**Student Opportunity Act Plan: SY 2021-2023**

***Martha’s Vineyard Public Charter School***

# → Commitment 1: Focusing on High School Students

As noted in our strategic plan, The Martha’s Vineyard Public Charter School (MVPCS) strives to provide high quality and innovative academic and social/emotional programs, as well as to maintain a safe and secure environment for all students. Based on a review of Attendance and Perceptions Data, we have determined that the pandemic has negatively impacted the engagement and socio-emotional health of our High School students. We currently have 30 students in the High School. MVPCS is using the SOA to focus on this specific subgroup.

Starting in September of 2020, our response to COVID-19 and our school’s reopening plan was primarily focused on in-person learning for students in Grades K-6. Although we provide daily synchronous classes and in-person instruction one day a week, we are very concerned that our High School students may not be obtaining the

necessary skills for successful post-secondary lives.

Since the start of the pandemic, numerous studies have reported that older students are vulnerable to feelings of isolation, depression and a lack of academic engagement. MVPCS is not immune to these troubles and, therefore, we see the SOA as an opportunity to provide innovative academic and socio-emotional programming to support all students in our High School. We believe that a renewed focus in these areas would produce better outcomes academically and emotionally for our oldest students.

# → Commitment 2: Using Evidence-Based Programs to Close Gaps

The disengagement of some of our students within the High School is not a new issue at MVPCS, but one that has been exacerbated by the pandemic. Starting in 2018, we began to explore ways to enhance our academic programming coupled with additional socio-emotional support for high school students. Our SOA plan looks to build upon these initiatives.

### Enhanced Core Instruction and Expanded Access for Career Education.

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| **FY21 budget item** | **Amount** | **Foundation Category** |
| Adoption of the International Baccalaureate (IB) Diploma and Career-Related Programs. | $30,000 | Fixed Charges and Professional Development. |
| Student support for International Baccalaureate (IB) Career-Related Programming. | $20,000 | Administration |
| **Evidence-based program identified by the Department:** | Supporting educators to implement high-quality, aligned curriculum andexpanded access to career-technical education |

**SOA program categories:**

I) Developing additional pathways to strengthen college and career readiness, C) Social services to support students’

social-emotional and physical health and and E (PD)

1. **Targeted Student Supports and Increased Personnel and Services to Support Holistic Student Needs**. Starting in 2018, MVPCS has partnered with the Hulbert Outdoor Center (HOC) in Fairlee, Vermont to adopt the Success Counseling model for our Middle and High School. This program provides our students with a socio-emotional framework to help with decision-making and self-care. Our High School students have participated in yearly Success Counseling training in Vermont since 2019. Facilitators from Hulbert have also worked with our faculty and staff to help us implement Success Counseling. Due to the pandemic, our High School students were able to complete a Zoom training with members from HOC. We would like the SOA funds to expand this programming for students and staff over the next few years.

Martha’s Vineyard has been hit particularly hard by the opioid crisis. We have contracted with an addiction specialist since 2019 to work with our most vulnerable High School students. We are concerned that the economic impact of their pandemic has ravaged families and the use of drugs and alcohol will produce negative outcomes for our at-risk students. We would like to use SOA funds to expand our addiction counseling services for select High School students. In consideration of the traumatic impact of the pandemic, MVPCS would also like to allocate SOA to provide professional development to our staff on how to serve as a trauma-sensitive school, specifically with the LIFT program through Lesley University.

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| **FY21 budget item** | **Amount** | **Foundation Category** |
| Student Activities: Success Counseling | $20,000 | Instructional Leadership |
| Contracted Services: Addiction Services | $10,000 | Guidance and Psychological |
| Professional Development: Trauma Sensitive Schools | $10,000 | Guidance and Psychological and Professional Development |
| **Evidence-based program identified by the Department:** | Increased personnel and services to support holistic student needs. |
| **SOA program categories:** | C) Social services to support students’ social-emotional and physical health and and E (PD) |

# → Commitment 3: Monitoring Success with Outcome Metrics and Targets

### Department outcome metrics:

* + - Percentage of students

completing Advanced Coursework (International Baccalaureate)

* + - Improved Four-year

cohort graduation rate

### Custom district metrics:

* + - Student engagement (measured by improvements in our annual district-wide student survey

– questions related to engagement)

# → Commitment 4: Engaging All Families

The Martha’s Vineyard Public Charter School is committed to ensuring that our families receive the information and support to navigate the complexities of the International Baccalaureate program. These sessions will be held at different times during and after the school day to maximize family participation.

In addition to numerous community events at MVPCS including monthly PTO meetings and Soup and Games Night, we will implement quarterly IB Family Nights to help families understand the unique aspects of the program. As we will offer the International Baccalaureate Career-Related program in 2021-22, MVPCS will also partner with community-based organizations like ACE MV, who oversee the off-shore wind technician program. MVPCS will also work with the Island Grown Initiative and Slough Farm who will work with our school to implement a farming program to support those students and families who seek to pursue agricultural or animal husbandry.

We will measure the engagement of families with bi-annual surveys to measure families' understanding and support of the International Baccalaureate (IB) program.

**Certifications:**

## X By checking here, I certify that our district has engaged stakeholders in accordance with the SOA Please summarize your stakeholder engagement process, including specific groups that were engaged:

Since 2018, MVPCS has held family and student forums to engage our community in the adoption of the IB program. Regular presentations to the IB regarding the progress for authorization have taken place since March 2019. The Board has also heard student presentations on the High School Success Counseling program. The PTO has financially supported the Annual High School training to Vermont since 2109. Public comment on the SOA was provided at the December 16 2020 Board Meeting.

## X By checking here, I certify that the Martha’s Vineyard Public Charter School’s Board of Trustees voted on our Student Opportunity Plan

**Date of vote:** 12/16/2020 **Outcome:** Vote was Affirmative