

**MARTHA’S VINEYARD REGIONAL HIGH SCHOOL (MVRHS)**  
**School Committee Meeting**  
**Monday, June 3, 2024 at 5:30 PM**  
**Library or Zoom**

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

**Others:** Senior Project Manager / CHA Solutions – Michael Owen  
Chief Executive Officer/MV Community Services (MVCS) – Elizabeth Folcarelli,  
Development & Event Coordinator/MVCS – Iris Albert,  
Harbor Homes Martha’s Vineyard (HHMV) / Winter Shelter Director – Lisa Belcastro

**Staff:** Principal – Sara Dingley, Assistant Principal – Jeremy Light,  
Coordinator of Pathways and Special Projects – Samuel Hart,  
Curriculum & Instruction Director – Justine DeOliveira,  
Equity and Access Coordinator – Sheryl Taylor  
Finance Director – Suzanne Cioffi, Facilities Director – Mike Taus  
Teacher of Brazilian Portuguese – Carlos Trindade

**Supt.’s Office:** Superintendent – Richard M. Smith, Ed.D.,  
Director of Student Support Services – Hope MacLeod,  
School Business Administrator – Mark Friedman

**Towns/County:** West Tisbury – Clark Rattet

**Press:** MVTV

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

*\*Sarah Murphy arrived around 5:40 PM.*

**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 5:36 PM by Chair Kathryn Shertzer.  
*(Recorder’s Note: Discussions are summarized and grouped for clarity and brevity).*

**I. Welcome - Chair**

Chair Shertzer welcomed all.

**II. Routine Reports**

**A. Student Report**

**1. Student Report of Activities**

The Junior Class Officers read their prepared report on activities, award ceremonies, graduation, sports & events and the schedule for finals; they said May had been a pretty busy month. Members thanked both students for their presentations throughout the year, as this would be their last meeting.

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Members discussed the [recent] approval of the Wrestling program. *(Please see document on file for details: APPROVED MVRHS SC Minutes November 6, 2023 Meeting.pdf, Subcommittee Updates (Agenda Item #VI), C. Athletics., motion #3, pg 5)*

A MVRHS graduate would go on to be a wrestler in college as a result of the time spent in this high school program. Chair Shertzer recapped a letter of thanks from the parent; she said this Committee does good things.

Principal Sara Dingley recapped the outcome and benefits of the early college programs. She said a high school student graduated from college, even before finishing high school this year, with an Early Childhood College Degree as a licensed Early Childcare provider. This program had many similarities with the Health Assisting program. Principal Dingley said they were excited about the program/s and thanked the Committee for their support.

**B. Principal**

**1. Upcoming Year-end Activities**

Principal Dingley welcomed the new Committee Members, she looked forward to working with them. She recapped upcoming events which included Class Night and the 2024 MVRHS Graduation ceremonies that would be held at the Tabernacle in Oak Bluffs.

**2. Visit to Gateway Regional School District's School-based Health Center on June 6, 2024**

Principal Dingley said a trip was being taken with select staff members and [medical] stakeholders including Island Health Care. She said the purpose of the trip was to see a school based health center in action, a clinic that was embedded into the school and to bring back findings and recommendations for the MVRHS. She said this step was the result of the MedStar report/recommendations of 2015/2016 and the work done by Kim Garrison. Members asked to find answers to the following:

- ❖ Would this space be reimbursable from the Massachusetts School Building Authority (MSBA)?
- ❖ The liability associated with having this on the school property as discussed with our lawyers.

**3. Lunch Letter Donation to Families**

Principal Dingley recapped the letter to parents of students with a positive lunch balance, perhaps to help erase lunch debt for other students. The debt carried into senior year - much would be cleared up when the seniors picked up their gowns. More would be reviewed at the June 24, 2024 meeting. Members discussed options to the letter; nothing was decided.

**C. Superintendent**

**1. Harbor Homes Request**

Lisa Belcastro said the request was now 25 guests, which the State grant was written for/fulfillment; 17 men and 8 women, plus 2 overnight staff members. This was an update from the May 6, 2024 meeting. *(Please see document for details: APPROVED MVRHS SC Minutes May 6, 2024 Meeting.pdf, II. Routine Reports, C. Superintendent, 1. Harbor Homes Discussion and Vote Regarding Homeless Shelter for AY 25, pg 3.)*

Chair Shertzer said she was paraphrasing the following response to Superintendent Richard M. Smith from Oak Bluffs (OB) Town Administrator Deborah Potter:

The Town, though sympathetic to the situation, thought this was not a great idea in the Town of OB, and knowing the MVRHS SC approved HLMV for another season, they did not have strong feelings about numbers as they were sticking to the point that it was not a great idea (location).

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Ms. Belcastro said it was believed that Police Chief Jonathan Searle deferred to TA Potter.

*SKIPPER MANTER MOVED TO ALLOW HARBOR HOMES MARTHA'S VINEYARD INCREASE CAPACITY FROM 20 TO 25 GUESTS AND NO LESS THAN 2 STAFF MEMBERS FOR 2024/2025; ROXANNE ACKERMAN SECONDED. MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY: 8 AYES, 0 NAYS, 0 ABSTENTIONS. MS. ACKERMAN—AYE, MS. CUTRER—AYE, MR. LIONETTE—AYE, MR. MANTER—AYE, MS. MURPHY—AYE, MS. SCOTT—AYE, MS. SHERTZER—AYE & MR. WATTS—AYE.*

Chair Shertzer expressed her [continued] concerns with the location and the proximity to the students at the MVRHS.

**2. Request from Martha's Vineyard Community Services for a June 26th, 2024 Event with Alcohol**

Michael Watts (Chair of the Facilities Sub-Committee) recapped the discussion of the joint Sub-Committee meeting of Facilities and Land Use: he said the decision was not unanimous but all agreed to move this to the Full Committee for a vote.

Iris Albert (MVRHS 2016 Alumni) provided a thorough recap of the planned events for the evening and detailed the reasons for the request. She said it was an invitation only event; the level of guests (approximately 150) did not warrant a police detail; they would be serving beer and wine only; parking would only be needed at the MVRHS for overflow - volunteers would be provided (as needed) for street crossings.

Skipper Manter expressed concerns over having alcohol at an event on MVRHS property; he said MVCS was a wonderful organization, and should be setting an example and lead the way by not serving alcohol as their support services included alcohol abuse. Members said that donor events [unfortunately] were more successful with alcohol being served.

*ROXANNE ACKERMAN MOVED TO SUPPORT SERVING ALCOHOL AT THE RENAMING CEREMONY OF ITS EARLY CHILDHOOD CENTER IN HONOR OF PAUL AND SANDRA PIMENTELON ON JUNE 26, 2024; KELLY SCOTT SECONDED. MOTION PASSED: 7 AYES, 1 NAYS, 0 ABSTENTIONS. MS. ACKERMAN—AYE, MS. CUTRER—AYE, MR. LIONETTE—AYE, MS. MURPHY—AYE, MS. SCOTT—AYE, MS. SHERTZER—AYE & MR. WATTS—AYE. MR. MANTER—NAY.*

Members discussed creating a more streamlined form/process for these requests as the list was extensive. It was suggested that the Facilities and Land Use Sub-Committees have a joint meeting to discuss next steps; Principal Dingley suggested a working session. The newly created Performing Arts Center agreement was referenced as a guideline.

**3. ~~FY '25 Non-Union Salaries~~**

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**D. Massachusetts School Building Authority (MSBA) Update**

Mike Owen said the contract was executed with Tappé Architects. They were moving rapidly forward into the MSBA process. A visioning session would be scheduled before the school year ended, for involvement with teachers/educators. All in all, they were working diligently to move the process along and working on communication and financial accountability. Mr. Owen said they were behind strategically (from the mandates of MSBA); the team that was in place would work to expedite and catch that up.

1. **Vote to Approve Donna Bishop to the School Building Committee as the Special Education Representative**

Tabled.

**III. Consents**

**VOTES REQUIRED**

- A. **Minutes from January 25, 2024, April 1, 2024, April 11, 2024, May 1, 2024, May 6, 2024, May 16, 2024**

*SKIPPER MANTER MOVED TO APPROVE THE JANUARY 25, 2024, APRIL 1, 2024, APRIL 11, 2024, MAY 1, 2024, MAY 6, 2024 AND MAY 16, 2024 MVRHS SC MINUTES AS WRITTEN; ROBERT LIONETTE SECONDED. MOTION PASSED WITH ABSTENTIONS AS ABSENT.*

- B. **2024-2025 MVRHS School Committee Meeting Schedule:**

Meetings would be held on the first Monday of every month.

- C. **Personnel:**

- ◆ Ellen Muir in a letter dated May 17, 2024 wrote: *This letter is to officially notify you that I am resigning my position as a teacher at Martha's Vineyard Regional High School for the 2024-25 school year. I will finish out my current 2023-24 contract, with my last date of employment coinciding with said contract.*
- ◆ Ellis Oliver: *resignation from Educational Support Personnel (ESP).*  
A letter was not provided for the Minutes.

*ROBERT LIONETTE MOVED TO ACKNOWLEDGE THE RESIGNATIONS;*

*SKIPPER MANTER SECONDED. MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY:*

*8 AYES, 0 NAYS, 0 ABSTENTIONS. MS. ACKERMAN—AYE, MS. CUTRER—AYE, MR. LIONETTE—AYE, MR. MANTER—AYE, MS. MURPHY—AYE, MS. SCOTT—AYE, MS. SHERTZER—AYE & MR. WATTS—AYE.*

Members asked whether Exit Interviews were conducted and what body/committee it should be discussed to become a District-wide practice.

- D. **Grants and Donations:**

None.

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**E. Overnight Travel & Out of State Travel:**

Portuguese for Heritage Speaker 3

*April Break 2025: Salvador, Brazil*

*ROBERT LIONETTE MOVED TO APPROVE THE TRIP AND TO INCLUDE A STUDENT ACTIVITIES FUND; KELLY SCOTT SECONDED. MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY: 8 AYES, 0 NAYS, 0 ABSTENTIONS. MS. ACKERMAN—AYE, MS. CUTRER—AYE, MR. LIONETTE—AYE, MR. MANTER—AYE, MS. MURPHY—AYE, MS. SCOTT—AYE, MS. SHERTZER—AYE & MR. WATTS—AYE.*

Minnesingers

*April 23 - 28, 2025: Williamsburg and Norfolk, VA.*

*SKIPPER MANTER MOVED TO APPROVE THE OVERNIGHT/OUT OF STATE TRAVEL AS PRESENTED; ROBERT LIONETTE SECONDED. MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY: 8 AYES, 0 NAYS, 0 ABSTENTIONS. MS. ACKERMAN—AYE, MS. CUTRER—AYE, MR. LIONETTE—AYE, MR. MANTER—AYE, MS. MURPHY—AYE, MS. SCOTT—AYE, MS. SHERTZER—AYE & MR. WATTS—AYE.*

Track Team/Nationals

*June 11 - 15, 2024: Oregon*

*ROXANNE ACKERMAN MOVED TO APPROVE UP TO \$10,000.00 TO SUPPORT THE TRACK TEAM TRIP TO NATIONALS/OREGON; MICHAEL WATTS SECONDED. MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY: 8 AYES, 0 NAYS, 0 ABSTENTIONS. MS. ACKERMAN—AYE, MS. CUTRER—AYE, MR. LIONETTE—AYE, MR. MANTER—AYE, MS. MURPHY—AYE, MS. SCOTT—AYE, MS. SHERTZER—AYE & MR. WATTS—AYE.*

*SKIPPER MANTER MOVED TO APPROVE THE OVERNIGHT/OUT OF STATE TRAVEL FOR THE TRACK TEAM TRIP TO NATIONALS/OREGON; ROBERT LIONETTE SECONDED. MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY: 8 AYES, 0 NAYS, 0 ABSTENTIONS. MS. ACKERMAN—AYE, MS. CUTRER—AYE, MR. LIONETTE—AYE, MR. MANTER—AYE, MS. MURPHY—AYE, MS. SCOTT—AYE, MS. SHERTZER—AYE & MR. WATTS—AYE.*

**F. Renewal Affiliation Agreement MVRHS & Cape Cod Community College Nursing Program:**

*SKIPPER MANTER MOVED TO RENEW THE AGREEMENT; ROBERT LIONETTE SECONDED. MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY: 8 AYES, 0 NAYS, 0 ABSTENTIONS. MS. ACKERMAN—AYE, MS. CUTRER—AYE, MR. LIONETTE—AYE, MR. MANTER—AYE, MS. MURPHY—AYE, MS. SCOTT—AYE, MS. SHERTZER—AYE & MR. WATTS—AYE.*

**G. Transportation Department Training - Budget Transfer:**

Roxanne Ackerman, Chair of the Transportation Sub-Committee, said the plan was to have three professional development days for those that run the buses - training for the administration and the drivers after the school year ended. Mark Friedman said this was to improve retention and provide

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additional education; this training could continue on an annual basis; a training location was discussed to perhaps be off campus; 50 participants were anticipated.

*SKIPPER MANTER MOVED TO TRANSFER FROM THE UP ISLAND BUS ADMINISTRATION LINE \$25,140.00 TO TRANSPORTATION TRAINING; ROXANNE ACKERMAN SECONDED. MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY: 8 AYES, 0 NAYS, 0 ABSTENTIONS. MS. ACKERMAN—AYE, MS. CUTRER—AYE, MR. LIONETTE—AYE, MR. MANTER—AYE, MS. MURPHY—AYE, MS. SCOTT—AYE, MS. SHERTZER—AYE & MR. WATTS—AYE.*

**H. MVRHS MV Hospital MOA Waiver:**

Principal Dingley said this was a pilot program - a summer injury prevention program; much would be determined as the program evolved; this would be reviewed by the District Legal Counsel before moving this forward; the Hospital would work with students for injury prevention; she indicated there could be stipends for the Coaches.

*SKIPPER MANTER MOVED TO APPROVE THE PILOT PROGRAM PROVIDED IT HAS BEEN REVIEWED BY LEGAL COUNSEL; KELLY SCOTT SECONDED. MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY: 8 AYES, 0 NAYS, 0 ABSTENTIONS. MS. ACKERMAN—AYE, MS. CUTRER—AYE, MR. LIONETTE—AYE, MR. MANTER—AYE, MS. MURPHY—AYE, MS. SCOTT—AYE, MS. SHERTZER—AYE & MR. WATTS—AYE.*

**IV. Finance**

**A. Revenue and Expenditures**

Suzanne Cioffi shared the reports for Member review and answered questions when appropriate; she recapped payment activities to date and explained the outstanding payments; she said the revenues were following suit from previous years. Principal Dingley said the legal line included payments to the immigration attorney.

**V. SubCommittee Updates**

Mr. Friedman said the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Clean School Bus Program Grant/Up Island Regional School District had been waitlisted.

Michael Watts, Chair of the Facilities Sub-Committee (FacSubCom), provided updates including:

- Painting the parking lots
- Tennis court repairs (170 linear feet)
- Air Conditioning was running as expected
- Field work/upkeep and the water needs to keep them green
- Hiring of a new Custodian

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Principal Dingley expressed appreciation for the work done by the leadership of the FacSubCom, Rick Mellow and Mike Taus. She highlighted the [behind the scenes] team of Ms. Cioffi, Mr. Hart and John Stevens that meet twice a week, reviewing projects and monitoring the money put forth for preventative maintenance and capital projects and getting the processes and projects done the right way.

Chair Shertzer said sub-committee reorganization would happen at the next meeting as the Chairs for Land Use and Athletics were no longer on the Committee. Mr. Manter suggested offering Louis Paciello, former Chair of the Athletics Sub-Committee, to continue - Mr. Manter would contact Mr. Paciello.

Members discussed the structure of sub-committees and community involvement; it was determined that more review was needed.

**VI. Old/New Business**

Principal Dingley said the 'red lined' version of the Handbook was prepared well before the deadline; she thanked Assistant Principal Light and his team for pulling it together.

**VII. Topics Not Reasonably Anticipated by the Chair/Announcements**

None.

**VIII. Public Comment**

- ❖ Tony Peak at 7:32 PM, commented on the shelter's proximity to the MVRHS and to view this as an opportunity for the students. Mr. Peak asked for information on the School Building Committee (SBC) including a meeting schedule; Mr. Hart explained there was a page on the MVRHS website where updates were ongoing. <https://mvrhs.org/building-tomorrow-together/> Mr. Friedman offered to include Mr. Peak on SBC email distributions.

**IX. Adjournment**

*SKIPPER MANTER MOVED TO ADJOURN THE MVRHS SC MEETING AT 7:35 PM;  
ROXANNE ACKERMAN SECONDED. MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY:  
8 AYES, 0 NAYS, 0 ABSTENTIONS. MS. ACKERMAN—AYE, MS. CUTRER—AYE,  
MR. LIONETTE—AYE, MR. MANTER—AYE, MS. MURPHY—AYE, MS. SCOTT—AYE,  
MS. SHERTZER—AYE & MR. WATTS—AYE.*

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**Appendix A - Documents on File:**

1. Agenda MVRHS SC 6.3.24.docx
2. DRAFT MVRHS Student Handbook 24\_25.docx
3. III. A. DRAFT MVRHS SC Minutes April 1, 2024 Meeting.pdf
4. III. A. DRAFT MVRHS SC Minutes April 11, 2024 Special Meeting.pdf
5. III. A. DRAFT MVRHS SC Minutes January 25, 2024 Special Meeting.pdf
6. III. A. DRAFT MVRHS SC Minutes May 1, 2024 Special Meeting.pdf
7. III. A. DRAFT MVRHS SC Minutes May 6, 2024 Meeting.pdf
8. III. A. DRAFT MVRHS SC Minutes May 16, 2024 Special Meeting.pdf
9. II. B. 3. Lunch Letter Donation to Families.pdf
10. III. B. Muir Letter of Resignation.docx
11. III. B. MVRHS SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING CALENDAR 2024-2025.docx
12. III. E. Track Nationals.pdf
13. III. E. Williamsburg - 2025 PAD April 2025.pdf
14. III. E. Williamsburg.pdf
15. III. E. Portuguese Heritage Speakers Trip.pdf
16. III. E. Williamsburg - 2025 Festival Detailed Overview (1).pdf
17. III. F. Affiliation Agreement MVRHS & Cape Cod Community College Nursing Program.pdf
18. III. H. Consent and waiver.docx
19. III. H. MVYPS MOU.Injury Prevention.2024.draft.docx
20. IV. MVRHS General Fund Expenditures.pdf
21. IV. MVRHS Genral Fund Revenues.pdf
22. MVRHS SC 6.3.24 Zoom Recording.docx

**Respectfully submitted,**

  
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**Teresa Kruszewski – Recorder**

August 19, 2024  
\_\_\_\_\_  
**Date**

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**Kathryn Shertzer – MVRHS SC Chair**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Date**

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
**Richard M. Smith, Ed.D. – MVRHSD Superintendent**

8/19/24  
\_\_\_\_\_  
**Date**

**APPROVED AUGUST 19, 2024**