



EDGARTOWN SCHOOL COMMITTEE

**Wednesday, May 12, 2021– 5:00pm – via Zoom
AGENDA**

- I. Approval of Minutes from April 14, 2021**
- II. PTA Report**
- III. Finance Report**
 - A. Finance Report
 - B. Donations
 - C. Elevator Warrant
- IV. Superintendent's Report**
 - A. All Island School Committee
 - B. Reopening Update
- V. Principal's Report**
 - A. Special Events and End of Year Activities
 - B. Enrollment
 - C. Personnel
 - 1. Retirement
- VI. Public Comment**
- VII. New/Old Business**
- VIII. Schedule Next Meeting(s)**
- IX. Adjournment**

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://mvyps.zoom.us/j/86027325918>

Meeting ID: 860 2732 5918

Dial by your location

+1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)

+1 646 558 8656 US (New York)

EDGARTOWN SCHOOL COMMITTEE MINUTES

Wednesday, May 12, 2021 – 5:00pm– Via Zoom

Those present were; Chairperson Megan Anderson, Member Kelly McCracken, Member Kimberly Kirk, Matt D'Andrea (Superintendent), Richie Smith (Asst. Superintendent), Shelley Einbinder (Principal), MaryAnn Bartlett (Asst. Principal), Mark Friedman (School Business Administrator), Dale Burcalow, Deb DeBettencourt, Gina deBettencourt, Mollie Doyle, Jennifer Fournier, Alicia Knight, Brooke Leahy, Louis Paciello, Michelle Pikor, Laia Roig, Nichole Shank, George Story, Tara Sykes, Rebekah Thomson, and Lizzie Ward .

I. Approval of minutes from April 14, 2021

On a motion by Kelly McCracken, seconded by Kimberly Kirk, the committee approved the minutes of the April 14, 2021 meeting by way of roll call vote.

II. PTA Report

The drive-in on May 7 & 8, 2021 was a success. Approximately 30-50 tickets were sold for each night. This fun community event was presented in collaboration with the MV Film Festival.

A grab & go lunch was presented to all teachers and staff in honor of Teacher Appreciation Week.

Tickets for raffle baskets are still available. The winners will be picked on field day.

This will be the last year of the Stop & Shop A+ Rewards program. These rewards, around \$5,000, were used to pay for the Scholastic News subscriptions. The corporate side of Stop & Shop, not the local, has decided to focus on more of a community food pantry.

The receipts from Vineyard Propane are still being sent to the school but being entered into the system manually. It is dependent on the customer to take the initiative to do it on-line. The same process goes for Box Tops for Education.

The next meeting is scheduled for June 8, 2021 at 4:00pm via Zoom.

III. Finance Report

A. Finance Report

The monthly expenditure and fund balance reports were shared with the Committee prior to the meeting. Mr. Friedman feels that the budget is in reasonably good shape and should end the year without going over budget.

The overage in the administration area related to contractual obligations and the administrator retirement last summer will be covered by other positive balances in this area.

The Kindergarten department overage will be off-set by the positive balance in the Elementary Teachers line. There is a variety of overage/underage throughout the other instructional areas of the school that will balance each other out. The budget continues to be exceeded in the Utilities area, specifically power, light and telephone. The fuel oil line may go over budget depending on how much is left in the encumbrance. There are monies elsewhere in budget to cover these overages.

Due to unanticipated and unbudgeted placements, the Residential Expense line is projected over budget by almost \$190,000. Nancy Dugan has submitted an application to the State for Circuit Breaker Extraordinary Relief. The exact amount was not known prior to the meeting, however, Ms. Dugan received an indication that it would be in the range to cover the overage.

The Fund Balance report looks healthy and with good balances going into end of year: School Choice fund = \$134,955.72 and the Revolving Lunch fund = \$62,344.88.

B. Donations

1. Edgartown School PTA

A donation from the Edgartown School PTA was received in the amount of \$550.00 for the Edgartown School Class of 2021 towards the purchase of graduation t-shirts.

On a motion by Kelly McCracken, seconded by Kimberly Kirk, the Committee accepted the donation with gratitude by way of roll call vote.

2. MV Striped Bass and Bluefish

An unrestricted donation from the MV Striped Bass and Bluefish Derby was received in the amount of \$700.00. The funds are to be used to help children and families in need, as determined by school administration and guidance.

On a motion by Kelly McCracken, seconded by Kimberly Kirk, the committee accepted the donation with gratitude by way of roll call vote.

3. The Field Fund

Ms. Thomson gave a short presentation on the history of the Field Fund. She stated that in 2017, the founders of the Field Fund, Rebekah Thomson, Mollie Doyle, and Dardy Slavin, reached out to the school regarding the chronic drainage issue plaguing the field and playground areas.

The Principal at that time allowed them to informally donate resources for field maintenance. After a recent discussion with the Edgartown Town Administrator, the Field Fund was redirected to the School Committee as the proper authority to formally propose any action to the fields. They would like to continue by formally offering a reoccurring gift of aeration, fertilization and seeding.

Ms. Thomson acknowledged that the town has informed the Field Fund of reconfigurations in progress for the Edgartown School campus. In that case, they would pause and reassess. In an effort to continue progress, perhaps the donation could be in smaller segments. Some teachers and staff had praise for the work done by the Field Fund and the current condition of the fields.

Chairperson Anderson thanked The Field Fund for everything they have provided for the Edgartown School fields and greatly appreciated the offer of a reoccurring donation. There have been many discussions with the Town regarding the next steps in a long-range plan, so the committee needs to be conscious of changes on the horizon that may immediately impact the fields. Due to the timing constraints that the Field Fund are currently under for ordering supplies, at this time the Board will take action for the immediate future.

On a motion by Kelly McCracken, seconded by Kimberly Kirk, the committee postponed the vote indefinitely by way of roll call vote.

C. Elevator Warrant

One of the warrant articles that the town will take action on at their annual meeting on May 22, 2021 at 1.00pm is Warrant Article #35 – a request for funds to renovate and modernize the school's main elevator. The article was recommended by the Finance Advisory Committee. The language on the warrant reads "To see if the Town will vote to appropriate from Free Cash, for expenditure in Fiscal Year 2022, the sum of \$200,948.00 for elevator modernization and renovation or take any other action thereto". A portion of the wording of the article was highlighted, '...for expenditure in Fiscal Year 2022', because of its restriction on spending by the end of June 2022. In order to do this particular project, the building cannot be in use. This would limit the work to the summer, July and August. The school has been in contact with an

elevator repair company that is on a State contract to complete the work before school resumes in September. The school has been unsuccessful in securing that assurance. Mr. Friedman suggested that the committee consider submitting a motion to amend the article removing '...for expenditure in Fiscal Year 2022' in the event the work cannot be completed before school commences. There is a question on procurement even though there is a State contract available which allows them to bypass procurement procedures, which can take 4-6 weeks to put a project like this out to bid. There are some limitations in the State contract, but he is not sure that they apply in this case.

On a motion by Kimberly Kirk, seconded by Kelly McCracken, the Committee approved to amend the motion on the floor of the Town meeting to remove the restrictive language '...for expenditure in Fiscal Year 2022' by way of roll call vote.

IV. Superintendent's Report

A. All Island School Committee (AISC)

The next meeting of the AISC is on May 13, 2021 at 6:00pm. The agenda includes salary adjustments, Project Headway, a revote of next year's calendar, and the voting of a new district physician.

B. Re-Opening Update

All schools are fully in-person. It is estimated that the Department of Education will be putting out guidance by July 1, 2021 regarding next year. The plan for September is to be fully in-person.

Testing continues and has been very helpful in getting everyone back and staying in school. The cost of running the testing is roughly \$50,000 per month. Sheryl Taylor (Grant Coordinator) and Mark Friedman (School Business Administrator) applied to the State and were awarded a \$48,000 grant to help pay for the testing program.

There have been two vaccination clinics sponsored by the Martha's Vineyard Hospital. The majority of staff has received their vaccinations. Many high school students have also been vaccinated. Information will be sent to families of students ages 12-15 on the vaccine and how to access it.

V. Principal's Report

A. Special Events and End of Year Activities

There are a number of special events and end of year activities taking place over the next six weeks that are in various stages of planning:

- *May 24 & May 26: Ropes Course for Grade 8

- *May 28: March to the Sea – only Grades 7 & 8 will march. They will recite the Gettysburg Address and "Oh, Captain, My Captain".

- *June 1 – 3: Class of 2021 field trips:

- to Aquinnah & Menemsha to view the cliffs, seafood tasting on Dutcher's dock, and the rest of the day on the beach

- to Oak Bluffs for kayaking and shell fishing

- biking to the Edgartown Lighthouse for a tour, to Mytoi Garden on Chappaquiddick for a picnic, and then back to town for ice cream!

The following were thanked for their support: the PTA, for partial funding of the trip; the Museum, for their time; the Trustees of the Reservations, for free entry (for education purposes); Island Spirit Kayaks, for the free use of their kayaks (instructors will be paid); and Michelle Pikor, for coordinating the use of bikes and helmets for those that didn't have them.

- *June 9 – Recognition Day – although it will be modified, scrolls will still be presented as well as the slideshow presentation. T-shirts and masks have been created, pictures will be taken in fancy dress (like they do on the Washington, DC dinner cruise), and a car parade is

in the process of being organized.

*June 10 – Graduation dress rehearsal at the Tabernacle and luncheon

*June 11 – Graduation at the Tabernacle – the location was voted on by the Class of 2021 so that more family could be invited

*June 14 - “Wet & Wild” Field Day– a modified version was approved by Matt Poole (Board of Health). All cohorts will stay together from station to station. Gina’s famous barbeque will be a highlight.

B. Enrollment

The total enrollment as of May 12, 2021 is 380 students with 9 pending. Of this amount, 354 students are in-person and 26 are remote.

C. Personnel

1. Retirement

Dr. Einbinder presented the retirement of Maria Mackenty effective at the close of the school year.

On a motion by Kelly McCracken, seconded by Kimberly Kirk, the Committee thanked Ms. Mackenty for her 20 years of service and accepted her retirement with extreme gratitude by way of roll call vote.

VI. Public Comment

Lizzie Ward asked when it might be permitted for the whole 2nd grade to play kickball together instead of just in cohorts. Dr. D’Andrea advised that DESE will inform the Superintendents when it will be permitted. The Superintendent’s cabinet will meet and then the school will be informed.

VII. New/Old Business

The Edgartown Town Meeting is scheduled for May 22, 2021 at 1:00pm under the tent on school grounds.

After nine years on the School Committee, Chairperson Anderson announced that this was her last official meeting. Seeing as neither Member Kirk nor Member McCracken could take on the position in totality, it was suggested that they become co-chairpersons.

On a motion by Kelly McCracken, seconded by Kimberly Kirk, the Committee approved Kelly McCracken and Kimberly Kirk as co-chairpersons of the School Committee by way of roll call vote.

VIII. Schedule Next Meeting(s)

The next meeting of the Edgartown School Committee has been scheduled for Wednesday, June 16, 2021 at 8:00am via Zoom.

IX. Adjournment

Respectfully submitted,

Ken Romero
Secretary to the Committee

