

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

March 14, 2023

5:00pm CLOSED Session

6:00pm Regular Session

*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 KELLY CHAMPION called the meeting to order at 5:00pm.

B. ROLL CALL

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

ABSENT: *None*

C. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

*POTTER/TIPTON
5/0*

D. PUBLIC COMMENT FOR CLOSED SESSION

None

E. CLOSED SESSION

The Board of Trustees, Superintendent James Berardi and Director of Business Services 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:	Superintendent
	Sierra-Plumas Teachers' Association
	Classified Employees
	Confidential Employees
	Administrative Employees

F. RETURN TO OPEN SESSION at 6:10pm and ADJOURN FOR BREAK

G. 6:13pm – RECONVENE

H. FLAG SALUTE

I. REPORT OUT FROM CLOSED SESSION

TIPTON: Continuing to prepare for negotiations and discussing the Superintendent Contract.

J. 2021-2022 AUDIT PRESENTATION – CWDL CPAs

1. Acceptance of the 2021-2022 Audited Actuals
 - a. SCOE
 - b. SPJUSD

No findings. Both clean audits. Recognized/Accepted by the Board.

K. INFORMATION/DISCUSSION ITEMS

1. Superintendent's Report

a. School closures

BERARDI: Will apply for J-13A Waiver with the State due to the excessive days of closures. With the declared State of Emergency with the February storms we don't anticipate having to extend the school year, but we will submit the waiver application as soon as possible to see where we stand before the end of the school year.

b. Phone and Technology update

BERARDI: Working closely with Gary Habeeb for recommendations on integrated systems for the district so we don't end up with different systems at each school that don't integrate as needed. (i.e. phones, intercoms, bell systems, cameras, etc.). Hoping to have some bids to review for an intercom/bell system in April.

c. Bus update

BERARDI: Hoping to pick up a bus from Truckee tomorrow which could possibly be up and running by Monday, but we'll see with all the steps it takes to get it ready for the road in our district. We are currently waiting for parts on two of the diesel buses. Continuing to work to resolve issues with the electric buses. In the long-run we'll potentially try to get rid of the electric buses; possibly start a lawsuit against company for poor performing buses.

d. Technology update

See Phone and Technology update above.

e. Placement options for the Wellness Center

BERARDI: There are concerns with the intended site blocking walkways, the track, the soccer field, etc. Someone from the company with the portable will be coming out to check the area intended for the Wellness Center soon to determine the foundation needs and the space needed for optimal placement. It will either go on the other side of the fire lane behind the portables closest to the track, or it will go where the maintenance shed currently sits.

2. Business Report

- a. Letter from the California Department of Education confirming positive certification for the 2022-2023 First Interim Reports
- b. Account Object Summary-Balance from 07/01/2022 to 02/28/2023
 1. SCOE
 2. SPJUSD
- c. Sixth Month SPJUSD Enrollments for the 2022-2023 School Year

3. Staff Reports

a. SCOE

SELPA—BETHKE: Held our first Community Advisory Committee meeting last month. Anyone can attend, but the topics are related to Special Ed and 504 plans. A representative from Plumas Rural Services came and discussed Special Ed advocacy and services offered to parents with students with IEPs and 504s in the area.

ADULT ED—JACKSON: WASC self-study submitted last week. Virtual visit coming up in April. Parking lot work will be done as soon as the weather will allow. Go-Teach program doing exceptionally well for preschool teachers. Enloe Health Alliance invited us to become a member of the EMS Coalition. Adult Education conference coming up in April in Oakland.

b. SPJUSD

LES—CERESOLA: GCPC Site Council meeting rescheduled for March 20th because of snow day. Last week we held the Second Trimester award assembly. Garden started up again this week. Each class that participated in the February Reading Challenge made 4,000 minutes or more. Music and dance classes are doing great. April 6th is the Science Night, Art Show and Nacho Feed 5-7pm.

LHS—MESCHERY: Had a phenomenal middle school dance last month. Field trips for juniors and seniors to places to explore career options, and Drum Corp went to Nevada Day Percussion. Thank you to Musica Sierra and Sierra Schools Foundation for making the music program happen. WASC prep starting in the next month or two. FFA off to State Conference in Los Angeles. Division 7 champions for the boys varsity basketball team. Ski & Snowboard team had state championship last week at NorthStar – one of the skiers ranked 8th in the State; one snowboarder won 33rd. Spring sports trying to start, but delayed due to current weather.

DES & DHS—BERARDI: Out of school for ten days due to weather and power outage. More water damage seen with recent rain. WASC wrapping up with final visit March 20-22.

4. SPTA Report

PRESIDENT—PETTERSON: SPTA was pleased with the outcome of the March 9th Special Meeting. Thank you for looking out for the best interest of our students. Looking forward to negotiations on March 30th. Held a meeting last week and talked about nominations for the upcoming year. Looks like the SPTA Board will probably remain the same with myself, Miranda Prakash, April Burns and Staci Armstrong.

5. Committee/Board Member Reports

GAYNER:

Technology—BERARDI covered a lot in his report. I'm hoping that this will start to move along now, and we have something to vote on.

Facilities—There are huge items that need to be fixed. I hope that we are able to start chipping away at it.

POTTER: Participated in Donkey Basketball last night. I really hope that is an annual event. It was a great time.

CHAMPION:

Facilities—BERARDI, GAYNER and I did a walk-through at each site and came up with a list. There are a lot of high-dollar items that need to be addressed soon. Would like to see a grant writer found soon. Attended the LHS Site Council meeting and found that we need to address the food issues.

TIPTON:

Transportation—Buses were pretty well covered.

Negotiations—Rescheduled to meet March 30th.

6. Public Comment. (*Opened at 7:51pm. Closed at 7:59pm*)

Victoria Fisher—Thank you for saving our teachers. That was a really tough Special Meeting. It was devastating to think of losing any teachers.

Pam Pasquetti—I appreciate that you are working on getting another bus, but we've never had this issue before with routes being shut down. The All-Call gave us some helpful information to know what was going on. Why did we have to wait so long to figure out that we needed another bus knowing all the issues we were having with the electric buses?

Libby Ryan—Hearing a lot of parents complaining about school doors not being open until 8:00am?

CERESOLA—That is at LES. We do not have supervision for students until 8:00am.

L. CONSENT CALENDAR

1. Approval of minutes for the Regular Joint Meeting held February 14, 2023
2. Approval of minutes for the Special Joint Meeting held February 17, 2023
3. Approval of Board Report-Checks Dated 02/01/2023 through 02/28/2023
 - a. SCOE
 - b. SPJUSD
4. Authorization for the Superintendent to enter into three-year Student Teaching Agreement with Western Governors University, Contract 2023-009D
5. Approval of the following SPJUSD Personnel Items:
 - a. Assignment of Sarah Torricelli, 2022-2023 SPJUSD Physical Fitness Coordinator, Districtwide
 - b. Acceptance of Resignation for Augustine Corcoran, 2022-2023 Baseball Coach, Loyalton High School
 - c. Assignment of Eric Petterson, 2022-2023 Baseball Coach, Loyalton High School

TIPTON/HALL

5/0

M. ACTION ITEMS

1. New Business
 - a. Adoption of 2022-2023 Second Interim Actuals and Criteria and Standards Reports as of January 31, 2023
 1. SCOE
 2. SPJUSD

TIPTON/HALL

5/0

- b. Approval of the 2022-2023 and 2023-2024 Transportation Plan
--For funding purposes, the Governing Board shall adopt a transportation plan by April 1, 2023, and update the plan by April 1st each year thereafter.

CHAMPION/POTTER

5/0

- c. Approval of the Superintendent Contract for July 1, 2023-June 30, 2025, Contract 2023-010D

Handout not available. Item tabled.

- d. Approval of the updated job description for SPJUSD Site Technology Coordinator

CHAMPION/GAYNER

5/0

- e. Loyalton High School Site Council report on Parent/Guardian Survey
Presented by Eveline Larrucea and Victoria Fisher, Secretary and President of LHS Site Council

***Handout included with the minutes*

--HALL left at 8:33pm

GAYNER/TIPTON

4/0

N. ADVANCED PLANNING

- 1. The next Regular Joint Board Meeting will be held on April ~~11~~04, 2023, at Downieville School, 130 School St, Downieville CA 95936 at 6:00pm. If needed, Closed Session may be held before the Regular session beginning at 5:00pm. Zoom videoconferencing will be available for the public.
- 2. Suggested Agenda Items
None

O. ADJOURN

CHAMPION adjourned the meeting at 8:49pm.



Dorie Gayner, Clerk

James Berardi, Superintendent

**SIERRA COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION
SIERRA-PLUMAS JOINT UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT GOVERNING BOARD
Closed Session Reporting Form**

DATE: March 14, 2023

CLOSED SESSION BEGAN AT: 5:03 P.M.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:

Patty Hall Annie Tipton Christina Potter Kelly Champion Dorie Gayner

OTHERS PRESENT:

- James Berardi, Superintendent
- Nona Griesert, Director of Business Services
- _____
- _____

I. SESSION TOPIC(S):

Item #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

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 _____ TIPTON _____ POTTER _____ CHAMPION _____ GAYNER _____

II. MOTION TO ADJOURN CLOSED SESSION AT 6:10 P.M. AND RETURN TO OPEN SESSION

BY: Annie Tipton (NAME) SECONDED: Patty Hall (NAME)

MOTION PASSED / FAILED

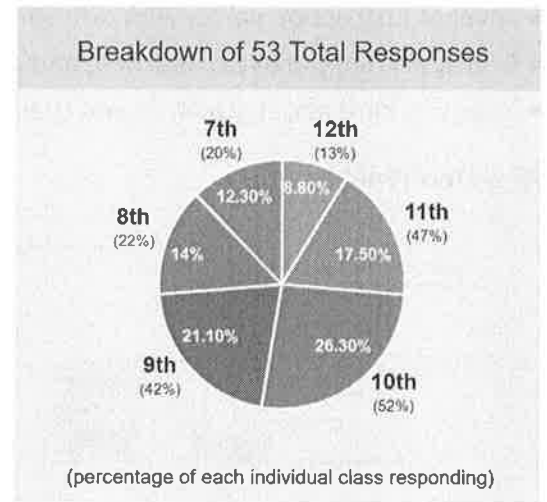
PRESIDED BY: Kelly Champion
Kelly Champion, PRESIDENT

RECORDED BY: Dorie Gayner
Dorie Gayner, CLERK

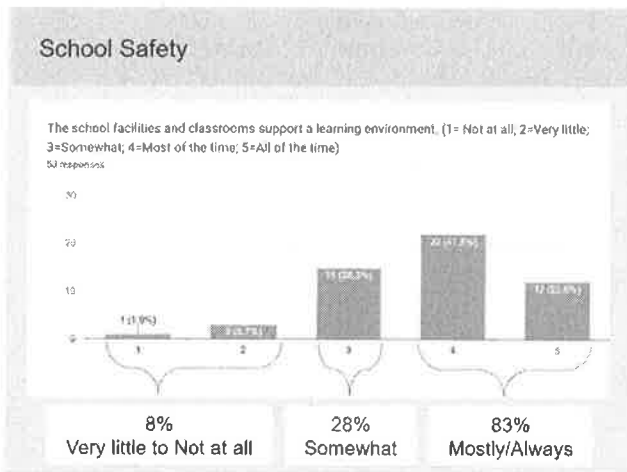
Overview of Loyalton High School Parent/ Guardian Survey Results

Data collected Winter 2022-23

The LHS Site Council provided an optional, anonymous survey to the parents of students at LHS. The Council wanted to obtain information on how parents felt about the school. They wanted to learn about successes, concerns, and where improvements could be made. The Council hopes that this information can be used to support and improve the school, and be used to guide where money and energy is spent in the future. The survey asked questions in four broad categories: safety, connection, academics, and social/emotional health. Here is a brief summary of the results.



Safety



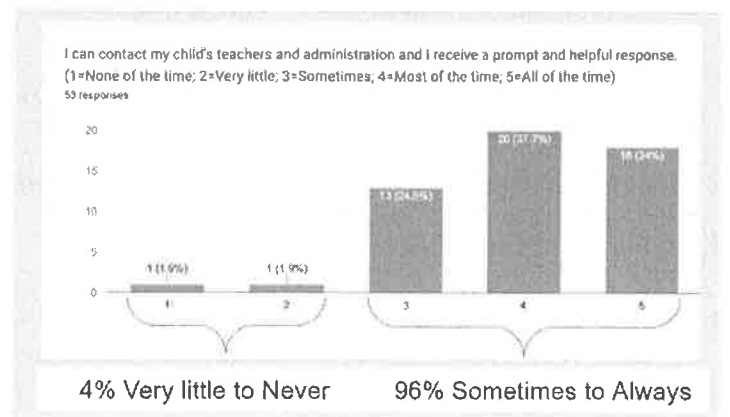
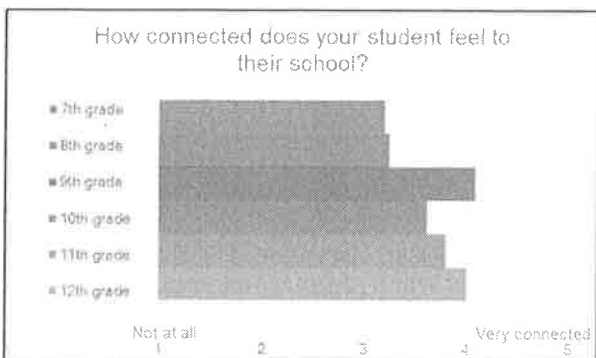
Frequent comments regarding safety:

- School building is very old and outdated.
- Community is safe.
- Students generally feel safe at school.
- The school is wide open with many unlocked entrances.
- There is no PA out to the portables.
- School needs new windows.

Connectedness

Frequent comments regarding connectedness:

- Sports and activities keep kids connected.
- MS students are less connected than HS students.

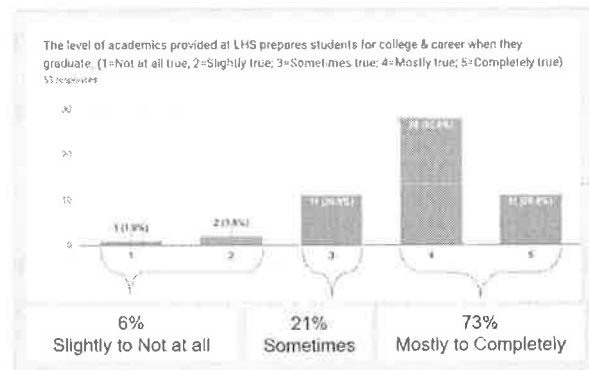


- Community revolves around sports, but not all students play sports.
- Not much time during the work week to volunteer.
- Parents are able to find and access school information.

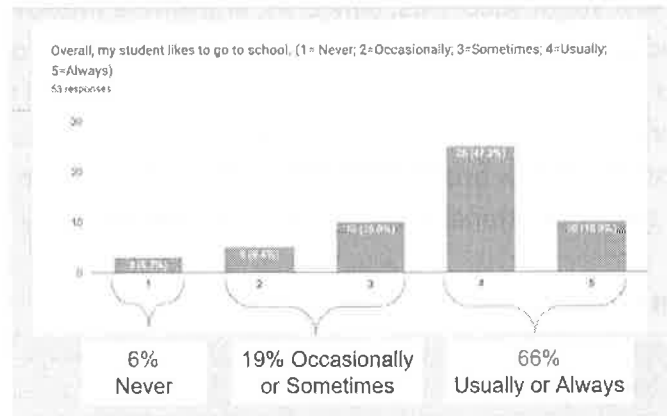
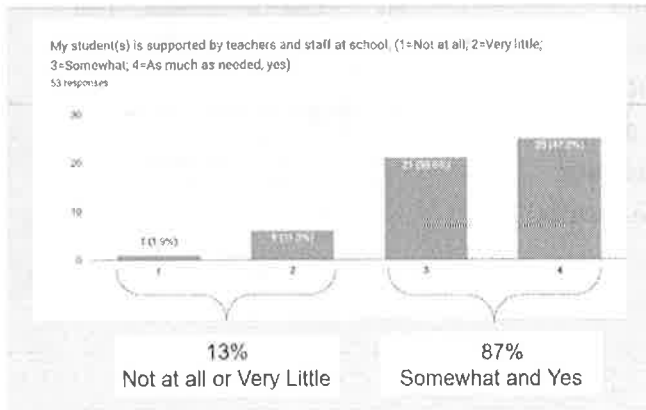
Academics

Frequent comments regarding academics:

- This is a small school so options are necessarily limited.
- Level of instruction varies with different teachers.
- Principal is supportive of learning and of all students.
- Teachers care about students and their learning.



Social-Emotional health



Most frequently mentioned strengths:

- We have a small and caring community.
- There is a lot of individual attention from teachers and admin. They really know their students.
- Parents are happy about online and college class offerings.
- There is a strong Ag program.
- Parents feel like positive changes are occurring. The school is heading in the right direction.

Most frequently mentioned concerns:

- School lunches and breakfasts are a major issue. Need access to food at LHS. Amount of food for older students is inadequate.
- Transportation. Need a better, more reliable bus system. Also transport to/from field trips, sports, etc.
- Facilities need a substantial upgrade.
- Separate the Middle School from the High School. Middle School needs more attention.

School Plan for Student Achievement – Goals

- Goal 1:** College & Career Readiness: Loyalton High School will increase the percentage of students who meet or exceed the college and career readiness standards.
- Goal 2:** Middle School Social Connectivity: Increase the 7th and 8th grade students' social and emotional connectivity to LHS.
- Goal 3:** Math/ELA/CAST Assessments: The three-year average of students who meet or exceed the state standards will be at or above the three-year state average.
- Goal 4:** AP Scores: LHS will increase AP passing rates to meet or exceed state average for all those who take AP exams.
- Goal 5:** Middle & High School Nutrition: LHS Middle and High School students will have increased access to nutritious and fulfilling breakfasts and lunches during their school day so they have the nutrition to focus on learning.