



**LAKE TAHOE UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT
BOARD OF EDUCATION
MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL MEETING OF
FEBRUARY 7, 2006**

**EDUCATION CENTER BOARD ROOM
1021 Al Tahoe Boulevard, South Lake Tahoe**

**5:00 p.m. – Special Closed Session
5:30 p.m. – Special Open Session**

Board Members Present	Staff Members Present		Guests Present
Wendy David Sue Novasel Doug Forte Barbara Bannar Angela Swanson	James Tarwater Angie Freeman Beth Delacour Steve Morales Jim Watson Jackie Nelson Karen Gillis-Tinlin Sue O'Connor	Judy Schwartz Scott Ramirez Brittainy Lehmann Melissa Berry Katrina Sanford Steve Hayward Deb Treiber Jodi Dayberry Vivian Rider	Del Laine Carolyn Ramirez

ITEM 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 5:01p.m. at the Education Center Board Room by Wendy David.

ITEMS 2-3. ADJOURN TO CLOSED SESSION / RECONVENE INTO SPECIAL SESSION

Wendy David announced the items to be discussed in closed session and adjourned the meeting to closed session at 5:01 p.m. She reconvened the meeting to regular session at 5:50 p.m.

ITEMS 4. ACTION ON ITEMS FROM CLOSED SESSION

A. Conference with Labor Negotiators (Government Code 54957.6)

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). **No action was taken.**

ITEM 5. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance was said.

ITEM 6. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

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

ITEM 7. COMMUNICATION FROM THE PUBLIC

Judy Schwartz, who has taught at Tahoe Valley for twenty-six years, said that declining enrollment is a myth. At her school, classrooms are crowded and there is no room to hang coats. Two-thirds of the students come into her third grade classroom six to nine months below grade level in reading, language, and spelling. There are fifteen students on the waiting list for third grade. She concluded that students have fallen through the cracks and are now at the bottom of a level of education.

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ITEM 7. COMMUNICATION FROM THE PUBLIC (continued)

Steve Hayward, on behalf of South Tahoe Educators Association (STEA), asked the Board:

1. How many temps are currently filling teacher positions and how many are covering teachers on leave.
2. How many teachers are on "special assignment"? How many are put back into the pool when teachers need to be "RIFfed" and used for seniority.
3. Of those teachers on "special assignment", how many have their prep time bought out?

ITEM 8. DISCUSSION AND ACTION

A. Discuss Recommendations for Staffing Reductions

Beth Delacour explained that due to continued declining enrollment, staffing must be reduced to correspond with the number of students anticipated to be enrolled for the 2006/2007 school year. Certificated personnel must receive notice of the District's intention to reduce or discontinue particular kinds of services by March 15th. She said that the District must make its "best guess" in terms of declining enrollment. At this point in the year, we are down 144 students, which would mean a reduction of eight teachers just based on "warm bodies". Harriett Lacey presented an enrollment projections to the Board which was based on a weighted average and predicted enrollment to 2010-11. She indicated that sixteen teaching positions would need to be cut based on these projections. Dr. Tarwater said that establishing an all-day kindergarten program may add as many as 40 students. He said that weekly counts of students are taken; we started at 4544 and are now at 4400. He said that he would send these numbers to teachers to let them know how many students we are losing and encouraged them to always feel free to ask questions. Beth Delacour said she needed direction from the Board so that she can bring a Resolution to next week's Board Meeting. She said that she is hearing from the Clubs that jobs are more stable and the housing market has slowed down a bit. Dr. Tarwater added that the City needs affordable housing – it's a community problem.

The Board directed Beth Delacour to bring a Resolution outlining the proposed reductions to the next meeting.

B. Proposed Reorganization of Technology Department

Beth Delacour said that there needs to be a change in the organization of the technology department to improve efficiency and effectiveness. Dr. Tarwater explained that, as we increase the number of computers in classrooms, more support is needed in the area of curriculum and instruction and staff development. He proposed a different organizational model whereby Ken LaMascus will be moved from the Microcomputer Specialist position to an Acting Confidential Supervisor position. He said that he will bring back job descriptions to the Board to clarify roles of the individuals involved. **Mrs. Bannar made a motion to approve the reorganization of the technology department as submitted; Mrs. Novasel seconded the motion. Ayes: Bannar/ David/Swanson/Novasel/Forte. Noes: None**

C. Ratify Appointment of Ken LaMascus as Confidential Supervisor of Technology Department

The Board held a discussion and approved the proposed a reorganization of the technology department. Dr. Tarwater asked the Board to ratify the appointment of Ken LaMascus as confidential supervisor. **Mrs. Novasel made a motion to ratify the appointment of Ken LaMascus; Mrs. Bannar seconded the motion. Ayes: Bannar/ David/Swanson/Novasel/Forte. Noes: None**

D. Study Session on Five-Year Master Plan

Public Comment: Deb Treiber, 26-year taxpaying resident and STMS teacher said that she is dismayed at condition of the "10 Room Wing" at South Tahoe Middle School. She said that the Bond Measure was passed to fix classrooms and this wing is still not modernized. She asked the Board to consider this wing in the master plan.

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ITEM 8. DISCUSSION AND ACTION (continued)

D. Study Session on Five-Year Master Plan (continued)

Steve Morales explained that the last master plan was adopted in 1998, at which time a priority list was adopted. He reviewed the projects which have been completed, adding that a complete assessment of the Master Plan has not been done since 1998. He said that the purpose of the Superintendent's Facilities Committee is to reassess all existing sites and come up with a new plan to present to the Board. He distributed a Master Plan Facility Improvements Project Worksheet and a Bond Project Review showing modernization by site and year completed, along with a calendar of meetings and deadlines. He anticipates that the Facilities Master Plan should be complete by May. Board members asked questions about the Boys and Girls Club and Lake Tahoe Community College leases, assessing playground spaces, athletic fields, relocatables and storage areas, and "the floating acre". Dr. Tarwater said that will be meeting with the City and the County tomorrow to discuss joint use facilities. The Board requested an update on that meeting at the February 14th Board Meeting. Dr. Tarwater asked Steve Morales to meet with principals so that they can share the Master Plan information with their staffs so that they know what is being addressed. Harriett Lacey will be compiling a report on the balance of bond dollars in the next several weeks. **No action was taken.**

ITEM 9. ADJOURN

Mrs. David adjourned the meeting at 7:09 p.m.

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