



**LAKE TAHOE UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT
BOARD OF EDUCATION MINUTES
REGULAR MEETING OF FEBRUARY 28, 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	Dr. James Tarwater Beth Delacour Angie Freeman Jim Watson Marie Meagher Karen Gillis-Tinlin Michelle Reilley Aaron Barnett Greg Komorowski	Bob Grant Jerry Carter Don Borges Michael Davis Carla Zezula Pam Taylor Diana Reiner Jody Dayberry Carol Murdock	

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 6:11 p.m.

Item 5. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance was said.

Item 6. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Mrs. Bannar made a motion to approve the agenda as submitted; Mr. Forte 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. 2005-06-14 (Government code 54957)

- i. Hire: substitute teachers, SARB Secretary, and a .4 FTE English Teacher (Prob 1)
- ii. Accept Resignation: instructional assistant - bilingual

Mrs. Novasel made a motion to approve the personnel order as submitted. Mrs. Bannar seconded the motion. Ayes: David/Bannar/Fernald/Forte/Swanson/Novasel. Noes: None.

B. Other Personnel Matters (Government Code Section 54957)

- i. South Tahoe High School Principal
- ii. South Tahoe Middle School Vice-Principal

No action was taken.

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). **No action was taken.**

C. 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/Novasel. Noes: None.

i. Recommendation for Suspended Expulsion No. 2005-2006/11

The student consumed alcohol at STHS in January and had been suspended in October 2005 for being under the influence of alcohol at school. **The student will be placed on a suspended expulsion with loss of driving privilege until June 2006 and loss of open campus privileges until January 2007 along with other conditions.**

Item 8. COMMUNICATION FROM THE PUBLIC

Carla Zezula, on behalf of South Tahoe Educators Association, said that they wished to open negotiations with the District today but, due to legal requirements, they need time to revise the initial proposals to the Board. They will do that at the next meeting which will allow the public two weeks to review the proposal before the Board accepts it at the March 28th meeting.

Item 9. ANNOUNCEMENTS, CORRESPONDENCE, AND REPORTS

A. Report on Alternative Education Program by Susan Baker

Susan Baker, who oversees the Alternative Education Program for the District, updated the Board on the progress of the program over the past six months. She explained that alternative options are sought for many reasons such as family stressors, homelessness, pregnancy and parenting, emotional issues, and criminal activity. The program has attracted sixty new students to the District, mainly because of the increased collaboration with local agencies and education on the various options that are available in the District. There is now a Student Study Team that communicates with agencies such as Probation and Juvenile Hall to decide what's best for students; whereas previously, these kids were passed along without consideration to the continuity of educational services when they found themselves in these systems. The Alt. Ed. Department has also been working with families who have chosen the San Juan Unified Charter, Visions, and other "home school" families to develop a program that would better meet their needs through our Independent Study Program. They have restructured Mt. Tallac, a continuation high school, to make this a more reputable alternative for students, getting away from the label of a school for "bad" kids or an "easy way out". The bar has been raised academically for all students in the Alternative Education Program with the help of, what Ms. Baker calls "the heroes behind the program": Mitch Delacour and Diana Reiner (Home School Outreach); Chris Komorowski and Bob Anderson (Independent Study); Mike Makley and Greg Komorowski (Transitional Learning Center); and Steve Simmons, Bettina Wilson, and Eileen McEwen (Mt. Tallac).

B. Report on the Implementation of the 4 x 4 Block Schedule at South Tahoe High School

Marcia Kaster and a team of teachers explained how the new "4 x 4 Block Schedule, which is a schedule that contains four blocks in a day and four classes in a semester, will be implemented. Currently, students need 220 credits to graduate – that will be increased to 240 for the class of 2008 and to 250 for the Class of 2009 and beyond. Michelle Reilly explained the Elective Interest Survey which was conducted and said that electives will abound for students through this new schedule -- from Forensics to Oceanography; Small Business Marketing to Contemporary Latin American literature; Astronomy to Exploring Romance Languages. Aaron Barnett explained the registration process and sample draft schedules for students in the general curriculum who may need support, College Prep curriculum, and Honors/AP curriculum. Much research has been put into this project and fourteen staff members recently visited Del Campo High School in Fair Oaks which has been on this schedule for ten years. Mrs. Kaster indicated that they have offers of assistance from that school in implementing the schedule. Michelle Reilly said that they will present a "Parent Information Night" on Wednesday, March 8th at 6:30 pm in the STHS Little Theatre. Dr. Tarwater asked how the team feels about implementing the new schedule in light of Marcia Kaster's retirement. Jerry Carter said that they feel confident that there are enough people in place to know what to do to see it through.

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

C. Student Representative Report

Mari Peshon was unable to attend the meeting.

D. Board of Education Report

Doug Forte asked the Board if it would be possible to reschedule the Special Board meeting of March 10th since he is unable to attend due to a prior commitment. It did not appear to be feasible to change the date.

Wendy David announced that the District will conduct a search for a new principal for South Tahoe High School following Marcia Kaster's announcement of her retirement at the end of the school year. Anyone interested in sitting on the interview panel sometime in mid-May should contact the Superintendent's office to obtain an application form. Each Board member will select one member of the community each, for a total of five. The committee will be also comprise of teachers, administrators, etc.

E. Superintendent Report

No report.

Item 10. DISCUSSION AND ACTION

A. Adopt of Resolution 2005/2006-21, Resolution of Intention to Dismiss Certificated Employees (PKS and ADA)

Beth Delacour explained that this item was tabled from the February 14, 2006 meeting to allow the Board to gather more information on the effects and consequences of laying off teachers. There were slight changes on the resolution from the last time including the addition of one administrative position along with 16.682 FTE (Full-Time Equivalent) other certificated staff members. Last year, an STMS vice-principal position was discontinued, but another administrator took a year's leave of absence, delaying the action. Beth Delacour, explained that the District has to make the best guess, based on current and projected enrollment, of what to cut. Notices of layoff must be given by March 15th. **Mrs. Novasel made a motion to approve the Resolution of Intention to Dismiss Certificated Employees. Mrs. Bannar seconded the motion. Ayes: David/Bannar/Forte/ Swanson/Novasel. Noes: None**

B. Second Reading and Adoption of 2006/2007 School Calendar

Public Comment: Don Borges, STHS Athletic Director, addressed the Board with his concerns about starting school after Labor Day because athletes compete in Nevada and the calendars are not aligned. This causes competitions to be played during important weeks such as when finals take place.

Dr. Tarwater explained that a draft of the school calendar has been circulated to both unions, staff members, parents, and the community. The calendar was discussed at the February 14th Board meeting, changes have been incorporated into the final version and he recommended its adoption. A lengthy discussion ensued regarding when to start school – before or after Labor Day. Some of the considerations that were discussed included: athletes compete with 60 other Nevada schools that start before Labor Day; students have summer jobs that don't end until after Labor Day; the traffic in August is heavy and difficult to negotiate in school buses; summer is too short in Tahoe and students and teachers don't want to be in school in August. There was also controversy about the "Winter Break" – having more days before Christmas for travel versus having more days afterwards for vacation. The Board agreed that they want to start serious discussions over the summer to make some major changes to the 2007/2008 calendar to better meet the needs of students. They felt that it would not be fair to the community to make such a major change for the 2006/07 school year.

Mrs. Bannar made a motion to approve the 2006/2007 School Calendar. Mr. Forte seconded the motion. Ayes: David/Bannar/Forte Noes: Swanson/Novasel

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Item 10. DISCUSSION AND ACTION (continued)

C. Approve Proposed Administrative Intern Program for 2005/2006

Dr. Tarwater introduced a new program which has been developed to provide interested teachers who are working toward, or have, a current administrative credential, the opportunity to advance their careers. He said that these people will be a key group that will share leadership in the summer school program and will allow ongoing support, career planning and expanded communication.

Mrs. Novasel made a motion to approve the Administrative Intern Program. Mrs. Bannar seconded the motion. Ayes: David/Bannar/Forte/Swanson/Novasel. Noes: None

D. Second Reading and Adoption of Board Policies

- i. BP 1312.3 Community Relations: Uniform Complaint Procedures (including Exhibits 1312.4 (1) and (2) Williams Uniform Complaint Procedures.

Due to the upcoming CPM (Categorical Program Monitoring) audit, this policy needs to be updated to comply with recent changes in the law. No changes were requested from the first reading.

Mrs. Novasel made a motion to approve the revision to BP 1312.3. Mrs. Bannar seconded the motion. Ayes: David/Bannar/Forte/Swanson/Novasel. Noes: None

Item 11. CONSENT AGENDA

The Board approved the following items:

- A. Adopted Board of Education Minutes from the Special Board Meeting of February 7, 2006 and the Regular Board Meeting February 14, 2006.

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

Items 12-13. ADJOURN TO CLOSED SESSION/ RECONVENE TO OPEN SESSION

Wendy David adjourned the regular meeting to closed session at 8:28 p.m. and reconvened into regular session at 9:22 p.m. to continue discussions on Labor Negotiations.

Item 14. ACTION ON ITEMS FROM CLOSED SESSION (Government Code Section 54954.5)

A. 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). **No action was taken.**

Item 15. ADJOURN

The meeting was adjourned at 9:23 p.m.

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