

MARTHA’S VINEYARD REGIONAL HIGH SCHOOL (MVRHS)
School Committee Meeting
Thursday, June 8, 2023 at 6:00 PM
Library or Zoom

Present: Chair – Robert Lionette, Roxanne Ackerman*, Jennifer Cutrer, Skipper Manter, Kris O’Brien, Louis Paciello, Laura Seguin, Kathryn Shertzer, Michael Watts

Others: About 20 attendees including:
Town Counsel/Attorney of Mead, Talerman & Costa, LLC. – Brian Winner

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

MVEA: Martha's Vineyard Educators Association (MVEA)
Co-President – Cheri Cluff

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

Towns/County: Oak Bluffs – Maura McGroarty, West Tisbury – Clark Rattet

Press: MVTimes – Jenna Bernstein, MVTV, Vineyard Gazette – Louisa Hufstader,

Recorder: Teresa Kruszewski **Late arrivals or early departures of MVRHS SC members*

*Roxanne Ackerman arrived at 6:25 PM.

Please note: All business will consist of a discussion and possible *vote* to take action.

Call to Order

The meeting of the Martha’s Vineyard Regional High School Committee (MVRHS SC) was called to order at 6:02 PM by Chair Robert Lionette; 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 MVRHS SC members or Administrators or when actively participating; attendees were asked to identify themselves with first and last names. (*Recorder’s Note: Discussions are summarized and grouped for clarity and brevity*).

Welcome - Chair

(Agenda Item #I)

Chair Lionette welcomed everyone and thanked them for attending the meeting.

Student Report

(Agenda Item #II)

A. Student Report of Activities

The Junior Class President recapped the events that happened over the last few months, some of which were partnered with Island organizations. Chair Lionette thanked her for the very comprehensive report of all areas of school activities.

Status and Statement of Litigation

(Agenda Item #III)

Nothing new to report.

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Executive Session

(Agenda Item #IV)

Executive Session, subject to the Chair’s declaration, to discuss litigation strategy, pursuant to G.L. c. 30A § 21(a)(3), in the matter of Martha’s Vineyard Reg. School Dist. v. Oak Bluffs Planning Bd., Land Court No. 22 MISC 000294. (6:30) Vote to reconvene to return to open session.

Skipper Manter said it would better serve the public to hear the discussion, to stay in Public Session.

MICHAEL WATTS AT 6:24 PM, MOVED TO GO INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION, SUBJECT TO THE CHAIR’S DECLARATION, TO DISCUSS LITIGATION STRATEGY, PURSUANT TO G.L. C. 30A § 21(A)(3), IN THE MATTER OF MARTHA’S VINEYARD REG. SCHOOL DIST. V. OAK BLUFFS PLANNING BD., LAND COURT NO. 22 MISC 000294. (6:30) VOTE TO RECONVENE TO RETURN TO OPEN SESSION; AND TO INVITE SUPERINTENDENT RICHARD M. SMITH, PRINCIPAL SARA DINGLEDY, ATTORNEY BRIAN WINNER AND RECORDER TERESA KRUSZEWSKI TO BE PRESENT THROUGHOUT; LOUIS PACIELLO SECONDED; MOTION PASSED: 7 AYES, 2 NAYS, 0 ABSTENTIONS. MS. CUTRER—AYE, MR. LIONETTE—AYE, MS. O’BIEN—AYE, MR. PACIELLO—AYE, MS. SEGUIN—AYE, MS. SHERTZER—AYE & MR. WATTS—AYE. MS. ACKERMAN—NAY & MR. MANTER—NAY.

DISCUSSION ENSUED THEREON A MOTION AT 7:22 PM, TO RETURN TO REGULAR SESSION WAS MOVED BY SKIPPER MANTER AND SECONDED BY MICHAEL WATTS; THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY: 9 AYES, 0 NAYS, 0 ABSTENTIONS.

★ **OPEN SESSION RECONVENED AT 7:25 PM.**

Chair Lionette read a brief statement from the Executive Session as follows:

“We have instructed our Attorney Brian Winner to engage with the Town of Oak Bluffs (OB) through their attorney, to hold a joint 3 board public meeting composed of MVRHS SC, the OB Select Board and Town of OB Planning Board to reach resolution of the current appeal.”

Public Comment

(Agenda Item #V)

None.

Routine Reports

(Agenda Item #VI)

A. Principal

1. Summer Programming and Activities:

Principal Sara Dingley said the building would be intentionally quiet this summer, as teachers had been working over the past few summers and were looking to ‘ease up’ on summer programming. With less activity in the building, cleanings and [tech] upgrades would be completed.

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B. Superintendent

1. District Summer Planning:

Superintendent Richard M. Smith recapped what happened at the Special Town Meeting/s; the Operating Budget had been approved. He recapped what he would be focused on during the summer months, the four strategy areas.

C. Massachusetts School Building Authority (MSBA) Program Update

Samuel Hart said all the deliverables were sent; we were waiting for the June 21, 2023 Board Meeting vote which would officially begin the feasibility period/study.

Consents: *VOTES REQUIRED*

(Agenda Item #VII)

A. Minutes:

SKIPPER MANTER MOVED TO APPROVE THE MAY 1, 2023 MVRHS SC MINUTES AS WRITTEN; JENNIFER CUTRER SECONDED. MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY: 9 AYES, 0 NAYS, 0 ABSTENTIONS. MS. ACKERMAN—AYE, MS. CUTRER—AYE, MR. LIONETTE—AYE, MR. MANTER—AYE, MS. O'BRIEN—AYE, MR. PACIELLO—AYE, MS. SEGUIN—AYE, MS. SHERTZER—AYE & MR. WATTS—AYE.

B. Personnel:

- ◆ Keren Albiston in a letter dated 5/31/23 wrote: It is with sadness that I must officially resign from my post as the teacher of The Navigator Classroom.
- ◆ Mercedes Johnson in a letter dated May 15 2023 wrote: Please accept this letter of resignation from Head Cook for MVRHS. My last day of work will be June 27, 2023.

SKIPPER MANTER MOVED TO ACKNOWLEDGE; KATHRYN SHERTZER SECONDED. MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY: 9 AYES, 0 NAYS, 0 ABSTENTIONS. MS. ACKERMAN—AYE, MS. CUTRER—AYE, MR. LIONETTE—AYE, MR. MANTER—AYE, MS. O'BRIEN—AYE, MR. PACIELLO—AYE, MS. SEGUIN—AYE, MS. SHERTZER—AYE & MR. WATTS—AYE.

C. Grants and Donations:

Suzanne Cioffi presented the donation for the Girls Tennis Team.

SKIPPER MANTER MOVED TO ACCEPT THE \$3304 DONATION WITH GRATITUDE; LOUIS PACIELLO SECONDED. MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY: 9 AYES, 0 NAYS, 0 ABSTENTIONS. MS. ACKERMAN—AYE, MS. CUTRER—AYE, MR. LIONETTE—AYE, MR. MANTER—AYE, MS. O'BRIEN—AYE, MR. PACIELLO—AYE, MS. SEGUIN—AYE, MS. SHERTZER—AYE & MR. WATTS—AYE.

D. Out of State and Overnight Travel:

Outdoor Track

June 14 - June 19, 2023: Eugene, Oregon

SKIPPER MANTER MOVED TO APPROVE THE OVERNIGHT/OUT OF STATE TRAVEL AS PRESENTED; ROXANNE ACKERMAN SECONDED. MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

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9 AYES, 0 NAYS, 0 ABSTENTIONS. MS. ACKERMAN—AYE, MS. CUTRER—AYE, MR. LIONETTE—AYE, MR. MANTER—AYE, MS. O'BRIEN—AYE, MR. PACIELLO—AYE, MS. SEGUIN—AYE, MS. SHERTZER—AYE & MR. WATTS—AYE.

SKIPPER MANTER MOVED TO APPROVE THE OVERNIGHT/OUT OF STATE TRAVEL FOR THE MVRHS MINNESINGERS (THIS WAS PRECURSORY FOR THE ABILITY TO FUND RAISE); LOUIS PACIELLO SECONDED. MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY: 9 AYES, 0 NAYS, 0 ABSTENTIONS. MS. ACKERMAN—AYE, MS. CUTRER—AYE, MR. LIONETTE—AYE, MR. MANTER—AYE, MS. O'BRIEN—AYE, MR. PACIELLO—AYE, MS. SEGUIN—AYE, MS. SHERTZER—AYE & MR. WATTS—AYE.

Finance

(Agenda Item #VIII)

A. Athletic Fields Project Private Funding Discussion:

Chair Lionette wanted to begin the discussion for funding; Superintendent Smith said counsel advised him to talk with other schools; there was not one prescribed process or path. Chair Lionette recommended having further discussion and adding this as an agenda item.

Sheila Muldaur expressed concern, to have a mechanism for collecting donations to understand the financial sources and to make them public; to understand who was driving the bus in the first phase, before it was permitted; anonymous donations and how to handle them were discussed.

SubCommittee Updates

(Agenda Item #IX)

A. Facilities:

Michael Watts, Chair of the Facilities Sub-Committee (FacSubCom), reported that:

- The chiller equipment for the Heating, Ventilation, and Air Conditioning (HVAC) had been shipped; the project was still on track.
- The Career Technical Education (CTE) roofing material was shipped; they were awaiting temperatures to be consistently above 50° to begin/complete the work.
- The sod/field project was on schedule; work had begun.

B. Transportation:

Kathryn Shertzer, Chair of the Transportation Sub-Committee (TranSubCom) recapped the value of working with the consultant; she said a policy for bus use was needed. Superintendent Smith said the policy was under review and more work would be needed; he recapped all the approved requests for this summer and said each applicant was made aware that a different policy would be in place for the following year/s.

C. Athletics: Nothing to report.

D. Committee and Subcommittee Reorganization:

Suzanne Cioffi screen shared the Sub-Committee worksheet; Members discussed/decided what Committees they would like to be assigned.

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SKIPPER MANTER MOVED TO APPROVE THE LIST OF NAMES FOR THE SUB COMMITTEES AS DISCUSSED; MICHAEL WATTS SECONDED. MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY: 9 AYES, 0 NAYS, 0 ABSTENTIONS. MS. ACKERMAN—AYE, MS. CUTRER—AYE, MR. LIONETTE—AYE, MR. MANTER—AYE, MS. O'BRIEN—AYE, MR. PACIELLO—AYE, MS. SEGUIN—AYE, MS. SHERTZER—AYE & MR. WATTS—AYE.

Mark Friedman said based on the new Regional Agreement, a ballot vote was needed for Chair and Vice Chair.

KRIS O'BRIEN MOVED TO NOMINATE KATHRYN SHERTZER AS CHAIR AND SKIPPER MANTER AS VICE CHAIR; LOUIS PACIELLO SECONDED.

A BALLOT VOTE WAS TAKEN AS FOLLOWS:

- *SHERTZER/MANTER 1, 1, 1, 1, 1, 1, 1*
- *SHERTZER/PACIELLO 1, 1*

Old/New Business

(Agenda Item #X)

A. Harbor Homes and MVCS

Kathryn Shertzer asked if the Town of Oak Bluffs was notified that this was on the agenda. Since they were not present, she recommended this discussion be tabled.

Topics Not Reasonably Anticipated by the Chair/Announcements

(Agenda Item #XI)

SKIPPER MANTER MOVED TO ALLOW OVERFLOW PARKING FOR THE YMCA AT THE MVRHS AS NEEDED, BASED ON THE TRAFFIC STUDY; LOUIS PACIELLO SECONDED. MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY: 9 AYES, 0 NAYS, 0 ABSTENTIONS. MS. ACKERMAN—AYE, MS. CUTRER—AYE, MR. LIONETTE—AYE, MR. MANTER—AYE, MS. O'BRIEN—AYE, MR. PACIELLO—AYE, MS. SEGUIN—AYE, MS. SHERTZER—AYE & MR. WATTS—AYE.

Adjournment

(Agenda Item #XII)

KRIS O'BRIEN MOVED TO ADJOURN THE MVRHS SC MEETING AT 8:57 PM; KATHRYN SHERTZER SECONDED. MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY: 9 AYES, 0 NAYS, 0 ABSTENTIONS. MS. ACKERMAN—AYE, MS. CUTRER—AYE, MR. LIONETTE—AYE, MR. MANTER—AYE, MS. O'BRIEN—AYE, MR. PACIELLO—AYE, MS. SEGUIN—AYE, MS. SHERTZER—AYE & MR. WATTS—AYE.

Appendix A - Meetings/Events

— MVRHS SC/Budget Review/Transfers Meeting – Thursday, June 22, 2023 at 6:00 PM

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Appendix B - Agreed Upon Tasks: None.

Appendix C - Documents on File:

- Agenda MVRHS SC 6.8.23.docx
- CHILMARK June 5 2023 STM Articles 9 and 10 Certification of Vote.pdf
- VII. C Girls Tennis Donation 6.8.2023.pdf
- VIII. ARTICLE 35.docx
- VII. B. Mercedes Johnson Ltr. 5.15.23.pdf
- VII. B. resignation letter-Keren Albiston .pdf
- VII. D. Out of State travel form outdoor 23 (1).doc
- VII. A. DRAFT MVRHS SC Minutes May 1, 2023 Meeting.pdf
- VII. A. APPROVED MVRHS SC Minutes April 3, 2023 Meeting.pdf

Respectfully submitted,



Teresa Kruszewski – Recorder

November 6, 2023

Date

Robert Lionette – MVRHS SC Chair

Date

Richard M. Smith, Ed.D. – MVRHSD Superintendent

Date

APPROVED NOVEMBER 6, 2023