

**MOUNT VERNON SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 320**  
**REGULAR SCHOOL BOARD MEETING MINUTES**  
**Wednesday, May 18, 2022 6:00 PM**

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| <p><b>Call to Order and Flag Salute</b> <i>[The Mount Vernon School District records all School Board meetings. They will be available by accessing the district website at <a href="http://www.mountvernonschools.org">www.mountvernonschools.org</a>.]</i></p> <p>Director Otos called to order a regular meeting of the Mount Vernon School District Board of Directors at 6:00 p.m. on May 18, 2022. The meeting was held at Madison Elementary School and via Zoom. Director Otos led the board and gallery in the flag salute.</p> |
| <p><b>Roll Call of Members</b></p> <p>Members present included Directors Coffey, Ragusa, and Samora. Directors Otos and Cailloux were excused. A quorum was present. Superintendent Vivanco was present; Students Viridiana, Leydi, and Adam were present. Also, in attendance were several staff members, an interpreter, and some public. Notes by C. Ledin.</p>   |
| <p><b>Set Consent and Regular Agendas</b></p> <p>Superintendent Vivanco requested permission to add to Letter I, Item 4, which consists of four travel requests for students to allow their participation in State level sporting competitions.</p> <p><b>Upon motion by Director Samora, seconded, and approved, the Consent and Regular Agendas as modified were approved.</b></p>   |
| <p><b>Approve Consent Agenda</b></p> <p><b>Upon motion by Director Ragusa, seconded, and approved, items in the Consent Agenda were approved as follows:</b></p>   |
| <p><b>Travel Request</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Staff: Northwest Career &amp; Technical Academy-Open Doors; Project-Based Learning Conference; June 27-30, 2022; Napa, CA</li> <li>● Staff: Northwest Career &amp; Technical Academy; K-12 Partnerships Institute Conference; June 28-30, 2022; Portland, OR</li> <li>● Staff: Northwest Career &amp; Technical Academy; Best Practices &amp; Innovation in CTE; September 27-30, 2022; Massachusetts</li> </ul>   |
| <p><b>Agreements</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Interlocal Cooperative Agreement; Northwest ESD189; Skagit County Detention Center Education Program; effective 09/01/22-08/31/23</li> <li>● University of Washington Research Subaward Agreement #UWSC10884 Modification</li> <li>● University of Washington Research Subaward Agreement #UWSC10908 Modification</li> </ul>   |
| <p><b>Personnel Report</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Certificated: Employment; Out of Endorsement and Conditional Certificates; Reassignment/Transfer; Leave; Retirement/ Resignation/Termination</li> <li>● Classified: Leave; Retirement/ Resignation/Termination</li> <li>● Extra/Co-Curricular Stipends and Supplemental Contracts</li> <li>● Unfilled Certificated and Classified Positions</li> </ul>   |
| <p><b>Public Comments:</b> No public comments were offered.</p>  |

### Board Member Comments

- Director Ragusa shared that she is excited about the end of year and many activities happening at all the schools. She appreciated the invitation to NCTA's Kitchen Wars. She attended and it was a very exciting and well organized event. She is very proud of the district.
- Director Samora shared the large number of student awards says a lot about the teachers, educators, coaches, and the talent of the students. This is a proud time for us and the student achievements.
- Director Coffey shared he is very proud of the sports teams. When he learned there were 400 students that turned out for the no cut spring sports, he was very pleased. In any K12 system, that is the way to do sports and he appreciates the coaches and how hard they must work to provide recreation and training.

### Superintendent's Report

Northwest Career & Technical Academy presentation: Lynette Brower: Lynette Brower, Director, and Peter Donaldson, Assistant Director, provided the annual update on the Northwest Career & Technical Academy (NCTA). Mr. Donaldson said at the Kitchen Wars he saw so much pride from the students, participating staff, and guests in attended. The event raised \$5000 for NCTA's foundation in support of student leadership and outreach to home high schools.

Director Brower shared the Academy Awards event is scheduled soon and is the celebration of student accomplishments and participation. Summer session is launched and will occur from June 22 – July 13. Students attend daily in the exploratory programs to see if the programs offer something they want to do. They are excited about the partnerships with the CTE programs. They are working to embed English 101 and Math in the program to provide more credit opportunities. They also partner with many local industries. They have eight-week student projects with industry partners that include learning targets.

Programming is being recalibrated for high expectations and student support. They have looked carefully at their marketing and public perception to improve program understanding and enrollment. This year they have seen the largest increase in student enrollment. They sent a long-range plan to OSPI that includes expansion programs in Anacortes and Mount Vernon, and pushes for a campus in Whatcom county. Research has shown the most important person who drives first generation student success is the adult they connect with in 9<sup>th</sup> grade. This is critical for post-secondary options.

Director Ragusa said it is a good idea to use marketing to increase enrollment. It is important to work on enrichment and not duplicating pathways. Director Samora said looking at their future and internships is how to make it happen. She sees this as energetic problem solving.

Maintenance Report: Chris Johnson: Maintenance Supervisor shared a few bigger projects that will be completed this summer. The high school track is being resurfaced. The boiler at Washington failed in November. The school was able to run off Boiler 1, which was replaced two years ago. The replacement unit recently arrived in six sections that are 500#s each. The district office roof needs replacement, there are leaks and damage occurring regularly. Each time district staff has to make repairs, there is an accompanying expense of about \$3000 for the lift and other equipment. It is not safe for district staff, who are not professional roofers, to continue to apply patches. There was a fire alarm replacement at Jefferson since the old one is obsolete and parts are no longer available. The parking lot at Centennial will be repaved. Little Mountain and the Commons needed replacement of gaskets to eliminate leaking.

At the Anacortes Marine Tech campus of NCTA, two compressors failed that need replacement. This is on the agenda for repair. At Centennial, the heat pumps in the gym and library failed. An emergency repair grant of \$200,000, with our local match of \$98,000, we will be able to do the repair. McKinstry helped with secure the grant and allowing us to move forward. Other summer projects include commercial fire alarm tests, along with all smoke detectors, sprinkler systems, and fire extinguishers. Boiler inspections are required and all schools are given deep cleaning and waxing. As soon as school is out on June 17, the department starts to work.

Instructional Materials/Middle School Science: Stephanie Thomas: Director Stephanie Thomas and her team presented information on the curriculum proposal for middle school science. As with all curriculum review, the process was lengthy and included piloted materials, multiple meetings, science teacher input, family feedback, seeing how students learn and what is required knowledge. Two programs rose to the top including Amplify and Open SciEd. The Amplify curriculum is the one the committee is recommending to the board. A big priority was multiple access paths and accessibility features, and serving multilingual learners. When comparing the two curriculums, Open SciEd included lots of hands on learning, but had a hard time connecting hands on work with concepts. Amplify had lots of hands on activities and lessons and units that would better serve our students. The committee received feedback from 900 students. The cost of adoption includes curriculum (\$210,000), professional development (\$20,500), and annual kit replenishment of \$10,000 per year estimated (\$100-\$120 per kit) after the first year. The license would be authorized for six years.

MTSS Update: Bill Cheney Student Services Director, Bill Cheney, reported on the status of the MTSS Work. The district uses MTSS for social emotional screening. Universal screening of all students is an important key to early detection. It helps monitor the effectiveness of core instruction. All elementary (2453) and middle school (1257) students have been tested with a teacher observation system. Teams use screening results and courses to assess risk and intervention. The data from multiple sources is combined for more accurate results. The data drives individual, class, and school responses to respond in multiple ways. Students are assessed as internalizing (shy, sad, lonely) or externalizing (stealing, outbursts, disruptive). At this time, the internal risk is higher than external. The social emotional screening will occur next school year at the high school. In future years, this will become best practice for three evaluations annually.

Director Samora inquired if there were changes between the first and second screenings; Mr. Cheney said because not all schools did both screenings, that was not evaluated. Director Ragusa said it will be interesting to see the anxiety level comparisons from remote learning to in-school learning.

District Update: Administrative Team: Superintendent Vivanco said he visited kindergarten registration at a few schools. Student success in sports is good, as evidenced by the travel requests for regional and statement competitions.

The State audit exit conference was held and the report was excellent. He thanked staff for their ongoing work in maintaining protocols and information to support their work. Director Ragusa attended the conference and said the district staff are excellent stewards of financial management.

The high school will support graduating seniors with a walking parade that will begin at 10:30 AM by the Library downtown on June 8.

**Old Business:** There was no old business.

**New Business**

**Student Board Representative Presentation: Viridiana Ponce-Cisneros** Student Viridiana reported on climate change and her suggestion to add it as a class, or at least to include in an existing class. Due to human activities, the climate is changing rapidly and education is critical. Students can't help if they aren't educated on the problem. They should be taught what it is, how it is affecting us, and how to fix it. Stanford University has a curriculum with several sections. Currently, the high school offers physical science, but it is not in depth and only for freshmen. Several other classes, including AP Environment Science, college prep biology, and concurrent enrollment in chemistry offer some science, but not to the level needed. This topic will impact future generations and students should be well educated on the causes and preventions. Director Coffey thanked her for the report and appreciated her research. He agreed it is a crucial topic that would help students and teachers. Director Samora thanked her for the information and agreed it is a good concept for a class. Director Ragusa said she it is a good idea and she should be a change maker.

**Student Board Representative Presentation: Leydi Hernandez-Quiros** Student Leydi reported on curriculum for Sexual Education. She shared in December 2020, Bill 5395 became effective that requires all public schools to provide sex ed. Some of the topics at the high school level include healthy relationships, healthy choices, pregnancy prevention, consent, and more. Only 35 states require some type of curriculum, meaning some students are not properly and accurately taught. It creates a safe environment and is a proactive step to ensure student safety. For some students, this is the only place it is learned and they learn medically accurate and unbiased information. She is on the Teen Council and it was comforting to see other people also passionate about Sex Ed. Director Coffey said he has heard reports from Teen Council before Covid and was honored to have been present. Director Ragusa said the curriculum made some students feel comfortable and safe. She noted that some parents are upset it is taught in schools they want to do it, but then they don't always take that step. She thanked Leydi for the good information.

Gifts to the District \$6000 to benefit MVHS Debate Team for National Competition

**Upon motion by Director Ragusa, seconded and approved, the board accepted the gifts to the district to support the debate team's attendance at national competition from the following:**

- P. Jurenka \$3000
- Skagit Rotary \$2000
- L. Minton Breckenridge \$500
- Central Moving & Storage \$250
- Wycoff Insurance \$250

Field Trip Requests-Student Travel for Competition

**Upon motion by Director Ragusa, seconded and approved, the board approved the following trips for athletic competitions:**

- Student Field Trip Request; Mount Vernon High School; (5); Golf Tournament; Liberty Lake, Spokane, WA; 05/23/22 – 05/25/22
- Student Field Trip Request; Mount Vernon High School; (2) Boys State Tennis Tournament; Richland, WA; 05/26/22 – 05/28/22

- Student Field Trip Request; Mount Vernon High School; (16); Boys and Girls Track Tournament; Tacoma, WA; 05/26/22 – 05/28/22
- Student Field Trip Request; Mount Vernon High School; Boys Soccer; Puyallup, WA; 05/27/22 – 05/28/22

**Public Comments:** There were no public comments.

**Student Comments**

- Student Adam asked about the timing of the MTSS risk level screening at the high school? Mr. Cheney said it is planned for next school year in the fall. It is a broad overview of where high schoolers are at mentally and internally, the results could be used as a way to develop a mental health improvement response. As graduation nears, the seniors are feeling both excitement and anxiety. Today was a teacher appreciation BBQ. He also congratulated one of the girl golf team members who did well and the boys soccer team for their success.
- Student Leydi suggested hearing the voice of the students because they will help policy makers understand how effective the sex ed programming is. Student and parent feedback and communication is important for open understanding and to create a safe environment.

**Adjournment:** There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 7:56 p.m.



Rob Coffey, Director  
Board President



Ismael Vivanco, Superintendent  
Secretary to the Board