

TWAIN HARTE SCHOOL DISTRICT

BOARD OF EDUCATION TRUSTEES  
BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Located At:  
Twain Harte School  
22974 Twain Harte Drive  
Twain Harte, CA 95383  
Upper Campus Study Hall

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 8, 2017 at 4:00 p.m.

The Public Session began at 4:00 p.m.

**PUBLIC SESSION**

1. CALL TO ORDER

- 1.1. Pledge of Allegiance
- 1.2. Roll Call

Members Present:

- Member Eli Wingo
- Member Lisa Brady
- Member Ronda Bailey
- Member Tim Hoffman-Brady
- Member Rose Wingo
- Mr. Rick Hennes, Superintendent
- Mr. Dan Mayers, Principal
- Mrs. Tonya Midget, CBO
- Mrs. Daisi Kepner, Administrative Specialist

Administration Present:

1.3. Agenda Review & Adoption

- Motion to Approve: Ronda Bailey
- Second: Lisa Brady
- Vote: 5 Ayes, 0 Noes, 0 Absent, 0 Abstentions

Members Wingo, Brady, Bailey, Hoffman-Brady, and Wingo all voted Aye. There were none opposed.

2. COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC

*(The public may address the Board on any matter pertaining to the district that is not on the agenda.)*

Mrs. Groff presented a petition and requested that the Board research and respond to a vote of "no confidence" for Superintendent Hennes.

Mrs. Young shared that she was surprised by the number of people that have contacted her about the issues happening at the school. She is concerned that the perception is reality. She also feels that the lack of information and misinformation is hurting the Board and the Twain Harte families. Member Hoffman-Brady responded that the votes of the Board families were actually split and there is no validity to the fact that the families are controlling the vote.

Mrs. Olsen expressed that she is very upset that adults should not be discussing district business in the hallways. The children are watching and we should be aware of how we are acting. She stated that she is not applying for, nor does she want Mr. Mayer's position. Mrs. Olsen also stated that she is not the driving force behind Mr. Mayers replacement.

Mr. Aksland expressed that he came here with the intention of having his children attend a good school. He feels that bringing them to Twain Harte School has been life changing for them. Their foster children have worked with Mr. Mayers and the staff to get the help they need. He expressed that it is a foolish decision to let such a strong administrator go. He feels that the Board and Superintendent are not in agreement and therefore would like to ask the Board to reconsider their decision.

Mr. Daily echoed that communication is a major concern in the community. He feels the output of emotion from the community is because they feel that they are not being included. We should address that the public feels unsure of the leadership that they have not put in place.

President Wingo explained that they are bound by the Brown Act and are unable to address any personnel issues in public.

Mrs. Yardley stated that her son has a strong relationship with Mr. Mayers and now he will be gone. She found out through the Union Democrat and was shocked that she was blindsided.

Superintendent Hennes explained that the Grand Jury Report needed a response on their look at consolidation. Member Hoffman-Brady explained that this is his third Grand Jury Report. You have to look at it from the stand point that sometimes it goes beyond the numbers. We could consolidate our kids but we are adding time on the bus and being absorbed into the group. As long as we can afford our school we should keep it open so the Twain Harte community may go on. Superintendent Hennes shared that he would include that in his report before submitting it.

### 3. REPORTS

#### 3.1. Superintendent Report

*Modernization Projects:* Superintendent Hennes stated that we will be seeking bids to paint the outside of the buildings. Currently we are receiving bids for the HVAC and Electrical projects for the Prop 39 Grant. We are also receiving bids on the tile project for the entrance and cafeteria areas which will include the bathrooms, as well as the lighting in the lower building. We are also working on the District Office renovation project and the Board Room, will also be utilized for staff and administrative meetings. Superintendent Hennes is seeking bids for the gym bathroom conversion as well.

*Lunch Schedule Update:* Mrs. Brunolli went to two different schools to observe their lunch service and processes. Both schools are completing their service in the same amount of time, however our food is not pre-packaged. She feels that the only reason 25 minutes happened is if the student came down from the focus room. Mrs. Brunolli feels that the Yard Duty need to keep control of the students. She is purchasing Yard Duty staff aprons to help provide supplies that the students need so they don't keep popping up from the tables. Member Hoffman-Brady shared that he has been to lunch a couple of times and he was through the line in 6 and 8 minutes. Mrs. Gilliatt feels that it has gotten better. She also expressed that fourth graders should not be put with the 5-8<sup>th</sup> graders. When they were moved up parents were told they would not be integrated. They are considering pulling their children out because now they are dealing with issues they should not be explaining at this point. Mr. Gold feels the teachers gave up some things so that they could end up with more instructional time. However, he feels that the problem could be solved by keeping the grades separated by flip flopping the grades in and out of the cafeteria. He feels that it would be an easy solution even if we have to hire more Yard Duty. Mrs. Groff stated that she has a nine year old who will not use the restrooms with 14 year olds in there, so he holds it until lunch or home. Superintendent Hennes mentioned that we could section off the playground if that is a concern and create lines if we need to. He also agrees that Mr. Gold's idea is an option. Superintendent Hennes agreed that he is working with the Yard Duties on procedures with the children such as: not standing up, and waiting until excused to throw out milk cartons, etc. We have added new trash cans to help the traffic of getting kids out. He feels that the children are getting served faster and things have improved. It is important to allow the staff to have time to communicate together. Mrs. Gilliatt feels that separating is good in theory but words travel. Superintendent Hennes explained that part of that is an issue with supervision. Yard Duty need to be present and prepared to deal with these issues. He will also discuss this at the next Staff meeting and ask 4-8<sup>th</sup> grade staff to discuss it and bring back to the next Board meeting with suggestions. Mrs. Gilliatt asked that they be notified with the details ahead of time. Rick will send an email out to everyone as notification.

*Bus Route Update:* Superintendent Hennes asked Ron to clarify the bus route update. Mr. Wurz recognized the bus drivers for doing a great job. Deep snow caught Caltrans off guard and the bus was plowing snow which is unsafe. Mr. Wurz has proposed a new change that when Long Barn hasn't been plowed they will not go in there. If this occurs, all the parents up the hill will bring their children down. Caltrans will not allow us to turn around in their Sugar Pine area. Mrs. Roberts explained that the bus drivers have fair concern about losing their license if they do something unsafe. If they do not feel safe stopping at a stop they have that choice not to stop. Mr. Wurz feels it is safer to pick up on the way up, make one turn, and then head down the hill. He also reiterated that the children cannot cross the highway. President Hennes stated that the Board needs to make a decision so that the bus department can update the change. President Wingo asked if the Board approves of the proposed change. Board member Hoffman-

Brady disagreed. President Wingo stated that we will keep it a proposed change at this point and will need to discuss it further.

*Review AR 5144 Discipline – Detentions during lunch time:* Superintendent Hennes is responding to the parent request to look into whether this was appropriate. Superintendent Hennes read the policy explanation of why it is allowed. We are within the boundaries of the Ed Code. However, the staff needs to discuss their feelings about whether detentions actually affect behavior in a positive way. Lindsey and Janet are present in the room supervising. Mrs. Cablayan suggested that parents should have the right to opt out of that discipline action if they disagreed. Superintendent Hennes agreed that it is a worthy discussion point that they will nail down before next school year. Lindsay Bannwarth explained that Focus Room is different than a Detention. Detention is a discipline and the focus room is not.

*Annual Boards of Trustees Dinner – April 25, 2017, 6:00 p.m.*

Superintendent Hennes encouraged the Board Members to attend the dinner for the recognized staff.

*Timeline for Principal Selection:* Superintendent Hennes explained that the ad is posted on Ed Join.

They will screen 6-8 candidate and then interview 2-3 finalists. He also requests they not share recommendations on preference. Mr. Aksland asked if we can push the timeline out. He feels that the Board needs to consider whether this is the right decision. President Wingo explained that we have already taken action and are now hiring a new principal. We are making a decision based on all of the information we have and that information may not be discussed in public.

Superintendent Hennes reported on the grant we received from the state to do Water Lead Testing. We are way below the required amount. Thank you to the Community Services District for that.

### 3.2. Board Member Reports

- Character Counts Kids for February 2017 – Mason Mainville & Chloe Tandy
- Student of the Month for February 2017 – Ella Glasser

### 3.3. Principal Report

Principal Mayers presented a list of recent and upcoming student events. Mrs. Bannwarth sent students to the California Academy Science field trip. Chase Varvayanis participated in the Honor Music Festival. Mike Brown has had some amazing STEM Projects that the kids are involved in.

### 3.4. Staff Report

Grade level teachers reported on past and upcoming activities and field trips:

K-2 Read-a-thon being done as a senior project by the Roundup Queen. Third Grade attended the Friendship Conference and 4<sup>th</sup> Grade Watercolor Art Project with Diane Stern has wrapped up.

6<sup>th</sup> Grade Science Camp, 7<sup>th</sup> Grade Celtic Faire field trip and Spirit Week coming up. The Pennies for Patients fundraiser is rolling out and Wendie Roberts last yearbook is out to press

### 3.5. Enrollment Report– 256

## 4. CONSENT AGENDA

*(The Board will consider all of the following items by a single vote unless any member of the Board Or the public asks that an item be removed from the Consent Agenda and be considered separately.)*

4.1. Minutes from February 8, 2017

4.2. Warrants up to February 23, 2017

4.3. MOU w/ TCSOS to Provide Network Access for 2017-2018

4.4. School Accountability Report Card (SARC)

4.5. Calendar for 2017/2018 School Year

Motion to Approve: Tim Hoffman-Brady

Second: Lisa Brady

Vote: 5 Ayes, 0 Noes, 0 Absent, 0 Abstentions

Members Wingo, Brady, Bailey, Hoffman-Brady, and Wingo all voted Aye. There were none opposed.

## 5. EDUCATION

5.1. Superintendent Hennes read a special letter to recognize Excellence in Teaching Award Nominee, Kimberlie Ballard & Career Achievement Award Nominee, Becky Berry

5.2. Board Policy Update: Consideration of BP/AR 6172 Gifted & Talented Student Program

Recommendation: Second reading, to be considered for Approval

Motion to Approve: Ronda Bailey

Second: Lisa Brady

Vote: 5 Ayes, 0 Noes, 0 Absent, 0 Abstentions

Members Wingo, Brady, Bailey, Hoffman-Brady, and Wingo all voted Aye. There were none opposed.

5.3. Board Policy Update: Consideration of BP/AR 5123 Promotion/Acceleration/Retention

Recommendation: First reading before the Board

Superintendent Hennes shared that he is wary of retention because he has seen negative sides to it over the years. He encourages staff to be careful and diligent in selecting this choice and is wary in asking a student to repeat a grade level without changing the curriculum. If we do retain a student we should be supplying additional curriculum to enhance and encourage the child. He explained that it only works when parents are in agreement and the school will work with the parents to do what is best for the child. Member Brady expressed the social component factor. Staff will be discussing this at their April meeting and then bringing it back to the Board with suggestions.

6. FISCAL SERVICES

6.1. Second Interim Report for 2016-2017

Tonya spoke in depth on the Second Interim Report. We are deep in Basic Aid status at this point and Title II funds are estimated to drop next year. Page 77 of the Multi-Year Projections include things in the LCAP. Many of those are one-time expenses. In Fund 40 nothing has been added for Pinecrest yet because it was not confirmed until today.

Motion to Approve: Lisa Brady

Second: Ronda Bailey

Vote: 5 Ayes, 0 Noes, 0 Absent, 0 Abstentions

Members Wingo, Brady, Bailey, Hoffman-Brady, and Wingo all voted Aye. There were none opposed.

6.2. Approval of New Salary Schedule for Principal, effective July 1, 2017

It was suggested the contract be reduced by 10 days to lower cost. Cell phone and mileage reimbursement will be lowered as well. Superintendent Hennes stated that Tonya has researched other Principal's salaries within the county and we are comparable.

Motion to Approve: Tim Hoffman-Brady

Second: Ronda Bailey

Vote: 5 Ayes, 0 Noes, 0 Absent, 0 Abstentions

Members Wingo, Brady, Bailey, Hoffman-Brady, and Wingo all voted Aye. There were none opposed.

7. PERSONNEL

7.1. Governing Board's Consideration and Possible Adoption of a Preliminary Certificated Layoff Resolution No. 2016-2017-03-01 Pursuant to Education Code Sections 44949 and 44955

Superintendent Hennes believes that there is not a full time position workload available at this time. He also stated that we can go full time if the desire and enrollment numbers are there. Mrs. Vermillion feels that children need outlets in order to focus better on the academics. As a parent it is a concern and should be kept in mind moving forward. Superintendent Hennes said we are deficit spending and we do need to be aware. He also confirmed that we do plan to hire a .50 teacher. Superintendent Hennes explained that we would have to lay off a teacher if Mr. Mayers chooses to return to the classroom. Two years ago a position was removed but the position was never officially eliminated. This is clean up that needs to be done.

Motion to Approve: Ronda Bailey

Second: Tim Hoffman-Brady

Vote: 5 Ayes, 0 Noes, 0 Absent, 0 Abstentions

Written Roll Call

Members Wingo, Brady, Bailey, Hoffman-Brady, and Wingo all voted Aye. There were none opposed.

7.2. Governing Board's Consideration and Possible Adoption of a Revised Tie-Breaker Criteria Resolution No. 2016-2017-03-02 Pursuant to Education Code Section 44955, Subdivision (b)

Motion to Approve: Tim Hoffman-Brady

Second: Eli Wingo

Vote: 5 Ayes, 0 Noes, 0 Absent, 0 Abstentions

Members Wingo, Brady, Bailey, Hoffman-Brady, and Wingo all voted Aye. There were none opposed.

7.3. Governing Board's Consideration and Possible Adoption of Resolution Releasing Temporary Certificated Employees Resolution No. 2016-2017-03-03 Pursuant to Education Code Section 44954

Motion to Approve: Ronda Bailey

Second: Tim Hoffman-Brady

Vote: 5 Ayes, 0 Noes, 0 Absent, 0 Abstentions

Members Wingo, Brady, Bailey, Hoffman-Brady, and Wingo all voted Aye. There were none opposed.

The Public Session was adjourned at 6:14 p.m. and the Board immediately went into Closed Session.

**CLOSED SESSION**

**8. DISCLOSURE OF ITEMS DISCUSSED IN CLOSED SESSION (Gov. Code 54957.7)**

- 8.1. Conference with Real Property Negotiators (Gov. Code 54956.8)  
Property: Pinecrest Elementary School Site and Facilities  
Agency Negotiator: Rick Hennes, Superintendent  
Negotiating Party: Pinecrest Permittees Association  
Under Negotiations: Terms of Sale
- 8.2. Public Employee Discipline/Dismissal/Release/Complaint – Report on Probationary Staff (Gov. Code 54957.7)
- 8.3. Conference with Labor Negotiator (Gov. Code 54957.6)  
Agency Negotiator: Rick Hennes, Superintendent  
THFT, Twain Harte Federation of Teachers

The Closed Session was adjourned at 6:48 p.m. and the Board immediately went back into Public Session.

**PUBLIC SESSION**

President Wingo reported that there was no action taken in closed session.

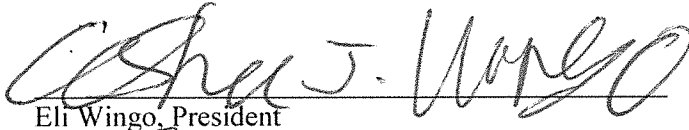
**10. FISCAL SERVICES**

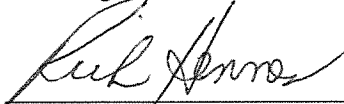
- 10.1. Consideration for Approval of Purchase Agreement and Promissory Note Between Twain Harte School District’s Governing Board and Pinecrest Permittees Association for the Sale of Pinecrest Elementary School Site and Facilities

No action was taken.

**11. ADJOURNMENT**

The Public Session was adjourned at 6:49 p.m.

  
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 Eli Wingo, President

  
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 Rick Hennes, Superintendent

5/2/17  
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 Date

**Next Regular Meeting of the Board of Education  
 Wednesday, April 12, 2017  
 Upper Campus Study Hall, Twain Harte School**

**Agenda material may be reviewed at the District Office  
 22997 Joaquin Gully Road, Suite G, Twain Harte, California,  
 between the hours of 7:30 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.**

Agenda posted at the following locations: 2 locations at Twain Harte School, the District Office and Tuolumne County Schools Office. Agenda emailed to: the Union Democrat and Clark Broadcasting (93.5 KKBN). Notice given to each Board Member as well.

In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, if you need special assistance (i.e. auxiliary aids or services) in order to participate in this public meeting, please contact the District Office at 209-586-3772 for assistance. Notification 48 hours prior to the start of the meeting will enable the staff to make reasonable arrangements to ensure accessibility to this public meeting.