

**Granite School District**  
**Board of Education Meeting**  
**Tuesday, October 1, 2024**

A meeting of the Board of Education of Granite School District convened in the Boardroom at the Granite Education Center, 2500 South State Street, Salt Lake City, Utah. President Nicole McDermott called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m., those in attendance:

Connie Burgess: Present, Kim Chandler: Present, Julie Jackson: Present, Nicole McDermott: Present, Clarke Nelson: Present, Kris Nguyen: Present, Karyn Winder: Present.

The following members of the administration were present:

Benjamin Horsley	Superintendent
Todd Hauber	Business Administrator
Don Adams	Assistant Superintendent
Leslie Bell	Assistant Superintendent
John Welburn	Assistant Superintendent

Dr. Mitch Nerdin, Chief of Staff, Doug Larson, General Counsel, and Stacy Bushell, Executive Secretary, were in attendance.

### **ADMINISTRATION REPORTS**

#### **Capital and Construction Update**

Don Adams, Justin Naegle, and Chris Kartchner presented an update on the status of capital and construction projects. Board member Winder asked for an update on the plan for a secure vestibule at West Kearns elementary.

#### **Staffing Report**

Dr. Patrick Flanagan presented the 2024 staffing report. This report included information about recruitment, positions filled this year, and teacher applicant data. Granite's salary and benefits package, the Granite Wellness Center, and employee referrals attract qualified applicants.

#### **Student Support Organizations (SSOs)**

Doug Larson reviewed the difference between SSOs and parent volunteers. The term school sponsored was defined as it relates to student services, programs and activities. Boosters are not used to circumvent district policies.

### **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

President McDermott said there is need of an executive session and called for a motion.

**Motion:** I move we go to executive session for the purpose of character and competence and litigation. This motion, made by Julie Jackson and seconded by Karyn Winder, Carried.

**Vote:** Connie Burgess (yea), Kim Chandler (yea), Julie Jackson (yea), Nicole McDermott (yea), Clarke Nelson (yea), Kris Nguyen (yea), Karyn Winder (yea)

**Results:** Motion passed. Yea: 7, Nay: 0

The executive session began at 6:10 p.m. Clarke Nelson, Karyn Winder, Kris Nguyen, Connie Burgess, Julie Jackson, Kim Chandler, Doug Larson, Ben Horsley, and Todd Hauber were in attendance. Doug Larson was excused for the character and competence portion of the meeting.

**Motion:** I move to adjourn the executive session. This motion, made by Karyn Winder and seconded by Julie Jackson, Carried.

**Vote:** Connie Burgess (yea), Kim Chandler (yea), Julie Jackson (yea), Nicole McDermott (yea), Clarke Nelson (yea), Kris Nguyen (yea), Karyn Winder (yea)

**Results:** Motion passed. Yea: 7, Nay: 0

The executive session adjourned at 6:27 p.m.

### **GENERAL BOARD MEETING**

The Granite School District Board of Education reconvened at 7:01 p.m. in the Boardroom. President Nicole McDermott welcomed all in attendance for this session and called for a roll call of board members; all board members were present. President McDermott invited those representing organizations to introduce themselves.

PTA - Amy Moore, Liz Shellum, and Kimberly Swensen  
GEA - Michele Jones  
GESPA – Jessica McClintic  
Elected Officials – Matt MacPherson and Kathleen Riebe

**Pledge of Allegiance** - Chief Randy Porter led the pledge of allegiance.

**Reverence** - Whittier Elementary 3<sup>rd</sup> grade students.

### **GOOD NEWS MINUTE**

Clarke Nelson talked about the partnership between AMES and Cottonwood. Cottonwood high will soon offer an associates program. He visited several classrooms, teachers are remarkable. Karyn Winder attended legislator visits at several schools. There is a friendly attendance competition between Frost and Whittier elementary. She thoroughly enjoyed the invitation to Valley Junior's faculty lunch to celebrate their high proficiency award. She helped at the Granite Education Foundation (GEF) shop-a-thon.

Kris Nguyen attended classrooms where legislators visited. She thanked Julie for coordinating these visits. Students did a great job leading tours at ribbon-cutting events. The GEF Shop-a-thon was fantastic she thanked those involved. She attended the PTA advocacy conference; Region 5 PTA had a lot of representation at the conference.

Connie Burgess said September is a fun month with all the activities that take place. She participated with GEF preparing weekend kits. She attended the GTI visit with a representative and enjoyed seeing the variety of learning taking place there.

Kim Chandler agreed, September is a busy month. She attended the West Lake ribbon cutting, and several legislator visits to classrooms, and PAC open house meetings. The most impactful were constitution day/month lessons and activities.

Julie Jackson is excited about the permanent action club at Skyline and their efforts to increase voter registration. She celebrated outcomes of legislator visits, insights gained will be helpful.

Nicole McDermott learned a lot from legislators. She thanked parents and teachers for parent teacher conferences. She participated in the day of service with GEF and their sponsors.

## **ACTION ITEM**

### **Administrative Appointment**

Administrative appointment effective October 7, 2024

Joshua DeMoux

Assistant Principal, Matherson Junior High

**Motion:** I move to approve the administrative appointment. This motion, made by Julie Jackson and seconded by Kris Nguyen, Carried.

**Vote:** Connie Burgess (yea), Kim Chandler (yea), Julie Jackson (yea), Nicole McDermott (yea), Clarke Nelson (yea), Kris Nguyen (yea), Karyn Winder (yea)

**Results:** Motion passed. Yea: 7, Nay: 0

John Welburn introduced Josh DeMoux, newly appointed assistant principal, who then introduced his guests.

## **RECOGNITIONS**

### **2023-2024 Highest MGP**

The elementary schools were Robert Frost (75.5), Crestview (73), Cottonwood (71), Eastwood (68), Rosecrest (62), and Vista (62).

The top secondary schools were Wasatch Junior (57), Eisenhower Junior (55), and Skyline High (60).

### **2023-2024 Highest Improved Proficiency**

The elementary schools were Hunter, West Kearns, Hillsdale, David Gourley, Vista and Calvin S. Smith.

The secondary schools were Wasatch Junior, Valley Junior and Cyprus High.

### **Distinguished Service Award**

Sergeant Lee Dial was recognized for 30 years of service with the Granite Police Department.

### **Meritorious Budget Award, Association of School Business Officials (ASBO)**

Brian Ipson, Budget Director was recognized for his leadership.

### **20 Years of Service**

Connie Burgess has served on the Board of Education of Granite School District board for 21 years. President McDermott presented her with the 20-year pin which she earned at the completion of the 2023-2024 school year.

## **GRANITE ELECTED OFFICIAL PARTICIPATION TIME**

Representative Matt MacPherson addressed the board regarding the sex education materials. The materials were available on a secure site, the image quality was poor, and he had to request better quality images to view in person. He believes Granite could take additional steps to make the information clear and concise online.

## **PATRON PARTICIPATION TIME** - none

## **CONSENT ITEMS**

Minutes: September 3, 2024 and September 17, 2024

Purchases as outlined in the agenda.

Personnel:

Employee Hires and Separations

Reappointment of Business Administrator, Todd Hauber

Financial Reports as outlined in the agenda.

Sex Education Materials

Teacher and Student Success Act (TSSA) District Framework

**Motion:** I move we accept the Consent Agenda. This motion, made by Kris Nguyen and seconded by Karyn Winder, Carried.

Kim Chandler has questions about items on the sex education materials list. She pointed out possible conflicts with state board rule and the bill. Superintendent Horsley said there will be another review by administration in the next weeks to ensure the materials comply.

**Vote:** Connie Burgess (yea), Kim Chandler (nay), Julie Jackson (yea), Nicole McDermott (yea), Clarke Nelson (yea), Kris Nguyen (yea), Karyn Winder (yea)

**Results:** Motion passed. Yea: 6, Nay: 1

## **INFORMATION ITEM**

### **Population Analysis Committee (PAC) Update**

Steve Hogan, Planning and Boundaries Director, updated the board regarding the feedback collected during recent community meetings. The potential closure of Orchard and Redwood elementary schools and proposed boundary adjustments were indicated on maps. The proposed boundary adjustments to Wilson and Lincoln elementary were reviewed.

Survey results for the Spanish dual language immersion (DLI) study were included in the presentation. A hybrid model to move the program from four schools to two was preferred by PAC. In this proposal, Stansbury remains a DLI school and the DLI program at Hillsdale would be removed. The second part of the DLI proposal is to make Valley Crest a magnet Spanish DLI school, moving traditional students to Monroe elementary and adjusting part of the Armstong boundary to Monroe. All DLI-Spanish students in the area would be expected to attend the new magnet school except Stansbury students, because Stansbury will continue to host DLI.

Superintendent Horsley pointed out that these are the PACs final recommendations. The PAC will schedule meetings in the impacted communities, present updated maps, and gather feedback from families on the final recommendations. Then the recommendations will be presented to the board for approval at the November and December board meetings.

### **FIRST READING**

#### **Article X.C.3. Educator and Student Communications through Social Media**

**Motion:** I move we accept Article X.C.3. Educator and Student Communications through Social Media as a first reading. This motion, made by Connie Burgess and seconded by Julie Jackson, Carried.

**Vote:** Connie Burgess (yea), Kim Chandler (nay), Julie Jackson (yea), Nicole McDermott (yea), Clarke Nelson (yea), Kris Nguyen (yea), Karyn Winder (yea)

**Results:** Motion passed. Yea: 7, Nay: 0

### **SUPERINTENDENT and BOARD REPORTS**

Superintendent Horsley announced, as part of the reopening of Brockbank Junior and grade reconfiguration, Magna Elementary will become a STEAM academy and Brockbank will be a STEM focused school. This will create an educational pathway in these communities and provide enhanced opportunities for students. There is a new initiative for department directors visit a classroom at least once per week connecting district leaders to our schools and classrooms; there have been 777 visits to 85 schools by 50 administrators. Julie Jackson coordinated legislator in classroom week, and we are seeing benefits of cross collaboration. We have wonderful teachers working to support students, he thanked educators for the work they do.

Clarke Nelson thanked Julie for her efforts, he visited schools with legislators, and it was a tremendous opportunity.

Karyn Winder reported there was a contest to incentivize employees to complete biometric screening this summer instead of waiting until the end of the year. The wellness center is focused on preventive care. Open enrollment opened yesterday and there are benefit fairs scheduled.

Kris Nguyen the budget committee met today and finished a report on the capital timeline, she will share a calendar with board members. The capital plan may be a topic for the January study session. She thanked John Welburn and Superintendent Horsley for the appointment of an additional assistant principal at Matherson to help them and in anticipation of the Brockbank opening. She congratulated Connie Burgess on her years of service.

Connie Burgess said there are lots of activities planned during the month of October at community recreation centers and Wheeler Farm, details are available online.

Kim Chandler said the first District Community Council meeting is scheduled October 29, 2024.

Julie Jackson invited board members to share feedback on legislator in the classroom day.

Nicole McDermott said the calendar preference survey is available now. Law and Policy committee recommended a sensitive materials discussion for study session.

**ADJOURN**

**Motion:** I move to adjourn. This motion, made by Julie Jackson and seconded by Clarke Nelson, Carried.

**Vote:** Connie Burgess (yea), Kim Chandler (yea), Julie Jackson (yea), Nicole McDermott (yea), Clarke Nelson (yea), Kris Nguyen (yea), Karyn Winder (yea)

**Results:** Motion passed. Yea: 7, Nay: 0

Meeting adjourned at 9:35 p.m.

Note: A copy of related materials and an audio recording of the meeting can be found at <https://www.utah.gov/pmn/>

APPROVED: November 12, 2024