

DISTRICT COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Granite School District Offices

Auditorium D

May 27, 2014

6:30 p.m.

I. Welcome

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

Darrell Kirby	Granger Network
Ben Johnson	Granger Network
Darrell Curtis	Hunter Network
Charles Pruitt	Skyline Network
Megan Blackmon	Olympus Network
Laura Hyte-Richins	Taylorville Network
Dawn Warner	PTA
Gayleen Gandy	Board of Education, President
Terry Bawden	Board of Education, Vice President
Connie Burgess	Board of Education, Member
Martin Bates	Superintendent
David Garrett	Business Administrator/Treasurer
Linda Mariotti	Assistant Superintendent
Don Adams	Assistant Superintendent
Jim Henderson	Assistant Superintendent
Mike Fraser	Assistant Superintendent
Ben Horsley	Director, Communications
Merilynn Boekweg	Board Recorder

II. Member sharing of successes and concerns

- Taylorville Network - Ms. Hyte-Richins asked for information regarding the continuation of dual immersion programs in secondary schools, primarily junior high. Ms. Mariotti explained the process of getting teachers and how the secondary scheduling presents more challenges.
- Granger Network - Mr. Kirby expressed concern about a canal that runs parallel to the sidewalk east of Armstrong Academy. The community feels this is a safety issue. Mr. Adams will look into the problem
- Skyline Network – Mr. Pruitt asked for clarification on the Mill Hollow program. Mill Hollow will not be available this summer for the traditional program. He also related concerns from Morningside Elementary. It had been told to him that they felt under represented and misunderstood. Dr. Bates asked for examples to be emailed to him and he will investigate the issue.

- Granger Network – Mr. Johnson commented that he was impressed by the excellent community engagement with Armstrong Academy STEM school. The school curriculum is well balanced. He would encourage other schools to adapt some of their curriculum to STEM ideas. Dr. Bates agreed that all schools could benefit from what is being implemented at Armstrong Academy. Mr. Kirby, Granger Network, asked for an update on the secondary STEM school and the possibility of it being located at West Lake Junior High. The administration has been working on the secondary school and will report the progress as it occurs.
- Taylorsville Network – Ms. HYTE-Richins asked for information about schools implementing the Covey 7 Habits program. She asked if it had been adopted by any junior high schools in the district. A discussion regarding the cost and effectiveness of the program followed. Dr. Bates said it is an expensive program to adopt and the elementary schools that are using it have implemented it at different levels. Mr. Fraser expressed concern regarding the costs and the additional professional development and implementation time it requires of teachers. He felt there were other programs available to accomplish the same results for less money or free. Mrs. Burgess suggested if any junior high might be interested it would be Eisenhower because their feeder elementary schools are using it.
- Skyline Network – Mr. Pruitt commented on the lack of classroom instruction at the end of the school year. A discussion pursued regarding classroom instruction and its connection to end of year testing dates. After testing there may be a feeling that productive and necessary instruction is no longer needed.
- Taylorsville Network – Ms. HYTE-Richins commented that teachers need more instruction when using the My Access writing program in secondary schools. This program is not a grading tool but an instrument to help students improve outside of class. Mr. Curtis, Hunter Network, asked about the fee being charged for students to use My Access. It should not be charged to students who do not use it. It is a school based decision for all of the students to use the program. Schools should be contacted about the fee and if the fee can be reversed or refunded.
- Granger Network - Mr. Johnson asked how police officers are assigned to schools. Dr. Bates explained the logistics of assigning the officers to different district locations.

III. End of Year Survey

Mr. Horsley, Director, Communications, reviewed the annual end of year survey with the committee. He explained the survey was the second in a five year strategic plan adopted by the Board of Education. The plan emphasizes parental and community involvement. This survey gives the opportunity for patrons to give feedback to the district on school

climate and family satisfaction with their schools. The survey is available on line after school is out for the year.

Comments from the DCC included the importance of keeping the survey within time limits that were not too long. They asked if different languages were available. At the current time it is only in English. Translating it to other languages will be taken into consideration.

Mr. Horsley explained postcards will be sent to patrons with directions of how to participate. The results are reported by district and school. Directors in School Accountability take the data and discuss it with the principals at their assigned schools.

IV. 9th Grade Reconfiguration

Dr. Bates clarified the reasons for a school to change from a 10-12 grade configuration to include 9th grade. In the past the configuration often changed because of growing populations and school enrollments. Changes are now being made with academics in mind. The Board of Education gives the decision of recommending a network move to a 9-12 configuration to the schools involved. If the senior high School Community Council (SCC) and the feeder junior high SCC agree, the proposal will be considered. The junior highs look very different as 7-8 grade schools. Since 9th grade counts toward graduation there has traditionally been a challenge in class schedules in junior high. There are advantages for the students in 9th grade in high school and there are advantages to junior high with a 7-8 grade configuration as well.

Presently Granger High has incorporated the 9-12 configuration at their school and West Lake and Valley Junior Highs are successfully functioning as 7-8 grade facilities. Kearns Network will move to a 9-12 configuration this coming fall and Hunter High is now in the process of changing in the fall of 2015. Cyprus High is seriously considering the option and Cottonwood High is also looking at it. Olympus High is not interested in changing at this time and Skyline High is questioning the possibility. Taylorsville High is studying the population and boundary issues. Part of their population is being bussed to Cottonwood High and Bonneville Junior. The DCC continued with a brief discussion on this option.

V. 2014-15 Meeting Schedule

- Next meeting - September 30, 2014

The meeting adjourned at 8:15 p.m.