

**MARTHA'S VINEYARD REGIONAL HIGH SCHOOL COMMITTEE**  
**Monday, January 7, 2019, 5:00PM**  
**Martha's Vineyard Regional High School**  
**Library Conference Room**

Present: Chair – Kris O’Brien, Roxanne Ackerman, Megan Anderson, Amy Houghton, Kimberly Kirk, Janet Packer,  
Student representatives (non-voting): Emily Gazzaniga, Tyla Packish

Others:

Staff: Principal – Sarah Dingley, Vice Principals – Jeremy Light, Dhakir Warren, Finance Manager – Mark Friedman, CTE Director – Barbarajean Chauvin, Special Ed Director – Hope MacLeod, Athletic Director – Mark McCarthy, Chris Connors,

Supt.'s Of: Superintendent - Matt D’Andrea, Asst. Supt. – Richie Smith, ELL Director – Leah Palmer,

SAC: Rebekah ElDeiry, Rufus Peebles,

Fin. Com. Oak Bluffs – Maura McGroarty,

Press: MV Times – Lucas Thors, Vineyard Gazette – Holly Pretsky  
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 5:21PM. Chair Kris O’Brien thanked everyone for their patience.

**Minutes**

(Agenda Item #I)

**A. December 3, 2018, December 18, 2018, and January 2, 2019**

• *MS. AMY HOUGHTON MOVED TO APPROVE THE DECEMBER 3, 2018 AND DECEMBER 18, 2018 MINUTES; MS. JANET PACKER SECONDED; MOTION PASSED: 5 AYES, 0 NAYS, 1 ABSTENTION—MS. ROXANNE ACKERMAN* due to absence.

**Financial Report**

(Agenda Item #V)

**E. English Language Learners (ELL) Agency Fund**

As reported at the All Island School Committee (AISC) (see 1/2/19 AISC Minutes p.4 #VI) ELL Director Leah Palmer was working with Simmons University to bring a four course ELL certification program to the Island at the end of which participants could take the State test. It was a great opportunity to improve staff ELL skills, advance careers, and fill a challenging area of instruction. A teacher information session was scheduled for January 17th. Participants would pay tuition up front (a minimum number of participants was required) 30 days prior to the class, which would be passed to Simmons. This would be a cost neutral pass-through account with no taxpayer funds administered by the Superintendent’s Shared Services Office.

• *MS. HOUGHTON MOVED TO ESTABLISH AN ENGLISH LANGUAGE LEARNERS AGENCY FUND TO SUPPORT THE MARTHA’S VINEYARD PUBLIC SCHOOL ENGLISH LANGUAGE LEARNER STUDENTS AND STAFF; MS. PACKER SECONDED; MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY: 6 AYES, 0 NAYS, 0 ABSTENTIONS.*

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**Student Report**

(Agenda Item #II)

**A. Emily Gazzaniga, Junior Class President, and Tyla Packish, Junior Class Vice-President**

- The Junior Class was still planning and meeting with freshmen on a winter dance in the gym; however as no shoes or high heels were allowed, the classes had settled on a sock hop with a neon theme instead of a formal.
- The Prom Committee was meeting with parents on after-prom activities.
- Winter sports was well under way including the seniors/faculty basketball game. Indoor track lost a meet by just a few points after a long run of victories. The Swim Team participated in the Cape Cod Classic. The Unified Team was having a Bocce tournament off-Island. The Locker Room painting project was completed.
- The Race Culture Retreat took place December 12-13, 2018. The Leadership Class ran:
  - a holiday food drive for the elderly and collected \$200 in donations; and
  - a wildly successful children's book drive leading up to Christmas.
- Nine male students led a seminar on Re-Imagining Manhood to reduce gender-based violence and toxic masculinity.
- The Honor Roll was released and midterms were coming up in two weeks.
- Many students were signing up to hear alumnae speak during flex period. Junior Parent Night would focus on post-secondary education planning.
- The Protect The Environment Club was working with Josie Kirkland of Felix Neck Wildlife Sanctuary on Climate Cafés where students with a passion for a particular environmental topic could speak with a professional and the greater Island community was invited.

**Student/Department Spotlight** - None

(Agenda Item #III)

**Public Comment** - None

(Agenda Item #IV)

**Principal's Report**

(Agenda Item #V)

Ms. Rebekah ElDeiry and Mr. Rufus Peebles of the School Advisory Council (SAC) reported that after some discussion, SAC made a policy decision on gender neutral graduation gown colors—logistical details were still in process. There would be a formal press statement.

**A. John and Abigail Adams Scholarship Recipients**

These were scholarships to Commonwealth schools awarded to all Massachusetts students with advanced scores on their MCAS tests. The list was read (see documents on file).

**B. Sports Waiver Request Guidelines** (See below: Tasks.)

The Guidelines had been amended in accordance with MVRHSC requests (see 11/5/18 Minutes p.3 #B & p.8 Tasks). Ms. Kimberly Kirk requested that the lateness clause be clarified regarding swimming pool and ice rink schedules.

IT WAS THE CONSENSUS OF THE MARTHA'S VINEYARD REGIONAL HIGH SCHOOL COMMITTEE TO APPROVE THE SPORTS WAIVER REQUEST GUIDELINES AS AMENDED.

**C. Athletic Out of State/School Field Trip Requests** (See documents on file.)

- *MS. O'BRIEN MOVED TO AUTHORIZE THE INDOOR TRACK TEAM AND COACH(ES) TO TRAVEL OVERNIGHT TO DARTMOUTH, MASSACHUSETTS ON JANUARY 11-12, 2019 FOR*

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*THE DARTMOUTH RELAYS; MS. HOUGHTON SECONDED; MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY; 6 AYES, 0 NAYS, 0 ABSTENTIONS.*

Later in the meeting:

• *MS. PACKER MOVED TO AUTHORIZE:*

- *OUT OF STATE TRAVEL TO PROVIDENCE, RHODE ISLAND FOR THE TRINITY REP THEATRE PRODUCTION OF MACBETH ON FEBRUARY 15, 2019;*
- *OVERNIGHT AND OUT OF STATE TRAVEL TO BRETTON WOODS, NEW HAMPSHIRE MARCH 15-17, 2019 FOR THE ANNUAL SKI TRIP;*
- *OVERNIGHT TRAVEL TO HYANNIS, MASSACHUSETTS ON JANUARY 10-11, 2019 FOR THE DECA DISTRICT CONFERENCE;*

*MS. HOUGHTON SECONDED; MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY; 6 AYES, 0 NAYS, 0 ABSTENTIONS.*

**D. Career Technical Education (CTE) Update** (See documents on file.)

- The Martha's Vineyard Times reported on the new Health Assistants work with Windermere and community connections.
- Building Trades produced a beautiful set of tables for the Martha's Vineyard Museum, which would be used (with an accompanying plaque) in the Museum shop.
- The Credit For Life Fair would include two classes this year (See below: Tasks & Minutes: 4/3/17 p. 3 #V E & 1/8/18 p.2 #V A).

**E. Facilities Update**

- The varsity girls softball field received a new outfield fence as well as a new infield.
- The dump-truck was being repaired after it failed inspection.
- Boiler cleaning in boiler room #1 was in progress and the new boiler in boiler room #2 was installed so all boilers should be operational shortly.
- The four new portable bleachers were ready for spring placement.
- Administration discussed the next move on the Horticulture building, which would not be replaced until the larger MVRHS project. There was a decision to demolish the old greenhouse and use the some of a \$50,000 grant to extend communications and fiber to the current building.
- Members praised the newly resurfaced track parking lot.

**G. Special Education Update** (See documents on file.)

- The next implementation report on Consultant Jim Shillinglaw's recommendation was distributed for review and future discussion.
- The Island Parent Advisory Council (IPAC) was rescheduled (see below: Meetings/Events & Tasks) and there would be a January 12th meeting for families on self-directed plans.

**Financial Report** (Agenda Item #VI)

**A. Expenditure Report** (See documents on file.)

- The Substitute line was being monitored for pressure due to some medical events.

**B. Revenue Report** (See documents on file.)

**C. Student Activities** – Tabled.

**D. Grants/Donations** (See documents on file.)

*MS. HOUGHTON MOVED TO ACCEPT WITH GREAT GRATITUDE CAPE COD SAVINGS BANK MINI-GRANTS TOTALING \$4,665; MS. PACKER SECONDED; MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY; 6 AYES, 0 NAYS, 0 ABSTENTIONS.*

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- *MS. HOUGHTON MOVED TO ACCEPT WITH GREAT GRATITUDE \$400 FROM THE CAPE AND ISLANDS WORKFORCE BOARD FOR TRANSPORTATION TO THE CAPE COD COMMUNITY COLLEGE WATERWORKS CAREER DAY; MS. PACKER SECONDED; MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY: 6 AYES, 0 NAYS, 0 ABSTENTIONS.*
- *MS. HOUGHTON MOVED TO ACCEPT WITH GREAT GRATITUDE A \$50,000 GRANT FROM SKILLS CAPITAL FOR A MOBILE EXCAVATOR; MS. PACKER SECONDED; MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY: 6 AYES, 0 NAYS, 0 ABSTENTIONS.* This was a matching grant that might need budget re-alignment from the horticulture building to Capital Equipment.
- *MS. HOUGHTON MOVED TO ACCEPT WITH GREAT GRATITUDE \$9,775.50 FROM THE SOUND FOUNDATION TO THE WEST TISBURY SCHOOL FOR HEALTH AND WELLNESS ROOM FURNITURE; MS. PACKER SECONDED; MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY: 6 AYES, 0 NAYS, 0 ABSTENTIONS.*
- *MS. HOUGHTON MOVED TO ACCEPT WITH GREAT GRATITUDE \$15,000 FROM THE KATHERINE GOODMAN FOUNDATION FOR THE THEATRE ARTS PROGRAM; MS. PACKER SECONDED; MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY: 6 AYES, 0 NAYS, 0 ABSTENTIONS.* The Department was planning possible transport to events and/or visiting artists. The MVRHSC expressed their appreciation of community generosity.

**Superintendent's Report**

(Agenda Item #VII)

**A. All Island School Committee (AISC)**

The Budget was approved at the previous meeting and no new meeting had been scheduled.

**B. New England School Development Council (NESDEC)** (See documents on file.)

*(From 5:55 to 5:58 Ms. Ackerman exited the meeting, which lost quorum, consequently this report was given before the grant/donations votes above).*

Martha's Vineyard Public Schools (MVPS) enrollment was fairly stable at about 2100 however MVRHS enrollment was likely to increase substantially until 2022-3 before starting to decline. There would be more students in the building however the per pupil cost was likely to drop.

**C. Synergy Update**

Synergy completed its initial visit, survey and observations. A return visit was possible and the report was expected in about two months.

**D. Determination of Bus Safety**

Buses were subject to two State inspection procedures:

- an annual inspection similar to regular vehicle inspections; and
- school bus vehicle compliance and safety inspection three times a year by the Registry of Motor Vehicles checking all components and enforcing rectification.

In addition bus drivers were required to inspect and sign off on a daily checklist of: lights, brakes, tires, safety equipment, etc. Safety was a priority for the Administration, Transportation Manager Mark Rivers and particularly the bus drivers who took pride in what their jobs.

**Personnel** - None

(Agenda Item #VIII)

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**Old/New Business** (Agenda Item #IX)

**A. Sub-Committee(s) Update** (See below: Tasks.)

To promote better communications Chair O'Brien proposed and the MVRHSC agreed to add Sub-Committee updates as a regular agenda item.

**B. Scheduling of Presentation by Chris Huntress of Proposed Athletic Field Improvements** (See below: Meetings & Tasks.)

The Facilities Subcommittee suggested that Mr. Chris Huntress present the Athletic Fields feasibility study to the entire MVRHSC. The MVRHSC was interested in the presentation but agreed they did not want to delay the project with another public forum (see Facilities Subcommittee Minutes: 11/1/18, 11/15/18). Further discussion included:

- date/time/location and MVTV recording,
- project status and decision timeframe,
- transparency and opportunity to ask questions,
- possible cost in regards to the presentation being outside Mr. Huntress' contract.
- It was agreed that the meeting would be a presentation only with questions.

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

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

**Adjournment** (Agenda Item #XII)

- *MS. HOUGHTON MOVED TO ADJOURN 6:31PM; MS. PACKER SECONDED; MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY: 6 AYES, 0 NAYS, 0 ABSTENTIONS*

**Appendix A - Meetings**

- ~~AISC Personnel Subcommittee – 8:00AM, Thursday, January 10, 2019 at the MVRHS LCR~~
- Transportation Subcommittee – 1:00PM, Tuesday, January 15, 2019 at the MVRHS LCR
- AISC Personnel Subcommittee – 4:00PM, Wednesday, January 16, 2019 at Supt. Conf. Rm.
- IPAC – 7:00PM, Thursday, January 10, 2019 at the MVRHS
- Facilities Subcommittee – 8:00AM, Tuesday, January 22, 2019 at the MVRHS Prin. Conf
- MVRHSC - 5:30PM, Wednesday January 23, 2019 at the MVRHS LCR
- MVRHSC - 5:00PM, Monday February 4, 2019 at the MVRHS LCR

**Appendix B - Agreed Upon Tasks**

- Mr. McCarthy – Waiver Guidelines:
  - clarify lateness re: ice & pool time,
  - typos – furthermore, “a” not “if”, “they” not “the”
- MVRHSC – volunteers needed for the Credit for Life Fair 7:30AM – 12:00N, 3/12/19
- MVRHSC – volunteer needed representative needed for IPAC meeting 1/17/19
- Ms. Warburton/Ms. O'Brien – add Agenda Item #VIII Subcommittee Updates (Facilities, Transportation, Regional Agreement, etc.)
- Ms. Warburton/Ms. O'Brien – post 1/23/18 meeting as presentation with Q&A only.

**continued**

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**Appendix C - Documents on File:**

- Agenda 1/7/19
- Sign In Sheet 1/7/19
- January meeting schedule
- MVRHS General Fund Expenditures Fiscal Year 2018-2019 (13 p.) 1/7/19
- MVRHS General Fund Revenues Fiscal Year 2018-2019 1/7/19
- Enrollment Projections Martha's Vineyard Public Schools Martha's Vineyard Regional High School December 5, 2018 (8 p.)
- Out of State and Overnight Travel Indoor Track 1/11/19
- McCarthy letter re: Out of State Travel 12/19/18
- Sports Waiver Request Guidelines (2 p.)
- Ski Trip Itinerary 3/15-17/19
- DECA Requesting Permission for an Overnight Field Trip
- John and Abigail Adams Scholarship Recipients Class of 2019
- Cape Cod Five Cents Savings Bank Mini-Grant FY2019
- Poplasky/Chauvin emails re: Skills Capital Save the Date January 17th Shawsheen Valley Technical High School Please RSVP 1/2/19
- Galvin/Chauvin emails re: Travel Money 1/4/19
- Sound Foundation Yoga Grant West Tisbury School 12/12/18
- Merrill Lynch check Miscellaneous Donation 12/26/18
- Giving Back Comes in Many Forms, Martha's Vineyard Times excerpt 1/2/2019
- MVRHS Special Education Program Evaluation by James Shillinglaw Jan. 2018 (9 p.)

Respectfully submitted,

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Marni Lipke – Recorder

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Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Kris O'Brien – MVRHSC Chair

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

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

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

**Minutes approved 2/4/19**