

DISTRICT COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Granite Education Center

Auditorium D

December 19, 2017

6:30 pm

Welcome and Introductions – Connie Anderson, Board Vice President

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

Name	Network/Position
Connie Anderson	Board Vice President
Connie Burgess	Board Member
Gayleen Gandy	Board Member
Martin Bates	Superintendent
Rick Anthony	Asst. Superintendent
Linda Mariotti	Asst. Superintendent
John Welburn	Asst. Superintendent
Don Adams	Asst. Superintendent
Dave Garrett	Business Administrator/Treasurer
Ben Horsley	Director, Communications
Danny Stirland	Director, School Accountability
Ian Collison	Region 5 PTA President
Curt Hansen	Director, Student Prevention & Placement
Darla Williams	Secretary, Communications
Clarke Nelson	Cottonwood Network
Daniel Burton	Cottonwood Network
Marie Roe	Cyprus Network
Marni Allred	Hunter Network
Christie Rasmussen	Hunter Network
Mike Edwards	Kearns Network
Valerie Pingree	Olympus Network
Julie Jackson	Olympus Network
Charles Pruitt	Skyline Network
Dan Sudit	Skyline Network

Connie Anderson welcomed everyone at 6:30 pm. Everyone introduced themselves, as there were a few new members. She thanked everyone for the support of the Bond, and turned the time over to Martin Bates. Martin talked about how the agenda for this meeting is driven by interest and questions that arise at this meeting and at the SCC meetings. He also said that the Bond will be one of the items on the agenda next month as we begin the process.

1. Open Enrollment Process

Curt Hansen handed out a copy of the USOE STANDARD OPEN ENROLLMENT APPLICATION. This hand out is approved by the Utah State Board of Education. There are two enrollment periods. The first one is Early Enrollment, which is between December 1 and the third Friday in February. During this period, the calculations are based on their number threshold and how many students are in the school. The second enrollment period is Late Enrollment. At that time the calculations are based on FTE staffing.

When school Principals receive an application, they date it so they can work on a first come first serve basis. However, priority is given to students who live within Granite District boundaries, and to students who already have a sibling in the school (Principals often make two stacks). Parents also need to keep in mind that a school may be open, but a program may be closed (special placements, grade levels, etc.). Once you are accepted, you are a student at that school until you leave that school. You do not need to reapply every year. Schools have a right to revoke a permit if they find that the information on the application was falsified. However, they usually just try to get the parent to fill out a new application and put the correct information. We always try to go by the saying “Don’t punish the kids for the sins of the parents.”

Principals work very hard to accommodate as many as they can.

2. French Immersion AP Scores

Linda Mariotti explained that the French AP students will be taking the test for the first time in May. Apple scores will be looked at before that date, to see how prepared our French DLI students are. Our Spanish AP kids took the AP test for the first time 2 years ago. The percent of passing that first year was 67%. The second year it was 70%. We are very proud of those scores. They are good scores, and they are going up. In answering a question about whether there are plans to expand the program, Linda noted that we would love to expand, however there is a real problem with finding teachers.

The elementary model (state-wide) is ½ day in the target language starting in first grade. When you move to Jr high level that changes. At that time you begin with DLI 3. You can

also take the Language Culture class. The Language Culture class is approached differently depending on the school. Some make it a class during the day that you can take, and others offer it as an after school class. In high school, you will take DLI 5. In this course, students will take the AP test in their target language. If a student does not pass with a 3, they can move into the next level and take the AP test again. Students who take DLI from first grade through high school, and take advantage of the options that they have in high school, can almost earn a college minor in their target language by the time they graduate from high school.

3. Staffing Ratio and Class Sizes

Martin explained that elementary and jr. high student class ratio is 27.25, while high school is 28.25. These numbers are determined by the Board. For example: in high school, a teacher would teach 225 students per day. If they taught all 8 periods that would average the 27.25 per class. However, a high school teacher does not teach all 8 periods. If they teach 6 periods a day, the average class size would be 37 students. If a SCC wants to cap a certain subject, those students must be dispersed elsewhere. It is a balancing act at each school. Students who leave the school for released time, GTI, etc. do not affect the FTE ratio. Elementary schools may sometimes cap the number on lower grades to have smaller class sizes, but that will make the upper grades bigger than their FTE in order to balance. Magnet and dual immersion are counted as general ed. Special Ed does their FTE completely separate from general ed.

4. Member Concerns

Charles said that he had some SCC members from Churchill and Oakridge come to him concerning safety issues at their schools. They are experiencing a lot of traffic on the school grounds at night, and an increase in vandalism. The SCC members stated that they expressed their concerns to the district and were upset at the response. They feel like the district did not address their problems. Don spoke on this and said that the district had asked the SCCs at these schools to find out how the neighbors and patrons of the schools would like to see it addressed. They said they would like more security cameras, which we can do, but from experience we know that cameras do not stop crime. They also would like more security lighting. This is a complicated request that will have to be looked at because this is usually very unpopular with houses directly adjacent to the school. Churchill's parking lot is on a hill, and lighting an uneven parking area creates problems. Don said that they will look into this, and work with the schools to try and find a solution.

Marni commented that she feels that we are not keeping up with the technology in our schools with the available broadband. Martin answered that this was being addressed

currently. We are working towards having a guest sign on and a separate line for Granite District devices doing Granite District business. Right now it is shared, and at any given time we could have thousands of devices in one building. Bond money will be used to update schools that need it, and individual schools should be notifying the district of these kind of issues. This is fixable, and the work is underway.

Several items were brought up to be considered and addressed at the next meeting.

Connie Anderson thanked everyone and closed the meeting at 8:00 pm