



**LAKE TAHOE UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT
BOARD OF EDUCATION MINUTES
REGULAR MEETING OF MARCH 27, 2007**

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

6:00 PM - REGULAR OPEN SESSION
5:00 PM - REGULAR CLOSED SESSION

Board Members / Reps.	Staff Members Present		Guests Present
Barbara Bannar Angela Swanson Sue Novasel Wendy David Hal Cole Student Rep: Ashley Rumble	Dr. James Tarwater Beth Delacour Debra Yates Steve Morales Angie Freeman Mark Romagnolo Karen Gillis-Tinlin	Bob Grant Ivone Larson Katrina Sanford Niall McGuinness	Harry Segal Pat Martin Lauri Kemper

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 5:06 p.m at the Education Center Board Room.

Items 3-5. 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. She indicated that Hal Cole would be sworn into office upon his arrival. She adjourned the regular meeting to closed session at 5:06 p.m. and reconvened to open session at 5:17 p.m. when Mr. Cole arrived.

Item 2. PROVISIONAL APPOINTMENT AND OATH OF OFFICE FOR HAL COLE

Barbara Bannar administered the Oath of Office to Hal Cole and he was sworn into office on a provisional appointment.

Items 4-5. ADJOURN TO CLOSED SESSION/RECONVENE TO OPEN SESSION

Barbara Bannar adjourned the meeting to closed session again at 5:18 p.m. and reconvened the meeting to open session at 5:58 p.m.

Item 6. ACTION ON ITEMS FROM CLOSED SESSION (Government Code Section 54954.5)

A. Personnel Order No. 2006-07-14 (Government Code 54957)

- i. Hire:* Community Liaison – Bilingual
- ii. Accept Retirement:* administrator and teachers
- iii. Accept Family Medical Leave of Absence:* teacher

Mrs. David made a motion to approve Personnel Order No. 2006/07-14; Ms. Swanson seconded the motion. Ayes: David/ Bannar/Swanson/Novasel/Cole. Noes: None

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

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

- i. Recommendation for Suspended Expulsion No. 2006/07-05*
The student was involved in a fight and seriously injured another student at STHS. **The student will be placed on a suspended expulsion at Mt. Tallac High School under strict conditions.**
- ii. Recommendation for Suspended Expulsion No. 2006/07-09*
The student was in possession of a bottle of vodka, which he stole from Safeway. This is the second drug-related offense. In November 2006, he was suspended for being under the influence of marijuana and in possession of marijuana pipes. **The student will be placed on a suspended expulsion at STHS.**

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Item 6. ACTION ON ITEMS FROM CLOSED SESSION (*Government Code Section 54954.5*) (cont'd.)

C. California High School Exit Exam (CAHSEE) Waivers for Graduation for Student with Disabilities: 0607-1 (*Education Codes 35146, 56101, 60851*)

The board considered a request to waive the requirement to successfully pass the CAHSEE for a student with disabilities who has taken the CASHEE with modifications and has received the equivalent of a passing score. **Mrs. David made a motion to approve the CAHSEE Waiver for Student #0607-01 as submitted; Mrs. Novasel seconded the motion. Ayes: David/ Bannar/Swanson/Novasel/Cole. Noes: None**

D. 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 7. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance was said.

Item 8. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Mrs. Bannar requested that *Item 11. C. Approve Auditor Selection Recommendation* be pulled from the Discussion and Action Agenda and tabled until a later date. She also noted two other changes; the description for Item 11 D should read "The District desires to appoint....." instead of "The City of South lake Tahoe desires to appoint....."; and on the Board cover sheet for Item 12 D, student #0501 entered school on 2/1/07, not 1/1/02. **Mrs. Novasel made a motion to approve the agenda as amended; Ms. Swanson seconded the motion. Ayes: David/ Bannar/Novasel/ Swanson/Cole. Noes: None.**

Item 9. COMMUNICATION FROM THE PUBLIC

No comments.

Item 10. ANNOUNCEMENTS, CORRESPONDENCE, AND REPORTS

A. Presentation of \$10,000 to the Board for the South Tahoe High School Little Theatre

Dr. Nancy Rollston, President of the Lake Tahoe Educational Foundation (LTEF), presented the Board with a check for \$10,000, which is the first of three installments on a \$30,000 pledge to replace the seats at STHS Little Theatre. She said that, in collaboration with Tahoe Arts Project and the Performing Arts Booster Club, they have been raising funds through the sale of seachs which bear the name of the donor on the back. Peggy Thompson of TAP and Peter Butler of PABA, joined in presenting the check to Steve Morales, Director of Facilities.

B. Report on STHS 4 x 4 Block Schedule Internal Review by South Tahoe High School Principal

Public Comment: **Lauri Kemper** said that the Advanced Placement (AP) students and program are suffering because courses are condensed into a half hear. She feels that the Health and Freshman Seminar courses should be merged into one and said that "nobody is enjoying school". **Pat Martin** echoed those sentiments and added that he would like to see a way to encourage more kids to participate in sports by giving PE credit, and consider using elective classes to get homework done. **Bob Grant** thanked the Board for allowing the school to be "preemptive in making choices rather than always trying to play catch up".

Ivone Larson explained the results of a survey she conducted among teachers to see how they feel about the 4 x 4 schedule. Fifty-four out of seventy teachers responded and about 64% either agree or are neutral about the schedule, citing reasons such as easier classroom management, adequate time for lesson planning, flexibility, etc. The other 36% don't agree with the schedule or need more time. Mrs. Larson went on to explain modifications that are currently being considered for the 2007/08 school year, along with a summary of the issues raised at a parent forum that was held at the school on March 20th. A lengthy discussion ensued regarding what can be done to improve the schedule, and after hearing from the Board and the Superintendent, Mrs. Larson agreed to hold another parent forum before Spring Break. She will present her findings on the parent forums, survey of students, and an end-of-year comparative data report at future Board meetings.

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

C. Announcement of Date for Special Board Study Session

Barbara Bannar announced that the Board will discuss the Facility Master Plan and the feasibility of a General Obligation Bond in 2008 at a special meeting will be held on April 4, 2007 at 4:00 p.m. Hal Cole said that he will be unable to attend due to a prior commitment.

D. Report by South Tahoe High School Student Representative

Ashley Rumble reported on her recent success in winning the Rotary Club's Speech Contest; the drama department's play – Anne Frank; the new bilingual community liaison; her upcoming trip to San Diego with the California Association of Student Leaders; and the visit last week from WASC (Western Association of Schools and Colleges). With regard to the 4 x 4 schedule, she said that most of the students are enjoying it and getting a lot from it, although she agreed that the Freshman Seminar may not be the best use of time. She suggested a support class for all four years and urged the Board to give the schedule more time to work.

E. Board of Education Report

Angela Swanson enjoyed the play, Anne Frank and the Sierra House Reader's Theatre. She visited the Magnet School and said that she is happy that elementary staffs are much more stable than they were two years ago and are building teams and collaborating. She also attended the High School meeting and visited the Department of State Architect's office with Steve Morales and Dr. Tarwater regarding facilities. **Hal Cole** thanked the Board for their vote of support and confidence, adding that he will give the next seven months his utmost. **Sue Novasel** congratulated Hal Cole on his appointment and Ashley Rumble on winning the Rotary contest. She attended the STMS music program, STHS' School Site Council meeting, and visited an ROP Program at Golden Sierra High School in Garden Valley, CA.

F. Superintendent Report

Dr. Tarwater said that he will hold a lottery to determine which families are accepted into the TWI (Two-Way Immersion) bilingual program at Bijou using the Open Enrollment procedures. He spoke about the great commitment Sierra-at-Tahoe has made to our students over the past seven years through the Straight A Season Ski Pass program. This year, they gave away 128 season passes to eligible students. The Board of Supervisors recently passed a resolution in support of the District's efforts to build a sports complex and the County has just submitted another grant application for \$50,000 to Nike for the project. Elementary schools are busy with data meetings and feel good about gains.

Item 11. DISCUSSION AND ACTION

A. Approval of State Preschool Program at Tahoe Valley Elementary School and Mark Romagnolo as Lake Tahoe Unified School District's Early Childhood Program Coordinator

Mark Romagnolo explained that the District seeks to establish a State Preschool classroom at Tahoe Valley Elementary and to appoint him as the District's ECE Program Coordinator to oversee said program. He and his wife Stacy are former owners of a preschool and have a lot of experience in this area. He will not receive any additional compensation for his role as coordinator and Mrs. Romagnolo is donating her services. They have secured 24 slots and completed the necessary paperwork to implement a program to serve income-eligible families in the Bijou attendance area, many of whom live close to Tahoe Valley school. A grant from First 5 of California has also assisted in obtaining equipment and supplies for the program and the District will contract with Sherry Springer of Happy Kids Preschool who was instrumental in acquiring the 24 slots and who is highly experienced with preschool programs. The preschool will be a half-day, quality early childhood education program and Mr. Romagnolo hopes that the program can be expanded to other schools in the future using AB172 funds which are available for existing State Preschool programs. **Mrs. David made a motion to approve a State Preschool Program at Tahoe Valley Elementary School and Mark Romagnolo as Lake Tahoe Unified School District's Early Childhood Program Coordinator ; Mrs. Novasel seconded the motion. Ayes: David/ Bannar/Novasel/ Swanson/Cole. Noes: None.**

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Item 11. DISCUSSION AND ACTION (continued)

B. Approve Single School Plans for Student Achievement

Ivone Larson explained that each school that operates programs funded through the Consolidated Application must develop a Single School Plan for Pupil Achievement, but this is the first plan for Mt. Tallac High School and Transitional Learning Center. She said that the focus is on CAHSEE (California High School Exit Exam) intervention. There was a discussion regarding security on campus, cameras, and gang problems. Mrs. Larson said that it is a community issue and the next meeting in an ongoing effort to address these problems will be on April 19th. **Mrs. Novasel made a motion to approve the school plans for Mt. Tallac and TLC High Schools; Ms. Swanson seconded the motion. Ayes: David/ Bannar/ Novasel/ Swanson/Cole. Noes: None.**

C. Approve Auditor Selection Recommendation

This item was tabled.

D. Appoint LTUSD Board Member to the City of South Lake Tahoe's 56-Acre Recreation and Public Access Project Steering Committee

Angela Swanson and Steve Morales attended a meeting of the City's 56 Acre Committee and discovered that the subject property is adjacent to school district property. The Board discussed the rationale for appointing a Board member to the City's committee. Sue Novasel volunteered to serve, Angela Swanson thought Hal Cole would be a better selection, and Wendy David said that her priorities are focused more on students than facilities. **Ms. Swanson made a motion to appoint Hal Cole as the primary representative to the City's 56-Acre Committee and Sue Novasel as the alternate representative; Mrs. David seconded the motion. Ayes: David/ Bannar /Novasel/ Swanson/Cole. Noes: None.**

Item 12. CONSENT AGENDA

The Board approved the following items:

Payment Order # 2006/07-14; Quarterly Investment Report; Revised Courses of Study for ELD Classes; Early Admission into Kindergarten for four students; CBET Program Application, and donations to the Community Youth Sports Complex, the Drug Store Project. **Mrs. Novasel made a motion to approve the Items A-F of the Consent Agenda; Ms. Swanson seconded the motion. Ayes: David/ Bannar/Swanson/Novasel/Cole. Noes: None.**

Mrs. Novasel made a motion to approve the Item G Board of Education Minutes of March 13, 2007 on the Consent Agenda; Mrs. David seconded the motion. Ayes: David/ Bannar/Swanson/Novasel. Noes: None. Abstain: Cole.

Item 13. ADJOURN

The meeting was adjourned at 8:40 p.m.

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