



Board of Education
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DISTRICT COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Granite Education Center
Auditorium D

August 29, 2017
6:30 p.m.

Welcome and Introductions – Terry Bawden, Board President

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

<u>Name</u>	<u>Network/Position</u>
Martin Bates	Superintendent
Terry Bawden	Board President
Connie Anderson	Board Member
John Welburn	Asst. Superintendent
Don Adams	Asst. Superintendent
Linda Mariotti	Asst. Superintendent
Rick Anthony	Asst. Superintendent
Dave Garrett	Business Administrator/Treasurer
Ben Horsley	Director, Communications
Doug Larson	Director, Policy and Legal Services
Darla Williams	Secretary, Communications
Abby Coura	Visitor, Parents for Granite PAC
Ian Collison	Region 5 PTA President
Daniel Burton	Cottonwood Network
Clarke Nelson	Cottonwood Network
Aaron Weight	Cyprus Network
Christie Rasmussen	Cyprus Network
Darrell Kirby	Granger Network
Marni Allred	Hunter Network
Oliver Schreiber	Olympus Network
Valerie Pingree	Olympus Network
Chris Betcher	Skyline Network
Charles Pruitt	Skyline Network

BOND INITIATIVE UPDATE – Ben Horsley & Don Adams

Ben showed a video that is featured on GSDFuture.org. He explained that the District can give out information, but cannot campaign. Our Semi-Annual Parent Link newsletter is going to print, and will be in mailboxes soon. Ben handed out copies of a section of the newsletter that concerns the bond. He noted that although it is a 10 year phase, this bond will provide a funding mechanism for 40 years. He spoke of the different phases of rebuilding and how they are prioritized on a “worst first” model. The second handout that he gave to DCC members was a sample of the flyers that will be distributed at High school football games. They are informational flyers about the plans for the first 10 years if the Bond passes. Ben also explained that the PTA and the PAC will be helping with a lot of the things that Granite District cannot do.

He then showed the “Why Bond Now” video and opened it up for discussion and questions. Darrell Kirby asked – after the Bond passes, what is the earliest we would see construction happening? Don answered that we have begun the planning process for the 2 high schools. Remodels can start next summer. Replacement elementaries could start in about a year. High Schools take longer and would most likely take two years to begin construction. The dollar figures are our best guess for what costs will be when they actually begin construction. Chris Betcher asked about the fact that, on the handout it showed that Evergreen Jr. High would be remodeled in 2018 and then, 10 years later, it is scheduled for a rebuild. Don answered that the remodels will buy us 10 years. We will be fixing things that have a 10 year life cycle. Chris also asked about the security upgrades that were supposed to happen over the summer, but were canceled. Where are we at now with them? Don said they go out to bid next month. It will happen during the school year. Chris had concerns about how it would work with students in the school. Don said the big stuff could happen after hours, it is doable during school year. There is just not enough time to do everything during the summer.

A lot of informational meetings are coming up, if you can support those meetings, or the campaign – please let us know. The reality is that people are going to have questions and concerns, and we ask that you refer them to a meeting. The District or the PAC are happy to talk to anybody, anywhere to get the correct information out. Terry thanked the council as community leaders in advance and asked for any help that can be given. The Board is willing to attend any meetings and help in any way possible.

Water testing in schools – Don Adams

Granite District received a call from the Department of Environmental Quality asking if we were interested in testing the water in our schools, we said yes, and then we were thrown under the bus in the media. We were the only district that already does regular testing, and also the only Wasatch Front District that agreed to participate in the testing with DEQ. It is not uncommon in the summer to pull samples with high lead because you don't have water flushing it out. Once we received the results, we initiated a fix immediately, as we always do, and tested again with clean results. We are proactive and do randomized testing year round.

Member Concerns

Charles : Charles had a parent come to him with a concern about the automatic electric defibrillators in the schools. She said that the coach told her there was not any at Skyline. Don said that all high schools have four. They are spaced throughout the building. They are checked monthly. It seems like maybe it is a communication issue – with employees not knowing where they are, which the district will address. The District is also looking into getting mobile carrying case Defibrillators for all outdoor sports activities.

Charles: A parent also approached him about how Special Permits are handled, and how boundaries are drawn. This will be a subject for the next agenda, and in the meantime she is encouraged to call the District to get answers to her particular situation.

Aaron: Aaron just had a comment that the first day of school was the best day ever! The eclipse was awesome. What a great opportunity for the kids! Thank you to the District for making it such a special event for all of the schools. John Welburn said that the positive feedback is appreciated and Marni added a thank you to the calendaring committee for standing firm with the school start date.

Chris – Chris wanted to get some information on the French dual immersion in 9th grade taking the AP exam. Will there be feedback on it? Linda Mariotti said yes, we did it with Spanish and we will do it with French as well. This will also be a subject for the next agenda.

Oliver –Oliver wanted to know how staffing and class sizes get decided. How does FTE work? Martin answered that the FTE allocation process is in March when we get the projected enrollment for the next year. Adjustments are made when school starts if there is a significant difference in enrollment. Each schools community council should be involved in these decisions, as they are made at the school level. The average class size in a block school is 37. Chris mentioned that if you mess with that you might be eliminating electives or AP classes. John mentioned that there is settling that goes on after the first week of school . It is easier to add to than to take away from staff. It is a legislative funding issue. In a perfect world we wouldn't have 40 kids in a class. But it just isn't realistic.

Clarke . Clarke was concerned about the soccer fields that had grass so long they couldn't kick the ball in it. Don explained that the grounds crews got behind. Part of it was a weather issue, but that is no excuse. Grass should never be that long. Grounds crews have been offered overtime to catch up. He asked that parents send any concerns to the Granite twitter account: Granite Fix. Clarke also asked why some high school soccer fields are not protected by fences. Don explained that it depends on the school. Some schools don't want their soccer field fenced in, and the Principal of the particular school should address that question.

Terry thanked everyone for coming and dismissed the meeting at 7:47 pm