

Granite School District

Board of Education Meeting

Study Session

October 24, 2017

A study session for Granite School District convened 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 5:05 p.m., those in attendance:

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| Terry Bawden | President |
| Connie Anderson | Vice President |
| Connie Burgess | Board Member |
| Gayleen Gandy | Board Member |
| Carrie Johnson | Board Member |
| Karyn Winder | Board Member |

Todd Zenger, Board Member, was excused.

The following members of the administration were present:

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| Martin Bates | Superintendent |
| David Garrett | Business Administrator/Treasurer |
| Don Adams | Assistant Superintendent |
| Rick Anthony | Assistant Superintendent |
| John Welburn | Assistant Superintendent |

Linda Mariotti, Assistant Superintendent, was excused.

Ben Horsley, Communications Director, Doug Larson, Policy & Legal Services Director, and Kathy Goodfellow, Executive Secretary were in attendance.

PUBLIC HEARING:

To allow the public to present arguments in favor of and against the bond proposition. No public input was received. Public hearing closed.

STUDY SESSION:

Discuss Refunding of Series 2010 Bonds

In 2010 we issued a series of bonds that have an early call date. We now have an opportunity to borrow money at today's low interest rate to refund the Series 2010 bonds. We will use the new

funds borrowed to pay off obligations made with a higher interest rate. This will lower our debt services obligation by approximately \$2 million. Board members agreed to proceed.

HB239 – Juvenile Justice Amendments

During the 2017 legislative session HB239 was passed, resulting in the de-criminalization of many Class C misdemeanors, infractions, and status offenses (i.e. disruptive students, truancy) committed by students on school grounds. With the implementation of the bill, school districts are left to provide, and pay for, interventions for the offenses. Students must participate in diversionary programs prior to being referred to Juvenile Justice. These programs have the potential of costing Granite District \$2 million or more to implement. School districts across the state, including Granite, have been gathering documentation to present to repeal or amend the bill. Doug Larson and Ben Horsley have met with Representative Snow, the bill's sponsor, who has been very open to school district concerns. It is anticipated that a line item will be included on the State's budget to provide funding for districts to implement the programs.

The Board has the option of approving administrative penalties for these offenses. As some legal consequences have been taken away, there can still be school consequences. Principals have asked permission to cite students for fighting (disruptive behavior) and tobacco use, including vaping. It is proposed that for a tobacco violation, a fine be issued or the student be given the option to attend a District Quit course. The fine amounts increase for a second and any future offense thereafter. Forfeiture of participation in graduation or promotion activities will be a consequence for non-payment of the fines. A similar proposal for students receiving a fighting violation was explained. (Exhibit #1811) This involves a new board policy which will be considered as a first reading during the November board meeting. In regards to truancy, schools use truancy tickets and the practice of issuing truancy tickets has been reviewed with principals.

Superintendent Discussion regarding Joint Legislative Committee

The Joint Legislative Committee consists of board members and superintendents across the state with the purpose of putting together legislative proposals or priorities. The priorities are given to the executive board of the Utah School Boards Association, who then vote whether to approve the priorities or not. Direction is given on how to work through the legislative process for all education bills.

Granite District is in a unique situation in that we have a large number of legislators representing various areas of our district. We work with and build relationships with our legislators throughout the year. The Communication Office will send board members the names of senators and representatives who represent their individual precincts. Board members will make contact to introduce themselves.

Bond Update

Salt Lake County mailed 152,000 ballots last week. As of yesterday, October 23, approximately

1,800 have been returned. Mr. Horsley gave each board member a list of registered voters who live in their precinct, who are likely to support the bond, and who have not yet returned their ballot. President Bawden suggested board members make calls to the individuals listed urging them to vote and to answer any questions they may have regarding the bond.

Motion: **I move we adjourn.**

Made by: Gayleen Gandy

Seconded by: Carrie Johnson

Called for vote: President Bawden

Results: Passed Unanimously

Meeting adjourned 6:25 p.m.