

MOUNT VERNON SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 320
REGULAR SCHOOL BOARD MEETING AGENDA
Wednesday, July 14, 2021 6:00 PM

Call to Order and Flag Salute: Director Otos called to order a regular meeting of the Mount Vernon School District Board of Directors at 6:00 p.m. on July 14, 2021. The meeting was held via Zoom call and in-person at Madison Elementary School, 907 E. Fir Street, Mount Vernon. Director Otos led the board and gallery in the flag salute.

Roll Call of Members: Board members present included Directors Otos, Ragusa, Cailloux, and Samora; Director Coffey was excused. A quorum was present. Also, in attendance was Superintendent Vivanco. There were a large number of staff members and public present, both in person and via zoom. A Spanish language translator was present. Director Otos noted that DOH has stated masks are not required unless students are present. At this time, no students are in the room; if any arrive, masks will be required.

Set Consent and Regular Agendas:

Superintendent Vivanco requested approval to remove item #2 from new business: Puzzle Piece Phonics for K-2. He noted this will be presented at a future meeting.

Upon motion by Director Samora, seconded and unanimously approved, the board set the regular and consent agendas as modified to remove New Business Item #2.

A. Review and Approval of Consent Agenda

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

Warrants

- Number 569609, totaling \$700.00
- Numbers 571470 through 571674, totaling \$1,630,222.95 and voids/cancellations, totaling \$930.04
- Numbers 571675 through 571705, totaling \$65,563.99
- Numbers 571706 through 571727, totaling \$1,254,531.27
- Numbers 571728 through 571922, totaling \$2,852,643.73 and voids/cancellations, totaling \$79.92

Minutes

- Regular Meetings on May 19, 2021, June 2, 2021, June 16, 2021
- Work Study Meetings on June 2, 2021, June 16, 2021, June 23, 2021

Agreements

- Interlocal Agreement; Concrete School District; Vision/Orientation and Mobility Services, Braille and Assistive Technology Services; 2021-22 school year
- Educational Program Contract; Skagit Preschool & Resource Center; Preschool programming and services; 08/01/21 – 06/30/22
- Interlocal Agreement; Conway School District; child specific; vision services; 2021-22 school year
- Partnership Agreement; Foundation for Academic Endeavors (FAE); summer school programming; 06/30/21 – 08/06/21

Personnel Report

- Certificated: Employment; Summer Programs; Reassignment/Transfer; 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

Director Otos noted two public comments offered including:

Parent A. Brancheau wondered if the federal funds would be used for students this summer, noting other districts have done so.

Parent B. Jones asked the district to consider later start times for the high school, sharing her child's preference for remote learning that allowed a later start and research into school start times.

Board Member Comments: There were no board comments.

Superintendent's Report

Fall Reopening Plans Superintendent Vivanco shared that the district wants to be strategic about ESSER Funds, noting the monies are only available for three years. They are targeted for high level use such as social emotional learning and academic support. He noted that Lincoln School is almost ready to welcome 9th grade students; work continues with the City to meet their requirements. These include items such as changing doors to comply with fire safety requirements. The capital projects department has moved to allow offices for the high school staff, including Chris Oliver, Assistant Principal, who will work from Lincoln.

Recess Regular Meeting for Public Hearing regarding 2021-22 Budget

Director Otos adjourned the meeting at 6:16 p.m. for a public hearing regarding the 2021-22 district budget.

Public Hearing Regarding 2021-2022 Budget: J. Larson

At 6:16 p.m., the public hearing was opened. Executive Director-Finance, Jennifer Larson presented information on the proposed 2021-22 budget. She noted the funds titled ESSER are a corona virus relief care package. There are three allocations referred to as ESSER 1, 2, and 3. The funds are available and the district is mandated to follow federal compliance guidance on use. There is an extra set of approvals if the funds are to be used for capital projects, with each project being evaluated individually. The idea is to serve the greatest numbers of students with the most needs. Ms. Larson reviewed student enrollment numbers, including students in choice programs and basic education. While the state funds average employee costs, the district pays more in wages due to alignment with district collective bargaining agreements.

Ms. Larson noted there is a legislative requirement in RCW 28A.505 to disclose the Maintenance, Supplies, and Operating Costs (MSOC). For the district, these are at \$7,979,316 in budgeted funding; \$12,267,432 in budgeted expenditures; which results in a negative amount of \$4,288,116.

She noted for the multi-year assumption now required by the legislature, a 5% increase in assessed valuation was used. The ending fund balance is at 5% this year and projected to decrease. She reviewed the summary of funds.

There being no further business or questions regarding the public hearing and presentation for the proposed 2021-22 school year budget, the public hearing adjourned at 7:01 p.m.

Resume Regular Meeting

Director Otos called to order the regular board meeting at 7:02 p.m.

Old Business

Request for Impact Fee Waiver; D. Prutzman; East Village Homes; 2nd read

Director Cailloux asked for clarification on what this vote does in relation to the City of Mount Vernon. She would like an explanation on exactly the impact of the vote. Director Otos shared that the district sets an amount for impact fees, which are adopted and processed through the City. For communities of 55 and older homes, they are exempt of school impact fees. He noted there are also impact fees levied for parks and transportation. The board is going through the steps to approve the request for an impact fee waiver for a 55 and older community.

Upon motion by Director Ragusa, seconded and approved, the request for an impact fee waiver for East Village Homes was approved.

Director Cailloux opposed, noting that the district should take advantage of opportunities for strong schools for a strong community. People moving in should want to support the strength of our schools. These are communities where people want to live and we need to take advantage of those opportunities.

Categorical Programs & Grants Information: D. Berard

Dan Berard, Executive Director of Categorical Funding, presented the annual categorical program and grant information. Mr. Berard noted these programs are inclusive of supplemental academic student support. Several projects this summer are designed to support student learning and recovery. These include hosting a migrant summer program that serves 150 students. Included in that program is a partnership with Viva farms and a USDA grant that included donated strawberries and raspberries. This summer, the district is also partnering with Vamos outdoors, which helps students get outside for various nature experiences. The Foundation for Academic Endeavors (FAE) is serving 200 students at Little Mountain Elementary. The Boys & Girls Club received a 21st century grant for middle school opportunities, and the high school has a robust credit retrieval program. We have an aggressive summer literacy program with books sent home to all K-5 students. In collaboration with Communities in Schools (CIS), we also have a book mobile this summer that is running through August 20 and visiting high impact areas of the community.

Other annual supplemental programs include Title grants, Lap grants, and McKinney Vento funding to serve displaced students. Partnerships and opportunities are with the BEST (Beginning Educator Support Team), RWT (Recruiting Washington Teachers and the Maestros program), dual language and dual credit programs, project-based learning, summer Running Start opportunities, services of the nurse for migrant families, PESB (professional learning grants to support educator retention, also referenced as the Affinity Group), Latino Civic Alliance, and as mentioned earlier FAE, Viva Farms, and Boys & Girls Clubs.

Director Ragusa thanked Mr. Berard for the presentation and appreciates the many partnerships. She inquired if Viva can meet our programming needs and still serve their other partners. Mr. Berard said they can, and our need was very specific. As a district we focus on the things that make the biggest impact for students. Director Samora commented it is an impressive list of grants and expects there is a large volume of paperwork required. She inquired how students are selected for the various programs; Mr. Berard replied it is where the need is the greatest. Director Ragusa asked if counselors identify potential students; Mr. Berard replied yes, but they are also joined by bus drivers, liaisons, and more. Director Cailloux inquired on the scope of the partnerships; Mr. Berard replied some as small as \$711 up to the federal 21st Century grant that is \$350,000 per year. Director Cailloux inquired about the TEN grant; Mr. Berard said it is available to teachers new to the district and is centered on district priorities. Several staff have been served, capacity and engagement around equity work is included in this optional training.

Upon motion by Director Samora, seconded and unanimously approved, the board adopted the categorical programs and grants information, approving application as required.

Agreements with Skagit Valley College

Interlocal Cooperative Agreement; Skagit Valley College & Northwest Career & Technical Academy; Marine Technology Center; 04/09/21 through 06/20/21

Upon motion by Director Samora, seconded and approved, the Interlocal Cooperative Agreement with Skagit Valley College & Northwest Career & Technical Academy - Marine Technology Center from 04/09/21 through 06/20/21 was approved.
Director Cailloux abstained.

Interagency Agreement; Burlington Edison School District, Mount Vernon School District; Western Washington University (Woodring); Skagit Valley College; Maestros Para El Pueblo Consortium; 07/01/21 – 06/30/22

Upon motion by Director Ragusa, seconded and approved, the Interagency Agreement with Burlington Edison School District, Mount Vernon School District, Western Washington University (Woodring), and Skagit Valley College for the Maestros Para El Pueblo Consortium; 07/01/21 – 06/30/22 was approved.
Director Cailloux abstained

New Business

Educational Cooperative Agreement Addendum; Spokane Public Schools; Virtual Learning Superintendent Vivanco explained there is an existing agreement in place with Spokane Public Schools to provide virtual learning. This agreement will support the Mount Vernon Virtual Learning program, designed for those families who want to continue remote learning. This meets the OSPI standards and is not a continuation of the remote learning offered during the 2020-21 school year.

Upon motion by Director Samora, seconded and unanimously approved, the board agreed to the Educational Cooperative Agreement Addendum with Spokane Public Schools.

Partnership Agreement; Vamos Outdoor Project; enrichment activities to Migrant Summer School Students; 07/25/21 – 08/06/21: D. Berard

Upon motion by Director Ragusa, seconded and unanimously approved, the Partnership Agreement with Vamos Outdoor Project enrichment activities to Migrant Summer School Students; 07/25/21 – 08/06/21 was approved.

Employment Contracts

Classified Supervisor and Professional/Technical Unrepresented 2021-22 Schedule: Assistant Superintendent Nutting said this group includes supervisors in the maintenance, food service, technology, and other support departments, as well as professional technical staff. Salary comparisons were done to ensure we are remaining competitive. Mr. Nutting said in addition to the district comparison, we looked more intently at roles. Based on the size and region of the district, there are differences as in some places these are administrator positions, and other places more than one position is combined, thus making comparisons challenging. While we have departments that are different due to their budget and staffing numbers, their roles and support to the district are comparable. Director Cailloux wondered if a policy was in place to guide how they are reviewed and updated. Mr. Nutting shared they are reviewed annually because they are not part of any bargaining group. Director Cailloux said she would like to establish criteria for the process review and type of research that is done.

Upon motion by Director Ragusa, seconded and unanimously approved, the board approved the Classified Supervisor and Professional/Technical Unrepresented 2021-22 Schedule.

Classified Schedule for Administrative Secretarial/Technical (exempt) Employees; 2021-22: Mr. Nutting said this schedule represents employees at the district office who are non-represented.

Upon motion by Director Samora, seconded and unanimously approved, the Classified Schedule for Administrative Secretarial/Technical (exempt) Employees; 2021-22 was approved.

Request to Surplus:

Obsolete Technology Hardware: Superintendent Vivanco said the technology department is seeking board approval to put obsolete and not usable or repairable technology and hardware through the surplus process.

Obsolete Triumphs Curriculum; Jefferson Elementary: Superintendent Vivanco shared the need to remove the Triumphs Curriculum from use as it is now obsolete.

Upon motion by Director Ragusa, seconded and unanimously approved, the obsolete technology hardware and Triumph Book Collections are approved for surplus.

Gifts to the District

Mount Vernon Public Schools Foundation; Art Enhancement Grant in the amount of \$1000 for mural at Mount Vernon High School

Upon motion by Director Ragusa, seconded and unanimously approved, the donation from the Mount Vernon Public Schools Foundation in the amount of \$1000 for the high school for a mural acknowledging the past Covid year was graciously accepted.

Director Ragusa requested it be placed on a board for possible future relocation.


Public Comments: There were no public comments.

Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 8:00 PM.



Larry Otos, Director
Board President



Ismael Vivanco, Superintendent
Secretary to the Board