

MOUNT VERNON SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 320
REGULAR SCHOOL BOARD MEETING MINUTES
Wednesday, October 6, 2021 6:00 PM

Call to Order and Flag Salute

A regular meeting of the Mount Vernon School District Board of Directors was called to order by Director Otos at 6:00 p.m. on Wednesday, October 6, 2021 via zoom and in person at Madison Elementary School, 907 E. Fir Street. Director Otos led the board and gallery in the flag salute.

Roll Call of Members

Board Members present included Directors Otos, Coffey, Ragusa, Samora, Cailloux. A quorum was present. Also, present was Superintendent Vivanco, students Viridiana and Adam, several staff and community members, and an interpreter.

Set Consent and Regular Agendas

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

Induction of Student Board Representatives

Superintendent Vivanco presented the Oath of Office for student school board representatives, Viridiana Ponce-Cisneros and Adam Wagenbach. They will serve on the school board through the 2021-22 school year.

Review and Approval of Consent Agenda

Upon motion by Director Samora, seconded and approved, the board approved items included in the consent agenda including:

Warrants

- Warrant numbers 572542 through 572755 totaling \$2,071,578.25 and voids/cancellations totaling \$1,119.94
- Warrant numbers 572756 through 572785 totaling \$64,810.86
- Warrant numbers 572786 through 572808 totaling \$1,224,683.25
- Warrant numbers 572809 through 573010 totaling \$3,646,258.49 and voids/cancellations totaling \$1,190.46

Minutes

- Regular Meetings on September 1, 2021 and September 15, 2021
- Work Study Meeting on September 15, 2021

Agreements

- Personal Services Agreement; A. Vattuone; Professional Development Training
- Interlocal Agreement; Burlington-Edison School District; Vision/Orientation and Mobility Services; 09/01/21 through 06/30/22
- Agreement; Community Action Agency of Skagit County; Adult Education Program; 09/01/21 through 08/31/22
- Agreement; Therapy Travelers; staffing; 09/13/21 to 06/14/22
- Agreement; Chinook Enterprises; Lease Agreement; 09/01/21 through 08/31/22
- Contract; Sendan Center; staffing agreement; 09/01/21 through 08/31/22

Personnel Report

- Certificated: Employment; Reassignment/Transfer; Leave; Retirement/Resignation/Termination
- Classified: Employment; Reassignment/Transfer/Adjust; Leave; Retirement/Resignation/Termination
- Extra/Co-Curricular Stipends and Supplemental Contracts
- Unfilled Certificated and Classified Positions

Public Comments

- H. Farren requested the board extend the schedule adoption process for the secondary level to increase participation and research.
- S. Morrow requested the board have more transparency in the schedule adoption process and seek additional feedback from staff and families.
- N. Preston requested the staff do a more thorough and inclusive study regarding a schedule adoption.

Board Member Comments

- Director Ragusa: regarding the proposed schedule changes for secondary, she would like to ensure due diligence is used or we could complicate the schedule. Happy to again have student representatives on the board.
- Director Cailloux: said she does not understand the urgency to adopt a new schedule. Thankful for sharing the work being done and the information on the universal design learning.
- Director Otos: shared the WSSDA conference in November has a hybrid opportunity and to advise staff if you will attend in person or remotely. He is pleased to announce the district received an OSPI grant for planning work related to a balanced calendar. He will meet with ESD 113 staff and is excited to see what the future holds.
- Director Coffey: expressed appreciation to administration for the Covid data dashboard. It is impressive that in the first four weeks of school there were 150 students with positive tests, but only three were transmitted within the school buildings. He expressed his appreciation and due diligence to all staff for keeping students and staff safe.

Superintendent's Report

National Principals Month – Superintendent Vivanco said October is National Principals Month and thanked principals for their leadership.

Curriculum Report: S. Thomas, M. Van Straten

Stephanie Thomas and Melissa Van Straten, Directors of Teaching & Learning presented the curriculum report for 2021-22 school year. They shared the curriculum is guaranteed and viable, which is important for students. It is vital to maintain current curriculum and to keep it vibrant and aligned. The teachers make the materials come to life for the students.

- Elementary Language Arts is through Foundational Skills and Phonics. Grades K-5 are working on an English Language Arts adoption pilot. At the secondary level, curriculum mapping and unit development is underway. Two programs are being piloted. Madison is looking at Spanish Foundational Skills and cross-language transfer to support those skills. All of the curriculum units are framed with equity work.

- At Mount Baker Middle School, 90 students are participating in a Read 180 supplemental material review. Students at LaVenture are participating in a similar process with a Lexia Supplemental Material Review. At the high school, four college in the high school programs are being reviewed.
- In Math, Dreambox, a computer adaptive program, is being implemented complement the core curriculum of bridges and number corner. The learning environment is different for grades 3-5 versus grades k-2. In the second year of detracking in partnership with UW CEL. this is a multilayered process, and we are participating in a grant around inclusionary practices.
- In Science, grades 3-5 are engaging in an amplify pilot. It had been delayed due to the pandemic, but the district is now going to move it forward. Foss materials are no longer available to the ESD science center, so we are moving forward with the next generation work. Regarding middle school science, we are partnering with the ESD to review materials. We have been using materials from Stanford University and other information from open resources. A science adoption hasn't happened in some time so materials will be reviewed this year and will consider a pilot next year.
- At the elementary level of Social Studies, curriculum mapping and unit development align with the 2019 Washington State Standards. This includes Since Time Immemorial and is an integrated and investigative approach.
- In elementary and secondary health, age appropriate information about affirmative consent and bystander training is used. We are in compliance with state requirements.
- Regarding music, at the secondary level, the expansion of mariachi and Folklorico courses is exciting.
- Updates and plans are shared with colleagues across district, plus the intentional use of Professional Learning Communities structures. We are charged to do what we are attempting to do, providing all students a rigorous standards, curriculum guaranteed, the same high quality curriculum at all of our schools, and that we are providing teachers knowledge and skills to take the curriculum and deliver in a way that works. Equity Goal 3 and districts strategic goal.

Director Ragusa inquired if these materials are structured with review by an elementary and secondary committee, by discipline, or by a curriculum committee. Ms. Van Straten said they have a screener review materials for bias, identify the top materials and invite teachers to screen for biases. Any materials that don't meet the bias screening are eliminated.

Director Cailloux said this is an incredible scope of work and number of curriculum adoptions, piloting, and everything else. This is at the core of the equity work. Sometimes equity is spoken about in vague terms, but focus and instruction is where it all happens.

Director Samora said this is a huge list of items and undertakings. She said it sounds like a number of pilots at the elementary level. How is the stress level kept controlled for teachers and students? Ms. Van Straten said that concern has come up with the team. Administrators and committees are keeping staff stress in mind and still working to move forward.

Director Otos asked for a reminder on the process once the pilot is selected for recommendation. The cost is confirmed and shared with the superintendent. Elementary adoptions are the most expensive. The finance director reminds us of the costs and other major expenses that could be happening concurrently. There are also opportunities for phasing.

District Update

Superintendent Vivanco said administration is aware of the stress levels on staff and students as a result of the pandemic and many changes it caused. From the administration level, we are aware of events that may have been done in the past but, for now, are being put on hold. Staff and students are excited and, while there is some social emotional stress, we have added measures to address the stress as we move

forward. Staff and substitute shortages are a challenge. We want students coming to school, yet we continue to encourage them stay home if sick. If we are forced to return to remote learning, we have a continuity of learning plan in place. Director Ragusa inquired the status and compliance of the vaccine mandate; Mr. Nutting said district office staff have spent two weeks in schools and sites gathering the documentation of vaccine records for the 1000 staff. If staff does not have proof of vaccine or a waiver, we contact each person individually. Several schools have all staff documented. We continue to work on confirmation for substitute employees and coaching staff. It is nice to be in the schools and other sites seeing and talking with our great staff.

Old Business: there was no old business.

New Business

Resolution No. 02/21-22 National Principals Month

Upon motion by Director Ragusa and seconded, Resolution # 02/21-22 recognizing National Principals Month was adopted.

The board thanked the principals for their work and dedication to student learning.

Basic Education Compliance Report

Presented by Jon Ronngren, Human Resources Director, this report represents an annual state requirement. This year's report is updated from past years and includes requires more acknowledgements. It includes confirmation of attendance for the mandated days, learning hours, operations, and instructional minutes. We confirm that the district is in compliance with the minimum 24-credit graduation requirement. We meet the college and academic distribution requirements, the high school and beyond plans meet or exceed Washington Administrative Code. Some new reporting requirements include tribal history, sexual health curriculum, natural resources, Veteran's day, Disabilities History month, and more. Director Cailloux commented she didn't realize the ethnic studies had already been implemented; Director Thomas shared the 9th grade class is working on them. Director Otos asked if a district is penalized if required classes are not place; Mr. Ronngren said not if there is a plan in place.

Upon motion by Director Coffey and seconded, the Basic Education Compliance Report was approved.

Request to Surplus Pilot Reading materials

Upon motion by Director Ragusa and seconded, the board approved the surplus of piloted reading materials that were not adopted for use.

Agreement; Skagit Valley College; Invest Program Amendment; 09/01/21 through 06/30/22

Upon motion by Director Ragusa and seconded, the board approved the agreement amendment with Skagit Valley College for the Invest Program.

Director Cailloux abstained.

Agreement; Skagit Valley College; Agreement with Northwest Career & Technical Academy; Dual Credit Interlocal Articulation Agreement; Academic Year 2021-22

Upon motion by Director Samora and seconded, the board approved the articulation agreement with Northwest Career & Technical Academy and Skagit Valley College for the 2021-22 articulation agreement.

Director Cailloux abstained.

Donations

Upon motion by Director Samora, seconded and unanimously approved, the board accepted the Memoriam for \$2005 on behalf of Ashley Serna to benefit the Mount Vernon High School Special Education Department.

Public Comments: There were no public comments.


Student Comments

Student Representative Adam inquired why there was a push to change the bell schedule; Superintendent Vivanco replied the process began last year, and needs to be completed so the course schedule for 2022-23 can be prepared. Student registration begins as early as late January-early February.

Adjournment: There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 7:40 p.m.



Larry Otos, Director
Board President



Ismael Vivanco, Superintendent