

DISTRICT COMMUNITY COUNCIL
Granite School District
Auditorium D
September 27, 2016
6:40 pm

Welcome and Introductions – Board President Bawden

President Bawden welcomed those in attendance and called the meeting to order at 6:40 p.m.
Members of the District Community Council (DCC), administration, and visitors in attendance were:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Network/Position</u>
Clarke Nelson	Cottonwood
Daniel Burton	Cottonwood
Anitra Koehler	Cyprus
Darrell Kirby	Granger
Andrea Lindsey	Granger
Marni Allred	Hunter/Region 5 PTA
Oliver Schreiber	Olympus
Chris Betcher	Skyline
Chris Griffiths	Cyprus High Asst. Principal
Rocky Lambourne	Bonneville Jr. High Principal
Terri Roylance	Cottonwood High Principal
Dawn Hauser	Matheson Jr. High Principal
Kaye Poulton-Timm	College and Career Readiness
Dr. Martin Bates	Superintendent
Terry Bawden	Board President
Karyn Winder	Board Member
Connie Anderson	Board Member
Ben Horsley	Communications Director
Don Adams	Asst. Superintendent, Support Services
John Welburn	Asst. Superintendent, School Accountability
Rick Anthony	Asst. Superintendent, Educator Support and Development
Linda Mariotti	Asst. Superintendent, Teaching and Learning Services
Doug Larson	Policy and Legal Services Director
Dave Garrett	Business Administrator/Treasurer
Darla Williams	Administrative Secretary, Recorder

FACILITY MASTER PLAN – Dr. Bates thanked everyone for their patience, as the prior meeting ran a little long. They are laying out the blue print for the facilities master plan. This includes remodels, etc. It was well received by the board and the public. This will be the subject of conversation in the next few months. Terry Bawden added that public input is important. He asked that the DCC get the word out to their networks so they can get several opinions. That is the best way to come up with an end product that everyone feels good about.

UPDATE ON SECONDARY TRANSITIONS

Connie Anderson thanked Clarke Nelson, and the other parents in attendance for their help at the last Town Hall meeting. When the tone started to get negative, the parents were the ones that set the record straight. The community and involved parents make all of the difference.

John Welburn invited a few administrators who had been involved in the transitions to speak to the Board about what was working, and the challenges they were facing.

Dawn Hauser, Principal of Matheson Jr. High – Dawn gave everyone a handout “Matheson Junior High School Reconfiguration & Integration Update”. She reported that for the most part the transition has been fantastic and positive. There are challenges. Number one problem is transportation and traffic. Due to the boundary changes, many have to walk great distances or get a ride. To address that issue they have funded a late bus and constructed and opened another drop off zone. The school Youth in Government organization is also working on the traffic flow problem and educating students and parents about the safe ways to drop off and pick up. Another issue is just number of bodies. Halls are crowded but comfortable, and it was necessary to go to three lunch periods because of numbers. Connie Anderson asked if she believed that as the grandfathering is phased out, the numbers will decrease. Dawn said she didn’t think so, as there are several new subdivisions slated to be built within the school boundaries. Another challenge is the loss of 9th grade role models, but the 8th graders have really stepped up. They have started “Mentor Mondays”; during advisory period every 8th grader is assigned to a 7th grader to help with various things. One reason that Dawn feel the transition has been so smooth is that Matheson and Brockbank combined their School Community Councils last March. They have worked together since then. The Student Body Officers rewrote the school constitution and came up with the theme “Together we stand, united as one.” She also stated that the fact that they have seven former Brockbank teachers and one former Brockbank counselor has helped the kids transition. Parent involvement has increased. Interest in PTA and SCC is up, and parents have positive remarks.

Chris Griffiths, Asst. Principal of Cyprus High – Cyprus overtook the Brockbank campus making it part of Cyprus. The biggest challenge that they are facing is transportation issues and getting kids from campus to campus. A lot of time and effort is being spent on educating the kids to cross safely at the crosswalks, be responsible, and get to class on time. The freshmen are happy because they feel that they have more programs and electives available to them. The goal is to get the students involved and engaged. This makes them want to come to school, which improves attendance and academics. Chris really wanted to champion that they have a lot of intervention and support systems in place. The biggest

intervention is “Pirate Hour”. This is a one hour block which includes ½ hour of intervention and ½ hour of lunch. Dr. Bates asked if this would have been possible without the reconfiguration and Chris responded that he does not believe it would have been. They need the two lunchrooms to make it work. They have two assistants in each building, with the Principal going back and forth. The assistants spend a lot of time in the classrooms and rotate their schedules so that they are in both buildings consistently. John Welburn commented that he has noticed in his visits what a great job they have done of blending the staff. Having teachers from Brockbank along with the Cyprus teachers has helped with the transition.

Rocky Lambourne, Principal of Bonneville Jr. High – He feels that the biggest indicator of success was that on the first day of school, he had no crying 7th graders! Not that they don’t love the 9th graders, but he feels this is the beginning of a true 7th/8th grade model. Parents are positive about the changes. The numbers going down was a challenge, but the halls are peaceful. Bonneville was projected at 509 and their enrollment right now is 528. They have 25 teacher, 8 part time teachers, and 3 first year teachers. They were able to keep all of their programs, and still are operating with 2 lunches. The 7th and 8th graders have stepped up and are filling the void left by the 9th graders. They went with a 5X5 schedule, which he feels gives students options. They also do advisory every day. It is nice to be able to focus on 7th and 8th graders, because a lot of the issues that 9th graders deal with are not issues for 7th and 8th graders. The Community Council and PTA have been very supportive and although there are always going to be challenges, the positive support has been great.

Martin commented on the real issue of the teacher shortage. Right now we have 15 different Jr. High Schools with 6 different schedules. This makes it very hard to share teachers, and schools have been asked to look at this issue and pare down their schedules to give more flexibility in staffing. They will be looking at this issue in the future. Dawn Hauser brought up the subject of the 90 minute class periods. She feels it is just too long for kids that age to sit in one class. Connie Anderson brought up the point that for teachers with labs, they need the extra time.

Terri Roylance, Principal of Cottonwood High - First, she wanted to take a moment to brag about her community. Her PTA is amazing and is making things happen. Right now they are working on getting dinner for the students involved in the after school program. Of course, her building has gone through some changes. They have been able to accommodate the addition five hundred 9th graders, and keep the Ames Academy Charter School. They only have 1 lunch period right now and there are long lines, but as the construction comes to an end, they should be able to open up more and this problem should be taken care of. Terri had to combine her 9th and 10th grade orientations because of construction issues. Last year there were 60 people in attendance, this year there was 1200. The support from the community is overwhelming. A banner titled “Here Comes Cottonwood” has been hung up in the commons area. It has a picture of one athlete from every sport, which were selected by the coaches. This banner will change every year, and Terri feels that it is a great incentive for kids, and give them something to aspire to. The drop off zone is a big challenge, but Terri had it inspected and was told that there didn’t need to be any changes. It is all a matter of educating parents about drop off and pick up safety. Coordinating all of the programs available has been a challenge, but creating a spreadsheet to make sure that they are used in an organized way has helped.

Clarke asked Don Adams when Cottonwoods' construction should be complete. Don replied that it is the fault of the construction company and his hands are tied. He stated that, in the two weeks before school started, the maintenance staff of Granite School District did 60% of the work. He feels it will be three weeks to a month more.

Anticipated Transitions -

We have 8 networks and 5 have gone through transition. Skyline is approved and "on deck". Skyline will also transition its 6th grade into middle school. John Welburn and Linda Mariotti have met with middle school principals and have started the discussion about licensing issues, and sharing teachers. The Principals have been visiting other schools in the state that have made this transition. They are asking the questions that need to be asked in regards to curriculum and staffing. Doug Bingham, Principal of Skyline High has been in touch with other schools involved in the transition, and is looking at his facility to see the future of the classroom usage. Morningside is being focused on as it as two programs, dual immersion and the gifted program. There is ongoing discussion to work through the issues involved in reconfiguration with these programs. It is all about balancing the needs of the program and the needs of the students. The question was asked if the two remaining High school networks will join the rest of the district. Martin Bates states that they have no expectations.

Oliver Schreiber asked if we can have criteria given to Community Council candidates. Maybe ask them what they stand for? So people voting will know where the candidates stand. Martin said that he will take that into consideration.

District Community Council elections are forthcoming. After those elections are complete, we will send out an email asking for concerns, or items for next agenda.

Meeting dismissed at 8:05.