

**UP-ISLAND REGIONAL SCHOOL COMMITTEE
OF MARTHA'S VINEYARD
5:00PM, Monday, October 3, 2019
West Tisbury School**

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Present: Chair – Kate DeVane, Roxanne Ackerman, Robert Lionette, Skipper Manter*,
Alex Salop*,

Others: Supt's Shared Services Office: Matt D'Andrea, Amy Tierney
Principals: Donna Lowell-Bettencourt, Mary Boyd, Susan Stevens,
FinCom – WT – Greg Orcutt,
Press – Lynn Christoffers – MVTV, Lucas Thors – MV Times,

*Late arrivals or early departures

Call to Order (Agenda Item #I)

The Up-Island Regional School Committee (UIRSC) meeting was called to order.

Fiscal Year 2021 (FY21) Budget (See documents on file.) (Agenda Item #II)

This basic level-service FY21 budget iteration was up 2.5% projecting:

- salary, retiree and longevity updates (but not lane changes) for current staff levels;
- 2.5% increases in transportation and Shared Services;
- 10% increase in health insurance;
- no assessment proportions as yet.

* Skipper Manter entered the meeting.

• Robert Lionette reported from the Martha's Vineyard Regional High School (MVRHS) Transportation Subcommittee on the continuing attempt to shift real costs (such as benefits) to the local schools as well as increased run rates. The UIRSD would continue to receive Chapter 71 reimbursement for transportation expenses, although there would be a year delay. The schools were negotiating with the Vineyard Transit Authority on continuing the maintenance contract.

* Alex Salop entered the meeting.

• West Tisbury School (WTS) Site (See 9/16/19 Minutes p.3-5 #G.)

Principal Donna Lowell Bettencourt reviewed the requests from the previous meeting.

- Phase 2 of the tech plan would increase the department line by \$20,224. There was some confusion over whether the increase(s) were intended to be repetitive or cumulative, however it was explained they would be cumulative to a Technology maintenance goal that would include a five-year replacement turnover (see Minutes: 11/15/18 p.1-2 # IV & 11/19/18 p.5 #VIII). (Chilmark technology increase was managed in one year.)
- \$5,000 increase would expand after-school activities and clubs for the entire school year.
- A number of small increases in health supplies, special education, and school supplies were needed to cover additional students. The UIRSC asked for figures at the next meeting.
- The extra Middle School section would need \$500 enrichment increase for drumming and \$500 for sports uniforms.
- The current English Language Learners (ELL) Translation line would not cover the translation of a single Individual Education Plan (IEP). ELL enrollment and need for family translations was higher than ever before. Prin. Bettencourt suggested \$500-\$1,000 to strengthen the Line.

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- \$700 would cover supervision salaries in eighth grade and music/drama advisors, and coaching.
- (Building, Grounds and capital projects (including Synergy) would be addressed at a later meeting)
- The UIRSC revisited the possibility of a School Resource Officer (SRO) (see 5/20/19 Minutes p.2 # VI C) at \$85-100,000 per year. Other Martha's Vineyard Public Schools (MVPS) had:
 - Oak Bluffs – SRO mornings and most afternoons at little or no school cost;
 - Edgartown – full time rotating SRO at no school cost;
 - Tisbury – morning SRO at \$16,000 school cost per year;
 - Chilmark – one half day per week SRO—plus field trips out of uniform.

The UIRSC noted a number of issues:

- student, especially challenged students, familiarity/comfort with police as first responders;
- police familiarity with the community and continuity to the MVRHS;
- UIRSD Towns' different opinions on police presence on campus;
- changing parental opinions.
- Toward the end of the meeting, Skipper Manter maintained the UIRSC overrode Town preference/authority in keeping children safe.

The UIRSC requested the UIRSD Police Chiefs be invited to the next meeting for a longer discussion, after which parents would be polled on their views. Before the next meeting Supt. Matt D'Andrea would send other MVPS Memorandums of Understanding with police departments on the SRO roles.

- Due to increased Chilmark enrollment the WTS Middle School would require three sections in all three grades in FY21. The increased students from the Tisbury School (see 9/16/19 Minutes p.1 #III A) were in the lower grades. Prin. Lowell Bettencourt was working on staff shifts to cover the change and was keeping lower grade class sizes very low in anticipation of the Chilmark School growth trend continuing. Skipper Manter asked how many Middle School students from the Chilmark School were School Choice.

- Prin. Lowell Bettencourt hoped to cover increased Professional Development (PD) expenses with grants.

• Chilmark School Site (See 9/16/19 Minutes p.3-5 #G.)

Head of School Susan Stevens priorities were in accordance with the District goals.

- Health and wellness teacher options were explored in terms of increasing the nurse's time however this would then include benefits and Other Post Employee Benefits (OPEB) costs. The UIRSC revisited the discussion on the need for a full time health provider at the School (see Minutes: 10/29/18 p.2, & 11/15/18 p.3 #V & 12/6/18 p.2 # V).

- The WTS nurse was at capacity with medications, chronically ill students and Shared Services work. Consequently a substitute was sometimes hired for field trips, which might lead to a shared position with Chilmark.

- It was illegal to expect a student to transfer out of a school due to lack of health resources.

- Supt. D'Andrea noted that other regions hired a Registered Nurse (RN) at one school who could delegate medication authorization to a Certified Nursing Assistant (CNA) at another school.

The UIRSC requested cost comparison for a Chilmark School full time and half time nurse.

- Ms. Stevens internally resolved the need for a 20% reading teacher increase by reducing the Enrichment line.

- Since three teachers worked as a team, Prin. Stevens requested \$5,000 for PD for them all to be trained simultaneously in the Lucy Calkins Institute.

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• General

- A running total showed about \$40,000 in requests (with 1% increase equaling ~ \$122,000).
- In FY19 Chilmark utility lines ran \$5,000 over-budget and the WTS broke even. Business Administrator Amy Tierney expected fuel prices to continue to rise.
- Shared Services assessment numbers were not yet finalized. Edgartown showed a steep enrollment increase. Shared Services students were now assessed by town of residence.
- An attendance report was received from the Head of the Charter School.

The UIRSC requested:

- Synergy recommendations capital (one time) and operating budget (continuing) costs;
- projected Shared Services budget numbers;
- search by both the UIRSC and Administration for FY19 budget residuals;
- any requested budget additions on a separate sheet.

Topics Not Reasonably Anticipated by the Chair

(Agenda Item #III)

Adjournment

- *ROBERT LIONETTE MOVED TO ADJOURN; ROXANNE ACKERMAN SECONDED; MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY: 5 AYES 0 NAYS, 0 ABSTENTIONS.*

Meetings/Events

- MVRHSC - 4:00PM, Monday, October 7, 2019 – MVRHS LCR
- MARS/MV Mediation Presentation - 6:00PM, Monday, October 7, 2019 – MVRHS LCR
- UIRSC – 5:00PM, Monday, October 21, 2019 – Chilmark School
- AISC – 5:00PM, Monday, October 28, 2019 – MVRHSC LCR

Documents on File:

- Agenda 10/3/19
- Chilmark School Weekly Peeks (2 p.) 9/5/19
- Up-Island Regional School District FY21 General Fund Budget – Draft #1 October 3, 2019 (13 p.)
- Up-Island Regional School District Employee List for 2019-2020 for FY21 Budgeting Purposes Draft #1 10/1/19 (4 p.)
- FY21 Budget For Retirees Insurance

Minutes approved 10/21/19.