

# Granite School District

## Board of Education Meeting

### Study Session

April 21, 2015

A study session for Granite School District was held in Auditorium D at the Granite School District offices, 2500 South State Street, Salt Lake City, Utah. President Terry Bawden called the meeting to order at 5:05 p.m., those in attendance:

Terry Bawden	President
Connie Anderson	Vice President
Connie Burgess	Board Member
Gayleen Gandy	Board Member
Sarah Meier	Board Member
Dan Lofgren	Board Member
Karyn Winder	Board Member

The following members of the administration were present:

Martin W. Bates	Superintendent
David F. Garrett	Business Administrator/Treasurer
Don Adams	Assistant Superintendent
Mike Fraser	Assistant Superintendent
Linda Mariotti	Assistant Superintendent
John Welburn	Assistant Superintendent

Ben Horsley, Director, Communications Department, and Doug Larson, Policy & Legal Services, were in attendance. Merilynn Boekweg, Board Recorder, also attended.

### **STUDY SESSION:**

President Bawden explained there were two open dates for board members to attend graduations as platform guests. They discussed who would be available to attend. They are to contact Kathy Goodfellow if they can schedule one of the open dates.

The May 19 Board Study Session was moved to May 26 at 5:00 p.m. preceding the scheduled 6:30 p.m. District Community Council. This action was taken to accommodate board members' scheduling conflicts.

## School Community Council (SCC) Discussion

Dr. Bates reviewed with the Board a discussion from the District Community Council meeting held in March. At that meeting the 5X5 block scheduling was presented. The participants at the meeting voiced their opinion that the District should take more of a leadership role in making changes at schools and not leave the decision making process up to SCCs and parents. If new ideas or programs were tried at other schools and had been successful the administration should mandate or recommend that all schools change to that program. There had been frustration at some of the schools because the SCC and the principal were not communicating well.

The Board discussed the reasons more decision making had been returned to the schools and the SCCs. The District may present new educational opportunities but it is their communities and SCCs that know the students and have valuable input on how it will work in the community. If the SCC and school administration are willing to make changes at their school they can bring their proposal to the Board. The Board listens carefully and is willing to work with the schools to implement good educational ideas that will benefit both the students and communities. Working on a SCC is much more than just allocating how Trust Land funds are spent. Several Board members expressed the thought that SCCs are just getting a good start and more time should be given for them to become more effective. It takes patience to work with them but they are coming along slowly.

Dr. Bates stated that more training on spending the Trust Land funds was needed after several errors were found on the State audit. More focus needed to be put on principal training in working with their SCCs. More focused training is being planned for this purpose.

Mr. Fraser explained a new requirement for staffing this year. The school principal and staffing committee makes their recommendations for next year and then it is taken to the SCC for their input. Each staffing plan must pass by the schools SCC and their input be considered by the principal and committee.

In summary Dr. Bates said he understood the Board wants local SCCs to make the decisions best for their communities. The District brings expertise; they bring the best for their communities and children. Both need to work together. Mr. Lofgren acknowledged how busy principals are and how important it is to give them the support they need. The Board asked for a report on how the staffing at the schools worked by including the SCCs.

Dr. Bates expressed a need for an Executive Session to discuss negotiations.

**Motion:**            **I move we move into Executive Sessions to discuss negotiation**

Made by:            Sarah Meier

Seconded by:      Gayleen Gandy

Called for vote:    President Bawden

Results:            Board Polled & Motion Carrie Unanimously

The Board adjourned directly from Executive Session at 6:40 p.m.