

Granite School District
Board of Education Meeting
January 8, 2019

A meeting for the Board of Education of Granite School District convened in the Boardroom at the Granite Education Center, 2500 South State Street, Salt Lake City, Utah. President Terry Bawden called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m., those in attendance:

Terry Bawden	President
Connie Anderson	Vice President
Connie Burgess	Board Member
Gayleen Gandy	Board Member
Karyn Winder	Board Member
Todd Zenger	Board Member

The following members of the administration were present:

Martin Bates	Superintendent
David Garrett	Business Administrator
Don Adams	Assistant Superintendent
Rick Anthony	Assistant Superintendent
Linda Mariotti	Assistant Superintendent
John Welburn	Assistant Superintendent

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

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS

Board Member Oath of Office

Sherrie Swensen, Salt Lake County Elections Clerk, administered the Oath of Office to Nicole McDermott, newly elected Board of Education member, as well as re-elected members: Terry Bawden, Connie Burgess, Gayleen Gandy and Karyn Winder.

President Bawden offered congratulations. Nicole McDermott took her place at the board table and guests of elected board members were introduced.

Open Meetings Review

Doug Larson reviewed the Open and Public Meetings Act, including the purpose of open and closed meetings and what can occur and be discussed in each. Requirements for notices of meetings, minutes and recordings of meetings were also reviewed. This completes the requirements of the annual Open Meetings training. (Exhibit #1927)

Board Ethics

Doug Larson led the board through a review of Article II.C., Board Commitments & Ethics.

Superintendent Report

Superintendent Bates shared a petition, which was received this afternoon, asking us not to close Oquirrh Hills Elementary.

President Bawden voiced the need for an Executive Session to discuss Character and Competence.

Motion: I move we adjourn to an Executive Session to discuss Character and Competence.

Made by: Connie Burgess
Seconded by: Nicole McDermott

Called for voice vote: President Bawden

<u>Results:</u>	<u>For:</u>	<u>Against:</u>
	Todd Zenger	
	Gayleen Gandy	
	Connie Anderson	
	Terry Bawden	
	Connie Burgess	
	Karyn Winder	
	Nicole McDermott	

The meeting adjourned and the board convened an Executive Session in B217.

GENERAL BOARD MEETING

The Granite School District Board of Education reconvened at 7:00 p.m. in the Boardroom. President Terry Bawden welcomed all in attendance for this session and called for a roll call of board members; all board members were present. Superintendent Bates introduced those representing organizations:

Ian Collison	Region V PTA
Kimberly Swensen	Region V PTA
Julianne Hamblin	GAEOP
Leanne Helbling	GAEOP
Diane Roberts	GAEOP
Rocky Lambourne	GASA
Michael McDonough	GEA
Cindy Formeller	GEF
Carrie Johnson	GEF
Greg Burrow	GESPA
Jessica McClintic	GESPA
Sarah Timpson	Middle Manager
Josh Moulton	Child Nutrition
Craig Yuill	Child Nutrition

Jon Adams, School Accountability Services Director, introduced administrators attending by assignment:

Kyle Anderson	Principal, Rosecrest Elementary
Brett Bawden	Principal, Magna Elementary
Joan Bramble	Principal, Farnsworth Elementary
Amber Clayton	Principal, Granger Elementary
Teri Daynes	Principal, Fox Hills Elementary
Cecilia Jabakumar	Principal, Fremont Elementary
Rocky Lambourne	Principal, Bonneville Junior
Maile Loo	Principal, Kearns High
Megan Madsen	Principal, Oquirrh Hills Elementary
Allesen Peck	Principal, Gourley Elementary
Doug Wagstaff	Principal, Olympus Junior
Deb Woolley	Principal, Hillsdale Elementary
Kip Carlsen	Assist Prin, Jefferson Junior
Brett Hansen	Assist Prin, Kearns High
Cory Martin	Assist Prin, Hunter High
Brian Murray	Assist Prin, Taylorsville High
Christine Straatman	Assist Prin, Skyline High

Pledge of Allegiance: Brett Bawden

Reverence: A choir from Rosecrest Elementary performed two musical numbers.

ACTION ITEM

Election of Board Leadership

Motion: I move that we elect Karyn Winder as board president.

Made by: Gayleen Gandy

Seconded by: Connie Anderson

Called for vote: President Bawden

Results: Motion Passed Unanimously

Motion: I motion to elect Connie Burgess as the board vice president.

Made by: Nicole McDermott

Seconded by: Gayleen Gandy

Called for vote: President Bawden

Results: Motion Passed Unanimously

Terry Bawden congratulated new board leadership.

President Winder expressed her thanks. She welcomed Scout Troop 636 in attendance for a merit badge.

MAYOR PARTICIPATION –

Senator Karen Mayne mentioned three items: First, scholarships. With the help of Workers Comp and AFL CIO, scholarships have been awarded in the past and she anticipates awarding the scholarships again this year. Second, she has proposed legislation to bring money into targeted areas to prevent gang violence. She has been meeting with the State Board of Education to develop a better way to distribute the funds.

Third, she has great concern about what is happening with Oquirrh Hills Elementary. She shared a letter (Exhibit #1928) regarding additional legislation needed to clarify the current Turnaround legislation. She hopes that if something like this happens again, the process will be different, that words might be carefully chosen about communities and that we'll have a better approach to the situation. Please make the relocation of the children as comfortable as possible.

Kearns Mayor Kelly Bush spoke about transparency and she questioned if the board followed proper procedures in the law for closing Oquirrh Hills. She asked why community officials were not notified of the problems at the school before December. The community is paying the cost in closing the school.

CONSENT ITEMS

Minutes, December 4, 2018

Purchase:

1. Holding & Proofing Cabinets, Food Services, 11400inc – \$64,500.00

Award of Contract:

1. Hunter High Wing Addition, Bud Mahas Construction – \$13,585,000.00

Change Order:

1. Architectural Services, Remodel GEC 5th Floor, PGA&W Architects – \$81,415.00

Personnel:

1. Leaves of Absence
2. Employee Hires and Separations

Financial Reports:

1. Purchase Order Summary – \$4,773,615.48
2. Accounts Payable Pay Vouchers – \$42,259,470.63
3. Principals' Cash Report – November 2018
4. Monthly Budget Reports – November & December 2018

LAND Trust Amendments

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

Made by: Gayleen Gandy
Seconded by: Terry Bawden
Called for vote: President Winder
Results: Motion Passed Unanimously

INFORMATION ITEM

Inland Port

Benjamin Hart from the Governor's Commission of Economic Development discussed Utah's Inland Port. He discussed the background of the Inland Port and what the Inland Port is. Most of the Inland Port area falls in Salt Lake District but there is a small portion in Granite District boundaries. There will be a tax differential (or tax increment) in place. Mr. Hart asked the board to review the tax differential policy and then give him feedback and input regarding the policy. (Exhibits #1929 & 1930)

ACTION ITEMS

Article V.C.1. Prohibition of Discrimination, Harassment & Retaliation

Doug Larson reviewed the policy which was proposed last month. He has received input from individual teachers and from administrators. There has not been any additional information received from the Office of Civil Rights. Karyn Winder brought attention to a needed grammar correction in section C.3.

Motion: I move we approve the Article V.C.1. Prohibition of Discrimination, Harassment & Retaliation policy as a second reading.

Made by: Gayleen Gandy
Seconded by: Connie Anderson
Called for vote: President Winder
Connie Burgess, absent
Results: Motion Passed

Oquirrh Hills Elementary Plan

Rick Anthony presented information on Turnaround Legislation and Turnaround Consequences. Notice was received in October 2018 for schools exiting designation, those receiving an extension and those receiving consequences. Mr. Anthony reviewed the process of the Independent Turnaround Experts. Of the ten Granite District schools identified as Turnaround in 2015, eight schools chose Education Direction as their independent provider, two schools chose Catapult Learning. Compensation was provided through the Utah State Board of Education. After working with the providers for three years, eight schools increased in student achievement (in Math, Language Arts, and Science), enough to exit Turnaround status. One school improved enough to receive a two-year extension and one school, Oquirrh Hills, decreased in achievement. Mr. Anthony shared statistics on student growth and proficiency for all ten Turnaround schools. Granite District fully expected that all ten schools would improve. The consequences under

Utah State Law and Utah Board of Education Rule, were reviewed. The administration recommended changing the boundaries of surrounding elementary schools to absorb the Oquirrh Hills student population effectively closing the school. Rational for recommendations include the surrounding schools are higher performing and are challenged by low enrollment. Changing just boundaries without a school closure would disrupt families in surrounding schools and the schools would continue to have small school enrollment challenges. Parent concerns to address include special classes, busing, the community center and Title 1 Programs. Staff will be transferred to other schools.

Granite District met the statutory communication requirements, including notice requirements for school closure or boundary change. There have been barriers in communications and understanding with the community as a whole. The administration will work diligently to ensure a smooth transition, address logistical issues and develop and use a communication plan.

South Kearns Elementary is scheduled for a re-build. A second recommendation is to use the Oquirrh Hills building site while South Kearns is being rebuilt. Additionally, it is recommended to leave the special classes at Oquirrh Hills. (Exhibit #1931)

Board members asked if the School Community Council (SCC) was involved in the process. The SCC meeting minutes have been reviewed to verify Turnaround was discussed, which it was numerous times. Not every SCC is the same, some are more involved than others. This is the same with the PTA. We are not sure how many parents were involved in the meetings. Clarification was asked about the need to take action at this time; the law does not give us an opportunity to ask for an extension.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Paula Larsen, 5134 S 4180 W., representing the Kearns Community Council. She suggests we change teachers, administrators, and teaching programs numerous times if needed before closing the building. Parents need to be involved with their kids, and they are, but they look to schools to teach academics. Granite has failed Oquirrh Hills children. The children are devastated with the news. This has disrupted families, friends, and the entire community. The children deserve more.

Sherry Talbert, 5144 S 4180 W. She is a volunteer at Oquirrh Hills and Fox Hills. Morale at Oquirrh Hills is very low. There are many volunteers ready to help so the kids can achieve.

Tony Talbert, 5144 S 4180 W. He understands there is a deadline but feels as the decision has already been made. Children need more help, volunteers are needed.

Board discussion: Thanked so many for attending the meeting. Unfortunately, our hands are tied. We are concerned about the children and want to do what is best for the children. The Board is operating under a timeline established by the State Board of Education. The State Board of Education has authority to withhold funds from local boards to enforce compliance with State Board direction.

Motion: **I move we close Oquirrh Hills Elementary and move those students to other schools.**

Made by: Terry Bawden
Seconded by: Gayleen Gandy

Terry Bawden added that we will make every effort to help the students make the transition. This move is dictated by state law. Gayleen Gandy added that this is the best choice we have as the other consequences are worse.

Called for vote: President Winder
Results: For: Against: Absent:
 Gayleen Gandy Nicole McDermott Connie Burgess
 Connie Anderson Todd Zenger
 Terry Bawden
 Karyn Winder

Results: Motion Passed

SUPERINTENDENT AND BOARD REPORTS

Superintendent Bates: The calendar survey for the 2020-21 school year is available. The school boards (USBA) conference begins Thursday evening. Next Tuesday there will be a Town Hall at Hunter High, 7:00 p.m.

Gayleen Gandy: The Master Board's award is available through USBA. This is not a monetary award but a recognition that time has been spent in learning more about being a board member. She urged board members to look into this award. The Legislative Day on the Hill and the District Day on the Hill are both coming up soon.

Connie Anderson: She mentioned an article in the South Salt Lake Journal on proficiency-based grading. She appreciated receiving Christmas cards from schools. She mentioned a Tribune article on Math, which spotlighted a Granite District teacher.

Nicole McDermott: Thanked everyone for welcoming her to the board. Thanked Carrie for a phenomenal job as the previous board member representing the area.

Terry Bawden: Regarding Oquirrh Hills, we want to make sure our comments do not add to the stigma of poor kids or poor area.

Karyn Winder: Children of Oquirrh Hills did not fail, we failed the kids at Oquirrh Hills. She is saddened that the kids are labeled. She appreciates the community leaders. Critical feedback is needed for improvement. We will examine the level of communications and our level of transparency. We have to dig deep and figure out what went wrong. She applauds the Kearns community. Moving forward, she invites board members to ponder future communications and action.

Motion: I move we adjourn.

Made by: Gayleen Gandy
Seconded by: Terry Bawden

Called for vote: President Winder
Results: Motion Passed Unanimously

Meeting adjourned at 8:55 p.m.