

Granite School District
Board of Education Meeting
Tuesday, April 14, 2026

A study session 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. Vice President Kris Nguyen called the meeting to order at 5:02 PM, those in attendance:

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| Kris Nguyen | Vice President |
| Connie Burgess | Board Member |
| Kim Chandler | Board Member |
| Julie Jackson | Board Member |
| Clarke Nelson | Board Member |
| Karyn Winder | Board Member |

Nicole McDermott, Board President participated virtually.

The following members of the administration were present:

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| Ben Horsley | Superintendent |
| Todd Hauber | Business Administrator |
| Dr. Mitch Nerdin | Chief of Staff |
| Dr. Tyler Howe | Assistant Superintendent |

Doug Larson, General Counsel, and Stacy Bushell, Executive Secretary, were in attendance. Leslie Bell, Assistant Superintendent, was excused.

STUDY ITEM

Communications and Community Outreach Department Update

Parent Advocate

Tayler Khater reported on the efforts made this year to give excellent customer service with responsive attention and solutions when parent concerns are directed at the district office. Working with school principals and district directors, issues are resolved through a single point of contact minimizing delay and confusion in the process. His office provides customer service coaching for secretaries. In elementary secretary training they talked about what a people first approach looks like. We want to make sure everyone is having a great experience. Authenticity and follow-up are critical. This was stressed with secretaries in terms of ways we can manage most of the concerns that come to us in this district. It always starts with the secretary.

Communications and Community Outreach

Luke Allen shared the communications team organizational chart and an overview of day-to-day operations in the communications office. Sensitive and emergency messages, crisis responses and news media responses are addressed by the communications department. They assist with board meetings, GRAMA requests, videos, event planning, the calendar committee and surveys.

Marketing

Jen Bodell, director, leads marketing for the district, supports and coaches principals, and works to help build community within high school networks, elementary through high school. Highlights this year include Crayons to Caps, Kindergarten Kickoff, Granite Replay and other positive exposure on social media. Several schools have benefited from targeted marketing efforts to boost community perception, engagement and awareness.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Vice president Nguyen said there is need for an Executive Session for collective bargaining.

Motion: I move we go to executive session for the purpose of collective bargaining.

Made by: Kim Chandler

Seconded by: Julie Jackson

Called for vote: Vice President Nguyen

Results: Motion Passed. Connie Burgess: Yea, Kim Chandler: Yea, Julie Jackson: Yea, Nicole McDermott: Yea, Clarke Nelson: Yea, Kris Nguyen: Yea, Karyn Winder: Yea, Yea: 7, Nay: 0

Kris Nguyen excused attendees at 6:01 p.m., the board took a five-minute recess.

The board convened an executive session at 6:10 p.m. Those in attendance were Nicole McDermott (virtual), Kris Nguyen, Connie Burgess, Kim Chandler, Julie Jackson, Clarke Nelson, Karyn Winder, Ben Horsley, Todd Hauber, Mitch Nerdin and Stacy Bushell.

Motion: I move to close executive session.

Made by: Karyn Winder

Seconded by: Kim Chandler

Called for vote: Vice President Nguyen

Results: Motion Passed Unanimously

ADJOURN

Motion: I move to close Study Session.

Made by: Karyn Winder

Seconded by: Julie Jackson

Called for vote: Vice President Nguyen

Results: Motion Passed Unanimously

The meeting adjourned at 7:16 p.m.

Note: A copy of related materials and an audio recording of the meeting can be found at <https://www.utah.gov/pmn/> and <https://meetings.boardbook.org/Public/Organization/2744>

APPROVED: May 5, 2026