

MOUNT VERNON SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 320
REGULAR SCHOOL BOARD MEETING MINUTES
Wednesday, November 17, 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, November 17, 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, Cailloux, and Ragusa. Director Samora was excused. A quorum was present. Also, present was Superintendent Vivanco, student representatives Ponce-Cisneros, Leydi Hernandez-Quiros; student Waganbach was excused. several staff members, and an interpreter.

Set Consent and Regular Agendas

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

Review and Approval of Consent Agenda

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

Agreements

- Personal Services Agreement; Skagit County; American Rescue Plan Act; 09/01/21 through 08/31/22
- Contract for Services; Carrison Consultancy; Dual Language TK-12 Dual Language Master Plan; 10/28/21 – 06/30/22
- Skagit Family YMCA; Swim Lessons 4th & 5th grade; 09/01/21 – 06/30/22
- Community in Schools Agreement; Whatcom-Skagit; Renewal; 2021-22 School Year

Personnel Report

- Certificated: Employment; Leave
- Classified: Employment; Leave; Retirement/ Resignation/Termination; Transportation Department Adjustments
- Extra/Co-Curricular Stipends and Supplemental Contracts
- Unfilled Certificated and Classified Positions

Public Comments – There were no public comments.

Board Member Comments

- Director Ragusa thanked staff for their hard work during the weather closures and is happy to have students back.
- Director Otos shared that he and Superintendent Vivanco are attending the annual WSSDA conference. Dr. Vivanco is a presenter and Director Otos will be accepting the Board of Distinction Award.

Superintendent's Report

LaVenture Middle School Students: Community Service Project: Dave Riddle, LaVenture Middle School Principal, introduced two 9th grade students who completed a service project at LaVenture when they attended that school. The students are Girl Scouts and earned a silver award for the project. They spent many hours constructing and filling an outdoor free library. The board thanked them for their project and congratulated them on their choice of a positive community project.

Skagit, Island, San Juan School Retiree's Association Unit 12: Barbara Robinson and Bruce Boyer, representing the Skagit, Island, San Juan School Retiree's Association were pleased to announce the successful award of several mini-grants to teachers in the Mount Vernon School District. There were several awards given, totaling \$2,116.23. Many students will benefit from these grants. Director Otos thanked the association for their generosity.

District Update: Superintendent Vivanco shared all district schools were closed on November 16 and 17, 2021 due to weather conditions including heavy rain, flooding, and road closures. Neighboring districts also closed. Discussions regarding the balanced calendar process continue.

Old Business: There was no old business.

New Business

Resolution No. 05/21-22 Certification of 2022 Excess Property Taxes – Jennifer Larson, Executive Director-Finance, shared information for Resolution No. 05/21-22 regarding excess property taxes. The district levy is capped at \$2.50 per \$1000 for collection. When the levy is approved by voters, the amount is based on an estimate. The budget is built with the estimated collection amount. In November, the county provides an actual number, which needs to correspond with the budget. This resolution will authorize that correction.

Upon motion by Director Cailloux, seconded and approved, the board adopted Resolution No. 05/21-22 Certification of 2022 Excess Property Taxes.

Agreement; Skagit Valley College; DEI Leadership Collaborative; 10/26/21 – 01/04/22 – This agreement with Skagit Valley College establishes a collaborative relationship to provide training on Diversity, Equity, & Inclusion.

Upon motion by Director Ragusa, seconded and approved, the board approved the DEI Leadership Collaborative agreement.

Director Cailloux abstained. She commented it is exciting to bring together sectors from across the community to discuss these issues.

Request to Surplus: Buses - Superintendent Vivanco shared this request is presented as the vehicles no longer have a use to the district as the repairs and maintenance outweigh the value.

Upon motion by Director Ragusa, seconded and approved, the board authorizes the surplus of eight buses commonly identified as Bus #10, 11, 17, 23, 47, 64, 73, and 78.

Gifts to the District

Upon motion by Director Coffey, seconded and approved, the board accepts donations as shown:

- Skagit Island, San Juan School Retiree's Association Unit 21; \$2 116.23 to benefit multiple schools and projects
- Mount Vernon Public Schools Foundation; \$1000; Mariachi Sol de Mexico Workshop
- Mount Vernon Public Schools Foundation; Pass Through Donation; \$12,598.28; Football Helmets

Director Cailloux inquired the process for the Mount Vernon Public Schools Foundation to determine which grants will be awarded. Director Otos said that paperwork is submitted and at the monthly foundation meetings, the board reviews and determines which qualify under the assigned parameters.

Public Comments

- Dave Riddle, Principal, LaVenture Middle School, shared information on the 15th annual Multicultural Night scheduled for Thursday, November 18 from 5:30 – 7:30 PM.

Student Comments


Student Hernandez-Quiroz

- Inquired on the expansion of the dual language programming; Superintendent Vivanco responded the district is looking to expand, including consideration of two elementary school. He shared that eight staff members recently attended the La Cosecha conference to gain a deeper understanding of the programming and process for expansion. Student Quiroz suggested that teachers receive the same attention to language skills as students; noting that not all teachers speak Spanish, creating a barrier to student learning.
- Asked what social emotional supports are being provided to students beyond additional counselors. Superintendent Vivanco said that additional programs are being put in place including before and after school activities.
- Asked about the grading system and lack of continuity among teachers. She noted some teachers are harsh and others lenient, giving a wide range of consistency. The professional learning communities strive for consistency, and it is largely a building level question.

Adjournment: There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 6:41 p.m.



Larry Otos, Director
Board President



Ismael Vivanco, Superintendent