

MOUNT VERNON SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 320
REGULAR SCHOOL BOARD MEETING MINUTES
Wednesday, August 5, 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 October 16, 2019. The meeting was held vi Zoom call. Director Otos led the board and gallery in the flag salute.

Roll Call of Members: Members present included Directors Otos, Ragusa, Coffey, Cailloux, and Samora. A quorum was present. Superintendent Vivanco was present, as were many staff and community members.

Set Consent and Regular Agendas:

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

Review and Approval of Consent Agenda:

Upon motion by Director Ragusa, seconded and unanimously approved, items in the consent agenda were approved as follows:

Warrants

- Numbers 567679 through 567694 in the amount of \$38,249.10
- Numbers 567697 through 567723 in the amount of \$1,300,227.10
- Numbers 567724 through 567861 in the amount of \$2,928,898.00 and voids/cancellations in the amount of \$4,255.85

Minutes

- July 15, 2020 Work Study
- July 15, 2020 Regular Meeting
- July 29, 2020 Regular Meeting

Personnel Report

- Certificated: Employment; Reassignment/Transfer; Leave; Retirement/Resignation/ Termination
- Classified: Employment; Summer Food Program; Leave; Retirement/Resignation/ Termination
- Unfilled Certificated and Classified positions

Public Comments

C. Kelly, teacher at Mount Vernon High School, shared her comments regarding allowing staff to work from home. She expressed her concerns with shared spaces and unreliable ventilation systems. She shared the success in other industries with working remotely and hoped the board would consider the same for the teachers.

Board Member Comments

The board thanked Ms. Kelly for her comments. They thanked staff and public for being present at the meeting. They expressed their appreciation of the efforts undertaken by the various Reopening Committee's work on finding the best solutions for the task ahead.

Superintendent's Report

Aspire Academy: Joy Walton Kawasaki, Principal of Aspire Academy, shared general information on the program. She noted it currently services students in grades 9-12, expanding to 6-12 beginning in 2020-21 school year. The program provides personalized, project-based learning and builds strong connections with teachers and support staff. The courses are programmed for at risk students, allowing for small class sizes, social/emotional learning supports, and tailored projects to student career paths.

APCAC (Admissions and Professional Conduct Advisory Committee): Superintendent Vivanco reported on his participation in the Admissions and Professional Conduct Advisory Committee through the Professional Practices Office of the Washington Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction. He noted the committee is regulated through Washington Administrative Code 181-86-095 and provides advice and appeal reviews related to "good moral character, personal fitness, and unprofessional conduct..."

School Visits: I. Vivanco: Superintendent Vivanco reported he visited several remote education summer school classes. Included was the Migrant Summer School program and the STEAM class. Students were engaged and learning, the teachers were doing a great job of making the projects interesting.

Old Business

Fall Reopening Plan, Resolution #46/19-20: Bill Nutting, Assistant Superintendent had several presenters available to cover a variety of return to school topics.

- Dr. Terri Wattawa, Mount Vernon High School reviewed a proposed Tri-Semester schedule for this school year due to the remote learning. This plan is for the 2020-21 school year only. If it was to be considered beyond this school year, it would involve student, parent, and staff discussion and participation. She explained the current schedule does not lend itself to remote learning, causing significant screen time not conducive to student health or learning.
- Jennifer Harlan, Principal of Mount Baker Middle School, and Dave Riddle, Principal of LaVenture Middle School, provided information on their fall schedule. They reviewed several plans with staff and are focusing on the big picture for student learning. An equity lens was incorporated to evaluate options.
- Tim Newall, Principal of Jefferson Elementary said that with the K-5 grades, consistency will be key to student success. Each school will have the same programming and social emotional needs will be met. A large amount of time in the middle of school day will be available for a screen break. Additionally, a mid-week break point will also provide benefit.
- Juan Gaona, Principal of Madison Elementary representing the dual language program shared that students will receive education in both languages every day. Staff will connect with students by phone to support languages and will present within a biliteracy framework.
- Clint Carlton, Executive Director of Student Support Services, shared the PLUS piece of the program includes the special education population. The planning team includes nurses, specialists, staff, and others. They can reduce/isolate contact and cohorts will be self-contained including meals and common areas to reduce staff exposure. The spring closure was an emergency action so there was little planning time. Now continuous learning plans are in place.
- Dan Berard, Executive Director, Federal Programs presented a report on child care needs. Sites are being identified that could cohost a childcare program. Needs include staff, food, transportation, and social distancing.
- Several equity leads reported on the identification of tiered supports. They are supporting student learning, utilizing school and community resources, and will make sure training occurs.

- Stephanie Thomas, Director of Assessments, said it is important to draw a distinction between what remote learning in fall will look like compared to the emergency learning of the past spring. For attendance, a focus on being present and not just turning in work is important.
- David Connors, Supervisor of Food Services presented information about food services. The district has applied for the community eligibility program and hopes for a positive response. This is a big step to equity.

Bill Nutting said there are many pieces to the programming and volumes of materials. Celina Rodriguez, Public Information Officer, said that questions from parents and staff are reviewed. Messages are being sent on Facebook, the district website, school websites, Blackboard Connect, which is the school to parent communication including phone, text, and email, and through videos.

Director Otos said it is a remarkable amount of work and staff has done an excellent job identifying how the district can move forward. Director Ragusa inquired if there is a plan for schools to contact parents; Mr. Nutting replied there is. He presented the resolution, vetted by attorneys, to be sent to OSPI.

Upon motion by Director Cailloux, seconded and unanimously approved, the board adopted resolution #46/19-20, Fall Reopening Plan.

Resolution #47/19-20; District General Fund/Revolving Fund, 2020-21 Academic Year: J. Larson, Finance Director presented information on the annual resolution regarding the revolving fund, noting that the travel fund has been removed.

Upon motion by Director Ragusa, seconded and unanimously approved, Resolution #47/19-20 District General Fund/Revolving Fund for 2020-21 Academic Year was adopted.

New Business

Interlocal Agreement; Skagit Valley College and Northwest Career & Technical Academy; Career & Technical Education dual credit; 09/01/2019 through 06/30/2021: Superintendent Vivanco said this is a recurring agreement that provides a dual credit opportunity for students attending Skagit Valley College and Northwest Career & Technical Academy.

Upon motion by Director Coffey, seconded and unanimously approved with one abstention from Director Cailloux, the interlocal agreement between Skagit Valley College and Northwest Career & Technical Academy; Career & Technical Education dual credit; 09/01/2019 through 06/30/2020.

Donations to the District

Upon motion by Director Samora, seconded and unanimously approved, the \$20,000 grant/donation from the Washington State Student and Youth Homelessness COVID-19 Response Fund was graciously accepted.

Construction: B. Nutting

Resolution #48/19-20; Accept Building Commissioning Report; Madison Elementary School

Upon motion by Director Ragusa, seconded and unanimously approved, the board adopted Resolution #48/19-20 to accept the building commissioning report for Madison Elementary School.

Public Comments: There were no public comments.

Student Comments: There were no student comments.

Executive Session: The board adjourned to executive session at 8:40 p.m. for 15 minutes pursuant to RCW 42.30.110 (1) (b); to consider the selection of a site or the acquisition of real estate by lease or purchase when public knowledge regarding such consideration would cause a likelihood of increased price, noting possible action to follow.

Reconvene Regular Session: the board reconvened the regular meeting at 8:55 p.m. Director Samora inquired on the septic system in the building under consideration for lease and the capacity to support anticipated volume. Mr. D. Rehm, Windermere Real Estate said the system is overbuilt so there should not be any issues with flow. He noted it is a triple net lease meaning the tenants share maintenance costs and the district will have 7% of the budget.

Upon motion by Director Ragusa, seconded and unanimously approved, the board agreed to a lease for property at the I-5 Business Park to house the Aspire Academy.

Adjournment: There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 9:00 p.m.



Larry Otos, Director
Board President

Ismael Vivanco, Superintendent
Secretary to the Board