

Granite School District

Board of Education Meeting

January 8, 2013

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 5:07 p.m., those in attendance:

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

The following members of the administration were present:

Martin W. Bates	Superintendent
David F. Garrett	Business Administrator/Treasurer
Mike Fraser	Assistant Superintendent
David Gourley	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. Oath of Office for Newly Elected Board Members

Sherrie Swenson, Salt Lake County Clerk, administered the Oath of Office to Dan Lofgren, Connie Anderson, and Sarah Meier who had been re-elected on November 6, 2012.

2. Athletic Program Report

Dave Vande Veegaete, Physical Education, Athletics, and Health Specialist, explained Granite District's plans for athletic clinics and camps. It was proposed that beginning in the

summer of 2013 clinics will be subsidized by the district for football, basketball (girl/boy), volleyball, and drill team which are sponsored activities of the Utah High School Activities Association (UHSAA). Clinics are for high school students currently functioning on a high school teams.

Fifteen days would be available for each of the five activities offered. A minimum of 50 paid athletes will be required for a clinic to be subsidized. Students who are clearly documented as fee waiver eligible will be considered paying participants. Fee waiver documentation must be on file with the participating school before being qualified for fee waiver status.

It was proposed that camps be run through the Salt lake County Recreation. Camps are not subsidized and are for students who show some interest and want to be groomed to play a sport. County approved camps will cost the individual student \$50.00. Five dollars will be paid to Granite District and the remainder will be split to 15% for the County and 85% to the coach. The County will collect the funds and expenses will be paid through them. Camps providing instruction only are limited to \$50.00 for a minimum of 10 hours of coaching (\$40.00/8 hours, \$30.00/6 hours, \$20.00/4 hours, and \$10.00/2 hours). Camps providing competition are limited to a \$200.00 charge. This additional charge will cover tournament fees and/or officials. (Exhibit #13-32)

Board members commented on the sports Granite picked to subsidize. They asked why individual sports (cross-country, golf, tennis, track and field, wrestling, swimming and diving) were not included. There was also concern over team sports (softball and soccer) that were excluded. Mr. Vande Veegaete explained that some of the sports had very small numbers of participation and would be a candidate for a Salt Lake County Recreation camp. Some sport competitions are held during the summer when clinics are conducted and students would not be available. Superintendent Bates emphasized the importance of equalizing opportunities in all high schools and having a fiscally sound athletic program in each school. The Board continued a lengthy discussion about this proposal. They were assured that the coaches from across the district were supportive of the changes.

3. Annual Assessment Report

Dr. Darryl Thomas, Director, Research, Assessment and Evaluation, reported the 2011/12 testing scores for Granite District.

Criterion-Referenced Tests (CRT) are given in Language Arts (grades 3-11), Mathematics (grades 3 through Algebra 2), and Science (grades 4 through Physics). The Language Arts CRT's showed a 22 point increase, Mathematics dropped 14 points, and Science

increased by 26 points. He explained that the mathematics drop was attributed to secondary schools changing to the common core curriculum. With time these tests and scores should align better. He did state that the Geometry scores were concerning and care should be taken to address the issue. He provided examples of the Utah State Office of Education's (USOE) Geometry state core standards and objectives and the CRT Blueprint which shows the number of items tested by standard and objective. He showed an example of class results and acuity screener reports which teachers can use to direct their instruction. Achievement and growth measures are shown on the Utah School Report Card which was also provided.

Advanced Placement (AP) tests are subject specific and Granite consistently scored at or above the state and surpassed the nation on each test. Students participating totaled 3,807. American College Test (ACT) is a college entrance test which was given to 84% (3,084) of the 2012 graduating class. Nationally about 40% of seniors participate. It was proven that students taking a more rigorous schedule did markedly better on the test. The Scholastic Assessment Test (SAT) was taken by 186 students and Granite scored higher than either the state or nation. (Exhibit #13-33)

The Board thanked Dr. Thomas for his excellent work.

Motion: I move that we adjourn to Executive Session to discuss personnel.

Made by: Sarah Meier

Seconded by: Terry Bawden

Called for vote: President Gandy

Results: Board Polled - Carried Unanimously

Executive Session began in Auditorium A with a roll call of the Board at 6:10 p.m. The Board moved into closed door session held in the Superintendent's Conference Room.

GENERAL BOARD MEETING

The Granite School District Board of Education reconvened at 7:13 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. Superintendent Bates introduced others representing organizations, they were:

Dawn Warner

Midge Treglown

Region V PTA

GEF

Susen Zobel	GEA
Colleen Lynch	GAEOP
Tracy Atkin	GESPA
David Shell	
Elese Solmond	
Dona Harris	GASA

Jane Lindsay, Elementary Director, School Accountability Services, introduced administrators attending by assignment:

Doug Bingham	Principal, Skyline High
Jerry Haslam	Principal, Granger High
Mark Grant	Principal, Evergreen Junior
Carole Harris	Principal, Olympus Junior
Steve Pershon	Principal, Jones Center
Lynda Hart	Principal, Wilson Elementary
Dona Harris	Principal, Frost Elementary
Nykola Patton	Principal, Smith Elementary
Allesen Peck	Principal, Gourley Elementary
Marie Rose	Principal, South Kearns Elementary
Paula Sorensen	Principal, Silver Hills Elementary
Rebecca Tesch	Principal, Granger Elementary
Kenneth Auld	Assistant Principal, Kearns High
Rob Wessman	Assistant Principal, Granger High
Emily Grunig	Assistant Principal, Kennedy Junior
Julie Wilson	Assistant Principal, Whittier Elementary

Pledge of Allegiance: Chief Randy Johnson, GSD Police

Reverence: The PTA from Truman Elementary brought several students to highlight their heroes and explain why they admired them. They encouraged all in attendance to celebrate their heroes and share their thoughts with them.

ACTION ITEM

Board leadership elections are held, by law, every two years. Offices elected are president and vice president.

Motion: **I nominate Gayleen Gandy to serve as Board President.**

Made by: Dan Lofgren
Seconded by: Sarah Meier

Called for vote: President Gandy
Results: Board Polled - Carried Unanimously

Motion: I nominate Terry Bawden to serve as Board Vice President.

Made by: Julene Jolley
Seconded by: Connie Burgess

Called for vote: President Gandy
Results: Board Polled - Carried Unanimously

MAYORS PARTICIPATION - None

CITIZEN PARTICIPATION - None

CONSENT ITEMS

Minutes: November 27, 2012 & December 4, 2012

Purchases:

1. Discovery Software Support, Education Solutions Development - \$91,211.00
2. Laser Engraving Systems for Bonneville Jr., Evergreen Jr., Olympus Jr., West Lake Jr., Olympus High, High Country Technology consultants - \$83,680.00
3. Lighting Upgrade for Cottonwood High, Carver Electric - \$88,000.00
4. Lighting Upgrade for Cyprus High, Advanced Lighting - \$89,920.00
5. Microsoft EEC Campus Agreement, Enpointe - \$186,298.88

Change Order:

Air Conditioning at Morningside Elementary- \$81,140.00

Personnel:

1. Leave of Absence
2. Employee Hires and Separations
3. Administrative Appointment Effective 2-1-13
Rick Anthony Director, Adult & Community Education/
Principal, Granite Connection High School

Financial Reports

1. Purchase Order Summaries - \$2,281,238.04
2. Accounts Payable Pay Vouchers - \$53,709,470.41
3. Principal's Cash Report – October & November 2012
4. Monthly Budget Report – November 2012

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

Made by: Julene Jolley
Seconded by: Terry Bawden

Called for vote: President Gandy
Results: Carried Unanimously

Mike Fraser introduced Rick Anthony and the Board congratulated him on his new assignment.

FIRST READINGS

Dr. Bates read the following resolution:

**RESOLUTION REGARDING TEACHING, LEARNING AND
MASTERING
THE STATE CORE CURRICULUM STANDARDS**

Whereas, the State Board of Education in exercising its state constitutional and statutory authority has established a rich core curriculum for elementary students, and

Whereas, the Board of Education of Granite School District believes that children and their parents and guardians can expect learning and mastery of objectives in all content areas across that rich curriculum, and

Whereas, on November 18, 2003, as part of a concerted effort to increase student achievement, the Board of Education of Granite School District adopted a Resolution Requiring Elementary Focus on Literacy and Numeracy in Granite School District Elementary Schools which specified that one-half of each academic day be spent on literacy instruction and one-fourth on numeracy instruction, and

Whereas, the November 18, 2003 Resolution also encouraged integration of literacy and numeracy in all grades and content areas including the fine arts curriculum and application through differentiated instructional strategies, and

Whereas, state and federal testing requirements can have the effect of narrowing instructional focus to tested subjects only, and

Whereas, a narrowed instructional focus motivated by testing can discourage integration of content and activities that meet objectives from multiple content areas, and

Whereas, the Board of Education of Granite School District finds that the November 18, 2003 Resolution, in conjunction with contemporaneous state and federal testing requirements, has over time, narrowed the instructional focus to tested subjects and discouraged integration of content areas in schools and classrooms across the district, be it therefore

Resolved, that effective July 1, 2013 the November 18, 2003 Resolution be rescinded; and be it further

Resolved, that effective July 1, 2013 all elementary content areas as established by the State Core Curriculum standards will be taught with the end that students will learn and master the associated objectives; and be it further

Resolved, that the instruction be as integrated and authentic as possible to support long-term retention and application; and be it further

Resolved, that learning be measured formatively and summatively in all content areas and results be available for parents and guardians to document student growth and establish future goals; and be it further

Resolved, that district efforts be tailored and focused to provide instructional and professional resources to support educators in fulfilling the goals of this Resolution.

The Superintendent reminded the Board of the discussion regarding the new state assessment systems at the study session on November 27, 2012. He explained that the administration had met with elementary principals in small groups to discuss the new Utah Comprehensive Accountability System (UCAS) report card and the expectations of the state. A draft of this resolution was presented to the principals at that time. Meetings with junior high and high school principals have been scheduled to discuss the same UCAS issues with them.

The Board was supportive of the resolution recognizing the USOE trend to teach all concept areas of the state core. A discussion followed regarding the importance of Granite District “stepping to the plate” to help educators achieve this goal.

Motion: **I move we approve the Resolution Regarding Teaching, Learning and Mastering the State Core Curriculum Standards as a First Reading.**

Made by: Terry Bawden

Seconded by: Sarah Meier

Called for vote: President Gandy

Results: Motion Passed Unanimously

INFORMATION ITEM

Fine Arts Program

Superintendent Bates explained that when the administration asked the teachers to teach the whole curriculum it was different from expectations of past years. The administration had discussed what they could do to help in this transition. Ms. Mariotti, Mr. Fraser, and Mary Alice Rudelich, Director, Curriculum and Instruction, were asked to present information on the future of fine arts instruction in elementary schools.

Ms. Mariotti said she was presenting the “latest and best” thinking on how to support the resolution and support the teachers in teaching all content areas. The information for this meeting would focus on the Fine Arts Program which has four distinct areas: Music for Life (general music), Dance, Visual Arts, and Theater/Drama. Each elementary school would have a Fine Arts Specialist. The specialists would provide instruction in art areas as directed yearly by the school community council (SCC). The SCC would decide each spring what focus areas would be taught during the coming year and to which grades. The district would need to hire approximately 30 specialists who would be certified elementary teachers. The specialists would generally be assigned to two schools and provide each approximately 12 hours of additional fine arts instruction above what they have at this time.

The Board asked if the specialists would have the training in all four fine arts areas. Ms. Mariotti explained that a certified elementary teacher is expected to have training in all content areas of the curriculum.

Mrs. Anderson asked if the school could choose to use their specialist for instrumental music and would the specialists be qualified to teach it. Ms. Mariotti was confident that it could be done. She emphasized that if the school requested instrumental music and included only 5th and 6th grade students it would leave the remainder of the allotted time for other fine arts instruction of the school’s choosing.

Mrs. Jolley expressed her support of having the community involved in the decision of curriculum. This is a positive additional resource for schools to do more than they had done in the past. Mr. Bawden agreed but expressed a concern for schools with a non-functioning SCC. Mr. Fraser said the responsibility would fall to the principal to gather the input for the decision.

Mrs. Meier asked if this would preclude a before or after school instrumental music program. Dr. Bates said it would not.

President Gandy emphasized that this was an Information Item. Input from this meeting would be taken into consideration while the administration worked on details of the proposed program. Dr. Bates commented that this proposal would affect the budget for next year and was one reason to have this information discussion early.

ACTION ITEMS

1. Granger High Title I Support 2010

Dr. Henderson, Mr. Fraser, and Dr. Rob Averett, Title I Director, brought to the board a proposal to approve Granger High as a Title I school. Mr. Henderson gave a brief history of Title I school improvement in Granite. In 2005, by law, 10% of Title I funding was set-aside to fund all schools in need of improvement. That 10% has been reverted back to the program starting in the 2012/13 year and must be used in Title I schools.

In 2010 Granger High received a competitive Title I School Improvement Grant (SIG). The grant provided \$2M over 3 years. To qualify for the SIG grant a school must have low academic achievement school wide. The math and reading scores needed to be in the lowest 5% of all high schools in the state. Poverty income had to fit within the Title I rankings. The SIG grant enabled the school to have resources to help improve test scores and graduation rates.

The SIG grant has expired and Granger High still stands in need of funding to continue their improvements. The Granger Network has the highest number of feeder schools that are Title I. Dr. Henderson commented that students (grades 9-12) attending Granger High have had Title I help in their previous schools. To continue the progress they have experienced the school would need extra resources. Granger would be the first high school in Granite to come under the Title I umbrella.

It was recommended that Granger High School be funded as a Title I School. It would provide support for college and career ready focus. It would also support students most highly impacted by poverty and allow continuation of successful interventions developed under the SIG grant. (Exhibit #13-34)

The Board asked if Granger High was funded through Title I would it take money from the already existing qualifying schools. It would not. The 10% set-aside funds that had been pulled back into the program would cover the \$1M needed and not impact the other Title I locations. The \$1M amount was derived from Title I formula of allowed funding.

Motion: **I move we approve Granger High as a Title I school.**

Made by: Dan Lofgren
Seconded by: Julene Jolley

Called for vote: President Gandy
Results: Motion Passed Unanimously

2. Secondary Fee Schedule

Paul Hansen, High School Director, explained the change to the 2013/14 secondary fee schedules. The Board requested in their December 4, 2012 board meeting that the new musical participation fee be reviewed. They asked for more clarification on who would pay it. Mr. Hansen reviewed the increased fees. The word change to “musical costume (stage performers only)” was made to clarify what participants would pay the \$40.00. Input had been gathered from secondary schools regarding the change. The fee would be capped at \$40.00. The schools do not have to charge the fee; it is up to the schools discretion. Students with fee waivers in place will not be assessed the fee. (See 1-8-13 Agenda, pgs. 75-77)

Motion: I move approval of the Secondary Fee Schedules for the 2013/14 school year.

Made by: Dan Lofgren
Seconded by: Sarah Meier

Called for vote: President Gandy
Results: Motion Passed Unanimously

3. New Elementary School Naming

Jane Lindsay, Elementary Director, and Tyler Howe, Principal of the new STEM School, explained the process taken in choosing a name for the new school scheduled to open in the fall of 2013. A committee of board members, parents, principals, teachers and community leaders worked together and suggested 25 names. The names were prominent figures and geographical references. A survey was sent to parents of students at Valley Crest and West Valley Elementary schools. Ballots were also mailed to requested permit areas. Each ballot allowed three choices. The top five choices were Neil Armstrong Academy, Albert Einstein Academy, Highbury Park Elementary, Lake Park Elementary, and Isaac Newton Academy. Mr. Howe displayed possible logos for the Neil Armstrong Academy. (Exhibit #13-35)

The Board discussed the names and all agreed that Neil Armstrong would be a strong

name for a school with a STEM emphasis. Mrs. Meier stated she did not like the word Academy. She felt it indicated a private or charter school to the community. Ms. Jolley agreed.

Motion: I move that the new school be named Neil Armstrong Elementary.

Made by: Sarah Meier
Seconded by: Terry Bawden

Substitute Motion: I move we name the new school Neil Armstrong Academy.

Made by: Dan Lofgren
Seconded by: Connie Anderson

Called for vote: President Gandy
Results: Motion Carried
Yes: Dan Lofgren
No: Sarah Meier
Connie Anderson
Julene Jolley
Gayleen Gandy
Terry Bawden
Connie Burgess

REPORTS

Dr. Bates expressed appreciation to the Board for how well they work together while making decisions. He reminded them of the following calendar items:

1. Utah School Boards Association (USBA) meetings – January 10-12
2. Town Hall meeting at Cyprus High – January 15, 7:00 p.m.
3. Grading Meeting – January 17, Hunter High, 7:00 p.m.
4. Grading Meeting – January 23, Taylorsville High, 7:00 p.m.
5. Grading Meeting – January 24, Skyline High, 7:00 p.m.

Mrs. Anderson commented that special recognition should be given to the crossing guards that are out getting our students safely to school even in the extreme cold. The Board asked that recognition be given to them. Dr. Bates asked Dr. Gourley to identify the crossing guards and recognize them for their excellent efforts to get students to school safely.

Mrs. Meier told the Board that Dr. Bates is presenting at the USBA meeting. She emphasized the good presentations from superintendents and board members from across the state that would be available at the conference. The conference meetings begin Thursday, January 10, 7:00 p.m.

President Gandy reminded the Board that it is the time of year the annual Open Meeting Training must be completed by each board member. It can be done online.

Motion: **I move we adjourn.**

Made by: Dan Lofgren

Seconded by: Connie Burgess

Called for vote: President Gandy

Results: Motion Passed Unanimously

The meeting adjourned at 9:20 p.m.