

**MINUTES for the Joint Meeting of the
Sierra County Board of Education
and the
Sierra-Plumas Joint Unified School District Governing Board**

February 14, 2023

5:00pm CLOSED Session

6:00pm Regular Session

Downieville: Downieville School, 130 School St, Downieville CA 95936

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 Sierra County Board of Education and the Sierra-Plumas Joint Unified School District Governing Board suspended the Brown Act teleconferencing posting requirements for any Board members choosing to participate via Zoom videoconferencing.

A. CALL TO ORDER

President KELLY CHAMPION called the meeting to order at 5:08pm.

B. ROLL CALL

PRESENT: *Patty Hall, Area 1
 Annie Tipton, Vice President, Area 2
 Christina Potter, Area 3
 Kelly Champion, President, Area 4
 Dorie Gayner, Clerk, Area 5*

ABSENT: *None*

C. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

*HALL/TIPTON
5/0*

D. Approval of utilizing AB 361 for meetings conducted through March 14, 2023

~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, OR upon the cessation of the current State of Emergency which may be ending February 28, 2023

~Zoom may be available for the public with or without utilizing AB 361

TIPTON/HALL

5/0

E. PUBLIC COMMENT FOR CLOSED SESSION

None

F. CLOSED SESSION

The Board of Trustees, Superintendent, James Berardi, and Director of Business Services, Nona Griesert, moved into Closed Session at 5:12pm 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: Superintendent
Sierra-Plumas Teachers' Association
Classified Employees
Confidential Employees
Administrative Employees

G. RETURN TO OPEN SESSION and ADJOURN FOR BREAK at 6:04pm

H. 6:00PM – RECONVENE at 6:11pm

I. FLAG SALUTE

J. REPORT OUT FROM CLOSED SESSION

TIPTON: Discussion about negotiations again, getting new board members caught up more. Also discussed the Superintendent's contract ending in June. Intend to have a proposal for contract renewal ready at the next board meeting.

K. INFORMATION/DISCUSSION ITEMS

1. Superintendent's Report

a. Budget Workshop held January 19th

BERARDI: Overview of budget for all board members conducted by Director of Business Services, GRIESERT.

b. Board Training – dates

BERARDI: Mike Walsh coming back for next training this Friday, February 17th. Starting Strategic Planning process beginning with the topic of Culture.

c. AB 2449 – Teleconferencing

BERARDI: Outlines requirements to hold meetings via teleconferencing for the public, plus special circumstances and requirements which would allow board members to participate via teleconferencing with limitations. AB 2449 went into effect on January 1, 2023, and expires on January 1, 2026.

d. Facilities

BERARDI: Lots of neglect over the years that needs to be addressed sooner rather than later districtwide. Doing walk-throughs at all the sites with the Facilities Committee and fine-tuning master list of priorities.

e. Grant Updates:

BERARDI: Grant money typically has very specific guidelines for how, where and when it can be spent.

1. Mental Health Students Services Act (MHSSA)

BERARDI: Working with Behavioral Health to build a Wellness Center in Loyalton and build ongoing access to mental health services for students. Hoping to increase capacity for counseling services.

2. Student Behavioral Health Incentive Program (SBHIP)

BERARDI: Addresses Behavioral Health issues and barriers to access to Medical students through targeted interventions. Working to increase access to preventative early intervention and Behavioral Health services.

3. North-State Together

BERARDI: Formed a group called Sierra Strong to handle this grant. This is geared towards building more Career Technical Education pathways in the district. Focus is on cradle to career: how can we get a student prepared for a career path beyond graduation.

4. Garden

BERARDI: Farm to School Incubator grant that will be used for improvements to the LES garden and program.

f. Tiny Eye Therapy Services

BERARDI: Online counseling services for students to fill in gaps until we can secure in-person counselors.

g. Custodial Staff

BERARDI: We are having ongoing issues in Loyalton with finding subs to fill in custodial time needed, but working on plans to make sure the facilities are better served and getting cleaned.

h. Bus update

BERARDI: Continuous issues with the Lyon electric buses, particularly in the winter. A couple of our diesel buses have limitations with miles-per-year due to the grant for the electric buses. We are pushing back on Lyon, though, due to the ongoing issues causing us to use the diesel buses as backups more often than expected. We either use the diesel buses, or cancel routes and risk students not getting to school every time the electric buses can't run.

2. Business Report

a. Account Object Summary-Balance from 07/01/2022 to 01/31/2023

1. SCOE

2. SPJUSD

b. Fifth Month SPJUSD Enrollments for the 2022-2023 School Year

3. Staff Reports

a. SCOE

SELPA—BETHKE: We still have an opening for a Special Education teacher. Student referrals are growing along with complexities of cases. Please, if you know anyone in Special Education, let them know we are trying to fill this position.

ADULT ED—JACKSON: None

b. SPJUSD

LHS—MESCHERY: Wrapped up Semester 1 on January 20th. Held Academic Awards assembly. Kicked off Semester 2 with Winterfest week. College campus trips coming up headed by Amanda Wattenburg. Music program going well and the kids love it. Ski & Snowboard team doing really well. Basketball playoff games this week.

LES—CERESOLA: Happy Valentine's Day! LES participated in the Winterfest dress up days with LHS. Mrs. Haug's 4th Grade class missions are posted at the school and on Facebook. Mrs. Mason's 4th Grade class will start their missions soon and those will be shared as well. GCPC survey available thru

March 1st. Basketball tournament brought back this year, was a great success. Hayley Price is doing a great job as our Health Aide. Basketball 3rd-8th grade season wrapping up in the next week or so. Thank you to the LHS staff for inviting the 6th graders to the junior high dance. Music: 1st & 2nd graders doing dance; 3rd-6th graders going strong in the String Academy; USDA grant allows for instruments for each student that they can take home to practice.

DES & DHS—BERARDI: I'd like to start out with a shout-out to substitutes. We have two long-term subs right now who continue showing up and are doing great work. Thank you to Lynn Fillo for coming today to help with Valentine's Day flower sales. Great support from staff with a new student from Nicaragua. Basketball was started up through an AAU club which was great for the students and community. Still going through WASC process. Next WASC visit March 22nd. Downieville Senior won Poetry-Out-Loud this year.

Ski & Snowboard and Ag Dept—GRIFFIN: Two more regular league races. There are two students that have already qualified for State Championships. Senior Appreciation night this Friday. Started working on CTIG write-up for AG grant. Three proficiencies that went to Section. Won Section, but did not get past Region. Took students to ALA and MFE (leadership conferences) in January. National FFA week coming up. A lot going with AG this time of year.

4. SPTA Report

PRESIDENT—PETTERSON: SPTA will be meeting next month to get ready for nominations for a new board and elections. Waiting on dates from the district for negotiations.

5. Committee/Board Member Reports

GAYNER—

Technology Committee: Met and set priorities. Main priority is safety, including communication (i.e. phones, PA systems). Looking into trying to get the best quality systems in place that will work for years to come.

Facilities Committee: Walk-through Downieville today, and will visit the rest of the facilities in Loyalton next week.

POTTER—

Thank you for the food provided tonight before the meeting from Leadership Club and WASC Council!

TIPTON—

Thank you, also, for the food!

Transportation Committee: Meeting set for Friday morning to talk about buses.

Negotiations Committee: Will be reaching out to SPTA to determine dates.

HALL—

Thank you for the food! Robin updated me with info from WASC and Site Council. Attended LGBTQ training in Loyalton last week. Downieville flower sale went really well.

CHAMPION—

Negotiations Committee: Trying to coordinate a date for everyone.

I'm looking at doing some Board President training and some other advocacy meetings. Attended the LGBTQ Training.

6. Public Comment

LYNN FILLO—North State Together: I've been an advocate for getting the EMT and EMS programs approved so the students can get district credit, and I think that's where you're moving. That just warms my heart because those are hard courses. Thank you for moving in that direction!

L. CONSENT CALENDAR

1. Approval of minutes for the Regular Joint Meeting held January 10, 2023
2. Approval of minutes for the Special Joint Meeting held January 19, 2023
3. Approval of minutes for the Special Joint Meeting held February 02, 2023
4. Approval of Board Report-Checks Dated 01/01/2023 through 01/31/2023
 - a. SCOE
 - b. SPJUSD
5. Authorization for the Superintendent to enter into the 2023-2024 Interlocal Contract with Washoe County School District, Contract 2023-008D

HALL/GAYNER

5/0

M. ACTION ITEMS

1. Old Business

BOARD POLICIES, ADMINISTRATIVE REGULATIONS, EXHIBITS, BOARD BYLAWS

BATCH FROM JANUARY 10TH MEETING

TIPTON motioned to approve a-g as discussed in the Special Meeting held February 2nd knowing we will go back to look at d & e when appropriate.

Second by POTTER.

5/0

- a. 3250—Transportation Fees
 1. Board Policy, *revisions*
 2. Administrative Regulation, *revisions*
- b. 3260—Fees and Charges
 1. Administrative Regulation, *revisions*
- c. 3460—Financial Reports and Accountability
 1. Board Policy, *revisions*
 2. Administrative Regulation, *revisions*
- d. 3515—Campus Security
 1. Board Policy, *NEW*
 2. Administrative Regulation, *NEW*
- e. 3516.2—Bomb Threats
 1. Administrative Regulation, *revisions*
- f. 3540—Transportation
 1. Board Policy, *revisions*
- g. 9323—Meeting Conduct
 1. Board Bylaw, *revisions*

2. New Business

- a. Approval to build Wellness Center on LES campus – grant-funded (no handout)
BERARDI: Seems better to have the Wellness Center closer to the elementary school versus the Jr/Sr high school for the safety of the younger students, not as far to walk. The main idea is to have something on school campus so students don't have to be transported somewhere else off-campus.
CHAMPION: Concerns about funding source(s) for ongoing maintenance and operational costs after construction completed and grant cycle ends.
GAYNER: Seems this could impede on future plans for the sports field/track.
CERESOLA/MESCHERY: Support the current intended site as a safe, neutral and accessible spot for both school sites. How it effects future plans for the sports field is up to the district to consider.
GAYNER motioned to approve the Wellness Center on the LES campus with the caveat to further research details of the specific location/positioning so it doesn't interfere with long-term plans for the sports field and track.
Second by HALL.
5/0
- b. Approval of Safe Schools Plan, annual review and revisions (excerpt)
(this plan can be found in its entirety on our website,
http://www.sierracountyofficeofeducation.org/upload/?show=/SCHOOL_SAFETY_PLAN/)
TIPTON/HALL
5/0
- c. Approval of piloting Second Step curriculum
BERARDI/MESCHERY: This is curriculum geared towards things like anti-bullying, anti-harassment, social-emotional health and conflict management which meets some of the requirements outlined in board policy. Administrators did their due diligence in comparing different curriculum programs.
TIPTON/HALL
5/0
- d. Approval of search for a Grant Writer
CHAMPION: Huge need for facility improvements and upgrades. We have a budget that doesn't support many of those needs, so we need to get creative and be looking for sources of funds to help with future facility projects.
BERARDI: There is the possibility of a grant writer getting paid a percentage of grant funds so it doesn't cost the district much up front, but that's not a guarantee.
GAYNER/HALL
5/0
- e. Board Bylaw 9320 – add verbiage to post agendas at each Post Office
CHAMPION motioned to add verbiage to post agendas at each school site, each meeting site and as many post offices within in the district as possible.
Second by POTTER.
5/0
- f. Work Sessions for policy review
No action. Will schedule special meetings as needed.

BOARD POLICIES, ADMINISTRATIVE REGULATIONS, EXHIBITS, BOARD BYLAWS

Board Bylaw 9310: “The Superintendent or designee shall develop and present a first reading at a public Board meeting and action may be taken on the proposed policy.

The Board may require additional readings if necessary.”

NEW BATCH FOR FEBRUARY 14TH MEETING

HALL/POTTER

5/0

- g. 0430—Comprehensive Local Plan for Special Education
 - 1. Board Policy, *revisions*
 - 2. Administrative Regulation, *revisions*
- h. 0460—Local Control and Accountability Plan
 - 1. Board Policy, *revisions*
 - 2. Administrative Regulation, *revisions*
- i. 5141.3—Health Examinations
 - 1. Administrative Regulation, *revisions*
- j. 6164.4—Identification and Evaluation of Individuals for Special Education
 - 1. Administrative Regulation, *revisions*

N. ADVANCED PLANNING

- 1. The next Regular Joint Board Meeting will be held on March 14, 2023, at Sierra County Office of Education, Room 4, 109 Beckwith Rd, Loyalton CA 96118 at 6:00pm. If needed, Closed Session may be held before the Regular session beginning at 5:00pm. Zoom videoconferencing may be available for the public.
- 2. Suggested Agenda Items
 - Update on possible placement options of the Wellness Center*

O. ADJOURN

CHAMPION adjourned the meeting at 7:58pm.



Dorie Gayner, Clerk



James Berardi, Superintendent

