

DISTRICT COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Granite School District Offices

Auditorium A

October 30, 2012

6:30 p.m.

I. Welcome

Terry Bawden welcomed those in attendance and called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. Members of the District Community Council (DCC) and administration in attendance were:

Driggs, David	Olympus Network
Foote, RaAnn	Cottonwood Network
Getty, Jim	Cottonwood Network
Gold, Cody	Hunter Network
Leystra, Leisl	Taylorville Network
Newton, Aimee	Taylorville Network
Olsen, Jennifer	Granger Network
Pruitt, Charles	Skyline Network
Vincent, Mark	Skyline Network
Warner, Dawn	Region V PTA
Winder, Jolene	Cyprus Network
Zenger, Linda	Olympus Network

Terry Bawden	Board of Education, Vice President
Connie Anderson	Board of Education, Board Member
Dr. Martin Bates	Superintendent
David Garrett	Business Administrator/Treasurer
Mike Fraser	Assistant Superintendent
David Gourley	Assistant Superintendent
Jim Henderson	Assistant Superintendent
Linda Mariotti	Assistant Superintendent
Ben Horsley	Director, Communications
Merilynn Boekweg	Board Recorder

Excused:

Gayleen Gandy	Board of Education, President
---------------	-------------------------------

II. Introduction of New Members

Mr. Bawden asked all in attendance to introduce themselves and state what network they represented or their district function.

III. District Community Council Policy (Article VII.,A.23) and Role

Superintendent Bates stated that the District Community Council (DCC) Policy was unique to Granite. It was formed to collaborate with school community councils (SCC) and provide timely and accurate information to all levels within the district.

Mr. Horsley reviewed the policy, including the purpose and the function of the DCC. He asked that the members of the DCC communicate items they would like to have placed on upcoming

agendas to his office (bhorsley@graniteschools.org). He explained that minutes of the DCC meetings would be sent to them as well as the SCC's in their networks.

IV. Instrumental Music Program

Superintendent Bates stated that the Utah State Office of Education (USOE) establishes curriculum for public schools. Accountability has become very important. In studying Granite schools it has been confirmed that although teachers are teaching great things, they may not be teaching the state core curriculum.

Ms. Mariotti said general music instruction in elementary was part of the core, however, instrumental music is not. There is frustration in some of the schools regarding the pull out of fifth and sixth grade students taking band or orchestra twice a week for 45 minutes. Teachers are concerned these students are missing out on critical instruction in the classroom. Some schools teach general music to nonparticipating students in the same time period instrumental music is taught. However, most are teaching other core subjects during that time. Options have been discussed with elementary music teachers included before and after school instrumental programs that would give the students 60 minutes of instruction with the possible pairing of schools to efficiently offer an instrumental program. Secondary teachers have also met and have given their opinion about a revision. A survey has been, or will be, made available by elementary principals for parent input. She stated the district is still at the information gathering stage and decisions have not been made. A lengthy discussion followed about possible changes. Superintendent Bates commented that this is not a budget issue, it is an accountability issue to state mandates.

Mr. Bawden agreed changes are always difficult but necessary. He thanked the DCC members for their input, commenting it was most helpful.

V. Member Sharing of Successes and Concerns

Renee Taylor asked if there was an approved list of novels for junior high students. She stated that parents in her area were concerned with some questionable content of assigned reading material that had been required reading. Ms. Mariotti reviewed the process taken in reviewing novels. They must clear a novels committee which consists of teachers, administration and parents. Mr. Fraser will follow-up on the concern and have the school director talk with the principal. The principal will investigate and follow-up with a written response that is shared with him and Superintendent Bates.

A committee member asked why the testing scores from the 2011/12 academic year have not been posted. Ms. Mariotti explained they had not been released from the USOE but were expected in the next 30 days. The member also asked if there was something replacing Academic Games that has been discontinued this year. There will be additional problem solving activities that are in the planning process and will be introduced in early 2013.

A question was asked about school lunches and the change in menus. Dave Garrett explained federal regulations regarding student health had necessitated the changes.

VI. Next Meeting January 29, 2012

The meeting adjourned at 8:40 p.m.