

MARTHA'S VINEYARD REGIONAL HIGH SCHOOL COMMITTEE
Thursday, June 4, 2020,
Following the All Island School Committee Meeting
Zoom Meeting

Present: Chair – Kimberly Kirk, Roxanne Ackerman, Megan Anderson, Amy Houghton, Skipper Manter, Kris O’Brien, Janet Packer, Kathryn Shertzer,
Others: 300-350 others including MVRHS/MVPS staff (see Participant List) and:
Supt.'s Of: Superintendent - Matt D’Andrea, Asst. Supt. – Richie Smith,
Interim Finance Manager – Mark Friedman, Ruda Stone,
Student Support Co-Directors – Nancy Dugan, Hope MacLeod,
MVRHS Admin.: Principal – Sarah Dingledey,
Assistant Principals: Jeremy Light, Dhakir Warren – Director of Student Affairs,
Barbara-Jean Chauvin - CTE Director,
Interim MVRHS Finance Manager – Jacob Rosengarten,
MVPS Admin.: Edg. - Shelley Einbinder, Oak Bluffs – Megan Farrell,
Tisbury – John Custer, Melissa Ogden,
UIRSD - Donna Lowell-Bettencourt, Mary Boyd, Susan Stevens
MVPS/MVEA: Anne Davey, Nedine Cunningham, Spencer D’Agostino,
Towns Edg. - James Hagerty, OB – Ewell Hopkins, Maura McGroarty,
Tis. – Mary Ellen Larsen, Heidi Rydzewski,
ACE MV Holly Bellebuono,
Press Will Sennott – Vineyard Gazette,
Secretary: Marni Lipke **Late arrivals or early departures of MVRHSC members (see * in text)*

Call to Order (Agenda Item #I)

The Martha's Vineyard Regional High School Committee (MVRHSC) meeting was called to order at 4:59PM. *(Recorder’s Note: Some discussions are grouped for clarity and brevity.)*

Approval of Minutes – May 28, 2020 – Not applicable (Agenda Item # II)

Finance (Agenda Item # III)

A. Furlough Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) Vote – No action needed

B. Fiscal Year 2021 (FY21) Budget Vote

(See documents on file & 6/1/20 Minutes p.3-5 #C.)

- Chair Kimberly Kirk framed the rapidly evolving situation of the very real crisis and the unpredictability of the outcome. The MVRHSC requested a draft of extreme cuts for a level funded budget because it was the MVRHSC’s responsibility to prepare for future uncertainties while caring for the District’s children. A formal vote was required at this meeting.
- Principal Sarah Dingledey was heartened at the commitment to education and challenged by the request. MVRHS enrollment increased by 40 students with a stable or reduced staff. Core academic classes averaged 20-25 students with smaller classes for specialized or advanced learning and to address the needs of the more vulnerable population. Strides had been made on tracking and outreach for chronic absenteeism—an early warning sign of student need. She saluted staff dedication to students.

MARTHA'S VINEYARD REGIONAL HIGH SCHOOL COMMITTEE
June 4, 2020

2

- Prin. Dingley strongly emphasized that this Option addressed active positions. These positions should not be viewed as expendable, only that the crisis required extreme measures.
 - The June 1st meeting proposal for a \$278,154 or 1.3% reduction in total operating expenses was reviewed and an additional \$730,000 reduction was then presented without inclusion of: the Contingency line, Facilities Maintenance or Transportation.
 - Staff cuts were in addition to the \$250,000 reduction the MVRHSC requested for the March 9, 2020 Certified Budget:
 - 0.6 Full Time Equivalent (FTE) Art/Tech position (for a total reduction of 1.0 since FY20), and 0.5 FTE Performing Arts teacher
 - 1.0 FTE unfilled Math teacher addressing calculus A & B, and freshman/sophomore algebra remediation;
 - 1.0 FTE History position eliminating elective courses, merging into Honors, and freshmen research training;
 - \$17,000 in Food Service labor
 - 1.0 FTE Administrative Support Professional (ASP)
 - \$89,745 Special Education cuts – rolling back co-teaching and increasing Compass and Navigator class size;
 - 33% reduction club advisors/extra task stipends, plus elimination of Drivers Ed;
 - new hire/benefits savings and additional Supplies reduction;
 - imposing \$79,000 in athletic fees to offset sports costs—noting the value of universal sports participation;
 - \$90,686 OPEB reduction.
- The above might result in a seven-block schedule to accommodate reduced electives and courses.
- Contingencies would include:
 - the existing \$500,000 residential/facility reserve;
 - \$100,000 Covid-19 Contingency;
 - \$114,000 possible furlough savings;
 - \$54,630 CARES Act grant – to offset the Custodian from the 1.3% option;
 - \$431,935 in E & D from FY20 revenue reductions.
 - The MVRHSC thanked Prin. Dingley, Interim Martha's Vineyard Public Schools (MVPS) Finance Manager Mark Friedman, and Interim MVRHS Finance Manager Jacob Rosengarten for the hard work of providing the information the MVRHSC needed to face a difficult situation in a thoughtful way. They also commended and expressed gratitude for the leadership.
 - It was expected that MVRHSC members would be required to propose the amended budget on Town Meeting floors (see below: Tasks).
 - Public comment included:
 - request for more meeting transparency regarding the timing after the All Island School Committee meeting—MVRHSC explained the unique circumstance;
 - advocacy for the performing arts in teaching expression and courage.
 - thanks and commendations for the quality education and advocacy for responsible reductions in line with Town requests.

MARTHA'S VINEYARD REGIONAL HIGH SCHOOL COMMITTEE

June 4, 2020

3

- *MS. KRIS O'BRIEN MOVED TO REVISIT AND RESCIND THE MAY 28, 2020 VOTE TO LEVEL FUND THE MARTHA'S VINEYARD REGIONAL HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT FISCAL YEAR 2021 BUDGET; MS. JANET PACKER SECONDED; MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY: 8 AYES, 0 NAYS, 0 ABSTENTIONS: MS. AMY HOUGHTON—AYE, MS. KATHRYN SHERTZER—AYE, MS. ROXANNE ACKERMAN—AYE, MS. O'BRIEN—AYE, MS. PACKER—AYE, MS. MEGAN ANDERSON—AYE, MR. SKIPPER MANTER—AYE, MS. KIMBERLY KIRK—AYE.*
- *MS. HOUGHTON MOVED TO APPROVE THE 1.3% REDUCTION OF THE MARTHA'S VINEYARD REGIONAL HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT FISCAL YEAR 2021 BUDGET AS PRESENTED BY PRINCIPAL SARAH DINGLEDY; MS. O'BRIEN SECONDED; MOTION PASSED: 7 AYES, 1 NAY, 0 ABSTENTIONS: MS. HOUGHTON—AYE, MS. SHERTZER—AYE, MS. ACKERMAN—AYE, MS. PACKER—AYE, MS. ANDERSON—AYE, MR. MANTER—NAY, MS. O'BRIEN—AYE, MS. KIRK—AYE.*
- *MS. HOUGHTON MOVED TO RE-CERTIFY THE MARTHA'S VINEYARD REGIONAL HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT FISCAL YEAR 2021 BUDGET AT \$22,736,676.80 TOTAL OPERATING EXPENSES AND ASSESSED AT \$19,505,215.30; MS. O'BRIEN SECONDED; MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY: 8 AYES, 0 NAYS, 0 ABSTENTIONS: MS. HOUGHTON—AYE, MS. SHERTZER—AYE, MS. ACKERMAN—AYE, MS. PACKER—AYE, MS. ANDERSON—AYE, MR. MANTER—AYE, MS. O'BRIEN—AYE, MS. KIRK—AYE.*

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

- Vice Principal Dhakir Warren and Guidance Counselor Amy Lilavois would host a virtual and safe-place participatory event marking the relevant issues of the global pandemic and civic uprising for the MVRHS students with community panelists including: National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP), Police, social activists, student representatives and Charter School participation.

Adjournment (Agenda Item #V)

- *MS. HOUGHTON MOVED TO ADJOURN AT 5:50PM; MS. O'BRIEN SECONDED; MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY: 8 AYES, 0 NAYS, 0 ABSTENTION: MS. HOUGHTON—AYE, MS. SHERTZER—AYE, MS. O'BRIEN—AYE, MS. ACKERMAN—AYE, MS. PACKER—AYE, MS. ANDERSON—AYE, MR. MANTER—AYE, MS. KIRK—AYE.*

Appendix A - Meetings/Events

- MVRHS Graduation Parade – 1:00PM, Sunday, June 7, 2020 – State Beach Road
- AISC – 8:30AM, Thursday, June 11, 2020 - Zoom
- MVRHSC – 5:00PM, Monday, June 29, 2020 – Zoom
- MVRHS Graduation – Sunday, July 26, 2020 – Ag Hall, West Tisbury

continued >

MARTHA'S VINEYARD REGIONAL HIGH SCHOOL COMMITTEE
June 4, 2020

Appendix A - Meetings/Events (cont.)

• Special & Annual Town Meetings

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

- Mr. Friedman/Mr. Rosengarten – email FY21 Certified budget and options in same format.
- All – contact Mr. Friedman with any questions.

Appendix C - Documents on file:

- Agenda 6/4/20
- AISC & Local Sch Cmte Participants 6.4.20 (9 p.)
- Item # Recertify FY21, 3/09/20, Draft 6/01/20 20-21, Change from 3/09/20 Recertified FY21 (2 p.)

Respectfully submitted,

Marni Lipke – Recorder

Date

Kimberly Kirk – MVRHSC Chair

Date

Matt D'Andrea – MVRHSD Superintendent

Date

Minutes approved as amended 6/29/20