

**MARTHA’S VINEYARD REGIONAL HIGH SCHOOL COMMITTEE/ *Special Meeting***  
**Martha’s Vineyard Regional High School (MVRHS)**  
**Thursday, January 20, 2022 at 6:30 pm**  
**ZOOM Meeting**

Present: Chair – Amy Houghton, Vice Chair – Kelly McCracken, Roxanne Ackerman, Kimberly Kirk, Robert Lionette, Skipper Manter, Kathryn Shertzer, Michael Watts

Staff: Coordinator of Pathways and Special Projects – Samuel Hart, Administrator of Special Education – Heather Rogers-Rodrigues, Finance Director – Suzanne Cioffi, Facilities Director – Mike Taus, Transportation Assistant – Chyenne Ward, Research Specialist – Kim Garrison

Supt.’s Office: Superintendent – Matthew D’Andrea, Asst. Superintendent – Richie Smith, School Business Administrator – Mark Friedman, Director of Student Support Services – Hope MacLeod

Towns/County: Chilmark – Vicki Jamieson Divol, Chilmark – Susan B. Murphy, Oak Bluffs – Maura McGroarty, Tisbury – Mary Ellen Larson, West Tisbury – Clark Rattet

Press: MV Times – Lucas Thors, Vineyard Gazette – Louisa Hufstader, MVTV – Michelle Vivian-Jemison

Recorder: Teresa Kruszewski

**Call to Order:**

The meeting of the Martha’s Vineyard Regional High School Committee (MVRHSC) was called to order at 6:34 PM by Chair Amy Houghton; all votes would be taken by roll call. Public participation was encouraged, and asked to use the Zoom ‘hand raise’ feature to be recognized. The meeting was recorded; video cameras were asked to be turned 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).*

**Welcome - Chair:**

(Agenda Item #I)

Chair Houghton welcomed everyone to the Special Meeting of the MVRHSC. Being mindful of people's time, she moved quickly into the Agenda.

**Massachusetts School Building Authority (MSBA) letter to the Select Board Discussion/ *Vote*:**

(Agenda Item #II)

Superintendent Matthew D’Andrea asked the Committee to support his asking each of the six Select Boards to sign the letter; time was of the essence as the MSBA Board Meeting was held on February 2, 2022 to make their selections. After several years of applying for this funding, he had a sense the MVRHS was in a strong position this year and wanted to take full advantage; this funding would support the building project that would positively impact the Island for decades. To show the MSBA that Martha’s Vineyard was serious in working together, he was drafting a letter of support for each Select Board/Town as well as the MVRHSC to sign; a demonstration of ‘good faith’.

**Discussion:**

- ❖ Chair Houghton said this was a State entity that provided funding for capital improvement projects; she looked to the Towns to be supportive in this process; the MVRHSC was fully behind this.
- ❖ Financial Committee Members were concerned Towns that walked out in the past would do the same this time.
- ❖ Committee Members asked what has changed this time - was every Town Representative going to do their part in supporting this? Without change to the funding formula, would they still be willing to move forward?
- ❖ Many suggested not to let the funding formula hold this back; to move forward with the structure currently in place. There was a strong sense that leadership had to iron this out.
- ❖ Kelly Mccracken said the towns were willing to talk - the reality was this work needed to be done.

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*KIMBERLY KIRK MOVED TO ENDORSE THE LETTER WRITTEN BY SUPERINTENDENT MATTHEW D'ANDREA ON BEHALF OF THE SCHOOL COMMITTEE, TO BE SENT TO THE SIX SELECT BOARDS IN ANTICIPATION OF THEIR MEETINGS; MICHAEL WATTS SECONDED; MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY: 8 AYES, 0 NAYS, 0 ABSTENTIONS. MS. ACKERMAN—AYE, MS. HOUGHTON—AYE, MS. KIRK—AYE, MR. LIONETTE—AYE, MR. MANTER—AYE, MS. MCCRACKEN—AYE, MS. SHERTZER—AYE & MR. WATTS—AYE.*

**Grants & Donations/*Vote:***

(Agenda Item #III)

Mr. Friedman asked for acceptance for three grants:

- \$500.00 - Cape and Island: Investment Board: Schools to Careers
- \$784.00 - 302 (ARP) Homeless Youth
- \$340,642.00\*\* - STATE FUNDED/DESE Grant:
  - Category A \$92,544.00 Piloting Universal Mental Health Screenings
  - Category B \$149,695.00 Developing Multi-tiered System of Social Emotional, Behavioral and Mental Health
  - Category C \$98,403.00 Sustainability through Community Based Coordination and access to Services

\*\*There was an urgency and timeline to spend this grant; funds needed to be used by June 30, 2022. Asst. Superintendent Richie Smith and Kim Garrison were working quickly to put the funding into much needed areas and would send out for review, a listing of potential positions before the next All Island School Committee (AISC) Meeting. They both understood the pros and cons of spending this grant in less than six months and agreed it was daunting, but were thrilled for this opportunity. Funding would not continue beyond July 1, 2022.

*KELLY MCCRACKEN MOVED TO ACCEPT THE THREE GRANTS AS PRESENTED; SKIPPER MANTER SECONDED; MOTION PASSED: 7 AYES, 0 NAYS, 0 ABSTENTIONS. MS. ACKERMAN—AYE, MS. KIRK—AYE, MR. LIONETTE—AYE, MR. MANTER—AYE, MS. MCCRACKEN—AYE, MS. SHERTZER—AYE & MR. WATTS—AYE.*

**Transportation Request Discussion/*Possible Vote:***

(Agenda Item #IV)

Superintendent D'Andrea asked for a motion to grant the request of two buses for the Martha's Vineyard 20-Miler Road Race, to be held February 19, 2022. Kimberly Kirk said the organizers of this fundraiser donated all funds back to Island sports. Transportation Director Marc Rivers has donated his time in the past and supports this event. Members discussed compensation for all drivers; alcohol would be prohibited on the buses.

*KELLY MCCRACKEN MOVED TO ALLOW THE USE OF TWO BUSES FOR THE 20-MILER ROAD RACE AND THAT ALL RELATIVE INSURANCES BE PROVIDED BY THE ORGANIZATION; KIMBERLY KIRK SECONDED; MOTION PASSED: 6 AYES, 1 NAYS, 1 ABSTENTIONS. MS. ACKERMAN—AYE, MS. HOUGHTON—AYE, MR. LIONETTE—AYE, MS. MCCRACKEN—AYE, MS. SHERTZER—AYE & MR. WATTS—AYE. MR. MANTER—NAY. MS. KIRK—ABSTAINED.*

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**Public Comment:**

(Agenda Item #V)

Clark Rattet said this was a fabulous first step toward what had to happen for the MSBA funding - being dependent on the Financial Committees, Select Boards and the MVRHSC working together, he fully endorsed this step.

**Topics not Reasonably Anticipated by the Chair:**

(Agenda Item #VI)

None.

**Adjournment:**

(Agenda Item #VII)

*ROBERT LIONETTE MOVED TO ADJOURN THE MVRHSC MEETING AT 7:38 PM;  
KIMBERLY KIRK SECONDED; MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY: 7 AYES, 0 NAYS, 0 ABSTENTIONS.  
MS. ACKERMAN—AYE, MS. HOUGHTON—AYE, MS. KIRK—AYE, MR. LIONETTE—AYE,  
MS. MCCracken—AYE, MS. SHERTZER—AYE & MR. WATTS—AYE.*

**Documents on File:**

- 1) Agenda MVRHSSC 1.20.22
- 2) Revised Agenda MVRHSSC 1.20.22 (1)
- 3) MVRHS School Committee Acceptance list 01202022

**Respectfully submitted,**

  
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**Teresa Kruszewski – Recorder**

February 8, 2022

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**Date**

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**Amy Houghton – MVRHSC Chair**

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

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

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

*Approved February 7, 2022*