

Granite School District

Board of Education Meeting

February 3, 2015

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 Terry Bawden called the meeting to order at 5:05 p.m., those in attendance:

Terry Bawden	President
Connie Anderson	Vice President
Connie Burgess	Board Member
Gayleen Gandy	Board Member
Dan Lofgren	Board Member
Sarah Meier	Board Member
Karyn Winder	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
Linda Mariotti	Assistant Superintendent
John Welburn	Assistant Superintendent

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

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS

1. 5x5 Block Schedule Report

Mr. Fraser introduced the principals who were presenting the report: Mark Ellermeier, Eisenhower Junior; Kandace Barber, Kearns Junior; Jared Reynolds, Jefferson Junior; Danny Stirland, Granite Park Junior.

Schools functioning on a 5x5 block schedule have five classes a day that alternate every other day. Mrs. Barber said this schedule will provide extra support for students who struggle mastering the core concepts. Math and language arts can be double scheduled allowing for

instruction every day. It is suggested that the SAGE scores should improve with increased student understanding of the Common Core. Students will have the opportunity to participate in multiple electives while providing extra time in the core classes.

A large percentage of junior high teachers have positive attitudes about the 5x5 block because the double scheduled classes have fewer students and they are with them every day. The additional time gives them more time to individualize instruction, contact parents, and deal with less paperwork. There is more time for teacher collaboration. The 65 minute periods provide time for instruction and to do engaging activities.

Students like the 5x5 block because the day goes by faster and they enjoy the variety in their schedule. There seems to be fewer discipline problems and attendance improves.
(Exhibit # 15-26)

The principals reported on their experiences with the schedule. Mr. Reynolds is still in the planning stages of implementation. He sees a need for the core classes to be taught every day. They commented that this schedule has become very popular with the junior highs because there is much more flexibility. It should help in raising schools' test scores which would be beneficial to Title I Programs. There may be some negatives but the positives are so much greater.

Mr. Lofgren asked if this was a change that the teachers would be expected to do for a few years and then move to something else. The principals said that the faculties were on board and were positive about the schedule change. They did not anticipate a change in the future.

2. District 5-Year Plan Interim Report

Dr. Bates reminded the Board of the Five-Year Framework that was put into place in 2012-13. He asked Ms. Mariotti, Mr. Fraser, and Mr. Welburn to report on the progress during the first two and one-half years of the framework.

This framework was designed with five areas of focus:

- A. Effective Teaching, Learning and Leadership - One hundred percent of students will achieve more than a year's growth in a year's time in each curriculum area.
- B. Performance and Talent Development – Ninety percent of all employees will meet or exceed expectations by 2017.

- C. Increased Graduation Rate – The number of students who graduate in four years will increase to ninety percent by 2017.
- D. Teaching, Learning and Leadership through Technology - Technology infrastructure will be capable of supporting ninety-five percent of all academic and business demands for service by 2017.
- E. Parent and Community Engagement – Ninety percent of parents will report annually that family involvement is valued and supported at their neighborhood schools. Parents and community members will agree that their neighborhood schools and the district as a whole are inviting, responsive and providing an excellent education.
(Exhibit #15-27)

The Board and administration discussed the advances that have taken place and areas where there is more that needs to be done. There have been great strides forward with the building of two new schools, the implementation of technology, and improved professional development with teachers.

Dr. Bates reviewed “The Granite Way” and it’s Game Plan for Excellence. They contain essential practices to promote student achievement. He encouraged the Board to study the Five-Year Plan to see if adjustments need to be made for the next 2.5 years.

The Board took a dinner break at 6:20 p.m.

GENERAL BOARD MEETING

The Granite School District Board of Education reconvened at 7:05 p.m. in the board room. President Terry Bawden welcomed all in attendance for this session and a roll call of board members was taken. Superintendent Bates introduced others representing organizations, they were:

Dawn Warner	PTA, Region V
Brent Severe	GEF
Jen Wunderli	
Kathy Newton	

Teresa Himmelberger	GAEOP
Kari Parry	
Carol Berlin	
Susen Zobel	GEA
Kathleen Riebe	
Crista Holt	
Tracy Atkin	GESPA
Else Salmond	
Kandace Barber	GASA
Linda Hansen	Utah State Board of Education

Gail Howe, Elementary School Director, School Accountability Services, introduced administrators attending by assignment:

Craig Stauffer	Principal, Hunter High
Doug Bingham	Principal, Skyline High
Mary Anne Stevens	Principal, Kennedy Junior
Dianne Phillips	Principal, Oakwood Elementary
Christine Drummond	Principal, Oakridge Elementary
Judith Simmons-Kissell	Principal, Moss Elementary
Tod Cracroft	Principal, Morningside Elementary
Natalie Hansen	Principal, Monroe Elementary
Allison Banks	Principal, Mill Creek Elementary
Kirby Bauer	Assistant Principal, Hunter Junior
Charlie Peterson	Assistant Principal, West Lake Junior
Robyn Roper	Intern Assistant Principal, Hillsdale/Vista Elementary Schools

Media: None

Pledge of Allegiance: Doug Bingham, Skyline High

Reverence: Ben Horsley spotlighted the charitable projects students, individual schools, and district office personnel participated in during the 2014 holiday season. (Exhibit #15-28)

RECOGNITIONS

The Board recognized outgoing president Gayleen Gandy for her service as board president. She was given a plaque commemorating her years of service. She commented how she had enjoyed the opportunity and was happy to support President Bawden as she continued to serve as a board member.

National School Counseling Week

February 2-6, 2015 has been designated as National School Counseling Week. Mr. Horsley played a video highlighting the importance of counselors in our schools. The Board acknowledged and thanked the counselors for all of the work they do for students in Granite.

MAYORS PARTICIPATION - None

CITIZEN PARTICIPATION - None

CONSENT ITEMS

Minutes: January 6, 2015

Purchase:

Computers for Education Technology Department, En Pointe - \$1,891,710.00

Award of Contract

1. Architectural Services for ADA Restroom Upgrades, Design West Architects - \$46,200.00
2. Architectural Services for Football Field Upgrades, Design West Architects - \$289,608.00
3. IT Programming Services, TEK Systems - \$245,000.00

Personnel:

1. Leaves of Absence
2. Employee Hires and Separations

Financial Reports

1. Purchase Order Summary - \$2,343,042.00
2. Accounts Payable Pay Vouchers - \$53,538,197.66

Addition of Title I Schools

SSAP (School Student Achievement Plans)

School LAND Trust Revisions

Donation to Kearns High School and Purchase of Baseball Scoreboard

GEA Negotiation Team

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

Made by: Gayleen Gandy

Seconded by: Sarah Meier

Called for vote: President Bawden

Results: Carried Unanimously

INFORMATION ITEMS

1. Granite Education Foundation

Brent Severe, Director, Granite Education Foundation (GEF), addressed the Board to report on the services rendered to families in Granite during the 2014 school year. He stated that four-hundred families had benefited from services and items provided by the GEF. Seven-hundred students were helped in December alone.

Kathy Newton gave an update on the annual “Santa Sacks” prepared by volunteers for distribution during the holidays. These backpacks are provided to pre-school through 6th grade students that have been recommended by school social workers. The packs contain hygiene items, warm winter clothing, toys, blankets, and other miscellaneous items. This year sixteen thousand bags were prepared. Discover Card alone donated \$15,000 for toys. Ms. Newton said they have already begun to purchase items for the 2015 sacks.

Board members thanked the GEF for their thoughtful and generous work with the families and students in Granite. They asked Mrs. Newton to extend their appreciation to her committee for their long hours of work on the Santa Sacks.

2. Mountain View Corridor Air Quality

Paul Roberts, Sonoma Technology, and Cameron Cova Mountain View Corridor (MVC) Air Quality Working Group (AWG), presented information regarding the air quality surrounding the MVC and the impact it will have on five schools within Granite District (West Valley

Elementary, Whittier Elementary, Hillside Elementary, Hunter Junior High, and Hunter High). They acknowledged that concentrations of toxic air pollutants from vehicular traffic, namely Diesel Particulate Matter (DPM) will increase when the MVC is completed. They have monitored and studied the effects this will have on schools. In order to reduce pollutants, improved ventilation systems and improved filtration systems will need to be installed. The AWG has been allocated funding to cover the capital costs of the systems. They estimate the annual incremental cost for five schools will be \$34,352 each. The funds they have been given will cover up to 30 years monitoring. (Exhibit #15-28)

Mrs. Meier asked if similar studies have been done for Westbrook Elementary, Fox Hills Elementary since they are in close proximity to Bangerter Highway. The presenters were not sure because they are assigned to work on the MVC. Utah Department of Transportation (UDOT) should be able to answer that question. She also asked what would happen at the end of 30 years. A school building is used past 30 years.

ACTION ITEMS

1. 2016-17 School Calendars

Gail Howe presented the 2016-17 school calendars for board approval. The calendars were put into a survey online and students, teachers, and parents were invited to review it, and make comment. There were 4,726 respondents. Combining all groups 63% voted yes with 37% no. Students, teachers, and parents showed similar amounts when broken down in their respective surveys. The details for the 2016-17 school calendars are:

- Start of School – August 17, 2016
- Fall Recess – October 20 to 21, 2016
- Thanksgiving - November 23 to 25, 2016
- Winter Recess – December 23, 2016 to January 2, 2017
- Spring Recess – March 23 to 31, 2017
- End of school - May 26, 2017

(Exhibit #15-29)

The Board asked if there were comments about only posting one calendar. She said there were no negative comments concerning the number of options.

Motion: **I move that we approve the 2016-2017 Calendar.**

Made by: Gayleen Gandy
Seconded by: Connie Burgess

Called for vote: President Bawden
Results: Carried Unanimously

2. Population Analysis Study List

Steve Hogan, Director, Planning and Boundaries, reviewed the process the Population Analysis Committee (PAC) follows each year in approving boundary studies. There were three proposals that had been presented to the committee.

Arcadia Elementary Feeder Pattern presently feeds to Bonneville Junior and Cottonwood High. The study would look at moving the incoming junior high students to Bennion Junior and Taylorsville High. This would move approximately 180 students from the Cottonwood feeder pattern to Taylorsville. Board members commented that patrons from Arcadia had requested a similar study in past years.

Motion: I move that we approve Arcadia Elementary Feeder Pattern for the study list.

Made by: Gayleen Gandy
Seconded by: Sarah Meier

Called for vote: President Bawden
Results: Carried Unanimously

A Cyprus Network Reconfiguration and Boundary Study was proposed to see if the readjustment of boundaries for junior high and elementary schools would affect the possible 9-12 configuration for Cyprus High. Dr. Bates commented that working with both reconfiguration and boundaries could be a difficult process. Mrs. Gandy agreed but said the patrons were anxious to see what changes could happen. She suggested the study be put on the list.

Motion: I move that we approve Cyprus Network & Boundary Changes for the study list.

Made by: Gayleen Gandy

Seconded by: Connie Burgess

Called for vote: President Bawden

Results: Carried Unanimously

Transportation has requested that the 4800 W Corridor Boundary Study be put on the list. Because of recent and future reconfigurations at high schools this study would consider a balanced enrollment and transportation concerns among several west side junior highs.

Motion: I move that we approve 4800 W Corridor Boundary for the study list.

Made by: Connie Burgess

Seconded by: Gayleen Gandy

Called for vote: President Bawden

Results: Carried Unanimously

REPORTS

Superintendent Bates reminded the Board of the following:

- Board Study Session will be held on February 17 at 5:00 p.m. It will be an Executive Meeting to discuss land transactions and evaluations.
- A Town Hall Meeting will be held at Skyline High on February 24.
- The CTE open house is scheduled for Thursday, Feb. 5.

Dr. Bates commented on the feedback he had received from the Board regarding School Community Councils (SCCs) discussed at the January 27 study session. Feedback indicated a need for professional development regarding SCCs for school administrators. All schools are unique and the SCCs should build on the uniqueness.

Budget allocations for staffing seemed to be another issue. Leadership for SCCs should know in what areas they have input. It was suggested that one or two goals be picked in a year to focus on and then in subsequent years continue to build on those goals. Dr. Bates asked if the Board wanted the administration to formulate a plan and then share their ideas with the Board. The Board agreed and asked to be kept up to date on the progress.

Mrs. Meier reminded the new board leadership and Mrs. Winder of the training workshop

for them on Saturday, February 7. She also reminded the entire board of the Friday legislative meeting held by the Utah School Board Association.

Mrs. Gandy commented that the SSAP reports the Board had just reviewed were somewhat difficult to follow. She asked if in the future information could be made available on where to locate the five areas that needed their approval. She had concern that some school plans did not clearly state their goals and were too vague.

Mrs. Anderson had attended an early morning SCC meeting at Cottonwood High and was impressed with the attendance and the excellent way it was organized.

President Bawden clarified the subject of the Executive Meeting being held at the scheduled study session. The Board would discuss land transactions and conduct a evaluation process.

Motion: **I move we adjourn.**

Made by: Dan Lofgren

Seconded by: Connie Anderson

Called for vote: President Bawden

Results: Passed Unanimously

The meeting adjourned at 8:45 p.m.