

**MARTHA'S VINEYARD REGIONAL HIGH SCHOOL COMMITTEE**  
**Monday, May 18, 2020, 5:00PM**  
**Zoom Meeting**

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

Others: About 72 attendees including the following: Marylee Carlomagno, Catherine, Laura DeBettencourt, Melissa Braillard, Gabrielle, Debra Grant, Jim, Kerry, Vanessa Martins, Nell, Pierre, Nicholas Shank, Mrs. Stobart, McMahon Sykes, Teresa Temple, Christine White,

Supt.'s Of: Superintendent - Matt D’Andrea, Asst. Supt. – Richie Smith, Interim Finance Manager – Mark Friedman,

MVRHS/MVPS Staff:  
Principal – Sarah Dingley,  
Assistant Principals: Jeremy Light, Dhakir Warren – Director of Student Affairs, Barbarajean Chauvin - CTE Director,  
Interim MVRHS Finance Manager – Jacob Rosengarten,  
Facilities Director – Mike Taus, Special Ed Co-Director – Hope MacLeod, Pamela Alwardt, Debbie Brew, Marylee Carlomagno, Cheri Cluff, Chloe Combra, Sue Costello, Robin Davies, Sean DeBettencourt, Jessica Estrella, Christine Ferrone, John Fiorito, David Foley, Jennifer Fournier, Julie Gaffey, Meredith Goldthwait, Cindy Grant, Mary Ellen Guyther, Kim Hathaway, GTheresa Holmes, Natalie Krauthamer, ail Lachapelle, Ryan Leandro, Constance Leuenberger, Melissa Mahoney, Judy Maynard, Bridget Mello, Teri Mello, Katy Phelps, Ken Romero, Erin Slossberg, Alison Smith, Debra Swanson, Maria Thibodeau, Elspeth Todd,

Staff/MVTEA: Nedine Cunningham, Spencer D’Agostino, Anne Davey,  
Towns: Tisbury: Jay Grande, Jeff Kristal, Mary Ellen Larsen,  
WT: Greg Orcutt, Clark Rattet, Oak Bluffs – Maura McGroarty,  
Press: Vineyard Gazette – Aaron Wilson, MVTV – Kelly Marolf,  
Secretary: Marni Lipke                   *\*Late arrivals or early departures of MVRHSC members (see \* in text)*

**Call to Order**

(Agenda Item #I)

The meeting of the Martha’s Vineyard Regional High School Committee (MVRHSC) was called to order at 5:05PM.

- Chair Kimberly Kirk welcomed Interim MVRHS Accounting and Finance Manager Jacob Rosengarten.

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

**Fiscal Year 2021 (FY21) Budget Vote**

(Agenda Item #II)

The Budget Subcommittee met twice weekly on Towns’ requests for reduced budgets adapted to the unprecedented pandemic financial closure. Subcommittee Chair Kris O’Brien emphasized the intense emotions, acknowledged the value of each staff member and expressed profound gratitude for their amazing, creative, dedicated work including emotional support and outreach.

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After much community input and lengthy discussions, with very heavy hearts the Subcommittee asked Administration to level fund the operating budget to FY20 (a difference of about \$1,011,000). The complexities of the regional district were noticed:

- different guidance from each Town,
- different assessed reductions for each Town;
- unknown and fluid State revenue and reimbursement projections;
- unknown status of Town Meetings.

• *MR. ROBERT LIONETTE MOVED TO ACCEPT THE BUDGET SUBCOMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION TO LEVEL FUND THE FISCAL YEAR 2021 BUDGET (AT \$22,003,178) ACCORDING TO ADMINISTRATION RECOMMENDATIONS ON REDUCTIONS: MS. AMY HOUGHTON SECONDED; MOTION PASSED: 8 AYES, 1 NAY, 0 ABSTENTIONS: MS. KIRK—AYE, MR. LIONETTE—AYE, MS. JANET PACKER—AYE, MR. SKIPPER MANTER—AYE, MS. MEGAN ANDERSON—AYE, MS. HOUGHTON—AYE, MS. ROXANNE ACKERMAN—NAY, MS. O'BRIEN—AYE, MS. KATHRYN SHERTZER—AYE.*

- The MVRHSC expressed their empathy for MVRHS Administrators.
- The Budget Subcommittee would continue to meet (see below: Meetings/Events).

**Bus Leasing, Operating Lease – Vote**

(Agenda Item #III)

(See Minutes: 3/9/20 p.6 #E & 5/4/20 p.4 #VI D.)

Due to delayed Town meeting votes on the original lease-to-purchase and consequent delay in ordering, the new buses delivery would now be mid or late September 2020. Consequently the current standard operating lease was proposed to bypass Town Meetings and immediately place the order. The MVRHS discussed several issues.

- Change paperwork from 'Martha's Vineyard Public Schools', which was not a legal entity.
- The operating lease would save about \$18,000 per bus, which could be used to purchase the buses at the end of the lease—for about the same sum.
- Superintendent Matt D'Andrea had definitive conversations with Transportation Director Mark Rivers, who adamantly stated the current buses (already declared surplus - see 2/3/20 Minutes p.4 #D) could not be used and posed significant safety issues.
- Mr. Manter objected to ordering the buses before funds were raised and appropriated and advocated waiting until after Town Meetings so as not to risk further pressure on the budget, particularly as to the unpredictable fall schedule and financial instability.
- The 90-day delivery time was not guaranteed and could be increased if there were factory health problems.

• *MR. LIONETTE MOVED TO AUTHORIZE THE ADMINISTRATION TO ENTER INTO AN OPERATING LEASE FOR SIX BUSES: MS. PACKER SECONDED;*

- *MR. MANTER MOVED TO AMEND THE MOTION TO WAIT TO PLACE THE ORDER UNTIL ALL SIX TOWNS HAD VOTED THE APPROPRIATIONS; NOT SECONDED; ORIGINAL MOTION PASSED: MOTION PASSED: 7 AYES, 2 NAYS, 0 ABSTENTIONS: MS. KIRK—AYE, MR. LIONETTE—AYE, MS. PACKER—AYE, MR. MANTER—NAY, MS. ANDERSON—AYE, MS. HOUGHTON—AYE, MS. ACKERMAN—NAY, MS. SHERTZER—AYE, MS. O'BRIEN—AYE.*

- The previous capital bus lease was withdrawn from Town Warrants.

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**Line Transfer for Hot Water System - Vote** (Agenda Item #IV)

MVRHS Facilities Director Mike Taus working closely with the plumber, expected this to resolve the ongoing problem. Some funds were already appropriated and the remainder was from the Prius purchase cancelation. A contingency buffer was included.

• *MR. MANTER MOVED TO APPROVE THE TRANSFER OF \$20,000 FROM THE VEHICLE PURCHASE LINE TO THE CORRECTIVE MAINTENANCE LINE: MS. O'BRIEN SECONDED; MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY: MOTION PASSED: 9 AYES, 0 NAYS, 0 ABSTENTIONS: MS. KIRK—AYE, MR. LIONETTE—AYE, MS. PACKER—AYE, MR. MANTER—AYE, MS. ANDERSON—AYE, MS. HOUGHTON—AYE, MS. ACKERMAN—AYE, MS. SHERTZER—AYE, MS. O'BRIEN—AYE.*

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

**Adjournment** (Agenda Item #VI)

• *MR. MANTER MOVED TO ADJOURN AT 5:42PM; MS. HOUGHTON SECONDED; MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY: 9 AYES, 0 NAYS, 0 ABSTENTION: MS. KIRK—AYE, MR. LIONETTE—AYE, MS. PACKER—AYE, MR. MANTER—AYE, MS. ANDERSON—AYE, MS. HOUGHTON—AYE, MS. ACKERMAN—AYE, MS. SHERTZER—AYE, MS. O'BRIEN—AYE.*

**Appendix A - Meetings**

- Budget Subcommittee – 12:00N, Tuesday, May 26, 2020
- AISC – 5:00PM, Thursday, May 28, 2020 - Zoom
- **MVRHSC – 5:00PM, Monday, June 1, 2020 - Zoom**
- Special & Annual Town Meetings - **TBD**
  - Aquinnah – 7:00PM, Tuesday, June 23, 2020
  - Chilmark – 5:30PM, Monday, June 8, 2020, Community Center Grounds
  - Edgartown – 1:30PM, Saturday, June 13, 2020 (Rain Date 6/14/20) Edg. School Grounds
  - Oak Bluffs – TBD, Tuesday, June 16, 2020 Tabernacle
  - Tisbury – 1:00PM, Saturday, June 13, 2020, Tisbury School Grounds
  - West Tisbury – 4:00PM, Tuesday, June 23, 2020 Tabernacle

**Appendix B - Agreed Upon Tasks - None**

**Appendix C - Documents on File:**

- Agenda 5/18/20

Respectfully submitted,

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Marni Lipke – Recorder

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Kimberly Kirk – MVRHSC Chair

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

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

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Date **Minutes approved 6/1/20**