

# Granite School District

## Board of Education Meeting

### Study Session

May 26, 2015

A study session for Granite School District was held in Auditorium D at the Granite School District offices, 2500 South State Street, Salt Lake City, Utah. President Terry Bawden called the meeting to order at 5:06 p.m., those in attendance:

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

The following members of the administration were present:

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

Ben Horsley, Director, Communications Department, and Doug Larson, Policy & Legal Services, were in attendance. Merilynn Boekweg, Board Recorder, also attended.

### **STUDY SESSION:**

#### Streamlining Assessment

Dr. Bates opened the meeting with comments on a need for streamlining assessments and making them an informative tool for teachers.

Pre-assessments are given at the first of the year. They help a teacher to structure curriculum by seeing the needs and strengths of students in the class. It establishes a baseline for

determining student growth. The interim and post-assessments are given during the year and provide feedback on the effect of the instruction and help to determine if standards are being taught. The data collected inform the teacher, student, and parent as to the student's proficiency and growth.

The purpose for Professional Learning Communities (PLC) include jointly (as grade levels or teams) planning instruction and common formative assessments based on available data. They also plan interventions and methodologies based on assessment data.

Currently the State interim and final SAGE assessments exist for Math, Language Arts, and Science. All other subjects are not tested by the State. Granite Curriculum Department and teachers have created pre- and post-quarterly benchmarks for all courses.

SAGE assessments are adaptive. They assess student achievement and proficiency. The growth of each student is the indicator that is most telling. Dr. Bates said the district believes that the teachers of students in classes, grade levels and teams who are achieving the high or medium student achievement bands need relatively less assistance. Those who have students in the "low" achievement band need relatively more assistance.

The assessment proposal states that grade levels and teams who have Student Growth Percentile (SGP) in the high or medium student achievement bands can have flexibility and choice in the type and frequency of interim and pre-assessments. Those who have SGPs in the "low" achievement band will have relatively less flexibility. Non-tested subjects will also have similar options without the state adaptive testing.

The Assessment Options Synopsis was explained as follows:

- Grade levels and teams with above expected SGPs would have as few as two district assessments (three for non-tested subjects) per year
- Grade levels and teams with expected SGPs will have as few as three (four for non-tested subjects) per year
- Grade levels and teams with lower than expected SGPs will have as few as four district assessments (five for non-tested subjects) per year
- This is down from the current 7 + 1 for all

(Exhibit #15-38)

The Board discussed the proposed changes and where the focus on assessment should be. When they were asked by President Bawden, the Board gave support for the Superintendent to proceed.

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

Made by:            Dan Lofgren

Seconded by:      Gayleen Gandy

Called for vote:    President Bawden

Results:            Carried Unanimously

The Board adjourned at 6:40 p.m.