

September 24, 2021

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## Re: Board of Education Meeting September 28 and District Newsletter

Happy Friday friends and families! We are officially 9 days into the school year and off to a great start! Sure, some things are still getting sorted out, and we've all been through a lot, but the routine feels good, the air is clearing up, the skies are blue, and we have so much to be grateful for! We have our homes and we have each other. At Tuesday's Board meeting the District will honor the firefighter heroes and partner agencies involved in the Caldor fire; and then next Friday, Oct. 1, South Tahoe High School will hold its fall Homecoming celebration with the theme, "Local Heroes," complete with a parade departing from the bus garage at 4:30pm and going up to the High School. Please join us in thanking and celebrating our hometown heroes by cheering on the parade anywhere from AI Tahoe past the Y! Onward Lake Tahoe!

**[Visit with the Superintendent](#) is scheduled on the first Monday of each month from 5:30 - 6:30pm. The next visit is Monday, October 4 and will be conducted in person in the District Office Boardroom at 1021 AI Tahoe Blvd.** Dr. Todd Cutler looks forward to answering any questions from families and students and providing updates on district happenings. We hope you will calendar this regular event and join us whenever possible. You may also view the meeting live on the **[District's YouTube channel "LTUSD Meetings."](#)**

### **BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING:**

**A Regular Board of Education meeting is scheduled for 6:00 pm Tuesday, September 28 (with Closed Session at 5:00pm) [Here is a link to the full agenda.](#) (Click on 9/28/21 in the right column.) The summary agenda is attached. The Boardroom is now able to accommodate up to 25 observers and is planned to be held in-person at this time. Should there be any **mandatory evacuation orders in effect** within district boundaries at the time of the meeting, the meeting will be canceled and rescheduled. The meeting can also be observed **[via this YouTube link.](#) Please note that masks are required by all individuals attending the School Board meeting in person. If you attend the meeting and plan to not wear a mask, we invite you to view the meeting via YouTube. If you are planning to attend and give public comment, and plan to not wear a mask, please send your comment in writing to [info@ltusd.org](mailto:info@ltusd.org) before 4pm on the meeting date and your comment will be read into the record.****

## IN THE SCHOOLS

**LTUSD is HIRING!** Like many school districts across the state, LTUSD is experiencing staff shortages, especially with substitute teachers. If you or someone you know is seeking employment for full-time, part-time, or on-call work, please apply now! Openings include Special Education Teacher in Therapeutic Behavior Support, Speech Language Pathologists, Substitute Teachers, SLP Assistant, Instructional Assistants, Bus Drivers, Custodians, Cafeteria Assistants, Nordic Ski Coaches, and various substitute positions. Please see this [Link to employment opportunities...](#)

**ATTENTION SCHOOL ATHLETICS FANS** Masks are required for spectators at all times during indoor events (regardless of vaccination status). This policy applies to students, families, coaches, and community members. Only actively rostered athletes are allowed to remove masks. Warning 1: Verbal Request; Warning 2: Request w/Notice of Potential Consequence; Warning 3 - Consequence: Play will be stopped and ALL spectators will be asked to leave the venue. Play will resume once the gym has been cleared. Thank you for your attention :)

**Education Benefit Form:** Every student who is under a certain income, learning English, or in foster care generates 20% more funding for our schools. In LTUSD these dollars are given to each school to increase or improve services for these students. Completing the Education Benefit Form ensures your school receives all available funds. Please [fill out the form here](#) - it only takes a few minutes and **everyone that fills out the application, whether you qualify or not, automatically receives 50% off their Chromebook insurance!** Be sure to write or print your confirmation number to submit with your Chromebook insurance document.

## IN THE COMMUNITY

**POSTPONED: Community Event: Welcome Back Tahoe, Honoring Our Heroes is Postponed** SOUTH LAKE TAHOE, CA, September 22, 2021 – Out of an abundance of caution due to the latest developments of the Caldor Fire, the difficult decision has been made to postpone the Welcome Back Tahoe, Honoring Our Heroes Community Event originally scheduled for Saturday, Sept. 25. In addition, South Lake Tahoe Fire Fighters continue to be actively engaged on the incident. We will reassess as conditions improve and will provide an update as soon as the event is rescheduled. We look forward to gathering as a community to give back to those impacted by the Caldor Fire devastation throughout El Dorado County and to give thanks to our heroes.

**The Community Disaster Resource Center (CDRC)** was formed during the Angora fires and has had an active board since then. The CDRC mission is to acquire and distribute public and private donations and grants to provide short-term emergency assistance, longer term aid, information, and other resources to residents of South Lake Tahoe displaced by disaster. To donate or apply please go here: <https://www.cdrc-tahoe.org/> .

**Bread and Broth:** Bags of groceries (staples, dairy products, fruits, vegetables, breads and desserts) are distributed to individuals and families from **4:00-5:30 p.m. on**

**Mondays and 3:00 - 5:00pm on Fridays** at St. Theresa Catholic Church, Grace Hall at 1041 Lyons Avenue, South Lake Tahoe, CA.

**GET VACCINATED** - COVID-19 Vaccines are available for everyone 12 years of age and older. Vaccines are free regardless of your health insurance status. All currently authorized and recommended COVID-19 vaccines are safe, effective, and proven to reduce your risk of severe illness. Contact El Dorado County Public Health at (530) 295-4101 or go to [www.myturn.ca.gov](http://www.myturn.ca.gov) to schedule your vaccine appointment.

**How Does the COVID-19 Vaccine Prevent Illness? (Author: Rhonda Sneeringer, MD)** Some are wondering about the vaccine's effectiveness against the COVID-19 virus. With the emergence of the Delta variant, many people may know of a vaccinated person who's been infected with COVID-19 after vaccination. It can be confusing and even alarming, especially with the high risk associated with contracting the virus. But rest assured, the vaccine is effective and it is protecting us. [Read more...](#)

**CDC Recommending COVID-19 Vaccine for Women who are Pregnant, Breastfeeding or Trying to Conceive** (Author: Clare Rudolph, MD) [Read more...](#)

**[Updated Food Assistance Resources List in English & Spanish](#)** - This list contains local resources, addresses, and schedules for free food pick ups and delivery sites. Please share with anyone you know that is in need.

**[LTUSD's COVID-19 Resource pages](#)** - Includes links to information and resources for families and students; links to flyers regarding coronavirus and [what to do if your child has symptoms](#); and links to [LTUSD Community Resources Page](#) .

**[EDC Community Hubs](#)**, staffed with family engagement, literacy and health specialists, work to strengthen families and reduce isolation and stress. They can help with resource referrals and various social services applications as well. EDC Hub5 also maintains a Facebook group where it shares resources, information, parenting advice and activities: [www.facebook.com/CommunityHub5/](http://www.facebook.com/CommunityHub5/).

**[UC Cooperative Extension Central Sierra](#) If your family, your neighbors, or anyone you know is in need of food, assistance is available!** Links to information about all Central Sierra food banks, WIC agencies, school meal sites, senior meals, how to **[sign up for CalFresh/food stamps](#)**, food safety, home cooking, home-based activities for families, and more are available on the following webpage, which will be regularly updated until the end of the crisis: **[COVID-19 Community Resources](#)**.

### **LOCAL AND REGIONAL EDUCATION NEWS:**

**[Letter: LTCC demonstrates strength and perseverance during State of the College Address](#)** (South Tahoe Now) As classes prepared to resume, Lake Tahoe Community College (LTCC) Superintendent/President Jeff DeFranco presented the annual State of the College Address to raise awareness of the challenges the college has faced and the successes made during a tough year.... DeFranco also acknowledged Lake Tahoe

Unified School District (LTUSD) and Superintendent Dr. Todd Cutler for their strong collaboration. “When I started as the Superintendent, I knew that as an organization we needed to build strong relationships within the community,” Dr. Cutler stated. “If we want to be the best district for our students, schools and our city, we need to be interdependent and maintain partnerships to facilitate positive work and change.”

[\*\*COVID-19 creates a dire US shortage of teachers, school staff \(AP News\)\*\*](#) One desperate California school district is sending flyers home in students’ lunchboxes, telling parents it’s “now hiring.” Elsewhere, principals are filling in as crossing guards, teachers are being offered signing bonuses and schools are moving back to online learning. Now that schools have welcomed students back to classrooms, they face a new challenge: a shortage of teachers and staff the likes of which some districts say they have never seen.

[\*\*El Dorado County education leadership thanks the community\*\*](#) – South Tahoe Now - Throughout the devastating challenges of the Caldor fire and its impact on our schools, you as a community stood by us every step of the way. From providing crucial basic needs to families, remaining flexible and understanding during closures, to providing volunteer support to educate our displaced students – you stepped up. From the bottom of our hearts, thank you. You make El Dorado County the special place that it is, and we could not be more grateful. El Dorado County strong!

**Links to your school sites and [more local education news](#):**

[\*\*LTUSD Website\*\*](#)

[\*\*South Tahoe High School\*\*](#)

[\*\*South Tahoe Middle School\*\*](#)

[\*\*Bijou Community School\*\*](#)

[\*\*Tahoe Valley Elementary\*\*](#)

[\*\*Sierra House Elementary\*\*](#)

[\*\*Lake Tahoe Environmental Science Magnet\*\*](#)

[\*\*Elevated Digital Learning Academy\*\*](#)

[\*\*LOCAL EDUCATION NEWS\*\*](#)

[\*\*DISTRICT CALENDARS\*\*](#)

[\*\*DISTRICT NEWSLETTERS\*\*](#)

[\*\*COVID-19 FLYERS, SELF-SCREENING FORMS, HANDOUTS\*\*](#)

Overflowing with gratefulness,

**Shannon Chandler**

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***LTUSD'S VISION:*** *Discover and foster the unique talents and potential of all students.*