



MARTHA'S VINEYARD REGIONAL HIGH SCHOOL

School Committee Meeting

Monday, August 3, 2026 at 5:30 pm

Library or Zoom

REVISED on 7/30/26

SECOND REVISION on 8/3/26

For More Information and Meeting Resources: [Click for Agenda Items](#)

Present: Chair - Skipper Manter, Marsha Shufrin, Elliott Bennett, Rizwan Malik*,
Kathryn Shertzer, Amy Houghton, Robert Lionette

Staff: Principal - Bryan Lombardi, Finance Director - Suzanne Cioffi, Director of Student
Affairs - Jared Andrews, Administrator of Special Education - Erinn Fauteux
Zoom: Former Principal - Sean Mulvey, Technology Director - Rick Mello*, Assistant
Transportation Director - Chyenne Ward*, Facilities Director - Jason O'Donnell

Supt's Office: Superintendent - Jaime Curley, School Business Administrator - Mark Friedman,
Assistant Superintendent - Ashley Lopes

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. Welcome - Chair

Chair Skipper Manter called this meeting to order at 5:30 pm.

Vote Required

II. Routine Reports

A. School Building Project

1. Update

Mark Friedman indicated that the School Building Committee did meet on July 21, 2026 but there were no other updates at this time. Amy Houghton did want to discuss 3 outstanding invoices from TAPPE and is seeking approval to pay them, which will be discussed later in the meeting.

2. Reconstruction of New School Building Committee, 9 Members Discussion and Possible Vote

A list of 9 people was shared to become the members of the reorganized School Building Committee, which includes Amy Houghton - School Committee, Jaime Curley - Superintendent, Ashley Lopes - Assistant Superintendent, Bryan Lombardi - Principal MVRHS, Jason O'Donnell - Facilities Director MVRHS, James Mahoney - Building Technology and Science, Billy Dillon - Mechanical Systems, Tracy Stead - Interior Design and Matt Coffee - Sustainability.

3. Martha's Vineyard Educators Association Representation Request on MVRHS School Building Project

Anna Cotton, a teacher at MVRHS and former President of the Martha's Vineyard Educators Association (MVEA) read a statement from the current Presidents of the MVEA, who were unable to attend this evening's meeting. The MVEA is requesting additional representation on the School Building Committee by Teaching staff from the

High School, as they have knowledge of the needs in the classrooms and building itself. **“Teachers understand the implications of adjacencies, structural and layout issues that impact classrooms and student programming and activities in the building, especially amongst various departments”**. Robert Lionette asked about the number of required positions from the MSBA, of which there are 4, a school committee member, the Superintendent, the school Principal and a MCPPO person, which refers to someone certified as a **Massachusetts Certified Public Purchasing Official** through the Office of the Inspector General, specifically holding credentials in **Design and Construction Contracting**, and in this case, is Facilities Director, Jason O’Donnell. Robert indicated that he would like to see other members of the community involved as well, but the school building committee is not the appropriate space, and instead would like to look to Administration on how best to develop a space for those communications and feedback. After a brief discussion the committee agreed that communications and feedback would be best presented by leadership to staff that is not during the School Building Committee meetings, but those are open meetings and staff is able to attend should they be available. *Robert Lionette made a motion to accept the recommendation from the School Building Committee for the nine positions and names associated, seconded by Marsha Shufrin. Roll Call: Shufrin - Aye, Lionette - Aye, Houghton - Abstain, Shertzer - Aye, Bennett - Aye, Malik - Aye, Manter - Nay. Motion Passes: 5-1-1*

B. Principal

1. General Update

Bryan discussed the upcoming 9th Grade Parent night which is next week, building cleaning is well underway, and position hiring is just about complete.

~~2. Discussion on Attendance~~

C. Superintendent

1. General Update

Jaime introduced Ashley Lopes, the Assistant Superintendent of Operations, who has been in public education for 10 years. Both Jaime and Ashley have worked together before for several years. Ashley introduced herself, with today being her first day, and is very excited to start. Jaime spoke about the Cabinet retreat and planning that occurred, visioning for the year was started, the Ed plan was discussed, co-teaching and inclusive practices were addressed. One the district attorneys attended to discuss Discipline, Bullying and Title IX topics. Today was the kickoff meeting for the transportation audit, where needs were discussed, including a list of documents needed to move forward, and the expectations. Robert asked for both Jaime and Bryan to bring their thoughts about the current Ed plan to an upcoming meeting, to see what goals may be different, and get their take on what is existing, and what could be included or changed.

Votes Required

III. Consents

A. Minutes: July 6, 2026 & July 17, 2026

Robert Lionette made a motion to approve the minutes of July 6, 2026, seconded by Amy Houghton. Roll Call: Shufrin - Abstain, Lionette - Abstain, Houghton - Aye, Shertzer - Aye, Bennett - Aye, Malik - Aye, Manter - Aye.

Motion Passes: 5-0-2

Robert Lionette made a motion to approve the minutes of July 17, 2026, seconded by Amy Houghton. Roll Call: Shufrin - Abstain, Lionette - Aye, Houghton - Aye, Shertzer - Aye, Bennett - Aye, Malik - Aye, Manter - Aye.

Motion Passes: 6-0-1

B. Personnel

An additional letter was received from Brumelha Magri, ESP, resigning from her position effective July 30, 2026.

1. Donna Bishop Retirement

Donna Bishop intends to retire at the end of the upcoming 26-27 school year. *Elliott Bennet made a motion to acknowledge the retirement of Donna Bishop, and the resignation of Brumelha Magri, seconded by Rizwan Malik. Roll Call: Shufrin - Aye, Lionette - Aye, Houghton - Aye, Shertzer - Aye, Bennett - Aye, Malik - Aye, Manter - Aye. Motion Passes: 7-0-0*

C. Grants and Donations

1. Grants for Acceptance

Mark Friedman presented a total of 8 grants for acceptance at today's meeting, most of which are referred to as Federal Entitlement Grants, Title Grants and SPED Grants. The first grant is the Early College Grant for \$120,000 which is a continuation of the early college program at the High School, where the current partner is Middlesex College. The amount last year was \$125,000 so this is a slight reduction. The next grant is a Perkins Grant, but not the standard annual one, in the amount of \$20,000 to focus on CTE frameworks, the details are still being worked out by the CTE department. The next grant is the Traditional Perkins Grant, in the amount of \$37,048 which has increased from \$35,000 from the previous year, typically used for Equipment and some Professional Development, details for use are still being worked out by the department. The next grants are for Title's I, II, II and IV totaling \$291,320 for the high school, as these grants are in their second year of going directly to each school, so there will be presentations at each of the elementary school committee meetings as well. The amount for the high school last year was \$299,359, so it is down about 5% from last year. The next set of grants are the SPED240 and SPED262 grants, totaling \$713,470 for this year, down from last year's about \$743,000. Hope MacLeod is working out the needs of those grants, given the reduction from last year. The next grant is the Early Childhood Grant which is a spend related grant fund0262, which has increased a little from last year, with the total this year being \$11,054. The next grant is from the Sound Foundation, which is the yoga grant, in the amount of \$46,503. The final grant for today is a private grant from Slough Farm for Humanities Professional Development in the amount of \$9,000. The total of all these grants presented is \$1,248,395.00. Amy Houghton asked how many Educator positions are funded by the title grants, to which Mark responded the Title I grant is generally used to partially fund a position, but not full fund. The SPED240 Grant funds between 6-7 positions, which is why Hope is trying to come up with a plan for those, given the reduction. Amy also asked how many of the grants presented tonight required a formal application, to which Mark responded the SPED grants are submitted to DESE with detailed plans for their use, with the goal to have those plans submitted in the month of August, as they will ultimately need to be approved by DESE. Robert asked for clarification with regards to the annual Perkins Grant, now having language about understanding the rights and responsibilities of American citizens, and what that means for the grant, to which Mark responded he will have to look further into that before responding but did acknowledge this is part of the grant, but is unsure how much is allocated towards that responsibility. *Marsha Shufrin made a motion to accept these grants as outlined by Mark Friedman, seconded by Amy Houghton. Roll Call: Shufrin - Aye, Lionette - Aye, Houghton - Aye, Shertzer - Aye, Bennett - Aye, Malik - Aye, Manter - Aye.*

Motion Passes: 7-0-0

D. Out-of-State and Overnight Travel

No travel to discuss at this meeting.

E. New M.G.L. Chapter 30 B Procurement Thresholds - Review and Possible Vote

Mark Friedman started a screen share to discuss the procurement thresholds, of which there is a change to the procurement threshold for municipal and regional school districts. For school purchases, the formal sealed bid requirement now begins at \$100,000, up from the previous \$50,000 cap, which was also the internal policies cap. The Massachusetts Uniform Procurement Act structures local purchasing for supplies and services into the following tiers:

- **Up to \$10,000: Sound business practices** are required. You should ensure you receive favorable pricing, though formal competition is not mandatory.
- **\$10,000 to \$100,000:** Procurement officers must solicit **written price quotations** from at least 3 vendors and document the details.
- **Over \$100,000: Formal competitive sealed bidding** or proposals (IFB/RFP) are required. You must advertise this publicly, including on COMMBUYS and the state's Goods and Services Bulletin.

There will be minimal effect to the district but with increasing discussions on trying to coordinate purchasing more centrally, Professional Development, copier contracts or school lunch programs as examples, those types of purchasing would put the district over the \$50,000 and would allow more flexibility in getting the right vendors. *Amy Houghton made a motion to increase the threshold to \$100,000, seconded by Rizwan Malik. Roll Call: Shufrin - Aye, Lionette - Aye, Houghton - Aye, Shertzer - Aye, Bennett - Aye, Malik - Aye, Manter - Aye. Motion Passes: 7-0-0*

Vote Required

IV. Finance

Amy Houghton brought to the attention of the committee three June and July 2026 invoices that are in need of payment to TAPPE Architects for their work. These invoices were not addressed at the most recent School Building Committee meeting but TAPPE has reached out requesting payment. The invoices in question are 260705 in the amount of \$300,625.00, 260706 in the amount of \$951,979.00 and 26505 in the amount of \$40,201.91, bringing the entire total due to \$1,292,805.91. These bills cannot be paid without the approval of the School Committee, and are normally filtered through the School Building Committee first, but have at least been vetted by CHA, the owners representative. A lot of these bills are for geotechnical startup and scheduling, therefore they have been paid out by TAPPE. Skipper asked what account this would be coming from, to which Mark Friedman responded that this would be a new fund for this phase of the project, “we have a meeting scheduled with our partners to go through the specific steps on this to make sure that this is being set up correctly”. Generally these types of invoices go to CHA, who then sends to the School Building Committee for approval, who then sends along to the School Committee for approval. The feasibility study was set up in a way that this was the protocol, but it is not set up to give the School Building Committee that sort of authority for this phase of the project that Mark is aware of. Further clarification is needed, as Skipper was unaware that all bills for the remaining parts of the project will now have to be approved by the School Committee. Skipper indicated that he feels as though the School Building Committee should have that authority given their direct information on the project. Kathryn asked whether these would be paid, to which Mark replied that that is still being worked out with the Bond Council but there are undesignated funds that could be used, though those would be taken up quickly with these amounts. The borrowing is authorized, the updated cash flow from the project team is with the financial advisors at Unibank and they are currently working on the best short term borrowing schedule. Skipper asked Mark to look into whether these invoices will need approval of both committees moving forward before payments can be made. *Kathryn Shertzer made a motion to approve invoices 26505 dated June 30, 2026 in the amount of \$40,201.91, 260705 dated July 31, 2026 in the amount of \$300,625.00, 260706 dated July 31, 2026 in the amount of \$951,979.00 pending School Building Committee also approving these invoices, seconded by Robert Lionette. Roll Call: Shufrin - Aye, Lionette - Aye, Houghton - Aye, Shertzer - Aye, Bennett - Aye, Malik - Aye, Manter - Aye.*

Motion Passes: 7-0-0

A. Revenue and Expenditures

Suzanne has just about closed out FY26, but there are a couple outstanding items, one is the Student Activities account and the other is Revolving account. She will plan to present those during the September 2026 meeting. At this time Skipper suggested the printing of finance documents should be done quarterly instead of monthly, but digital access will be available monthly. Amy Houghton asked about the unsigned vouchers remaining from FY26, and whether those prevent FY26 from being closed, to which Suzanne responded she would have to

reach out to the auditor, Joe, at CliftonLarsonAllen (CLA). Skipper also asked if this would take longer to get certified if there are issues, to which Suzanne said she would also ask that question.

B. FY25 Audit Scheduling Presentation

This has been moved to the October 2026 meeting.

V. Subcommittee Updates

A. Re-Organizing Subcommittee Membership for FY27

Skipper spoke to the committee regarding his thoughts on the number of subcommittees and if there may be a way to combine or disassemble some, given some were created for a specific purpose and that purpose has likely been met. Amy Houghton indicated that the Facilities Subcommittee is planning a meeting soon, to address some needs, but can reach out to Jason and see if those needs can be addressed with the full committee. Robert indicated that he thinks each of these subcommittees should have goals because the school committee inserted themselves into these areas due to previous deficits. Robert addressed Bryan, asking him to meet with these subcommittees to establish goals and objectives and if there is a need to be supported by the committee in a way that makes sense, and addresses needs, instead of the committee inserting themselves where there may no longer be a deficit. The Facilities Subcommittee was created to address building needs at the time, for example, there were no fire doors, of which there now are. These subcommittees should also revisit what goals they had originally had, and have all of those truly been addressed. Transportation was originally created to understand the capital investment of reinvigorating the fleet. The committee will leave it up to Bryan to meet with the chairs of each of the subcommittees, and provide recommendations about which should continue and in what way, and can be discussed at the next meeting. Kathryn mentioned the thought of the School Committee meeting twice per month if the subcommittees are going to be disbanded, as there is so much business to discuss already in the once monthly meeting. Skipper agreed that may be a possibility, especially given the building project and what those needs are going to be moving forward.

B. Transportation

No update at this meeting.

C. Facilities

No update at this meeting.

D. Athletics

No update at this meeting.

E. Budget

No update at this meeting.

F. Audit

No update at this meeting.

G. Schedule First Subcommittee Meeting

No update at this meeting.

VI. Topics Not Reasonably Anticipated by the Chair/Announcements

Amy encouraged everyone that could, to attend Convocation on September 2 as it is a great way to meet new and returning staff.

VII. Public Comment

No public comment for this meeting.

Vote Required

VIII. Adjournment

Kathryn Shertzer made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Amy Houghton. Roll Call: Shufrin - Aye, Lionette - Aye, Houghton - Aye, Shertzer - Aye, Bennett - Aye, Malik - Aye, Manter - Aye.

Motion Passes: 7-0-0

Appendix A: Documents on File

1. V. A. MVRHS SC Members 26-27
2. TAPPE #260706 July 2026 -Martha's Vineyard Regional High School
3. TAPPE #260705 June 2026 -Martha's Vineyard Regional High School
4. TAPPE #26505 June 2026 - Martha's Vineyard Regional High School
5. III E. Chapt 30B Increased Three Quote Limit to \$100K - 6-17-2026 (3)
6. III. C. 1. MVRHS School Committee Acceptance list 08032026
7. III. B. Brumelha Magri Resignation Lttr
8. III. B. 1. Donna Bishop Retirement Lttr 7.7.26
9. II. A. 3. Statement on Building Project Rep 7_2026
10. II. A. 2. MSBA SBC_Template_2025
11. II. A. 2. SBC Recommended List Reorganized SBC Membership - 7-21-2026
12. DRAFT MVRHSSC Minutes 071726
13. DRAFT MVRHSSC Minutes 070626
14. Agenda MVRHS SC 8.3.26
15. 8.3.26 MVRHS SC Meeting Zoom Recording

Appendix B: Zoom AI Next Steps

1. Suzanne: Print out the budget and finance report for quarterly review, while still providing access to the information monthly.
2. Suzanne: Reach out to the auditor (Joe at Houghton Larson) to clarify the impact of unsigned warrants and vouchers on closing the books for FY26 and provide an update.
3. Bryan: Work with the chairs of each subcommittee to audit the existing subcommittees, establish goals and objectives, and make recommendations on which subcommittees should continue or be disbanded.
4. Bryan and/or Joan: Ensure avenues for teacher and staff input on the building project, including open forums and communication of updates.
5. School Building Committee: Approve the outstanding invoices from TAPE (invoice numbers 260505, 260705, 260706) pending the approval of the School Committee.
6. School Committee: Approve the motion to increase the procurement threshold for three written quotes from \$50,000 to \$100,000.
7. School Committee: Approve the acceptance of the 8 grants totaling \$1,248,395 as presented.
8. School Committee: Approve the personnel actions for Donna Bishop's retirement and Bromella McGri's resignation.
9. School Committee: Vote to acknowledge the slate of members for the School Building Committee as presented.
10. Administration (Bryan/Superintendent): Schedule a separate meeting for the presentation of the transportation audit findings, potentially in October.