

**MARTHA'S VINEYARD REGIONAL HIGH SCHOOL COMMITTEE**  
**Wednesday, January 2, 2019 7:30PM**  
**Martha's Vineyard Regional High School**  
**Library Conference Room**

Present: Chair – Kris O’Brien, Roxanne Ackerman, Megan Anderson, Amy Houghton, Kimberly Kirk, Robert Lionette, Skipper Manter, Janet Packer, Kathryn Shertzer,

Others:

Staff: Principal – Sarah Dingley, Vice Principals – Jeremy Light, Dhakir Warren, Finance Manager – Mark Friedman, Special Ed Director – Hope MacLeod, CTE Director – Barbarajean Chauvin, Culinary - Kevin Crowell

Supt.'s Of.: Superintendent - Matt D’Andrea, Asst. Supt. – Richie Smith, Business Affairs - Amy Tierney,

Towns: Chil. – Robert Hanneman, W. Tis. - Chuck Hodgkinson, Tis. – Mary Ellen Larsen, Colleen McAndrews, Jonathon Snyder,

Press: Vineyard Gazette – Noah Asimov & Mark Lovewell, MVTV – Lynn Fraker,

Secretary: Marni Lipke \*Late arrivals or early departures (see \* in text)

Call to Order

The meeting of the Martha’s Vineyard Regional High School Committee (MVRHSC) was called to order at 7:49PM. Chair Kris O’Brien welcomed and thanked everyone for their patience while final Fiscal Year 2020 (FY20) Budget calculations were completed. It was noted for the record that all members were present.

- (*Recorder’s Note: Discussions are summarized and grouped for clarity and brevity*).

<b>Minutes</b> – Tabled	(Agenda Item #I)
<b>Student Report</b> – No Report	(Agenda Item #II)
<b>Student/Department Spotlight</b> – No Report	(Agenda Item #III)
<b>Public Comment/Budget</b> – None	(Agenda Item #IV)
<b>Principal's Report</b> – No Report	(Agenda Item #V)
<b>Financial Report</b>	(Agenda Item #VI)

(See documents on file & Minutes: 12/3/18 p.3 #F & 12/18/18.)

**A. Fiscal Year 2020 (FY20) Budget Certification**

Version #8 reflected the votes taken at the December 18, 2018 meeting, and the updated Superintendent’s Shared Services Budgets. The new Other Post Employment Benefits (OPEB) actuarial study showed:

- Normal Cost plus interest at \$2,020,0262 would stop the liability from growing;
- Actuarially Determined Employer Contribution (ADEC) (formally the Annual Required Contribution (ARC)) at \$3,054,0000 would pay down the liability on a 30 year timeframe.

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MVRHS Finance Manager Mark Friedman provided one, three, five and seven year options to reach both Normal Cost and ADEC. The MVRHSC revisited the OPEB contribution in light of the new information:

- five year plan results in 5.97% FY20 operating budget, and 6.35% assessed;
- seven-year plan at 5.53% operating budget and 5.85% assessed;
- non-collective bargaining as part of past agreements;
- existing debt, long term liability built up over decades;
- previous commitment for pay-down, and irresponsibility not to contribute;
- reluctance to commit for five years into the unknown future vs. understanding it as a goal;
- difficulties of some towns to pay the increase—effectively curtailing their ability to pay down their own OPEB liability;
- difficulty of persuading voters to approve at Town Meeting.
- MVRHSD as far out ahead of any other Massachusetts regional districts on OPEB;
- *MR. SKIPPER MANTER MOVED TO INCLUDE A \$320,000 INCREASE TO THE OTHER POST EMPLOYEE BENEFITS TRUST CONTRIBUTION FOR THE GOAL OF A FIVE-YEAR FUNDING PLAN; MS. KIMBERLY KIRK SECONDED;*
- *MS. ROXANNE ACKERMAN CALLED THE QUESTION; CALL SECONDED BY MS. JANET PACKER;*

*MOTION PASSED: 6 AYES, 3 NAYS—MS. ACKERMAN, MS. O'BRIEN, MS. SHERTZER; 0 ABSTENTIONS.*

- Chilmark Finance Committee (FinCom) representative Mr. Robert Hanneman stressed that the public deserved an explanation for the increasing non-OPEB operating budget resulting in the third highest per pupil costs in Massachusetts—per pupil costs did not include such things as: capital expenses, debt and OPEB (see below: Tasks). Administration noted a number of factors:
  - growing student population;
  - ancillary municipal costs (transportation, OPEB, benefits, etc.);
  - high Island cost of living requiring high teacher salaries;
  - comprehensive high school encompassing expensive vocational/Career Technical Education (CTE) costs;
  - residential placement costs for children the MVRHS could not support;
  - health insurance increases.

All agreed the Island was one of the most educationally supportive communities in the Commonwealth.

- Mr. Manter appreciated the OPEB vote but objected to a number of procedures, such as Excess and Deficiency (E & D) spending on the track, and considered the overall increase too high.
- In order to adhere to conflict of interest protocol:
- *MR. MANTER MOVED TO CERTIFY MARTHA'S VINEYARD REGIONAL HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT FISCAL YEAR 2019 BUDGET LINES*
  - *#129 SOCIAL STUDIES SALARY,*
  - *#130 SOCIAL STUDIES LONGEVITY,*
  - *\$162 SOCIAL STUDIES SALARY UN-CONTRACTED STIPENDS;*
- MR. ROBERT LIONETTE SECONDED; MOTION PASSED: 8 AYES, 0 NAYS 1 ABSTENTION—MS. AMY HOUGHTON* due to conflict of interest.

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- *MS. HOUGHTON MOVED TO APPROVE THE MARTHA'S VINEYARD REGIONAL HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT FISCAL YEAR 2020 BUDGET DRAFT #8 AS AMENDED:*
    - *AT \$22,263,225.76 TOTAL OPERATING EXPENSES (5.97% INCREASE) AND*
    - *\$19,559,040.17 (6.35% INCREASE) ASSESSED BUDGET;*
- MS. JANET PACKER SECONDED; MOTION PASSED: 6 AYES, 2 NAYS— MR. LIONETTE, MR. MANTER; 1 ABSTENTION—MS. ACKERMAN.*

**B. Budget Assessment Formula**

There was now only ~1% difference between Regional versus the Statutory formula, however the regional formula required approval by all six Towns while the statutory only required approval of four.

- *MR. MANTER MOVED TO UTILIZE THE STATUTORY FORMULA FOR THE MARTHA'S VINEYARD REGIONAL HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT FISCAL YEAR 2020 BUDGET ASSESSMENT; MR. LIONETTE SECONDED; MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY: 9 AYES, 0 NAYS, 0 ABSTENTIONS.*

**C. Building Feasibility Study Warrant Article Vote**

This was reduced by residuals from two previous article funds. Mr. Friedman advised that other residuals were so small that it would be procedurally complicated to revote all for a minor total of only \$1,200. Mr. Manter suggested rescinding the previous votes on E & D so that projects could be brought before the public.

- *MR. MANTER MOVED TO PLACE ARTICLES ON TOWN MEETING WARRANTS FOR A FEASIBILITY STUDY AND SCHEMATIC DESIGN FOR THE MARTHA'S VINEYARD REGIONAL HIGH SCHOOL CAMPUS FOR A TOTAL OF \$1,083,732.01 WITH THE INTENTION OF INCLUDING THE SUPERINTENDENT'S SHARED SERVICES DESIGN IN THE STUDY; MR. LIONETTE SECONDED; MOTION PASSED: 6 AYES, 3 NAYS—MS. HOUGHTON, MR. MANTER, MS. KATHRYN SHERTZER, 0 ABSTENTIONS.*

**Superintendent's Report** – No Report (Agenda Item #VII)

**Personnel** – No Report (Agenda Item #VIII)

**Old/New Business** – No Report (Agenda Item #IX)

**Topics Not Reasonably Anticipated by the Chair** - None (Agenda Item #X)

**Executive Session** – Not needed. (Agenda Item #XI)

**Adjournment** (Agenda Item #XII)

- *MR. MANTER MOVED TO ADJOURN 8:58PM; MR. LIONETTE SECONDED; MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY: 8 AYES, 0 NAYS, 0 ABSTENTIONS*

**continued >**

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**Appendix A - Meetings**

- **MVRHSC - 5:00PM, Monday January 7, 2019 at the MVRHS LCR**
- ~~Facilities Subcommittee – 10:00AM, Tuesday, January 8, 2019 at the MVRHS Prin. Conf.~~
- **Transportation Subcommittee – 1:00PM, Tuesday, January 15, 2019 at the MVRHS LCR**
- **Facilities Subcommittee – 8:00AM, Tuesday, January 22, 2019 at the MVRHS Prin. Conf.**

**Appendix B - Agreed Upon Tasks**

- Administration – prepare explanation of MVRHS high cost for Annual Town Meetings.
- Administration - include track design in presentation to each Annual Town Meeting.

**Appendix C - Documents on File:**

- Agenda 1/2/19
- Sign In Sheet 1/2/19
- Martha's Vineyard Regional High School District Budget for Fiscal Year '2020 Version #8 (9 p.) 1/02/2019
- MVRHS FY19 Building Feasibility Study As of 1/02/2019
- MVRHS Other Post Employment Benefits FY18 OPEB Report KMS Actuaries November, 2018

Respectfully submitted,

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Marni Lipke – Recorder

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Date

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Kris O'Brien – MVRHSC Chair

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Matt D'Andrea – MVRHSD Superintendent

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

**Minutes approved 2/4/19**