

Granite School District

Board of Education Meeting September 3, 2013

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 Gayleen Gandy called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m., those in attendance:

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

Excused:	
Julene Jolley	Board Member

The following members of the administration were present:

Martin W. Bates	Superintendent
David F. Garrett	Business Administrator/Treasurer
Mike Fraser	Assistant Superintendent
David Gourley	Assistant Superintendent
Jim Henderson	Assistant Superintendent
Linda Mariotti	Assistant Superintendent

Ben Horsley, Director, Communications Department, and Merilynn Boekweg, Board Recorder, were in attendance.

Dr. Bates asked the Board to consider a change with scheduled meetings in September. He proposed moving the District Community Council to the 17th and the Board Study Session to the 24th of September. The topic of the study session would be school grades. After a short discussion the Board agreed with the schedule change.

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS

1. Granite Education Foundation Report

Brent Severe, Director, Granite Education Foundation (GEF), introduced members of their Executive Board who were in attendance.

Peter Hoj	President
Jon Tingy	Investments
Julie Miller	Community Engagement Coordinator
Midge Treglown	Secretary/Treasurer
Miriam Waterman	Executive Board Member
Kathy Newton	Executive Board Member

Mr. Tingy presented a GEF financial report for the past year. He explained the investment policy which has been designed to comply with the State of Utah Statutes. Operational funds are those that may be used within the current year and are invested in short term assets (i.e. Zions Bank, Granite Credit Union). Endowment funds are “not wholly expendable by the institution on a current basis” (investments in long term assets managed by a registered outside investment advisor). He reported the status of GEF’s Endowment Asset allocations and summarized the performance of the funds. (Exhibit #14-3)

Peter Hoj reviewed the donation history for the 2012-13 school year. Student Assistance for the year totaled \$21,750. The amount given to Program support (Cash for Classrooms, Excel Awards, Grants, Elementary Music Support, etc) was \$208,250. (Exhibit #14-4)

Mr. Hoj thanked the Board for their continued support. He acknowledged all of the volunteer hours that had been donated to benefit the children in Granite School District.

Mrs. Gandy expressed the Board’s appreciation for all of the work and time the members of the GEF put in each year. Mr. Lofgren asked if there was something more the Board could do to help them in their efforts. Mr. Hoj commented that the continual forms of support offered by the Board will always will be appreciated.

2. Staffing Report

Donnette McNeill-Waters, Director, Human Resources, presented the annual Staffing Report. This year Granite is currently experiencing a surplus of both elementary and secondary teachers. There are, however, still teacher shortages in Math, Science, Special Education, and Library Science (secondary). There have been 178 openings filled in elementary and preschool. Secondary schools filled 114 positions. Positions that open as the year progresses will most likely be filled by Alternate Route to Licensure (ARL) candidates.

Educators recruited from within Utah came from 10 in-state colleges and universities. Seventy Nine positions were filled from 39 out-of-state colleges and universities. New teachers (168) and those with experience (124) were hired with degrees including Bachelors, Masters, and Doctorates.

Recruiting will begin in October for the 2014-15 school year. Mrs. McNeill-Waters said they will be recruiting both in and out of Utah. Granite is attractive to candidates because of its excellent salary and benefits package, and the additional professional development that is offered.

The Board discussed reasons teachers are leaving Granite. Mrs. McNeill-Waters explained that common reasons include more education, newborn child care, and medical. They have tried to track the outgoing educators for the information but contact with the teachers is not always possible as some notify them by mail that they are not returning. Dr. Bates commented that our retention is better than other districts.

Mr. Fraser asked if our beginning teacher salary is keeping up with neighboring districts (i.e. Salt Lake and Park City). Mrs. McNeill-Waters stated that the salary is comparable, but it is our excellent benefit package that draws candidates. (Exhibit #14-5)

3. Community School Satisfaction Survey Results – Ben Horsley

Mr. Horsley reviewed the results of the Community School Satisfaction Survey that was made available to Granite patrons June through July of this year. The survey directed questions to the climate of the school, student improvement/growth, student preparation for college and career, principal and staff preparation, and school interaction with students, parents, and community. The data from the survey was generally clear, but Mr. Horsley acknowledged that revising some questions and shortening the length of the survey would make it more useful. (Exhibit #14-6)

The Superintendent explained that a Request For Proposal (RFP) was made to outside companies to develop a survey regarding community satisfaction with their schools. A committee reviewed the proposals and it was decided that they would not adequately gather the information wanted. The decision was that Granite's Communication Department would develop the survey and conduct it. It was sent out by the Communications office via the Blackboard Program and also the community list serve. There were 5300 responses which is a good return rate. The survey was available in Spanish and 200 responded.

The Board discussed how the surveys were aggregated and how computers need to be made available for those who do not have access to one. President Gandy asked that the committee consider how to reach those patrons who do not have students in school but are part of the communities.

President Gandy stated the need for an Executive Meeting.

Motion: I move we go into Executive Meeting to discuss land transactions.

Made by: Dan Lofgren

Seconded by: Sarah Meier

Called for vote: President Gandy

Results: Motion Passed Unanimously

EXECUTIVE SESSION

GENERAL BOARD MEETING

The Granite School District Board of Education reconvened at 7:02 p.m. in the board room. President Gandy welcomed all in attendance for this session and a roll call of board members was taken. Superintendent Bates introduced others representing organizations, they were:

Dawn Warner	Region V Director
Brent Severe	GEF
Kathy Newton	
Midge Treglown	
Susen Zobel	GEA
Cinda Allen	
Eddie Berrest	
Teresa Himmelberger	GAEOP
Natalie Yates	
Tracy Atkin	GESPA
Else Salmond	
Terri Roylance	GASA

Jane Lindsay, Elementary School Director, School Accountability Services, introduced administrators attending by assignment:

Alan Parrish	Principal, Cottonwood High
Rod Horton	Principal, Bennion Junior
Janice Wayman	Principal, Hartvigsen School
Jean Gowans	Principal, Academy Park Elementary
Cecilia Jabakumar	Principal, Arcadia Elementary
Pauline Longberg	Principal, Beehive Elementary
Lynne Rada	Principal, Bennion Elementary
Julie Wilson	Principal, Bacchus Elementary
Matthew Graham	Principal, Pioneer Elementary
Dottie Alo	Assistant Principal, Cyprus High
Michele Callahan	Assistant Principal, Granger High
Charlie Peterson	Assistant Principal, West Lake Junior
Matt Goebel	Assistant Principal, Armstrong Academy/ Penn Elementary
Karen Kidd	Intern Assistant Principal, Jefferson Junior
Halley Nelson	Intern Assistant Principal, Matheson Junior

Media: None

Pledge of Allegiance: Christina Vierra McGill, Principal, Driggs Elementary

Reverence: Dawn Warner, PTA, shared a quote from Mary Ann Williamson that stated it is our light that lifts us and we should shine as children do. Our light will help others. She thanked the Board for their support of PTA.

RECOGNITIONS

1. Teacher of the Year

Annette Brinkman, Director, Teacher and Administrator Induction and Intervention, presented Anne Reese to the Board as the Teacher of the Year. Ms. Reese teaches 2nd grade at Driggs Elementary. She was presented with flowers and an award from the GEF. Mrs. Brinkman explained the intricate process followed while selecting the Teacher of the Year.

Principal McGill reported while visiting Ms. Reese's class there was excellent interaction with the students and her colleagues. She said that there is always a positive atmosphere in Ms.

Reese's room. She added that the fundamentals are taught with more enrichment from other parts of the curriculum.

Ms. Reese thanked the committee, her principal and the Board. She related experiences and stories of teachers in her past that encouraged her to become one. Her mother is also a school teacher and it helped her decide to follow in the same profession. She introduced her parents that were in attendance.

The Board applauded her and thanked her for her devoted work with the children in Granite District.

MAYORS PARTICIPATION – None

CITIZEN PARTICIPATION - None

CONSENT ITEMS

Minutes: August 6, 2014

Purchases:

1. Fertilizing and Weed Control for District Sites, Trugreen - \$62,900.00
2. Computer Equipment for Information Systems, Hewlett-Packard Co. - \$75,750.40
3. Learning Management System Licenses, Utah Education Network - \$167,004.00
4. Destiny Software Licenses, Follett - \$55,177.35
5. Tabeau Data Reporting Tool, Tabeau Software Inc. - \$149,500.00
6. New Preschool Classroom Set Up, Beecon Learning, LLC - \$100,434.00
7. Hartvigsen Fully Accessible Playground, Sonntag & Associates - \$75,000.00
8. Tennis Court Resurfacing at Cyprus & Skyline High Schools, Parkin Construction - \$46,00.00

Award of Contracts

1. My Access Online Writing Software Licenses, Vantage Technologies - \$88,200.00
2. District Wide Calling System, Blackboard Connect Inc. - \$98,472.00

Personnel:

1. Employee Hires

Financial Reports

1. Purchase Order Summaries - \$6,973,712.39
2. Accounts Payable Pay Vouchers - \$34,947,668.36

3. Principals Cash Report – July 2013
4. Monthly Budget Report – July 2013

Sale of CTE Building Lot, 4330 South 1350 East

School LAND Trust Revision

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

Made by: Sarah Meier

Seconded by: Connie Burgess

Called for vote: President Gandy

Results: Carried Unanimously

INFORMATION ITEM

Boundary Process Report

Bryce Holbrook, Director, Planning and Boundaries, presented a letter to the Board for approval. The letter will be sent to patrons in six schools that would be affected if the Walker Lane area was moved into the Olympus Network.

The Board had directed Mr. Holbrook to follow procedure and hold an open house for those who would be affected by the boundary adjustment. They agreed with the letter and set Thursday, October 24th for the open house. It was decided to send the letters through the School Community Councils and have them disperse the information to their communities. The meeting will be held at Oakwood Elementary at 6:30 p.m. A similar letter will be sent directly to those in the Walker Lane area who have signed a petition that was given to the District earlier. (Exhibit #14-7)

FIRST READING

Fiscal Policies

Mr. Garrett and Superintendent Bates presented the new Fiscal Policies Manual that had been developed. The legislature has adopted new rules regarding procurement and must be followed by districts and schools. As the Administration talked about fiscal policies they felt it would be beneficial to bring the updated policies together into a manual. State Board Rule states

that these updates need to be approved by the Board by September 15th.

The Fiscal Policy Manual has been designed to combine all fiscal policies under one cover for easy reference. The Board was given a copy of the draft manual and a list of amendments sent by the State. The policies will be updated as per the state regulations and printed for district use. Also, the Board was given the Employee Ethics and Educator Standards for their use. (Exhibits #14-8 & #14-9)

Mr. Lofgren asked if the Board and Administration were comfortable with the changes and confident that this would bring Granite into compliance with the State. He proposed that the Fiscal Policies Manual be approved as an Action Item because the fiscal policies had already been approved by the Board. The Board agreed.

Motion: **I move we adopt the new Fiscal Policy manual as it has been updated as required by the state.**

Made by: Dan Lofgren

Seconded by: Terry Bawden

Called for vote: President Gandy

Results: Motion Passed Unanimously

ACTION ITEMS

1. Salt Lake County Magna Community Development Area (CDA)

Mr. Garrett welcomed Paul Bringham, Economic Development Planner for Salt Lake County to the meeting. He reminded the Board of the presentation given at the August board meeting where Salt Lake County had proposed combining a previously approved Redevelopment Area (RDA) with a new CDA for the Magna Main Street and adjoining areas.

Mr. Bringham stated that at this time they have, at the district's request, capped the budget for Granite's participation at \$1.5M. They have gained approval from Magna Water, County Unified Police, and will have the approval of the Unified Fire District next week.

Mr. Garrett explained that CDAs are new and follow a different approval process. It was proposed that the Board give approval for the Administration to negotiate with Salt Lake County on some additional items on the CDA. At the next board meeting it would require the Board's approval by signing an Inter-local Agreement and agreeing, by resolution, to participate in this

project.

The Board agreed with the proposed changes and the CDA was taken off the agenda as an Action Item.

2. School Community Council (SCC) Policy

Mr. Horsley explained the policy amendments for the SCC Policy will bring it in line with new legislation. The policy has been sent to SCCs and has received approval from the Principals. There has been no change on this policy since the First Reading.

Motion: **I move we approve the School Community Council Policy.**

Made by: Dan Lofgren

Seconded by: Sarah Meier

Called for vote: President Gandy

Results: Motion Passed Unanimously

REPORTS

Dr. Bates reminded the Board of the Town Hall Meeting on September 10th at Cyprus High. He also asked that they make note of the change in the DCC meeting that had been rescheduled to September 17th and the Board Study Session moved to September 24th.

President Gandy told the Board of two conference dates. The NSBA is scheduled for April 4-7, 2014 and ASCD on March 15-17, 2014. The Board needs to decide if they are interested in attending one. They should let her know quickly so registration can be done.

Mrs. Meier asked if the October 15th Study Session could be rescheduled because the Board will be getting back from NFUSSD Conference that evening. After discussion it was decided the October 15th Study Session would be canceled.

Mrs. Burgess reported on the Community Outreach Program that had taken place at Granger Elementary in August, prior to the start of school. The program had been a big success and the community had been very supportive.

Mr. Bawden related information about the opening celebration at Granger High and the accompanying football game. He said the community was very energized by the new school.

Mrs. Anderson thanked the Administration for the Kick-Off Day for the principals she had attended on August 7th. She enjoyed the classes and visiting with the principals.

Motion: **I move we adjourn.**

Made by: Dan Lofgren

Seconded by: Connie Anderson

Called for vote: President Gandy

Results: Motion Passed Unanimously

The meeting adjourned at 8:00 p.m.