

School Board Report

At the December 12, 2019 School Board Meeting:

Principal Reports – High School/Middle School Principal Nate Underwood provided a written report which updated the Board on school activities. He also told the Board that a proposal to change the District policy on how many years students in high school are taught Human Sexuality should consider the availability of funding and staff to teach it. Currently Human Sexuality is taught during all three years of middle school, but only taught during the freshman year of high school. The Board will discuss the issue at their January meeting.

District Vice Principal Rachel Wilcoxon provided the Board with a report on referrals for problem behavior.

Elementary Principal Michelle Eagleson provided a written report, and told the Board that the attendance rate at VES was 94% for November. Eagleson told the Board several teachers recently attended training sessions that focused on effective instruction, creating an action plan for early learning, and vocabulary and reading comprehension.

Instructional Hours Report – Superintendent Aaron Miller reported that students at the elementary level are well above the required instructional hours, but Mist School students are just barely over the minimum because of time spent during transportation to and from the

school.

Superintendent Report – Superintendent Aaron Miller provided a timeline for the District's process to apply for and qualify to receive funding through the Student Success Act. The process includes community engagement and focus groups, which have already begun and will continue in January through March of 2020. The District will need to finalize a plan and application which must be approved by the Board in March.

Miller said he is working with the Clatskanie and Rainier School Districts on a plan to hire a regional Mental Health Coordinator, who would be shared by the Districts and work with current councilors and oversee Trauma-Informed Care work with students.

Miller told the Board that he did not handle the extension of the transportation contract with Curl's Bus Service correctly. He said a representative from Curl's will share a proposal with the Board at the January meeting.

Miller provided an update on Bond Projects and told the Board the Metal Shop is nearing completion, although change orders have increased the costs for electrical installation. He said art teacher Kaitlin Carr-Kiprotich is working with architects on the design for the new art room, and said the project should be ready to go out to bid in January.

Spencer Health and Wellness Report – Sherry Ford, Director of Columbia Health Services which provides public health services for Columbia County, provided a report on the Spencer Health and Wellness Clinic, a School-Based Health Center that operates at the Vernonia Schools facility. The clinic offers primary care services. Ford updated the Board on current staff at the clinic, which provides physical health services two days a week, and provided an update on mental health services which are provided by Columbia Community Mental

Health two days a week. Ford reported that total visits to the clinic have increased from 158 in 2017-18 to 593 in 2018-19.

Board Accepts Resignation – The Board voted to accept the resignation of 5th grade teacher Dancia Sammons, effective December 6, 2019. Sammons was a first year teacher with the District. No reason was given for the resignation. Superintendent Aaron Miller said a substitute is currently teaching the class and he hopes to hire a permanent replacement as soon as possible.

2019 VHS Fall Sports Awards

Volleyball

2A Girls All State Awards

1st Team: Jordan Walters

2nd Team: Brooklynn Walters

2A All State Tournament Team

1st Team: Jordan Walters

Northwest League Awards

1st Team: Jordan Walters, Senior

1st Team: Brooklynn Walters, Sophomore

2nd Team: Jessica Butcher, Senior

2nd Team: Nita Cook, Sophomore

Team Awards

MVP: Jordan Walters

Most Inspirational: Isabelle Coleman

Most Improved: Kortnie Adams

Football

Northwest League Awards

2nd Team Linebacker:

Cutter Barklow, Senior

2nd Team Running back:

Calvin Clapshaw, Senior

Honorable Mention (HM) Running back:

Elijah Thompson

HM Wide Receiver: Gunnar Harral

HM Defensive Line: Dustin Carreon

HM Linebacker: Camren Depue

HM Kicker: Leonardo Corbetta

HM Return: Calvin Clapshaw

Team Awards

Inspirational: Shayne Lardy, Tyron

Clapshaw, Wyatt Jones, Hunter Nordahl

Most Improved: Manuel Lezama

Cross Country

Northwest League Awards

1st Team (3rd place) & 1st Team All District

(5th place): Sadie Gump

1st Team (7th place): Jenna Handegard

2nd Team (8th place): Kale Sullivan

Team Awards

MVP Female: Sadie Gump

Female Most Improved: Chloe Guiberson

MVP Male: Kale Sullivan

Male Most Improved: Max Anderson

Leadership: Nick Costley

Vernonia School Board Meetings are held on the second Thursday of each month. The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, January 9 at 6:00 pm in the Schools Library.

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Vernonia Students of the Month

November 2019

Elementary School



Kamille Manning (K),
Sylis Attenberger (K),
Sawyer DeWitt (1st),
Leilani Borst (1st),
Abbey Thorn (3rd),
Sawyer Beattie (2nd)

Middle School

These three students are being recognized for showing Caring during the past month.

Jesse White, 8th grade
Angelica Amaro-Rojas, 7th grade
Marissa Naeve, 6th grade



Kale Sullivan

Grade 12

Kale is the Student Body President, Vice President of the Vernonia National Honor Society, and was Homecoming King this year. He is a three sport athlete who competed in cross country this fall, is currently playing basketball, and plans to take part in track and field in the spring. Kale says he's unsure about his plans for next year, but may pursue a career in a trade.

Sponsored by State Representative Brad Witt