



Board of Education
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DISTRICT COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Granite Education Center
Auditorium D

May 9, 2017
6:30 p.m.

Welcome and Introductions: Connie Anderson

Members of the District Community Council (DCC), administration, and visitors in attendance were:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Network/Position</u>
Connie Anderson	Board Member
Gayleen Gandy	Board Member
Martin Bates	Superintendent
John Welburn	Asst. Superintendent
Linda Mariotti	Asst. Superintendent
Dave Garrett	Business Administrator/Treasurer
Don Adams	Asst. Superintendent
Rick Anthony	Asst. Superintendent
Doug Larson	Director, Policy and Legal Services
Ben Horsley	Director, Communications
Darla Williams	Recorder/Adm. Secretary, Communications
Sydney Johnson	Region 5 PTA President
Daniel Burton	Cottonwood Network
Clarke Nelson	Cottonwood Network
Christie Rasmussen	Cyprus Network
Darrell Kirby	Granger Network
Andrea Lindsey	Granger Network
Marni Allred	Hunter Network
Mike Edwards	Kearns Network
Oliver Schreiber	Olympus Network
Valerie Pingree	Olympus Network
Chris Betcher	Skyline Network

Connie Anderson excused Terry Bawdens' absence and turned the time over to Superintendent Martin Bates. Dr. Bates welcomed everyone and noted that Suicide Prevention was removed from the agenda for tonight as Charles Pruitt, the member who requested it be discussed and whom they had been working with, was not able to attend this meeting. It will be addressed in a future meeting. He then turned the time over to Doug Larson.

1. **Electronic Device Policy** –

Doug Larson distributed a copy of Article VIII.A.24. Student Possession of Electronic Communication Devices to everyone. The article states that the Board recognizes that these devices are commonly used by parents and their children to communicate, but that they also have the potential for disruption. The Board has directed each school to establish their own rules allowing the possession, and regulating the use of electronic devices. Discussion concerning the subject included the fact that some classes use the cell phones in class for assignments, and others will not allow cell phone use. Some schools will confiscate phones and have parents come and pick them up, and others will not confiscate. The decision on how to best handle this issue is left up to the school and their Community Council, keeping in mind that parents and students must receive written notice of rules regarding electronic devices. Clarke Nelson noted that at Bonneville Jr., the Community Council had drafted and sent home a letter to parents concerning their school policy. Dr. Bates asked that he forward that letter to the District so we can send it out as an example to other SCC's. He also said that this policy was adopted when phones were just phones, and there is always room for discussion and changes as technology changes. Most students now have chrome books, which presents it's own issues. Dr. Bates noted that the District is talking about implementing a Granite "Superhighway", and a guest "slow lane". People who bring their own devices must have them provisioned in order to be able to access Granite Information. Otherwise, as a guest, their access is limited. This is intended to keep all of the information safe. Please remember Community Council are elected bodies. If they come up with a policy and the community doesn't like it – they can run for the council to help make the policy. Sydney Johnson talked about the movie *Screen-Agers* which explores the effects of screen time on kids.

2. **Safe UT** –

Ben Horsley stated that Granite District has had several forms of tip lines for many years, starting with a donation of "buddy boxes". Several years ago, Senator Daniel Thatcher sponsored a bill to develop an app for tips to be provided to schools in an anonymous fashion. This is Safe UT. We still get texts and tips with other tools, and in social media, and we will continue with that, also. But, the reality is, when it is a suicidal situation you need immediate support. With Safe UT they can talk to a counselor who is trained for the situation. Ben showed the DCC members the posters that are hanging in the schools, and everyone received a copy of the protocol flow chart and the cards that were given to students. Only secondary schools are enrolled at this time, which means we have 24 schools on the program right now. We get an average of one tip per day. Everyone can download the app. Ben showed the app to everyone and explained the process for submitting a tip. This is not just for schools, everyone can use this service. When someone submits information, it goes to UNI counselors at U of U hospital. They will

decide whether it is information that needs to be acted upon immediately, or if not, they will send the tip information to the administrators/contacts for the school the child attends. Every school has 3 contacts and the Granite District Police is also a contact for every school.

The process: Someone submits a tip. It goes to UNI and they ask the correct questions to determine the severity of the situation. If they determine that there is imminent danger, they either send out services to provide assistance or send police. If they determine that it can wait until the next morning, they will send the administrator/school contacts the information. We are lucky that we have a 24/7 police dispatch center to take tips and make welfare checks at night if needed. This app has been available in secondary schools for over a year. Our district use for this program is above state average. Unfortunately, some of the usage has been to actually bully a student by submitting false tips. A girl at a Jr. high is being targeted using the app. A New version that is in the works will allow, in certain circumstances, for us to be able to get an IP address. Hopefully, this will help with this type of situation. Every day we have success stories. For elementary, it needs to be age appropriate and the state & Safe UT needs to give us the green light to roll it out. We hope this will happen by next fall. A comment was made that maybe we are creating a problem by introducing it to students that might not have thought of it prior. Martin commented that there is no good answer to that problem. We just need to continue to try to connect to people more and talk to our children about human connection.

3. Member Concerns:

Gayleen asked that, since it is the end of school year, if something comes up that needs to be addressed, please contact Ben's office. The first meeting for the 2017-2018 school year is scheduled for August 29. Thank you to all . . . meeting dismissed at 7:50.