

**OAK BLUFFS SCHOOL DISTRICT OF MARTHA'S VINEYARD**  
**Wednesday, March 15, 2022, 8:30AM**  
**By Zoom Cloud Conference**

Present: Chair Lisa Reagan, Kris O'Brien, Kathryn Shertzer,  
Others: Principal's Office – Megan Farrell, Denitsa Alton,  
Superintendent's Office – Matt D'Andrea, Richie Smith, Mark Friedman,  
Hope MacLeod,  
Staff – Elizabeth Davis and her 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade,  
Recorder – Marni Lipke

\* Late arrivals or early departures  
of OBSC members

The Oak Bluffs School Committee (OBSC) was called to order at 8:32AM.

**Spotlight on Learning**

Liz Davis' third grade class read their informational writing practice including descriptions of: dance equipment with prices and history, dog toys and behavior, video games, and birthdays.

**Minutes: Approval of Minutes of February 16<sup>th</sup>, 2022**

• KRIS O'BRIEN MOVED TO ACCEPT THE FEBRUARY 16, 2022 MINUTES; KATHRYN SHERTZER SECONDED; MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY: 3 AYES, 0 NAYS, 0 ABSTENTIONS: KATHRYN SHERTZER—AYE, KRIS O'BRIEN—AYE, LISA REAGAN—AYE.

**Public Comment – None**

**Superintendent's Report**

• **School Choice Vote 2022-2023**

At this time of year Martha's Vineyard Public Schools (MVPS) elementary schools were asked to support and participate in the school choice program.

• KATHRYN SHERTZER MOVED TO CONTINUE PARTICIPATING AS A SCHOOL OF CHOICE FOR THE 2022-2023 SCHOOL YEAR; KRIS O'BRIEN SECONDED; MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY: 3 AYES, 0 NAYS, 0 ABSTENTIONS: KATHRYN SHERTZER—AYE, KRIS O'BRIEN—AYE, LISA REAGAN—AYE.

Mask mandates were lifted for school buses, leaving only nurse's offices and those returning from isolation with required masking—a good change on the path towards a more normal school. Significant numbers of people were still masking, attesting to everyone's comfort level. Superintendent Matt D'Andrea thanked the School Committees for their support in making this happen.

- To stem any further outbreaks, testing (surveillance, rapid take-home, and symptomatic) would continue hopefully till end of year.

**Special Education (SpEd) Director's Report** (See documents on file.)

This was Developmental Disability Awareness month. The training by the Island Disability Coalition went well. The Island Parent Advisory Council (IPAC) would restart meetings in April and SpEd Director Hope MacLeod asked OBSC help recruit active parent participants and new officers of all age ranges and variety. She continued to distribute newsletters, and was scheduling the Basic Rights trainings.

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**Financial Report** (See documents on file.)

• **Fund Balance Report**

- The Circuit Breaker and Residential Placement negatives continued with accounting rollover still delayed. Future planned funding included:
  - a \$500,000 article on the Annual Town Meeting (ATM) Warrant,
  - Extraordinary Relief application due March 31<sup>st</sup>, with awards announced in May, and spending restricted to Fiscal Year 2022 (FY22) i.e. by June 30, 2022;
  - \$129,000 in OBS School Choice funding (see below: Custodial Salaries).
- The \$53,000 Lunch balance would be spent on upgrading equipment this summer.
- School Choice was healthy with projected \$180,000 additional FY22 revenue, spending the larger portion to help support the Residential issue.
- The Student Activity balance reflected the up-coming 8th grade trip.

• **Expenditure Report**

- As previously noted all negatives were covered by the Increment line.
- Other residuals in the department or the Increment line could cover an Administrative Salary negative (see 12/22/21 Minutes p.2).
  - Advisory Salaries negative would continue to grow, reflecting the renewed and additional after school clubs/activities (see 12/22/21 Minutes p.3);
  - The Copier Supplies (lease payments) deficit would double.
  - An additional Educational Support Professional (ESP) balance could be covered, and SpEd and library ESP Longevity was an accounting line item shift.
  - Nurse's Substitute negative would grow slightly to give support to the OBS Nurse.
  - The Custodial Salaries negative was projected at \$75,000 by the end of FY22 (see 2/16/22 Minutes p.3) and coverage would be tight but possible depending on the Extraordinary Relief grant.
  - Other negatives were unchanged (longevity, textbooks, student insurance, etc.) (see 2/16/22 Minutes p.2-3)

In response to recent negotiations, and a letter to the editor in the press, the OBSC and all the Administrators who had been MVPS Principals attested that this was the tightest budget on the Island. The OBS received and was grateful for Elementary and Secondary School Relief (ESSER) grant funds. All funds were spent supporting students and staff including populations of color, socio-economic disadvantaged, special needs and English Language Learners (ELL)—and the School was still struggling. At her last School Committee meeting Chair Lisa Reagan emphasized she had always done her best to support, students, staff, taxpayers and towns people and that the Administrators and OBSC did so every day and would continue to do so.

• **Revolving Lunch Report**

Staff lunch debt was paid each month.

**Principal's Report**

There was some family feedback regarding student pedestrian safety at the Wing Rd./County Rd. intersection. The Police were consulted and deemed the intersection safe. The one OBS crossing guard (paid from the Advisor's Salary line) was stationed at the School front. The Highway Department agreed to order additional signage. The OBSC saluted Principal Megan Farrell for her remarkable work as community and Town liaison.

Chaperone Prin. Farrell and the travelers greatly enjoyed the ski trip. Both the OBSC and Prin. Farrell received feedback and were impressed by OBS students' politeness, kindness and goodness to each other which was noticed by guests and ski staff alike. It was wonderful to be able to travel and play again.

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Prin. Farrell was looking forward to the first whole-school community meetings since the start of the pandemic and requested departing OBSC Chair Lisa Reagan celebrate with the School.

**Old/New Business**

The Massachusetts School Building Authority (MSBA) Accelerated Program application was due this month. Principal Megan Farrell requested an OBSC vote to replace the School's aging boilers, now more than 30 years old. The OBSC noted:

- the long history of the OBS need for new boilers, documented at least 15 years ago;
- School boiler replacement inclusion in the Oak Bluffs Town Capital Planning;
- boiler replacement article on the Annual Town Meeting Warrant.
- Town Hall Owner's Project Manager (OPM) donation of services on the application (another testament to Prin. Farrell's community relations).

*• ON A MOTION DULY MADE BY KRIS O'BRIEN AND SECONDED BY KATHRYN SHERTZER THE OAK BLUFFS SCHOOL COMMITTEE UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED: 3 AYES, 0 NAYS, 0 ABSTENTIONS: KRIS O'BRIEN—AYE, KATHRYN SHERTZER—AYE, LISA REAGAN-AYE:*

*RESOLVED - HAVING CONVENED IN AN OPEN MEETING ON MARCH 15, 2022, PRIOR TO THE CLOSING DATE, THE OAK BLUFFS SCHOOL COMMITTEE OF THE TOWN OF OAK BLUFFS, MASSACHUSETTS, IN ACCORDANCE WITH ITS CHARTER, BY-LAWS, AND ORDINANCES, HAS VOTED TO AUTHORIZE THE SUPERINTENDENT TO SUBMIT TO THE MASSACHUSETTS SCHOOL BUILDING AUTHORITY THE STATEMENT OF INTEREST FORM DATED MARCH 15, 2022 FOR THE OAK BLUFFS SCHOOL LOCATED AT 50 TRADEWINDS ROAD, OAK BLUFFS, MASSACHUSETTS WHICH DESCRIBES AND EXPLAINS THE FOLLOWING DEFICIENCIES AND THE PRIORITY CATEGORY FOR WHICH AN APPLICATION MAY BE SUBMITTED TO THE MASSACHUSETTS SCHOOL BUILDING AUTHORITY IN THE FUTURE:*

*- REPLACEMENT AND MODERNIZATION OF THE SCHOOL'S BOILERS;*

*AND HEREBY FURTHER SPECIFICALLY ACKNOWLEDGES THAT BY SUBMITTING THIS STATEMENT OF INTEREST FORM, THE MASSACHUSETTS SCHOOL BUILDING AUTHORITY IN NO WAY GUARANTEES THE ACCEPTANCE OR THE APPROVAL OF AN APPLICATION, THE AWARDED OF A GRANT OR ANY OTHER FUNDING COMMITMENT FROM THE MASSACHUSETTS SCHOOL BUILDING AUTHORITY, OR COMMITS THE OAK BLUFFS SCHOOL DISTRICT TO FILING AN APPLICATION FOR FUNDING WITH THE MASSACHUSETTS SCHOOL BUILDING AUTHORITY.*

The next step was for the Select Board to vote and co-sign the application.

After the pandemic delays, Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE) Commissioner Jeff Riley was reviving work on the Student Opportunity Act (SOA) supporting sub-groups of need (see 6/18/20 AISC Minutes p.4 #11 B). Assistant Superintendent Richie Smith submitted a 3-year plan demonstrating how each school supported its sub-groups, which in OBS case focused on ELL and Special Needs, including how achievement disparity was addressed and budgeted. Recent changes to the Plan were due in late April. Background information would be sent for OBSC consideration and vote at the April meeting.

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**Correspondence** (See documents on file.)

• **School Use Requests – MV United**

Prin. Farrell commended the MV United as fabulous school users and recommended the application, pending collaboration with other groups on scheduling. With thanks to MV United for everything they did for OBS students and families:

• *KATHRYN SHERTZER MOVED TO APPROVE USE OF THE OAK BLUFFS SCHOOL BY THE MARTHA'S VINEYARD UNITED UNITED YOUTH SOCCER AS PRESENTED; KRIS O'BRIEN SECONDED; MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY: 3 AYES, 0 NAYS, 0 ABSTENTIONS: KRIS O'BRIEN—AYE, KATHRYN SHERTZER—AYE, LISA REAGAN—AYE.*

**Old/New Business**

Chair Lisa Reagan loved every minute of the rewards, challenges and enjoyment of her 15 years on the OBSC. Here and through-out the meeting administrators, staff and OBSC colleagues (some of whom were her students when she was on OBS staff) praised her for community commitment, integrity, grace, strength, school advocacy and collaborative, compassionate service that touched and bettered the lives of so many Oak Bluffs children, adults and families. Examples included:

- activism to pass overrides related to School funding,
- snacks and food to ease meetings,
- work on the Negotiation Committee,
- attention to and care for individual community members.

Lisa Reagan thanked everyone again, hoped to continue serving in some other capacity, was "proud to be from OB" and to pass the OBSC seat on to the next member. By this time many were crying and the meeting adjourned on a high note.

Next OBSC meeting will be on Tuesday, April 26, 2022 at 8:30AM.

Adjourn

• *LISA REAGAN MOVED TO ADJOURN THE MEETING AT 9:40AM; KRIS O'BRIEN SECONDED; MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY; 3 AYES, 0 NAYS, 0 ABSTENTIONS: KATHRYN SHERTZER—AYE, LISA REGAN—AYE, KRIS O'BRIEN—AYE.*

**Documents on file:**

Agenda (Revised) 2 p. 3/15/22

Oak Bluffs School Fund Balances Fiscal Year 2021-2022 3/14/22

Oak Bluffs School General Fund Expenditure Report – OB Site, Fiscal Year 2021-2022  
(3 p.) 3/14/22

Revolving School Lunch Report, Oak Bluffs School FY22

Application for Use of the Oak Bluffs School – MV United (3 p.) 3/8/22

Oak Bluffs Special Education, March 2022 (2 p.)

Zoom Chat:

Hope MacLeod: I do have a training I am hosting so I am going to pop off to join that.

**Minutes approved 5/24/22.**