government code 54957)

- i. *Hire:* instructional assistant, custodian, teachers, counselor, coaches, and substitute teachers.
- ii. *Accept Family Medical Leave of Absence:* teacher
- iii. *Request for Leave of Absence:* teachers
- iv. *Accept Resignation:* counselor and teacher
- v. *Accept Change in Status:* teacher (change from Temp to Prob 1)

Mr. Forte made a motion to approve the personnel order with the exception of Item 7.A.– iii. a. A leave of absence was denied for one teacher. Mrs. Bannar seconded the motion. Ayes: David/Bannar/Fernald/Forte/ Swanson/Novasel. Noes: None.

Item 7. ACTION ON ITEMS FROM CLOSED SESSION (Government Code Section 54954.5)

B. Conference with Labor Negotiators

Dr. James Tarwater, Superintendent and Beth Delacour, Director of Human Resources conferenced with the Board regarding negotiations with South Tahoe Educators Association (STEA) and California School Employees Association (CSEA). **The Board adjourned to closed session again at the end of the meeting to continue discussions. No action was taken.**

C. Conference with Legal Counsel – Existing Litigation (Government Code 54956.9)

The District's attorney, Allen Vinson, discussed a Petition for Writ of Mandate with the Board. Case Name: South Tahoe Educators Association vs. Lake Tahoe Unified. **No action was taken.**

D. Conference with Legal Counsel – Anticipated Litigation (Government Code 54956.9)

Allen Vinson discussed the significant exposure to litigation that exists pursuant to subdivision (b) of Government Code Section 54956.9 in one potential case with the Board. **No action was taken.**

E. Discipline (Education Code 35146 and Government Code 54950)

Mr. Forte made a motion to approve the following recommendation; Mrs. Swanson seconded the motion. Ayes: David/Bannar/Forte/Swanson. Noes: None. Absent: Novasel.

i. Recommendation for Readmission After Expulsion No. 2004/05-06

The student was expelled in September 2004 for being in possession of knives at South Tahoe Middle School. **The student has met all conditions of expulsion and may return to school.**

F. California High School Exit Exam (CAHSEE) Waiver for Graduation for Students with Disabilities: 0506-6 (Education Codes 35146, 56101, 60851)

The Board considered a request to waive the requirement to successfully pass the CAHSEE for a student with disabilities who have taken the CASHEE with modifications and have received the equivalent of a passing score. **Mrs. Swanson made a motion to approve Waiver No. 0506-6. Mrs. Bannar seconded the motion. Ayes: David/Bannar/Fernald/Forte/ Swanson/Novasel. Noes: None.**

Item 8. COMMUNICATION FROM THE PUBLIC

No comments.

Item 9. ANNOUNCEMENTS, CORRESPONDENCE, AND REPORTS

A. Award to Tahoe Valley Elementary School for the Most Participation in the Lake Tahoe Marathon Coloring Competition

Les Wright presented a check in the amount of \$1000 to Mark Romagnolo and Susan Willmet for the Tahoe Valley Arts Program. There were 239 entries from the school. He will talk to teachers in May and June about another contest for the next marathon

B. Report on Independent Auditor's Report of Financial Statements for Year Ended June 30, 2005

An explanation of the financial statements and audit was presented by Justin Williams of Perry-Smith & Co. There was an increase in total revenue limit sources from 03/04 to 04/05 of \$164,000 -- compared with a decrease of \$1.3 million from 02/03 to 03/04. Budget reductions decreased overall general expenditures 4.5% from the previous year. The District ended the year with a net increase in fund balance of \$526,000, with \$1.6 million in available reserves. Net Assets are \$15.4 million, 72% of which is subject to external restrictions. Special Education Encroachment was \$300,000 less than both the budget and estimated actuals. The District saved \$200,000 in salaries due to unfilled positions and turnover and another \$200,000 in insurance, leases, and professional services. Enrollment has declined over the past five years, with a corresponding decrease in State revenue. The decline has increased dramatically in the last two years. Although many painful reductions were made in 04/05, more are projected for the future. There were nine "findings" in regards to compliance with federal and state laws, all of which have been addressed. The report indicated that "we are still facing a very challenging situation as our student enrollment continues to decline and the State financial condition has not recovered from its doldrums" and "plans are underway to maximize revenue and reduce expenditures for future years." **Action on the report and financial statement are under the Consent Agenda.**

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Item 9. ANNOUNCEMENTS, CORRESPONDENCE, AND REPORTS (continued)

C. Overview of 2005 STAR (Standardized Testing And Reporting) Results

Dr. Tarwater reported on the District's State testing results for 2005. He said that the most significant gains in Language Arts were shown by 4th grade students showing an overall 2% gain. 4th Grade SES students (those receiving supplemental services) showed gains of 6% and English Learners (EL) showed gains of 14%. There were significant gains in Math at the 7th grade level with an overall 15% gain. 7th Grade SES students showed gains of 12% and EL students showed gains of 3%. Dr. Tarwater said that there is still a concern is the progress of English Learners in secondary grades. He also gave a report on the California High School Exit Exam - 80% of 10th graders passed Language Arts and Math, which is above the state average. In addition, we are providing intensive and supplemental instruction for all students below grade level standards and after-school tutoring for at-risk students K-12.

D. Report on the Upcoming Categorical Program Monitoring

Sue O'Connor, EL Program Coordinator, said that State and federal laws require the California Department of Education to monitor the implementation of categorical programs operated by school districts. This State oversight is accomplished in part by conducting on-site reviews of such programs. She said that LTUSD will have an on-site review April 4-7, 2006. She explained that Bijou Community School and South Tahoe Middle School have been selected for review because they have been designated as Program Improvement (PI) schools. A team of District staff members is currently preparing documents to submit to the State CPM Review Team by the end of January. Mrs. O'Connor added that Safe School Plans are available at the Education Center and each school site has a copy available for public viewing.

E. Student Representative Report

Mari Peshon reported on activities at South Tahoe High School and handed out a calendar of events to the Board.

F. Board of Education Report

Angela Swanson has visited all school sites, except the Transitional Learning Center and Mt. Tallac and thanked site administrators for making her feel welcome. She appreciates the consistency she's seen in elementary classrooms across the District. She has heard from elementary personnel that they would like to see All-day Kindergarten, CSR (class size reduction) at the kindergarten level, and collaboration time.

Barbara Bannar went snowshoeing with the fifth grade class at the Environmental Science Magnet School and to the Kid-a-thon lunch in a limousine with middle schoolers. She reminded everyone that there is a Spaghetti Fund raiser at the Magnet School on February 13th.

Wendy David joined Dr. Tarwater for a half-day retreat with the Lake Tahoe Educational Foundation. Dr. Bergner is the new Chairperson and their board is very committed to raising \$100,000 every year. She said we are going to be hearing more about them publically.

Sue Novasel went to two STMS Council meetings and enjoyed the energy of the group. She is very interested in agendizing the proposal to construct joint use facilities with the City and the County in the near future. El Dorado County Supervisor, Norma Santiago, has just approved \$10,000 for a consultant to come in and oversee us as a group. She said that we are on a great course and looking towards the future. Ms. Novasel said that she took her daughter back to New Orleans to Tulane University last month and visited our sister school, Pineville Elementary, which is about a one hour drive from New Orleans. She shared a video and photos of her visit with the Board.

G. Superintendent Report

Dr. Tarwater explained the "Lock Down" which occurred at the Magnet School earlier in the day. He complimented the staff and students of Bijou Community School on how they reacted to the temporary evacuation last week for a suspected gas leak.

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Item 10. DISCUSSION AND ACTION

A. Discussion Regarding Possible Staff Reductions

Beth Delacour began discussions with the Board about possible staff reductions in light of continued declining enrollment. She said that notifications need to go out to certificated staff by March 15th; classified staff only require a 45-day notice. There were 4541 students when schools opened in September and we have 4429 as of January 20, 2006 – a decrease of 112. Most of these losses (93) are at the high school level. She recommends that the District cut 4 teachers at the elementary level, two at the middle school level and two at the high school. She anticipates a total loss of about 200 students for the 2005/06 school year and that the trend will continue downwards. Due to the tight time lines, a special Board Meeting was requested for January 31, 2006, if a quorum is possible, to continue discussions. **No action was taken.**

B. Review of Resolution 2005/2006-14, Determination of District Needs for 2006/2007

Beth Delacour presented this item at the last Board Meeting for review and said that in past years, when it has become necessary to make cuts in certificated staffing, criteria is needed to determine the seniority order of teachers since many of them were hired at the same time. If it becomes necessary to lay off teachers this year, Mrs. Delacour would like to pass a resolution outlining the current criteria. She said that she was presenting this item as a report only, for the second time, in order to give the Board and the public time to comment on the criteria before asking for final approval of the resolution at the next meeting on February 14, 2006. **No action was taken.**

C. Discussion Regarding Five-Year Master Plan

Dr. Tarwater said that in order to address facility needs, the District needs to develop a Five-Year Master Plan that is reviewed on an annual basis. The Board will require a lot of information on the educational and financial components of the plan and Dr. Tarwater said that he will give them a time line for discussions and completion. He will work with Terri Ryland and Steve Morales to develop the plan. He requested that the Board schedule a study session in the near future to analyze the needs and provide direction on how they wish this plan to proceed. **No action was taken.**

D. Approve South Tahoe High School Recommendation for Graduation Date

Marcia Kaster recommended to the Board that graduation be set for Friday, June 16, 2006 at 4:00 p.m. She said that the School Site Council and cabinet are in support of this plan. It provides the opportunity for families to make travel plans and also to plan for Sober Grad Night. The last day of school without snow days is June 20th. **Mrs. Novasel made a motion to set the graduation date as June 16, 2006 at 4:00 p.m. Mrs. Bannar seconded the motion. Ayes: David/Bannar/Fernald/Forte/ Swanson/Novasel. Noes: None**

E. Certify Williams Act Uniform Complaint Quarterly Report

Dr. Tarwater explained that the Board is required to certify on a quarterly basis where or not there have been complaints under the Williams Act Uniform Complaint Procedure. He said that no complaints have been received. **Mrs. Swanson made a motion to certify the Quarterly Report. Mrs. Bannar seconded the motion. Ayes: David/Bannar/Fernald/Forte/ Swanson/Novasel. Noes: None**

F. Second Reading and Adoption of Board Policies

The Board has reviewed the revised policies and did not request any changes from the first reading on January 10, 2006.

i. Changes from the July 2005 CSBA Update

1. Replace BP 0420 School Plans/Site Councils
2. Replace BP 0420.1 School-Based Program Coordination
3. Replace BP 1220 Citizen Advisory Committees
4. Replace BP 1431 Waivers
5. Replace BP 2110 Superintendent Responsibilities and Duties
6. Delete BP 41(2&3)12.4 Health Examinations
7. Replace BP 41(2&3)19.11 Sexual Harassment
8. Add BP 4131.1 Beginning Teacher Support/Induction
9. Replace BP 4231 Staff Development
10. Replace BP 5123 Promotion/Acceleration/Retention

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F. Second Reading and Adoption of Board Policies (CONTINUED)

11. Replace BP 5125.1 Release of Directory Information
 12. Replace BP 5131.63 Steroids
 13. Replace BP 5149 At-Risk Students
 14. Replace BP 6111 School Calendar
 15. Replace BP 6142.91 Reading/Language Arts Instruction
 16. Replace BP 6161.2 Damaged or Lost Instructional Materials
 17. Replace BP 6163.1 Library Media Centers
 18. Replace BP 6164.2 Guidance/Counseling Services
 19. Replace BP 6173 Education for Homeless Children
 20. Replace BP 6177 Summer School
 21. Delete BP 6182 Opportunity School/Class/Program
- ii. *Changes from the November 2005 CSBA Update*
1. Replace BP 0520.3 Title I Program Improvement Districts
 2. Replace BP 3312 Contracts
 3. Replace BP 3550 Food Service/Child Nutrition Program
 4. Replace BP 3554 Other Food Sales
 5. Replace BP 4112.2 Certification
 6. Replace BP 41(2&3)27 Temporary Athletic Team Coaches
 7. Replace BP 4131 Staff Development
 8. Replace BP 5030 Student Wellness
 9. Replace BP 5141 Health Care and Emergencies
 10. Replace BP 5147 Dropout Prevention
 11. Replace BP 6142.8 Comprehensive Health Education
 12. Replace BP 6146.1 High School Graduation Requirements
 13. Replace BP 6151 Class Size
 14. Replace BP 6161.1 Selection and Evaluation of Instructional Materials
 15. Replace BP 6162.54 Test Integrity/Test Preparation
 16. Replace BP 6163.4 Student Use of Technology
 17. Replace BP 6172 Gifted and Talented Student Program
 18. Replace BP 6179 Supplemental Education

Mrs. Bannar made a motion to approve the additions, deletions, and replacements of the above board policies as submitted. Mrs. Novasel seconded the motion. Ayes: David/Bannar/Fernald/Forte/Swanson/Novasel. Noes: None

Item 11. CONSENT AGENDA

The Board approved the following items:

- A. Accepted Independent Auditor's Report of Financial Statements for Year Ended June 30, 2005 following a presentation by Justin Williams of Perry-Smith & Co. earlier in the meeting.
- B. Accepted a \$2500 donation to the Lake Tahoe Unified School District from Harry and Jan Segal of Tahoe Blue, Inc for books, curriculum, equipment, technology, etc. related to the environment.
- C. Adopted Board of Education Minutes from the Regular Board Meeting January 10, 2006.

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

Items 3-4. ADJOURN TO CLOSED SESSION/ RECONVENE TO OPEN SESSION

Wendy David adjourned the regular meeting to closed session again at 8:51 p.m. and reconvened into regular session at 9:24 p.m. to continue discussions on Labor Negotiations. No action was taken.

Item 12. ADJOURN

The meeting was adjourned at 9:25 p.m.

**DR. JAMES TARWATER, SUPERINTENDENT
AND SECRETARY TO THE BOARD OF EDUCATION**