

School Board Report

At the August 10, 2017 School Board Meeting:

Board Accepts Resignation – The Board accepted the resignation of high school math teacher Thor Ware. Ware submitted his resignation on July 18, 2017 after working in the District for two years. Ware asked that his resignation be effective immediately. Ware was the Vernonia High School head football coach in 2015.

Board Considers Meeting Date Change – The Board discussed the possibility of changing the date and time of their School Board meeting scheduled for Thursday, October 12. The meeting currently conflicts with a community event on the same date, the showing and discussion of the film “Paper Tigers.” The film is a documentary about how Trauma-Informed Care (TIF) has been implemented at an alternative high school in Walla Walla, Washington; Columbia County school districts are currently training staff to use this tool. The discussion will be facilitated by Shaunee Moreland. The Board is considering changing the date of their meeting, scheduled to be held at the Mist School, to Wednesday, October 11, and changing the time to 7:30, which would follow the already scheduled Open House at the Mist School on the same date. The Board agreed to make a decision at their September meeting.

Bond Update – Superintendent Aaron Miller told the Board that the District is

currently seeking bids for roof and gutter work at Mist School. He also said the District has received three submittals to the Request for Proposal (RFP) for a Project Manager for projects that will be done with bond funds, and those RFPs will be graded and a decision made in the near future.

Board Approves Hire of New Math Teacher – The Board approved the hiring of new high school math teacher Robin Manning. According to high school Principal Nate Underwood, Manning had previously taught in Clatskanie and Rainier and is trained in the Willamette Promise, which offers students the opportunity to receive college credit for work they do in high school.

Meet the Teacher Night – Vernonia Elementary School will host a Meet the Teacher Night on August 31 from 6:00-7:00 pm. This event will provide an opportunity for parents, students and families to connect with the school, and will be in addition to the regular Open House that will occur after the school year begins.

Building Reports – High school Principal Nate Underwood told the Board that several staff members had participated in the Advancement via Individual Training (AVID) conference in Denver, while other staff attended a workshop in Portland. The program helps staff concentrate on, and assist students with, college and career readiness, drop-out prevention, and career and technical

learning.

Underwood told the Board that new high school science teacher Kelli Corey will participate in a year-long professional development opportunity that she will share with other Vernonia teachers, which will focus on Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM).

Underwood said Beth Kintz and Suzanne Meyers attended two trainings this summer for the Youth Transition Program.

Underwood reported that, as part of the Willamette Promise Program, nine students had earned a total of 76 college credits in Spanish II last year. Underwood said that students would be able to earn credit in writing, Spanish and math this year, and that he also hoped to add science.

Underwood told the Board that Vernonia High School will host the Northwest League Jamboree on August 26, which showcases fall sports teams prior to the start of their seasons and will feature competition in volleyball, football and cross country.

Elementary school Principal Aaron Miller updated the Board on several professional development opportunities that several of his staff have been participating in during the summer, including a Beginning Principals Academy attended by vice principals Michelle Eagleson and Rachel Wilcoxon, and

the Oregon Department of Education’s Summer Reading Institute attended by Mrs. Schlegal (K) Ms. Anderson (1st) Mr. Benassi (3rd) and Mrs. Taylor (4/5), along with administrators Eagleson and Miller.

Board Approves Head Lice Policy – The Board approved the second reading of the District Head Lice Policy.

Board Member Asks About Virtual Learning – New Board member Stacey Pelster asked if the District has explored the possibility of creating a virtual academy as a way to attract home school students and also retain district students. Superintendent Aaron Miller told Pelster that the District is considering this as an option, although barriers appear to be where to house the online campus and also how to staff it. Miller invited Pelster to meet with him to discuss the options and to also meet with interested parents.

Board Meets in Executive Session – The Board recessed into Executive Session under ORS 192.660 (2)(b) “To consider the dismissal or disciplining of, or to hear complaints or charges brought against a public officer, employee, staff member or agent...” Upon returning to Open Session, the Board took no further action in regards to the Executive Session.

Schools Update: Oregon Outreach

By Aaron Miller

The Vernonia School District (VSD) and Oregon Outreach, Inc. (OOI) are pleased to announce a partnership between their Non-Profit Educational Programs.

Oregon Outreach is a twenty-eight year accredited school program that serves youth who are struggling in a traditional school setting or who have dropped out of school but wish to return. OOI will be opening a new classroom on the Vernonia Schools campus, and will initially serve up to 10 local students.

Oregon Outreach, Inc. is accredited through Advanced Ed and offers a fully accredited high school diploma. In addition to a full academic curriculum, Oregon Outreach will offer

counseling and preparation for transitioning into post-secondary education or employment training.

We feel very fortunate to be able to provide these opportunities for our students. It will give them options that fit better with their learning style, help keep them motivated to complete high school, and move on to secondary education, other job training, or the workforce.

The goal of this program is to provide students with an alternative educational setting that will help them develop healthy and productive social and academic skills that will reduce the drop-out rate and increase the graduation rate.

If you have any questions regarding this new program, please call the Superintendent at (503) 429-5891.

**VERNONIA SCHOOL DISTRICT
SCHOOL SUPPLY LIST 2017-18**

<p>VERNONIA KINDERGARTEN</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1 Lg. Box Crayola Crayons 2 Pkg. Washable Crayola Markers 2 Bottles Elmers Glue 48 #2 Pencils 1 Hand Sanitizer (Purell) <p>VERNONIA FIRST / SECOND GRADE</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 36 #2 Pencils Sharpened 1 Lg. Box Crayola Crayons 2 Pkg. Washable Crayola Markers 2 Pkg. Baby Wipes 1 Hand Sanitizer (non-alcohol) Lunch Box 2 Pkg. Crayola Watercolor Paints 3 Pink Pearl Erasers <p>VERNONIA THIRD GRADE</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 48 #2 Pencils Crayola Colored Pencils 4 Lg. Glue Sticks 2 Pink Pearl Erasers Fiskar Student Scissors 12" Ruler (Std. & Metric) Plastic Supply Box (5x8) <p>VERNONIA FOURTH GRADE</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 48 #2 Pencils (sharpened) Crayola Markers (12 thin) 4 Lg. Glue Sticks 2 Pink Pearl Erasers Fiskar Student Scissors 12" Ruler (Std. & Metric) Plastic Supply Box (5x8) Back Pack <p>VERNONIA FIFTH GRADE</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 48 #2 Pencils 2 Pkgs Colored Pencils 1 Box Crayons (48) 1 Box of Crayola Markers Thin Markers 1 Bottle Elmers Glue 4 Glue Sticks 1 Pkg Pencil Top Erasers Fiskar Scissors Ruler (std & metric) Plastic Supply box (5x8) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1 Two-Pocket Folder 1 Lg. Box Tissue 1 Pkg. Baby Wipes Back Pack/Lunch Box Tennis / PE Shoes <p>VERNONIA MIDDLE SCHOOL (6th-8th Grade)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 24 #2 Pencils 1 Pkg. Colored Pencils (min. of 12) Pencil Sharpener 2 Highlighter Pens 2 Black Sharpies Blue & Black Pens 2 Lg. Glue Sticks Pencil Pouch Scissors Erasers Ruler Protractor 1 Composition Notebook <p>VERNONIA HIGH SCHOOL (9th-12th Grade)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Pencils Ink Pens Highlighter USB Memory Stick Calculator Tissue Composition Book—high quality, college ruled for Spanish Students 3 Ring Binder w/Dividers required for English classes <p>* Check with individual teachers for specific and additional needed items</p> <p>VERNONIA AVID CLASS—9th & 10th</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 500 College Ruled Notebook Paper 5-6 Colored Tab Subject Dividers Zipper Pouch for 3 Ring Binder Black or Blue Pens #2 Pencils <p>VERNONIA LIFE SKILLS CLASSROOM</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1 Pkg. Baby Wipes Ziplock Bags—all sizes Hand Sanitizer (Purell) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1 Pkg. Notebook Paper (college ruled) 3 Spiral Notebooks 12" 3-Ring Binder 1 Pkg. Binder Dividers (7 subjects) 1 Pkg. Index Cards (3x5) 6 Two-Pocket Folders Basic Calculator Graph Paper 2 Lg. Boxes Tissue 1 Pkg. Baby Wipes Back Pack Tennis / PE Shoes <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Notebook Paper Pocket Folders 3 Ring Binder 3 Ring Binder Dividers Index Cards
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PLEASE NOTE: Some of the elementary classrooms will keep supplies provided by students as community supplies and they will be distributed throughout the year as needed. Kind./1st./2nd grade—please put student name on back packs, PE shoes, lunch boxes & pocket folders only.

Community supplies may need to be restocked later in the year.

Vernonia Schools
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10-6 Tue-Sat
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Vernonia's Voice is published twice each month on the 1st and 3rd Thursday. Look for our next issue out September 7.