

MARTHA’S VINEYARD REGIONAL HIGH SCHOOL COMMITTEE
Martha’s Vineyard Regional High School
Monday, May 03, 2021, 5:00 PM
Zoom Meeting

Present: Chair – Kimberly Kirk, Vice-Chair – Amy Houghton, Roxanne Ackerman, Skipper Manter, Kathryn Shertzer*, Michael Watts, Kris O’Brien,
Others: About 150 attendees, including the following:
MVRHS/MVPS: Principal Sarah Dingley, Assistant Principals: Jeremy Light, Dahkir Warren, Barbara-Jean Chauvin - CTE Director & Assistant Principal, Athletic Director - Mark McCarthy, Finance Manager – Suzanne Cioffi, Facilities Director – Mike Taus, Noelle Warburton, Special Ed Director – Hope MacLeod, Technologist – Rick Mello, MVEA: Spencer D’Agostino,
Supt. ’s Of: Superintendent – Matt D’Andrea, Asst. Superintendent – Richie Smith, School Business Administrator– Mark Friedman,
Towns/County: Oak Bluffs – Maura McGroarty, West Tisbury: Skipper Manter,
Press: MV Times –Lucas Thor, Vineyard Gazette – Maia Coleman,
Secretary: Minah Worley

Call to Order

The Martha’s Vineyard Regional High School Committee (MVRHSC) meeting was called to order at 5:02 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*).

*Late arrivals, or Early departures (see * in text)

Approval of Minutes: (Agenda Item #I)

A. School Committee Minutes: 03/08/21 & 4/5/21

SKIPPER MANTER MOVES TO APPROVE THE 03/08/2021 AND 04/05/2021 MVRHSC MINUTES; AMY HOUGHTON SECONDS; MOTION PASSES: 5 AYES, 0 NAYS, 1 ABSTENTION; MS. HOUGHTON—AYE, MS. ACKERMAN—AYE, MR. MANTER—AYE, MR. WATTS—AYE, MS. O’BRIEN—ABSTENTION, & MS. KIRK—AYE.

Student Report: (Agenda Item #II)

A. Annabelle Biggs and Ben Mulvey

Junior class President Annabelle Biggs updates the Committee about student’s gleeful return to full in-person learning at the MVRHS. Spring sports are in session, and try-outs occurred this past week. Next week the Mini Singers will be having a show at the Tabernacle on May 7th and May 8th; there will be try-outs for the Mini Singer shortly. The PTSO is planning some fun events for Teacher Appreciation Week for parents, teachers, staff, and students.

Junior class Vice President Ben Mulvey reports that this past weekend the junior class council partnered with MV Community Services to put on Electronics Disposal Day. There was a great turn-out of people supporting the event, and a little over forty juniors came out to volunteer throughout the day. The success of Electronics Disposal Day was a significant event since it is one

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of the only sources of fundraising due to Covid, and proceeds are for the MVRHS prom. Currently, the student government is working on the Big Sibling Program, which hasn't been finalized yet, and the 9th-grade t-shirt competition has been finalized, and the winning artwork will be made into t-shirts for the whole 9th-grade class. The 9th-grade officers have been meeting with advisors to plan a fun outdoor event this Spring; this future outdoor event will be the 9th-grade class's first whole grade gathering.

Chair Kimberly Kirk recognizes Teacher Appreciation Week and thanks teachers for providing education and support in ways teachers possibly could never have anticipated. Ms. Kirk speaks for many on how proud and thankful we all are for this past year under a global pandemic.

Principal's Report: (Agenda Item #III)

A. Department Spotlight: Student Support/School-Based Health Center:(Document on file)

Behavioral Health Coordinator and Research Specialist Kim Garrison provided a detailed yet brief presentation on the behavioral health work at Martha's Vineyard Public Schools (MVPS) from the days of the 2018 MedStar till now. During the presentation, Ms. Garrison highlighted what initiatives are specific to MVRHS, how the MVRHS are centering work on staff, students, parents, and community voice.

Highlights:

- Ms. Garrison clarified that all of the terminology: Social-Emotional Learning (SEL), School Climate, Comprehensive School-Based Mental Health, Culturally Responsive Practices, Diverse, Equitable & Inclusive Education, Positive Behavioral Interventions & Supports (PBIS) are all unique onto each other but are completely related to one another.
- Ms. Garrison informs the Committee that a lot of the work the MVRHS is doing comes directly from the National School Mental Health Curriculum, and all of the support is based off of a multi-tiered system of care.
- In 2018, MedStar had specific recommendations on Accessible Behavioral Health Services on-site, Positive School Climate, and the Health Education Curriculum.
- Despite Covid, the MVRHS has begun implementing some new programs, which will take about three to five years to fully implement. Tonight, Ms. Garrison focuses on two new programs: Social-emotional learning indicator system (SELIS) and Youth Mental Health First Aid-“First Aiders/teen” MHFA Curriculum.
- In December, 10% of the MVRHS staff were trained by Desi in youth mental health first aid, which is evidence-based training that has been proven to reduce mental health stigma in schools and communities.
- Medstar recommends that families get help both in school and out. The MVRHS has created a QR code that provides access to mental health support for students, staff, and families in school and out of school.
- All projects Ms. Garrison oversees can be accessed through the Martha's Vineyard Supt. Office website under “Wellness” and “Initiatives.”

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- In December, the MVRHS was awarded a DESI grant of approximately \$20,000 towards social-emotional learning. Part of the grant specifies a social-emotional survey, and the next phase will be reviewing the MVRHS student social-emotional assessment data.

Comments:

- Supt. D'Andrea thanks Ms. Garrison for her tremendously beneficial work for all the MVY public schools.
- Principal Dingley emphasizes Ms. Garrison's work and stresses that today's presentation exemplifies the MVRHS's continued approach to better inform the public of the MVRHS's continual strive towards better practices through assessments and testing data.

B. Academic Presentation:

1. Reopening/Schedule Change Discussion

On behalf of the MVRHS, Nell Coogan makes a special acknowledgment and thanks to Michelle Vivian-Jemison, Access Coordinator & Instructor at MVTV, for her tireless work ethic and dedication for the past ten years to the MVRHS and its students. (There was a video presentation, document on file.)

Principal Sara Dingley reports a successful return to school, with approximately 82% of the student body returned. The new school schedule for the MVRHS was presented to the Committee and it can be accessed by the public online at the MVRHS' website. (Please see document on file.)

Highlights from the MVRHS New Schedule

- Mondays are rotational days without lunch flex block to allow teachers planning and collaboration time due to Covid.
- Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday are considered static days with lunch flex block.
- Information regarding graduation and special senior events is accessible via the MVRHS website. This year, graduation will take place at the Shark's Field, which allows graduating seniors six family members to attend. Two members of each graduating senior will have access to the grandstand seating. The remaining four members or whole family are welcome to sit in the field. The MVRHS is following DESI guidelines with staggered entry for graduation. All families must pre-register for graduation, and programs for graduation will be accessible electronically. Lastly, MVTV will be live-streaming graduation.

Comments:

- A Committee member asked about the schedule change regarding transportation and special education. Principal Dingley clarified that all students would have supervised access to the study hall and cafeteria. Luckily there will be no impact on transportation. MVRHS worked closely with transportation when creating the new schedule. Lastly, flex lunch is similar to an embedded study hall concept and not a change in academics.

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- Amy Houghton asks if during the department meetings are ESP members involved? Ms. Houghton is concerned regarding the financial impact of transportation and ESP personnel being paid with a lack of work. Principal Dingley clarified ESP, as of now, is not involved in department meetings. Special Ed Director Hope MacLeod clarifies that ESP staff do a variety of support throughout the day, such as supporting teachers with the curriculum, management, data collection, monitoring lunch, and meeting with students as needed throughout the day. *Please note, some students access this period via zoom, and some students physically stay and access support at school.*
- A detailed discussion ensued regarding the new school schedule and how some Committee members felt surprised by the new schedule. In the future, the Committee asks to be informed before the implementation to better support the MVRHS administration and better communicate with the MVRHS community. Principal Dingley further clarifies that the Re-opening School Committee created the new schedule. The schedule is a pilot program widely accepted and practiced by the highest achieving schools near the MVRHS district.

2. CTE Update

CTE Director Barbara-Jean Chauvin informs the Committee that the Virtual Job Fair, partnered with the Lodging and Hospitality group, was an excellent opportunity for students to have real-life exposure to the workforce and its opportunities for summer employment. Currently, the CTE program is working towards another virtual job fair on May 11th, but as a landscaping-themed fair. For the last few months, the CTE program has been collecting job openings for students for summer employment and beyond. Ms. Chauvin welcomes everyone to access it on the MVRHS website.

Ms. Chauvin updates the Committee regarding MCAS testing. Tenth graders are scheduled for their MCAS on May 20th and 21st for ELA, May 25th and 26th for math. Ninth graders in biology will have their MCAS testing on June 2nd and June 3rd in biology. Although this will be the MVRHS' first time testing one hundred and ninety-two students in one sitting, Ms. Chauvin feels confident it will be a success since administration has prepared well.

C. Administration

1. Statement by Barbara Jean Chauvin

Ms. Chauvin addresses the Committee with a beautiful and heart-warming recitation of one of James W. Foley's poems, and it moved every participant on today's zoom meeting deeply.

Comments:

- On behalf of the Committee, Chair Kirk thanks Ms. Chauvin for her thirty years of tireless dedication to the MVRHS and its student body. Ms. Chauvin will be thoroughly missed, and the entire MVRHS has been lucky to have her because she has been instrumental as the Asst. Principal and CTE Director.
- Many Committee members, Principal Dingley, and Supt. D'Andrea spoke regarding Ms. Chauvin's amazing work ethic and her professionalism to bring stability to the CTE program. Supt. D'Andrea and Principal Dingley specifically recognize Ms. Chauvin's

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entire career by glowing remarks of Ms. Chauvin being hardworking, smart, kind, and leaving a legacy on the most positive note. Ms. Chauvin will be dearly missed, and the MVRHS has become better with her leadership.

2. Facilities Update

The Building Improvements presentation was showing small-scale upgrades, domestic upgrades, and small-scale beautifications. (Document on file.)

Highlights:

- Domestic hot water project
- Beautification of spaces such as courtyards, hallways, café, etc.
- New library flooring
- Updates to the cafeteria: photo wall
- New building door access to courtyard spaces.

3. Sports Update

Asst. Principal Jeremy Light updates the Committee regarding the start of Spring sports. So far, there are about 200 athletics signed up, and spectators are allowed at games. Masks are still required. Mr. Light sadly reports the death of beloved NFL player and MVRHS's Asst. Coach Courtney Hall. Mr. Hall's death was unexpected and a big loss for the MVRHS community. Please use MIA app and website for sports schedules.

4. Tech Warrant Article –Discussion/Possible Vote

Supt. D'Andrea informs the MVRHSC that the up-Island Fincoms have requested, due to their town's heavy warrant articles, they would like the MVRHS Tech Infrastructure warrant articles in two phases to help alleviate costs.

Comments:

- Principal Dingley reminds the Committee that there were six important sections to the tech warrant article, and it was the MVRHSC who recommended bundling it into one budget. With that said, Principal Dingley can and is willing to work with the Fincoms.
- Many discussions regarding how to go forward with the up-Island Fincom's request, and many Committee members asked Supt. D'Andrea for recommendations. As of now, Supt. D'Andrea doesn't have specific recommendations and is only communicating the request to the Committee.
- A Committee member asked if by reducing the price change, would the scope change as well? It was confirmed that doing it in two phases would add an expense, but there is good faith that the Tisbury Fincom would support and honor their request.
- Many Committee members were concerned regarding the Town of Oak Bluffs past ballot vote regarding the Tech Warrant article. Skipper Manter is unsure of the correct protocol, but he will research on behalf of the Committee.
- There were a lot of discussions regarding the language of a potential redraft of the Tech Warrant article. Mr. Manter suggested that the letter and language come from Supt. D'Andrea.

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THERE WAS A UNANIMOUS CONSENSUS BY THE MVRHSC TO RECONSIDER AND TO REDUCE THE TECH WARRANT ARTICLE.

5. Reconfiguration of staffing
TABLED.

6. Skate Park Amendment
SKIPPER MANTER MOVED TO APPROVE THE AMENDMENT TO THE LICENSE FOR THE SKATEBOARD PARK, AS THE AMENDMENT STATED ON XX 23, 2021 BETWEEN THE MVRHS AND THE TOWN OF OAK BLUFFS; AMY HOUGHTON SECONDS: MOTION PASSES UNANIMOUSLY; 7 AYES, 0 NAYS, 0 ABSTENTIONS: MS. HOUGHTON—AYE, MS. ACKERMAN—AYE, MR. MANTER—AYE, MS. SHERTZER—AYE, MR. WATTS—AYE, MS. KIRK —AYE, & MS. O’BRIEN.

7. 5 Year Capital Plan for Building
TABLED

Superintendent’s Report: (Agenda Item #IV)

A. AISC Update

Supt. D’Andrea updates the Committee that there will only be one more All-Island School Committee (AISC) meeting at the end of the year.

B. Update on testing, vaccination, safety measures

Supt. D’Andrea updates the Committee regarding the continuation of the Mirimus testing program. Supt. D’Andrea reports that the testing program is going well and is helping to keep kids in school. On average, there are about 800-900 people tested a week. Last week, there were two positive Covid cases, and one inconclusive test result turned positive. Supt. D’Andrea thanks the Martha’s Vineyard Hospital (MVH) for hosting two clinics for the MVYPS. Staff are vaccinated, and many staff aggressively got vaccinated on their terms. Lastly, Supt. D’Andrea confirms that sixteen-year-old high school students are starting to be vaccinated.

Comments:

- Chair Kirk with Committee members thank and acknowledge all the school nurses for their tireless efforts around the clock to keep students, staff, and families safe.

C. Transportation Policy – Second Reading

There have been no changes to the Transportation Policy since the first reading.

SKIPPER MANTER MOVES TO APPROVE THE SECOND READING OF THE TRANSPORTATION POLICY; KATHERYN SHERTZER SECONDS: MOTION PASSES UNANIMOUSLY; 7 AYES, 0 NAYS, 0 ABSTENTIONS: MS. HOUGHTON—AYE, MS. ACKERMAN—AYE, MR. MANTER—AYE, MS. SHERTZER—AYE, MR. WATTS—AYE, MS. KIRK —AYE, & MS. O’BRIEN.

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D. MCAS Update

TABLED

E. Fall 2021 Re-entry Update

TABLED

F. MSBA

TABLED

Financial Report: (Agenda Item #V)

A. Expenditure Report

TABLED

B. Revenue Report

TABLED

C. Grants and Donations—Vote

SKIPPER MANTER MOVES TO ACCEPT THE DONATIONS FROM THE MOND FAMILY, ISLAND PLANT-INCORPORATED, AND ISLAND-GROWN INITIATIVE OF A TOTAL AMOUNT OF \$550 TOWARDS THE SCIENCE FAIR; KRIS O’BRIEN SECONDS: MOTION PASSES UNANIMOUSLY; 7 AYES, 0 NAYS, 0 ABSTENTIONS: MS. HOUGHTON—AYE, MS. ACKERMAN—AYE, MR. MANTER—AYE, MS. SHERTZER—AYE, MR. WATTS—AYE, MS. KIRK —AYE, & MS. O’BRIEN.

D. FY21 Excess and Deficiency Funds

The certified E&D funds for the MVRHS is \$1, 015,591.00

E. FY22 Budget Recertification--Vote

Based upon the DLS certification of E&D, the MVRHS School Committee needs to recertify the fiscal year 22 budget. Please note, nothing has changed.

KRIS O’BRIEN MOVES TO RECERTIFY THE FY 22 OPERATING BUDGET OF \$23,266,867.01 AND THE TOTAL ASSESSED BUDGET OF \$19, 946,857.96; AMY HOUGHTON SECONDS: MOTIONS PASSES; 6 AYES, 1 NAY, 0 ABSTENTIONS: MS. HOUGHTON—AYE, MS. ACKERMAN—AYE, MR. MANTER—NAY, MS. SHERTZER—AYE, MR. WATTS—AYE, MS. KIRK —AYE, & MS. O’BRIEN.

SKIPPER MANTER MOVE TO ACCEPT A COVID POOL TESTING GRANT OF \$48,000,022.00; KATHRYN SHERTZER SECONDS: MOTION PASSES UNANIMOUSLY; 7 AYES, 0 NAYS, 0 ABSTENTIONS: MS. HOUGHTON—AYE, MS. ACKERMAN—AYE, MR. MANTER—AYE, MS. SHERTZER—AYE, MR. WATTS—AYE, MS. KIRK —AYE, & MS. O’BRIEN.

Personnel: (Agenda Item #VI)

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A. Leave Requests

TABLED

B. Retirements

TABLED

Committee Updates: (Agenda Item #VII)

A. Subcommittee Updates

TABLED

Public Comment: (Agenda Item #VIII)

TABLED

Topics Not Reasonably Anticipated by The Chair: (Agenda Item #IX)

- Skipper Manter asked for confirmation that the Town of Oak Bluffs did not honor the OPEB. It was confirmed it was not honored, and the Committee confirmed to remove the OPEB for all other towns.

SKIPPER MANTER MOVES TO APPROVE THE WITHDRAWAL OF THE OPEB WARRANT ARTICLE TO ALL TOWNS; KRIS O'BRIEN SECONDS: MOTION PASSES UNANIMOUSLY; 7 AYES, 0 NAYS, 0 ABSTENTIONS: MS. HOUGHTON—AYE, MS. ACKERMAN—AYE, MR. MANTER—AYE, MS. SHERTZER—AYE, MR. WATTS—AYE, MS. KIRK—AYE, & MS. O'BRIEN.

Executive Session: (Agenda Item #X)

None (no report).

Adjourn:

(Agenda Item #XI)

SKIPPER MANTER MOVES TO ADJOURN THE MVRHSC MEETING AT 7:49 PM; AMY HOUGHTON SECONDS; MOTION PASSES UNANIMOUSLY: 7 AYES, 0 NAYS, 0 ABSTENTIONS: MS. HOUGHTON—AYE, MS. ACKERMAN—AYE, MR. MANTER—AYE, MS. SHERTZER—AYE, MR. WATTS—AYE, MS. KIRK—AYE, & MS. O'BRIEN.

Meetings/Events: (by Zoom)

TBA

Documents on File:

- Agenda MVRHSSC 5.3.21.pdf
- Expenditure Report 05.05.2021.pdf
- Revenue Report 05.03.2021.pdf
- Video MVTV/MVRHS
- Kim Garrison Presentation: Minah get a file.
- Building Improvements Presentation
- Reopening/Schedule Change

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Respectfully submitted,

Minah Worley

Minah Worley – Secretary

06/08/2021

Date

Kimberly Kirk – MVRHSC Chair

Date

Matt D'Andrea – MVRHSD Superintendent

Date