

Granite School District
Board of Education Meeting
December 3, 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 5:30 p.m., those in attendance:

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

Nicole McDermott and Gayleen Gandy, board members, arrived shortly following introductions.

The following members of the administration were present:

Martin Bates	Superintendent
David Garrett	Business Administrator
Don Adams	Assistant Superintendent
Rick Anthony	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.

President Winder explained the process for the public hearing scheduled for the 7:00 p.m. meeting. She stated that anyone wishing to speak during the hearings must sign up in advance, sign-up sheets are in the lobby.

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS

Bond Sale Report

David Garrett introduced Dale Okerlund, Granite's financial advisor, who detailed the sale of \$100 million in bonds on November 19, 2019. The successful bid came from Bank of America Merrill Lynch with a true interest cost (TCI) of 1.349263 percent which is very advantageous for Granite District. He reminded board members that bond investors are also stakeholders in the district and trust the board to make wise fiscal decisions. (Exhibit #2021)

Superintendent Bates stated the need for an Executive Session to discuss litigation.

Motion: **I move we adjourn to an Executive Session to discuss litigation.**

Made by: Nicole McDermott

Seconded by: Connie Anderson

Called for voice vote: President Winder

Results:

For:

Connie Anderson
Terry Bawden
Connie Burgess
Gayleen Gandy
Nicole McDermott
Todd Zenger
Karyn Winder

Against:

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

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.

President Winder explained the process for the public hearing. She stated that anyone wishing to speak during the hearings, must sign up in advance, sign-up sheets are in the lobby.

President Winder called for a roll call of board members; all board members were present. Superintendent Bates introduced those representing organizations:

Carrie Johnson	Region V PTA
Teresa Himmelberger	GAEOP
Leanne Helbling	GAEOP
Sheyla Holt	GAEOP
Dawn Hauser	GASA
Monica Thayer	GASA
Michael McDonough	GEA
Kerry Bishop	GEA
Carrie Johnson	GEF
Greg Burrows	GESPA
Sarah Timpson	Middle Manager
Brigette Harper	Child Nutrition
September Hogan	Child Nutrition

Jon Adams, School Leadership & Improvement Services Director, introduced administrators attending by assignment:

Joan Bramble	Principal, Farnsworth Elementary
Teri Ann Cooper	Principal, Crestview Elementary
David Gomez	Principal, Stansbury Elementary
Dawn Hauser	Principal, Matheson Junior
Crista Holt	Principal, Westbrook Elementary
David Holt	Principal, Monroe Elementary
Robyn Roper	Principal, Jackling Elementary
Monica Thayer	Principal, Diamond Ridge Elementary
Jeffery Walton	Principal, West Valley Elementary

Jennifer Jacobson	Assist Prin, Valley Junior
Jeff Jackson	Assist Prin, Granger High
Jennifer Johnson	Assist Prin, Kearns High
Mike Miller	Assist Prin, Cottonwood High
Melanie Roybal	Assist Prin, West Kearns Elementary
David Everett	Intern Assist, Hunter Junior
April Guardado	Intern Assist, West Lake Junior
Jason Kemble	Administrator, GAPP

Pledge of Allegiance: David Gomez

Reverence: Crestview Elementary Choir performed several numbers from the school play of Mary Poppins.

President Winder again reminded those in attendance of the process for the public hearing. She stated that anyone wishing to speak during the hearings must sign up in advance, sign-up sheets are in the lobby.

President Winder recognized Taylorsville City Mayor Overson in attendance.

MAYOR PARTICIPATION – none

CITIZEN PARTICIPATION – see below

CONSENT ITEMS

Minutes, November 12, 2019

Purchases:

1. School Buses, Bryson Sales & Services – \$1,295,174.00
2. Microsoft EES Licenses, PCM/Enpointe – \$476,993.33
3. Language Labs, Steven's Learning Systems, Inc – \$242,550.00

Award of Contracts:

1. Discovery Software Support, Education Solutions Development – \$91,211.00
2. Security Upgrade, Beehive Elementary, Judd Construction – \$510,047.84
3. Architectural Services, Granite Park Remodel, MHTN Architects – \$180,500.00
4. Employee Benefits & Insurance Consulting Services, GBS Benefits

Change Order:

1. Roosevelt Elementary Rebuild Project, Jacobsen Construction – \$55,612.32

Personnel:

1. Leaves of Absence
2. Employee Hires and Separations

Financial Reports:

1. Purchase Order Summary – \$15,640,168.47
2. Accounts Payable Pay Vouchers – \$22,261,838.02
3. Monthly Budget Report – September & October 2019

Utah Grants Application

LAND Trust Amendments

Dominion Energy Easement, NE Corner Hunter High Athletic Field

Motion: I move that we accept the Consent Agenda with one amendment on page 8, to strike the first sentence in the 4th paragraph.

Made by: Nicole McDermott

Seconded by: Connie Anderson

Discussion: Two years ago, the board asked that wherever possible, school boundaries should avoid straddling Bangerter Highway. This study was a result of that request as well as addressing small school concerns.

Called for vote: President Winder

Results: Motion Passed Unanimously

BOARD HEARINGS/ACTION

President Winder explained the process of the three public hearings, one for each boundary study. She stated that anyone wishing to speak during the hearings must sign up in advance, sign-up sheets are in the lobby.

Steve Hogan, Planning & Boundaries Director, reviewed the process of a population analysis study. He mentioned the community outreach that occurred in 2019 regarding the three studies. Mr. Hogan discussed what happens to a school site when a school closure occurs. He then reminded board members of the concerns surrounding small schools. (Exhibit #2022)

Population Analysis Committee Recommendation for Jackling/Sandburg/Hunter

Mr. Hogan explained the study, including the close Jackling option and the close Sandburg option. The Population Analysis Committee (PAC) has looked at both options very carefully. Sandburg Elementary has a current enrollment of 245 and a Facility Condition Index (FCI) of 8. Jackling has a current enrollment of 350 and an FCI score of 61 (with 100 being the best). The PAC recommends the closure of Sandburg Elementary.

HEARING

The board convened a hearing to discuss the Population Analysis Committee Recommendation for Jackling/Sandburg/Hunter.

CITIZEN PARTICIPATION

Ryan Reneer, 3646 S Chippewa Rd. His family lives in the Jackling boundaries but has chosen to attend Sandburg. Reasons for leaving Jackling included being treated poorly when trying to register at Jackling. Jackling did not have an inviting atmosphere. Sandburg was been very welcoming and has been a very positive experience for his child. He voted in favor of the bond

to rebuild Sandburg and feels he has not received a satisfactory answer as to why this change. He will look elsewhere to send his child.

Hearing was closed.

Motion: I move we accept the PAC recommendation to close Sandburg, that we also keep it on the list to consider rebuild.

Made by: Connie Burgess

Seconded by: Gayleen Gandy

Board Discussion: The biggest influence is the question of why disrupt 30% more students and move them to a building with a significantly lower FCI score. Board members thanked the PAC for their efforts. Sandburg will stay on the rebuild list and will come up for discussion 10-15 years from now. A future board will need to make that decision at that time. As demographics in an area change, tough decisions are required. The population will look different in 10-15 years so it will be evaluated at that time. School closure is one of the most difficult things a board does. Closure is emotional, but it makes sense to move the kids to a better facility.

Called for vote: President Winder

Results: Motion Passed Unanimously

Population Analysis Committee Recommendation for Bangerter Corridor South Study

Mr. Hogan mentioned the focus areas of this study have been to avoid school boundaries straddling Bangerter wherever possible and also to address small school concerns. The PAC looked at potential boundary changes. The Westbrook population is declining, down 200 students over the past few years. Mr. Hogan shared information from UDOT about a future pedestrian bridge across 6200 South leading to the SE corner of the Fox Hills property. Students living more than 1.5 miles away from their school will be bused. Mr. Hogan mentioned a visit he had with the director of the Valley Mental Health facility near the planned pedestrian bridge. He also talked with the West Jordan police department about the number of calls to the facility. The police department reported that they have not had significantly more calls to the facility compared to other calls in the area. The PAC recommends the closure of Westbrook Elementary.

HEARING

The board convened a hearing to discuss the Population Analysis Committee Recommendation for Bangerter Corridor South.

CITIZEN PARTICIPATION

Karen Haslam, 5864 Borax Circle, she is a teacher at Westbrook Elementary. It's sad to break up a faculty that works so well together. She grew up near a school which was closed and it affected the entire neighborhood. There are at least 10 other schools in the district that are small schools with 3 of those schools on the rebuild list. To be fiscally responsible, will the board consider them for closure? We need to look at the whole impact for the taxpayers of the district.

Jason DeVaney, 5806 S 3230 W. He has a major concern about what will happen with the property. What about the teachers and the programs at that school, will those programs be moved?

Kaleb Knobel, 6488 Westbrook Drive. He asks that we leave Westbrook alone for at least a year for a chance for more parent feedback. The 6th grade reconfiguration survey has been sent. Please give parents an opportunity to share their desires about crossing Bangerter. The Westbrook area is an aging neighborhood. These homes become great starting homes. There are specialty programs at Westbrook, what will happen to them? If the closure goes go through, he asked for increased busing for students east of Bangerter, crossing 6200 South.

Ranleigh Johnson, 4585 W 5295 S. Consensus is important. Communication is lacking. Teachers do not feel they are being represented. He asked that we build not only a learning empire of buildings and sound economics, but also build minds and communities.

Steve Swasey, 6634 S Gold Medal Drive, a parent of a Westbrook Elementary student. The study was done in a confusing manner. Messages have not been clearly given to the board. No parent from Westbrook ever suggested closing the school. There will be questions about what happens with the Westbrook property if the school closes. He would like to see more green space or a park where the community can gather. There is a cultural mix at Westbrook and the kids love it. He asks what success looks like and stated that you can't transplant culture through numbers.

Hearing was closed.

Motion: I move we accept the PAC recommendation to close Westbrook Elementary.

Made by: Terry Bawden
Seconded by: Gayleen Gandy

Board discussion: A question was asked about Beehive kids going to South Kearns. Mr. Hogan reported that 5400 South and railroad tracks prevents safe walking routes. Asking about moving kids out of West Kearns or Gourley to attend South Kearns. With the closure of Oquirrh Hills last year, students were moved into West Kearns and Gourley. This helped resolved the small school issues in those two schools. Safe walking routes are critical and there are great concerns for elementary kids crossing Bangerter. Small school issues become more and more difficult as we have to do what is best for our kids. It's hard to split up a faculty. This move isn't due to teachers or administrators not doing their jobs, or students not achieving. This is the best thing for the kids. Board members encouraged everyone to get involved with their new school. School closure can create anger. You can choose to hold angry feelings or choose to set those feelings aside and realize that this change is in the best interest of kids. They thanked Taylorsville City for their interest and willingness to provide crossing guards and help students where they can. The board thanked those who offered comments. Children are resilient. Change is disruptive but it also brings opportunity.

Called for vote: President Winder
Results: Motion Passed Unanimously

Population Analysis Committee Recommendation for Roosevelt/Riverfront

Mr. Hogan reminded the board that the school will open Fall 2020. The PAC recommends that the east side of the current Roosevelt boundary become part of Mill Creek Elementary and the west side of the current Roosevelt boundary attend the new school, along with some students from Granger and Rolling Meadows elementaries. Students living west of the Jordan River will be bused and students living east of I-15 will be bused to the new school.

HEARING

The board convened a hearing to discuss the Population Analysis Committee Recommendation for Roosevelt/Riverfront.

CITIZEN PARTICIPATION

Silvia Catten, 1026 E Hillview Drive. She serves on the Mill Creek City Council. It is a great idea to have more kids attend Mill Creek Elementary. She hopes that the social services currently available at Roosevelt will be available at the new school. For students living south of the Meadow Brook Expressway, will they be expected to walk to school? She urged us to take extra care for safe walking routes.

Hearing was closed.

Motion: I move we accept the PAC recommendation.

Made by: Connie Burgess

Seconded by: Terry Bawden

Called for vote: President Winder

Results: Motion Passed Unanimously

ACTION ITEM

South Salt Lake Elementary School Name Selection

John Welburn reported that he chaired a committee tasked with coming up with possible names for the new school. There were over 24 names originally suggested. The committee paired the original number down to 6 names. Ben Horsley stated that a survey with the 6 possible names was sent to families with elementary aged children living in the boundary area. The survey response was minimal with 55 responses received. Roughly half of the respondents were in favor of the geographical area, "Riverfront" and a quarter of the respondents were in favor of Olene Walker Elementary.

Board discussion: Granite District is lacking in having schools named after women. In addition to being Utah's first female governor, Olene Walker was a champion for education. It was also voiced that often when a school is named after an individual, the first name is often dropped. If that happens in this case, the school would be known as Walker Elementary and very few would know it was named for a woman. Further discussion included that the children attending the school would be aware of the entire name.

Motion: **I move we name the new school Olene Walker Elementary.**

Made by: Connie Anderson

Seconded by: Nicole McDermott

Several board members voiced their original leaning to Riverfront. After the discussion they agreed that it is important to recognize women in our community.

Called for vote: President Winder

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

Results: Motion Passed

SUPERINTENDENT AND BOARD REPORTS

Martin Bates: He appreciates our board of education, it's an honor to work with our board. He reminded the board of the Cyprus Town Hall meeting next Tuesday at 7:00 p.m.

Terry Bawden: Tough decisions have been made tonight. It's an honor to work with such good people in the field of education and he appreciates his association with the board.

Gayleen Gandy: We have a great board, even if members always don't agree, we work together as a strong board. The high school musicals have been amazing, there are wonderful programs in our district.

Connie Burgess: She is grateful to work with such great people.

Todd Zenger: He thanked Cottonwood High for their school musical.

Connie Anderson: The musicals have been great. She is in awe of teachers and students who put together the musicals. Kudos to the journalism staff at Kearns High School who are putting together a community newsletter. She thanked the Granite Education Foundation who recently honored those who contribute so much to education.

Nicole McDermott: Enjoyed the musicals and appreciates how many kids are involved. Opportunities like this make high school memorable. She thanked teachers, administrators, staff for their hours of work.

Karyn Winder: The board toured the Granite Education Foundation donation distribution center. It is an amazing center; we have a wonderful foundation. She attended the bond closing which was interesting. Granite has good bond ratings because we are well managed financially. The board is fiscally minded and the administration takes care of the funds. Because of that, our

bond rating stays high. She is excited to have State Superintendent Dickson visit a number of our schools next week. It was also good to welcome Governor Herbert who visited Lincoln Elementary last week.

Motion: **I move we adjourn.**

Made by: Nicole McDermott

Seconded by: Connie Anderson

Called for vote: President Winder

Results: Motion Passed Unanimously

Meeting adjourned at 9:32 p.m.