

MOUNT VERNON SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 320
REGULAR SCHOOL BOARD MEETING MINUTES
Wednesday, December 18, 2019, 6:00 p.m.
Madison Elementary School
907 E. Fir St., Mount Vernon, WA 98273

Call to Order and Flag Salute: Director Otos called to order at 6:00 p.m. on December 18, 2019 a regular meeting of the Mount Vernon School District Board of Directors. The meeting was held at Madison Elementary School, 907 E. fir Street, Mount Vernon, WA 98273.

Roll Call of Members: Present were Directors Otos, Coffey, Ragusa, and Samora. Director DeLeon was excused. A quorum was present. Also in attendance were students Cervantes, Covarrubias, and Alsilimy. Superintendent Bruner was present. Some staff included Directors F. Atkinson, D. Berard, C. Carlton, S. Thomas, Assistant Superintendent B. Nutting, Vice Principal C. Oliver and M. Van Straten, Principal J. Gaona, and multiple parents and guests.

Welcome and Introduction of newly elected board members by the president: Director Otos said this would be done on January 8, 2020.

Call for nominations for president to serve during the ensuing year:

Election of a president

Director Coffey nominated Director Larry Otos to serve as president for the 2020 calendar year.

Motion was seconded and carried unanimously. Director Otos named as School Board President for 2020 calendar year.

Assumption of office by the new president: Director Otos resumed his role as President.

Call for nominations for vice president to serve during the ensuing year

Director Otos nominated Director Robert Coffey to serve as vice president for the 2020 calendar year. Motion was seconded and carried unanimously. Director Coffey named as School Board Vice President for 2020 calendar year.

Review of Board Policy #1621 Board Director Commitments and Operating Protocols: Director Otos reviewed school board policy #1621 regarding director commitments and operating protocols. This document leads the board for the coming year. All school board members present signed the policy.

Set Consent and Regular Agendas: Superintendent Bruner requested board approval to add action item in New Business, #4, Prime Contract change Order for Lydig Construction relating to the Mount Vernon High School Old Main and Fine Arts construction work.

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

Review and Approval of Consent Agenda

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| <p>Upon motion by Director Samora, seconded and unanimously approved, the board approved the items in the consent agenda including the personnel report.</p> | |
| <p>Public Comments: There were no public comments.</p> | |
| <p>Board Member Comments:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Director Coffey congratulated staff on the work to improve graduation efforts. While there is still a way to go to reach 100%, the district is heading in the right direction. • Director Ragusa commented she has attended several music products and commends the students and staff conductors on their hard work. • Director Otos said the Director DeLeon was unable to attend, but she has been a valued board member who has worked very hard to ensure equity in the district programming. | |
| <p>Superintendent's Report</p> | |
| <p>Madison Elementary Host School Presentation: Juan Gaona and staff: Principal Gaona, Assistant Principal Van Straten, several students and their families presented information on the programming at Madison. The dual language program began in the 2007-08 school year. In 2014-15, it was decided to become a full dual language school. The instruction in core areas is provided in both languages. All announcements and assemblies begin in Spanish first, then to the English language. Communications to home are in Spanish first, and English secondarily. Attendance is very intentional. All student attendance is important, but for language learning, students must be present. There is a waiting list to attend, and mandatory parent participation in a review meeting before student acceptance. Once applied, students are selected by lottery drawing. OSPI staff have visited the school and intend to use the school as a successful demonstration of a dual language program. The school has recess before lunch, as it helps students eat better and has reduced behavioral problems during that timeframe. The parent committee is very involved and supportive of the school.</p> | |
| <p>Environmental Consultant presentation: Renad Alsilimy, Student Board representative Alsilimy presented information on the environment and recycling noting the importance of starting at the local level. The increase in global temperatures and rising sea levels is indicative of serious environmental concerns. While there have been some improvements made in the recycling efforts, much more could be done including recycling bins in every classroom, purchasing recyclable materials, removal of Styrofoam bowls in the cafeterias, and someone to pick up the materials that are put in recycle bins. Students want to lead the way and lead others to follow the important practice of recycling in an effective manner. Director Otos thanked Ms. Alsilimy for her passionate presentation and said that Dr. Bruner and his team would continue to research efforts for the district to continue to improve existing recycling efforts.</p> | |
| <p>Equity Policy Update: Pedro Bermudez: It was determined that a rearrangement of how the district approaches equity and learning was needed and efforts in earnest began in early spring 2017. The three-year initiative was to build capacity to sustain equity through collaborative tools. It reinforces productive conversations and changes policy and practice. A policy is being prepared that is driven by an equity statement. The draft policy will be shared with many constituents including students, staff, families, and more. Have met and learned from the Mukilteo School District staff and their journey on the same topic. The district wants to build capacity and understanding, and the policy will reflect that goal.</p> | |
| <p>WIAA Classification: Chris Oliver: Mr. Oliver commented the district is currently listed as 4A. WIAA has determined that free and reduced lunch numbers should be included in the factors that determine classification. Some choices have now opened to the district on whether to remain 4A or move to 3A in</p> | |

Wesco or Conference League. A survey was given to parents and students. Research compared travel and distances related to costs. Staff listened to student preferences. The comments were leaning heavily toward the Northwest Conference. Response themes centered on historical rivalries as Anacortes, Burlington, and Sedro-Woolley are in the Northwest Conference. The high school is making that recommendation to the Board. Director Otos, a member of the WIAA board, said they welcome Mount Vernon into the NW league.

Old Business

Equity Assurance Report (igrant 447): Clint Carlton, Director of Special Education serves as the 504 Coordinator and Bill Nutting, Assistant Superintendent serves as the Title IX and Civil Rights Compliance Coordinator. As a result of the Consolidated Program Review in 2018-2019, a number of policies have been updated. The nondiscrimination statement is included in most publications, and will be added to many more. The complaint procedures have been updated, as have the sexual harassment policies relating to students and staff. The immigration status language has been improved. Analysis of data from programming including participation levels and student surveys is required every three years. It seeks student voice and input into gender equity perspective.

Upon motion by Director Coffey, seconded and unanimously approved, the board acknowledged receipt and understanding of the Equity Assurance Report as related to iGrant 447.

New Business

Memorandum of Understanding: Virtudent, LLC; school based dental preventative program: This agreement will provide dental sealant services to students at Washington, Centennial, LaVenture, Mount Baker, and the high school through a partnership with Communities in Schools.

Upon motion by Director Coffey, seconded and unanimously approved, the board agreed to the memorandum of understanding with Virtudent to provide dental services.

Interlocal Cooperative Agreement: Sea Mar Community Health Centers; dental screenings and sealant services This agreement will provide dental sealant services to students in the free and reduced program.

Upon motion by Director Ragusa, seconded and unanimously approved, the board agreed to the Interlocal Cooperative Agreement with Sea Mar Community Health Centers-Dental.

Gifts to the District

Upon motion by Director Ragusa, seconded and unanimously approved, the board accepts the donations by Logan Creek Retirement and Ms. Kitchens.

Construction

Suzanne Gilbert shared with the board the information relating to the Prime Contract change Order in the amount of \$103,764.00 regarding the adjusted work plan for the Mount Vernon High School Fine Arts & Old Main projects.

Upon motion by Director Ragusa, seconded and unanimously approved, the board agreed to the Prime Contract Change Order for \$103,764.00.

Public Comments: There were no public comments.

Student Comments

Student Asilimy found the Madison presentation very interesting, particularly in relation to the Social-Cultural attention and correlation to better attendance. She noted that English is not her native language and at home, her family always spoke in their native tongue. She is proud of the district for pushing students to gain and retain fluency in all their languages.


Student Cervantes said she enjoyed the stories shared by the parents. The dual language program has been an amazing journey and she is proud to have been a part of the program.

Student Covarrubias congratulated Madison staff and families for their presentation, it was inspiring. The Madison family is making a change and difference in the student's lives, allowing them to go into the world and make a change. .

Adjournment: There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 8:27 p.m.



Larry Otos, Director
Board President



Carl Bruner, Superintendent
Secretary to the Board