

Granite School District
Board of Education Meeting
October 1, 2019

A meeting of 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 Karyn Winder called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m., those in attendance:

Karyn Winder	President
Connie Burgess	Vice President
Connie Anderson	Board Member
Terry Bawden	Board Member
Nicole McDermott	Board Member
Todd Zenger	Board Member

Gayleen Gandy, board member, arrived shortly after introductions.

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.

Representative Karen Kwan and Senator Kathleen Reibe were recognized in the audience.

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS

Staffing Report

Donnette McNeill-Waters, Human Resources Director, gave the teacher staffing report for the 2019-20 school year. We have filled 247 elementary and preschool openings and 175 secondary openings. Recruiting occurred in state (308) and out of state (114). 221 of Granite's new hires come with teaching experience, 248 have bachelors degrees, 142 with masters degrees and 7 with doctorate degrees. We also have 25 interns who are working toward a bachelors degree. New hires from the ARL program numbered 53 this year. Many of our new hires come with ESL endorsements and foreign language fluency. (Exhibit #2010) Recruiting efforts will begin this month and it is anticipated that a number of open contracts will be offered this year.

Professional Learning "Granite Con" Report

Rick Anthony compared the August pre-student return professional learning occurring for the past 3 years. This year a school delivered approach (principal conducted, district supported) occurred and, based on survey responses, it was well received. Respondents indicated they

gained a deeper understanding and increased application of the Granite Way, they felt the school format best met their needs, they felt more motivated and energized, and overall the school delivered format was much preferred. Next year we will again use a school delivery format. Professional learning is also scheduled throughout the year through practice, coaching, and structured workshops. A proposed schedule of professional learning days was explained and more information will be coming as the school calendars are developed and presented next month. (Exhibit #2011)

Population Analysis Committee Open House Report

Steve Hogan, Planning & Boundaries Director, reminded board members of the population analysis/boundary open houses held mid-September at Roosevelt, Westbrook, Jackling and Sandburg elementary schools. Mr. Hogan explained a refinement in the proposal for the Riverfront/Roosevelt K-5 school involving the approximately 25 6th grade students coming from Granger and Rolling Meadows. It is proposed they feed into Granite Park Junior but revert to Valley Junior when/if Valley Junior adds the 6th grade. (Exhibit #2012)

Board members asked what information is originally published in a boundary study. Mr. Hogan explained that as a study progresses, options, suggestions, or refinements are made. Regarding the 2-year Bangerter South study, the possible Westbrook closure conversation began about 1 year into the study. Concerning special education classes, they are moved as infrequently as possible and the special education department will be involved in studying the best location for those classes if Westbrook closes.

Mr. Hogan will present the Population Analysis Committee recommendations in November.

Meeting adjourned for a dinner break.

GENERAL BOARD MEETING

The Granite School District Board of Education reconvened at 7:00 p.m. in the Boardroom. President Karyn Winder 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:

Kari Montoya	Region V PTA
Jackie Hale	GAEOP
Leanne Helbling	GAEOP
Diana Pennington	GAEOP
Doug Johnson	GASA
Michele Jones	GEA
Michael McDonough	GEA
Carrie Johnson	GEF
Greg Burrow	GESPA
Russ Stauffer	Middle Manager
Joy Ashley	Child Nutrition
Deborah Hansen	Child Nutrition

Danny Stirland, School Leadership & Improvement Services Director, introduced administrators attending by assignment:

David Dunn	Principal, Granger High
Trent Hendricks	Principal, Churchill Junior
Kayla MacKay	Principal, Cottonwood Elementary
Jane McClure	Principal, Bennion Elementary
Rich Nielsen	Principal, Valley Junior
KariLee Pate	Principal, Beehive Elementary
Ben Peters	Principal, Driggs Elementary
Janice Wayman	Principal, Hartvigsen School
Josh Adams	Assist Prin, Crestview & Fremont Elems
Brittney Ambrose	Assist Prin, Gourley & West Kearns Elems
Kirby Bauer	Assist Prin, Bonneville Junior
Jake Brown	Assist Prin, Cyprus High
Ave Neria	Assist Prin, Hillside Elementary
Jim Rice	Assist Prin, Bennion Junior
Heather Sonne	Assist Prin, Cottonwood High
Erin Tanner	Assist Prin, Hunter High
Kimberly Naanes	Intern Assist, Beehive & Wright Elems
Sarah Thomas	Intern Assist, Eisenhower Junior
Melissa Trujillo	Intern Assist, Pioneer & Westbrook Elems

Pledge of Allegiance: Jake Brown

Reverence: Magna Elementary Choir

RECOGNITION

Principals' Month

October has been designated as National Principals' Month. Ben Horsley introduced a short video which celebrated Granite's principals.

MAYOR PARTICIPATION – Kristie Overson, Mayor of Taylorsville City, thanked the superintendent for hosting the recent Taylorsville Town Hall meeting, and she expressed thanks for the Westbrook Elementary community meeting. Mayor Overson said that just as the school district celebrates students academically, the city celebrates students for their involvement in the community. She mentioned the construction scheduled for the 6200 South Bangerter/Dixie Drive intersection which will involve road closures, October 16-23, 2019.

CITIZEN PARTICIPATION – see below

CONSENT ITEMS

Minutes, September 3 & 24, 2019

Purchases:

1. Trucks, Maintenance Department, Young Automotive Chevrolet – \$56,023.00
2. Brake Lathes, CTE Department, Mohawk Resources Ltd. – \$54,637.20

Award of Contracts:

1. Deaf Interpretation Services, Utah Schools for the Deaf & Blind – \$59,333.61
2. Transportation GPS System, Synovia Solutions, Inc. – \$252,742.00

Change Orders:

1. Hunter High Addition, Bud Mahas Construction – \$85,511.49

Personnel:

1. Leave of Absence
2. Employee Hires and Separations

Financial Reports:

1. Purchase Order Summary – \$5,164,031.48
2. Accounts Payable Pay Vouchers – \$43,551,183.03
3. Principals' Cash Report – August 2019
4. Monthly Budget Report – August 2019

LAND Trust Amendments

2020 Graduation Schedule

Bond Funding for Rosecrest Elementary Remodel Project

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

Made by: Nicole McDermott

Seconded by: Connie Anderson

Called for vote: President Winder

Results: Motion Passed Unanimously

ACTION ITEM

Olympus Network Grade Reconfiguration

John Welburn and the principals from the Olympus network: Steve Perschon (Olympus High), Josh LeRoy (Olympus Junior), Wes Cutler (Evergreen Junior), Kayla MacKay (Cottonwood El), Nichole Higgins (Penn), Kyle Anderson (Rosecrest), Teri Cooper (Crestview), Ann Kane (Mill Creek) and Ben Peters (Driggs), reviewed the information presented in September, highlighting the pros and cons from their school community councils regarding reconfiguration. (Exhibit #2013)

CITIZEN PARTICIPATION

Susan Astle, 2044 E Evergreen Ave. She is in support of reconfiguration but hopes it isn't being rushed and hopes that the reasons we are considering the change is because it is a better product for our students. Evergreen has "Eagle time" a time when students get extra help from teachers and she hopes it can continue at the high school.

Dallin Soukup, 2394 E Haven Lane. He is an 8th grade student at Olympus Junior. He takes half of his classes at the junior high and half at the high school. It is tricky to go between the two schools. He knows of many 9th grade students who take classes at the high school and it would be easier if they could attend one school. He has asked his friends about attending the high school and almost all want to move to the high school next fall. Grades start counting for college admission in the 9th grade so it makes sense to have 9th grade in the high school.

Becky Pettit, 2329 E Gregson Ave. She is in favor of the move. She knows this is a highly emotional topic and she is convinced that it is a good thing. She has been involved with community councils and PTAs for 12 years. Opposing views can be addressed. The model of K-5, 6-8 gives the schools opportunity to be even better than what they are now.

Mary Ann Fuhriman, 2911 S LaRue Lane. She is concerned with the lack of community involvement and engagement in this process. Community building is essential. Parents should be given ways to get involved. It would have been more appropriate to build consensus with the idea. We need to work harder to reflect those we serve. She questioned the survey coming out prior to community council elections. Moving forward she asks that we place a higher value in involving the community. She will do what she can to make this a positive process.

Melissa Stringham, 1917 E 3780 S. Her children attend elementary, junior and senior high schools and she serves on community councils in three schools. Pros and cons have been discussed and she has personally discussed the issue with many people. There are more opportunities available both at the junior highs for 6th graders and at the senior high for 9th graders. She has full confidence in the principals to make the transition as smooth as possible. She urges the board to make the change sooner rather than later, don't allow the division in the community to continue.

Valerie Pingree, 1920 E Longview Drive. She has four children in various grades. She thanked all those who have attended meetings and their role in community engagement. She admires other opinions. As she has talked with her kids about the change and they are all in favor and excited about the possibilities of reconfiguration. She said it's not fair to say that patrons have been blind-sided because information has been available for everyone. All school community council meeting schedules, agenda and notes are posted online. She thanked school administrators for researching and working on this proposal. She strongly urges the board to make the decision.

Resulting from a phone call she received, President Winder clarified the process of items on board meeting agendas. Last month (September), reconfiguration was listed as an Information Item. No board action can legally take place on Information Items. When an item is listed as an Action Item (as reconfiguration is on this agenda), then the board can take action.

Board comments:

Connie Anderson thanked principals for their work, it is clear they have spent time researching this issue. In her teaching experience at 6-8 and 9-12 schools, she has seen firsthand the benefits of this model. It is the right thing to do. She has read every email received from both sides. She appreciates the emails. The Olympus school building can be ready, the junior highs are ready.

She does feel comfortable with the change for next year. The community needs to reach out and heal.

Terry Bawden: He thanked the educators for their efforts and community members who have worked both for and against the reconfiguration.

Motion: I make a motion that we approve reconfiguration for the Olympus Network K-5, 6-8, 9-12 for 2020-2021.

Made by: Terry Bawden
Seconded by: Gayleen Gandy

Further comments:

Gayleen Gandy: The board tasked the community councils to reach out to their communities and she appreciates all their work. This is not the first network to reconfigure, we know it is successful.

Nicole McDermott: She appreciates the emails and those individuals who have spoken up for the underserved population. With the research she has done, this is the best way to reach that population.

Connie Burgess: Thanked all in attendance and for the informative emails. She understands that some have not felt involved in the process and she is sympathetic to those feelings. She urges communities to come together.

Todd Zenger: Thanked everyone who has been involved in the process. It was not his intent to offend anyone and not to impede progress. His priority is to do what is best for the children. We all need to unify and go forward and do the best we can for the children in the district.

Karyn Winder: Read all emails from both sides. There is value in getting opinions from all sides and people should know they have been heard. It is difficult to make choices when not everyone will be happy. This has been a long process and with a lot of hard work. This will open up great opportunities for the students.

Called for vote: President Winder
Results: Motion Passed Unanimously

SUPERINTENDENT AND BOARD REPORTS

Superintendent Bates: There will be an informational meeting tomorrow at 7:00 p.m. at Kennedy Junior about moving 6th graders to the school. Next Tuesday will be the Kearns Town Hall and USBA meetings will be on Thursday.

Terry Bawden: He has been visiting faculty meetings. Cyprus High recently adopted a no cell phone policy. He asked administration to follow-through on that policy and report back.

Nicole McDermott: She was at the Foundation Shop-a-Thon, it was an amazing experience. She has been able to attend boundary open houses and the Kearns reconfiguration meeting, she hopes to have further community conversations about tough issues.

Karyn Winder: The Shop-a-Thon benefited 425 kids. The kids were so excited. She thanked Discover for sponsoring the event financially and for providing shopping buddies for all the kids. Boundary studies will be discussed next month which will involve some tough decisions. She thanked board members for their commitment and for being involved.

Motion: **I move we adjourn.**

Made by: Gayleen Gandy

Seconded by: Nicole McDermott

Called for vote: President Winder

Results: Motion Passed Unanimously

Meeting adjourned at 8:52 p.m.