

# Granite School District

## Board of Education Meeting September 2, 2014

A board meeting for Granite School District was held in the board room at the Granite School District offices, 2500 South State Street, Salt Lake City, Utah. President Gayleen Gandy called the meeting to order at 5:06 p.m., those in attendance:

Gayleen Gandy	President
Terry Bawden	Vice President
Connie Anderson	Board Member
Connie Burgess	Board Member
Dan Lofgren	Board Member
Sarah Meier	Board Member

Excused:	
Julene Jolley	Board Member

The following members of the administration were present:

Martin W. Bates	Superintendent
David F. Garrett	Business Administrator/Treasurer
Don Adams	Assistant Superintendent
Mike Fraser	Assistant Superintendent
Jim Henderson	Assistant Superintendent
Linda Mariotti	Assistant Superintendent

Ben Horsley, Director, Communications Department, and Merilynn Boekweg, Board Recorder, were in attendance.

### **ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS**

#### 1. Staffing Report

Donnette McNeill Waters, Director, Human Resources (HR), presented the annual Teacher Staffing Report. Granite has filled 289 elementary and preschool teaching positions, as well as 141 secondary positions for the 2014-15 school year. The reported shortage of teachers is reflected in a smaller amount of candidates remaining on the applicant lists.

Granite hired 303 first year teachers who come from 10 in-state educational institutions. HR hired 112 teachers from out-of-state coming from 81 colleges and universities. Teachers new to the profession total 238 and 192 were hired with experience. Degrees and endorsements held by new teachers include 316 bachelors, 110 Masters, and 4 Doctorates, and a higher percentage of ESL endorsements. Areas where vacancies most likely occur are in math, science, special education, media and library science. At the present time Granite is completely staffed. However, when enrollment numbers settle some vacancies will open and will probably be filled with Alternate Route to Licensure (ARL) candidates.

Mrs. McNiell-Waters provided information on recruiting highly qualified teachers. Some recruiting for next year will start as early as October. She commented that the excellent benefits package and newly negotiated professional development days help recruit candidates. Student teachers are important to recruitment and she reported Granite will have 50 to 60 this year. (Exhibit #15-2)

The Board asked if diversity is considered in recruiting. Mrs. McNiell-Waters reported that it is important and always considered but there are fewer diverse candidates.

Mr. Lofgren asked if data had been collected on why teachers leave the District. When employees resign or quit they are asked why. Health issues, parent care giving, young teachers who find the profession too hard and can make better pay elsewhere, and the desire to stay at home with their own children seemed to top the list. Those retiring are not asked. Mr. Lofgren asked if a comparison could be provided going back some years showing the reasons teachers leave Granite. The Board would like to know if they can make a difference in keeping highly qualified teachers at Granite. Dr. Bates assigned Mr. Welburn to work with HR on a comparison study and bring it to his staff meeting for discussion.

## 2. New Online Science Textbooks and Supporting Professional Development

Ms. Mariotti reported on the implementation of a new online science program for 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade students. She commented that much has been learned about going to online programs versus hands on textbooks with the adoption of math curriculum in the past. She reviewed the professional development opportunities being made available to secondary science teachers. The program will expand to 9<sup>th</sup> through 12<sup>th</sup> grades in the future. They are confident that earlier training will help teachers implement the program.

Software for OLE (Online Learning Exchange) is being purchased from Pearson. High school and junior high educator input on the development of the curriculum and training will be beneficial. Prices for the large number of licenses needed have been minimized by going with

one vendor. The OLE program consists of 16 modules that come with Spanish editions, assessments, and labs. It will work on varying devices including desk top and lap top computers, and tablets. There is no consumable workbook.

The Board discussed if the new curriculum would be a big change for teachers. They were concerned about students who may not have availability to the internet or computers in their homes. Ms. Mariotti explained that using the online curriculum would actually be a smoother way to follow the world of evolving science. Dr. Bates commented that students will be able to download the program at school and have access to it at home or in school computer labs before or after classes.

**Motion:**            **I move we go into Executive Meeting to discuss land transactions.**

Made by:            Sarah Meier

Seconded by:      Terry Bawden

Called for vote:    President Gandy

Results:            Motion Passed Unanimously

## **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

## **GENERAL BOARD MEETING**

The Granite School District Board of Education reconvened at 7:20 p.m. in the board room. President Gayleen Gandy welcomed all in attendance for this session and a roll call of board members was taken. Dan Lofgren was excused from this session. Superintendent Bates introduced others representing organizations, they were:

Dawn Warner	Region V PTA
Susen Zobel	GEA
Kari Parry	GAEOP
Stephanie Rees	
Tracy Atkin	GESPA
Else Salmond	
David Shell	
Terri Roylance	GASA

Mark Manning, Senior High Director, School Accountability Services, introduced

administrators attending by assignment:

Alan Parrish	Principal, Cottonwood High
Rod Horton	Principal, Bennion Junior
Karen Chatterton	Principal, Westbrook Elementary
Lynette Golze	Principal, Whittier Elementary
Doug Johnson	Principal, Wright Elementary
Amy Martz	Principal, West Valley Elementary
Yvonne Pearson	Principal, Woodstock Elementary
Jadee Talbot	Principal, Wilson Elementary
Janice Wayman	Principal, Hartvigsen School
Ryan Shaw	Assistant Principal, Taylorsville High
Lynda Tierney	Assistant Principal, Skyline High
Brett Bawden	Assistant Principal, Armstrong Elementary/ West Kearns Elementary
Andrea Woodward	Intern Assistant Principal, Bennion Elementary
Monica Thayer	Intern Assistant Principal, Diamond Ridge Elementary
Ben Johnson	LPP Intern Assistant Principal, Kearns Junior

Candidates for Board of Education:

Gayleen Gandy, Precinct VII  
Terry Bawden, Precinct V  
Connie Burgess, Precinct III  
Karyn Winder, Precinct VI

Pledge of Allegiance/Reverence: Taylorsville JROTC, Flag Ceremony

**MAYORS PARTICIPATION** - None

**CITIZEN PARTICIPATION** - None

**RECOGNITION:**

Teacher of the Year

Annette Brinkman, Director, Educational Support, introduced Keri Graybill as the Granite District Teacher of the Year. Ms. Graybill is an AVID teacher. Danny Stirland, Principal, Granite Park Junior, shared with the Board the influence she has had on the students

and the school. She has already embraced the “Granite Way” and is an excellent example of a truly devoted teacher. She is key in getting students to graduation and being college and career ready.

Ms. Graybill thanked the Board and selection committee for the honor and explained her love for teaching. She said she loves to learn and loves children and teaching covers both areas. She also expressed how humble she felt as she was representing all teachers in Granite.

The Granite Education Foundation presented her a plaque and flowers. The Board applauded her accomplishment and thanked her for her devotion.

### **CONSENT ITEMS**

Minutes: August 7, 2014

#### Purchases:

1. Telephone System Upgrade, CenturyLink - \$166,589.27
2. Two Cab and Chassis Trucks for Food Services – Rush International Truck Center - \$137,980.00
3. Hot Well Counters for Food Services, Restaurant and Store - \$160,140.00
4. Rental of Pool & Tennis Courts for Kearns High, Oquirrh Recreation and Parks District - \$107,033.22
5. Crack Seal Work, M & M Asphalt (\$60,060.00); Superior Asphalt (\$31,820.00); Holbrook Asphalt (\$12,641.08) - \$104,521.08

#### Personnel:

1. Leave of Absence
2. Employee Hires and Separations

#### Financial Reports

1. Purchase Order Summary - \$5,134,312.28
2. Accounts Payable Pay Vouchers - \$42,583,680.10
3. Principals Cash Report – July 2014
4. Monthly Budget Report – July 2014

2015 High School Graduation Schedule

Easement to South Salt Lake City (350 E Baird Circle)

**Motion:**                    **I move that we approve the Consent Agenda.**

Made by:                    Sarah Meier  
Seconded by:            Connie Burgess

Called for vote:        President Gandy  
Results:                    Carried Unanimously

### **INFORMATION ITEM**

#### Recommended Solutions from the Population Analysis Committee

Steve Hogan, Director, Planning and Boundaries, reviewed the district policy governing the selection process of amending school boundaries. He brought the Bennion Junior Feeder Pattern proposal to the Board for an update. At the present time all of Bennion Elementary and Westbook Elementary students feed into Bennion Junior. However, 50% of Bennion Elementary boundary students and all of Westbrook Elementary boundary students feed into Cottonwood High while the remaining 50% of Bennion Elementary boundary students go to Taylorsville High. As requested by a community member it had been proposed that all students from these elementary school's boundaries feed into Taylorsville High.

The School Community Councils (SCC) at both high schools were contacted for community input. Taylorsville High's SCC was in favor of the move. Cottonwood's SCC realized the importance of the adjustment to Taylorsville and even with some impact on Cottonwood does not oppose the change.

The Population Analysis Committee recommended that the study be allowed to continue to the open house phase. The Board agreed. The dates for the open houses will be available to the Board at their study session in two weeks. (Exhibit# 15-3)

### **FIRST READINGS**

The following was presented by Doug Larson, Policy and Legal Services.

#### 1. Wellness Policy

“The United States Department of Education added new food and nutrition service standards for school in the Hunger Free Kids Act of 2010. The new provisions place strict requirements on nutrition standards for reimbursable lunches and breakfasts and for all

‘competitive foods’ or foods sold at school other than reimbursable lunches and breakfasts. The new nutrition standards are defined in the Smart Snacks in Schools guidelines. In addition, that act requires each LEA to maintain an updated Wellness Policy for schools. The revisions made will bring Granite’s Wellness Policy into compliance with the new standards and requirements.” (See Agenda)

**Motion:**           **I move we approve the Wellness Policy (Article X.A.12.) as a First Reading.**

Made by:           Terry Bawden  
Seconded by:    Connie Anderson

Called for vote:   President Gandy  
Results:           Motion Passed Unanimously

## 2. School Food Services Policy

“Along with the updates to the Wellness Policy, the policy governing Food Services needed to be updated. This policy has been modified to reflect the federal regulations and corresponding expectations for Food Services as the principal provider of food and beverage in the District. The corresponding Memorandum 64 is also under revision.” (See Agenda)

**Motion:**           **I move we approve the School Food Services General Responsibilities Policy (Article VI.E.1) as a First Reading.**

Made by:           Sarah Meier  
Second            Terry Bawden

Called for vote:   President Gandy  
Results:           Motion Passed Unanimously

## 3. Granite School District Special Education Policies and Procedures Manual

“The Utah State Office of Education made some minimal modifications to its rules regarding Special Education necessitating an update to the District’s Special Education Policies and Procedures Manual. Three changes were required as follows: (1) the definition of ‘consent’ was revised to add ‘revocation of consent’ in section 1.7.a-d; (2) the ‘revocation of consent’ language was added to section III.S.5 a-d; and (3) ‘*pro se* representation’ was included in the due process procedures in section IV.I.2.b. Some non-substantive typographical errors were also

corrected.” (See Agenda)

**Motion:**            **I move we approve the Granite School District Special Education Policies and Procedures Manual as a First Reading.**

Made by:            Connie Burgess  
Second              Connie Anderson

Called for vote:    President Gandy  
Results:            Motion Passed Unanimously

**REPORTS:**

Superintendent Bates told the Board that at the next board meeting they will have a report regarding the new professional development days that have been calendared for the teachers. There has been feedback, mostly positive but some with constructive suggestions. He also acknowledged three individuals who had recently passed away with ties to Granite. Mrs. Rose Alba had been a first grade teacher for many years at Mill Creek Elementary. Jim Cushing was a teacher and administrator. Former Police Chief and Mayor of West Valley City, Dennis Norfelt had worked closely with the District.

President Gandy asked Dr. Bates to announce the topic for the Study Session scheduled for the 16<sup>th</sup> of September. The discussion will include the accomplishments of the past few years in the District and what needs to be done as we move forward. The importance of the parents and teachers joining hands with their SCC for success in the schools will be discussed.

Mrs. Meier shared a copy of an article regarding a survey showing the results of teacher professional development and the need for more. (Exhibit #15-4).

Mr. Bawden stated that on September 18<sup>th</sup> Stansbury Elementary will be having an open house for their new school additions. The Board requested invitations. Mr. Fraser will check into it and report to the administration.

The Board collectively commented on how much they enjoyed the administrative meetings they had been involved with at the first of this year.

**Motion:**            **I move we adjourn.**

Made by:            Terry Bawden

Second              Sarah Meier

Called for vote:    President Gandy

Results:            Motion Passed Unanimously

The meeting adjourned at 8:20 p.m.