

MINUTES FOR THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE GOVERNING BOARD OF THE  
SIERRA-PLUMAS JOINT UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

November 08, 2022

5:00pm CLOSED Session

Regular Session immediately followed the 6:00pm meeting of the Sierra County Board of Education

*Loyalton:* Sierra County Office of Education, Room 4, 109 Beckwith Rd, Loyalton CA 96118

*Zoom videoconferencing* was also available for the public.

*In accordance with AB 361, effective October 1, 2021, pertaining to the convening of public meetings in response to the COVID-19 pandemic, the Governing Board of the Sierra-Plumas Joint Unified School District suspended the Brown Act teleconferencing posting requirements for any Board members choosing to participate via Zoom videoconferencing.*

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A. CALL TO ORDER

*Vice President PATTY HALL called the meeting to order at 5:04pm.*

B. ROLL CALL

PRESENT: *Patty Hall, Vice President, District 1 (via Zoom)*  
*Tom Mooers, District 2 (via Zoom)*  
*Christina Potter, Clerk, District 3*  
*Dorie Gayner, District 5*

ABSENT: *None*

VACANT: *District 4*

C. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

*POTTER/GAYNER*

*4/0*

D. PUBLIC COMMENT FOR CLOSED SESSION

*None*

E. CLOSED SESSION

The Board of Trustees, Superintendent James Berardi and Business Manager Nona Griesert moved into Closed Session *at 5:05pm* to discuss the following item(s):

1. Government Code 54957.6

CONFERENCE WITH LABOR NEGOTIATORS

Agency Negotiator for the Board: James Berardi, Superintendent

Employee Organizations:

Unrepresented Employees: Sierra-Plumas Teachers' Association  
Classified Employees  
Confidential Employees  
Administrative Employees

F. RETURN TO OPEN SESSION and ADJOURN FOR BREAK *at 6:00pm*

G. 6:00PM – RECESS TO THE SIERRA COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING

H. RECONVENE THE SIERRA-PLUMAS JOINT UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT GOVERNING BOARD MEETING at 6:47pm

I. REPORT OUT FROM CLOSED SESSION

*MOOERS: Discussed plan to constructively and positively engage in the next round of negotiations with all groups. Also discussed the Superintendent's salary after receiving communication from other employees in the District indicating that the Board has been remiss in keeping the Superintendent's pay on par with other employees. As a Board, we agreed this was a mistake in not making a salary adjustment at the time of the last Superintendent Annual Review. The Board intends to remedy this mistake with a modest increase in pay now with the opportunity to further address a potential adjustment at the next Annual Review.*

*MOOERS motioned to adjust the Superintendent's salary with a 5% increase retroactive to July 1, 2022, with the acknowledged intent to further address potential adjustments at the next Annual Review. Second by GAYNER.*

*4/0*

J. INFORMATION/DISCUSSION ITEMS

1. Superintendent's Report

- a. First reading of the proposed Board Meeting Calendars for 2023  
*BERARDI: Looking to streamline meetings and get better organized to make the meetings more succinct and efficient.*
- b. Update on Mental Health Student Services Act Grant  
*BERARDI: Still in discussion phase about where the Wellness Center will be placed. Program Planning—starting billing process and working on job descriptions. Problem we foresee is obtaining staff. We can build a building with the intent to provide services for students, but we can't provide services without proper staff in place. Having a hard time finding people to fill in open positions currently which is starting to make us consider online options.*
- c. Nurse update  
*BERARDI: Looking at MOU with Sierra County Health Department for five hours per week for a nurse. Also increasing hours for an Aide qualified to perform some basic nurse duties.*
- d. Website update  
*BERARDI: Moving forward with a contract to rebuild all of the websites in the District. Hoping to have this completed within six weeks.*
- e. Security update  
*BERARDI: Updating equipment and installing new equipment for camera systems at each school site. Moving forward with rekeying all sites across the district. Looking at replacing the front door at LHS next summer.*
- f. Liberty Charging Stations proposal for Sierra County Office of Education  
*BERARDI: Previous discussions about putting in charging stations on District property was not favored by members of the public and the Board. Liberty has since reached out again to let us know they still have grant funds for this project. It doesn't appear there would be room in the parking lot between LES, District Office and the daycare. Exploring the possibility of trying to use the*

*same grant funds to put charging stations in at the City Park by the Probation Office to help the community at large.*

g. Bus update

*BERARDI: Doing much better on personnel with getting new bus drivers. Continued issues with buses themselves. Issues with the electric buses are putting a strain on the diesel-powered buses which have their own mechanical issues to address. May need to buy a newer-used bus. Also exploring the possibility of a lease option with Truckee if they have any extra buses available.*

h. Deferred Maintenance List

1. Loyalton campus plan improvements
2. Soccer field

*BERARDI: We have a lot of expenses for large projects coming up that need to be addressed – roofing, windows, walls, flooring, paint, HVAC, etc. We need to prioritize projects in a manner that may push campus plan improvements and soccer field improvements further down the list. These are all positive and important projects to consider, but some of the infrastructure projects have been neglected too long to not prioritize first.*

2. Business Report

- a. Letter from the California Department of Education approving the 2022-2023 Adopted Budgets
- b. Account Object Summary-Balance from 07/01/2022 to 10/31/2022
- c. Second Month Enrollments for the 2022-2023 School Year

3. Staff Reports

*LES—CERESOLA: In October we Celebrated Red Ribbon week – thank you to Kim Askew and Anne Anne Reugebrink! Held our Annual Fall Festival – thank you to the 6<sup>th</sup> Grade class and Mrs. Petterson! Held our second Cub Store for kids to use Paw Bucks. Held our Fall Book Fair – thank you to GCPC! Next week parent-teacher conferences coming up, first trimester coming to an end. Basketball is starting up. We are in need of parent volunteers. Looking to bring back the annual tournament in January. Next week the garden will be closing for the winter months – thank you to Sherrill Rahe for running such a great program! We sent out our first trimester newsletter; assembly on December 2<sup>nd</sup> at 8:30am. We are bringing back our Annual Christmas Program on December 21<sup>st</sup>.*

*LHS—MESCHERY: Thank you to my staff while I was out Friday and Monday! End of Quarter 1 was last week – 73% of students with 3.0 GPA or higher. Academic Awards Assembly will be held Thursday at 10:30am. Site Council met for Quarter 1. Created a parent survey to get input before Winter Break. Red Ribbon week was great! Theater Class is performing Waking Sleepy Hollow this Thursday at 6pm. Football team in playoffs.*

*DES & DHS—BERARDI: Had first WASC visit of the year last week. Another 3-day visit scheduled for March. Currently working on our next six-year report. Held our Halloween Carnival and had a great turnout. A lot of field trips taking place – recent trip put on by FNL for LHS & DHS to Disneyland for a Youth Summit.*

*Rafting trip coming up next week for DHS. Thank you for donations making this trip possible! Trip this upcoming Monday for LHS & DHS to Tahoe Meadows Community College. Held River Day in Downieville last weekend with involvement from students. Great, positive impact on the students! Second "Pizza with the Principal" with the elementary students went well. Parent-Teacher Conferences were held two weeks ago which were successful. New music program for 6<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> grades starting up with help from Sierra Arts Council. Still looking to fill the Downieville Principal position.*

4. SPTA Report

*PRESIDENT—PETTERSON: SPTA submitted their Sunshine Proposal to begin negotiations for the 2023-2024 school year.*

5. Board Members' Report

*None*

6. Public Comment

*Kelly Champion—Looking for clarification on times to speak on different items – only allowed during Public Comment? Can I ask questions during Action Items, Consent Calendar? Can some of the services we are contracting for be billed through the Mental Health services grant?*

*Cali Griffin—Ag Department and FFA update. Big thank you to Kristal Emsoff for her help while I was out! In October the students did some pumpkin carving and delivered to businesses. Students attended the National FFA Convention. We have 11-13 students currently working on their CA State Degrees. Sheep are back from the summer. Students learning about inducing lambing sooner this year due to the earlier date set for the fair. I'm on the state committee working to update the Ag Incentive Grant. I'm also a facilitator for Superior Region for new Ag teachers.*

*Staci Armstrong—Concerns regarding Liberty Charging stations. These would still be too close to the schools if put in by the Probation Office. There's no secure fencing between that area and the schools. Also concerned about the mention of using grant money for these charging stations. Grant money was used for the electric buses and they are still costing the district thousands of dollars.*

*Amber Donnelly—Would like to bring up sub pay. Plumas County subs are paid higher than Sierra County. Higher sub pay could bring in more subs and better qualified people.*

*John Martinetti—Question/concern about the Ethnic Studies requirement in updates to policies in courses of study. I feel it's a tremendous waste of time.*

~~K. CONSENT CALENDAR~~

~~1. Approval of minutes for the Regular Board Meeting held October 11, 2022~~

~~2. Approval of Board Report Checks Dated 10/01/2022 through 10/31/2022~~

~~3. Approval of the following Personnel items:~~

~~a. Assignment of Faith Edwards, 2022-2023 Friday Night Live Kids Advisor (TK/K-6), Downieville Elementary School~~

~~b. Assignment of Misty Painter, Custodian, Downieville Schools, .38 FTE (3 hours/day), effective October 04, 2022~~

- e. Assignment of Misty Painter, Noon Supervisor, Downieville Schools, .25 FTE (1.5 hours/day), effective October 04, 2022
- d. Assignment of Rebekah Perez, 2022-2023 WASC Lead, Loyalton High School
- e. Assignment of Taya Hernandez, Instructional Aide, Loyalton High School, .25 FTE (1.5 hours/day), effective October 17, 2022
- f. Acceptance of Retirement for Kathy Henson, Instructional Aide, Loyalton Elementary School, .23 FTE (1.4 hours/day), effective December 30, 2022
- g. Authorization to fill Instructional Aide, Loyalton Elementary School, .23 FTE (1.4 hours/day)
- h. Acceptance of Retirement for Kathy Henson, Cashier, Loyalton Elementary School, .67 FTE (4 hours/day), effective December 30, 2022
- i. Authorization to fill Cashier, Loyalton Elementary School, .5 FTE (3 hours/day)
- j. Approval to increase FTE for vacant Instructional Aide, Loyalton Elementary School, from .33 FTE to .58 FTE (add 1.5 hours/day—total of 3.5 hours/day)
- k. Authorization to fill Classroom Specialist (Nurse Duties), Districtwide, .5 FTE (3 hours/day)
- l. Acceptance of Resignation for Kimberly Askew, Educational Research Technician, Districtwide, .25 FTE (10 hours weekly), effective October 31, 2022

**GAYNER/MOOERS**

*Questions from Kelly Champion regarding Board Report-Checks.*

**\*\*ADJOURNED MEETING AT 7:46PM DUE TO LOSS OF QUORUM— POWER OUTAGE IN SIERRA CITY AND DOWNIEVILLE\*\***

**L.—ACTION ITEMS**

**l.—New Business**

- a. Soccer Field Committee presentation by Board Member, Dorie Gayner
- b. Career Technical Education (CTE) annual report for the 2021-2022 School Year
- e. California Assessment of Student Performance and Progress (CAASPP) report for the 2021-2022 School Year
- d. Universal Pre-Kindergarten
- e. Review and award bid for the 2000 GMC Safari SLE AWD Van
- f. Acceptance of the Sierra-Plumas Teachers Association Sunshine Proposal for the 2023-2024 School Year to begin negotiations
- g. Approval of utilizing AB 361 for meetings conducted through December 13, 2022
  - ~This suspends the Brown Act teleconferencing posting requirements for any Board members that choose to participate via Zoom videoconferencing
  - ~AB 361 expires January 01, 2024
  - ~Zoom will be available for the public with or without utilizing AB 361

**BOARD POLICIES, ADMINISTRATIVE REGULATIONS, EXHIBITS, BOARD BYLAWS**

- h. 6143—Courses of Study
  - 1.—Board Policy, *revisions^^*
  - 2.—Administrative Regulation, *revisions^^*
- i. 6146.1—High School Graduation Requirements
  - 1.—Board Policy, *revisions^^*

- 2.— Administrative Regulation, *DELETE*
- j.— 6158 — Independent Study
  - 1.— Board Policy, *revisions^^*
  - 2.— Administrative Regulation, *revisions^^*
- k.— 6164.2 — Guidance/Counseling Services
  - 1.— Board Policy, *revisions^^*
- l.— 6178 — Career Technical Education
  - 1.— Board Policy, *revisions^^*
  - 2.— Administrative Regulation, *revisions^^*
- m.— 6200 — Adult Education
  - 1.— Board Policy, *revisions^^*
  - 2.— Administrative Regulation, *revisions^^*
- n.— 7110 — Facilities Master Plan
  - 1.— Board Policy, *revisions^^*
- o.— 7150 — Site Selection and Development
  - 1.— Board Policy, *revisions^^*
  - 2.— Administrative Regulation, *revisions^^*

M.— ADVANCED PLANNING

- 1.— Next Regular Board Meetings will be held on December 13, 2022, at Downieville School, 130 School St, Downieville CA 95936, beginning with Closed Session as needed at 5:00pm and the Regular Board Meetings at 6:00pm. Zoom videoconferencing will also be available for the public.
- 2.— Suggested Agenda Items

N.— ADJOURN

**\*\*ADJOURNED MEETING AT 7:46PM DUE TO LOSS OF QUORUM - POWER OUTAGE IN SIERRA CITY AND DOWNIEVILLE\*\***

Christina Potter, Clerk

James Berardi, Superintendent

**SIERRA-PLUMAS JOINT UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT—SPJUSD  
CLOSED SESSION REPORTING FORM**

DATE: November 08, 2022

CLOSED SESSION BEGAN AT: 5:05 P.M.

**BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Patty Hall  Tom Mooers  Christina Potter (Vacant)  Dorie Gayner

**OTHERS PRESENT:**

- James Berardi, Superintendent
- Nona Griesert, Director of Business Services
- \_\_\_\_\_
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**I. SESSION TOPIC(S):**

<p><b>Item #1—Government Code 54957.6</b> <b>CONFERENCE WITH LABOR NEGOTIATORS</b> Agency Negotiator for the Board: James Berardi, Superintendent Employee Organizations: Unrepresented Employees: Sierra-Plumas Teachers' Association Classified Employees Confidential Employees Administrative Employees</p> <p><b>RESULT:</b></p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> DIRECTION WAS GIVEN TO SUPERINTENDENT</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> THE CLOSED SESSION WAS FOR PURPOSES OF DISCUSSION ONLY. NO ACTION WAS TAKEN.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> A ROLL CALL VOTE WAS TAKEN: HALL _____ MOOERS _____ POTTER _____ (VACANT) _____ GAYNER _____</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> A ROLL CALL VOTE WAS TAKEN IN OPEN SESSION: HALL _____ MOOERS _____ POTTER _____ (VACANT) _____ GAYNER _____</p> <hr/> <p><b>Item #2—Government Code</b></p> <p><b>RESULT:</b></p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> DIRECTION WAS GIVEN TO SUPERINTENDENT</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> THE CLOSED SESSION WAS FOR PURPOSES OF DISCUSSION ONLY. NO ACTION WAS TAKEN.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> A ROLL CALL VOTE WAS TAKEN: HALL _____ MOOERS _____ POTTER _____ (VACANT) _____ GAYNER _____</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> A ROLL CALL VOTE WAS TAKEN IN OPEN SESSION: HALL _____ MOOERS _____ POTTER _____ (VACANT) _____ GAYNER _____</p>
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**II. MOTION TO ADJOURN CLOSED SESSION AT 6:00 P.M. AND RETURN TO OPEN SESSION**

BY: Dorie Gayner (NAME)      SECONDED: Christina Potter (NAME)

MOTION  PASSED /  FAILED

PRESIDED BY: Patty Hall  
Patty Hall, VICE PRESIDENT

RECORDED BY: Christina Potter  
Christina Potter, CLERK