



**WORK STUDY SESSION MINUTES
BOARD OF DIRECTORS
MOUNT VERNON SCHOOL DISTRICT
Wednesday, February 3, 2021, 4:45 p.m.**

Call to Order: Director Otos called to order a work study session of the Mount Vernon School Board at 4:45 p.m. on February 3, 2021. The meeting was held via zoom connection. In attendance were Directors Otos, Samora, Coffey, and Cailloux. Director Ragusa was excused. A quorum was present. Also, in attendance was Superintendent Vivanco, Assistant Superintendent Nutting, and members of the construction team, staff, and public.

Construction Update

Tom Rooks presented information on the construction of Old Main to date. This included completed or work in progress and upcoming milestones.

Jeremy Woolley presented information on LaVenture planning. He noted the process for contractors to submit a Request for Qualifications (RFQ) has been advertised.

Jeremy Woolley presented a summarized budget report on all the construction projects.

Mount Vernon High School Course Recommendations

A team of staff presented information on proposed secondary course recommendations. Staff and administrators reviewed course changes that will allow improved alignment with the Racial Equity Policy.

- **Middle School**
Staff from LaVenture presented information on the proposed course updates. They shared that the course materials were reviewed based on Aztec philosophy, Nahui Ollin. This helped guide the work as it reflects racial justice. Director Cailloux thanked the staff for their thoughtful work on making the alignments. She inquired if text updates are needed. They replied that part of the balance is to focus on skills that can be transferred to multiple texts. They want to keep the texts and other learning tools relative and responsive. Director Coffey inquired if the equity policy helped or gave guidance to the process. The reply was that it did help, as did the professional development and other conversations on the topic. Director Samora thanked them and appreciated the effort of the middle schools to work together. Director Thomas thanked staff for their presentations.
- **High School**
Information on the various courses was presented by several staff and principal, Dr. (360) 428-6110 fax (360) 428-6172 • 124 East Lawrence Street • Mount Vernon, WA 98273-2999
www.mountvernonsschools.org


Wattawa. She noted the Latinos in Action is designed to bridge the graduation and opportunity gap for Latino students. It is a college and career ready curriculum that includes literacy tutoring and leadership development. Adoption of this course would make MVHS the first LIA school in the State of Washington. Dr. Cailloux said the description sounds similar to Careers in Education. Dr. Wattawa shared that Dr. Enriques from Utah started the LIA program and felt it provided a broad connection with students and would also work with and incorporate other programs such as AVID. This would complement the Recruiting Washington Teachers (RWT) program, not replace.

- Other courses reviewed included American Studies, Stacy Lewis presented; World Civilizations, Alana Miller presented; and 9th Grade Science, Mr. Lewis, Ms. Chalfant, and Ms. Krueger presented. World Civilizations presents a more inclusive and historical context.

No action was taken and the meeting adjourned at 6:00 p.m.



Larry Otos, Board President



Ismael Vivanco, Superintendent
Board Secretary