



Board of Education  
2500 South State Street  
Salt Lake City, Utah 84115-3110

385-646-4523  
FAX 385-646-4207  
[www.graniteschools.org](http://www.graniteschools.org)

DISTRICT COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Granite Education Center

Auditorium D

January 24, 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>
Terry Bawden	Board President
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
Aaron Weight	Cyprus Network
Christie Rasmussen	Cyprus Network
Charles Pruitt	Skyline Network
Marni Allred	Hunter Network
Daniel Burton	Cottonwood Network
Andrea Lindsey	Granger Network
Darrell Kirby	Granger Network
Oliver Schreiber	Olympus Network
Valerie Pingree	Olympus Network

## **1. LEGISLATIVE PREVIEW**

Ben Horsley showed a power point and had a hand out of a Legislative Tracking Sheet. He told everyone that it would be available on a google doc form, so that everyone would have access to it and could keep track of the bills and their progress. Every year we track between 150-200 education bills. Approximately 50 bills will pass (on average) and will impact education. We track which Legislator sponsored the bill, so we can contact them with feedback or questions. After the Legislative session, we will transfer the form to a compliance sheet so we can make sure that we are doing what is required of us. There were over 1,000 bills filed this year, which is a new record. One bill that Ben wanted to bring to everyone's attention is HB 267, which is sponsored by Representative Mike Winder. This bill would designate IGP schools. These are schools with Intergenerational Poverty. To be designated an IGP school you must have 20% or higher poverty level. The goal is to aid teachers and help them break the cycle. These high risk schools have a huge turnover rate in staff. At one school last year, the turnover rate was 50%. His bill would give a real incentive for teachers to come into that environment and be successful. With his bill, they would be looking at MGP, or medium growth percentile. This can be based upon year end test. From these tests they create a student growth percentile, and gives teachers a ranking. If a teacher has a ranking of 70% or higher, that teacher is considered "highly effective". The highly effective teachers would receive a stipend of \$5,000.00 the first year, and \$6,000.00 the second year, up to \$10,000.00 if they stay at the 70% or higher ranking every year. There is a concern that this would be very expensive but, in actuality, it is only projected to cost \$600,000.00 the first year.

Ben also told everyone that they could go to the website [Le.utah.gov/education](http://Le.utah.gov/education). To get more information on the status of the bills, future dates for hearings, see the discussions going on, etc. There are also, just to name a few, bills to require seat belts on buses, legislation for natural gas buses, and the Education First Initiative, which we will be watching closely.

## **2. LATE START UPDATE**

Another Bill that is being sponsored by Representative Carol Moss would look at later start times for secondary schools. John Welburn said that this has been a conversation a few times. He cited the report that Mike Manning had made to the Board, and again about 6 months ago with Mike Frasier reporting. Granite School District's Jr. Highs begin at 7:50, and Sr. High Schools begin at 7:30.

Some smaller school districts have tried the later start time, but there is only one school district that is comparable in size to Granite School District that has implemented it. This District is in Arlington, VA. Chuck Pruitt referred to a report from the American Academy of Pediatrics. This report urged a later start time. It is recommended that teenagers get 8-9 hours of sleep a night, and he said that the data is very clear in the fact that it is beneficial to start school later. He referred to emails from parents who were concerned about the early start time. One parent cited 5 different news reports that argued for later start times. Chuck stated that he does not see how you could oppose this, if you are truly doing what is best for children.

The Council did have some reservations. Marni Allred and Christie Rasmussen commented on the fact that the District that we are using as an example is on the East Coast. The East coast does everything later in the day. Prime time is later, so to compare times with Utah

just doesn't match up. This school district is also very different in socio-economics. They don't have the issues that our patrons face with child care, both parents working, etc. Connie Anderson spoke as a retired teacher and said that when they increased the amount of time that kids had between classes, the same amount of kids were tardy. Several people on the committee felt that kids will adapt to the change of time. They will go to bed later because they know that they don't have to get up early.

There are also issues such as busing, as it will be impacted in a big way, and child care. A lot of parents rely on their secondary student to take care of their younger siblings when parents are still at work. Oliver stated, and everyone agreed that bus routes should not play a part in the decision, if it is truly about the kids. What is most important? Economics, parent, teachers, or students?

Gayleen brought up the subject of possible alternatives to scheduling. With the new building projects on the horizon, can we look at flexibility in the future in terms of students determining their own schedules. (more like college). She has seen students who had to work after school to help pay the rent, or had to be home at a certain time to care for siblings. You cannot paint every school with the same brush. Some schools could adapt to a start time change, and for others it would be very difficult.

Terry Bawden commented that these are very important discussions, and we will continue to have them and to investigate and arrive at a decision that is best for the kids.

**MEMBER CONCERNS** – President Bawden asked if there were any concerns that could be addressed, or put on the agenda for the next meeting. Charles brought up an email from a parent that wanted to ask about defibrillators in schools. Don Adams reported that the District has just purchased some and is set to start rolling them out. They will have 4 go to high schools, 2 to jr. highs, and 1 to elementary schools. The process is beginning.

Chris Betcher, who was unable to attend, emailed in a concern about the Dual Immersion program in the Secondary Schools. Linda Mariotti stated that Spanish is the first language program to move into Secondary. There are kinks (such as finding qualified teachers), but it is in place and moving forward.

Darrell asked if there was any input on the boundary changes at Neil Armstrong Academy. Superintendent Bates stated that the boundary changes have been adopted and they are moving forward in the fall.

Marni asked if there was an attendance clause in the by-laws for DCC. She is concerned that there are some people who have taken the position, but never attend the meetings. Ben said he would look into it, and we will discuss it when we meet again.

President Bawden thanked everyone for their attendance and we dismissed at 7:50 pm.