



## MARTHA'S VINEYARD REGIONAL HIGH SCHOOL

### Budget Subcommittee

Wednesday, October 15, 2025 at 8:00 am

Principal's Office or Zoom

**Present:** Chair - Skipper Manter  
Zoom: Alternate - Marsha Shufrin, Robert Lionette, Kelly Scott, Jen Cutrer, Rizwan Malik

**MVRHS:** Principal - Sean Mulvey, Finance Director - Suzanna Cioffi

**Supt's Office:** Superintendent - Richie Smith\*, School Business Administrator - Mark Friedman

**Recorder:** Rebecca Claussen

\*indicates late arrival

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

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

### **I. Call to Order**

Chair Skipper Manter called this meeting to order at 8:02 am.

### **II. Other Post Employment Benefits Policy**

Our Financial Advisor suggests the OPEB being in place before the building bonding. They are In favor of the one sent. A third reading needs to occur but there are adjustments to be made as it did not pass at the last reading. Rizwan suggested that there is desire for there to be an agreed upon OPEB policy but the town thinks it's funded at a high level, and there is a desire to fund at a lower level. It is over 30 years but the amount funded, could the short term amount in Oak Bluffs at a lower yearly payment? The purpose of this funding is so that the retirees can be paid through the trust fund and not from the main budget. Mark Friedman shared with Unibank what the committee was discussing by significantly reducing funds into the OPEB trust fund, but indicated "they will not be pleased", when they go to do our bond rating, as this feels like going backwards significantly. Robert Lionette asked for the chart of 10 points off and how that translates to dollars. If we did reduce how many years we would have to pay in. Mark Friedman indicated that it doesn't appear the financial advisors do not want us to go backwards significantly. Skipper thought maybe the Financial Advisor should attend the next MVRHS SC meeting to speak to the whole committee. We can discuss the funding source first, then have the Financial Advisor attend at approximately 6:30 pm if available.

### **III. FY27 General Budget Discussion**

Skipper Manter indicated there are going to be substantial salary adjustments made as this is the second year of the new contract. Mark Friedman said that

some of the contract increases are not directly related to salaries as it may be sick time additions, and sub pay due to that. Skipper Manter mentioned that yes, but it's still a large number with just the salary increase. Sean Mulvey suggested that level funding for the year has been requested by Richie Smith to the building Principals. Mark Friedman said FY '27 for the High School we still don't expect to see financial effect in our budget for the building due to the length of the project. Robert Lionette recommended the Administration review the educational initiatives for the last year, where is it working and where can we cut back? Irrespective of the other financial concerns, and then work backwards. Suzanne Cioffi said that historically, the first meeting in January is when they look to certify the budget. Open to public hearing the week of December 15, 2025. Skipper Manter and Robert Lionette were both in agreement to start with the whole budget and then break it down from there. Richie Smith said there is a Cabinet meeting next week where the Administration can look at what the school is doing well and looking where things can be cut, which was the intention behind his level funding request made to Principals. Skipper Manter did express hope of having the budget done on time.

**IV. Meeting Schedule Discussion**

Skipper Manter asked if meeting in two weeks would work. Suzanne Cioffi asked if November 5, 2025 would be too late, or if it can be October 30 or 31, 2025. The committee agreed on October 30, 2025 at 8:00 am over zoom and in the Principals office. The Committee agreed to meet again on November 13, 2025. Kelly Scott asked what the goals would be for the scheduled meetings to make them more effective and for the team to be prepared. October 30 should be all the subcommittees with their presentations. Rizwan Malik asked about a Wednesday schedule after October 30 due to scheduling. In addition evening meetings should be scheduled as they are better for the general public. Another meeting can be scheduled for November 13, 2025 to follow up on the meeting on October 30, 2025.

**V. Topics not reasonably anticipated by the Chair**

Nothing to report.

*Vote Required*

**VI. Adjournment**

Jen Cutrer made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Rizwan Malik. Role call: Lionette - Aye, Cutrer - Aye, Malik - Aye, Scott - Aye, Manter - Aye  
Motion Passes: 5-0-0

**Appendix A: Documents on File**

1. None

**Appendix B: Zoom A.I. Next Steps**

1. Mark to forward OPEB policy information and bond rating impact data to the committee members before the next meeting.
2. Mark to invite the financial advisor to attend the next full committee meeting on November 3rd at 6:30 PM to discuss OPEB policy.

3. Rizwan to take the OPEB policy and financial impact information back to Oak Bluffs town administration for review.
4. Sean to prepare a presentation on the school's successful initiatives and future vision for the FY27 budget meeting on October 30th.
5. All subcommittees to prepare their budget presentations for the October 30th meeting.
6. Kelly and Suzanne to arrange a Transportation subcommittee meeting for next week.
7. Richie to prioritize getting the All Island/shared services budget completed earlier than in previous years.

*Minutes submitted by Rebecca Claussen*

*Date of Approval of Minutes: October 30, 2025*