

**MOUNT VERNON PUBLIC LIBRARY  
BOARD OF TRUSTEES  
BUDGET VOTE/ TRUSTEE ELECTION RESULTS**

**RESOLUTION#0061-20**

At a duly called meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Mount Vernon Public Library, upon a motion made by \_\_\_\_\_, and seconded by \_\_\_\_\_ the following resolution was considered,

WHEREAS, on June 16, 2020, the voters of the Mount Vernon City School District approved a proposed tax levy to support the operating budget of the Library submitted to them by the Library's Board of Trustees in a vote on the following question:

**PROPOSITION #1** - Shall the sum of \$4,779,094. The purposed levy is at 0.0%.

and

WHEREAS, on that same date and time, the voters of the Mount Vernon City School District elected a Trustees, at large, for a term of 5 years ending June 30, 2025, and also for the remaining term balance of 2 years ending June 30, 2022, created by Trustee Malcolm Clark resignation

and

WHEREAS, the Co-Chairpersons of the Election have now certified the tally for the June 16, 2020 vote (copy attached).

NOW therefore be it

RESOLVED that the Board of Trustees adopts the certified tally of the June 16, 2020 vote, attached hereto and summarized below:

| <b>Proposition #1</b> |    | <b>Votes</b> |
|-----------------------|----|--------------|
| <b>Candidates #2</b>  |    |              |
| Andrea Fobbs          |    | <b>1367</b>  |
| Cathlin Gleason       |    | <b>1821</b>  |
| Hope Marable          |    | <b>1465</b>  |
| Jamie Pessin          | to | <b>1404</b>  |
| Lauren Raysor         |    | <b>1181</b>  |

**June 22, 2020 - As stated by the Board President Oscar Davis Jr., and all board members in attendance agreed to the following and that this resolution is for informational purposes only,**

**Because the 2020-2021 elections were run and expensed completely by the Mount Vernon City School system there is no need for this resolution #0061-20 on. The Board of trustees' for the Mount Vernon Public library acknowledges that on Tuesday June 16, 2020, the (This information below has been copied from the mvcsd website)**

Voters in the Mount Vernon City School District approved a \$259,601,834 budget for the 2020-2021 school year by a 3,400-890 vote by mail-in ballot this year. For the sixth time in seven years, the board and administration put forward a budget with a zero percent increase in the tax levy.

The approved budget is a 1.38 percent increase, or \$3,521,777 above last year's approved budget of \$256,080,057.

"I am thankful to the voters in Mount Vernon for supporting this conservative budget with no tax levy increase," said Superintendent Dr. Kenneth R. Hamilton. "Recognizing our fiduciary responsibility to the city's taxpayers and the potential for reductions in state foundation aid in the coming school year, we feel this budget is appropriate at this difficult economic time."

Of the total expenditures, 72 percent will be used on educational programming and just 9 percent will be used on administrative costs with the remainder spent on capital. Since Dr. Hamilton's arrival six years ago he has steadily reduced the district's costs.

The budget aligns with the Board of Education's goals and the Beyond 2020 post-20/20 Vision. With money from the budget the district intends to fund its International Baccalaureate program at The Mount Vernon High School, STEAM Academy programs, such as Project Lead the Way, Performing & Visual Arts programs and performances, restoration of the MVHS Culinary Arts program (with assistance from a \$1 million grant facilitated by Sen. Biaggi), support final phases of district's reconfiguration of its PreK to grade 8 schools, Early Childhood Education programs, 21st Century responsive technology resources (such as Discovery Education, SeeSaw, Scholastic, iReady, envisions 2.0 Mathematics, Waterford, LessonbeeHealth, Pearson, Newsela, and Achieve 3000), College & Career readiness (AVID), PSAT & SAT expenses, Naviance, National and Junior honor societies, PBIS, Restorative Justice, family workshops through the office of school improvement in conjunction with PTOs, and school counselors and literacy and numeracy through the Superintendents' Reading Challenge.

Other highlights include:

- \$35,000 to put up a new fence at Columbus School
- \$400,000 final science lab and electric at Hamilton School
- \$700,000 increase in technology expenses to help close the digital divide while maintaining a high level of programs
- Complying with New York Education 2D law: protecting against ransomware, security breaches

- Opening of the Nelson Mandela / Dr. Hosea Zollicoffer School next year
- Maintain support services that the district has put in over the last six years such as nurses, counselors, physical education staff, music, and arts
- \$100,000 continuation of a multi-year phase-in plan for replacement of old carpet with vinyl tile, walls, and security at Lincoln School
- \$80,000 for one new facilities truck (replace current 25-year-old truck)
- \$100,000 continuation of districtwide window repairs
- \$870,000 decrease in services for students with disabilities and multi-language learners due to efficiency protocols in each department
- Teacher retirement incentive to yield \$750,000 in savings

The district will use \$11.5 million in fund balance to help balance the budget and avert reductions that would jeopardize the progress the district has made over the last five years. Of the \$11.5 million in excess of \$6 million comes from unexpended monies from the current budget. The balance comes from restricted reserves that have been previously put aside to reduce the cost of our bond payments.

As a result of the extended closure of school beginning in March, the district has been able to reduce spending and has saved in excess of \$6 million. This savings has helped the district absorb the reduction in state aid without adversely impacting the education program. The district will also see a \$750,000 decrease due to teacher retirement incentive and a \$1 million decrease in Capital Fund projects. An administrative reorganization and an increased use of cooperative purchasing (such as BOCES shared services and New York State Bidding) will further reduce costs.

“The Board would like to express its gratitude to the community for its passage of the 2020-2021 budget,” said School Board President Arlene Torres. “We knew this would not be the year to ask our community for a tax rate increase, but we are also aiming toward another year of improvement in our academic program and offerings.”

Additionally, the following district residents were elected to the Board of Education for three-year terms: Brenda L. Crump (2,465 votes), Jeffrey Redd (2,152 votes), and Cynthia Turnquest (2,003 votes).