



**LAKE TAHOE UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT
BOARD OF EDUCATION MINUTES
REGULAR MEETING OF MARCH 28, 2006**

LAKE TAHOE ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE MAGNET SCHOOL
1095 San Bernardino Avenue, So. Lake Tahoe

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 Angie Freeman Jim Watson Margaret McKean Mark Romagnolo Beth Quandt Daryl Quandt Karsten Gronwold Stacey Hembree	Carmencita Penaloza Vicky Pierce Robin Hall Jackie Nelson Diana Reiner Steve Hayward Karen Gillis-Tinlin Jody Dayberry Betsy Benevidez	Carry Loomis Ben Eliot Jason Elder Kim Elder Kailey Killeen Brandon Harris Morgan Kaufer Travis Stading Dylan Maxwell	Emily Gardner Carol Daum Chris Champion Randy Peshon Vickie Cottrill Steve Noll Dave Norton Kae Reed

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 5:05 p.m. at the Lake Tahoe Environmental Science Magnet School.

Items 2. ANNOUNCEMENT OF CLOSED SESSION ITEMS

Wendy David announced items to be discussed in closed session at 5:05 p.m.

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

Wendy David adjourned the regular meeting to closed session at 5:06 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; Mrs. Novasel 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. 2005/06-17 (Government Code 54957)

- i. Hire:* coaches, substitute teachers, and instructional assistant.
- ii. Accept Request for Leave of Absence:* .5 FTE teacher
- iii. Deny Request for Leave of Absence:* .5 FTE teacher
- iv. Accept Retirement:* two psychologists
- v. Accept Resignation:* coach

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

B. Other Personnel Matters (Government Code Section 54957)

- i. Chief Financial Officer*

No action was taken.

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

C. 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.**

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

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

i. Recommendation for Suspended Expulsion No. 2005/2006-15

The student was in possession of drug paraphernalia twice at school, along with theft of personal property. In February 2005, the student was suspended for being under the influence of alcohol at school. **The student will be placed on a suspended expulsion with loss of open campus and driving privileges until February 2007 along with other conditions.**

Item 8. COMMUNICATION FROM THE PUBLIC

No comments.

Item 9. PUBLIC HEARING (Government Code 3547)

A. South Tahoe Educators Association Sunshine Initial Proposal and Request to Bargain

Wendy David opened the public hearing at 6:14 p.m. and, hearing no comments concerning South Tahoe Educators Association (STEA) Sunshine Proposal and Request to Bargain, closed the public hearing at 6:15 p.m.

B. California School Employees Association Sunshine Initial Proposal and Request to Bargain

Wendy David opened the public hearing at 6:15 p.m. and, hearing no comments concerning California School Employees Association (CSEA) Sunshine Proposal and Request to Bargain, closed the public hearing at 6:15 p.m.

C. Lake Tahoe Unified School District Sunshine Initial Proposal and Request to Bargain

Wendy David opened the public hearing at 6:16 p.m. concerning the Lake Tahoe Unified School District's Sunshine Proposal and Request to Bargain with STEA and CSEA. Carry Loomis expressed her strong support for All-Day Kindergarten, adding that it would be a win/win for the District, teachers, families, and students. The public hearing was closed at 6:18 p.m.

Item 10. ACTION ON ITEMS FROM PUBLIC HEARING

A. South Tahoe Educators Association Sunshine Initial Proposal and Request to Bargain

Mrs. Novasel made a motion to accept STEA's initial proposal and request to bargain; Mrs. Bannar seconded the motion. Ayes: David/Bannar/Forte/Swanson/Novasel. Noes: None.

B. California School Employees Association Sunshine Initial Proposal and Request to Bargain

Mrs. Bannar made a motion to accept CSEA's initial proposal and request to bargain; Mrs. Novasel seconded the motion. Ayes: David/Bannar/Forte/Swanson/Novasel. Noes: None.

C. Lake Tahoe Unified School District Sunshine Initial Proposal and Request to Bargain

Mrs. Novasel made a motion to accept the District's initial proposal and request to bargain; Mrs. Swanson seconded the motion. Ayes: David/Bannar/Forte/Swanson/Novasel. Noes: None.

Item 11. ANNOUNCEMENTS, CORRESPONDENCE, AND REPORTS

A. Report by Bob Comlossy on Disney's Jiminy Cricket's Environmental Challenge Project

Bob Comlossy introduced his fifth grade Lake Tahoe Environmental Science Magnet School students who reported on the project that was submitted to Disney's Jiminy Cricket's Environmental Challenge competition-- a project entitled "BUILD IT AND THEY WILL COME". Mr. Comlossy said that the project to build eight bat boxes in Cookhouse Meadow encompassed a lot of different disciplines, including math, language arts, and science.

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Item 11. ANNOUNCEMENTS, CORRESPONDENCE, AND REPORTS (CONTINUED)

- A. **Report by Bob Comlossy on Disney's Jiminy Cricket's Environmental Challenge Project (continued)**
The students explained how they became aware that the bat habitat at Cookhouse Meadow was disturbed because of a U.S. Forest Service restoration project to construct a new section of the Big Meadow Creek channel through the meadow. They built the bat houses out of plywood, painted them a dark color and placed four of them in trees facing the sun. The other four will be installed after the snow melts. They monitor the temperature to ensure that it is maintained at 80-100 degrees Fahrenheit and each bat box holds 250-300 bats. The students said that the project will bring back bats to the meadow to balance the ecosystem and control insects in the meadow. The Tahoe Area Sierra Club donated \$700 towards the project and the students worked closely with biologists from USFS. They concluded with the question "on to Disneyland?" (Note: Disney announced on March 30th that the students' project won first place in the State, and yes, all of the fifth grade class will be heading to Disneyland in May for a two-day all expenses paid trip.)
- B. **Report on Drug Impairment Training for Educational Professionals (DITEP)**
Nurse Margaret McKean reported on a training which was conducted on February 27-28, 2006 at STHS by California Highway Patrol personnel. This two-day training enables school professionals to identify chemically-impaired individuals and what drugs they might be using in order to make schools safer and reduce alcohol/drug-related driving accidents and increase students' success at school. Nurse McKean said that it is a "systematic approach to recognizing and evaluating" drug use and is not intended to be punitive – the goal is to get help to students who have problems and to make the community safer for everyone. The District was fortunate to receive this two-day training free of charge and it was well attended by teachers, administrators, counselors, support staff, etc.
Public Comment: Jodi Dayberry asked if the District is going to adopt this educational program, if the Board is going to change its policies to conform to this program, and what safeguards are in place so that it is not just a punitive issue. Nurse McKean responded that no changes in policies are necessary since the District has always had a "no tolerance" policy for drugs and alcohol and offending students are dealt with according to those policies and the Education Code. The program is just to assist professionals in identifying a problem.
- C. **Student Representative Report**
Mari Peshon reported that the Dodgeball Tournament on March 17-18 was a success. Tahoe Fracture Clinic won the community tournament and "The Leprechauns" won the student competition. The Advanced Wind Ensemble, Symphonic Band, and Orchestra students played at Disney and twelve others are going to the CASL (California Association of Student Leaders) conference this weekend. A one-day SMILE training will be held at Zephyr Cove and Mari is also working to unite students of all cultures in the wake of the recent immigration reform controversy.
- D. **Board of Education Report**
Doug Forte enjoyed his visit to the Magnet school and said it looks great and has a good feeling and tone.
Sue Novasel joined City Council member, Kathay Lovell and County Supervisor Norma Santiago on a tour of some joint facility projects in Lincoln, CA. She said that discussions will continue on April 11th with the City and County regarding the feasibility of joint-use facilities in South Lake Tahoe.
Barbara Bannar pointed out, via a New York Times article entitled "Schools Cut Back Subjects to Push Reading and Math" that we're not alone in having to narrow the curriculum for students to meet the Federal No Child Left Behind mandates.
Angela Swanson visited South Tahoe High School, Tahoe Valley, and spoke to Sierra House's PTA. She plans to visit Mt. Tallac and Carol Murdock's 6th grade class. She also enjoyed the Dodgeball Tournament. She is concerned about the immigration reform controversy and how the schools are handling it.
Wendy David praised Dr. Tarwater's great accomplishment in opening the Environmental Science Magnet School. She said that the Board is receiving a lot of correspondence via board@ltusd.org and encouraged people to feel free to share their views or questions with Board Members. Mrs. David said that CASA (Court Appointed Special Advocates) served 1000 lunches today in its annual fund raising drive and they got a lot of support from the schools. Karen Vaughn and Shelley Giannotta (Cafeteria Dept.) provided 1000 cookies.

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E. Superintendent Report

Dr. Tarwater thanked the teachers present at the meeting – Vicky Pierce, Beth Quandt, Karsten Gronwold, Betsy Benevidez, and the team of teachers at LTESMS which has evolved to be a good collaborative team. He reminded the Board that we are getting ready for CPM (Categorical Program Monitoring) in the first part of April.

Item 12. DISCUSSION AND ACTION

A. Approve Single School Plans for Student Achievement

i. Sierra House Elementary School

Jim Watson explained that the school plans are based on the District plan (LEAP) and contain common goals and strategies. The Sierra House team believes in the benefits of teamwork, flexible grouping, on-going staff development, and the use of student performance data to monitor student progress, effectiveness of the instructional program, and needs of increasing appropriate instructional materials.

Mrs. Swanson made a motion to approve the school plan for Sierra House Elementary; Mrs. Bannar seconded the motion. Ayes: David/Bannar/Forte/Swanson/Novasel. Noes: None.

ii. Tahoe Valley Elementary School

Mark Romagnolo explained that his school went from 700 students to 500 with the opening of the Magnet School this year. He addressed his three goals: 1) continual improvement toward state benchmarks, 2) technology, and 3) an emphasis on AVID Pathways.

Mrs. Bannar made a motion to approve the school plan for Tahoe Valley Elementary; Mrs. Swanson seconded the motion. Ayes: David/Bannar/Forte/Swanson/Novasel. Noes: None.

B. Approve Request to Cancel Board Meeting of April 25, 2006

Dr. Tarwater explained that the regular meeting of April 25, 2006 falls on the week following the Spring Break and it is anticipated that all of the business of the Board can be accomplished with one meeting in April, thus allowing staff to take some time off during the break.

Mrs. Swanson made a motion to approve the request to cancel the Board Meeting of April 25, 2006; Mrs. Bannar seconded the motion. Ayes: David/Bannar/Forte/Swanson/Novasel. Noes: None.

C. First Reading Board Policies

BP 5116.1 Intradistrict Open Enrollment (School of Choice Program)

E 5116.1 Intradistrict Open Enrollment Application Form

Dr. Tarwater explained that this policy needs to be revised to reflect the District's current priorities and procedures regarding open enrollment, where parents can choose to which elementary school they want to send their children depending on space availability. He will send a letter to parents upon approval of this policy and a revised open enrollment application form advising them of their choices. Board Members should submit any comments or changes to the Superintendent before April 5, 2006.

No action was taken.

Item 13. CONSENT AGENDA

The Board approved the following items:

- A. Adopted Revised 2006/2007 School Calendar; Approved three students for Early Admission into Preppie Kindergarten; Approved agreement for legal services fees with Girard, Vinson, and Trujillo, LLP, licence agreement renewal with Plato Learning, Inc., and GLAD Training Services Contract; Approved Resolutions No. 2005/06-22, 23, and 24, accepted donations, and adopted Board of Education Minutes from the Special Board Meeting of March 10, 2006 and the Regular Board Meeting March 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.

Item 14. ADJOURN

The meeting was adjourned at 7:48 p.m.

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