

MARTHA'S VINEYARD REGIONAL HIGH SCHOOL (MVRHS)
School Committee Meeting
Monday, January 6, 2025 at 5:30 pm
Library or Zoom

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

Staff: Principal – Sara Dingley, Information Technology (IT) Director – Rick Mello, 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 – Jason O'Donnell, Athletic Director – Mark McCarthy

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

Others: School Building Committee (SBC) Chair – Dion Alley

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

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

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

**Kelly Scott arrived at 5:33 PM.*

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. Welcome - Chair

The meeting of the Martha's Vineyard Regional High School Committee (MVRHS SC) was called to order at 5:32 PM by Chair Skipper Manter.

II. Routine Reports:

A. School Building Committee Update

Dion Alley recapped the job of the SBC, the stages, timelines and what was involved for the next steps in the process. Discussion included the value of an SBC Member attending MVRHS SC Meetings. All were in agreement that it would be beneficial to have an SBC member in attendance for a monthly recap; Mr. Alley ensured someone would be in attendance. He said communication and demystifying the process was beneficial for Members as well as for the towns/public – he underscored that this was an open process and encouraged everyone to attend meetings. Superintendent Richard M. Smith commended Mr. Alley for the work and time put forth and thanked him for leading the process; he was complementary to the team in place.

B. Student Report

1. Student Report of Activities

The President and Vice President of the Junior Class (The Class Officers) recapped the school

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activities leading up to the holiday break, including the winter concert. They reviewed the upcoming sports and activities including the upcoming midterms. Members discussed the swimmer that achieved record performance.

C. Principal

1. School Improvement Plan

Principal Sara Dingley and Justine DeOliveira reviewed the goals with the steps in place and those that continued to evolve as well as the timeline for the action steps; they indicated that a copy of this plan was available on the MVRHS website.

The Massachusetts Comprehensive Assessment System (MCAS) discussion included:

- ❖ Students that have tested and those that have not.
- ❖ A handful of students that did not pass - did not meet competency requirements. How do we now measure this/move forward with these students?
- ❖ The test will be used as a diagnostic tool, not a requirement for graduation.
- ❖ Steps that would be needed/plans for students and how the change with MCAS would impact the diploma/graduation requirements.
 - Principal Dingley said the diploma system would be presented to Members in the next weeks
- ❖ State standards and how that would be measured going forward.
- ❖ It was on the District how to measure competence going forward; this was a local driven decision, it would not go before Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE)

D. Superintendent Report

1. General Update

Superintendent Smith wished everyone a Happy New Year and hoped everyone had a great holiday season. He reviewed the date for the next All Island School Committee Meeting (AISC). (*Please see AISC meeting agenda/minutes for details.*) and said the budget presentations to each of the town Financial Committees (FinComs) would be held over the next weeks. He indicated that this was a negotiating year and that all had to be completed by June, 2025; the search for the Edgartown open position was underway.

III. Consents:

VOTES REQUIRED

A. Minutes: 9/9/24, 10/7/24, 10/11/24, 12/19/24

ROBERT LIONETTE MOVED TO APPROVE THE SEPTEMBER 9, 2024, OCTOBER 7, 2024, OCTOBER 11, 2024, DECEMBER 19, 2024/PUBLIC HEARING AND DECEMBER 19, 2024 MVRHS SC MINUTES AS WRITTEN; JENNIFER CUTRER SECONDED. MOTION PASSED WITH ABSTENTIONS AS ABSENT.

B. Personnel

Superintendent Smith read the resignation letter dated January 3, 2025 from Assistant Transportation Director, Anystatia Carter; the resignation was effective as of January 3, 2025.

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ROBERT LIONETTE MOVED TO ACCEPT THE RESIGNATION AS STATED BY SUPERINTENDENT RICHARD M. SMITH; 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.

1. Will Reich Leave Request

- ◆ William Reich in a letter dated December 31, 2024 wrote: I am writing to formally request paternity leave starting Thursday, February 20th...extend my leave through the week after, returning to work on Monday, March 3rd. This means I am requesting leave for a total of seven school days (February 20th, 21st, and February 24th through 28th).
- ◆ Jason Mazar-Kelly in a letter dated January 3, 2025 wrote: I am writing to request a leave of absence from 1/11/25 to 2/5/25, and an additional week in March from 3/15 to 3/22.

MICHAEL WATTS MOVED TO ACKNOWLEDGE THE LIST OF PERSONNEL AS STATED BY PRINCIPAL SARA DINGLEDY; 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.

2. Jason Mazar-Kelly Leave Request

(Please see above.)

3. Title 1 Posting

ROBERT LIONETTE MOVED TO APPROVE THE POSTING FOR ONE YEAR ONLY, ESL SUPPORT CLASS FUNDED THROUGH TITLE 1; 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.

C. Grants and Donations

1. Martha's Vineyard FY25 Rural Aid Award

Discussion included the timeframe in which the funds needed to be spent as well as how the funds would/could be spent, including the possibility for a K-8/K-12 regionalization process.

ROBERT LIONETTE MOVED TO ACCEPT THE FY25 RURAL AID AWARD IN THE AMOUNT OF \$437,549.08; KELLY SCOTT SECONDED. MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY: 9 AYES, 0 NAYS, 0 ABSTENTIONS. MS. ACKERMAN—AYE,

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*MS. CUTRER—AYE, MR. LIONETTE—AYE, MR. MALIK—AYE, MR. MANTER—AYE,
MS. MURPHY—AYE, MS. SCOTT—AYE, MS. SHERTZER—AYE & MR. WATTS—AYE.*

2. Photography Lighting Equipment by William “Liam” Carter

*KATHRYN SHERTZER MOVED TO ACCEPT THE PHOTOGRAPHY EQUIPMENT
DONATION; 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.*

D. Out of State and Overnight Travel

1. BSA Trip

Black Student Alliance

March 5th, 2026:

Pratt & Whitney Plant and Corporate Office, East Hartford, CT

*KATHRYN SHERTZER MOVED TO APPROVE THE MOVING FORWARD OF PLANNING
AND FUNDRAISING FOR THE OVERNIGHT/OUT OF STATE TRAVEL AS PRESENTED;
MICHAEL WATTS 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.*

2. CTE Trip - Retroactive Request

Career Technical Education

December 4 - 7, 2024: San Antonio, TX

*KATHRYN SHERTZER MOVED TO APPROVE THE RETROACTIVE REQUEST FOR THE
OVERNIGHT/OUT OF STATE TRAVEL FOR THE CAREER TECHNICAL EDUCATION
TRIP; 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.*

E. FY26 Budget Certification

Suzanne Cioffi reviewed changes since the Public Hearing, including the acceptance of the Rural Aid Grant which needed to be spent by June 30, 2025. *(Please see C. Grants and Donations, 1. Martha's Vineyard FY25 Rural Aid Award, above.)*

Electric bus options were discussed but determined not probable for this timeline.

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KATHRYN SHERTZER MOVED TO AMEND LINE ITEM #286 TO ADD \$15,000.00 FOR REFEREE INCREASES AND TRANSPORTATION REIMBURSEMENTS; ROBERT LIONETTE SECONDED. MOTION PASSED: 8 AYES, 1 NAYS, 0 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—NAY.

KATHRYN SHERTZER MOVED TO GIVE THE SCHOOL PERMISSION TO SPEND \$195,904.00 FOR THE TWO SPECIAL EDUCATION VANS FROM RURAL AID AND REDUCE FY 2026 LINE ITEM #396 BY \$195,904.00; 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.

*KATHRYN SHERTZER MOVED TO CERTIFY THE MARTHA'S VINEYARD REGIONAL HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR 2026, VERSION 8, AT:
- \$24,390,427.17 ASSESSED BUDGET (6.82 % INCREASE), AND
- \$29,560,540.17 TOTAL OPERATING EXPENSES (8.76 % INCREASE);
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 UTILIZE THE STATUTORY FORMULA FOR THE MARTHA'S VINEYARD REGIONAL HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT FISCAL YEAR 2026 BUDGET ASSESSMENT; 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.

IV. Finance:

A. Revenue and Expenditures

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

V. Subcommittee Updates:

A. Transportation

Roxanne Ackerman, Chair of the Transportation Sub-Committee (TranSubCom), said the TranSubCom recommended changing the meeting time to 5:30 PM from 8:00 AM.

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B. Facilities

Michael Watts, Chair of the Facilities Sub-Committee (FacSubCom), reviewed the directional drilling project, new boiler parts and fire alarms in the green house.

C. Athletics

Robert Lionette, Chair of the Athletics Sub-Committee (AthSubCom), said referee rates were increased and noted in the vote above. *(Please see: E. FY26 Budget Certification, first vote)*. Mr. Lionette said a logo discussion was to come - review of how it was used and how use was listed within policy. He said a Leadership Program would be presented to the full Committee in the upcoming months.

D. Budget

Chair Manter suggested a separate meeting to discuss the spending of the Martha's Vineyard FY25 Rural Aid Award.

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

Kathryn Shertzer said that quickly moving through the MCAS discussion was a miss. *(Please see above: B. Principal, 1. School Improvement Plan)*. She suggested having this discussion at future meetings.

Ms. Shertzer recommended that the VC run the meeting if the Chair was not able to be in the room. Chair Manter agreed, citing the difficulty of running a meeting remotely; he would have VC Rizwan Malik conduct the meeting in the future when he was unavailable in person.

VII. Old Business

A. Sub Committee Minute Taker

Robert Lionette said he would do some research along with Superintendent Smith and the school Administration.

VIII. Public Comment:

- ❖ Clark Rattet, at 7:28 PM, said he was assuming there would be no capital requests; Ms. Cioffi said there would be no capital project warrant requests for town meetings.

IX. Adjournment:

KATHRYN SHERTZER MOVED TO ADJOURN THE MVRHS SC MEETING AT 7:29 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.

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Appendix A - Documents on File:

1. Agenda MVRHS SC 1.6.25.docx
2. Zoom Recording 1.6.25_MVRHS SCHOOL COMMITTEE.docx
3. 1DRAFT MVRHS SC Minutes September 9, 2024.pdf
4. 2DRAFT MVRHS SC Minutes October 7, 2024.pdf
5. 3DRAFT MVRHS SC Minutes October 11, 2024 Special Meeting.pdf
6. 4DRAFT MVRHS SC Minutes December 19, 2024 Special Meeting.pdf
7. 5DRAFT MVRHS SC Public Hearing Minutes December 19, 2024 Meeting.pdf
8. III. B. 1. Will Reich.pdf
9. III. B. 2. Jason Mazar-Kelley.docx
10. III. C. 2. PHOTOGRAPHY LIGHTING EQUIPMENT 1.6.2025.pdf
11. III. D. 1. BSA 3_5 Out of State & Overnight Travel Form.docx.pdf
12. III. D. 2. LetterofJustificationVISION2024 (1) (1).docx.pdf
13. IV. A. MVRHS General Fund 1.6.2025.pdf
14. IV. A. MVRHS REVENUE 1.6.2025.pdf

Respectfully submitted,



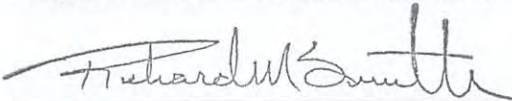
Teresa Kruszewski – Recorder

April 7, 2025

Date

Skipper Manter – MVRHS SC Chair

Date



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

4/15/25

Date

APPROVED April 7, 2025