

Granite School District

Board of Education Study Session February 18, 2020

A study session of the Board of Education of Granite School District convened in Auditorium D 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
Gayleen Gandy	Board Member
Nicole McDermott	Board Member
Todd Zenger	Board Member

The following members of the administration were present:

Martin Bates	Superintendent
David Garrett	Business Administrator/Treasurer
Don Adams	Assistant Superintendent
Leslie Bell	Assistant Superintendent

Rick Anthony and John Welburn, Assistant Superintendents, were excused.

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

STUDY SESSION:

School Fees

Garett Muse, School Leadership & Improvement Director, presented this information. He reviewed a few of the new fee policy requirements according to the State R277-407 Rule. In order to make the Rule more understandable, the Fee Committee created two documents: A Framework of the New Fee Rule and a Granite Model for Administering Student Fees. Fee policy requirements state that all fees are now waivable. If something is provided, sponsored, or supported by a school, it is waivable. The fee schedules list the maximum fee allowed for a class, team, activity, etc., including potential fundraising. The maximum amounts listed on the proposed schedules come from looking at several years' worth of data. Developing fee amounts is an ongoing process, which is why fee schedules are adjusted every year. Items previously listed, such as yearbooks or costs for taking an AP test, have been removed from the fee schedule. These costs are not fees and are not waivable. This is also the case with school fines. The 2020-2021 proposed fee schedules for elementary, junior, and senior high schools were considered. (Exhibits #2032 - #2037)

Chris Lewis, Accounting Director, explained the school specific fee schedules, which will be published on each school's webpage. Teachers, advisors, coaches, and department heads will prepare required budget worksheets for the programs at their school detailing planned expenses and planned revenue. This will assist in determining an appropriate fee amount for the program, subject to the board-approved maximum. The principal must approve each fee as an internal control on establishing fee amounts. Once approved by the principal, the information on the budget worksheets will be used to compile each school's fee schedule along with spend plans for each fee and expected participation in required group fundraising.

Board discussion included: the maximum amounts listed need to be reasonable. Will one school charge the maximum while another school charge far less than the maximum for the same activity? Schools must be accountable for how the money is used. Parents will be able to see specifically how fees are spent. Fee schedules presented reflect total amounts, including potential fundraising and course fees.

The proposed fee schedules will be placed on the March 3, 2020 agenda as a First Reading. Board members asked that the fee presentation be published on the District's website.

Board Handbook

Doug Larson led the board through a discussion of a draft board handbook. The first half of the handbook was discussed during the January 21, 2020 study session (Exhibit #2027, January 21, 2020). The board continued their review, discussing the second half of the handbook. Doug will prepare another draft which will include comments from tonight and send that to board members. Board leadership will discuss the next step in this process.

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 8:50 p.m.