

Granite School District

Board of Education Meeting

May 7, 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 5:04 p.m., those in attendance:

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

Excused:	
Dan Lofgren	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 and Steven Powell, Communications Department, and Merilynn Boekweg, Board Recorder, were in attendance.

Superintendent Bates advised the Board that as of May 15, 2013 an audio recording of board meetings, with the exclusion of Executive Sessions, will be posted on Utah Public Notice Website within three days after the meeting.

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS

1. Bond Resolution Information

David Garrett introduced Granite's Financial Advisor Dale Okerlund, of Lewis Young Robertson and Burningham (LYRB). Mr. Garrett explained that Mr. Okerlund was there to answer any questions regarding the Resolution Authorizing the Issuance of General Obligation Bonds of the Board; and Providing for Related Matters that was on the Consent Agenda. Also in attendance were Nathan Robison, LYRB, and Brandon Johnson, Bond Counsel, Chapman and Cutler.

Mr. Okerlund stated that it was again time to sell bonds in order to continue scheduled capital projects. Bonds in the amount of \$11.5 Million were being prepared for sale. They will have a 20 year maturity and will be sold at a competitive sale scheduled for June 12, 2013. He reported that the interest rates were still in a good range and he felt there would be no problems selling the bonds because of Granite's excellent financial ratings.

He explained the Resolution would authorize the sale and delegate an officer of the Board to act for them at the sale. It authorized the general outline of the terms of the bonds and the tax levy necessary to pay the bonds.

The Board discussed criteria of selecting a sale date. Mrs. Burgess asked if this would be the final bond sale. There is one more sale of remaining bonds. Superintendent Bates explained that the remaining \$25 Million was designated for a new secondary school. The growth in the area being considered had slowed and the need for the construction had been delayed. The bonds would be sold when the time was appropriate for building. Mr. Okerlund explained that the District has 10 years in which to sell all of the bonds.

2. Procurement Ethics Review

Jared Gardner, Director, Purchasing, reviewed the updated State Procurement Code. Granite's current Administrative Memo #9 is in compliance with the State code. New to the Code is Procurement Ethics (Utah Code Chapter 63G-6a). This addition has the potential to affect all employees and board members. This portion of the Code covers gratuities, kickbacks, unlawful use of position or influence, and artificial dividing of a purchase.

The offering of a gratuity or kickback is unlawful for an interested person to give, offer, or promise to give to a participant, contract administrator, known family member of participant, or administrator. Accepting or asking for a gratuity or kickback is unlawful for procurement participants or contract administrators from an interested person for their own benefit or that of another person. Mr. Gardner defined the following:

- Contract administrator – a person who administers a current contract on behalf of a public entity
- Gratuity- anything of value including money, a loan with an interest rate lower than terms usually offered on the market, an award, employment, admission to an event, a meal, lodging, travel or entertainment for which a charge is normally made
- Interested person – a person who is interested in any way in the sale of a procurement item or insurance to a public entity
- Kickback – a gratuity given in exchange for favorable treatment in a pending procurement or the administration of a contract

Exceptions to the Code include hospitality gifts or contributions to the entity with no interest for reciprocation for the contributions. A hospitality gift is a promotion or hospitality item (i.e. pen, pencil, stationery, toy, pin, trinket, snack, nonalcoholic beverage, or appetizer). Gifts that are not hospitality gifts would include money, a meal, a ticket, admittance to an event, entertainment for which a charge is normally made, travel or lodging. The item must be less than \$10 or cumulatively less than \$50 in a year.

Penalties for an ethics violation could be a misdemeanor or felony depending on a total dollar amounts. (Exhibit #13-56)

After a discussion it was suggested that Human Resources carefully look at applicants and the possibility of ethics violations in their past history. A training is being planned in June to cover the new Procurement Ethics and it will be the responsibility of principals to pass the information along to their individual staffs.

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

Made by: Sarah Meier

Seconded by: Terry Bawden

Called for vote: President Gandy polled the Board

Results: Motion Passed Unanimously

EXECUTIVE SESSION

GENERAL BOARD MEETING

The Granite School District Board of Education reconvened at 7:08 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	PTA, Region V
Brent Severe	GEF
Starleen Orullian	GEA
Susen Zobel	
Vickie Burrow	GAEOP
Tracy Atkin	GESPA
David Shell	
Else Salmond	
Shauna States	GASA

Jennifer Johnson, Utah State Board of Education Member

Paul Hansen, High School Director, School Accountability Services, introduced administrators attending by assignment:

Mary Rhodes	Principal, Eisenhower Junior
Ike Spencer	Principal, West Lake Junior
Mardel Higginson	Principal, Western Hills Elementary
Milicent Larsen-Fogarty	Principal, Westbook Elementary
Paulette McMillian	Principal, Bridger Elementary
Judith Simmons-Kissell	Principal, Moss Elementary
Ben Anderson	Assistant Principal, Cottonwood High
Lynda Tierney	Assistant Principal, Skyline High
John Anderson	Assistant Principal, Wasatch Junior
Merla Bybee	Assistant Principal, Bennion Junior
Shauna States	Assistant Principal, Valley Junior

Pledge of Allegiance: Makenzie Hart, 4th Grade, Rosecrest Elementary

Reverence: Eliza Hart, 2nd Grade, Rosecrest Elementary performed an original song on the violin. She is a National Reflection Award of Excellent recipient.

RECOGNITIONS

1. National Teacher Appreciation Week

Ben Horsley announced that May 7 was National Teacher Appreciation Day and would continue to be celebrated throughout the week. Mrs. Burgess read a proclamation acknowledging the event. President Gandy had those who were or had been teachers stand. She thanked them for their time and work in educating the children.

MAYORS PARTICIPATION – None

CITIZEN PARTICIPATION – None

CONSENT ITEMS

Minutes: April 9, 2013 & April 23, 2013

Purchases

1. Door Hardware for Stansbury Elementary, Intermountain Lock & Security - \$99,159.00
2. Computer Equipment for Information Systems, MSN Communications - \$113,841.25

Award of Contracts

1. Central Kitchen Addition, Arnell-West Inc. - \$374,739.00
2. Asbestos Abatement at Granger High:
 - a. Thermal West, Main Building & Auditorium - \$161,798.00
 - b. Eagle Environmental, Main Industrial Arts Area - \$189,912.00
 - c. Rocmont Industrial, Main Gym, Library and Cafeteria - \$184,426.30
3. AV Equipment at Granger High, Armstrong Academy and Hartvigsen School, Marshall Industries – \$1,152,251.00
4. Contracted Services to Move Relocatables, Wells House Movers & Intermountain House & Structure Movers - \$2,500 to \$3,500 per Unit

Personnel

1. Leaves of Absence
2. Employee Hires and Separations
3. Administrative Appointments Effective July 1, 2013

Karen Chatterton	Principal, Westbrook Elementary
Julie Lorentzon	Principal, South Kearns Elementary
Milicent Larsen-Fogarty	Principal, Bridger Elementary
Paulette McMillian	Principal, Cottonwood Elementary

Financial Reports

1. Purchase Order Summaries - \$4,302,539.40
2. Accounts Payable Pay Vouchers - \$33,624,423.90
3. Monthly Budget Report – April 2013

Resolution Authorizing the Issuance of General Obligation Bonds of the Board; and Providing for Related Matters

Foreign Exchange Agency Approval

2012-2013 School LAND Trust Revision

School LAND Trust Plans for 2013-2014

The Board discussed why the School LAND Trust Plans seemed to be written around the proficiency of a student when the direction the district is going is student growth. Dr. Bates said the focus is changing and it will take some time to make the shift. He reminded the Board of the District's Five-year Framework that emphasizes student growth rates. He is confident that in future years the focus on growth will be more evident. Several board members commented that while reading the plans and visiting schools it is good to see increased awareness on graduation rates at all levels.

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

Made by: Terry Bawden

Seconded by: Connie Burgess

Called for vote: President Gandy

Results: Carried Unanimously

INFORMATION ITEM

Kearns High School 9th Grade Reconfiguration

Maile Loo, Principal, and Heather Sonne, Assistant Principal, Kearns High, presented a proposal to move the school to a 9th through 12th grade configuration starting in the 2014-2015 school year. Principal Jared Reynolds, Jefferson Junior, and Principal Kandace Barber, Kearns Junior, assisted with the presentation. Also in attendance were Paul Hansen, High School Director and Annette Duzett Junior High Director, and members of School Community Councils and PTA from the schools involved.

Principal Loo reviewed the process that had taken place to complete information needed to bring the proposal to the Board. Starting in March and continuing through September 2012 the impacted schools had sent communications to the community, conducted a town-hall information meeting, and made surveys available to the community, parents, students and staffs.

The principals of all three schools supported the proposal. Seventy-one percent of junior high parents approved of the move with 25% against and 4% needing more information. Kearns High parents supported with 71% approval, 26% against and 3% needing more information. School Community Councils supported the proposal with Jefferson Council 100%, Kearns Junior Council 70%, and Kearns High 100%. The survey respondents showed 71.2% approval. Those indicating they needed more information were addressed individually.

The Board asked how the transition of the 9th grade students would be made. The principals outlined plans for parent preview meetings, 9th grade students coming in one day early to understand the building configuration, student body officer involvement and mentoring programs. Principal Loo indicated the school is teaming with Granger High in writing for a 21st Century Grant to create after school programs. She said that the benefits will include improved academics, equal opportunities in all grade levels, participation in clubs, leadership skills, and a smoother movement toward graduation. The biggest concern of parents was social involvement of 9th graders. She challenged the parents to take a more active role in their student's academics, extracurricular activities, and social patterns. The student will feel more supported and make better decisions. There will be challenges but she and her staff are committed to the success of this proposal. (Exhibit #13-57)

President Gandy asked if representatives from the schools would like to address the Board. The following participated.

Julie Evans, 5103 West Fuchsia Drive, West Jordan, Kearns High and Jefferson Junior SCC member indicated her support for the change. She said it would give the 9th grade students a better academic experience and help them realize the importance of the 9th grade credits. If the high school is responsible for the students graduating they should have 100% of the time, not 75%.

Brandy Marteliz, 4558 West 6090 South, PTA President, Kearns Junior, commented about the advantage it would give students involved in sports. Her son, a 9th grader, plays high school sports. She transports him but he still misses some class work at junior high to participate at a high school level.

Jennifer Anderson, 4440 West 5700 South, Kearns Junior SCC member. She had concerns about the transition of the students. She does not see the benefit of moving the students if it is just for sports. It is a positive to help students understand their importance of 9th grade credits.

Melonie Grossaint, 6224 West 3100 South, Kearns High SCC member, stated her concern was students do not take graduation credit seriously when they are going to school with 7th & 8th graders. She acknowledged parents are concerned about the social issues. She also understands the importance of sports for some students. Sports and academic opportunities for some students are often the incentive to keep them in school.

Principal Reynolds commented that the affect on students in a 7th grade 8th grade would be positive. Statistically 8th grade is a difficult year and without the 9th grade influence they would have more opportunities for development in academics and in intramural sports. Having a midlevel school (7th and 8th grade) would allow more flexibility in designing the programs to help them.

Principal Barber said she and her staff cared deeply about their 9th grade students and the importance of their graduating. She did trust that Kearns High and its administration would do the best they could to see that the students are mentored and the graduation rate will go up. She also would be happy to introduce intramurals into her school because it would be a confidence builder.

Each board member voiced support for the proposal and congratulated the schools' administrators for the process they have completed and the careful consideration of the change. Dr. Bates stated the proposal would return to the June board meeting as an Action Item.

ACTION ITEMS

All Action Items were presented by Doug Larson, Director, Policy and Legal Services. The first three policies (Fundraising, Donations, and School Support Organizations) were taken from one policy and expanded into three with updates and clearer wording. Mr. Larson reported he had reached out to the community and booster clubs and no one had questions regarding the policies being presented for approval.

1. Fundraising – Article V.C.11.
2. Donations – Article V.C.8.
3. School Support Organizations – V.C.12.

Motion: **I move we accept all of the three policies (Fundraising, Donations, and School Support Organizations) as a Second Reading.**

Made by: Sarah Meier
Seconded by: Connie Burgess

Called for vote: President Gandy
Results: Motion Passed Unanimously

4. Novels as Part of the Required Curriculum – Article X.A.10.

No modifications have been made on this policy since the First Reading. Mr. Larson clarified the purpose of the changes allowed for more patron input. It increased direction particularly for the elementary level and made the policy more robust.

Motion: **I move we approve the Novels Part of the Required Curriculum policy as a Second Reading.**

Made by: Julene Jolley
Seconded by: Connie Anderson

Called for vote: President Gandy
Results: Motion Passed Unanimously

REPORTS

Superintendent Bates reminded the Board of the last town-hall meeting of the year at Olympus High at 7 p.m. on May 14.

Mrs. Meier reported Nickie Roundtree, a 9th grade student at Bennion Junior, had received top honors from the Face to Faith program for her blog. Mrs. Meier had attended the Hartvigsen production and it was well done and enjoyable.

Mrs. Burgess commented on the excellent talent displayed at the annual High School and Junior High Art Shows.

Mrs. Anderson attended the Spring Lane Elementary spring concert and she enjoyed it very much. She thanked the Superintendent for supporting it by attending. She had been impressed with the Granite Connect Online High School and she was interested in the differences between it and Granite Peaks High. Mr. Fraser will arrange for a presentation for the

Board with more information on Granite Connect.

President Gandy commented it was a very busy but a rewarding month for the Board. They discussed high school graduation schedules.

Motion: **I move we adjourn.**

Made by: Julene Jolley

Seconded by: Connie Anderson

Called for vote: President Gandy

Results: Motion Passed Unanimously

The meeting adjourned at 8:30 p.m.