

MARTHA'S VINEYARD REGIONAL HIGH SCHOOL COMMITTEE

Monday, August 3, 2020, 5:00PM
Martha's Vineyard Regional High School
Zoom Meeting

Present: Chair – Kimberly Kirk, Megan Anderson, Robert Lionette, Skipper Manter, Kathryn Shertzer, Michael Watts,

Others: More than 60 attendees including the following. MEMA - Rachel Fleck, Edward Blanchard – Red Cross,

MVRHS/MVPS: Principal Sarah Dingley,
Assistant Principals: Jeremy Light, Barbara-Jean Chauvin - CTE Director
Interim Finance Manager Jacob Rosengarten
Guidance – Amy Lilavois,
Facilities Director – Mike Taus, Special Ed Co-Director – Hope MacLeod, Laura Bernard, Melissa Braillard Debbie Brew, Marylee Carlomagno, Abigail Chandler, Anna Cotton, Rebecca Claussen, Claire Crowell, Laura DeBettencourt, Sean DeBettencourt, Jessica Estrella, Christine Ferrone, Jennifer Fournier, Carrie Fyler, Meredith Goldthwait, Amy Jones, Corinne Kurtz, Michael Lavers, Julie Meader, Rick Mello, Sarah Mercaldo, Ms. Nelson, Jennifer Russell, Jane McGroarty Sampaio, Denise Searle, Alison Smith, McMahan Sykes, Teresa Temple, Debra Swanson, Elspeth Todd, Noelle Warburton, Jen Woods, Craig Yuhus,

MVTEA: Spencer D'Agostino, Anne Davey,
Supt.'s Of: Superintendent - Matt D'Andrea, Asst. Supt. – Richie Smith,
Interim Finance Manager – Mark Friedman,

Towns: West Tisbury: Clark Rattet, Russell Hartenstine,
Oak Bluffs – Chief Erik Blake, Maura McGroarty,

Press: MV Times – Lucas Thors, Vineyard Gazette – Will Sennott,
MVTV – Kelly Marolf,

Secretary: Marni Lipke

Principal's Report

(Agenda Item #IV)

A. Graduation (See documents on file.)

While awaiting a quorum the Martha's Vineyard Regional High School Committee (MVRHSC) praised the Class of 2020 Graduation and along with Principal Sarah Dingley gave their thanks and recognition to parents and community, especially all the organizers including (but not limited to):

- West Tisbury Board of Selectmen, School Committee and Agricultural Society, MVTV, First Responders for the June parade;
and, all staff who could not attend and consequently to accommodate family attendance within Covid-19 restrictions volunteered and parked cars, and, especially organizers: Noelle Warburton, Amy Lilavois, Melissa Braillard, Matt Malowski, Charlie Esposito, Maria Thibodeau, Chris Baer, Kate Hennigan,

Call to Order

- Quorum was achieved and the meeting was called to order at 5:19PM.

Minutes

(Agenda Item #I)

A. School Committee Minutes: July 13, 2020

- *MS. MEGAN ANDERSON MOVED TO APPROVE THE JULY 13, 2020 MINUTES AS CORRECTED; MR. SKIPPER MANTER SECONDED; MOTION PASSED: 6 AYES, 0 NAYS, 0*

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ABSTENTIONS: MS. KIMBERLY KIRK—AYE, MS. ANDERSON—AYE, MR. ROBERT LIONETTE—AYE, MR. SKIPPER MANter—AYE, MS. KATHRYN SHERTZER—AYE, MR. MICHAEL WATTS—AYE.

Student Report - None

(Agenda Item #II)

Student/Department Spotlight - None

(Agenda Item #III)

Superintendent's Report

(Agenda Item #V)

A. Island Wide Emergency Shelter Request and Vote (See documents on file.)

Oak Bluffs Police Chief and Emergency Management (EM) Director Erik Blake asked on behalf of the Martha's Vineyard EM team to shift the Islandwide Emergency Shelter from the Oak Bluffs School (OBS) to the MVRHS for greater accommodation space and flexibility during the Corona/Covid-19 Pandemic—which mandated 110 sq. ft. per person—allowing about 2-300 people capacity. EM would provide material and labor for set up and clean up with all supplies and equipment—no technology or infrastructure upgrades were needed (see below: Tasks). Schools were often chosen as shelters because they provided separate room spaces, kitchen/service capabilities, etc. (although most food preparation would be off-site).

MR. MANter MOVED TO:

- *APPROVE USE OF THE MARTHA'S VINEYARD REGIONAL HIGH SCHOOL AS THE MARTHA'S VINEYARD EMERGENCY SHELTER, AND*
- *TO AUTHORIZE THE SUPERINTENDENT TO SIGN A MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING;*

MR. LIONETTE SECONDED; MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY: 6 AYES, 0 NAYS, 0 ABSTENTION: MS. KIRK—AYE, MS. ANDERSON—AYE, MR. LIONETTE—AYE, MR. MANter—AYE, MS. SHERTZER—AYE, MR. WATTS—AYE.

B. School Reopening Plan Update (See 7/30/20 AISC Minutes.)

• Superintendent Matt D'Andrea presented a preliminary plan for fall 2020 school re-opening at last week's All Island School Committee (AISC) meeting. It focused primarily on the health/wellness of students, staff and the community—with flexibility to modify the plan, depending on the trajectory of the virus on the Island.

- Days-in-learning requirement was reduced from 180 to 170 so staff would take the first 10 days to learn new protocols and equipment and become familiar with new facility routines.

- This would be followed by an all remote learning period during which teachers would contact families on new regulations and expectations.

- Hybrid learning (starting September 29th for primary grades and October 1st for all grades) would work in two cohorts, each attending two days a week with Wednesdays reserved for all remote learning and facility deep cleaning.

The plan had been presented at a staff forum and at the weekly parent forum. Surveys would be taken on those needing transportation, and those families choosing only remote learning. Budget impacts were being projected as much as possible. Since this was a change in policy School Committee votes to approve were anticipated before the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE) August 10th deadline. The MVRHS had rented trailers for furniture storage and priced tents for outdoor learning/activities. An exceptional shout-out went to Facilities Director Mike Taus who had been invaluable and was working so hard he was practically living at the school.

• The MVRHSC explored a number of issues.

- There were State and local guidelines to track and respond to absenteeism, attendance, and discipline, whether remote or in person.

- Cohort A would follow block schedule ABCD, Cohort B would follow block schedule EFGH, Cohort C comprised Special Needs and English Language Learners/English as a Second

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Language (ELL/ESL) students, Cohort D would be students opting for all remote learning.

- There was a concerted push for as much appropriate in-person service as possible for Cohort C, balanced against resources and safety of all concerned.
- The Martha's Vineyard Public Schools' (MVPS) expectation was to teach all curriculums and standards as expected in any other school year, requiring a rigorous commitment given the loss of 10 days in learning and the changed protocol. There was a discussion on availability of staff to students during their two days of remote learning and on balancing staff capacity. Staff would be available for the standard, daily 30 minute flextime to those working remotely or in the building.
- The Massachusetts Interscholastic Athletic Association (MIAA) had postponed the season opening until September 16th and had not yet put out guidelines. The MVRHS was putting out a survey on student/family comfort level with sports participation.

Financial Report

(Agenda Item #VI)

A. Technology Computer Leases Update and Vote

(See documents on file & Minutes: 3/9/20 p.6-7 #E & 6/29/20 p.4.)

In consideration of new lease regulations, and in order to lease 17 iMac computers for the MVRHS rotating technology refresh plan, Interim Finance Manager Jacob Rosengarten and Interim MVPS Financial Director researched and proposed as follows.

- The MVRHS Financial Manual required all leases be reviewed and approved by the MVRHS.
- A non-capital (non-lease-to-buy) that would not require Town approval was found through the Commonwealth procurement system (COMMBUYS). This meant that at the end of the lease all assets would be returned to the vendor who could sell them at market price: to the MVRHS or to another client. (If the MVRHS did not purchase the computers it was the MVRHS responsibility to remove all information from the devices at the end of the lease.)
- The total three-year lease price was \$19,785—\$388 per year per machine or \$6,595 per year for 17 iMacs, which was under the \$9,400 budgeted for Fiscal Year 2021 (FY21).
- The computers included a one-year warranty.
- MVPS financial staff were hoping to take further advantage of COMMBUYS.
- *MR. MANTER MOVED TO APPROVE THE LEASE WITH ADVANCED COMPUTER SYSTEMS, INC. AND AUTHORIZE THE ADMINISTRATION TO SIGN IT; MS. SHERTZER SECONDED; MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY: 6 AYES, 0 NAYS, 0 ABSTENTION: MS. KIRK—AYE, MS. ANDERSON—AYE, MR. LIONETTE—AYE, MR. MANTER—AYE, MS. SHERTZER—AYE, MR. WATTS—AYE.*

B. Grants and Donations (See documents on file.)

- *MR. MANTER MOVED TO ACCEPT THE FOLLOWING GRANTS AND DONATIONS WITH GRATITUDE;*
- *\$267 LINDA M. CHAPMAN INNOVATION GRANT TO SUPPORT MS. AMY REECE'S PROJECT,*
- *\$1,650 CAPE AND ISLANDS WORKFORCE GRANT TO SUPPORT SCHOOLS TO CAREERS,*
- *\$1,446 FROM DESE GRANT FOR FY21 HIGH SCHOOL EQUIVALENCY TESTING;*
- *\$1,000 RENAISSANCE CHARITABLE FOUNDATION UNRESTRICTED GRANT;*
- *\$1,000 FROM JOHN DAVIES FOR MVRHS GRADUATION COSTS;*
- *\$19,067 FROM ISLAND GROWN INITIATIVE FOR SCHOOL MEALS DURING THE COVID PANDEMIC;*
- MS. SHERTZER SECONDED; MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY: 6 AYES, 0 NAYS, 0 ABSTENTION: MS. KIRK—AYE, MS. ANDERSON—AYE, MR. LIONETTE—AYE, MR. MANTER—AYE, MS. SHERTZER—AYE, MR. WATTS—AYE.*

Thanks went to the donors and to Ms. Jenni Shinn for her work on grants.

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- Lunch program finances was predicated on participation numbers and consequently suffered during the pandemic closure. A more detailed accounting would be available at a later meeting.

Personnel

(Agenda Item #VII)

A. Resignation/Leave of Absence (LOA) Request

(See documents on file.)

- *MR. MANTER MOVED TO ACKNOWLEDGE:*

- *THE RESIGNATIONS OF HEALTH DEPARTMENT STAFF MS. DARCEY NEAGO AND SCIENCE TEACHER MR. JASON NEAGO AS OF JULY 31, 2020; AND*

- *A ONE YEAR LEAVE OF ABSENCE FOR EDUCATION SUPPORT PROFESSIONAL MS. JILL GAULT FOR THE 2020-2021 SCHOOL YEAR;*

MS. SHERTZER SECONDED; MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY: 6 AYES, 0 NAYS, 0 ABSTENTION: MS. KIRK—AYE, MS. ANDERSON—AYE, MR. LIONETTE—AYE, MR. MANTER—AYE, MS. SHERTZER—AYE, MR. WATTS—AYE.

Committee Updates

(Agenda Item #VIII)

A. Meetings to Resume – See below: Tasks.

Public Comment

(Agenda Item #IX)

Martha's Vineyard Times reporter Mr. Lucas Thors asked about the MVRHS grading model. Prin. Dingley responded that State guidelines were expected, and a team was working on academic assessment, evaluation, and standardized testing with a goal of a system as close to the previous grading model as possible.

Topics Not Reasonably Anticipated by the Chair

(Agenda Item #X)

Just before this meeting, Mr. Taus informed the Facilities Subcommittee Chair that the Superintendent's Shared Services Office at 4 Pine St., (originally built as a one-story church in the 1800s) was inadequately ventilated for the current pandemic. Mr. Taus had contacted two contractors both of which recommended installation of Energy Recovery Ventilator (ERV) units to improve air flow and filtration on both floors—estimated total (but un-budgeted) cost was just under \$12,000. If approved the units could be ordered in the next two days and installed by the end of August.

- There was \$18,000 in the Office Maintenance which was usually completely spent in the course of the year. State or federal Covid grant funding might become available. The MVRHS also had budgeted contingency moneys for FY21;

As the MVRHSD was the owner and fiscal agent:

- *MR. LIONETTE MOVED TO APPROVE THE EXPENDITURE OF UP TO \$12,000 FOR PURCHASE AND INSTALLATION OF ENERGY RECOVERY VENTILATOR UNITS (ERV) IN THE 4 PINE STREET SUPERINTENDENT'S SHARED SERVICES OFFICE BUILDING TO BE FUNDED THROUGH THE SUPERINTENDENT'S SHARED SERVICES OFFICE MAINTENANCE LINE AND/OR GRANTS; MR. MANTER SECONDED; MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY: 6 AYES, 0 NAYS, 0 ABSTENTION: MS. KIRK—AYE, MS. ANDERSON—AYE, MR. LIONETTE—AYE, MR. MANTER—AYE, MS. SHERTZER—AYE, MR. WATTS—AYE.*

Executive Session – Not needed.

(Agenda Item #IX)

Adjournment

(Agenda Item #XII)

- *MR. MANTER MOVED TO ADJOURN AT 6:31PM; MR. LIONETTE SECONDED; MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY: 6 AYES, 0 NAYS, 0 ABSTENTION: MS. KIRK—AYE, MS. ANDERSON—AYE, MR. LIONETTE—AYE, MR. MANTER—AYE, MS. SHERTZER—AYE, MR. WATTS—AYE.*

continued

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Appendix A - Meetings/Events

- AISC - 5:00PM, Thursday, August 6, 2020 – Zoom
- AISC - 5:00PM, Monday, August 10, 2020 – Zoom
- MVRHSC – TBD 5:00PM, Monday, September 14, 2020 – Zoom

Appendix B - Agreed Upon Tasks

- Supt. D’Andrea – check re: MVRHS insurance as Islandwide Emergency Shelter.
- Prin. Dingley/Administrators – update Student Handbook
- Sub-committee Chairs – call meetings as needed.
- Agenda Items: - Vice Chair - Vote

Appendix C - Documents on File:

- Agenda (2 p.) 8/3/20
- Participants_876625866340 (1) (2 p.)
- Graduation photo
- Blake Emergency Management request
- Recommendation to Approve Leasing of 17 iMac Computers (12 p.)
- Grants – July 27, 2020
- Welch/Renaissance Philanthropic Solutions Group note/check 6/11/20
- Jason Neago letter of resignation 7/27/20
- Darcey Neago letter of resignation 7/27/20
- Gault leave of absence request

Respectfully submitted,

Marni Lipke – Recorder

Date

Kimberly Kirk – MVRHSC Chair

Date

Matt D’Andrea – MVRHSD Superintendent

Date

Minutes approved 9/14/20