

Martha's Vineyard Regional High School Transportation Sub-Committee Meeting
Thursday, November 17, 2022, 8:30 AM
Zoom

Present: Chair – Kimberly Kirk, Roxanne Ackerman, Kathryn Shertzer*, Michael Watts
Others/Staff: Transportation Consultant – Richard Labrie, Electric Vehicle Researcher – Irene Zeliff
Climate Advisory Committee Chair, West Tisbury – Kate Warner, Finance Director –
Suzanne Cioffi, Transportation Assistant – Chyenne Ward, Facilities Director – Mike Taus,
Transportation Admin – Anastaia Carter
Supt.'s Office: Asst. Superintendent of Operations, Facilities & School Projects – John Stevens,
School Business Administrator – Mark Friedman
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) Transportation Sub-Committee was called to order by Chair Kimberly Kirk at 8:33 AM on Thursday, November 17, 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).

Approval of Minutes: (Agenda Item #II) None.

**Kathryn Shertzer arrived at 8:34 AM*

FY23 Transportation: (Agenda Item #III)

Mark Friedman screen-shared the highlights of the FY24 Transportation Budget and said the total High School Transportation Expenses were a **2.87%** increase in budgeted expenses, net, and included a built-in 5% increase for run rates as related to the Consumer Price Index (CPI) of the Boston Area and New England. Mr. Friedman reviewed reductions, reimbursable transportation costs and other items that resulted in the total budget. *(Please see document on file as referred to during the meeting for details: FY24 Transportation V#1 11-15-2022 Excel)*

Members discussed the bus and van replacement strategies including propane powered vehicles; Transportation Director Marc Rivers would be consulted as he had the best working knowledge and could prioritize what needed to be replaced. They were frustrated, as there was not enough information to move forward to determine for replacement the vehicle type and quantity of each; a meeting was scheduled on November 22, 2022 at 4:30 PM; it was confirmed Mr. Rivers would be able to attend.

Phase 2 Consulting Update: (Agenda Item #IV)

Richard Labrie presented a broad overview of the Transportation Efficiencies Findings, a picture in time that was representative of the operation of the District. He said this was not just students riding on the bus, but the travel time between bell schedules, traffic and congestion and the land configuration (as there was not a quick path to get from place to place). Mr. Labrie said he spent time with Mr. Rivers discussing routes and how the driver shortage impacted each day.

Mr. Labrie suggested:

- a review of the bell schedules to make changes; he knew this was not a popular idea.
- working with the school counsel, to review the ability/possibility of using Commercial Driver's Licensed (CDL) drivers and the increased liability that was associated; Chair Kirk said she would have Peter Sumners Murphy, Lamere & Murphy, P.C review this.

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- the use of an automated software system, Traversa - by Tyler Technologies (the District's Accounting Software company). It allowed staff to work smarter and provided information of routes and 'what if' scenarios to minimize the buses and drivers needed.

Members discussed the value of adding the software and how the greatest impact would be alleviating frustration within the department. They saw it as a slow process to use it fully, but understood the long term benefits, including an ad-on feature to allow student tracking on and off the buses. The software to capture the data would take the MVRHS out of the *dark ages*, as Mr. Rivers held all the institutional knowledge.

Mr. Labrie said the initial purchase was reimbursable by the state at 80%; the annual subscription was reimbursable as well. Mark Friedman said there was \$7500 available in the Transportation Budget for computer support, the purchase could be made this year.

KATHRYN SHERTZER MOVED TO RECOMMEND MOVING FORWARD WITH THE PURCHASE OF TRAVERSA BY TYLER TECHNOLOGIES SOFTWARE; ROXANNE ACKERMAN SECONDED; MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY: 4 AYES, 0 NAYS, 0 ABSTENTIONS. MS. ACKERMAN—AYE, MS. KIRK—AYE, MS. SHERTZER—AYE & MR. WATTS—AYE.

Topics Not Reasonably Anticipated by the Chair: (Agenda Item #V) None.

Adjournment: (Agenda Item #VI)

MICHAEL WATTS MOVED TO ADJOURN THE TRANSPORTATION SUB-COMMITTEE MEETING AT 9:58 AM; ROXANNE ACKERMAN SECONDED; MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY: 4 AYES, 0 NAYS, 0 ABSTENTIONS. MS. ACKERMAN—AYE, MS. KIRK—AYE, MS. SHERTZER—AYE & MR. WATTS—AYE.

Meetings/Events:

- Transportation Sub-Committee Meeting - November 22, 2022 at 4:30 PM

Documents on File:

- 1) 11.17.22 Transportation Sub Committee Agenda.pdf

Respectfully submitted,



Teresa Kruszewski – Recorder

May 25, 2023

Date

Kimberly Kirk – Transportation Chair

Date

Richard M. Smith, Ed.D – MVRHSD Superintendent

Date

APPROVED MAY 25, 2023