

DISTRICT COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Granite School District Offices

Auditorium A

January 29, 2013

6:30 p.m.

I. Welcome

Gayleen Gandy welcomed those in attendance and called the meeting to order at 6:35 p.m. Members of the District Community Council (DCC) and administration in attendance were:

Jennifer Anderson	Kearns Network
David Driggs	Olympus Network
RaAnn Foote	Cottonwood Network
Jim Getty	Cottonwood Network
Dawn Warner	Region V PTA
Jolene Winder	Cyprus Network
Linda Zenger	Olympus Network

Gayleen Gandy	Board of Education, President
Connie Burgess	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:

Terry Bawden	Board of Education, Vice President
Charles Pruitt	Skyline Network

II. Class Size/FTE

Human Resource Director Donnette McNeill-Waters, and Dave Rettie, Associate Director, presented information regarding class size and FTE (full time equivalent – full time teacher) allocations. Projected student enrollment for the coming year is available in March. Human Resources and principals use the information in assigning FTE allotments for the coming year. Class size may vary slightly when considering the individual school populations. With fluctuating enrollment surpluses or shortages of teachers may occur and require adjustments. When considering enrollment schools have many factors to consider. The returning students, enrollment history, open enrollment

applications, boundary changes, and community growth are all considered. Final enrollment is set with the October 1 enrollment report.

Elementary principals, after projected enrollment is determined, complete a staffing sheet and discuss enrollment needs with the staff and their School Community Council (SCC). Decisions on staffing are a collaborative effort with the final decision being made by the principal. The elementary student to teacher ratio is 1 (teacher): 27.25 (students).

Secondary schools determine their FTE in the same time frame as elementary schools. They must consider some different options. The total periods taught each day is considered. The staffing is driven by students and the courses they require for graduation or desire to take. Class size can differ because of the need to cover all student requirements. Junior high teacher/student ratio is 1:27.25 and senior high is 1:28.25. (Exhibit #DCC 13-1)

DCC members discussed the surplus process. The decision of what teachers would stay or leave for the coming year was clarified. There was also a discussion regarding the use of Land Trust funds to pay for additional FTE.

III. Fine Arts Program

Ms. Mariotti stated the premise of a Fine Arts Program in elementary schools. After the October 30, 2012 DCC meeting the input from the DCC was discussed and taken into consideration before presenting a Fine Arts Program to the Board of Education. The proposed program would place a Fine Arts Specialist in each elementary school for 2 days (approximately 12 hours) a week. The Specialist would, under the request of the SCC and principal, teach Music for Life (general music), visual arts, dance, or drama. Each spring the school would have the flexibility to determine which content area would be taught the next year.

This proposal was taken to the Board on January 8, 2013 as an Information Item and was well received. The Fine Arts Program would support the Resolution Regarding Teaching, Learning and Mastering the State Core Curriculum Standards that was approved by the Board.

Approximately 30 teachers would be hired as Fine Arts Specialists. Ms. Mariotti reminded the DCC that when a teacher is certified to teach in elementary they are required to have training in all areas of the curriculum and would be able to teach the four content areas. An emphasis of the arts would be part of the hiring criteria. This program is in addition to outside funding and grants in the arts area some schools receive.

Committee members asked if this would result in instrumental music being taken from elementary schools. Ms. Mariotti explained that the instrumental music as it is now being taught in elementary is not part of elementary core curriculum and

would be discontinued. A school and SCC may decide they would like to continue it at their location. By choice instrumental music could be a portion of their assigned 12 hours and the time remaining could be used for instruction of all students in other arts. She emphasized that this would be a community and school decision. Funding for this program will be a reallocation of the current instrumental music budget augmented with additional school funds.

Dr. Bates commented that instrumental music curriculum is found in the secondary schools core curriculum. He had observed that students without the opportunity to be instructed in Music for Life in elementary had less interest in learning an instrument in secondary.

IV. Member Sharing of Successes and Concerns

A concern had been submitted regarding the district policy of showing You Tube clips or movies in class. Ms. Mariotti referred to the School Accountability Service Manual, Use of Videos and DVDs in Educational Settings (pgs. 203-206) and explained that it was being revamped to reflect current media. The policy states the movie must be tied to core curriculum and be G rated. Content rated PG or PG13 must be supported by the policy, administrative approval, and signed student parent permission forms. Students not having permission must have other options connected to the curriculum.

V. Next Meeting March 26, 2013

The meeting adjourned at 8:40 p.m.