

Martha's Vineyard Regional High School Budget Sub-Committee Meeting
Tuesday, October 26th, 2021, 6:30 PM
Zoom

Present: Chair – Skipper Manter, Robert Lionette, Kelly McCracken, Kris O'Brien, Michael Watts
Other: Roxanne Ackerman
Staff: Principal – Sara Dingley, Coordinator of Pathways and Special Projects – Samuel Hart,
Finance Director – Suzanne Cioffi
Supt. 's Office: Superintendent – Matthew D'Andrea, Asst. Superintendent – Richie Smith,
School Business Administrator – Mark Friedman
Towns/County: West Tisbury – Clark Rattet
Recorder: Teresa Kruszewski
**Late arrivals or early departures of the Budget Sub-Committee members (see * in text)*

Call to Order: (Agenda Item #I)
The meeting of the Martha's Vineyard Regional High School (MVRHS) Budget Sub-Committee was called to order by Chair Skipper Manter at 6:34 PM on Tuesday, October 26th, 2021. In order to facilitate the technology: the meeting was recorded. Chair Manter welcomed everyone, with a reminder that an official Chair would be elected later in this meeting. The purpose of this session was to discuss the FY23 budget for Transportation. *(Recorder's Note: Discussions are summarized and grouped for clarity and brevity).*

Approval of Minutes 10/12/21: (Agenda Item #II)
Tabled.

Transportation: (Agenda Item #III)
Superintendent Matthew D'Andrea kicked off the discussion by having Mark Friedman explain the transportation budget. From that review, a discussion of potential increases for the following school year would have a baseline.

Mr. Friedman explained the budget was broken down in level service/level funded line items. As a Chapter 71 regional school district, the lines were organized to be calculated for state reimbursements. Non-reimbursable items included Field Trips; on-Island activities; off-Island trips; the High School portion of the Steamship Authority (SSA) contract.

Callouts:

- A reduction of administration salary dollars in FY22 will be carried over to reflect the current actuals.
- We have been carrying the Edgartown/Chappy runs for two years but it has never been included in the budget; the FY21 actuals will be used as a placeholder for the FY23 budget, until those rates are refined.

The FY22 net expenses for the MVRHS, after reimbursements from the elementary schools, was \$850,000. To start the FY23 discussions, the net expenses were \$880,000 which reflect the two adjustments noted above.

The Transportation Sub-Committee meeting, of which adjourned today at 6:29 PM, moments before this Budget Sub-Committee meeting began, had a lengthy discussion around proposed changes to compensation for drivers and monitors. Mr. Friedman said he would need to plug in all of the new numbers for a better understanding of the proposed increases before moving forward.

Highlights:

- Bring all bus drivers to the rate on Nantucket or \$36.00/hr. Anyone over that rate would receive the Cost-of Living Adjustment (COLA) tied to the Consumer Price Index (CPI) with a ceiling of 3%. This was approved by the

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Transportation Sub-Committee; approval is now needed from the full Martha's Vineyard Regional High School Committee (MVRHSC).

- The net effect of these steps would increase salaries \$183,000 or 12.8% over the existing model.
- Bonus incentive to bring in new employees and reward existing staff. This would be an ongoing program for all new hires. Bonus payout \$2000.00 in total: \$1000.00 after 6 months; \$1000.00 at 12 months. Superintendent D'Andrea asked for \$40,000 this year; to take it from a line item on the existing budget to support the payout in April. He asked for an additional \$40,000 plus \$10.0 for new hires, with the FY23 budget. A sunset clause could be determined in the future.
- There are currently 29 drivers and 11 monitors; a total of 40. A minimum of six drivers are needed now.

Discussion:

Committee members agreed the budget request for the incentive should go to the full MVRHSC.

Have all options been considered including partnering with VTA and outsourcing? To find funding in the current budget, tightening our belts, showing the taxpayers consideration and explaining we are in tough times right now; what are we willing to shave off to make this happen?

Was it legal to use taxpayer money for bonuses? Both Superintendent D'Andrea and Mr. Friedman said they would look into this and consult the attorneys.

Chair Manter recommended adding this to the November 9th agenda to review and finalize along with Shared Services; a two item agenda.

Elect New Chair:

(Agenda Item #IV)

KELLY MCCRACKEN MOVES TO APPOINT SKIPPER MANTER AS THE CHAIR OF THE BUDGET SUBCOMMITTEE. ROBERT LIONETTE MOVES TO APPOINT KELLY MCCRACKEN AS VICE-CHAIR; KRIS O'BRIEN SECONDS; MOTION PASSES UNANIMOUSLY: 5 AYES, 0 NAYS, 0 ABSTENTIONS: MR. LIONETTE—AYE, MS. MCCRACKEN—AYE, MR. MANTER—AYE, MS. O'BRIEN—AYE & MR. WATTS—AYE

Topics not reasonably anticipated by the Chair:

(Agenda Item #V)

None.

Adjournment:

(Agenda Item #VI)

MICHAEL WATTS MOVES TO ADJOURN THE BUDGET SUB-COMMITTEE MEETING AT 7:12 PM; KRIS O'BRIEN SECONDS; MOTION PASSES UNANIMOUSLY: 5 AYES, 0 NAYS, 0 ABSTENTIONS: MR. LIONETTE—AYE, MS. MCCRACKEN—AYE, MR. MANTER—AYE, MS. O'BRIEN—AYE & MR. WATTS—AYE

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Meetings/Events: (by Zoom)

- Budget Sub-Committee Meeting, Tuesday, 11.02.21 at 6:30 PM; Facilities

Documents on File:

- Budget SubCommittee Agenda 10.26.21
- level fund Personnel Salaries Department only Collapsed. 10.26.2021
- FY23 Transportation Line items #1 10-26-2021 Level Service

Respectfully submitted,



Teresa Kruszewski – Recorder

November 10, 2021

Date

Skipper Manter – Budget Chair

Date

Matt D’Andrea – MVRHSD Superintendent

Date

Minutes approved November 9, 2021