



**LAKE TAHOE UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT
BOARD OF EDUCATION MINUTES
REGULAR MEETING OF DECEMBER 11, 2007**

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

8:30 PM - REGULAR CLOSED SESSION
6:00 PM - REGULAR OPEN SESSION

Board Members	Staff Members Present		Guests Present
Angela Swanson Sue Novasel Wendy David Michael Doyle Larry Green Student Rep: Becca Kushner <hr/> Staff Members Present <hr/> Dr. James Tarwater Debra Yates Beth Delacour Angie Keil	Jim Watson Ivone Larson Sue O'Connor Steve Morales Mark Romagnolo Lynn Dupree Jackie Nelson Karen Gillis-Tinlin David Berne Randy Long Mike Patterson Jim Pawling Judy Schwartz Irene Kaelin Valerie Mansfield	Steve Szelely Sandy Bobman Alice Brady Marsha Butler Kruk Karen Nighswonger Ruth Martin Carla Zezula Steve Hayward Bob Grant Cris Komorowski Jean Anne Conlon Greg Komorowski Bob Anderson Janey Roeser	Janel Morales Zane Brady Cookie Rork Kathy Southern Jim Weinberg Audrey Olmer Del Laine Brooke Laine Chris & Rose Campion Kae Reed Chandler Monroe Jeanie Cerceo

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 6:02 p.m. at the Education Center Board Room.

Item 2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

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

Item 3. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The families of Dr. Michael Doyle and Dr. Larry Green led the audience in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Item 4. HOLIDAY SONGS BY THE FACULTY PARENT CHOIR

Paul Kushner led the Faculty Parent Choir, comprised of district teachers, staff, parents, and friends, in a couple of songs to ring in the holiday season.

Item 5. OATH OF OFFICE

In keeping with Government Code Section 1363, Wendy David, Past-Board President, administered the Oath of Office to Sue Novasel, Dr. Michael Doyle, and Dr. Larry Green, the newly elected officers, whose terms will run 12/7/07 to 12/2/2011.

Item 6. COMMUNICATION FROM THE PUBLIC

Steve Hayward welcomed the new Board members and he said that he hopes this will usher in another good year of communication. While he understands that resolution on three grievances was delayed due to an illness and the fire, he wants to move along and resolve all five outstanding grievances. He also hopes that a grievance on retiree insurance will not be prolonged. He would like to open negotiations for 2008/09 in January and settle contract negotiations by June. **Lowry Stewart**, a parent of a student from Nevada, said that he chose STHS because of the choices offered, but he is not happy with the 4 x 4 schedule and urged the Board to look into the schedule further. **Mike Patterson**, STEA Grievance Chair, said that the District is violating the contract by imposing a cap on insurance benefits for retirees. He is also said that they have been waiting a year to resolve issues and he asked the Board to intervene in resolving the five grievances that are outstanding. **Steve Szekely** handed out the language in the contract regarding early retirement and explained that retired teachers can work for insurance benefits, but nobody know about a cap of \$4,100 which has been in place for ten to twelve years. He said that no one knows where this came from and the District needs to do something about it. He added that if the District expects fifteen or so teachers to retire, they need to be able to work for the full value of their benefits.

Item 7. ANNOUNCEMENTS, CORRESPONDENCE, AND REPORTS

A. Report by Lake Tahoe Educational Foundation (LTEF)

Brooke Laine, John Upton, and Chris Campion were joined by fellow LTEF Board Members, Chandler Monroe, Cookie Rork, Kathy Southern, Del Laine and Audrey Olmer, and told the Board how they intend to help the schools by providing “seed-money” or “mini-grants” to reinvigorate learning opportunities. “We’ve had a number of years of meat and potatoes, now we want some cake”, said Chris Campion. They would like each school site to come up with plans to provide some enrichment classes, which would be held outside of the school day or during holidays. The organization is willing to raise approximately \$50,000 to support these efforts. This can fill a void and expose children to a variety of interesting subjects.

B. Report by South Tahoe High School Student Representative

Becca Kushner reported that Nick Smith won the *Mr. Viking Competition* for the second consecutive year and raised \$700 for two teachers who are battling cancer – Teri Allmeroth and Scott Hudson. She also said that the Global Awareness Club is working on a big event for January to highlight global issues.

C. Board of Education Report

Sue Novasel reminded the Board of the CSROP (Central Sierra Regional Occupation Program) tour of STHS and lunch tomorrow. **Angela Swanson** enjoyed STMS’s Honor Roll Breakfast; has finished work with the 56-acre Steering Committee; and is keeping an eye on a request to the State for \$90,000 in reimbursement for facilities work. In reference to earlier comments from STEA, she said that she expects that the union will work within the confines of their agreement and not attempt to negotiate with the Board. **Dr. Doyle** also enjoyed the Honor Roll Breakfast and recent musical performances. He heard at a recent Head Start meeting that local dentists are interested in improving access to dental care for all children and that ACCEL will help in mental health referrals. He is excited about being a new Board Member and becoming more informed. **Dr. Green** is looking forward to serving the students. He enjoyed the Honor Roll Breakfast and was happy to see that fifty percent of kids were on the honor roll. He is looking forward to the CSROP tour and thanked the Choir for their performance. **Wendy David** enjoyed the workshops and general sessions at the CSBA (California School Boards Association) Annual Conference and appreciated the opportunity afforded to the Board by the District. She excited about the new direction of the LTEF. Mrs. David praised STMS teacher, Ms. Songer, for taking seventy-seven of her top students to dinner at Embassy Suites as a reward and a lesson in etiquette.

D. Superintendent Report

Dr. Tarwater said that the Calendar Committee has met twice and they have developed three options – a traditional calendar starting after Labor Day; a modified traditional calendar; and an option for STHS to start school in August. Input is being taken from parents, staff, and the community until January 18, 2008. Dr. Tarwater also mentioned that a couple of his fellow superintendents from the County – Rusty Vardy from Indian Diggings, and Jean Pinotti from Latrobe – will present \$5300 to teacher, Scott Hudson who lost his home in the Angora Fire and was diagnosed with cancer soon thereafter. The money was raised by students in the two small school districts.

Item 8. DISCUSSION AND ACTION

A. Annual Organizational Meeting

Wendy David led the following elections and appointments, pursuant to Education Code Section 35143.

i. *Elect President of the Board:*

Ms. Swanson made a motion to nominate Sue Novasel as President of the Board; Dr. Doyle seconded the motion. Ayes: David/Swanson/Novasel/Doyle/Green. Noes: None

ii. *Elect Clerk of the Board:*

Mrs. David made a motion to nominate Angela Swanson as Clerk of the Board; Dr. Green seconded the motion. Ayes: David/Swanson/Novasel/Doyle/Green. Noes: None

iii. *Representatives to Various Committees:*

(1) **Ms. Swanson made a motion to nominate Wendy David as the District’s Representative in the nomination of members to serve on the El Dorado County Committee on School District Organization; Dr. Green seconded the motion. Ayes: David/Swanson/Novasel/Doyle/Green. Noes: None.** No alternate was chosen.

(2) **Mrs. David made a motion to nominate Sue Novasel as the District’s Representative to Central Sierra Regional Occupation Program; Ms. Swanson seconded the motion. Ayes: David/Swanson/Novasel/Doyle/Green. Noes: None.** Mrs. Novasel will forward notices of meetings to the other Board members who can attend meetings if they are available.

(3) **Ms. Swanson made a motion to nominate Larry Green as the District Representative to El Dorado County School Boards Association; Mrs. David seconded the motion. Ayes: David/Swanson/Novasel/Doyle/Green. Noes: None.** Angela Swanson will serve as an alternate.

Item 8. DISCUSSION AND ACTION (continued)

A. Annual Organizational Meeting (continued)

iii. *Representatives to Various Committees:*

(4) **Mrs. David made a motion to nominate Sue Novasel and Angela Swanson as Representatives to the Facilities Committee; Dr. Green seconded the motion. Ayes: David/Swanson/Novasel/Doyle/Green. Noes: None.** Larry Green will serve as an alternate.

(5) **Dr. Green made a motion to nominate Wendy David as District Representative to the Lake Tahoe Educational Foundation; Ms. Swanson seconded the motion. Ayes: David/Swanson/Novasel/Doyle/Green. Noes: None.** Michael Doyle will serve as an alternate.

iv. *Set Times, Dates, and Places of Regular Board Meetings*

Dr. Green made a motion to set the times, dates, and places of regular Board Meeting as submitted; Dr. Doyle seconded the motion. Ayes: David/Swanson/Novasel/Doyle/Green. Noes: None.

B. Report and Discussion on the 4 x 4 Block Schedule at South Tahoe High School

Principal, Ivone Larson, reported on the progress of the 4 x 4 Block Schedule and said that a review of the CST (California Standards Test) results and AP (Advanced Placement) test results show no significant differences between the scores under the old AB schedule versus the new 4 x 4 schedule. 1069 students responded to a survey and the responses revealed that the majority of students (76%) like the schedule, and 82% like the opportunity to take up to eight classes per year. 81 staff members responded and 76.5% of them feel that the 4 x 4 schedule should be used for another year. The Board will consider the data presented and will vote on whether or not to continue the schedule at the January 8, 2008 meeting. **No action was taken.**

C. Approval of First Interim Report for 2007/2008

Chief Financial Officer, Debra Yates, presented the First Interim Report covering details of the District's financial activity from June to October and current budget estimates. She said that, although enrollment continues to decline, it has slowed somewhat and the District continues to focus in improving ADA (Average Daily Attendance). Ms. Yates assured the Board that the District has adequate reserves to meet its fiscal obligations for the current and two subsequent fiscal years. "The reserves are getting us through the storm", she said, "but they will not last long". She said that the budget forecast from the Legislative Analyst's Office indicates that there is a \$2 billion deficit in the current year State budget. **Dr. Green made a motion to approve the First Interim Report for 2007/2008 ; Ms. Swanson seconded the motion. Ayes: David/Swanson/Novasel/Doyle/Green. Noes: None.**

D. Approve Reduction of Classified Services, Resolution No. 2007/2008-09

Beth Delacour explained that the District is offering the Golden Handshake and reducing the hours of two Special Education positions by 2.5 hours at a maximum annual saving of \$13,530.40. **Mrs. David made a motion approve the Reduction of Classified Services, Resolution No. 2007/2008-09; Dr. Doyle seconded the motion. Ayes: David/Swanson/Novasel/Doyle/ Green. Noes: None.**

E. Approve Request for Boardmanship Workshop

Dr. Tarwater recommended that the Board schedule a half-day Boardmanship Workshop with Dr. Lori Garey in January to work on effective boardmanship relationships and skills. The Board members agreed with the recommendation and will let the Superintendent know what date would be suitable. **No action was taken.**

F. Approve Teacher to Provide Services Under a Subsequent Variable Term Waiver in Adapted P.E.

Beth Delacour explained that efforts to recruit a fully credentialed Adapted PE teacher were not successful and the District will apply for a one-year subsequent waiver for 2007/2008 for Dan McCauley, Adapted P.E., Grades K-12. Mrs. Delacour commended Mr. McCauley on working so hard to earn his credential in one year, and he will receive the credential by January 2008. **Dr. Green made a motion to approve a teacher to provide services under a Subsequent Variable Term Waiver in Adapted Physical Education; Dr. Doyle seconded the motion. Ayes: David/Swanson/Novasel/Doyle/Green. Noes: None.**

Item 9. CONSENT AGENDA

The Board approved the following consent items:

Payment Order No. 2007/2008-08; Agreement with The Lew Edwards Group to provide professional services related to a potential General Obligation Bond on the June 2008 election; Resolution No. 2007/2008-08, Budget Revision; Resolution No. 2007/2008-10, National Incident Management System (NIMS); Quarterly Investment Portfolio Report for the Period ended September 30, 2007; Williams Act Uniform Complaint Quarterly Report Jul.-Sept. 2007; Revised 2007/2008 School Calendar; donations; and Minutes of 11/13/07 Regular Meeting. **Mrs. David made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda as submitted; Dr. Doyle seconded the motion. Ayes: David/Novasel/Doyle/Green. Noes: None. Abstain: Swanson.**

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

Mrs. Novasel announced the items to be discussed in closed session. She adjourned the regular meeting at 8:41 p.m. for a brief recess and entered closed session at 8:51 p.m. Mrs. Novasel reconvened the meeting to open session at 9:46 p.m.

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

A. Personnel Order No. 2007/08-10 (*Government Code 54957*)

- i. *Hire*: coaches, substitute teachers, cafeteria assistants, craftsworker/plumber, senior secretary, and custodian.
- ii. *Accept Family Medical Leave of Absence*: bus driver.
- iii. *Accept Change in Employment Status*: community liaison – bilingual and teacher.
- iv. *Accept Resignation*: cafeteria assistant.
- v. *Accept retirement*: teachers.

Ms. Swanson made a motion to approve the Personnel Order as submitted; Dr. Doyle seconded the motion. Ayes: David/Novasel/Doyle/Swanson/Green. Noes: None

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

Ms. Swanson made a motion to approve following recommendations as submitted; Dr. Green seconded the motion. Ayes: David/Novasel/Doyle/Swanson/Green. Noes: None

- i. *Recommendation for Suspended Expulsion No. 2007/08-02*
The student sold two Ecstasy pills to another student at school. **The student will be placed on a suspended expulsion.**
- ii. *Recommendation for Suspended Expulsion No. 2007/08-03*
The student purchased Ecstasy, a controlled substance, from a student and then sold the Ecstasy to another student at school. **The student will be placed on a suspended expulsion.**
- iii. *Recommendation for Suspended Expulsion No. 2007/08-05*
The student was in possession of two pills of Ecstasy, a controlled substance, at school **The student will be placed on a suspended expulsion.**
- iv. *Recommendation for Expulsion No. 2007/08-06*
The student has exceeded the maximum allowable days of suspension for one school year. **The student will be expelled and may apply for readmission in January 2009.**

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.**

D. California High School Exit Exam (CAHSEE) Waiver for Students with Disabilities: 0708-4 and 0708-5 (*Education Codes 35146, 56101, 60851*)

The Board considered a request to waive the requirement to successfully pass the CAHSEE for students with disabilities who have taken the CAHSEE with modifications and who have received the equivalent of a passing score. **Mrs. David made a motion to approve CAHSEE Waivers for Students with Disabilities: 0708-4 and 0708-5; Dr. Doyle seconded the motion. Ayes: David/Novasel/Doyle/Swanson. Noes: None. Abstain: Green.**

Item 14. ADJOURN

The meeting was adjourned at 9:48 p.m.

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