



**LAKE TAHOE UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT  
BOARD OF EDUCATION MINUTES  
REGULAR MEETING OF MARCH 13, 2007**

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

4:00 PM - REGULAR OPEN SESSION  
8:00 PM - REGULAR CLOSED SESSION

Board Members / Reps.	Staff Members Present	Guests Present	
Barbara Bannar Angela Swanson Sue Novasel Wendy David	Brittainy Lehman Karen Nighswonger J. Bottini Steve Hayward Jody Dayberry Holly Weston Eric Beavers Carla Zezula Joel Damerall Cynthia Horn Pedro Aluiso Lopez Lynn Dupree Martha Ubias Sue O'Connor	Yanira Camello Nick Haven Melissa James Nancy Wolverton Kristi Bray Karen Bender Maria Sanchez Sherry Eddy Marlene Guerrero Francisco Guerrero Cory Ritchie Jen Spina Carolin Hansa	Nola Berry Alice Brady Zane Brady John Nemes Hal Cole Larry Green Lauri Kemper Annette Lilly Kathy Haven Mary Wagner John & Heidi Drum Silke Rover Joey Marzocco Kae Reed
<b>Staff Members Present</b>			
Dr. James Tarwater Beth Delacour Debra Yates Steve Morales Angie Freeman Mark Romagnolo Jim Watson Karen Gillis-Tinlin			

**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 Barbara Bannar at 4:08 p.m at the Education Center Board Room.

**Item 2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

The Pledge of Allegiance was said.

**Item 3. APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Mrs. Swanson requested that *Item 11. A. Approve Payment Order* be pulled from the Consent Agenda and voted upon separately due to a conflict of interest. Mrs. Novasel requested that *Item 9 D. Adopt Board of Education Minutes* be pulled from the Consent Agenda and voted upon separately to facilitate a correction to the minutes. **Mrs David made a motion to approve the agenda as amended; Ms. Swanson seconded the motion. Ayes: David/ Bannar/Novasel/ Swanson. Noes: None.**

**Item 4. INTERVIEWS FOR PROVISIONAL APPOINTMENT TO THE BOARD TO FILL VACANCY**

*Public Comment:* **Steve Hayward** said that South Tahoe Educators Association (STEA) interviewed candidates and indicated that they would endorse any candidate except Hal Cole because Mr. Cole did not return phone calls and declined to be interviewed by them.

The Board agreed upon ten questions from a list of sixteen to ask each candidate. Candidates were given two minute to answer each question. The Board interviewed John Nemes, Annette Lilly, Hal Cole, Lauri Kemper, and Larry Green.

**Item 5. DELIBERATION AND ACTION ON PROVISIONAL APPOINTMENT TO THE BOARD**

The Board discussed the merits of the candidates and what they could bring to the District. Each Board member gave their top two choices to fill the vacancy: Wendy David chose Larry Green and Lauri Kemper; Sue Novasel chose Hal Cole and Annette Lilly; Barbara Bannar chose Lauri Kemper and Hal Cole; and Angela Swanson chose Larry Green and Hal Cole. A discussion ensued as to the rationale behind the top choice of Hal Cole and then **Mrs. Novasel made a motion to appoint Hal Cole to the Board of Education; Ms. Swanson seconded the motion. Ayes: David/ Bannar/Novasel/ Swanson. Noes: None.**

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**Item 6. COMMUNICATION FROM THE PUBLIC**

Cyndi Horn asked the Board to consider making Graduation Day a minimum day for all schools, not just high school. She also said that it would be nice to see a three-year calendar. Also, she said that the fund raiser for Denise Wilson was extremely successful, with over \$16,000 raised to help the Tahoe Valley employee who is battling cancer.

**Item 7. ANNOUNCEMENTS, CORRESPONDENCE, AND REPORTS**

**A. Board of Education Report**

**Angela Swanson** has been involved in talks with the high school about a rare opportunity that is coming our way in the form of funding to either build or renovate existing facilities at STHS for Career Technical Education. This could be as much as \$3 million to build or a \$1.5 million match to renovate. She would like the Board to hold a study session in the fall to review test scores and effective instructional strategies. **Wendy David** is working with the First 5 El Dorado Children and Families Commission to ensure that every child up to age five will have access to health care and medical insurance. She is also coordinating the CASA (Court Appointed Special Advocates) boxed lunch fund raiser on April 4<sup>th</sup>. And, through her work with the Child Abuse Prevention Council, she announced that they are holding a luncheon on March 29<sup>th</sup> to honor “Champions for Children” – out of ten selected in El Dorado County, four are from Tahoe. **Sue Novasel** is going down to a school in the County soon to look at ROP (Regional Occupational Programs) and is also looking for volunteers for to help out with Grad Nite. **Barbara Bannar** enjoyed the fund raiser at STMS and invited everyone to the STMS Symphonic Band Concert on Thursday night.

**B. Superintendent Report**

Dr. Tarwater reported that enrollment is holding at 4,260 – only down about 70, compared to 230 this time last year. Dr. Tarwater, STMS Principals Jackie Nelson and Pat Harnett, along with eight teachers visited North Tahoe Middle School to see how they are dealing with restructuring, since they are in their fifth year of Program Improvement. They found that STMS has a lot of the programs in place already, but they really could use some time for collaboration. Dr. Tarwater is watching legislation that may change the admission date for kindergarten from December 2<sup>nd</sup> to September 1<sup>st</sup>. He thoroughly enjoyed the massive fund raiser that was held on Friday night for Denise Wilson, who is battling cancer, and he continues to seek funding for the new Community Youth Sports Complex.

**Item 8. DISCUSSION AND ACTION**

**A. Approve Option Regarding a Two-Way Bilingual Immersion Program**

*Public Comment:* **Carolyn Hansa** thanked Kathy Haven for the many hours she spent researching this program, adding that, without Mrs. Haven, they wouldn't be here. **Silke Rover** thanked Kathy Haven, Pedro Lopez, Sue O'Connor, Karen Tinlin, Dr. Tarwater and the Board for bringing this along. **Heidi Drum** thanked the Bijou teachers who went to Kings Beach to see their program. **Sherry Eddy** was concerned that this could cause the district to lay off teachers and make more cutbacks.

Dr. Tarwater explained that preliminary information regarding a program that integrates English learners and English-speaking students for instruction in and through two languages was presented at the January 9, 2007 Board Meeting and an update on the planning process was heard at the February 13, 2007 Board Meeting. He said that research, visits to schools with similar programs, facilities and staffing studies have been conducted and he recommended that the Board choose one of three options that he put before them. After hearing additional input from Karen Tinlin, Kathy Haven, and Sue O'Connor, **Mrs. David made a motion to approve Option B: Bijou Community School should initiate the TWI program for the 2007/08 school year with one kindergarten class in order to anticipate the dual impact of QEIA and TWI. One grade should be added per year, i.e. in the 2008/09 school year, there will be one kindergarten and one first grade classroom. The program should be monitored closely with regular parent meetings and a quarterly status report should be provided to the Board of Education in order to anticipate enrollment and evaluate the needs for expansion or reduction.** Mrs. Novasel seconded the motion. *Ayes:* David/ Bannar/Novasel/ Swanson. *Noes:* None.

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### Item 8. DISCUSSION AND ACTION (continued)

#### **B. Approve Second Interim Report 2006/2007**

Debra Yates presented the Second Interim Financial Reports covering financial activity from July 1, 2006 to January 30, 2007 and explained changes in revenues and expenditures, enrollment and ADA trends, current year budget assumptions, and multi-year projections. She feels that the District can meet its financial obligations for the balance of the current year and subsequent years; however, the Emergency 1.5% reserve established by the Board will be almost depleted by the end of the 2008/09 school year. **Ms. Swanson made a motion to approve the Second Interim Report 2006/07; Mrs. David seconded the motion. Ayes: David/ Bannar/ Novasel/ Swanson. Noes: None.**

#### **C. Approve Application for Quality Education Investment Act (QEIA) Funding**

Dr. Tarwater asked Steve Hayward, STEA President, to summarize the QEIA funding for the Board. He said that California Teachers Association (CTA) held Governor Schwarzenegger accountable for the \$2.7 billion he borrowed a few years ago. Now, 500 low-performing schools throughout the state are eligible to apply for a large share of this money. If the District is successful, Bijou school will receive about \$226,000 in 2007/08 and \$339,000 a year for the following six years to restructure the school and improve the quality of academic instruction and the level of student achievement. Funding is available for schools ranked in deciles 1 or 2 on the Base Year 2005 API report and Bijou Community School is the only eligible school in the County. Dr. Tarwater, Karen Tinlin, and Sue O'Connor provided additional input as to facility needs, staff development, data analysis, and instructional strategies. **Mrs. David made a motion to approve the application for QEIA funding; Ms. Swanson seconded the motion. Ayes: David/ Bannar/Novasel/ Swanson. Noes: None.**

#### **D. Second Reading and Adoption of the 2007/2008 School Calendar**

*Public Comment:* Joel Damerall said that the current calendar structure is not good for high school students. He suggested that the first semester should end before Winter Break. He asked if he could be selected for the Calendar Committee.

The Board held a discussion regarding Cyndi Horn's request earlier in the meeting to have a minimum day for all school on Graduation Day. There are not enough instructional minutes at the elementary level to allow this and it was felt that it would be too disruptive for all families for the sake of a few. Dr. Tarwater said that a superintendent committee will be formed to study a three-year calendar commencing with the 2008/09 school year. **Mrs. Novasel made a motion to adopt the 2007/08 school calendar as submitted; Mrs. David seconded the motion. Ayes: David/ Bannar/Novasel/ Swanson. Noes: None.**

#### **E. Award Contract For the Youth Community Sports Complex Track**

Steve Morales told the Board that two responsive bids were received for the track surfacing that met all conditions of the bidding documents. Atlas Track & Tennis and California Track and Engineering Inc. submitted bids for Alternates 1 and 2. He said that both bidders have long successful histories of providing quality track installations throughout the western United States. Mr. Morales recommended that the Board award the contract to California Track and Engineering for \$421,395 for the installation of a full pour polyurethane track surface (Alternate 2), funded from the Community Youth Sports Complex budget. **Mrs. Novasel made a motion to award the contract to California Track and Engineering for Alternate 2; Ms. Novasel seconded the motion. Ayes: David/ Bannar/Novasel/ Swanson. Noes: None.**

### Item 9. CONSENT AGENDA

*The Board approved the following items:*

Resolution 2006/07-16 Budget Revision #07-003; Resolution No. 2006/07-17, Approval of the Addendum to State of California Purchase Card Program Agreement and Designation of Authorized Signatories; Resolution No. 2006/07-18 Fix the No Child Left Behind Act; and donations from Mitch & Beth Delacour and Gary Schnakenberg to the Community Youth Sports Complex. **Mr. Swanson made a motion to approve the Items B. and C. of the Consent Agenda; Mrs. Novasel seconded the motion. Ayes: David/ Bannar/Swanson/Novasel. Noes: None**

**ITEM 9. CONSENT AGENDA (CONTINUED)**

Angela Swanson recused herself from voting on Item 11. A. Payment Order No. 2006/07-13 due to a conflict of interest. **Mrs. David made a motion to approve the Item A. of the Consent Agenda; Mrs. Novasel seconded the motion. Ayes: David/ Bannar/Novasel. Abstain: Swanson. Noes: None**

Sue Novasel requested a change to the minutes of March 1, 2007 under her Board Comments. She did not say that the Soroptimists are interested in funding a performing arts center, she meant that if one were to be proposed, they would be interested in helping with funding. **Mrs. Novasel made a motion to approve the Item D. of the Consent Agenda as amended; Ms. Swanson seconded the motion. Ayes: David/ Bannar/Swanson/Novasel. Noes: None**

**Items 10-12. ANNOUNCEMENT OF ITEMS TO BE DISCUSSED IN CLOSED SESSION/ADJOURN TO CLOSED SESSION/ RECONVENE TO OPEN SESSION**

**Barbara Bannar announced the items to be discussed in closed session, adjourned the regular meeting to closed session at 8:38 p.m. and reconvened to open session at 9:27p.m.**

**Item 13. ACTION ON ITEMS FROM CLOSED SESSION (Government Code Section 54954.5)**

**A. Personnel Order No. 2006-07-13 (Government Code 54957)**

- i. Hire: substitute teachers*
- ii. Accept Change in Employment Status: teachers*
- iii. Accept Notification for Non-reelection of Certificated Probationary Employee: teacher*
- iv. Accept Request for Leave of Absence for the 07/08 School Year: teacher*
- v. Accept Retirement: teachers*
- vii. Accept Resignation: instructional assistant and teacher*

**Mrs. Novasel made a motion to approve Personnel Order No. 2006/07-13; Mrs. David seconded the motion. Ayes: David/ Bannar/Swanson/Novasel. Noes: None**

**B. Discipline (Education Code 35146 and Government Code 54950)**

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

- i. Recommendation for Suspension of Expulsion No. 2005/06-21*

The student was expelled in May 2006 drinking before school and during lunch. All conditions of expulsion have been met and **the student may enroll at South Tahoe High School on a suspended expulsion.**

**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.**

**Item 12. ADJOURN**

The meeting was adjourned at 9:28 p.m.

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