

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

September 21, 2021

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.

A. CALL TO ORDER

President MIKE MOORE called the meeting to order at 5:00pm.

B. ROLL CALL

PRESENT: *Mike Moore, President*
Allen Wright, Vice President
Christina Potter, Clerk (arrived at 5:09pm)
Patty Hall, Member
Nicole Stannard, Member

ABSENT: *None*

C. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

HALL/WRIGHT
4/0

D. PUBLIC COMMENT FOR CLOSED SESSION

None

E. CLOSED SESSION

HALL/STANNARD
4/0

The Board of Trustees, Superintendent James Berardi and Business Manager Nona Griesert moved into Closed Session at 5:01pm 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

2. Government Code 54957

PUBLIC EMPLOYEE DISCIPLINE/DISMISSAL/RELEASE

F. RETURN TO OPEN SESSION and ADJOURN FOR BREAK at 5:59pm

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 6:50pm

HALL/WRIGHT
5/0

I. REPORT OUT FROM CLOSED SESSION

MOORE: Gave the Superintendent input on an employee issue. Discussed amendments to the MOU with SPTA, but no action taken during Closed Session – vote takes place in Open Session. The Superintendent’s salary was also discussed. We will have more information on that at a later date.

J. INFORMATION/DISCUSSION ITEMS

1. Superintendent’s Report

a. Superintendent Email Process

BERARDI: Please copy my Administrative Assistant on all emails, Kristie Jacobsen ([kjacobson@spjUSD.org](mailto:kjacobsen@spjUSD.org)). This is to help ensure all emails are seen and addressed in a timely manner.

b. Substitute Daily Rate

BERARDI: In reviewing other districts we are below the average rate in surrounding areas. We are having a difficult time getting subs to cover positions in our district, so it seems it would be beneficial to raise our sub rates to attract more subs.

MOORE: Please place on the next agenda as an action item.

c. Satellite Phones/District Phones

BERARDI: We are looking at a new company, Crexendo, for district phones, but also still exploring different potential technology issues. VOIP systems don’t work when there are power outages and/or internet issues, so we also need to consider going back to landlines. We now have satellite phones at each site for extreme emergencies thanks to a grant we received for satellite phones.

d. Strategic Planning

BERARDI: Still working through gathering dates to get the administrators and board members together for the initial meeting.

e. Downieville Leadership/Teaching Principal

BERARDI: Site Council has been discussing the leadership framework currently in place and they feel it doesn’t work. Admin time has been reduced for the current Lead Teacher due to a change in teaching assignment. As the Superintendent for both the County and District, I lean on the Lead Teacher quite a bit since I am the acting Downieville Principal as well.

MOORE: We have talked about re-introducing a Teaching Principal again, or looking into an Administrative Internship of some kind. Please add Downieville Leadership to the next agenda for further discussion and possible action.

f. Inter-District Attendance Agreements in effect for the 2021-2022 School Year

2. Business Report

a. Account Object Summary-Balance from 07/01/2021 to 08/31/2021

3. Staff Reports

LES—CERESOLA: We have welcomed a few new teachers to our site and many new families. Staff is working hard to make everything as close to normal as possible aside from the face masks. Students have been enjoying art and garden classes. Our after-school program for 4th-6th Grades on Thursdays has started up. Teachers for 3rd-6th Grades were trained last week in tennis, so we are bringing tennis to our site this year. Volleyball is underway and basketball sign-up will be coming up in October. Water bottles ordered for the entire district with TUPE funds.

LHS—MESCHERY: We’ve had a great start to the school year – students and staff are all doing the best they can in light of the current environment with COVID. Back to School night is September 29th at 6:00pm. Homecoming is scheduled for October 9th. Sports are in full force: JV and Varsity volleyball, football, cheerleading, soccer. Early Release Wednesdays have been dedicated to relationship-building workshops so far and we will move into common teaching

and learning strategies. We are still looking for a School Monitor/Aide for this school year. Also still in need of another teacher to meet the demands of our current class schedule due to the unexpected resignations that came over the summer.

DES & DHS—BERARDI: Back to School night tomorrow, September 22nd, at 5:00pm. New staff members settling in. High School students are heading to Humboldt this week to do a college visit. A lot of exciting activities coming up that we weren't doing at this time last year. Looking at data overall we are seeing that learning loss has not been as bad as anticipated due to Distance Learning, COVID and quarantines last year thanks to our efforts with programs like RTI.

4. SPTA Report

STACI ARMSTRONG—TEACHER: All the teachers are working very diligently to ensure everything goes well this school year.

5. Board Members' Report

WRIGHT: Sat in on interviews for the Technology Director, but unfortunately the person picked did not pass a background check. No one hired yet.

POTTER: It's great to see all the kids back outside playing sports.

MOORE: Attended the first day of In-Service in Loyalton and the welcome-back night at LHS. We are off to a good start this school year.

6. Public Comment

KELLY CHAMPION—parent: Looking for clarification on procedure/appropriate time for public comment (i.e. County vs. District)? Also wondering about people hired into positions without being fully qualified (in reference to the items on the last agendas regarding the Declaration of Need for Fully Qualified Educators & CBEST Waiver for Substitute Teachers)? What happens there to ensure those positions are eventually filled by qualified people?

K. CONSENT CALENDAR

1. Approval of minutes for the Regular Board Meeting held August 10, 2021
2. Approval of minutes for the Special Board Meeting held August 19, 2021
3. Approval of Board Report-Checks Dated 08/01/2021 through 08/31/2021
4. Approval of assignment of Sheri Roen, Loyalton 7th & 8th Grade 2021-2022 Athletic Director
5. Approval of assignment of Libby Ryan, Loyalton High School 2021-2022 Cheer Coach
6. Approval of assignment of Aimee Phebus, Loyalton High School 2021-2022 JV Volleyball Coach
7. Approval of assignment of Katrina Bosworth, Downieville School 2021-2022 Friday Night Live Kids (K-6) Program Advisor
8. Approval of Agricultural Career Technical Incentive Grant 2021-2022
9. Authorization for Out of State Travel Request to Indianapolis, IN for National FFA Convention—Cali Griffin, LHS FFA Coordinator

WRIGHT/HALL

5/0

L. ACTION ITEMS

1. Old Business

- a. Authorization for Superintendent to enter into Memorandum of Understanding with Sierra-Plumas Teacher's Association for the 2021-2022 School Year, Contract 2022-005D

STANNARD motioned to approve MOU as amended in the County meeting.
Second by HALL.

5/0

- b. Approval of construction bid for Downieville Schools
HALL/WRIGHT
5/0
- c. Discussion of plan with Liberty for vehicle charging stations
GRIESERT: Need direction from the board on what to have included in bids.
POTTER: What is the benefit to us as a district? This seems like it would be more costly in the long-run than they are worth.
STANNARD: This seems to be a safety issue to have charging stations on school campuses. Would the Adult Education location be an option? Or Sierraville? Or the City Park?
JACOBSEN: There are participants on Zoom also expressing concerns with the safety issues this could create on school property.
NO ACTION. DO NOT WANT CHARGING STATIONS ON K-12 PROPERTIES.

2. New Business

- a. Approval of Air Purifiers bid for the District
HALL/WRIGHT
5/0
- b. Adoption of Resolution 22-005D, Adopting the Gann Limit
HALL/WRIGHT
ROLL CALL VOTE:
POTTER – AYE
MOORE – AYE
HALL – AYE
WRIGHT – AYE
STANNARD – AYE
5/0
- c. Adoption of Unaudited Actuals for the Fiscal Year End June 30, 2021
WRIGHT/HALL
MEGAN MESCHERY: Curious about previous years combining LHS grades 7-8 with 9-12 and now they are separated out, but we are serving the same number of students and have less teachers?
MOORE: LHS was not a Necessary Small school a few years ago which could be the reasoning for the change as that would affect the funding formula.
**Overview given by the Business Manager, Nona Griesert*
5/0
- d. Adoption of Resolution 22-006D, Changing Bank Account Authorized Signatory
WRIGHT/HALL
ROLL CALL VOTE:
POTTER – AYE
MOORE – AYE
HALL – AYE
WRIGHT – AYE
STANNARD – AYE
5/0
- e. Approval of Contract 2022-008D with Butte-Glenn Community College District, K-12 Strong Workforce Program
HALL/WRIGHT
5/0

- f. Nomination of Sierra-Plumas Joint Unified School District representatives for the SCOE Student Attendance Review Board as follows:
1. James Berardi (Chairperson), Superintendent/Downieville School Administrator
 2. Megan Meschery, Loyalton High School Administrator
 3. Andrea Ceresola, Loyalton Elementary School Administrator
 4. Kristie Jacobsen, Secretary
- (Ed Code 48321 (a) (4) The school district representatives on the county school attendance review board shall be nominated by the governing boards of school districts and shall be appointed by the county superintendent of schools. All other persons and group representatives shall be appointed by the county board of education.)
- HALL/STANNARD*
5/0
- g. Acceptance of resignation for Blaine Donnelly, Technology Director, 1.0 FTE, effective September 1, 2021
- HALL/POTTER*
5/0
- h. Authorization to fill Technology Director, District Wide, 1.0 FTE
- HALL/WRIGHT*
5/0
- i. Approval of Request for Leave of Absence for Amy Burt, Loyalton Elementary School Instructional Aide
- STANNARD/HALL*
5/0
- j. Approval of assignment of Alex Cone, 3rd/4th Grade Teacher, Loyalton Elementary School, 1.0 FTE, effective August 23, 2021
- STANNARD/HALL*
5/0
- k. Approval of assignment of Annie Siqueido, Instructional Aide, Loyalton Elementary School, .67 FTE (4 hr/day), effective August 25, 2021
- HALL/STANNARD*
5/0
- l. Approval of assignment of Adrienne Anila, Social Science Teacher, Downieville School, 1.0 FTE, effective August 23, 2021
- WRIGHT/STANNARD*
5/0
- m. Authorization to fill Custodian, Downieville School, .38 FTE (212 days/year; 3 hours/day)
- HALL/STANNARD*
BERARDI: Position was abandoned, so no formal resignation received.
5/0
- n. Downieville Site Council School Improvement Plan
- TABLED TO OCTOBER MEETING – INFORMATION NOT YET AVAILABLE*
- o. Approval of Textbook Adoption Lead Teacher Extra Duty Stipend
- HALL/WRIGHT*
BERARDI: We are adding a stipend to the list to assist with new textbook and curriculum adoptions. This stipend already exists, but it wasn't included in the list approved earlier in the year for 2021-2022. Without a Curriculum Coordinator we need someone to take the lead on helping with required updates and adoptions for new textbooks and curriculum.
5/0

BOARD POLICIES, ADMINISTRATIVE REGULATIONS, EXHIBITS, BOARD BYLAWS

HALL motioned to approve all policies as was done in County meeting.

Second by STANNARD.

5/0

- p. 0410—Nondiscrimination in District Programs and Activities
 - 1. Board Policy, *minor revision*
- q. 5141.4—Child Abuse Prevention and Reporting
 - 1. Board Policy, *revisions*
 - 2. Administrative Regulation, *revisions*
- r. 5141.52—Suicide Prevention
 - 1. Board Policy, *revisions*
 - 2. Administrative Regulation, *revisions*
- s. 5145.12—Search and Seizure
 - 1. Board Policy, *revisions*
- t. 5145.9—Hate-Motivated Behavior
 - 1. Board Policy, *revisions*
- u. 6142.5—Environmental Education
 - 1. Board Policy, *“NEW”*
- v. 6162.51—State Academic Achievement Tests
 - 1. Administrative Regulation, *revisions*
- w. 7211—Developer Fees
 - 1. Board Policy, *revisions*
 - 2. Administrative Regulation, *revisions*

M. ADVANCED PLANNING

- 1. Next Regular Board Meetings will be held on October 12, 2021 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
 - “Masks in Schools” as an ongoing item on agendas so the board can engage in discussions with the public during meetings*
 - Ask Liberty about putting charging stations at the Adult Education location*
 - Action item to increase Substitute Daily Rate*
 - Update and additional info regarding Teaching Principal or Administrative Internship for Downieville as a potential option*
 - Sierraville School site update*

N. ADJOURN at 8:20pm

HALL/POTTER

5/0



Christina Potter, Clerk



James Berardi, Superintendent

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

DATE: September 21, 2021

CLOSED SESSION BEGAN AT: 5:01 P.M.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:

Patty Hall Allen Wright Mike Moore abs. Christina Potter Nicole Stannard

OTHERS PRESENT:

James Berardi, Superintendent
 Nona Griesert, Business Manager

Late 5:09

I. SESSION TOPIC(S):

Item #1—Government Code 54957.6
CONFERENCE WITH LABOR NEGOTIATORS

RESULT:

- DIRECTION WAS GIVEN TO SUPERINTENDENT
 THE CLOSED SESSION WAS FOR PURPOSES OF DISCUSSION ONLY. NO ACTION WAS TAKEN.
 A ROLL CALL VOTE WAS TAKEN:
HALL _____ WRIGHT _____ MOORE _____ POTTER _____ STANNARD _____
 A ROLL CALL VOTE WAS TAKEN IN OPEN SESSION:
HALL _____ WRIGHT _____ MOORE _____ POTTER _____ STANNARD _____

Item #2—Government Code 54957
PUBLIC EMPLOYEE DISCIPLINE/DISMISSAL/RELEASE

RESULT:

- DIRECTION WAS GIVEN TO SUPERINTENDENT
 THE CLOSED SESSION WAS FOR PURPOSES OF DISCUSSION ONLY. NO ACTION WAS TAKEN.
 A ROLL CALL VOTE WAS TAKEN:
HALL _____ WRIGHT _____ MOORE _____ POTTER _____ STANNARD _____
 A ROLL CALL VOTE WAS TAKEN IN OPEN SESSION:
HALL _____ WRIGHT _____ MOORE _____ POTTER _____ STANNARD _____

II. MOTION TO ADJOURN CLOSED SESSION AT 5:59 P.M. AND RETURN TO OPEN SESSION

BY: Christina (NAME) SECONDED: Nicole (NAME)

MOTION PASSED / FAILED

PRESIDED BY: Mike Moore (NAME) RECORDED BY: Christina Potter (NAME)
Mike Moore, PRESIDENT Christina Potter, CLERK

