

# Granite School District

## Board of Education Meeting Study Session February 18, 2014

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 Gayleen Gandy called the meeting to order at 5:09 p.m., those in attendance:

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

The following members of the administration were present:

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

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

### **STUDY SESSION:**

Public Education in 2050

Superintendent Bates explained after the study session in January the suggestion was made that the Board should have a discussion about what schools will look like in the future. With this information the Board could have a clearer vision of what to plan for. He commented that the Board's five year plan had been implemented one and a half years ago and it was progressing. An update on the plan will be given in an upcoming board meeting.

Mr. Lofgren shared his perspective on how the Board should look ahead at an educational

horizon and focus on a unified specific point. The Board could then move in that direction and enable Granite to meet future challenges. There should be key attributes to get to that point. The focus will help shape the decisions the Board will make now and in the years to come.

Dr. Bates presented information he had discussed with his staff regarding the possibilities that will drive change. Increasing academic rigor in the common core standards, learning by doing, project/problem-based learning, and high school completion will drive change. Blended learning (partially online and partially in the classroom), self-directed learning, competency-based education (skills rather than seat time) will personalize the learning opportunities.

The Board continued in a lengthy discussion about how to work together to educate students using both a conformed structure and a personalized setting. There was concern that too often funding is the main issue, not the education of the student. The educational system should communicate positively about what they have accomplished rather than what can't be accomplished because of lacking funds. The Board discussed that teacher development is key to the improvement of education.

Three areas were proposed as a starting point for continued study.

1. We are a district which believes teacher development is core and key to educational success.
2. We value the common experience (collective classroom discussion).
3. We value opportunities for individuals based on the common experiences.

Dr. Bates asked if the Board would like these expectations to go out to the remainder of the town hall meetings. The Board requested that more study be done on these ideas before they are introduced the public. They asked Dr. Bates to discuss these points with his staff and return with their ideas. Mr. Lofgren confirmed with the board members that more discussion is needed and attributes must be assigned before the future academic focus can be decided.

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

Made by:            Dan Lofgren

Seconded by:     Sarah Meier

Called for vote:    President Gandy

Results:            Motion Passed

The meeting adjourned at 6:50 p.m.