

MOUNT VERNON SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 320
REGULAR SCHOOL BOARD MEETING MINUTES
Wednesday, June 3, 2020, 6:00 p.m.

Call to Order and Flag Salute: Director Otos called to order a regular meeting of the Mount Vernon School District Board of Directors at 6:00 P.M. on June 3, 2020 via Zoom call. He led the board and gallery in the flag salute.

Roll Call of Members: Members present included Directors Otos, Ragusa, Coffey, Samora, and Cailloux. A quorum was present. Also present were Superintendent Bruner and student representatives Cervantes, Alsilimy, and Covarrubias. Some others in attendance included Principal J. Walton Kawasaki, K. Johnston, D. Devries, J. Larson, F. Atkinson, T. Papendorf, S. Gilbert, C. Rodrigues, B. Nutting L Jones, B. Dutton, and student N Scholz.

Set Consent and Regular Agendas:

Upon motion by Director Ragusa, seconded and unanimously approved, the board set the consent and regular agendas as presented.

Review and Approval of Consent Agenda:

Upon motion by Director Cailloux, seconded and unanimously approved, the board approved all items included in the consent agenda as listed.

Warrants

- Numbers 566745 through 566926, totaling \$1,213,334.39 and voids/cancellations totaling \$27,150.83
- Numbers 566951 through 566976, totaling \$1,313,852.53
- Numbers 566977 through 567099, totaling \$1,666,845.17 and voids/cancellations totaling \$23,861.63
- Numbers 567100 through 567101 totaling \$24,634.27
- **Minutes**
 - May 6, 2020 Work Study
- May 6, 2020 Regular Meeting
- May 20, 2020 Regular Meeting

Personnel Report

- Certificated: Employment; Reassignment/Transfer; Leave; Retirement/Resignation/ Termination
- Classified: Employment; Summer Food Program; Leave; Retirement/Resignation/ Termination
- Extra/Co-Curricular Stipends and Supplemental Contracts
- Unfilled Certificated and Classified positions

Public Comments: Director Otos called for public comments.

Matthew Jurenka, former student, expressed his opinion regarding recent incidents at Mount Vernon High School. He expressed his personal support of ASB president R. Alsilimy. He stated his concern that cyber bullying is being allowed to continue with little action on the part of administration. He expressed his belief that the School Resource Officers should be removed from campus. He offered his support to be a

part of the discussion.

Board Member Comments: Director Otos called for board member comments.

- **Student representative R. Alsilimy** shared comments on her experiences as a student in the district. She said that she arrived in the district in 7th grade and has given her time in leadership roles since, feeling that she has contributed to many positive changes both in the district and community. She shared her passion regarding the Black Lives Matter movement and has now become the target of cyberbullying as a result. She shared her belief that in the face of this bullying, the district has done nothing to protect her. She does not believe the district actions represent the racial equity they say they support.
- **Director Coffey** thanked Student Alsilimy for sharing her comments. He said that he thinks well of the Mount Vernon community, and that racism exists here as well as elsewhere and is a big deal. To awaken citizenry, we need to be outspoken. He expressed his appreciation to her for her service.
- **Director Ragusa** thanked Student Alsilimy for her message. She believes youth will be the changemakers.
- **Director Samora** said that her words are heard and sets light on a difficult topic. She thanked Student Alsilimy for her work on behalf of the district.
- **Director Otos** thanked Student Alsilimy for her comments. He said that the Racial Equity policy is a start and there is much more to do. The superintendent will work with staff to develop a plan to address the student issue.
- **Director Cailloux** expressed her frustration that the racial inequity and oppression are large conceptual terms but we need to know how to respond to the micro aggressions and statements.
- **Superintendent Bruner** said that he also appreciates the work Student Alsilimy has done for the district. He said it is clear that even with the hard work and accomplishments of the past three years on developing the Racial Equity policy, there is much more to do, particularly including students in the discussion. An action plan is being prepared that will support both short and long term improvements.

Superintendent's Report

Skagit Academy Presentation: J. Walton Kawasaki: Principal Walton Kawasaki presented her Alternative Learning Experience report that is required by WAC. She shared the academy supports 310 students with an average 22 students per full time teacher. Students operate with a written student learning plan, which serves the purpose of a master plan for their education. Academy teachers presented examples of student learning. Principal Walton Kawasaki said that families have shared during the closure they were not engaged in electives. The staff leadership team met and determined to modify the electives to make them more accessible to families. The students will utilize Choice & Challenge boards.

Director Otos thanked the teachers, student, and Ms. Walton Kawasaki for their report, noting that the building tours are missed.

Old Business

Policy #3122 Revision: Excused and Unexcused Absences, second read: S. Thomas

Upon motion by Director Ragusa, seconded and unanimously approved, Policy #3122 Excused and Unexcused Absences was revised.

Resolution #31/19-20; WIAA Authority

Upon motion by Director Ragusa, seconded and unanimously approved, the board adopted Resolution #31/19-20 delegating authority to WIAA.

New Business

Instructional Materials Committee Report on Safe and Civil Schools and adoption: F. Atkinson

School Board Policy provides the district with an instructional materials committee and sets a process to determine which instructional materials we will be used. The committee, composed of administrators and teachers, wanted to expand and include the perspective of equity leads. The Safe & Civil Schools package helps the district establish local practices to develop supports for students. It helps to create systemic practices that are equitable. The committee recommends adoption of the Safe & Civil Schools program.

Director Otos inquired that in the past, teachers might request materials outside of the district approved curriculum. Is that process still underway? Mr. Atkinson said that it is, but due to budget constraints, has not happened recently. Director Ragusa said that moving the racial equity work forward is important. Director Coffey said the process has been helpful in the past. Director Cailloux said the conversations are important to the process.

Upon motion by Director Ragusa, seconded, and approved, the board supports adoption of the Safe & Civil Schools programming.

Construction

Harriet Rowley Elementary

Washington Sustainable Schools Protocol: S. Gilbert; Jeremy Woolley, Parametrix project manager said that annual reporting of the sustainable schools is required. Harriet Rowley Elementary will be included with other district schools in future reports.

Policy #2421 Revision; Promotion/Retention; first read

Superintendent Bruner shared that several years ago the board adopted the Progress and Promotion policy. It was developed by a committee, and was meant to motivate students who were capable but unwilling to work. It was in line with the educational process at that time. Administrators now have a better understanding that there often other reasons that impacted student outcome. This policy better represents what support can be made, equitably and fairly to students.

Public Comments: There were no public comments.

Student Comments


Student Representative Cervantes thanked the board for the presentations. She also shared that Representative Alsilimy has the passion to do the work that she believes.

Student Alsilimy said that she wants the board to financially support the members of the equity team.

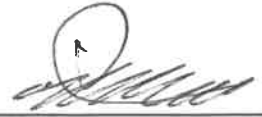
Adjourn to Executive Session; Per RCW 42.30.110(1)(g); performance of a public employee, the board adjourned to executive session at 7:45 p.m. for approximately 15 minutes. No action to follow.

The regular session reconvened at 8:00 p.m.

Adjournment: There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 8:01 p.m.



Larry Otos, Director
Board President



Ismael Vivanco, Superintendent
Secretary to the Board, signed on behalf of
Carl Bruner