

South Tahoe High School

Lake Tahoe Unified School District

"Home of the Vikings"



Ivone Larson, Principal
Dennis Sarosik, Assistant Principal
Patrick Harnett, Assistant Principal

never loved school. She was often in trouble for fighting and had poor attendance. In 8th grade she was sent to TREC, a county probation school which rarely took 8th graders and even more seldom took 8th grade girls. She attended there through her first year of high school. As a sophomore we transferred her to Mt Tallac as a tougher even less motivated student. She rarely came to school and continued to fight. Her older brothers came in with her parents asking for help and feeling that they were not prepared to deal with her lack of academic success.

We slowly began to see progress as she entered her junior year. She began to face the relationships at home which were creating her anger and began to attend just a bit more frequently, creating trusting relationships with the staff at Tallac. In December of her junior year two older brothers were in a drunk driving accident. Her oldest brother was killed and her other brother was prosecuted for driving under the influence of alcohol. In one evening she had lost both of her brothers (which were her closest friends). She was left in her home to deal with her grief, the grief of her parents, the sudden lack of two incomes, and the responsibility to help translate through court proceedings as well as day to day dealings for her parents. She found her home to be a difficult reminder of what she had lost and knew that her brothers had always wanted her to make the best of her education. pulled all of the internal strength she had and began to attend school and prepare to meet her goal of attending STHS for her senior year. She was many credits behind but found the motivation to move towards that goal. That June her best girlfriend graduated and this helped to push her even more.

In the Fall of her senior year signed up for her first college class at Lake Tahoe Community College in order to earn lost credits faster. She successfully passed the class and met her goal of attending South Tahoe High School for her last term of her senior year, for her brothers. She completed another course winter quarter and is weeks away from graduating from high school. strength and determination have continued to make her a HERO in my eyes. She has overcome many personal obstacles and old habits to re-define herself. I am positive this young lady will contribute to our community as she continues to grow and educate herself. She hopes to study cosmetology after high school.