



**WORK STUDY MEETING MINUTES
OF THE
BOARD OF DIRECTORS
OF THE MOUNT VERNON SCHOOL DISTRICT
Wednesday, January 3, 2018**

The Board of Directors of the Mount Vernon School District, Skagit County, Washington, held a Work Study Meeting on Wednesday, January 3, 2018 at 5:00 p.m., at Mount Vernon High School, 314 N. 9th Street, Mount Vernon, WA 98273.

Board members present included Directors Coffey, Otos, DeLeon, Ragusa, and Cook. A quorum was present. Also present was Superintendent Bruner and staff members K. Wollan, D. Berard, J. Larson, and B. Nutting. Community member K. Wanielista was present. Notes by C. Ledin.

Superintendent Bruner stated the meeting purpose was to review and consider names submitted for the elementary school being constructed off E. Division. Per school board policy #6970, potential names were solicited and reviewed by the Superintendent, with the finalists being forwarded to the board for a final selection. The finalist names included:

- Harriet Rowley Elementary
- Vi Hilbert Elementary
- Imogene Bowen Elementary
- Mary Stewart Elementary

The board discussed each recommendation at length. After considerable discussion and debate, the board agreed on a name to be presented for board action on January 17, 2018.

There was no action taken and the meeting adjourned at 5:55 p.m.

Rob Coffey, Director
Board President

Carl Bruner, Superintendent
Secretary to the Board



Proposed School Names January 3, 2018

Harriet Rowley Elementary - *Rowley opened the first hospital in Mount Vernon in 1920 and was a dedicated pioneer nurse who helped change the face of medical care in Skagit County.*

Vi Hilbert Elementary - *A member of the Upper Skagit Tribe, Hilbert “played a major role in the revitalization of the language and culture of the First People of the Pacific Northwest. She became known as a teacher, storyteller, publisher, and public speaker.”*

Imogene Bowen Elementary - *From her obituary printed in the Seattle Times:*

Ms. Bowen...overcame poverty, self-doubt and alcoholism and proudly embraced her heritage. She became a founding member of an intertribal housing authority and helped the Upper Skagit Tribe secure land that’s now home to about one-third of its members. She crusaded for migrant workers, racial understanding, environmental protection, peace and voter registration.

She served as chair of the Skagit Valley Democrats and president of the Washington State Rainbow Coalition, and was a member of Lowry’s “Citizen Cabinet.” And she did it all, friends and family say, with grace, humor and tenacity.

Mary Stewart Elementary - *Mary Brown Stewart started growing tulips in Skagit County in 1906 with bulbs from Holland. In 1926, her son, Sam Stewart, started the Tulip Grange Bulb Farm near LaConner. Marinus Lefeber, a friend of Sam Stewart, moved their Whatcom County operation down to a farm along Memorial Highway near Mount Vernon. The farm was in business until 2002. Other bulb growers joined them after 1945. By 1997, 700 acres were used for bulb farming, with a value of \$42 million.*