



EDGARTOWN SCHOOL COMMITTEE

REVISED

Wednesday, November 10, 2021– 4:30pm

Staff Dining Room

AGENDA

- I. Approval of Minutes from October 6, 2021**
- II. PTA Report**
- III. Finance Report**
 - A. Finance Report
 - B. FY23 Town Budget Schedule
 - C. FY23 Capital Requests
- IV. Superintendent's Report**
 - A. Student Transportation Policy –2nd Reading
 - B. Substitute Pay
- V. Principal's Report**
 - A. Dhakir Warren, Executive Director of the Boys & Girls Club
 - B. SELIS Survey
 - C. Enrollment
 - D. Personnel
 - 1. New Hires
 - 2. Leave of Absences
 - E. Out of State Conference Request
- VI. Public Comment**
- VII. New/Old Business**
- VIII. Schedule Next Meeting(s)**
- IX. Adjournment**



EDGARTOWN SCHOOL COMMITTEE
Wednesday, November 10, 2021– 4:30pm
Staff Dining Room

Present: Co Chairs: Kimberly Kirk and Kelly McCracken, and Louis Paciello,
Others: Supt., Dr. Matthew D'Andrea, Asst. Supt. for Curriculum & Instr., Dr. Richie Smith,
Principal Dr. Shelley Einbinder, School Business Administrator, Mark Friedman, Dir. Student
Support, Hope McLeod, Dhakir Warren, Executive Director of the Martha's Vineyard Boys and
Girls Club, Norman Rankow, Martha's Vineyard Boys and Girls Club President, Barbara-jean
Chauvin, Martha's Vineyard Boys and Girls Club Director of Operations, Brooke Leahy, PTA
President, Nedine Cunningham, Social Studies Teacher
Recorder, MaryAnn Bartlett, AP

The meeting was called to order by Kimberly Kirk at 4:34.

I. Approval of Minutes from October 6, 2021 (agenda item #1)

Kelly McCracken made a motion to approve the minutes and Louis Pasciello seconded.
There was no discussion, comments or changes.
The motion passed: 3 Ayes, 0 Nays

Presentation by Representatives from the Martha's Vineyard Boys and Girls Club (moved up on
the agenda due to a scheduling conflict) Dhakir Warren, Executive Director, Norman Rankow,
President, Barbara-jean Chauvin, Director of Operations

Kelly McCracken said that ESC members met on November 9, 2021 to review the Martha's
Vineyard Boys and Girls Club (the Club) project.

Mr. Rankow gave some background on the project. This has been in process for a year and a
half. The Club purchased 21 acres from the Norton Family at a discounted price. In partnership
the town purchased 4.6 acres for a future expansion to the cemetery and the Club also donated 2
acres as part of a negotiated agreement to have an access easement for the Club to get to the
parcel. They are in the boots in the ground process of building the project and have had several
design process meetings locating and orienting the building. They are $\frac{2}{3}$ of the way in the capital
campaign.

There was a proposed access road to the northern lot which was the easiest access and there was
going to be a buffer to screen out the neighbors. Through a negotiation with the town and the
neighbors it was decided to reroute the road and it now bisects the rec park. It was not the
proposal of the Club and the road was placed there. It was part of the agreement with the town.
There is a plan created and Kelly McCracken had a copy at the meeting. This is not the best plan
but the Club is willing to work with all involved. The Club is willing to move the road. A change
needs to be made soon if it is going to happen because they hope to break ground in April. The

building is falling apart more every day and delaying a year is undesirable. It will take a collective show of support in order to make changes because the group that made the plans is unlikely to change the plans.

Kelly McCracken said that when the ESC met on November 9 and walked the path where the road was planned through the field and through the tennis courts, the group tried to think of a reason why that was the best way to route the road and they could not think of one. The officials at the town were not receptive to the idea of changing the route.

The school is being impacted more than any other party. It is disappointing to know that no one from the town brought it to the attention of the School Committee. A member of the Parks Department advised the ESC to review the plans and to look at where the stakes were set out. Even though the meetings were public, no one from the town reached out directly to ESC. The road impacts on the field and the playground.

Kelly McCracken asked that the ESC revisit the decision for running the road there soon. She asked for support from the committee and school administration in this effort.

Louis Pasciello asked if there is the possibility of using a temporary road while the decision is being made and asked for clarification if this is the place where the final road will be located. The answer is that yes, there is a possibility of using part of the cemetery temporarily during construction for the clearing of the lot, but that now, the intention is to have the road that is in the design be the permanent road. Another option would be the use of the same area that was originally proposed for the road in the first place in order to access the lot during construction. It was also pointed out that the Club invited the ESC to look at plans early on. Kelly McCracken agreed that the ESC was invited but that the town never pointed out the impact on the school.

Louis Pasciello asked what is the biggest impact on the school. The answer was both play space and safety. The road is a 30 foot layout. The Club needs to provide a 16-18' paved path, and a bike or walking paved path and the berm. If you added another 10 or 20 feet as a buffer it would be more than 30 feet.

Louis Pasciello asked if the plan was to build the road to completion to asphalt before the construction is completed. The answer is that no, during construction there would only be a dirt road with temporary fencing but there would be construction trucks and dirt. The project would last at least a year. The town has already closed the rec area tennis courts to the public. The plan is to rebuild the town tennis courts. The new road also causes the town to move the tennis courts which is more expensive than rebuilding them where they already are and the base is there. The road cuts the park in half instead of going around the perimeter. And the town has voted previously to rebuild the courts at a great cost due to the placement of the road also.

Kimberly Kirk asked what the timeline for building was. The answer was if all goes to plan the Club hopes to break ground in September. The question was asked by Kimberly Kirk how the building project would impact the school. The answer was that it would create a lot of dust and, in the end, it looks good but in the meanwhile it is messy. It is impossible to build during a short day. There are 2 times during the day that are 25 minutes long when traffic is an issue. In the

future those discussions about traffic issues can happen.

Kelly McCracken made a motion that, due to the substantial impact of this road going through the property of the school field, that the ESC engage the town in discussion of possible changes of the road placement.

Louis Pasciello seconded.

In the discussion Louis Pasciello asked how that process would work. The answer was that the two lots could be flipped. The town could use the same road, not affect national heritage, or the deeds. If the town and the Club agree to the change in the easement they can change the access.

The town needs access to the town parcel. It's doable in either scenario. The town has the right to use the easement.

Superintendent Dr. Matt D'Andrea asked if this decision on the change in location of the road is a selectman vote. Kelly McCracken answered she believed so. Mr. Rankow said there were a lot of moving parts to make the deal work. The initial plan was to run the road in front of the current Club. There was a decision made to change that plan due to two neighboring Edgartown families' objections. A meeting with the families and the Club representatives was called off at the last minute. The plan after that was changed. Matt D'Andrea asked if Mr. Rankow was aware of a selectboard meeting to change the road and a vote was taken. Mr. Rankow was not in Edgartown at the time. Kimberly Kirk remembers that there was a meeting but she doesn't remember a vote being taken. Matt D'Andrea asked if, under the original plan, were the tennis courts going to be revamped? The answer was that Mr. Rankow did not know. He knew that original road plan would have caused the ball field to be moved but the tennis courts wouldn't have been moved. Matt D'Andrea asked who is paying for the new tennis courts and the answer was the town. The Club contributes financially for other items - a total of 18 - on the MOU in order to create the new building.

Kelly McCracken stated that part of the conversation with the town would be to ask in a letter, with information about how that this impacts the school, and what is the process for looking at this road? Louis Pasciello stated that he didn't want to impact the Club negatively and to delay their building process. Before the recent spray paint was put on the field Ms. Kirk did not think that people understood what the effects of the placement were.

Mr. Rankow suggested that the decision should be discussed in a meeting with all parties. Dhakir Warren also said they need to know in 2 or 3 months but they want to do what is best for the plan.

Kelly McCracken said this is not a selfish decision on the part of the school. It is about savings to be made with a change in the location of the road.

Brooke Leahy, PTA President, stated that parents should be involved in any conversation about the road placement and asked that the PTA and parents be notified. She asked if the ESC would notify the PTA if there is a meeting that takes place about this in the future.

A question was asked if the correct approach was to ask the discussion to be put on the Selectmen's meeting agenda. James Hagerty advised Kelly McCracken to write a letter and get the discussion on the agenda. Building plans change all the time and the ESC wants the Edgartown School to be in a safe place. It is not anyone's fault and the ESC wants to move forward and find a better way for the kids, the Club, the taxpayers and the town.

Mr. Rankow stated that it is always best to include the two abutters who are also stakeholders. He suggested walking the plans outside and discussing ways to mitigate the effects. Kelly McCracken stated no matter what there is going to be noise, either playground or road noise. The ESC needs to weigh what would be the greater good.

Kimberly Kirk suggested that perhaps there is time and perhaps there was some transparency that should have been in place. It is time to engage the community in the process.

The motion passed with 2 ayes and Kimberly Kirk abstaining because she serves on the board of the Martha's Vineyard Boys and Girls Club.

Kimberly Kirk invited the representatives of the Club to return to inform the ESC about programming and new things happening at the club.

II. PTA Report (agenda item #2, returning to the original order)

Brooke Leahy, PTA president, reported that there are now 50 members since the last meeting and about 50% of those are staff. They would like to encourage more families to join. The PTA surveyed the staff and families and they will use the surveys to inform what they do.

Today, November 10, the PTA supplied coffee and pastries in the lobby in the morning. They also supplied a message of appreciation created by Card My Yard, "Thank you Edgartown Staff". This was an impromptu effort to brighten everyone's day and to show appreciation.

They hope to include more families and the Brazilian community. Ms. Leahy thanked everyone.

The next meeting is on Tuesday, November 16 at 5:30, at 17 Winter Street, 2nd Floor, above Sea Spa.

III. Finance Report (agenda item #3)

A. Finance Report

Mark Friedman, School Business Administrator, reported. The ES expense report is in a slightly different format. Financially the school is in good shape and not much significant affecting the FY 22 budget. Vacancies are generating savings in the line items. Once the staffing hiring is complete and those budgets encumbered there will be changes.

In the Fund Balance Report there is \$153,000 in School Choice, the Revolving Lunch Fund shows \$60,000. Not many significant needs.

B. FY23 Town Budget Schedule

The Edgartown Town operating budget scheduling was discussed. Per the town budget schedule there are a couple of dates:

November 17, initial meeting with the Town Board and the ESC to learn the overall budget process.

November 19, is when the capital requests for next year need to be submitted.

December 23, is when the town would like the budget requests back. James Hagerty said that if the ESC needs a little more time the deadline could be pushed to the beginning of January at the latest.

At the next ESC meeting there should be a well-drafted budget, it will not be a level-serviced budget. It will be presented in advance and the ESC can consider it, ask questions, and Mr. Friedman can get the answers to the ESC in an additional meeting in December. If that timeline works it will allow the ESC to get the budget to the town on time.

C. FY23 Capital Requests

The town has requested to get any capital requests submitted by November 19. In meetings with Principal Dr. Einbinder the capital requests were reviewed. There were small requests that were put into last year's request and similar items seemed to be presented each year. The town requested that these be put in a line item so that each time the small projects do not have to be brought to the town. This has been done and a \$45,000 line item has been added.

In addition a warrant was created for the elevator. Now the town is putting that out to bid. Another project that was alerted to the town was the playground equipment replacement. The dollar estimate was \$350,000 and that quote is a couple years old. The plan is to be delayed because there are a number of components that need to be addressed. Shipping, construction, and demolition costs need to be considered. Dr. Einbinder recommends postponing the playground project for a year in order to form a committee. Mark Friedman stated that the year delay will give time to vet the costs fully. It will not be presented to the annual town meeting in spring 2022.

There is a project that should be presented to the town. Dr. Einbinder and Mr. Friedman met with Alan Strahler and he gave the ESC a report that was created in 2020 with proposals and recommended projects for saving energy. A handout was reviewed that iterated seven projects. A one-page handout that listed the projects was distributed. Rhys Engineering has reviewed this. It costs the school nothing. These projects have a very good payback in energy efficiency and the reduction of costs. The LED project is the most expensive. It would be a 100,000 project but Cape Light compact would pay \$77,000. The town would have a small portion too. The payback is significant as in the other projects. The LED and DCV projects are the most highly recommended and would cost @ \$35,000. If the school did all 7 projects it would be closer to \$45,000.

Mr. Friedman asked if the ESC wants the school to ask the town to support the two or all of the projects. Mr. Friedman also said there was an idea for the town to use Green Communities money towards these projects but it didn't seem likely at this time according to James Hagerty of the town. The recommendation from James Hagerty was to ask the town for the money.

Louis Pasciello asked if there is a facility manager at the school. The answer was that the principal acts as a facility manager. Mr. Pasciello asked if the engineer answered questions about what is a faucet aerator? Kimberly Kirk answered that it is a type of washer that adds air to the water. Mr. Friedman showed a photo of what it looked like. Mr. Pasciello asked if the school pays for water and the answer was yes. Mr. Pasciello asked if whoever is in charge of maintaining the faucets were involved in the process of looking at the engineering. The answer was that the engineering company would install the items would not maintain them. Shelley reported that the head custodian had already replaced some of the LED lights. Some of the projects would be maintained by the contractors.

Kimberly Kirk asked if there was any pending boiler replacement. The answer was that it was already done recently.

Mr. Friedman stated that there is a larger discussion that has been taking place with the engineering company. The Edgartown School building is now 20 years old and that is the time when things need to be replaced and it is time to look at items about what needs to begin to be listed as 1, 5, or 10 years to begin replacement. It is time to talk about replacements being changed to energy efficient devices or replacements. These questions will be brought to the ESC as they come up.

Kimberly Kirk asked if there is a person who does a facility assessment? Who checks on things like the roof, what is the plan for facility-based assessment? There was discussion about a facility maintenance plan created by former Principal John Stevens and Matt D'Andrea said he could find it and the ESC should look at it. The ESC members asked to make sure that Dr. Einbinder be given the plan.

Louis Pasciello asked if there were any effects to changing to LED lighting to staff. The earlier versions of LED lighting were not popular but it seems better. Nancy Cole, school librarian, told the ESC that when the library was switched to LED it was a good improvement.

Nedine Cunningham asked about the motion on the capital campaign expenses. She had wanted to save a suggestion for the *New Business* at the end but that maybe her suggestion should be considered during this part of the agenda. She stated that the school population continues to grow. The population is one that often needs more services. She gave examples of places where rooms are used for multi-purposes. Ms. Cunningham requested that the ESC consider getting a trailer next year to alleviate overcrowding and the needs of students.

Mr. Friedman restated that a request for a trailer would need to be given to the town by November 19. Kimberly Kirk asked Dr. Einbinder what she thought of the idea and if it was something she would like to consider. There was discussion about the deadline, the timing and only learning about the idea at this meeting.

Mr. Friedman stated that there are federal ESSER monies that may be used this way if they are COVID related. The costs for trailers involved ADA modifications, electricity and other items. It is unlikely that we could have a fully vetted project. A question was asked if November 19 is flexible. Mr. Friedman stated that he could ask the town.

Kimberly Kirk stated that there is a time when a trailer is a good solution. If there is the ability to postpone the date it would give Dr. Einbinder the opportunity to investigate the possibility it might be time to do that and put some thought into that. There was discussion about getting an extension up to the next ESC meeting.

A question was asked about the Tisbury school having information about trailers and the answer was that there would be.

Louis Pasciello asked if the motion would be for all 7 projects. Mr. Friedman said it would be \$45,000 and adjusted with a 17% addition for inflation.

Kelly McCaracken seconded the motion.

The motion passed with 3 Ayes and 0 Nays.

IV. Superintendent's Report (agenda item #4)

Dr. Matt D'Andrea reported.

A. Student Transportation Policy –2nd Reading

Kimberly Kirk made a motion to approve the second reading of the Student Transportation Policy, Louis Pasciello seconded.

This has been passed in Tisbury and the high school. Nothing has changed in the policy since the first reading.

Kimberly Kirk made a motion to accept the second reading and Louis Pasciello seconded.

There was no discussion.

The motion passed: 3 Ayes, 0 Nays

B. Substitute Pay

We currently pay substitutes \$90 a day and that pay has been in place since 2014. Other districts are paying between \$110 and \$150. The administration discussed what MVY pays its staff and decided on \$120 per day. The passing of this is contingent on all the other schools passing it as well. This will help with the difficulty in getting substitutes.

A question was asked what the length of the work day was and the answer was 6.5 hours. A question was asked if the ESC could decide to pay their substitutes differently and the answer was yes, they could but the superintendent hopes to avoid that scenario.

Kimberly Kirk made a motion to increase the pay contingent upon Oak Bluffs also voting to accept and Louis Pasciello seconded.

During the discussion Hope McLeod stated that the \$120 rate is under the lowest rate of the hourly pay for the ESPs who currently work for the schools.

The motion passed: 3 Ayes, 0 Nays

V. Principal's Report (agenda item #5)

Dr. Shelley Einbinder reported.

B. SELIS Survey

Deb DeBettencourt, guidance counselor, reported on this new survey -Students report on their own perceptions of their abilities. The survey divides Social Emotional Competencies into 5 categories which are broad in scope. The survey asks students to think about how well they feel they do in an area. All 5-8 grade students, except those who were absent or those who opted out, have completed the survey. Kim Garrison is helping reading the data and students are excited to learn more from their surveys. This takes place in health class and students were excited to learn about the survey.

C. Enrollment

As of today the school is at 400 students. We opened at 381, now we have 5 students pending. We are adding new students every week, from kindergarten to 8th grade.

A question was asked if all the other schools are experiencing an increase and the answer was yes. Richie Smith stated that Edgartown School used to be the third largest school and now it is the second largest.

The Edgartown School has 1st, 2nd, 3rd, 5th, and 7th grade classrooms divided into 3 homerooms. The school was built before full time ELD teachers were hired and we hope to have 4 this year. Dr. Einbinder also stated that the Edgartown School offers more specials than any other schools on the island offer. It is possible to explore the use of the rooms of people who see smaller groups.

A question was asked about how many students the school was designed to hold and the answer was 600. This was before the Bridge Program and other programs were added.

Kimberly Kirk stated that the large numbers are constant and possibly a reconfiguration or some other solution to space issues was found.

Kimberly Kirk and Kelly McCracken stated that there will be an empty Boys and Girls Club in the near future and it might be a good place to house some programming.

Louis Pasciello asked if a report on the size of the classrooms could be given at the next meeting and Dr. Einbinder said yes.

Kimberly Kirk mentioned that a high school student mentioned that students at the high school are sitting on the floor. Richie Smith stated that the overall enrollment numbers have stayed near the same but the demographics have changed quite a bit and these require different spaces. Tisbury has a couple of grade levels with almost 40% ELL students. These needs are what they are considering as they look at the new building in Tisbury. It is unorthodox to ask for a trailer but looking at the classrooms and how often they are occupied is what makes sense. Kimberly Kirk and Louis Pasciello agreed that that is what they are hoping for at the next meeting.

D. Personnel

1. New Hires

Diane Smadback is a long term sub in for Ryan Leandro who has requested a LOA.

2. Leave of Absences

Ryan Leandro is requesting a LOA until December 20 due to the birth of his baby girl.

Judy Maynard has requested an extension to her LOA until November 22.

Kelly McCracken made a motion to accept the LOA and the LOA extension and Louis Paciello seconded.

There was no discussion, comments or changes.

The motion was approved: 3 Ayes, 0 Nays

Dr. Einbinder also presented a resignation letter from Laudeceia Amaral, our newly hired ESP interpreter. She will be leaving due to personal reasons and is leaving November 19.

A question was asked if the position was posted and the answer is that it will be posted after the ESC accepts the resignation.

Kelly McCracken made a motion to accept the LOA and Louis Paciello seconded.

There was no discussion, comments or changes.

The motion was approved: 3 Ayes, 0 Nays

E. Out of State Conference Request

Dr. Einbinder presented a request for the ELD teachers to attend an out-of-state workshop in Warwick, Rhode Island, on December 13 focusing on Helping ELL Exit Your ELD Program. It is a one-day program.

Kelly McCracken made a motion to accept the request and Louis Paciello seconded.

There was no discussion.

The motion was approved: 3 Ayes, 0 Nays

VI. Public Comment (agenda item #6)

Hope McLeod stated that before COVID hit, she and Nancy Dougan created a snapshot of the district's schools that was created based on surveys from families, comments, DESE data from 2020. She presented the report which also included projections for Shared Services. If the ESC has any questions members can email Hope or can ask them at the next meeting. And, the report will be recreated each year.

Hope McLeod asked if a Special Education update could be added to the ESC agenda each meeting as a standing item. She said it would be appreciated and she always appreciates the support of the ESC. The ESC said yes.

VII. New/Old Business (agenda item #7)

There was none

VIII. Schedule Next Meeting(s) (agenda item #8)

The next meeting should be the first week of December. Wednesday December 1 was discussed.

A question was asked: when does the ESC meet with FinCom? The FinCom meeting could be the second December meeting that the ESC needs to schedule. The logistics around when to have

the FinCom meeting could be discussed later after the town announces their meeting schedule.

The next meeting was set for Wednesday, December 1 at 4:30 PM.

IX. Adjournment (agenda item #9)

The meeting was adjourned at 6:03