



**LAKE TAHOE UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT  
BOARD OF EDUCATION MINUTES  
REGULAR MEETING OF OCTOBER 9, 2007**

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

8:00 PM - REGULAR CLOSED SESSION  
6:00 PM - REGULAR OPEN SESSION

Board Members	Staff Members Present		Guests Present
Barbara Bannar Angela Swanson Sue Novasel Wendy David  Student Rep: Becca Kushner	Dr. James Tarwater Debra Yates Beth Delacour Angie Keil Steve Morales Steve Hayward Carla Zezula	Jackie Nelson Sue O'Connor Jim Watson Karen Gillis Tinlin Margaret McKean Paul Kushner Debby Kushner Christina Grubbs	Morgan & Kim Petragallo Larry Green Mike Doyle Lauri Kemper Jeff Miner Kae Reed Adam Jensen

**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 6:05 p.m. at the Education Center Board Room.

**Item 2 PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Jim Watson, Principal of Sierra House Elementary School, introduced fifth grade student, Morgan Petragallo, is this year's Student Body President. Morgan introduced his mother, Kim Petragallo.

**Item 3. APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

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

**Item 4. COMMUNICATION FROM THE PUBLIC**

**Carla Zezula**, STEA Chief Negotiator, addressed the Board on a variety of topics ranging from grievances, to the 4 x 4 block schedule at the High School, to teachers being asked to do too many things, to electives being taken away and textbooks not being used, to late ins and early outs, to teachers teaching during their prep time, to special education students. **Steve Hayward**, STEA President, thanked the Board for acting so quickly in responding to the concerns he voiced at the last Board meeting regarding facility repairs at Bijou School.

**Item 5. ANNOUNCEMENTS, CORRESPONDENCE, AND REPORTS**

**A. Report by South Tahoe High School Student Representative**

Becca Kushner reported that the Homecoming Parade and Rallies were freezing but fun. The Sophomore class created quite a bit of controversy by winning first place. The football game was one of the most exciting in recent memory – they won 21-20 against North Valleys. The dance was great. The drama department is busy with auditions in the “Bus Stop” production scheduled for November 2<sup>nd</sup>. Seniors are applying for college and a “buzz is in the air”.

**B. Report on Radon Levels at Lake Tahoe Unified School District Sites**

Steve Morales gave the Board a report on radon, which is a naturally occurring, odorless, colorless gas that is found in all fifty states. It stems from decomposing uranium in soils and rock, is radioactive, is the number one source of radiation for most people, and is the second most frequent cause of lung cancer, after cigarette smoking. Radon moves easily through soils and generally settles in spaces that have lower pressure than outside air, such as homes and schools. Mr. Morales plans to place 450 test canisters in spaces that he has identified all over the district. Results of the tests are available about two weeks after the lab receives them. Then he will distribute the test results with a report to the Board if further action needs to be taken.

**Public Comment:** Nurse Margaret McKean said that she recently attended an EPA conference and said that the EPA (Environmental Protection Agency) is more concerned with radon in homes than schools. She also added that second-hand smoke is far more dangerous.

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### Item 5. ANNOUNCEMENTS, CORRESPONDENCE, AND REPORTS (continued)

#### C. Board of Education Report

**Sue Novasel** said that she was unable to attend the homecoming parade and game, but was out there at 6:30 am flipping pancakes. She commended the alums for getting out there in the cold and energizing the participants. **Angela Swanson** enjoyed the game and helped out in the snack shack. She has heard a lot of positive comments about IZ Extreme, the County's recent immunization program at the Middle School. She attended a few walk-a-thons and STMS PTA meeting. Mrs. Swanson thanked Steve Hayward for his kind comments regarding the facility issues at Bijou, but said that Dr. Tarwater had already scheduled the repairs several weeks beforehand. **Wendy David** had also heard good reports about IZ Extreme from the Health Department nurse, who said that approximately 300 students receive the vaccinations – a little less than anticipated. Mrs. David enjoyed Homecoming Weekend and the Wall of Honor ceremony was wonderful. Four STHS graduates, who went on to make a difference, were inducted. **Barbara Bannar** was pleased that the Girls' Varsity Soccer team just won their game against Carson.

#### C. Superintendent Report

Dr. Tarwater asked Angela Swanson to report on the news of the Career Technical Education (CTE) grant. Mrs. Swanson said that Ivone Larson and staff submitted two applications for funding this summer. One was for construction of a construction trades academy and the other for construction of an automotive/transportation academy. Both applications scored high enough to allow the district to submit a further application to seek approximately \$6 million in funding. The district will need to provide matching funds, possibly through a bond measure, to accept the funding if it is granted.

Dr. Tarwater has been attending collaboration and governance team meetings at schools and said that there is an enormous amount of work to be done with the main goal being improving student achievement through constant monitoring. He will update the Board on the establishment of the Calendar Committee at the next meeting and Steve Morales will be bringing an action plan to address the "Williams" issues at Bijou School.

### Item 6. DISCUSSION AND ACTION

#### A. Summary of 2005-2007 STAR CST Results by Grade Level for English Language Arts & Math

Dr. Tarwater gave an overall summary review of California Standards Tests (CSTs) over a three-year period. He gave background information on the 2007 STAR program, using South Tahoe Middle School's test results. He had graphs for each grade level showing the percent of students in three bands: Percent of Proficient and Advanced Levels, Percent of Students at the Basic Level, and Percent of Students that are Below Basic and Far Below Basic Levels. Proficient levels are dictated by the federal government under NCLB (No Child Left Behind). This year, for elementary and middle school, the bar will be raised for the percent of students proficient and advanced in ELA (English Language Arts) from 24.4% to 35.2%. The percent of student proficient and advanced in Math will increase from 26.5% to 37%. For high school the bar will be raised to increase proficient and advanced student in ELA from 22.3% to 33.4% and in Math 20.9% to 32.2%. Then every year after there is to be an additional 10% increase in both ELA and Math until the 13/14 school year, where every student is required to be proficient and advanced in both ELA and Math. Dr. Tarwater went on to point out growth patterns in test results. He also explained how the District is targeting students in the Basic Level to move them up to Proficient and Advanced, and in the Below Basic and Far Below Basic levels and moving them up to Basic. He talked about intervention strategies currently in place in the district: OARS (Online Assessment Reporting System), Intervention Teachers at each site, Literacy Coaches at Bijou Community School, just to mention a few. **No action was taken.**

#### B. Adequate Yearly Progress Report Local Educational Agency Program Improvement Year 1 (LEA PI Year 1)

Dr. Tarwater went over background information on AYP, that there are four sets of requirements to make AYP for both schools and school districts: Participation Rate, Percent Proficient Annual Measurable Objectives (AMOs), API as an Additional Indicator, and Graduation Rate. If districts that receives Title I, Part A, Basic funds (which LTUSD does) don't make their AYP requirements for two years, then they will enter Program Improvement (PI) status. The Lake Tahoe Unified School District did not make Adequate Yearly Progress in English Language Arts for 2006 and for 2007 within the designated Grade Spans (Grades 2-5, Grades 6-8 and Grade 10), therefore the District is now in Program Improvement Year 1. Dr. Tarwater went over the California Department of Education APR (Accountability Progress Reporting) for Lake Tahoe Unified School District, pointing out the areas where we did not meet the required criteria. **No action was taken.**

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### **Item 6. DISCUSSION AND ACTION** (continued)

#### **C. Report on Local Educational Agency Program Improvement Year 1 (LEA PI Year 1) Information and Time Line**

Sue O'Connor provided a report on the status of the District as it enters year one of Program Improvement (PI) status. She explained the steps that the District needs to take, which include notifying parents, reserving 10% of the Title I allocation to provide staff development, writing an addendum to the LEA Plan by the end of November in consultation with an external entity, parents, and school staff, and implementing that plan expeditiously. She added that the District is already ahead of many of the other approximately 99 school districts across California that have been identified as PI because of changes that have been made over the past year – tiered intervention, differentiated instruction, flex groupings, targeted professional development, literacy coaches, OARS, etc., but it might take a couple of years before we see this in our test results. **No action was taken.**

#### **D. Contract Between Kelling, Northcross & Nobriga and Lake Tahoe Unified School District**

Debra Yates explained that the District solicited applications, interviewed, and selected to provide professional financial advice and assist with plans for a possible bond measure in the future. She recommended that the Board approve a contract with Kelling, Northcross, & Nobriga. Their fee is predicated on a successful bond and they don't charge if it is not successful. The cost for a successful bond could be \$70,000, which would be paid from the proceeds of the bond. In addition to the services of KNN, the District would need to hire other contractors to provide a voter survey, bond service, underwriting, bond insurance, and architectural services. **Mrs. David made a motion to approve the contract with Kelling, Northcross & Nobriga; Mrs. Novasel seconded the motion. Ayes: Bannar/David/Swanson/Novasel. Noes: None**

#### **E. Approve Application to Commission on Teacher Credentialing for Five CLAD Variable Term Waivers**

Beth Delacour explained that every teacher who provides instruction to English Language Learners is required to hold an ELL authorization. The District intends to apply for waivers for five ROP teachers who are working on their CLAD credential: Laurel Brock, ROP teacher, STHS, Marketing, Computer applications, grades 9-12; John Dayberry, ROP teacher, STHS, Residential/Commerical repairs, grades 9-12; Connie Hunt, ROP teacher, STHS, Dental Assisting/General Office Skills, grades 9-12; David Jones, ROP teacher, STHS, Culinary Arts, grades 9-12; and Ralph Thomas, ROP teacher, STHS, Fire Science, grades 9-12. **Ms. Swanson made a motion to approve the application for five CLAD Variable Term Waivers; Mrs. David seconded the motion. Ayes: Bannar/David/Swanson/Novasel. Noes: None**

#### **F. First Reading of Board Policies and Administrative Regulations**

Dr. Tarwater explained that changes have been made the following Board Policies and Administrative Regulations as part of the District's routine policy maintenance process. He requested that any corrections be submitted to him and that these policies and regulations will be placed on the October 23, 2007 agenda for second reading and adoption: Replace BP/AR 0440 – District Technology Plan; Delete BP/AR 0520 – Intervention for Underperforming Schools; Replace BP 1113 – District and School Web Sites; Replace BP/AR 1220 – Citizen Advisory Committees; Replace BP/AR 1230 – School-Connected Organizations; Add BP 1260 – Educational Foundation; Delete BP 2220 – Administrative Staff Organization; Replace BP/AR 3314 – Payment for Goods and Services; Replace BP 3400 – Management of District Assets/Accounts; Replace BP 3452 – Student Activity Funds; Add BP/AR 3513.1 – Cellular Phone Reimbursement; Add BP 4301 – Administrative Staff Organization; Replace AR 4261.1 – Contracts; Replace BP 4315 – Evaluation/Supervision; Replace BP 5131 – Conduct; Replace AR 5142 – Safety; Replace BP 6142.5 – Environmental Education; Replace BP/AR 6142.7 Physical Education; Replace BP 6146.1 – High School Graduation Requirements; Add BP/AR 6146.11 – Alternative Credits Toward Graduation; Delete BP/AR 6162.7 – Use of Technology in Instruction; Replace BP/AR 6163.4 – Student Use of Technology. **No action was taken.**

### **Item 7. CONSENT AGENDA**

*The Board approved the following consent items:*

Payment Orders No. 2007/2008-05; the investment report for the quarter ended June 30, 2007; reject claim for damages against LTUSD and refer matter to insurance administrator; Resolution No. 2007/2008-02 In the Matter of Filing Applications; MOUs with EDCOE Child Development Program for Head Start Programs at Bijou and Al Tahoe; donations from the Walter S. Johnson Foundation, Millennium High School, and Longs Drugs, and minutes of the Regular Board Meeting of September 25, 2007.

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

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**Items 8-10 ANNOUNCEMENT OF ITEMS TO BE DISCUSSED IN CLOSED SESSION/ADJOURN TO CLOSED SESSION/ RECONVENE TO OPEN SESSION**

Mrs. Bannar announced the items to be discussed in closed session. She adjourned the regular meeting to closed session at 8:14 p.m. and reconvened to open session at 8:31 p.m.

**Item 11. ACTION ON ITEMS FROM CLOSED SESSION (*Government Code Section 54954.5*)**

**A. Personnel Order No. 2007/08-06 (*Government Code 54957*)**

*i. Hire:* instructional assistants, substitute teachers, senior custodian, State preschool teacher, and bus driver.

**Mrs. Novasel made a motion to approve Personnel Order No. 2007/08-06 as submitted; Ms. Swanson seconded the motion. Ayes: Bannar/Swanson/Novasel. Noes: None. Abstain: David.**

**Item 12. ADJOURN**

The meeting was adjourned at 8:32 p.m.

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