

**MARTHA’S VINEYARD REGIONAL HIGH SCHOOL COMMITTEE**

**Monday, January 4, 2021, 5:00 PM**

**Martha’s Vineyard Regional High School**

**Zoom Meeting**

Present: Chair – Kimberly Kirk, Roxanne Ackerman, Megan Anderson, Amy Houghton, Skipper Manter, Kris O’Brien, Kathryn Shertzer, Michael Watts,  
Others: About 81 attendees, including the following:  
MVRHS/MVPS: Principal Sarah Dingley, Assistant Principals: Jeremy Light, Dahkir Warren, Barbara-Jean Chauvin—CTE Director & Assistant Principal, Noelle Warburton, Athletic Director—Mark McCarthy, Finance Manager – Suzanne Cioffi, Facilities Director – Mike Taus, Special Ed Co-Director – Hope MacLeod, Technologist – Rick Mello, Guidance –Rachel Schubert, MVEA: Spencer D’Agostino,  
Supt.'s Of: Superintendent - Matt D’Andrea, Interim Finance Manager – Mark Friedman,  
Towns/County: Oak Bluffs – Maura McGroarty, West Tisbury: Skipper Manter, Clark Rattet,  
Press: MV Times – Lucas Thors, Vineyard Gazette – Maia Coleman,  
Secretary: Minah Worley, Marni Lipke,  
\*Late arrivals or early departures of MVRHSC members (see \* in text)

**Call to Order**

The Martha’s Vineyard Regional High School Committee (MVRHSC) meeting was called to order at 5:05 PM. In order to facilitate the technology: the meeting was being recorded; video cameras should be off except for MVRHSC members or Administrators or when actively participating; attendees were asked to identify themselves with first and last names; the chat feature was turned off.

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

**Minutes**

(Agenda Item #I)

**School Committee Minutes: 11/12/20, 12/07/2020, & 12/22/20**

*MS. ROXANNE ACKERMAN MOVES TO APPROVE THE NOVEMBER 12, 2020, DECEMBER 7, 2020, AND DECEMBER 22, 2020 MINUTES; MR. SKIPPER MANTER SECONDS; MOTION PASSES UNANIMOUSLY: 6 AYES, 0 NAYS, 0 ABSTENTIONS: MS. KIRK—AYE, MS. KRIS O’BRIEN—AYE, MS. MEGAN ANDERSON—AYE, MS. HOUGHTON—AYE, MS. ACKERMAN—AYE, MR. MANTER—AYE.*

**Student Report**

(Agenda Item #II)

**Annabelle Biggs and Ben Mulvey**

MVRHS Principal Sara Dingley reports that Junior Class President Annabelle Biggs is absent from today’s meeting as she is volunteering to help distribute COVID-19 testing kits for the school.

**Student/Department Spotlight**

(Agenda Item #III)

Tabled. Ms. Kirk relays her appreciation to Jenn Woods for preparing her presentation and looks for to hearing at the next meeting. For attendance purposes, the Committee skips ahead to the Financial Report.

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**Financial Report**

(See documents on file) (Agenda Item #VI)

Budget Sub-Committee Chair Kris O'Brien thanks Administration, Budget, Facilities, and Transportation Sub-Committees for their hard work and due diligence for presenting and streamlining an Operating Budget of only 3.51% increase with four warrant articles to the Full Committee.

**A. FY22 Budget Vote:**

Interim Finance Manager Mark Friedman updates the Committee on adjustments since the December 22, 2020 public hearing.

- In the Line-Item Budget, the Covid contingency and regular contingency line items were consolidated. *There is no change in expense and assessment.*
- The final estimate from Anderson Bus Co. shows a slight increase to the electric bus warrant article. The Sub Committee recommends the round nose bus—flat nose buses which provide easier visibility were more expensive.
- Mr. Friedman decreased the feasibility study of \$75,000 to \$60,000 for the HVAC system. This first step will allow an expert engineering firm to retrofit or fully renovate the MVRHS HVAC system.

The Committee enquired about the overall planning and renovation of the MVRHS and how the HVAC system fits in the process.

- The MVRHS HVAC system has been past its useful life for the past six years. The HVAC feasibility study will be the first step. The HVAC feasibility study and improvements will be able to be saved or reimplemented in future renovations to the MVRHS building. (Tech upgrades see below.)

Given these major renovations, the Committee enquired about reconvening the Building Committee.

Committee Comments:

There was a question regarding a replacement of the retiring nurse and its relation to the budget.

- Due to certification requirements and the limited available pool of candidates, the salary is likely to remain stable.

*MS. HOUGHTON MOVES TO CERTIFY THE MARTHA'S VINEYARD REGIONAL HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT FISCAL YEAR 2022 BUDGET:*

*- AT \$20,212,496.01 ASSESSED BUDGET, AND*

*- \$23,535,505.06 TOTAL OPERATING EXPENSES (3.51% INCREASE);*

*MS. ACKERMAN SECONDES; MOTION PASSES: 6 AYES, 1 NAYS, 0 ABSTENTIONS: MR. MANTER—NAY, MS. KIRK—AYE, MS. KRIS O'BRIEN—AYE, MS. MEGAN ANDERSON—AYE, MS. HOUGHTON—AYE, MS. ACKERMAN—AYE, MR. MANTER—AYE.*

**B. FY22 Warrant Article Vote:**

*MS. KIRK MOVES TO APPROVE THE PROPOSED ELECTRIC BUSES WARRANT ARTICLE IN THE AMOUNT OF \$261,546.84 ON SUCH TERMS AS THE SUPERINTENDENT AND LEGAL COUNSEL SHALL DETERMINE; MR. MANTER SECONDES; MOTION PASSES*

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*UNANIMOUSLY: 8 AYES, 0 NAYS, 0 ABSTENTIONS: MS. KIRK—AYE, MS. KRIS O'BRIEN—AYE, MS. MEGAN ANDERSON—AYE, MS. HOUGHTON—AYE, MS. ACKERMAN—AYE, MR. MANTER—AYE, MR. WATTS—AYE, MS. SHERTZER—AYE.*

*MS. O'BRIEN MOVES TO APPROVE THE PROPOSED TECH INFRASTRUCTURE WARRANT ARTICLE OF \$656,552.90 ON SUCH TERMS AS THE SUPERINTENDENT, AND LEGAL COUNSEL SHALL DETERMINE; MR. MANTER SECONDES; MOTION PASSES UNANIMOUSLY: 8 AYES, 0 NAYS, 0 ABSTENTIONS: MS. KIRK—AYE, MS. KRIS O'BRIEN—AYE, MS. MEGAN ANDERSON—AYE, MS. HOUGHTON—AYE, MS. ACKERMAN—AYE, MR. MANTER—AYE, MR. WATTS—AYE, MS. SHERTZER—AYE. Please note, majority of tech infrastructure upgrades will be able to be saved or reimplemented in future renovations to the MVRHS building.*

Committee Comments:

Although not directly related to the MVRHS budget, the MVRHS owns the Superintendent Shared Services Office. The Committee asked if there is interest in selling the Superintendent Shared Services Office.

- Mr. Friedman explained that regional districts are allowed to purchase property under Massachusetts's general law but not sell property.

*MS. O'BRIEN MOVES TO APPROVE THE PROPOSED SUPERINTENDENT OFFICE SHINGLING WARRANT ARTICLE OF \$30,000 ON SUCH TERMS AS THE SUPERINTENDENT, AND LEGAL COUNSEL SHALL DETERMINE; MS. ANDERSON SECONDES; MOTION PASSES UNANIMOUSLY: 8 AYES, 0 NAYS, 0 ABSTENTIONS: MS. KIRK—AYE, MS. KRIS O'BRIEN—AYE, MS. MEGAN ANDERSON—AYE, MS. HOUGHTON—AYE, MS. ACKERMAN—AYE, MR. MANTER—AYE, MR. WATTS—AYE, MS. SHERTZER—AYE.*

*Please note, the MVRHS budgets approximately \$900,000 per year towards the OPEB. The warrant article listed is based on a five-year commitment to contribute \$304,501.72 towards the Actuarially Determined Employer Contribution (ADEC).*

*MR. MANTER MOVES TO APPROVE THE PROPOSED WARRANT ARTICLE OTHER POST EMPLOYEE BENEFITS (OPEB) INCREASE OF \$302,501.72 ON SUCH TERMS AS THE SUPERINTENDENT, AND LEGAL COUNSEL SHALL DETERMINE; MS. ACKERMAN SECONDES; MOTION PASSES: 7 AYES, 1 NAY, 0 ABSTENTIONS: MS. KIRK—AYE, MS. KRIS O'BRIEN—AYE, MS. MEGAN ANDERSON—AYE, MS. HOUGHTON—AYE, MS. ACKERMAN—AYE, MR. MANTER—NAY, MR. WATTS—AYE, MS. SHERTZER—AYE.*

Ms. Kirk thanks the Budget Chair, Budget Sub-Committee, and Administration for their hard work.

**C. FY22 Assessment Formula Vote:**

Under Massachusetts general law, that the Committee must pick an assessment formula. For the past eleven years, the MVRHS has used the Statutory vs. Regional formula. There are minor differences between Statutory vs. Regional and the Committee was recommended the Regional Formula.

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*MS. O'BRIEN MOVES TO APPROVE THE FY 22 STATUTORY FORMULA AS THE APPROPRIATE ASSESSMENT; MR. MANTER SECONDES; MOTION PASSES: 8 AYES, 0 NAYS, 0 ABSTENTIONS: MS. KIRK—AYE, MS. KRIS O'BRIEN—AYE, MS. MEGAN ANDERSON—AYE, MS. HOUGHTON—AYE, MS. ACKERMAN—AYE, MR. MANTER—AYE, MR. WATTS—AYE, MS. SHERTZER—AYE.*

**D. Expenditure Report**

Finance Manager Suzanne Cioffi reports a closeout of a purchase order for school and off-island.

**E. Revenue Report**

Ms. Cioffi reports nothing out of the ordinary.

**F. Grants and Donations** (See documents on file.)

*MS. O'BRIEN MOVES TO ACCEPT WITH GRATITUDE \$20,000 FROM THE ESTATE OF ELIZABETH EDDIE TO SUPPORT THE CONTINUING EDUCATION FOR THE TRADES; MS. ANDERSON SECONDES; MOTION PASSES UNANIMOUSLY: 7 AYES, 0 NAYS, 0 ABSTENTIONS: MS. KIRK—AYE, MS. KRIS O'BRIEN—AYE, MS. MEGAN ANDERSON—AYE, MS. HOUGHTON—AYE, MS. ACKERMAN—AYE, MR. MANTER—AYE, MS. SHERTZER—AYE.*

*MS. ACKERMAN MOVES TO ACCEPT THE MARTHA'S VINEYARD CHARITABLE BANK FOUNDATION AND MV YOUTH DONATIONS OF THE MINIMUM OF \$250,000 FOR COVID TESTING; MS. ANDERSON SECONDES; MOTION PASSES UNANIMOUSLY: 7 AYES, 0 NAYS, 0 ABSTENTIONS: MS. KIRK—AYE, MS. MEGAN ANDERSON—AYE, MS. HOUGHTON—AYE, MS. ACKERMAN—AYE, MR. MANTER—AYE, MS. SHERTZER—AYE, MR. WATTS—AYE.*

**Principal's Report**

(Agenda Item #IV)

**A. Transition to Hybrid Model and Cohort D Update:**

As of January 11, the MVRHS will transition into a Hybrid Model to safely welcome students back on campus with Cohorts A & B. Cohort D (all remote learning) will be live streaming but not on campus. Ms. Dingley provided detailed descriptions of how the Hybrid Model will be implemented and encourages the public to please visit MVRHS.ORG for detailed information.

Committee Comments:

There were Committee questions regarding the ratio between Cohorts A, B, & D and how the transition would change depending on movement between the Cohorts.

- Ms. Dingley reports 37% enrolled in Cohort D, but thanks to thoughtful planning, the Hybrid Model is prepared to safely accommodate all students back to campus.

**B. CTE Update:**

CTE Director Barbara-Jean Chauvin updates the Committee regarding the Pre-Internship program for eligible horticulture, carpentry, and automotive students beginning the week of February 15, 2021, sponsored by the Laborer's Union. The program will provide four full days

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of exposure to the horizontal construction world and provides opportunities for direct workforce development on the island.

Ms. Chauvin updates the Committee regarding internship opportunities in collaboration with Connecting Activities. There will be three paid internships available, and currently, Ms. Chauvin is soliciting three student candidates from the MVRHS to recommend to the State Committee.

Ms. Chauvin updates the Committee regarding the Dust Collection Project. She expects to have the engineering drawings by the end of the week, and the project is moving forward on the track.

**C. Sports Update:**

Athletic Directors Mark McCarthy and Vice Principal Jeremy Light update the Committee that the MVRHS has been safely practicing winter sports on the Island since December 14, 2020. Currently, they have 167 athletics registered and are thankful that they have been able to maintain all students safely.

Mr. McCarthy reports that beginning next week, sports teams will begin competing against five other schools, but unfortunately, they will have to reschedule due to one of the League schools’ quarantine orders.

The MVRHS athletic directors and administration greatly appreciate all the coaches and especially Tania Laslovich, for their incredible due diligence in keeping all students safe.

**Superintendent’s Report**

(Agenda Item #V)

Mr. Matt D’Andrea updates the Committee that the Asymptomatic surveillance testing process for all staff and students has begun. Mr. D’Andrea provided detailed instruction on how the take-home Covid test kits will be used, monitored, and distributed. As of next week, there will be 900 Covid take-home test kits distributed to staff and students. Mr. D’Andrea anticipates challenges with the take-home testing but thanks Project Manager Molly Houghton for, so far, a successful implementation.

Mr. D’Andrea is happy to report that all school nurses are equipped with symptomatic test kits on campus, and all student-athletes will be tested each week for continued safety protocols.

Mr. D’Andrea thanks MV Charitable Foundation, MV Youth, taxpayers, and volunteers for their generous donations and support.

*Mr. D’Andrea stresses the need for volunteers to distribute and collect the COVID-19 take-home testing kit. Down Island schools will be collecting take-home testing kits at respective schools on Wednesday mornings from 7:00 AM-9:00 AM, and Up Island schools will be on Thursdays.*

**Personnel**

(Agenda Item #VII)

None (no report).

**Committee Updates**

(Agenda Item #VIII)

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Ms. Kirk, Chair of the Transportation Sub-Committee, updates the Committee that she and Mr. Friedman will be meeting this Friday with the Grants Coordinator and a representative from the Vineyard Transit Authority (VTA). They look forward to gathering useful information from the VTA's expertise in the electric bus's acquisition process and additional possibilities to help our transition.

**Public Comment**

(Agenda Item #IX)

None (no report).

**Topics Not Reasonably Anticipated by The Chair**

(Agenda Item #X)

Ms. Houghton reports that the MVRHS campus facility looks fantastic due to the renovations of library floor, gym floor, new paints, upkeep, etc. Ms. Houghton extends her gratitude to students and teachers for their dedication to education and safety.

Ms. Dingleddy and the whole Committee honored Emma Hall, 2017 graduate, with a moment of silence.

Committee member Skipper Manter reminded the Committee regarding the \$350,000 spending of the E & D and further questions why it is not on the agenda. The Committee clarified that today's meeting agenda was focused on the urgency of getting the FY22 budget approved to make the Towns' agenda for the warrant articles. The Committee did not see any imperative urgency to address the E & D in today's budget meeting but does plan on addressing the E & D in the next MVRHS SC meeting.

**Executive Session**

(Agenda Item #XI)

None (no report).

**Adjourn:**

*MR. MANTER MOVES TO ADJOURN THE MVRHS SC MEETING AT 6:37 PM; MS. HOUGHTON SECONDES; MOTION PASSES UNANIMOUSLY: 7 AYES, 0 NAYS, 0 ABSTENTIONS: MS. KIRK—AYE, MS. MEGAN ANDERSON—AYE, MS. HOUGHTON—AYE, MS. ACKERMAN—AYE, MR. MANTER—AYE, MS. SHERTZER—AYE, MR. WATTS—AYE.*

**Meetings/Events: (by Zoom)**

- MVRHSC—5:00 PM, Monday, February 8, 2021

**Documents on File:**

- MVRHS FY22 Line Item budget Version #5 1-04-2021.pdf
- MVRHS Warrant Articles- Proposed FY22 (Version #5 1/04/2021)
- MVRHS FY22 Highlights budget Version #5 1-04-2021.pdf

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**Respectfully submitted,**

*Minah Worley*  
\_\_\_\_\_  
**Minah Worley – Secretary**

03/09/2021  
\_\_\_\_\_  
**Date**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Kimberly Kirk – MVRHS SC Chair**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Date**

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

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Date**