

Granite School District
Board of Education Meeting
Tuesday, December 6, 2022

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
Nicole McDermott	Vice President
Terry Bawden	Board Member
Connie Burgess	Board Member
Julie Jackson	Board Member
Clarke Nelson	Board Member
Kris Nguyen	Board Member

The following members of the administration were present:

Rich Nye	Superintendent
Todd Hauber	Business Administrator
Don Adams	Assistant Superintendent
Rick Anthony	Assistant Superintendent
Leslie Bell	Assistant Superintendent
John Welburn	Assistant Superintendent

Ben Horsley, Chief of Staff and Stacy Bushell, Executive Secretary, were in attendance.

Doug Larson, Policy and Legal Services Director attended remotely.

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS

Construction & Capital Update

Don Adams and Justin Naegle, Architecture, Engineering, and Construction Director, presented information about current construction and capital projects. (Exhibit 2321)

Granite Online Live

Rick Anthony reported on the status of Granite Online Live, the self-paced and live online learning program. We began providing online synchronous classes in 2021 for grades K-12. Self-paced courses for high school students have been available since 2012. Enrollment in the self-paced grade 9-12 courses continues to increase while enrollment in the live classes K-12 has steadily decreased over the past school year. As part of the strategic plan, we are committed to providing personalized competency-based learning. Mr. Anthony recommended continuing self-paced courses for grades 9-12, development of 6-8 self-paced courses, possibly expanding to grades 1-5, exploring blended solutions, and discontinuing online live as currently constituted. (Exhibit 2322)

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 Nye introduced those representing organizations:

Stacey Henry	Region V PTA
Gayna Breeze	GAEOP
Michele Jones	GEA
David Page	GEA
Russ Stauffer	Middle Manager
Rich Jorgensen	Middle Manager
Rob Dahle	Holladay Mayor
Silvia Catten	Millcreek City Council

Pledge of Allegiance: Josh LeRoy

Reverence: Cottonwood High Choir

RECOGNITIONS

Skyline High Girls Soccer 5A State Champions

Ben Horsley introduced Mitch Nerdin, principal, who introduced the Skyline girls' soccer team, 5A state champions.

Academic All State

Noelle Converse, Curriculum and Instruction Director, recognized academic all-state recipients. Girls Tennis: Emily Biagi, Phoebe Chung, Sylvie Dance, Calla Jordin, Anna Morgan, Emma Romney, Sally Swensen, Arli Williams (Skyline), Cross Country: Larkin Hancuff (Kearns), Lucinda Madsen, Rosie Nielsen, Jakson Currit, Andrew Jeppson, Trevin Oldham, Daniel Qian (Skyline), Football: Jared Prince, Josef Johnsen, Justice Fons (Skyline), Volleyball: Eve Wilson (Skyline)

Superintendent's Christmas Card Contest Winners

Noelle Converse announced the winners of the holiday card contest, Ailyn Madrid, 12th grade, Christina Ong, 7th grade, and Ellianna Gu, 5th grade. The students were presented with their framed original artwork and their printed holiday cards.

Utah Science Teachers 2022

Noelle Converse recognized the Jefferson Junior High science team: Pamela Tafili, Anna Heath, Brad Holscher, Margaret Miles, Sydney Moffitt, and Emily Olaya who were named Outstanding Middle School Department by the Utah Science Teaching Association.

2022 Top MGP Secondary School

Rick Anthony recognized the top Median Growth Percentile (MGP) secondary schools for 2022. The top schools awarded were Evergreen Junior High (54), Olympus Junior High (58), and Skyline High School (64).

GRANITE ELECTED OFFICIAL PARTICIPATION – None

CONSENT ITEMS

Minutes, November 1 & 15, 2022

Purchases:

1. Body Worn Cameras, Police Department, Axon Enterprise, Inc. - \$134,296.50
2. Cooling Upgrade, GEC, Industrial Piping and Welding - \$408,152.00
3. Display Panels and Mounts, Hunter High, Bluum - \$68,348.85
4. English Language Learner Curriculum, Educational Equity, Imagine Learning Inc. - \$104,400.00
5. Lockers Replacement, Kearns High, Norcon Industries - \$100,620.00
6. Microsoft EES Licensing, Information Systems, Insight Public Sector - \$537,596.55
7. Roofing, Surplus Warehouse, Conwest Inc., - \$442,768.00
8. School Buses, Transportation, Lewis Bus Group - \$1,623,000.00
9. Wireless Access Point Antennas, Skyline High, ConvergeOne - \$103,798.40

Award of Contracts:

1. Architect & Engineering Services, Kearns and Olympus High, Design West Architects - \$132,960.00 and Cottonwood High, MHTN Architects - \$237,135.00
2. Emergency Communication Software, Emergency Management, Catapult K12 - \$164,678.32
3. Special Education Software, Special Education Department, Focus School Software - \$194,100.00

Change Orders:

1. Additional i-Ready Math Professional Development, Curriculum and Instruction, Curriculum Associates - \$92,750.00
2. School Basement Footings, Fremont Elementary, Wasatch West Contracting - \$53,300.50

Personnel:

Employee Hires and Separations

Financial Reports:

1. Purchase Order Summary - \$4,976,549.78
2. Accounts Payable Pay Vouchers - \$2,648,369.99
3. Direct Electronic Transfer of Funds
4. Change Order Summary Report - \$234,709.86
5. Monthly Budget Report – October 2022

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

Made by: Kris Nguyen

Seconded by: Nicole McDermott

Julie Jackson moved to amend the November 1, 2022, minutes to add the following statement.

Julie Jackson asked for an analysis of how Millcreek's DLI program would look at the other Evergreen feeder schools.

Called for vote: President Winder

Results: Motion Passed Unanimously with the proposed amendment to the minutes.

BOARD HEARING / ACTION

Population Analysis Committee Recommendations

Steve Hogan presented a second reading of the recommendation to the Board from the Population Analysis Committee (PAC). Following the November meeting, concerns regarding the Spanish Dual Language Immersion (DLI) program at Millcreek Elementary were analyzed. The PAC met again with each school community council. They held multiple meetings with communities, faculty, staff, and other stakeholders. Additional efforts included letters of assurance to the affected communities, addressing staffing concerns, and initial transition meetings with stakeholders. Mr. Hogan shared a chart outlining many of the considerations for the DLI relocation. The PAC recommendation remains unchanged. (Exhibit 2323)

Public Comments:

Khan, Millcreek, thanked the district leadership, the team, and parents for keeping the spirit of education alive. He has three children and his youngest is a student at Twin Peaks. They are happy, love their school and don't want to change schools. He is concerned about transportation to the new school.

Sherry Anderson, Murray, parent, employee and PTA president, came to make a public comment about her positive experience with this boundary study. They had concerns in October going into this study that their community, which serves an underprivileged population, would not have enough participation to be heard and that they would lose many students due to boundary changes. Board members and district leaders went above and beyond to take time to listen to their concerns. The school community will miss the students who will be assigned to a different school and they welcome the students who will come to their school.

Michele Jones, GEA president, said GEA supports this recommendation. It is the right decision and the fiscally responsible decision. It better utilizes district resources, it supports teachers and students, and helps to create a more vibrant school community. GEA looks forward to studying good systems for DLI programs. GEA thanks Terry Bawden for his service as a member of the Granite Board of Education. She thanked him for being a servant and advocate for our schools, students, teachers, employees, and parents.

President Winder closed the public comment time and then invited board member questions and comments.

Nicole McDermott asked about the area near Brickyard and the suggestion to keep those students with the rest of the Millcreek community. Most students in this area go to Olympus and Skyline, therefore, PAC maintains the recommendation to move these students to Rosecrest Elementary. She thanked administration and the community for their work on the study.

Connie Burgess appreciates everyone involved in this process. The principals are so willing to work with their communities. This decision is easier because of the hard work of the committee.

Julie Jackson acknowledged the effort made by all school communities involved in this study. She said there will be further study of DLI in our district. She prepared and read a statement: As a voting member of this board, I accept that my vote tonight comes with serious accountability both to the community and to myself for years to come. I appreciate the effort to make sure we are asking the right questions and finding the right answers. I appreciate that through this process I've heard from many patrons and employees and have analyzed a lot of data. I've learned to love the schools in this study and have seen the love that the people in schools have for each other. This has made it sad for me to choose to support to close schools, however, I've also seen the hard work people have been putting into their schools in order to make up for the lack of resources and the struggle, bigger for some than for others, that schools have to serve their students. All indicators say that overall students will benefit from the support this consideration will bring. I don't mean to say there won't be sacrifices and growing pains. We'll work to lighten those where we can. But I truly believe this consolidation will bring about more opportunities for kids to reach their potential as they benefit from more resources and opportunities. As I take the time to appreciate what Millcreek, Spring Lane and Twin Peaks have meant to our communities over the years, I'll also be looking forward to how the students of those schools will bring their talents to their new schools strengthening them in the process. I'm confident this move will result in greater overall outcomes for all students and agree with the PAC committee's recommendation.

Terry Bawden thanked Julie Jackson and Connie Burgess for their comments. He said that less people in attendance tonight doesn't mean they don't care but that their concerns have been addressed because of the efforts of the committee.

Kris Nguyen said change is hard and this impacts a lot of students, but it is the right thing for students. She is pleased that 100 students plan to continue in the Spanish DLI program at Penn. She thanked everyone for their work on the study.

Clarke Nelson asked about the continuous effort going forward to evaluate the impact of changes to communities. Superintendent Nye answered, administration works to the success of the decisions made by the board. They will continue to engage with these communities to make this a successful transition. Mr. Nelson asked Steve Hogan about his role in planning for these communities years down the road. Mr. Hogan replied, Granite is fortunate to have a department dedicated to monitoring trends and working with municipalities, charter school organizations and others to plan for the future. Ben Horsley said we look forward as much as possible to anticipate the needs of these communities. There may be adjustments made in the long term but in the short term, he doesn't foresee problems because they have studied this so extensively. Mr. Nelson said Spring Lane is the school his children attended, and this has been an agonizing decision regarding all three schools. He appreciates the effort that went into this recommendation.

President Winder said there has been a lot of work on this process. Board members have reviewed hundreds of comments and emails. She recognized parents and community members who have provided feedback. She spoke about why she is voting for the closure of these three schools: I sincerely believe that it is in the best interest of kids. Give them the opportunity to have the best education they can. To have schools where there are multiple teachers in each

grade, where the teachers can collaborate, the better the teachers can work with each other the better the education is for the students. Providing flexibility for those families, that it isn't just one teacher per grade or they're not dealing with splits that offer a new set of challenges. That truly it is going to give them the best educational opportunity. Sometimes it may seem like board members don't have feelings as we are making these hard choices and I want to assure you that this is an emotional decision for the board. We are human beings with human emotions and this is tough. We understand our vote tonight is going to hurt many of you and those listening in and it also hurts us, it is not something we enjoy. We hurt right along with you. As I said before, we have studied this for ten months, we've spent dozens of hours in meetings on phone calls answering texts and emails. We really have tried to listen to multiple opinions, perspectives, on all sides of this issue. Sometimes it may seem like we haven't listened or heard people. With tough votes like school consolidations and school closures like we are voting on this evening, we know there will be a group that's really happy because they agree with us and conversely, we know that there is a group of people who are maybe not as happy with us because we're not voting how they would like us to. But I want people to rest assured that we've listened to all groups and all sides. It's just a really tough vote that we've got to make this evening. Lastly, we have great communities. I don't live in these communities, but it's been fascinating to get to know these communities better. Millcreek has shown that they embody the word community, Spring Lane, Twin Peaks, all of them. We have awesome communities. So, my big hope is that we don't fight the wave, that we ride the wave. That we can work together as these new school communities are being formed, great effort has gone into building these new communities. We can watch out for each other; we can enjoy the diversity in each of these schools and we can bring all students and families and all staff together for the betterment of the education of our kids. That is my sincere hope.

Motion: **I move that we accept the recommendation of the PAC committee for the closure of Spring Lane, Twin Peaks, and Millcreek elementary schools.**

Made by: Connie Burgess

Seconded by: Terry Bawden

Called for vote: President Winder

Results: Motion Passed Unanimously

ACTION ITEM

Title I. Funding Adjustment Recommendations

Rick Anthony summarized the presentation from last month's study session. The options presented in November were to continue funding schools currently funded, continue to fund high schools but with a significantly reduced per pupil allocation, or no longer fund high schools. This topic has been presented to the board several times over the past two years. As a review, arguments for funding lower grades vs. upper grades were shared. Nationally high schools are rarely funded. In 2021 we did not find a direct correlation between funding and student achievement. Principals assert that Title I funds help with teacher retention. (Exhibit 2324)

Board members discussed the options presented. President Winder explained that a board vote is not required on this issue and administration can move forward with a decision. However, if the

board chooses, they can vote on the options presented. Terry Bawden asked for administration's recommendation. Superintendent Nye said the recommendation is to redistribute funds allocated to Cottonwood and Granger high schools and reallocate the funds to junior high and elementary schools.

Board members asked additional questions about funding sources for high schools, the formulas used for distribution of Title I funds, and data that does or does not support whether funds have more impact depending on the grade levels served. Clarke Nelson said he does not want to let go of the flexibility to fund high schools absent data that there is a correlation between funding and impact on achievement.

Terry Bawden noted that when the decision was made to fund high schools with Title I money, the board voted for it. He thinks it is important to be consistent by having the board vote on this recommendation.

Motion: I move that we accept the recommendation of the administration and that we remove Title I funding from the high schools and that the superintendency and the administration act accordingly with the elementary and junior high schools.

Made by: Terry Bawden
Seconded by: Nicole McDermott

Called for vote: President Winder
For Terry Bawden
Connie Burgess
Julie Jackson
Nicole McDermott
Kris Nguyen
Karyn Winder
Against Clarke Nelson

Results: Motion Passed

INFORMATION ITEM

2024-2025 School Calendar

Ben Horsley, Chief of Staff, Shauna Jensen and Craig Stauffer, School Leadership & Improvement Directors, presented the results of the calendar survey. Two drafts, Draft D and Draft E, were shown and the differences in these calendars were compared. The committee chooses calendars that are significantly different to give a clear differentiation between options. Feedback on these two options will be gathered and the results will be presented to the board in January or February. (Exhibit 2325)

FIRST READINGS

Article II.L. Implementation of Standards and Objectives

Doug Larson said the changes to this policy have been prepared and vetted through a District committee to integrate academic standards and citizenship requirements as reflected in

Proficiency Based Learning (PBL). The modifications to this policy include social skills and disposition proficiency standards to compliment proficiency based academic standards. Dawn Hauser, Proficiency Based Learning Director, was available to answer Board questions.

Julie Jackson suggested the following change to D.1.a.: reviewing formative learning results and planning interventions and extensions to help all students to achieve optimal learning.

Motion: I move that we approve Article II.L. Implementation of Standards and Objectives for a first reading.

Made by: Julie Jackson

Seconded by: Nicole McDermott

Called for vote: President Winder

Results: Motion Passed Unanimously

Article X.A.4. Senior High School Graduation Standards and Requirements

Doug Larson presented the changes to this policy which were also initiated by the academic and citizenship committee. These modifications clearly identify requirements for the different diplomas offered to students or certificates of completion. The modifications also include updated standards for social skills and dispositions required for school diplomas. The policy also provides for recovery of academic and citizenship credits for students.

Board members discussed CPA requirements for participation in graduation ceremonies. This policy will go back to the committee for review prior to a second reading.

Motion: I move that we approve Article X.A.4. Senior High School Graduation Standards and Requirements as a first reading.

Made by: Nicole McDermott

Seconded by: Kris Nguyen

Called for vote: President Winder

Results: Motion Passed Unanimously

Article V.C.10. Advertising and Distributing Information

Ben Horsley stated that this policy is updated to include a provision for community programs that feed high school athletic programs and benefit Granite District students to disseminate information to students. It also provides more clarity surrounding allowable and prohibited advertising and communications in school settings.

Motion: I move that we approve the first reading of Article V.C.10. Advertising and Distributing Information.

Made by: Julie Jackson

Seconded by: Nicole McDermott

Called for vote: President Winder
Results: Motion Passed Unanimously

SECOND READINGS

Article IX.A.1.a. Nondiscrimination in Employment

This is a minor addition to the Human Resources policies. It is merely a restatement of the district's nondiscrimination policy specific to employment practices.

Motion: I move that we approve Article IX.A.1.a. Nondiscrimination in Employment for a final reading.

Made by: Julie Jackson
Seconded by: Connie Burgess

Called for vote: President Winder
Results: Motion Passed Unanimously

Article IX.A.1.x. Reduction in Force

This is another minor change to a Human Resources policy. The proposed changes make the policy applicable to all employee categories. Also, the policy has been updated consistent with the state law.

Motion: I make a motion that we approve Article IX.A.1.x. Reduction in Force for a final reading.

Made by: Julie Jackson
Seconded by: Terry Bawden

Called for vote: President Winder
Results: Motion Passed Unanimously

BOARD RECOGNITION

Years of Service

President Karyn Winder recognized Terry Bawden who has served on the Board since 2007, and as board president from 2015 to 2018. President Winder said she has had the privilege of serving with Terry 8 of the 16 years he has served. Terry is a huge advocate for kids, he loves kids and wants to see them succeed. He's also been an advocate for teachers, and he has been very engaged in his own community representing parents and listening to their concerns. He studies issues carefully and has the courage to do what he feels is right. He is lighthearted and keeps it fun with his jokes and side comments. We are going to miss him. She presented him with a plaque to commemorate his years of service.

Terry Bawden recognized Kim Chandler who was in attendance and will replace him on the board. He congratulated Ms. Chandler. He said Granite School District has become a part of him, he has served with great people, and he will miss his associations. Granite will excel in blessing

the lives of students, it has been a privilege to be a part of that. He thanked the employees of the district for making his family's lives pleasant and they appreciate that. He looks forward to seeing everyone succeed in the future.

SUPERINTENDENT AND BOARD REPORTS

Dr. Nye was inspired by the students who created the holiday card art. He attended Hunter High's Beauty and the Beast; he was moved by the special education and general education students who performed together. It was remarkable. Graduation rates grew by 2.1% which is 119 students more than the previous year. He thanked Terry Bawden for his service, it's been an honor and privilege to work with him on behalf of student and families of this district.

Clarke Nelson expressed sincere best wishes to Terry and his family.

Kris Nguyen said board work is slow work and it is on purpose, leaving room to get it right. She said she learned so much from Terry and he is an incredible person.

Nicole McDermott thanked Chief Porter for his department's response to the Kearns High incident. She thanked Terry Bawden, she appreciates the insight he has shared, what he has taught board members and his thoughtfulness and humor. She wished him the best.

Connie Burgess was impressed with Beauty and the Beast at Hunter. She thanked Terry for his leadership, it's been a joy to be on the board with him, his humor made meetings fun and interesting. He will be missed.

Julie Jackson's favorite thing about Beauty and the Beast was the art of how the students portrayed the roles, it was true inclusion. She said Terry has kept her calm, he is a mentor and a friend. He has served the district the entire time her children have attended, she is thankful for his influence.

Karyn Winder loves the Hunter High matinee on Saturday where the audience is allowed to participate in non-traditional ways. She shared a thank you letter from a student. She said she cherishes her relationship with Terry Bawden. He has been a calming influence, his knowledge and experience are valuable to the board, he is a treasured friend.

Motion: **I move we adjourn.**

Made by: Terry Bawden

Seconded by: Connie Burgess

Called for vote: President Winder

Results: Motion Passed Unanimously

Meeting adjourned at 10:56 p.m.

Note: A copy of related materials and an audio recording of the meeting can be found at <https://www.utah.gov/pmn/>