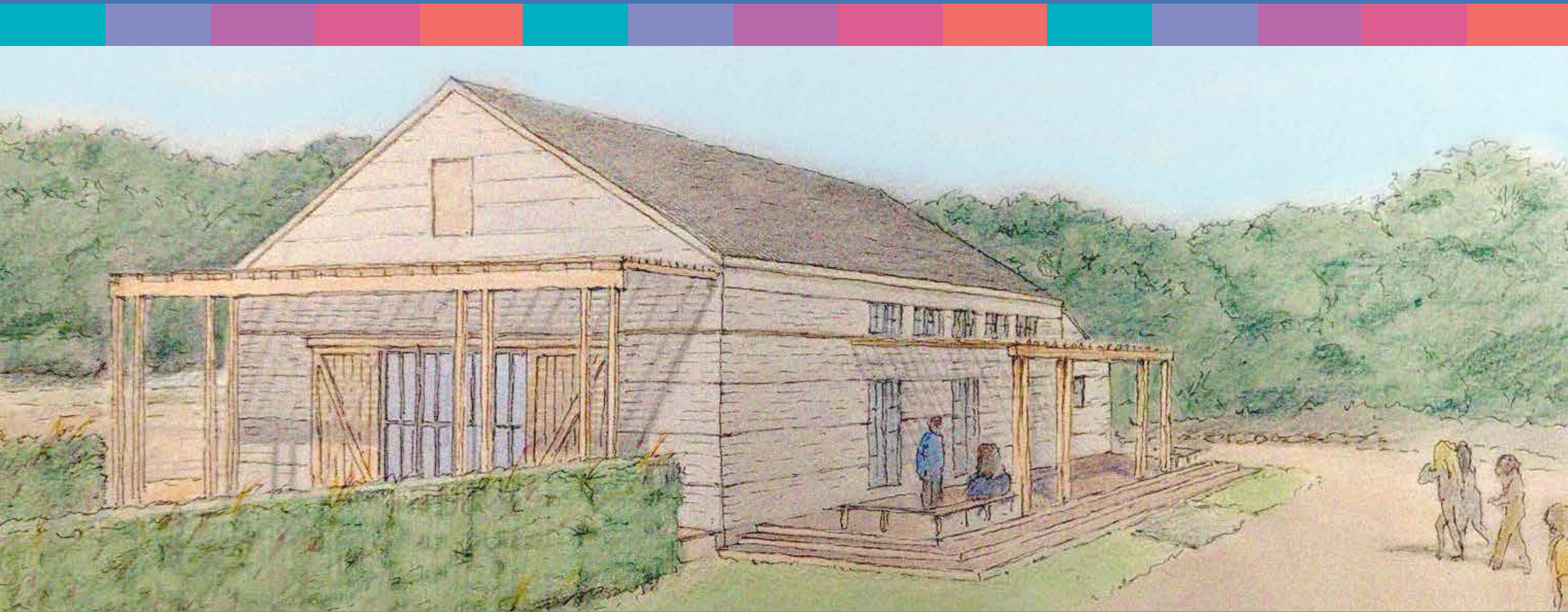




the MARTHA'S VINEYARD PUBLIC CHARTER SCHOOL

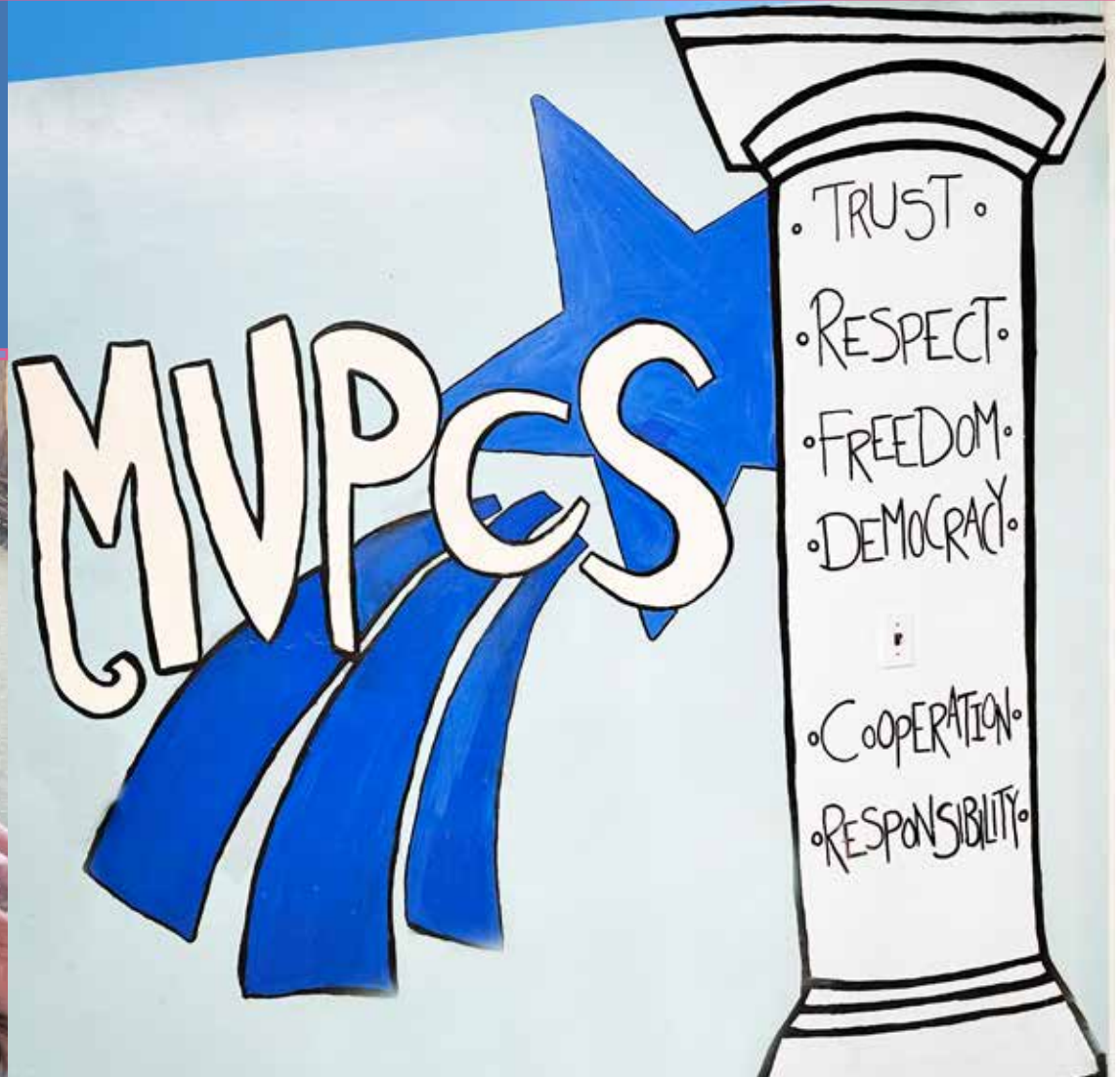


BEYOND *the* CLASSROOM
A \$5.2M Capital Campaign

CASE FOR SUPPORT

OUR PILLARS—

Trust, Respect, Freedom, Democracy, Cooperation, and Responsibility—were developed through community-wide discussions and adopted by the school in 1997.



MISSION

Our mission is to create a public school that cultivates life-long learners in a multi-aged, project-based setting. Within an environment that models interdependence as the foundation of society:

- The individual student will learn to direct his/her own learning.
- The group will make decisions together and recognize the unique contributions of each member.
- The community will support and interact with the school body.

Dear Friends of the Charter School,

As we enter our 27th year, the Charter School continues to provide dynamic learning opportunities in a supportive environment for our students. We continue to work collaboratively to ensure that the school remains faithful to our mission while the pillars of Trust, Respect, Freedom, Democracy, Cooperation, and Responsibility remain a cornerstone of our school community.

In many ways, the 2022-2023 school year was a return to normalcy after the unprecedented effects of the global pandemic. In an effort to maximize hands-on, project-based learning in a multi-aged setting, we introduced an Experiential Learning program in 2020 that connected our Middle School students to community partners across Martha's Vineyard. This year, the program solidified authentic partnerships with more than a dozen Island organizations.

In June, we also saw the graduation of our first-ever International Baccalaureate program cohort, with students in both the Diploma and Career Programs. The enhanced rigor of our academic curriculum seems to have had a demonstrable effect on the acceptance of our students to their first-choice colleges and gap-year programs.

Additionally, our love for music and drama remains central to our mission. In the spring, the school play included 70-plus students from grades K-12. And, our strings program has more than doubled in the past two years.

This is a critical moment for the Charter School. Last year, we gathered as a community to celebrate 26 years of offering innovative educational opportunities at Martha's Vineyard. As we put the struggles of the pandemic behind us, we look forward to a new phase in the history of the school.

With comprehensive plans to expand our physical space once more, we have launched a \$5.2M Capital Campaign, *Beyond the Classroom*. Expansion includes two modest additions to the main school building and a new, separate multipurpose building, "the Barn."

These new spaces will go a long way in supporting the School's dynamic curriculum and programs. The project will not only meet a variety of practical, educational, and extracurricular needs beyond the classroom, it will enable us to serve and engage the broader community in new ways.

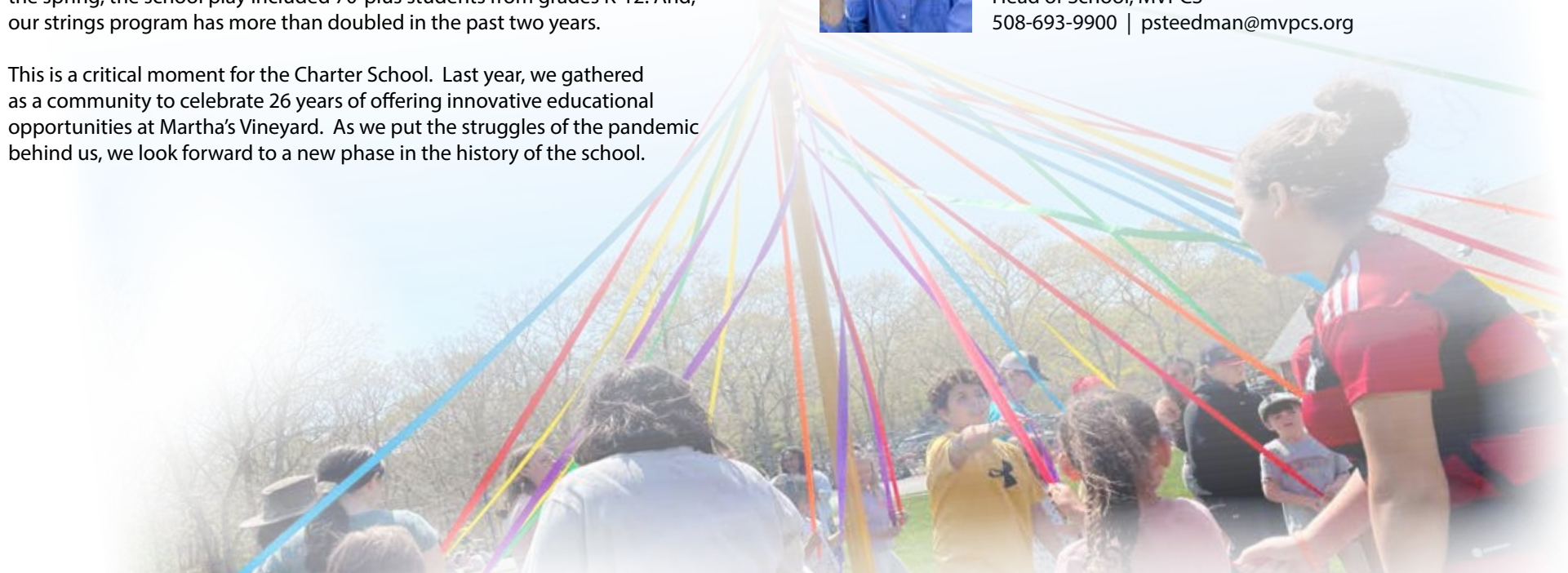
We invite you to learn more about our exciting plans in the following pages—and we hope you will be inspired to support us with a gift to the campaign! Please feel free to contact me if with any questions about the project or the campaign.



Thank you,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Pete Steedman".

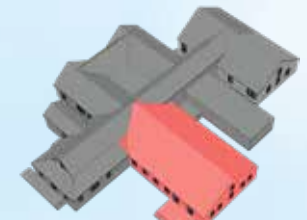
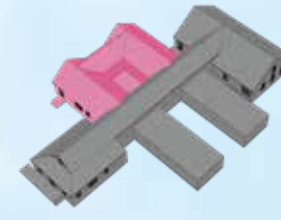
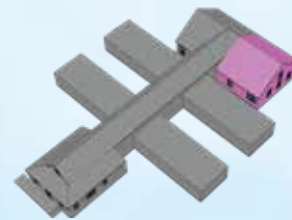
Pete Steedman
Head of School, MVPCS
508-693-9900 | pstedman@mvpcs.org



the MARTHA'S VINEYARD PUBLIC CHARTER SCHOOL *Over the Years*

- The Education Reform Act of 1993 authorizes the formation of charter public schools in Massachusetts.

- The school is established to provide an alternative education option to local families, one that offers a self-directed approach to learning and caters to each child's interests and learning style.

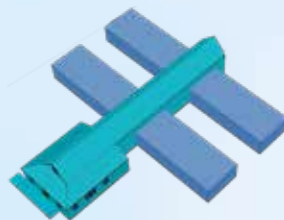


1993-1995

- A group of Islanders who were deeply committed to the success of the Vineyard's youth formed Options in Education (OIE), a 501(c)(3) tax-exempt foundation.
- After securing donations and bank financing, OIE purchased land, built MVPCS, and leased the property to MVPCS.
- OIE holds title to the school's land and manages the School's fundraising.
- In 1995 the MA Executive Office of Education authorized the Martha's Vineyard Public Charter School.

1996

- On July 1, the MVPCS began its five-year contract with the Commonwealth.
- The MVPCS opened the school doors on September 16th.



- The original school building consisted of the **Main Corridor**/**Main Street, Administration**, and **Classroom Trailers**.

1997

• Kindergarten Addition



1998

• Elementary Addition



1999

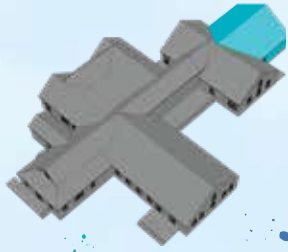
• High School Addition



2000-2002

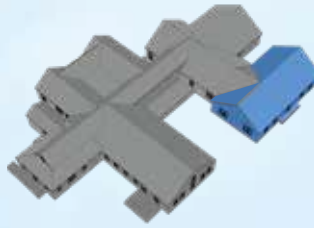
• Middle School and Kitchen Addition

- In June, 2001 the founders' vision of a K-12 public school option for the families of Martha's Vineyard was fully realized with the commencement ceremony for the school's first graduating class.
- The first kindergarten class joined the charter school community in September.
- Teacher Jonah Maidoff takes first 8th Grade class to Italy.



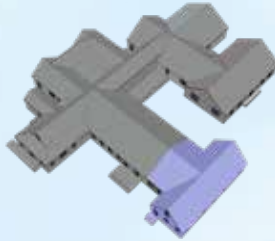
2004

• **Grades 5 & 6 Addition**



2008

• **Grades 1-4 Addition**



2016

- **The Jordan Science Center Addition** named in honor of the civil rights movement leader, Washington lawyer, and frequent presidential advisor, Vernon Jordan.
- The addition was made possible, in large part, by a \$400,000 donation from philanthropist and summer resident Robert Day who made his donation in honor of his friend, Mr. Jordan.



2018

- MVPCS's first Head of School, Bob Moore, Retires.
- Pete Steedman becomes the new Head of School.



2021

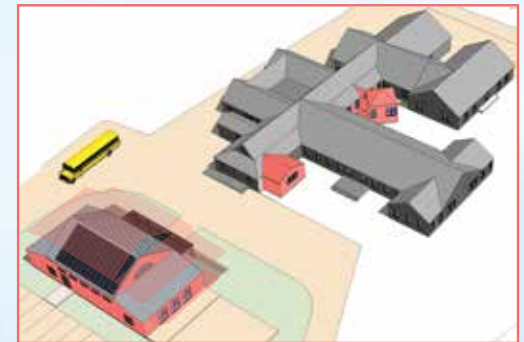
- MVPCS Celebrates its 25th Anniversary.
- MVPCS adopts the International Baccalaureate Program for 11th & 12th grade students.



• Today, MVPCS currently serves 180 K-12 students from all Island towns.

2023

- MVPCS launches a \$5.2M Capital Campaign to add two modest additions (**Conference Room, Student Project Room, and four Offices**) to the main building and build a new, separate **Multipurpose Building, "The "Barn.""**





Much of the MVPCS students' hands-on learning is rooted in both the school community and the Island community—fostering community is central to our mission.

BEYOND THE CLASSROOM

An approach different from traditional public school, our model of multi-age, project-based learning has students collaborating with peers of different ages, allowing them to both learn from, and teach, each other. This type of dynamic, hands-on learning often takes place beyond the classroom: outdoors, on the School's "Main Street" (the main corridor of the building, which serves as the School's primary gathering space), and by engaging with the Island community.

By extending our educational impact to include the wider community, we work to shape the Island's next generation—from business and civic leaders to farmers, fishermen, and artists to healthcare workers, environmental specialists, and educators.

Community engagement through activities and events, such as environmental stewardship, arts and culture, community service, and civic engagement, for example, has many benefits. It builds skills, supports social-emotional learning, and helps create a healthy understanding of what it truly means to be dependent on one another. We believe that these types of learning and developmental outcomes are necessary for students to thrive and become part of a strong and resilient society.

Our planned building project aligns with these educational objectives and meets the practical needs of the entire school body.

"The heartbeat of the Charter School is its community-driven activities, whether it be our school community or our island community. Throughout the school's periods of growth, discussions about the need for a multipurpose space has always been an important topic. A multipurpose facility will have countless benefits for the entire school body. But just as important, it would allow the school to create a welcoming space that could be shared with our island community.

The possibilities for greater community engagement are endless!"

—Deborah Cutrer, Retired Math Teacher

THE NEED FOR EXPANSION

“We clearly do not have enough space. As a resourceful and thoughtful community, we have been able to work around this deficit by sharing rooms, working in hallways, and having meetings outside. However, if we are to continue to grow and become the place we want to be, we are going to have to create new spaces to meet both old and new needs.”

—Mathea Morais, English Teacher

Previous additions to the school building were made in response changing needs at that time. Today, as we consistently maintain a maximum capacity of 180 students, the School building does not provide enough functional space. This lack of space presents a host of educational, logistic, and practical challenges that make expansion essential.

THE NEED

The school has been functioning with no sufficient gathering space or place to hold larger activities and events. Main Street, the school’s main corridor, serves as:

- The space where the entire student body meets for morning meetings, events, and performances
- A place where groups of students and teachers meet
- The library and lunchroom
- The place where everything outside the classroom takes place, such as
 - Group projects
 - Health and wellness programs (e.g., yoga and mindfulness classes)
 - Theater rehearsals

Apart from this buzz of activity, the building lacks adequate quiet spaces for conferences or project work. General office space is sparse, yet administrators frequently give up their space to accommodate the needs of our students. Our program often requires small group or one-on-one instruction. Because there is no space for this, administrators are routinely displaced. Additionally, there is no dedicated music room, so music instruction is conducted from a cart that moves from room to room, a less than ideal educational environment.

THE SOLUTION

Building a separate multipurpose space and modest additions to the existing school building will meet the need for both a large gathering space as well as small, quiet spaces. The proposed building project supports the school’s educational philosophy and provides an adaptable setting for enriching educational experiences and meaningful community engagement.



“Main Street” (MVPCS’s primary gathering space)

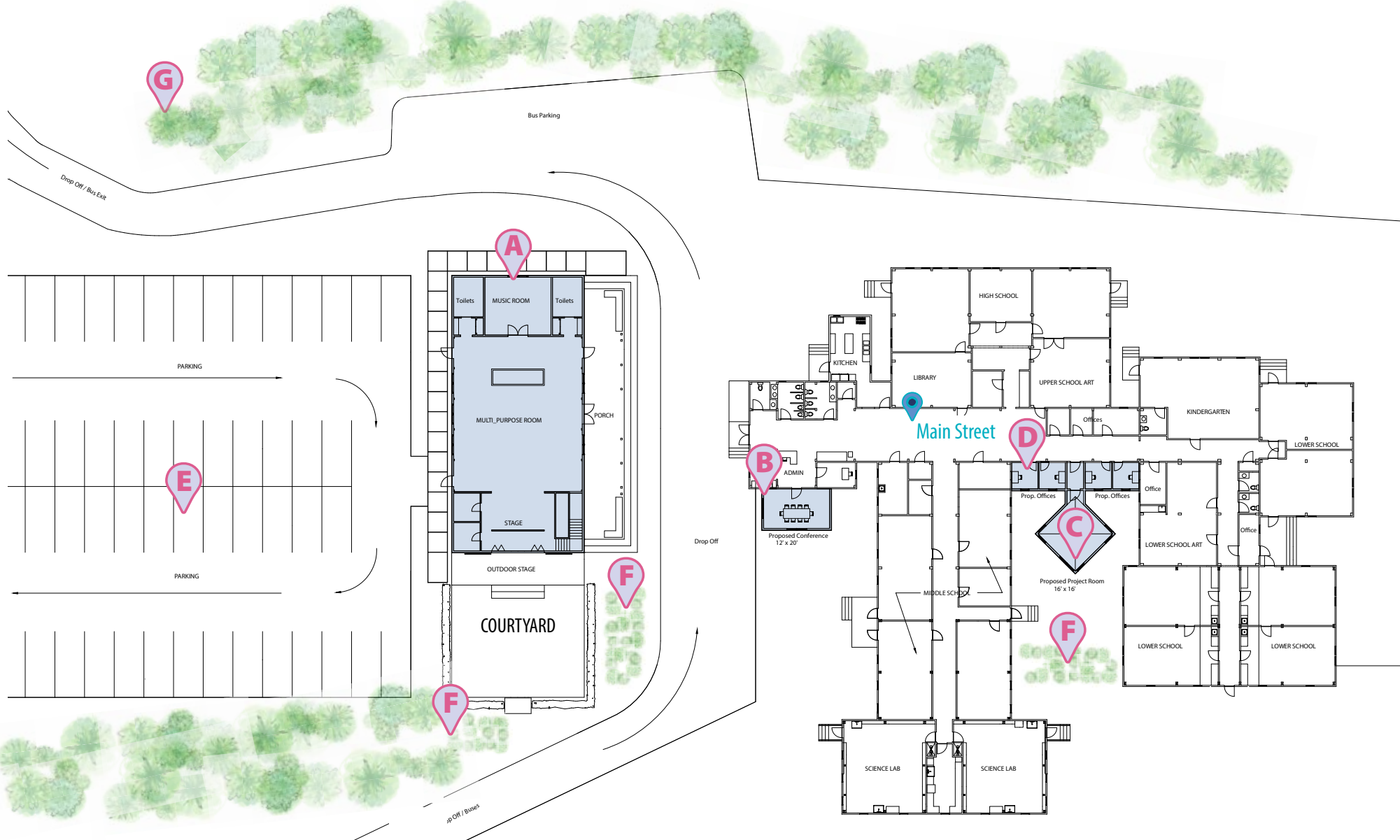
THE PROJECT

A New, detached multipurpose building (the Barn), total 3,400 SF.

Two modest additions to the main school building, totaling 915 SF, will include:

- B** 1 Conference Room
- C** 1 Student/Project Work Room
- D** 4 Offices

- E** A new parking area
- F** New Garden Areas
- G** New Tree Grove



MULTIPURPOSE BARN



The new **Multipurpose Barn** will be a versatile building dedicated to providing a community space and a range of opportunities for student development, expression, and connection. Its use will meet the needs for Morning Meeting space, musical performances, theater rehearsals and productions, wellness programs, assemblies, exhibitions, large-scale student projects, and community programs. It will also include a dedicated Music Room as well as ample space for equipment, props, and school supply storage.

This expansion will open up new opportunities for creativity, innovation, and experimentation not yet considered—we expect this facility will enable us to do so much more!

Providing a wide range of versatility, the 3,400 SF building features will include:

- Post & Beam Construction consistent with the School Building
- Solar Panels
- Movable or Modular Seating
- 150-200 Person Capacity
- Audio/Visual Equipment and Control Room
- Acoustic Design
- A Dedicated Music Classroom
- Inside Stage
- Changing Rooms
- Outside Stage and Courtyard
- Basement for Storage, Props, and Building Mechanical Equipment
- Porch/Outdoor Gathering Space

STUDENT PROJECT ROOM WITH OFFICES BEHIND



New Additions to the school building, totaling 915 SF, will create much needed dedicated spaces for quiet work, conferences, group projects, and one-on-one instruction.

Additionally, a new, reconfigured **Parking Area** will be designed to add additional parking spaces and will make traffic flow more efficient.

To mitigate the environmental impact of tree removal, the **Landscape Plan** will include a grove of new tree plantings that will maintain the natural buffer around the school as well as several new garden spaces.

Construction of the Additions are planned during the 2024 summer break. Barn construction, Parking Lot, and Landscaping is expected to begin in the summer/fall 2024 and to be completed by fall 2026.

“New, expanded space is important for the Charter School because it will uplift the project-based, creative learning that is already at the foundation of MVPCS...this space will support the whole heart and soul of the way of learning at MVPCS. As a dancer, music lover, musician, and charter alumni,

I fully support this project and urge others to support it as well.”

—Graysen Kirk-Lynn, Class of 2023

THE \$5.2M CAPITAL CAMPAIGN BEYOND *the* CLASSROOM

WHY GIVE

Martha's Vineyard Public Charter School has been providing alternative educational opportunities for students across Martha's Vineyard for more than 25 years. We are committed to fostering a well-rounded, inclusive, and holistic learning environment.

As the School continuously strives to provide an enriching experience for its students, staff, and the wider community, the pressing need for physical expansion is evident. The lack of both quiet spaces and a large facility capable of accommodating the entire school are impediments to optimal learning.

Although the School has been extremely creative and flexible in managing these challenges, we must strive to create the best learning environment possible. This capital project will do just that.

Our \$5.2M Capital Campaign will enable us to meet these needs. We are calling on our community for support. Investing in expansion is not just a necessity— it is an investment in the future of the school and the community it serves.

PLEASE JOIN US DONATE TODAY!

DONOR RECOGNITION

Your gift presents a unique opportunity to be permanently recognized. We encourage our donors to take advantage of these opportunities, either through an outright gift or through one that is in the form of a five-year pledge. Donors giving \$1,000 or more will be recognized on permanent signage in the new Multipurpose Barn.

NAMING OPPORTUNITIES

- Multipurpose Barn - \$1,000,000**
- Music Room - \$250,000**
- Inside Stage - \$250,000**
- Outside Stage - \$100,000**
- Audio/Visual Control Room - \$100,000**

School Spaces

- Student Project Room - \$100,000**
- Conference Room - \$100,000**
- Offices (4) - \$100,000 Each**



HONORARY COMMITTEE

Deb Cutrer
Nelia Decker
Ray Elliott
Ewell Hopkins
Paul Karasik
Roberta Kirn
Beth Kramer
Chuck and Leo McHugh
Bob Moore and Shari Geistfeld
Alex Taylor

STEERING COMMITTEE

Pete Steedman, Head of School
Christopher Anderson
Brian Ditchfield
Alex Friedman
Laura Hearn
Toni Kauffman

WAYS TO GIVE

The generosity of our supporters is an investment in our future, and we are deeply grateful for contributions of all sizes. We can accept most types of charitable gifts, including appreciated stock, life insurance policies, and retirement plan assets. Gifts in honor or memory of a loved one are also gratefully received. We will work with donors to ensure that the appropriate parties are notified and recognized.

Please find a Remit Envelope with additional information included. Contact Pete Steedman with questions at: Tel. (828) 863-2000 or email: president.oie.mv@gmail.com.

HOW TO MAKE GIFTS

Options in Education (OIE) is the tax-exempt foundation that holds the title to the land and manages fundraising for the School. Donations for the "Beyond the Classroom Capital Campaign" should be directed to OIE, P.O. Box 1150, West Tisbury, MA 02575.

"As a school that makes the entire Vineyard its classroom, it is wonderful to know that soon there will be a gathering space where the inspiring lessons learned from the wider community can be showcased and celebrated. The Charter School needs a place that can nourish the expression of its exuberant learners and teachers."

*Christopher Anderson,
Parent, Trustee Emeritus, OIE Board Member*





the MARTHA'S VINEYARD PUBLIC
CHARTER SCHOOL

CONTACT

Pete Steedman, Head of School
508-693-9900 | pstedman@mvpcs.org | mvpcs.org