

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

June 21, 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.*

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A. CALL TO ORDER

*President KELLY CHAMPION called the meeting to order at 5:09pm.*

B. ROLL CALL

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

ABSENT:     *Area 3: Christina Potter*

C. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

*GAYNER/HALL*

*4/0*

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 5:10pm* 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

2. Government Code 54957

PUBLIC EMPLOYMENT, District Superintendent

F. RETURN TO OPEN SESSION *at 5:40pm* and ADJOURN FOR BREAK

G. *6:04PM* – RECONVENE

H. FLAG SALUTE

I. REPORT OUT FROM CLOSED SESSION

*TIPTON: Received an update from GRIESERT on the May Revise to see if it was pertinent to negotiations. Discussed the District Superintendent position.*

J. PRESENTATIONS

1. Team One Networking – phones, speakers, bell systems  
*Presentation by Stryder Inpyn*
2. Sierra Nevada Children’s Services (SNCS) – Universal PreKindergarten grants  
*Presentation by Jessica Norman*

K. INFORMATION ITEMS

1. Superintendent’s Report

a. SCOE Personnel Items:

1. Acceptance of resignation for Hayley Price, Instructional Aide, Loyalton Elementary School, .67 FTE (4 hours/day), effective June 9, 2023
2. Acceptance of resignation for Andy Genasci, Instructional Aide, Loyalton High School, .71 FTE (4.25 hours/day), effective June 9, 2023

2. Business Report

- a. Letter from the California Department of Education confirming positive certification for the 2022-2023 Second Interim Reports
- b. Account Object Summary-Balance from 07/01/2022 to 05/31/2023
  1. SCOE
  2. SPJUSD
- c. Ninth Month SPJUSD Enrollments for the 2022-2023 School Year
- d. Tenth Month SPJUSD Enrollments for the 2022-2023 School Year

3. Staff Reports

a. SCOE

*SELPA—BETHKE: I’m here for questions on the SELPA Annual Budget and Service Plan coming up later on the agenda.*

*ADULT ED—JACKSON: Not present*

b. SPJUSD

*LES—CERESOLA: We had a ton of great things happening towards the end of the year. Finished out State testing, music performances held and all of our fun end-of-year activities. Our annual Olympics event was huge and went really well. Spelling Bee and 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Promotion held. The year really ended well. We’re excited for next year, and have everyone (staff) returning.*

*LHS & SP—MESCHERY: We had a terrific end to the school year. Four graduates from Sierra Pass. LHS had a lot of celebrations – sports banquet, FFA banquet, senior awards banquet. A huge thank you to our community organizations! This year seniors were awarded over \$66K in local scholarships. Excited to have all of our teachers returning next school year. We are looking for Instructional Aides for open positions. Bleachers and front door projects will be worked on over the summer. Prepping schedule for next school year. Looking forward to Prop 28 money helping to fund a full-time music teacher if approved.*

*DES & DHS—ROBIN BOLLE: We had a nice awards ceremony the week before school ended. Some different field trips held for some of the kids. Had a great performance by elementary students down at the theatre. The graduation*

*ceremony was really nice for seniors. Working on the school building and the grounds – new shed from Sierra Schools Foundation for the garden program.*

4. SPTA Report

*PRESIDENT—PETTERSON: SPTA wishes everybody a happy and restful summer. Negotiations were postponed at the end of this year and we look forward to getting back to that when we return in August.*

5. Committee/Board Member Reports

*HALL: Thank you to everyone who made the Downieville graduation so awesome. This year reminded me how much the kids give back to the community through senior projects and other ways.*

*TIPTON: I attended some of the end-of-year activities in Loyalton. The senior class was phenomenal in everything I saw – kudos to the students and their educators.*

*GAYNER:*

*-Budget Committee: Meeting next week Tuesday.*

*-Facilities Committee: As soon as we have leadership in place again it will be easier to figure out how to fulfill all of the facility needs.*

*CHAMPION:*

*-Facilities Committee: Still working out the kinks -- need help with getting estimates on the list of facility needs.*

*-Budget Committee: Trying to keep up with meeting monthly.*

*-I did a two-day grant workshop with one of my jobs and it was really good information. We'll see how we can support Amanda Wattenburg in her work (on grant writing for the District).*

*-LHS graduates: Helped with judging senior projects and participated in the graduation ceremony. It was a neat experience knowing many of these kids since they were little.*

*-Have been doing a lot of work on the continued search for a District Superintendent.*

6. Public Comment

*Megan Meschery—Sierra Schools Foundation: Update on grant awards from the Spring Grant Cycle. Awarded \$15K in educator grants and school grants for 2023-24 between Loyalton and Downieville.*

L. CONSENT CALENDAR

*HALL motioned to approve items 1-5. Second by TIPTON.*

*4/0*

1. Approval of minutes for the Regular Joint Meeting held May 09, 2023
2. Approval of minutes for the Special Joint Meeting held May 19, 2023
3. Approval of minutes for the Special District Meeting held May 26, 2023
4. Approval of Board Report-Checks Dated 05/01/2023 through 05/31/2023
  - a. SCOE
  - b. SPJUSD
5. Authorization to submit 2022-2023 Consolidated Application
  - a. SCOE
  - b. SPJUSD

Items 6 and 7 postponed.

6. Authorization to enter into a Memorandum of Understanding between Sierra County Office of Education and Sierra-Plumas Joint Unified School District, Contract 2024-001C
7. Authorization to enter into a Memorandum of Understanding between Sierra-Plumas Joint Unified School District and Sierra County Office of Education, Contract 2024-001D

*GAYNER motioned to approve item 8. Second by TIPTON.*

4/0

8. Approval of agreement with the County of Sierra for the 2023-2024 Fiscal Year for Friday Night Live services, Contract No. 2024-002C

*TIPTON motioned to approve items 9-11. Second by HALL.*

4/0

9. Authorization for Superintendent to enter into agreement with School Services of California for the 2023-2024 Fiscal Year, Contract 2024-002D
10. Approval of the California Interscholastic Federation Representatives for the 2023-2024 School Year
11. Approval of the following SPJUSD Personnel Items:

a. Assignment of the following:

1. Sara Kernitz, Cook, Downieville School, .68 FTE (5.4 hours/day), effective August 23, 2023
2. 2023-2024 Extra Duty Athletic stipend positions
3. Robin Bolle, 2023-2024 Non-Athletic Extra Duty, WASC Lead (Maintenance Year), Downieville School
4. Emma Shaffer, 2023-2024 Non-Athletic Extra Duty, Site Technology Coordinator, Loyalton High School

b. Increase FTE for the following:

1. Brian Devlin, Plant Maintenance Worker, Loyalton Elementary School, increase from .50 FTE to 1.0 FTE (adding Loyalton High School hours), effective July 1, 2023
2. Taya Hernandez, Instructional Aide, Loyalton Elementary School, from .58 FTE to .63 FTE (adding 15 minutes per day), effective August 23, 2023
3. Annie Siqueido, Instructional Aide, Loyalton Elementary School, from .75 FTE to .83 FTE (adding 30 minutes per day), effective August 23, 2023

#### M. ACTION ITEMS

1. Old Business

##### DISTRICT

- a. Updated quotes from Team One Networking

*TIPTON motioned to approve quote SI-20230607-1030 (\$76K).*

*Second by GAYNER.*

4/0

2. New Business

##### COUNTY

- a. Approval of the 2023-2024 Local Control and Accountability Plan

*TIPTON/GAYNER*

4/0

***PUBLIC HEARING – SELPA***

- b. Public Hearing *opened at 7:00pm* to receive public comment on the 2023-2024 Sierra County SELPA Annual Service and Budget Plan (item c). *Overview given by BETHKE. Closed at 7:03pm with no comment.*
- c. Approval of the 2023-2024 Sierra County SELPA Annual Budget and Service Plan  
*TIPTON/GAYNER*  
4/0

***PUBLIC HEARING – SCOE Budget***

- d. Public Hearing *opened at 7:04pm* to receive public comment on the 2023-2024 SCOE Budget (item e). *Overview given by GRIESERT. Closed at 7:06pm with no comment.*
- e. Approval of the 2023-2024 Budget and the Criteria and Standards Report  
*TIPTON/HALL*  
4/0

**DISTRICT**

***PUBLIC HEARING – SPJUSD Budget***

- f. Public Hearing *opened at 7:07pm* to receive public comment on the 2023-2024 SPJUSD Budget (item g). *Overview given by GRIESERT.*

*TIPTON: The Legislature hasn't approved Forest Reserves, but that's not to say that there's no chance for it in future years, correct?*

*GRIESERT: We used to get millions each year. Forest Reserves were set up to supplement districts that don't get as much revenue from property taxes, but over the years Forest Reserves have continued to get cut. Now it's to the point where Legislature will only approve a year or two at a time, or sometimes not at all and it's been cut down to where we will only get about \$300-\$340K the next year or two if approved.*

*CHAMPION: There is a lot of one-time funding listed. It appears we would have been in this position sooner if not for these one-time funds that will be going away. Fund 40 – \$750K annually going for Deferred Maintenance and/or Capital Improvement Assignments. If we removed this, it would significantly help with the deficit spending, but we wouldn't make any progress on facility goals. I tend to want to have a longer look at budgets, especially one that has these kinds of troubles, but I understand budgets can be amended?*

*GRIESERT: One-time funding has helped us over the last couple of years along with funding based on the 2019-20 ADA numbers, but that will not be the case going into 2023-24. Enrollment and ADA have dropped since 2019-20. Fund 40, if you want to reverse the \$750k allotment, we can make amendments and changes at First Interim to look at reducing the deficit spending pattern further, but we must have an approved budget by July 1<sup>st</sup> in order to pay bills.*

*Public Hearing closed at 7:19pm.*

- g. Approval of the 2023-2024 Budget and the Criteria & Standards Report  
*TIPTON/HALL*  
4/0

- h. Appointment of an Interim District Superintendent (*effective July 1, 2023*)  
*TIPTON motioned to appoint Andrea Ceresola (White). Second by HALL.*  
 4/0
- i. Adoption of Resolution No. 23-007D, Authorize transfer of funds to Special  
 Fund 40  
*HALL/GAYNER*  
 ROLL CALL VOTE:  
*HALL – AYE*  
*TIPTON – NO*  
*CHAMPION – AYE*  
*GAYNER – AYE*  
 3/1
- j. Authorization to fill Music Teacher, Loyaltan, 1.0 FTE – contingent on  
 available funding:  
*GAYNER/TIPTON*  
 3/1 (*HALL*)
  - 1. Prop 28 – anticipated \$49,193
  - 2. Musica Sierra letter of commitment, 15% years 1-2, 17% years 3-5
  - 3. Sierra Schools Foundation letter of commitment, 10% for 5 years
  - 4. Sierra County Arts Council letter of commitment, 2% for 2 years
  - 5. SPJUSD contribution to health & welfare benefits capped at \$17,536.60
- k. Approval to add EMT and EMR courses offered by Sierra County School for  
 Adults for High School credit  
*GAYNER/TIPTON*  
 4/0

**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.”

**From January 2023**

*GAYNER motioned to approve l-m as presented. Second by HALL.*  
 4/0

- l. 9220—Governing Board Elections
  - 1. Board Bylaw, *revisions*
- m. 9223—Filling Vacancies
  - 1. Board Bylaw, *revisions*

**Annual Review 2023**

*GAYNER motioned to approve n-o with no changes. Second by HALL.*  
 4/0

- n. 5116.1—Intradistrict Open Enrollment
  - 1. Board Policy, *annual review*
  - 2. Administrative Regulation, *annual review*
  - 3. Exhibit (1), *annual review*
  - 4. Exhibit (2), *annual review*

- o. 6145—Extracurricular and Cocurricular Activities
  - 1. Board Policy, *annual review*
  - 2. Administrative Regulation, *annual review*

N. ADVANCED PLANNING

- 1. The next Regular Joint Board Meeting may be held on July 11<sup>th</sup> or 19<sup>th</sup>, 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 will be available for the public.
- 2. Suggested Agenda Items
  - MOUs between SCOE and SPJUSD

O. ADJOURN

*CHAMPION adjourned the meeting at 7:43pm.*



James Berardi,  
County Superintendent



Andrea White,  
Interim District Superintendent



Dorie Gayner, Clerk

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

DATE: June 21, 2023

CLOSED SESSION BEGAN AT: 5:10 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  
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**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 \_\_\_\_\_

**Item #2—Government Code 54957**

PUBLIC EMPLOYMENT, District Superintendent

**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. ENDED CLOSED SESSION AT 5:40 P.M. AND RETURNED TO OPEN SESSION**

PRESIDED BY:

Kelly Champion  
Kelly Champion, PRESIDENT

RECORDED BY:

Dorie Gayner  
Dorie Gayner, CLERK