

# **Granite School District**

## **Board of Education Meeting**

**September 6, 2016**

A board meeting for Granite School District was held in the board room 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
Dan Lofgren	Board Member
Karyn Winder	Board Member

The following members of the administration were present:

Martin Bates	Superintendent
David Garrett	Business Administrator
Don Adams	Assistant Superintendent
Rick Anthony	Assistant Superintendent
Linda Mariotti	Assistant Superintendent
John Welburn	Assistant Superintendent

Doug Larson, Policy and Legal Services Director, and Kathy Goodfellow, Executive Secretary, were in attendance.

Sarah Meier, Board Member, arrived shortly after introductions.

### **ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS**

#### **Team Mill Hollow Proposal**

Aaron Barker, Trish Ireland, Tracy Bodily, Clay Conder, and Ben Barker, representing Team Mill Hollow, shared their stewardship proposal for the Mill Hollow Outdoor Education Center. In 2014 they established a non-profit organization to launch the program. They were able to open the camp for the 2016 season with 800 students participating. Diamond Ridge Elementary was very supportive with 220 students attending. Donations were used to fund 121 scholarships for kids unable to pay the full enrollment amount and a grant from AmeriCorps paid for cabin counselors. Team Mill Hollow is proposing to run the program, with Granite District's help (i.e. providing caretakers, workers), for the 5 years remaining on the current forest service lease agreement. After 5 years, they are confident they will be able to assume full stewardship. Board Members will discuss this information as well as other proposals and make a final decision in the October 4, 2016, Board of Education meeting. (Exhibit #1707a and b)

#### **Staffing Report**

Donnette McNeill-Waters, Human Resource Director, gave the teacher staffing report for the 2016-17 school year. We have filled 317 elementary and preschool positions this year and 177 secondary positions. Recruiting occurred both in state (367) and out of state (127) this year. In

terms of teacher experience, of the 494 hired, 239 are new to the profession, 255 come with some experience. 353 have Bachelor Degrees, 133 have Masters Degrees and 8 have Doctorates. Many also come with ESL endorsements and language fluency. Teaching vacancies that occur between now and the semester will likely be filled with Alternative Route to Licensure candidates. We do have student teachers in the field who will graduate at the semester and will fill any openings at that time. (Exhibit #1708)

Some conversation occurred regarding the Academic Pathway to Teaching (APT) licensure recently approved by the State Board of Education. At this point, we have not had any individuals inquiring about this route to licensure. A better understanding of this route is needed. There are concerns surrounding the evaluation of transcripts for content and the teaching of pedagogy content. Having master teachers evaluating and giving recommendations for licensure could be a legal issue. These are just a few of the issues that need to be resolved.

Linda Hansen, State Board of Education Member who was in attendance, said that only 10 people have applied for the APT statewide. The pedagogy issue is open to districts to determine how they handle the training.

Regarding staffing ratio in elementary schools, the teacher to student ratio is 27.25:1. We work with the student projections to begin the year, and then, using the October 1 enrollment numbers, the FTE is finalized. Schools, with their community councils, decide how best to use the allotted FTE.

Meeting adjourned at 6:07 p.m.

### **GENERAL BOARD MEETING**

The Granite School District Board of Education reconvened at 7:05 p.m. in the board room. President Terry Bawden welcomed all in attendance for this session and a roll call of board members was taken. Superintendent Bates introduced those representing organizations:

JaNeanne Dazley	Region V PTA
Ian Collison	Skyline PTA Council
Amy Torres	GAEOP
Darla Williams	GAEOP
Doug Wagstaff	GASA
Susen Zobel	GEA
Caren Burns	GEA
Michele Jones	GEA
Mike McDonough	GEA
Kathy Newton	GEF

Leslie Bell, School Accountability Services Director, introduced administrators attending by assignment:

Karen Chatterton	Principal, Westbrook Elementary
Lynette Golze	Principal, Whittier Elementary
Mardel Higginson	Principal, Western Hills Elementary
Naomi Hopf	Principal, Eastwood Elementary

Rod Horton	Principal, Bennion Junior High
Shauna Jensen	Principal, West Valley Elementary
Garett Muse	Principal, Taylorsville High
Yvonne Pearson	Principal, Woodstock Elementary
Jennifer Reed	Principal, Upland Terrace Elementary
Chris Griffiths	Assist Prin, Cyprus High
Emily Grunig	Assist Prin, Evergreen Junior High
Janet Thorpe	Assist Prin, Whittier Elementary
Mike Miller	Intern Assist, Cottonwood High
Karilee Pate	Intern Assist, Monroe & Wright Elems
Maren Singleton	Intern Assist, Pioneer & Wilson Elems
John Paul Sorensen	Intern Assist, West Lake Junior High
Deborah Woolley	Intern Assist, Matheson Junior High

School board candidates:

Sarah Meier, Precinct IV  
Connie Anderson, Precinct II

Pledge of Allegiance: Garett Muse, Principal, Taylorsville High

Reverence: Cottonwood High Madrigals, under the direction of Cecil Sullivan, performed two numbers.

### **RECOGNITION**

#### **Teacher of the Year**

Kandie Barber, Induction & Intervention Director, introduced Granite's Teacher of the Year, Jody Lynn Tolley, who is an ASL teacher at Skyline High School. Ms. Barber shared excerpts from the nominating application. Ms. Tolley was presented with flowers and a plaque and congratulated by the Board.

#### **MAYOR PARTICIPATION** – None

#### **CITIZEN PARTICIPATION** –

Aaron Walker, 1068 E Granite Mill Court, Salt Lake City.

Mill Creek Elementary enrollment is down this year creating a situation of possibly losing three teachers, thus creating larger class sizes in the non-dual language immersion classes. It will become even more difficult to keep good teachers if class sizes continue to increase.

Superintendent Bates took the opportunity to respond. We invest as much as we can in protecting class size. There are economic realities we work with in Utah. We won't know until October 1 how enrollment numbers have changed. Dr. Bates urged Principal Ann Kane to work closely with the school community council in using the FTE allocation to come up with the best plan possible.

### **CONSENT ITEMS**

Minutes, August 2, 2016

**Purchases:**

Three Driver Education Vehicles, Young Chevrolet – \$62,790.00  
Rental of Pool & Tennis Courts, Kearns High, Kearns Oquirrh Park Fitness Center – \$107,244.72

**Award of Contracts:**

HVAC Filtration Upgrade, Hillside Elementary, Commercial Mechanical – \$77,444.00  
HVAC Upgrade, Hunter High, KHI Mechanical – \$301,648.00  
Lighting Upgrade, Silver Hills Elementary, Impulse Electric – \$132,030.00

**Change Orders:**

Architectural Design Services, Cottonwood High Interior Remodel Project – \$120,311.00

**Personnel:**

Employee Hires and Separations

**Financial Reports:**

1. Purchase Order Summary – \$5,493,646.88
2. Accounts Payable Pay Vouchers – \$40,557,441.22
3. Principals' Cash Report – July 2016
4. Monthly Budget Report – July 2016

Valley Junior High Seminary Building Purchase

Graduation Schedule, 2016-17

Human Sexuality Materials

LAND Trust Amendments

**Motion: I move that we accept the Consent Agenda.**

**Made by: Gayleen Gandy**

**Seconded by: Connie Anderson**

**Called for vote: President Bawden**

**Results: Motion Passed Unanimously**

**INFORMATION ITEM**

**Recommended Solutions from the Population Analysis Committee**

Steve Hogan presented information on the current boundary studies: the Granger/Rolling Meadows Elementary study, the 3100 South Corridor study and the Silver Hills Elementary study. The population analysis committee recommends holding open houses for public input. Board Members agreed and Mr. Hogan will send possible dates to them.

**FIRST READING**

**Convicted Sex Offenders on School Property Policy Revisions**

Doug Larson explained that the Utah State Legislature passed stricter criminal procedures for registered sex offenders a few years ago. The revisions to this policy are intended to reflect the

stricter requirements of the statute. Namely, a parent or guardian who is listed on the sex offender registry may come onto school property only under strict supervision to carry out “necessary parental responsibilities.” The updated policy defines those circumstances and provides clear procedures for patrons.

It was suggested that medical emergencies be added to the list of exceptions.

Discussion around how principals know if any parents are offenders occurred. Principals receive reports from community members and also state statute requires offenders self-report to the principal.

**Motion: I move approval with the suggested addition.**

Made by: Dan Lofgren

Seconded by: Sarah Meier

Called for vote: President Bawden

Results: Motion Passed Unanimously

### **ACTION ITEM**

#### **Skyline Network Grade Reconfiguration**

This proposal was first presented during the August board meeting. Since that time, Board members and Superintendent Bates have received communications from patrons expressing concern about the process, specifically that inappropriate pressure had been placed on the Upland Terrace School Community Council to support the recommendation. There was some inclination by some council members to not support the recommendation to not reinforce those who brought the pressure to bear. However, the council determined to support the recommendation. Consequently, all councils in the Skyline Network support the recommendation.

#### **Citizen Participation:**

Karianne Prince, 4022 Splendor Way, Holladay.

She has participated in conversations at the elementary, junior and senior high levels. Several Granite networks have gone through grade reconfigurations using the board’s process of the change. We have wonderful parents and educators and she is confident that if we use our resources in our schools this change will be successful.

Rick Miller, 2927 E 3835 S, East Millcreek.

He is very supportive of this change however he is concerned with the aggressive timeline. As the vice-chair of the Upland Terrace School Community Council he doesn’t want to see any child left behind, or opportunities lost because of the aggressive timeline. We should not make children suffer due to a quick decision.

Board discussion included being disappointed to hear about behaviors in the School Community Council meeting and asked what can be done in future meetings to prevent such behaviors. The response from Jennifer Reed, Upland Terrace Principal, was that norms and standards are now in

place that allow whoever is conducting the meeting to take steps in dealing with individuals whose conduct may be disruptive or inappropriate.

Further discussion included that we don't have any experience with 6-8 middle school configuration. How do we make sure that 6<sup>th</sup> grade students are comfortable in a 6-8 school? In response: in this configuration more support can be offered in terms of counselors, behavior interventions, teaming, and building a culture of success in a middle school environment. Students will have the same advisory teacher through their junior high years. Because 9<sup>th</sup> grade students begin earning credits for graduation, in a typical 7-9 structure the 9<sup>th</sup> grade drives the class schedule. With the 9<sup>th</sup> grade students attending high school, the middle school will be able to focus on the lower grades and give more support to incoming 6<sup>th</sup> graders. Schools will also involve their School Community Councils and parents for input. Additionally, school administrators will visit other middle schools in the area who have this grade configuration to learn what has worked well for them.

Why the urgency? What might be lost with this timeline? Response: there is a lot of momentum for the change and plans have been in the works for some time now. The 6<sup>th</sup> graders are well prepared for increased opportunity.

Another plus is that no structural work will be needed in the school buildings to make this reconfiguration happen.

Board members voiced confidence in our school administrators and staff to be able to make this change successful.

**Motion: I move we approve the reconfiguration of the Skyline Network as requested.**

Made by: Gayleen Gandy

Seconded by: Karyn Winder

Called for vote: President Bawden

Results: Motion Passed Unanimously

## **SUPERINTENDENT AND BOARD REPORTS**

Superintendent Bates:

USBA Fall Regional Meeting, September 14.

During the September 27 Study Session, a long range capital plan will be discussed and we will have an executive session to discuss Mill Hollow.

Sarah Meier:

Asked if we have submitted any presentations for the USBA conference in January.

Asked if we are involved with the State Board's ESSA work group; Granite is closely engaged.

Karyn Winder:

She received an email inviting her participation on a panel regarding the Common Core and

Education in Utah, hosted by the County Youth Council on October 15. She will send that email to Superintendent Bates.

Connie Anderson:

She visited West Lake STEM school and Cottonwood High. Thank you to the workers and our employees for accomplishing major work before the school year started.

Terry Bawden:

Will there be an open house for the West Lake STEM school in October? Don Adams will coordinate dates and let board members know.

**Motion:**            **I move we adjourn.**

Made by:            Dan Lofgren

Seconded by:      Sarah Meier

Called for vote:    President Bawden

Results:            Motion Passed Unanimously

Meeting adjourned at 8:23 p.m.