



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

EDUCATION CENTER BOARD ROOM and
SOUTH TAHOE MIDDLE SCHOOL

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

Board Members / Reps.	Guests Present	Staff Members Present	
Barbara Bannar Doug Forte Angela Swanson Sue Novasel Wendy David	Kae Reed Mark Garratt Peter Butler Joanie Rumble Shelley Martinez Anna Terry Terri Zager Linda Amundson Diane Burns Bree Norton Becca Kushner Myanna Stewart Bonnie Dreeke	Dr. James Tarwater Beth Delacour Angie Freeman Jim Watson Sue O'Connor Ivone Larson Jackie Nelson Steve Morales	Steve Hall Paul Kushner Pat Mitchell Joanne Finkler Larry Lambdin Karen Nighswonger Eric Beavers Valerie Mansfield Janey Roeser Patty Haar Irene Kaelin
Guests Present			
Bekka Days Caitie Kushner Grace Butler Sara McNalley Allyssa Little Bill Days			

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 5:04 p.m at the Education Center Board Room.

Items 2-4. ANNOUNCEMENT OF ITEMS TO BE DISCUSSED IN CLOSED SESSION/ADJOURN TO CLOSED SESSION/ RECONVENE TO OPEN SESSION

Wendy David announced the items to be discussed in closed session, adjourned the regular meeting to closed session at 5:05p.m. and reconvened to open session at South Tahoe Middle School Multi-purpose Room at 6:12 p.m.

Item 6. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance was said. (This item was taken out of order to include the choir).

Item 5. PERFORMANCE BY BLUE RIBBON CLASSICAL CHOIR

Members of the Blue Ribbon Choir – Bree Norton, Becca Kushner, Myanna Stewart, Bekka Days, Bonnie Dreeke, Caitie Kushner, Grace Butler, Sara McNalley, and Allysa Little – provided some holiday cheer. The Choir performs at Mont Bleu on December 13th and 14th.

Item 7. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

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

Item 8. ACTION ON ITEMS FROM CLOSED SESSION (Government Code Section 54954.5)

- A. **Conference with Legal Counsel – Existing Litigation (Government Code 54956.9(a))**
The Board conferenced with Dr. James Tarwater, Beth Delacour and legal counsel, Gayle Tonon regarding litigation in Case No. SC2006-0116. **No action was taken.**
- B. **Personnel Order No. 2006-07-09 (Government Code 54957)**
Beth Delacour submitted a revised personnel order.
 - i. *Hire:* substitute teachers, teacher (provisional), and coach.**Ms. Swanson made a motion to approve the personnel order as amended; Mr. Forte seconded the motion. Ayes: David/Bannar/Forte/Novasel/Swanson. Noes: None**
- C. **Conference with Labor Negotiators (Government Code 54957.6)**
Dr. James Tarwater, Superintendent, Beth Delacour, Director of Human Resources, and Debra Yates, CFO, conferenced with the Board regarding negotiations with South Tahoe Educators Association (STEA) and California School Employees Association (CSEA). **No action was taken.**

BOARD OF EDUCATION MINUTES

NOVEMBER 28, 2006

PAGE TWO

Item 9. COMMUNICATION FROM THE PUBLIC

Ashley Rumble asked the Board for funding for an after-school advisor to support the National Honor Society merit project. She also pleaded with both the Board members and the teachers to work together for a solution to the salary dispute so that the quality of the students' education will not continue to be compromised. Parent, **Anna Terry**, told the Board how her daughter's education is suffering --- "they need their teachers, they can't do it on their own", she said. Teacher, **Kristi Wilson**, provided a detailed report on how the cost of living has increased over the past three years – housing, electricity, medical, food, gas, etc. and said that the Board needs to loosen their grip on the purse strings. She doesn't like the "work to rule" action that the teachers' union members are taking. Teacher, **Janey Roeser**, said that hiring a superintendent at a salary 18% higher than the previous superintendent was not fair if the board did not see fit to do the same for teachers. She warned that teachers will leave the District and there will be very few good teachers left to continue to provide the excellent educational opportunities that were afforded to her children, one of whom is now at Cal Poly. **Deb Treiber**, another teacher, then asked the Board what is their vision for the District by 2011, and lastly, **Terry Zager**, a parent, asked the Board to "do the right thing" by releasing to the teachers "what is rightfully theirs".

Item 10. ANNOUNCEMENTS, CORRESPONDENCE, AND REPORTS

A. Report by South Tahoe High School on the Formation of a Community Task Force

Last week, a fight broke out on the South Tahoe High School campus and a lock-down was put in place. Principal, Ivone Larson, recapped the incident, step by step, for the Board and how District personnel, law enforcement, and the community responded to the incident. Then she shared some charts which indicate that there is an escalation in violence at the school and she proposed the formation of a non-violence task force to address the issue as a proactive step. She said that it was interesting to see on the charts that there were more suspensions in November, a month where there was more security, probably because more wrongdoers were being caught. She, Aaron Barnett, and Scott Wilson made a presentation to about 75 people at Bijou earlier in the evening to let parents know what kind of attire and activity to watch for in their students. Mrs. Larson said that a task force, which will comprise of about twelve members from law enforcement, business people, school personnel, Douglas County people, etc. will be charged with examining this issue and reporting back to the community.

B. Report by South Tahoe Educators Association President

STEA President, **Steve Hayward**, told the Board that he wants teachers to be a priority and claimed that the Board is trying to keep as much money in reserve as possible rather than passing it on to teachers. He added that the Board needs to make the hard choice of giving the teachers the level of salary increase that they want and "not withhold COLA to keep the District solvent". The next date for mediation is December 12th, and Mr. Hayward said he would like to settle the salary dispute even before that if they "get a bit more movement" -- "then we'll move on". On another note, he said that the union does not condone and had nothing to do with the recent postcards that could be construed as threatening, nor did they have anything to do with the reports of vandalism – that is "way out of bounds", he said.

C. Report by South Tahoe High School Student Representative

Ashley Rumble reported on all of the events that are going on at the High School. The first basketball game is tomorrow night and if they win, they'll play again on Friday. The Senior class is continuing their canned food drive and grades are going out soon. The Dodgeball Tournament is happening again this year on December 7th and 8th.

D. Board of Education Report

Angela Swanson and **Barbara Bannar** are very excited with the passage of Proposition 1D and all the opportunities it brings. They've been talking with Ivone Larson about a Career Tech program and new building at South Tahoe High School. **Sue Novasel** gave a brief update on the joint use facility and track plans. She was perturbed by comments made earlier in the meeting about Dr. Tarwater's salary, saying that the District got a heck of a deal in hiring him. Not only has he been performing the duties of a superintendent, but he is also a co-principal at the new Magnet school, and he also took on the duties of Chief Financial Officer and Assistant Superintendent a month after he was hired. **Wendy David**, responding to earlier comments, said that "it's not fun to cut programs, it's not fun to charge for buses, it's not fun to be here at odds over negotiations". She said that the Board would like nothing more than to settle this conflict, but not at the risk of compromising the kids' education.

Item 10. ANNOUNCEMENTS, CORRESPONDENCE, AND REPORTS (continued)

E. Superintendent Report

Dr. Tarwater commented on the High School situation and was proud of the way everyone joined together in a coordinated response. He's bothered to hear reports that the community doesn't support the schools. He's been amazed by the support of this community since his arrival last year from Southern California – look at “STAT, the Ed. Foundation, PTAs, Booster Clubs, TAP.....” he said. He said everyone is important in our school district – “everyone is a priority”.

Item 11. DISCUSSION AND ACTION

A. Authorize Director of Facilities to Advertise for Bids for the South Tahoe Middle School Gymnasium and Locker Room Modernization

Steve Morales, Director of Facilities, requested authorization to advertise for bids for the STMS Gymnasium and locker room modernization project, which includes structural strengthening and renovation of the facility. He said that results of the bid will be presented to the Board for approval and award. The project funding sources are the Facilities Capital Improvement Fund and/or the Deferred Maintenance Fund. A lengthy discussion ensued regarding such issues as time lines, the Facilities Master Plan, priorities, funding sources, grants, etc. Board Members felt that this was such a large project and the requested that a special meeting be called to study the issue more thoroughly before they could make a decision. **No action was taken.**

B. Request for Approval of a Variable Term Waiver for Dan McCauley

Beth Delacour explained that, after a considerable effort to recruit a fully-credentialed adapted physical education teacher, it has been determined that the most qualified applicant does not hold a valid California teaching credential. She said that the District proposes to apply to the California Commission of Teacher Credentialing for a one year waiver. **Mr. Forte made a motion to approve the request for a variable term waiver. Mrs. Bannar seconded the motion. Ayes: David/Bannar/Forte/Novasel/Swanson. Noes: None**

Item 12. CONSENT AGENDA

The Board approved the following items:

Payment Order No. 2006/07-8; accept donations from James Cooney and Longs Drug Store; and Board Minutes from the November 14, 2006 meeting. Mrs. Novasel made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda as submitted; Mrs. Bannar seconded the motion. Ayes: David/Novasel/ Bannar/Forte/Swanson. Noes: None.

Items 13-15. ADJOURN TO CLOSED SESSION/ RECONVENE TO OPEN SESSION/ACTION

Wendy David adjourned the meeting to closed session at 7:55 p.m. to conduct discussions with Dr. Tarwater and Beth Delacour regarding negotiations with South Tahoe Educators Association (STEA) and California School Employees Association (CSEA). She reconvened the meeting to Open Session at 9:09 p.m. **No action was taken.**

Item 16. ADJOURN

The meeting was adjourned at 9:10 p.m.

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