



EDGARTOWN SCHOOL COMMITTEE

Wednesday, April 16, 2025 – 6:00 pm
Edgartown School Library and via Zoom

AGENDA

Please note: Some business will consist of a discussion and possible vote to take action.

- I. Approval of Minutes from March 12, 2025**
- II. PTA Report, Brooke Leahy, PTA President**
 - A. Donation
- III. Superintendent's Report**
 - A. General Update
 - B. Principal's Search Process Update
 - C. Student Support Services Update
- IV. Principal's Report**
 - A. Outdoor Learning and Playground Project Update
 - B. Good News; Deborah DeBettencourt, Assistant Principal
 - C. Personnel; Retirements
 - D. 8th Grade Trip to New York/Philadelphia
 - E. Upcoming Events
- V. Finance Report**
 - A. Expenditure and Fund Balance Reports
- VI. Public Comment**
- VII. Schedule Next Meeting(s)**
- VIII. Adjournment**

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://mvyps.zoom.us/j/83905328940?pwd=sf6W6Y3lYhi1eLttLx5KEAloJ1GyJ.1>

Meeting ID: 839 0532 8940

Passcode: 629015

EDGARTOWN SCHOOL COMMITTEE
6:00 pm Wednesday, April 16, 2025
Edgartown School Library and via Zoom

ESC Members Present:

Chair Kelly Scott
Member Kristin Brown
Member Sara Murphy

Staff:

John Stevens-Principal
Deb Debettencourt-Assistant Principal
Dr. Richard Smith-Superintendent
Hope MacLeod-Student Support
Pamela Hurley-3rd Grade Teacher

Others:

Mike Owen-Project Executive, CHA (Via Zoom)

The Edgartown School Committee (ESC) was called to order 6:05 pm
(Recorder's note:) Discussions are summarized and grouped for clarity and brevity.)

I. Approval of Minutes from March 12, 2025

ON A MOTION DULY MADE BY MS SCOTT AND SECONDED BY MS MURPHY AND MS BROWN THE EDGARTOWN SCHOOL COMMITTEE UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED THE MINUTES OF THE MARCH 12,2025 EDGARTOWN SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING. 3 AYES, 0 NAYS, 0 ABSTENTIONS.

II. PTA Report, Brooke Leahy, PTA President

Sent students through to the state level of Reflections. We had two students place.
Very busy spring ahead.

Thursday May 8th staff appreciation luncheon

Saturday May 10-Mother's day fun walk/run

Friday May 23- Host breakfast for retired teachers and staff following Community

Meeting

Next meeting Tuesday May 20 Location TBD

A. Donation

Letter to members of the Edgartown School committee on behalf of the Edgartown School PTA offering a donation of \$40,000 to purchase playground equipment . To be used for climbing blocks and rope climbing structure,

ON A MOTION DULY MADE BY MS SCOTT AND SECONDED BY MS MURPHY AND MS BROWN, THE EDGARTOWN SCHOOL COMMITTEE UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED WITH "INFINITE GRATITUDE" THE DONATION OF \$40,000 FOR THE BLOCK 3 CLIMBING STRUCTURE AND THE PERFORMER ROPE CLIMBING STRUCTURE. 3 AYES, 0 NAYS, 0 ABSTENTIONS.

III. Superintendent's Report

A. Principal's Search Process Update

Principal search update: Nearly 3 months. Dr. Smith Appreciates everyone's patients. Deeply grateful to John Stevens and Debbie DeBettencourt. My decision is about healing this community. Most difficult decision I have had to make. A faculty meeting called for tomorrow. Search committee has put in a great deal of effort. Allowed me to learn about the Edgartown school community. What the needs are for students, staff, and parents.

B. General Update

All Island school committee May 1.

Budgets passed during three town meetings. Edgartown, Oak Bluffs and West Tisbury Chilmark on the 29 then Tisbury. Aquinnah will be later.

C. Student Support Services Update

Update for shared services: We have been updating you about challenges related to the number of kids coming from project headway and into our bridge program. Numbers have been large. Next year we have a plan to meet that need. Compass had large numbers. We have been meeting monthly. Did an evaluation last year. Presented to our cabinet in the fall. Consultant came and spoke to our principals about what has worked, what isn't working. Principals able to ask questions. Early childhood consultants also met. Came to a solution that will address short and long term starting in the fall. Compass k-4 in Tisbury, Compass 5-8 in OB. Bridge programs support autism and ID both bridge programs will serve both children's needs. Won't be a quick fix but overtime will even numbers out.

Traditionally divided over a longer period of time. If we do it now, the least amount of students have to move.

Some children in WT will be able to stay in their school.

Decisions will be Individual based.

IV. Principal's Report

A. Shared services changes. Principals worked very hard with Hope and Richie. Fair and equitable solutions. Principals endorse it.

Went to Warf to town celebration for retirees. Celebrated folks that have benefitted the school.

B. Outdoor Learning and Playground Project Update

Mike great success bringing two projects (Parks and rec and school) together.
Timeline: Wrapping up the big documents. Going out to bid at the end of the month, the contract fully executed in June. Take us into 2025. spring of 2026 landscaping
Chair: Will kids be able to play on the playground before spring?
Mike: Will be ready summer. If we can get any of it open sooner we will.
Will work with contractor on some kind of a phasing schedule.

C. Good News; Deborah DeBettencourt, Assistant Principal

Finished MCAS ELA portion grades 3-8 Using new online platform.
Fun run and community meeting this Friday. 8th grade vs staff volleyball game.
Spring musical Matilda ticket sales going towards script for next year. Exciting to have new first grade teacher working with middle school students
Volleyball season underway.

D. Personnel; Retirements

Ken deBettencourt Involved in Education 25 years at HS and 9 years here.
Pam Hurley 34th year teaching. Began career in chelmsford. Cambridge public schools. Joined edgartown in 2015.

E. 8th Grade Trip to New York/Philadelphia

Principal Stevens asks for approval for out of state trip

ON A MOTION DULY MADE BY MS SCOTT AND SECONDED BY MS MURPHY AND MS BROWN THE EDGARTOWN SCHOOL COMMITTEE UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED THE OUT OF STATE TRIP FOR THE 8TH GRADE CLASS. 3 AYES, 0 NAYS, 0 ABSTENTIONS.

F. Upcoming Events

Included in packet. This is a fluid document.
Kindergarten orientation - Thursday, May 15 6:00pm
SAC meetings PTA meetings.etc etc etc
8th grade traditions leading up to graduation

V. Finance Report

Fund balance report.....Revolving lunch fund
School choice fund
Rest is self explanatory

A. Expenditure and Fund Balance Reports

A lot of items in deficit
On very last page....we are in deficit \$79,000 due to line item for residential stabilization fund that was approved for \$120,000 . We will be in good shape with fund, emergency grant. Will ultimately be \$20,000 in the black.
\$232,000 in school choice is a buffer

VI. Public Comment

VII. Schedule Next Meeting(s)

May 14 School committee meeting. 4:00pm-Hybrid

VIII. Adjournment

ON A MOTION DULY MADE BY MS SCOTT AND SECONDED BY MS MURPHY AND MS BROWN THE EDGARTOWN SCHOOL COMMITTEE UNANIMOUSLY VOTED TO ADJOURN AT 6:51pm 3 AYES, 0 NAYS, 0 ABSTENSIONS.