

Martha's Vineyard Regional High School Budget Sub-Committee Meeting
Tuesday, October 18, 2022, 6:00 PM
Library and Zoom (Hybrid)

Present: Chair – Skipper Manter, Robert Lionette, Jennifer Cutrer
Zoom: Michael Watts*

Others: Roxanne Ackerman

Staff: Principal – Sara Dingley, Finance Director – Suzanne Cioffi,
Coordinator of Pathways and Special Projects – Samuel Hart

Supt.'s Office: Superintendent – Richard M. Smith, School Business Administrator – Mark Friedman

Towns/County: Chilmark – Vicki Jamieson Divoll, Oak Bluffs – Maura McGroarty, West Tisbury – Clark Rattet

Recorder: Teresa Kruszewski **Late arrivals or early departures of 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 6:01 PM on Tuesday, October 18, 2022. Participation was available remotely by Zoom. To preserve bandwidth, it was suggested that participants join via the Zoom audio and reserve video links for Committee members and administration; the meeting was recorded. *(Recorder's Note: Discussions are summarized and grouped for clarity and brevity).*

Chair Manter welcomed everyone and recapped the discussions from the October 11, 2022 meeting, as there were technical difficulties with Zoom for participation. He said all would be discussed again at this meeting in more detail. *(Please see document on file for details: Budget Sub-Committee Minutes 10.11.22.pdf)*

**Michael Watts joined at 6:05 PM*

Approval of Minutes: (Agenda Item #II)

ROBERT LIONETTE MOVED TO APPROVE THE NOVEMBER 2, 2021, NOVEMBER 9, 2021, NOVEMBER 17, 2021 AND NOVEMBER 30, 2021 BUDGET SUB-COMMITTEE MINUTES AS WRITTEN; JENNIFER CUTRER SECONDED; MOTION PASSED WITH ABSTENTIONS AS ABSENT.

FY24 Draft Budget Discussion: (Agenda Item #III)

Principal Sara Dingley screen shared the proposed level service personnel budget. The increase for FY24 was \$302,782.69 over the 2.5% target increase. Current Full Time Equivalent (FTE) for teachers and counselors was 85.8 and reflected in the FY24 proposal; based on the numbers presented, the student population increases outpaced the staff/teacher increases; the student/teacher ratios were on the rise. Discussion ensued and it was determined the 2.5% increase would be based on the operating budget.

Personnel: (Agenda Item #IV)

Please see above, Agenda Item #III

Excess and Deficiency (E & D): (Agenda Item #V)

- a. Contingency Use
- b. Discussion on Use to Reduce Requests to Towns
- c. Feasibility Study Amount & Draft Warrant Article

Samuel Hart and Mark Friedman were working with the Massachusetts School Building Authority (MSBA) to come in with a number which was anticipated to be \$1.5MM - \$2MM. Members encouraged asking for more and giving back the excess as we had one shot to get it right.

Discussion:

- ❖ Look at spending FY22 E & D to offset the 'ask' to the towns for the Feasibility Study.
- ❖ Use the funds to help mitigate issues and take away from the individual town responsibilities, the Island working together to start a project.

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- ❖ Short term borrowing of the money would reduce warrant articles and would be eligible for MSBA reimbursement; procedures were reviewed including assessments.
- ❖ Coordination and timing was needed to ensure Town Meetings and warrant article deadlines were met.
- ❖ All agreed to move this to the full committee.

OPEB (Other Postemployment Benefits): (Agenda Item #VI)

Chair Manter said the liability continued to increase and underscored the need for a plan. He expressed concern how this could impact the borrowing rate; Mr. Friedman said the financial advisors had been contacted and he was awaiting their reply.

Political considerations were noted as there was not a consensus from all of the towns; Superintendent Richard M. Smith suggested inviting the towns to these meetings.

Topics not reasonably anticipated by the Chair: (Agenda Item #VII)

Members discussed the meeting format; all agreed to keep it hybrid for the next meeting and then make a decision (if a change was needed).

Adjournment: (Agenda Item #VIII)

*ROBERT LIONETTE MOVED TO ADJOURN THE BUDGET SUB-COMMITTEE MEETING AT 7:28 PM;
JENNIFER CUTRER SECONDED; MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY: 4 AYES, 0 NAYS, 0 ABSTENTIONS:
MS. CUTRER—AYE, MR. LIONETTE—AYE, MR. MANTER—AYE & MR. WATTS—AYE.*

Meetings/Events:

- Budget Sub-Committee Meeting, Tuesday October 25, 2022, Time at 6:00 PM

Documents on File:

- Budget SubCommittee Agenda 10.18.22.pdf
- Copy of Copy of DRAFT Budget Sub-Committee 11.02.21 Minutes.pdf
- Copy of Copy of DRAFT Budget Sub-Committee 11.09.21 Minutes.pdf
- Copy of Copy of DRAFT Budget Sub-Committee Minutes 11.17.21.pdf
- Copy of Copy of DRAFT Budget Sub-Committee Minutes 11.30.21.pdf

Respectfully submitted,



Teresa Kruszewski – Recorder

November 22, 2022

Date

Skipper Manter – Budget Chair

Date

Richard M. Smith, Ed.D – MVRHSD Superintendent

Date

APPROVED NOVEMBER 22, 2022