

**UP-ISLAND REGIONAL SCHOOL COMMITTEE
OF MARTHA'S VINEYARD
5:00PM, Monday, November 12, 2019
West Tisbury School**

Page 1 of 4

Present: Chair – Kate DeVane, Robert Lionette, Skipper Manter, Alex Salop*,
Others: Supt's Shared Services Office: Matt D'Andrea, Amy Tierney,
Principals: Donna Lowell-Bettencourt, Susan Stevens,
Staff: David Crawford,
Press – Lynn Christoffers – MVTV,
Recorder: Marni Lipke *Late arrivals or early departures

Call to Order (Agenda item #I)

The Up-Island Regional School Committee (UIRSC) meeting was called to order. Chair Kate DeVane would expedite the meeting in consideration of the members other commitments.
(Recorder's Note: Some discussions have been grouped for clarity and brevity.)

Fiscal Year 2021 (FY21) Budget (See 11/7/19 documents on file.)
(Agenda item #III)

- West Tisbury School (WTS) Technologist David Crawford reviewed the strategy behind the five-year plan.
 - Originally the WTS would upgrade its technology infrastructure without regard or funding for maintenance or obsolescence planning and consequently everything would age-out simultaneously.
 - This proposal covered rotational five-year upgrades for system costs such as: software licensing, student computers, teacher computers, projectors, supplies, consumables, maintenance agreements, professional development (PD), infrastructure, etc. It was broken down into five annual increases of \$20,400 to reach a final Line Item funding of ~ \$155,000 which would then remain stable, except for occasional moderate increases to keep pace with inflation and technology needs. The following examples were noted:
 - Chromebook replacement needed every five years;
 - shifting from SmartBoard technology to higher quality/longer life Touch-Screens as prices became accessible;
 - WTS 24/7 use with expectations of high quality WiFi;
 - fluid nature of technological advancement.
 - The UIRSC requested end-of-year outline of purchases as a guide to technology cycle spending.

The UIRSC thanked Mr. Crawford for his time and explanation.

- WTS Principal Donna documented the current Middle School staff, noting that a Full Time Equivalent (FTE) sometimes delineated multiple staff adding up to a total. Similarly the proposed staff expansion comprised 1.1 FTE but was actually:
 - a 0.5 FTE Math/Science teacher (plus benefits),
 - a 0.3 English Language Learner (ELL) increase (no benefits needed), and
 - a 0.25 Special Education (SpEd) teacher increase (no benefits needed).

UP-ISLAND REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT OF MARTHA'S VINEYARD
November 12, 2019

Page 2 of 4

The expansion was related solely to increased enrollment, however, Skipper Manter preferred to maintain the same number of FTEs from year to year. Robert Lionette emphasized the importance of Middle School class size in individual attention and quality education.

- The WTS had a high percentage of Math teachers since the subject did not lend itself to age and stage diversity. This circumstance also governed Math SpEd instruction, so that substantial changes to Individual Education Plans (IEPs) would be needed to expand co-teaching into math in FY21—however the expansion was a growth model in earlier grades.

• Mr. Manter protested School Choice policy as requiring the addition of staff, stating he did not care what the compensation was, because it unnecessarily expanded WTS obligation. Responses from others covered several issues.

- Students who 'choiced' in due to the recent crisis at the Tisbury School (see 9/16/19 Minutes p.1 #III A) could remain or return to Tisbury when remediation was completed in January 2020.

- Many school choice students had originally resided in the UIRSD or were about to reside there.

- Middle School expansion was also due to Charter School students returning to the MVPS, as well as to an increase in Aquinnah enrollment.

• *KATE DEVANE MOVED TO ADD THE FOLLOWING MIDDLE SCHOOL LINE ITEMS INTO THE WEST TISBURY SCHOOL SITE FISCAL YEAR 2021 BUDGET:*

- *0.5 FTE MATH/SCIENCE TEACHER (\$71,232);*

- *0.3 FTE ELL TEACHER (\$22,669);*

- *0.25 SPECIAL EDUCATION TEACHER (\$24,074);*

ALEX SALOP SECONDED; MOTION PASSED: 3 AYES, 1 NAY—SKIPPER MANTER, 0 ABSTENTIONS. The UIRSC understood Prin. Lowell-Bettencourt would continue to refine staffing.

• The 0.2 Chilmark School custodian (see 11/7/19 Minutes p.2) hire would not include those services that had to be contracted (floor waxing, carpet cleaning, etc.). \$5,730 would remain in the Extra Custodial services line to cover these services as well as covering reduced substitute funding (in case both custodians were unavailable)—the Shared Services Office included an Island-wide custodian substitute list. Custodial Overtime line had been dormant for some years.

• *ROBERT LIONETTE MOVED TO:*

- *REDUCE THE EXTRA CUSTODIAL SERVICES LINE, AND*

- *ADD A ONE DAY A WEEK CUSTODIAL POSITION*

INTO THE FISCAL YEAR 2021 CHILMARK SCHOOL SITE BUDGET: KATE DEVANE SECONDED; MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY: 4 AYES, 0 NAYS, 0 ABSTENTIONS.

• Kate DeVane was comfortable with the proposed 0.4 FTE Chilmark School Nurse proposal (see 11/7/19 Minutes p.2) constituting their presence four days a week (split to five days if needed), and allowing for medication authority either from the Nurse or designated by phone from the WTS nurse—with the understanding the position could be expanded if need arose.

• *ROBERT LIONETTE MOVED TO INCREASE THE NURSE POSITION 0.2 FULL TIME EQUIVALENT TO 0.4 FULL TIME EQUIVALENT AT \$13,143 IN THE FISCAL YEAR 2021 CHILMARK SCHOOL SITE BUDGET: KATE DEVANE SECONDED; MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY: 4 AYES, 0 NAYS, 0 ABSTENTIONS.*

UP-ISLAND REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT OF MARTHA'S VINEYARD
November 12, 2019

Page 3 of 4

- Shifting salaries was not quite an equal wash and a 0.1 FTE differential was needed to bring the Reading Teacher to 0.7 FTE. The increase was occasioned by larger enrollment and lower reading experience due to increased technology use in small children.
- *KATE DEVANE MOVED TO INCREASE THE READING TEACHER 0.1 FULL TIME EQUIVALENT AT \$9,530 IN THE FISCAL YEAR 2021 CHILMARK SCHOOL SITE BUDGET; ROBERT LIONETTE SECONDED; MOTION PASSED: 3 AYES, 1 NAY—SKIPPER MANTER, 0 ABSTENTIONS.*
- The UIRSC agreed that there should be public input for the School Resource Officer (SRO) and discussed whether to schedule separate sessions or a single unified meeting. The UIRSC requested the discussion be scheduled and publicized. A UIRSD warrant article (requiring three Towns' approval) that would vote the position as a permanent part of the UIRSD budget would solicit more public discussion. There was a discussion on regional versus single school policy and configuration. The current suggestion was for:
 - a full time SRO at the WTS for 180 days—the officer posted at the Airport for the remainder of the year; and
 - a single half-day SRO at the Chilmark School.

Up-Island Regional School District (UIRSD) Financial Policy – 2nd Reading –
Tabled (Agenda item #II)

The UIRSC was informed that an OPEB policy would positively affect actuarial studies. Previously the UIRSC voted to:

- join the Dukes County OPEB Pooled Trust (see 1/23/12 Minutes p.4 #D);
- examine Excess and Deficiency (E & D) at the end of each fiscal year and dedicate a portion to the OPEB Trust (see 4/4/16 Minutes p.2); and
- include OPEB costs for all new hires (10/17/16 p.2 #III B).
- *SKIPPER MANTER MOVED TO CONTINUE THE PRACTICE AND PROCEDURE TO INCREASE THE UP-ISLAND REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT DUKES COUNTY OTHER POST EMPLOYEE BENEFIT POOLED TRUST LINE ITEM BY \$50,000 EACH FISCAL YEAR; KATE DEVANE SECONDED; MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY: 4 AYES, 0 NAYS, 0 ABSTENTIONS.*
- The UIRSC briefly revisited previous discussions (see Minutes: 1/18/19 p.2 #IV A & 4/8/19 p.2 #V B & 6/24/19 p.3 #D) on implementing the E & D OPEB commitment, whether to establish a reserve line and return all E & D to the Towns, or follow the new E & D protocol (see 3/18/19 Minutes p.4 #E).

Topics Not Reasonably Anticipated by the Chair (Agenda Item #IV)

Adjournment

- *ROBERT LIONETTE MOVED TO ADJOURN AT 7:19PM; ALEX SALOP SECONDED; MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.*

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UP-ISLAND REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT OF MARTHA'S VINEYARD
November 12, 2019

Page 4 of 4

Meetings/Events

- AISC – 4:30PM, Thursday, November 14, 2019 – MVRHS LCR
- MVRHSC – Immediately after AISC, Thursday, November 14, 2019 – MVRHS LCR
- **UIRSC – 5:00PM, Monday, November 18, 2019 – WTS**
- MVRHSC Budget Hearing - 6:00PM, Monday, November 25, 2019 – MVRHS
- MVRHSC - 5:00PM, Monday, December 2, 2019 – MVRHS
- **UIRSC – 5:00PM, Monday, December 16, 2019 – TBD**

Documents on File:

- Agenda 11/12/19
- Sign In Sheet 11/12/19
- Middle School Staffing Levels 2019-20
- Combined Up-Island Pupil Enrollment Census – October 1, 2019 Final (2 p.) 11/12/19
- UIRSD FY21 Budget Draft #2...(2 p.)
- Up-Island Regional School District FY21 General Fund Budget – Draft #2B November 12, 2019 (14 p.)
- Up-Island Regional School District Employee List for 2019-2020 for FY21 Budgeting Purposes Draft #2B 11/12/19 (4 p.)

Minutes approved 12/16/19.