

MARTHA'S VINEYARD REGIONAL HIGH SCHOOL (MVRHS)

School Committee Meeting

Monday, November 4, 2024 at 5:30 pm

Library or Zoom

Present: Chair – Skipper Manter, Vice Chair (VC) – Rizwan Malik, Roxanne Ackerman, Jennifer Cutrer, Robert Lionette, Kelly Scott, Kathryn Shertzer, Michael Watts
Zoom: Sarah Murphy

Staff: Principal – Sara Dingley, Information Technology (IT) Director – Rick Mello, Curriculum & Instruction Director – Justine DeOliveira, Coordinator of Pathways and Special Projects – Samuel Hart, Finance Director – Suzanne Cioffi, Facilities Director – Jason O'Donnell, Equity and Access Coordinator – Sheryl Taylor, Athletic Director – Mark McCarthy, Research Specialist – Kim Garrison

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

Others: Project Manager of Tappé Architects/MSBA – Chris Blessen, Harbor Homes Martha's Vineyard (HHMV) / Winter Shelter Director – Lisa Belcastro

Towns/County: West Tisbury – Clark Rattet

Press: MV Times – Daniel Greenman, MVTV, Vineyard Gazette – Louisa Hufstader

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

**None.*

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

The meeting of the Martha's Vineyard Regional High School Committee (MVRHS SC) was called to order at 5:35 PM by Chair Skipper Manter.

(Recorder's Note: Discussions are summarized and grouped for clarity and brevity).

I. Welcome - Chair

Chair Manter welcomed all.

II. Routine Reports:

A. Student Report

1. Student Report of Activities

The Junior Class Officers reviewed many topics including Homecoming, Voyagers Program, a session with Senator Julian Cyr, The Model UN, The Garden Club and others; they gave a sports recap of some teams that were ending their season.

B. Principal

1. AP Honor Roll

Tabled.

2. Mid Atlantic Equity Consortium Update

Principal Sara Dingley and Sheryl Taylor explained the slide show and why this was an important tool. *(Please see documents on file for details)*

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3. School Climate Survey Update

Principal Dingley, Ms. Taylor and Kim Garrison presented a slide show which recapped the data that has been collected and reported, and the timeline of expectations for each. This reviewed/looked at the school's culture around engagement, safety and environment. They explained the steps during this process and where the MVRHS was. *(Please review slide show for details.)*

Discussion included Members asking questions about the data – and Principal Dingley and staff responded accordingly.

4. General Update

The October 13 & 14, 2024 New England Association of Schools and Colleges (NEASC) visit was recapped by Justine DeOliveira. It was a great visit - they met with different groups of teachers and students. She explained the next steps and timeline. Formal feedback was to come. Ms. DeOliveira said that overall, the feeling was that they were very pleased.

Principal Dingley shared the Massachusetts Comprehensive Assessment System (MCAS) accountability rating and what that meant, the data that changed for the better (and some that had gone down) and how this impacted the future. *(Please see documents on file for details)*

5. School Advisory Committee Update

Principal Dingley said they were meeting with students; they were seeking 2 members.

6. Educational Program

Samuel Hart said the Educational Program had been completed. He welcomed questions and encouraged Members to review the full [PDP?] Preliminary Binder from cover to cover. He explained some of the area's/topics and how the document was compiled.

Principal Dingley said the Educational Plan drove many of the components of the Massachusetts School Building Authority (MSBA) project. Michael Watts underscored the value of this document; he said it was really well crafted. The binder was available on the MVRHS website.

C. Superintendent Report

1. Harbor Homes and Martha's Vineyard Community Services Update

Superintendent Richard M. Smith said the Shelter was opened as of November 1, per the May meeting vote with the increased guest and staff count per the grant from the vote taken in June; Superintendent Smith said this area/building would be demolished in June of 2025.

Lisa Belcastro extended an invitation to Members while guests were not in the building. She appreciated this opportunity and thanked everyone.

D. School Building Committee Update

Chris Blessen, project manager of Tappé Architects updated the group.

He recapped the steps taken to date and recent submissions including the PDP which was a big step, and commended all that helped with the process. Still in feasibility, so big decisions would not be taken. This was the phase to collect information.

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III. Consents:

VOTES REQUIRED

A. Minutes: August 19, 2024, September 9, 2024, October 7, 2024 & October 11, 2024
None.

B. Personnel

1. Sheila Hazell

- ◆ Sheila McHugh Hazell in a letter dated (unknown) wrote: ...request for maternity leave, starting at the end of January 2025 (date TBD)...

ROBERT LIONETTE MOVED TO ACKNOWLEDGE THE LIST OF PERSONNEL AS STATED BY PRINCIPAL SARA DINGLEDY; JENNIFER CUTRER, SECONDED. MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY: 9 AYES, 0 NAYS, 0 ABSTENTIONS. MS. ACKERMAN—AYE, MS. CUTRER—AYE, MR. LIONETTE—AYE, MR. MALIK—AYE, MR. MANTER—AYE, MS. MURPHY—AYE, MS. SCOTT—AYE, MS. SHERTZER—AYE & MR. WATTS—AYE.

C. Grants and Donations

RIZWAN MALIK MOVED TO ACCEPT THE LIST OF GRANTS AS STATED BY SUZANNE CIOFFI; JENNIFER CUTRER SECONDED. MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY: 9 AYES, 0 NAYS, 0 ABSTENTIONS. MS. ACKERMAN—AYE, MS. CUTRER—AYE, MR. LIONETTE—AYE, MR. MALIK—AYE, MR. MANTER—AYE, MS. MURPHY—AYE, MS. SCOTT—AYE, MS. SHERTZER—AYE & MR. WATTS—AYE.

ROBERT LIONETTE MOVED TO ACCEPT THE LIST OF DONATIONS AS STATED BY SUZANNE CIOFFI (THREE COUCHES TO PROJECT VINE FROM VINEYARD DECORATORS \$899/EACH); KELLY SCOTT SECONDED. MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY: 9 AYES, 0 NAYS, 0 ABSTENTIONS. MS. ACKERMAN—AYE, MS. CUTRER—AYE, MR. LIONETTE—AYE, MR. MALIK—AYE, MR. MANTER—AYE, MS. MURPHY—AYE, MS. SCOTT—AYE, MS. SHERTZER—AYE & MR. WATTS—AYE.

ROBERT LIONETTE MOVED TO ACCEPT THE LIST OF GRANTS AS STATED BY MARK FRIEDMAN; KATHRYN SHERTZER SECONDED. MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY: 9 AYES, 0 NAYS, 0 ABSTENTIONS. MS. ACKERMAN—AYE, MS. CUTRER—AYE, MR. LIONETTE—AYE, MR. MALIK—AYE, MR. MANTER—AYE, MS. MURPHY—AYE, MS. SCOTT—AYE, MS. SHERTZER—AYE & MR. WATTS—AYE.

D. Out of State and Overnight Travel

Mark McCarthy explained the requests for Members, including the reasons why the golf request was retroactive.

- 1. Boys Basketball**
- 2. Girls Hockey**
- 3. Golf**

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ROBERT LIONETTE MOVED TO APPROVE THE OVERNIGHT/OUT OF STATE TRAVEL AS PRESENTED; JENNIFER CUTRER SECONDED. MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY: 9 AYES, 0 NAYS, 0 ABSTENTIONS. MS. ACKERMAN—AYE, MS. CUTRER—AYE, MR. LIONETTE—AYE, MR. MALIK—AYE, MR. MANTER—AYE, MS. MURPHY—AYE, MS. SCOTT—AYE, MS. SHERTZER—AYE & MR. WATTS—AYE.

E. Swimming Junior High Waiver

ROBERT LIONETTE MOVED TO APPROVE THE ATHLETIC WAIVER FOR 7TH AND 8TH GRADERS TO COMPETE ON THE HIGH SCHOOL SWIM TEAM AND TO APPROVE THE CO-OP WITH THE CHARTER SCHOOL TO ALLOW STUDENT PARTICIPATION ON THE HIGH SCHOOL SWIM TEAM; RIZWAN MALIK SECONDED. MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY: 9 AYES, 0 NAYS, 0 ABSTENTIONS. MS. ACKERMAN—AYE, MS. CUTRER—AYE, MR. LIONETTE—AYE, MR. MALIK—AYE, MR. MANTER—AYE, MS. MURPHY—AYE, MS. SCOTT—AYE, MS. SHERTZER—AYE & MR. WATTS—AYE.

F. Former Student Lunch Debt

Principal Dingley explained the improved system in place; years in the past there were struggles collecting. An Audit, completed, noted it was not allowed to carry debt from year to year. Principal Dingley said this was informational at this time.

Members discussed not publishing the names of the students and that a system should be put in place, perhaps a revolving account to cover any debt to be included and how to include/plan for it in the annual budget for offsets.

Principal Dingley said this was not budgeted. It was approximately \$6000.00. Chair Manter asked for a formal request at a future meeting.

IV. Finance:

A. Revenue and Expenditures

Suzanne Cioffi recapped the reports for Members (those that were passed out in the room during the meeting). Members reviewed both reports and asked questions where appropriate.

B. FY 26 Budget Process

Chair Manter recapped the meeting schedule and the agendas, when the Sub-Committees would meet to present the budget recommendations. Things were moving forward with the goal to have things set by the next month.

V. Subcommittee Updates:

A. Transportation

Roxanne Ackerman and Mark Friedman said they were reviewing transportation/scheduling software to see if it is appropriate to request funding for the next year.

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Special Education expenses were being reviewed in detail. Superintendent Smith said they were working on contracts/pay for this group and they anticipated bringing wage decisions for the 2024/2025 school year.

B. Facilities

Jason O'Donnell said the heat was on in the buildings.

C. Athletics

1. Fenway Trip Update

Mr. McCarthy said transportation was secured/finalized for all those that were participating. The Steamship Authority would hold the last ferry if they were running late/return for the last boat.

<https://www.mvtimes.com/2024/08/22/island-cup-goes-fenway/>

2. Project Vine Bus Fundraiser

Discussion for the need for the fundraiser, and what was/was not included in the budget to support this. Principal Dingley recapped the steps taken to get to this decision and the reasons for fundraisers.

Members questioned why the donated bus from the hospital was turned into a fundraiser; Principal Dingley said the hospital was notified of this - they did not put stipulations on the donation.

Superintendent Smith explained in detail the timing of the game around Thanksgiving weekend, to make the trip work by giving access to students and the community - it took a lot of planning.

3. Use of Revenue from Fenway

Ms. Cioffi said the athletics revenue receipts line; she said it all goes to the general fund.

4. Welcome New Assistant Athletic Director

Mr. McCarthy welcomed the new Assistant Athletic Director, Jeff Duarte and explained how he would be involved in the program.

5. Hudl App for Sports Discussion and Possible Vote

Mr. McCarthy said it was a video based application - \$9000.00 for the balance of the year (prorated). \$15,000.00 annual contract.

Ms. Cioffi explained the processes that would need to be followed, a proper bid/procurement process. This \$15,000.00 was believed to only cover cameras, more work needed to be done before moving forward.

Members were in agreement that more discussion and research was needed before a decision could be made. including where the funding would come from. Chair Manter said it would be included on the next month's agenda for more discussion; Rick Mello said he needed to be included with this process.

VI. Topics Not Reasonably Anticipated by the Chair/Announcements:

ROXANNE ACKERMAN MOVED TO APPROVE THE \$2300.00 FOR TWO TEACHERS TO ATTEND THE OUT OF STATE CONFERENCE; KATHRYN SHERTZER SECONDED. MOTION PASSED: 7 AYES, 0 NAYS, 2 ABSTENTIONS. MS. ACKERMAN—AYE, MS. CUTRER—AYE, MR. LIONETTE—AYE, MR. MALIK—AYE, MS. MURPHY—AYE, MS. SHERTZER—AYE & MR. WATTS—AYE. MR. MANTER AND MS. SCOTT ABSTAINED.

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VII. Old Business

A. Revisions to the Phone Policy

Michael Watts request for language, to define clearly or remove. He was looking for the language to be tightened up to remove legal liability.

Principal Dingley shared the updates/changes that have been red lined based on implementation. Chair Manter asked the changes be made outside of this discussion/meeting, specific amendments, to present at a future meeting.

B. Donations Policy and Resale of Donated Items

Mr. Watts asked to create a policy as there wasn't something in place. Superintendent Smith said they were working with Massachusetts Association of School Committees (MASC) to create a policies/policy handbook, more was to come. Ms. Ackerman suggested 'borrowing' an existing policy to have in place until this was formalized.

MICHAEL WATTS MOVED TO ACCEPT THE GIFT FROM THE MARTHA'S VINEYARD HOSPITAL, THE BUS DONATED TO THE HIGH SCHOOL FOR TRANSPORTATION OF STUDENTS TO THE FENWAY GAME AND BACK: KELLY SCOTT SECONDED. MOTION PASSED: 8 AYES, 0 NAYS, 1 ABSTENTIONS. MS. ACKERMAN—AYE, MS. CUTRER—AYE, MR. LIONETTE—AYE, MR. MALIK—AYE, MS. MURPHY—AYE, MS. SCOTT—AYE, MS. SHERTZER—AYE & MR. WATTS—AYE. MR. MANTER ABSTAINED.

VIII. Public Comment:

❖ None.

IX. Adjournment:

KATHRYN SHERTZER MOVED TO ADJOURN THE MVRHS SC MEETING AT 8:12 PM; ROBERT LIONETTE SECONDED. MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY: 9 AYES, 0 NAYS, 0 ABSTENTIONS. MS. ACKERMAN—AYE, MS. CUTRER—AYE, MR. LIONETTE—AYE, MR. MALIK—AYE, MR. MANTER—AYE, MS. MURPHY—AYE, MS. SCOTT—AYE, MS. SHERTZER—AYE & MR. WATTS—AYE.

Appendix A - Documents on File:

1. MVRHS SC Meeting 11.4.24 Zoom Recording.docx
2. Agenda MVRHS SC 11.4.24.docx
3. Grants for S.C. - 11-04-2024.pdf
4. III. B. Maternity Leave Request- SMHazell (1).docx
5. III. B. Maternity Leave Request- SMHazell (1).pdf

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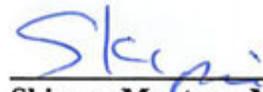
6. III. C. lenny award letter.docx
7. III. C. lenny award letter.pdf
8. III. C. MVRHS School Committee Acceptance list 11042024.doc.docx
9. III. C. MVRHS School Committee Acceptance list 11042024.doc.pdf
10. III. D. 1. Boys basketball .pdf
11. III. D. 1. Boys basketball_.docx
12. III. D. 2. Club girls hockey ST. Georges (1).docx
13. III. D. 2. Club girls hockey ST. Georges (1).pdf
14. III. D. 3. State Golf.docx
15. MVRHS Equity Self Reflection Summary - MVHRS Overall Results.pdf
16. Phone policy revision.pdf

Respectfully submitted,



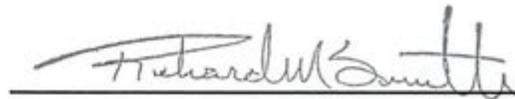
Teresa Kruszewski – Recorder

June 16, 2025
Date



Skipper Manter – MVRHS SC Chair

8-26-25
Date



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

8/6/25
Date

APPROVED Monday, June 16, 2025