

**UP-ISLAND REGIONAL SCHOOL COMMITTEE
OF MARTHA'S VINEYARD
5:00PM, Monday, November 7, 2019
West Tisbury School**

Page 1 of 4

Present: Chair – Kate DeVane, Roxanne Ackerman, Robert Lionette*, Skipper Manter*, Alex Salop,
Others: Supt's Shared Services Office: Matt D'Andrea, Richie Smith, Amy Tierney,
Principals: Donna Lowell-Bettencourt, Susan Stevens, Mary Boyd,
WT FinCom – Greg Orcutt,
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.

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

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

Business Administrator Amy Tierney presented a number of comparative drafts and explained recent updates.

- Due to a change in its proportional share, the UIRSD assessments for the Superintendent's Shared Services Office FY21 Budget decreased ~ \$44,000 as well as for Transportation ~ \$9,000. Consequently, a level service budget (including the \$50,000 Other Post Employee Benefits (OPEB) would rise ~ \$255,000 or 2.09% and with Administrator requests added \$425,000 or 3.69%. This was within range of previous years' increases ranges of 3-4%. The UIRSD schools periodically reviewed the budgets for staff and supply reductions in keeping with enrollment fluctuations.
- As a first step the UIRSC asked if there were any changes in FY20 staffing. The Administrators confirmed no changes except a West Tisbury School (WTS) unexpected Circuit Breaker draw that would not be repeated.
- Kate DeVane raised a Shared Services budget (3.8% increase) issue that would be discussed at the All Island School Committee (AISC). The UIRSC requested the FY21 Martha's Vineyard Public Schools (MVPS) Transportation Budget total and increase. Transportation costs increased overall and invoicing to local districts was on a per run basis—two runs were added to other local districts.
- The UIRSC explored WTS middle school expansion funding, which was due solely to population rise.

* Robert Lionette entered the meeting.

The expansion was addressed with a number of fractional Full Time Equivalents (FTEs) by adding hours to existing staff (Math/Science, English Language Learners (ELL), Special

UP-ISLAND REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT OF MARTHA'S VINEYARD

November 7, 2019

Page 2 of 4

Education), and a 0.5 FTE Education Support Professional (ESP). The present configuration was flexible enough to manage three sections for any one grade but not for two or three grades. The UIRSC requested current middle school staffing numbers.

- There was a discussion revisiting some confusion over the five-year WTS technology plan (see documents on file and 11/15/18 Minutes p.1-2 #IV). The technology had previously been funded with grants and generous private donations. The UIRSC requested Technologist David Crawford attend the next budget meeting.

- The WTS after school programs were attracting a large number of families and this increase would complete the originally projected cost of \$10,000.

- A number of supply lines had to be incrementally increased to accommodate the population increase (equipment, health, athletic uniforms, etc.).

- *KATE DEVANE MOVED TO ADD THE FOLLOWING LINE ITEMS INTO THE NEXT FISCAL YEAR 2021 BUDGET DRAFT FOR THE WEST TISBURY SCHOOL SITE:*

- *TECHNOLOGY PHASE II (\$20,224)*

- *AFTER SCHOOL PROGRAMMING (\$5,000);*

- *SPECIAL EDUCATION SUPPLIES/EXPENSES (\$12,000);*

- *ENRICHMENT EXPENSES (\$500);*

- *SPORTS EXPENSES (\$500);*

- *ENGLISH LANGUAGE LEARNERS (ELL) TRANSLATION EXPENSES (\$1,000);*

- *SUPERVISORY SALARIES COACHING/ADVISOR/MUSIC (\$700).*

ROXANNE ACKERMAN SECONDED; MOTION PASSED: 4 AYES 0 NAYS, 1 ABSTENTION—SKIPPER MANTER.

- In considering the Chilmark School nurse (see Minutes: 10/29/18 p.2, & 11/15/18 p.3 #V & 12/6/18 p.2 # V & 10/3/19 p.2), regulations had changed in regards to dispensing medications. Head of School Susan Stevens proposed increasing Nurse to 0.4 FTE for four half days (3 hrs. each) with the flexibility to split a day if medication dispensing so required. The Nurse would also teach the Health/Wellness curriculum (pay-grade equivalent of a Certificate of Advanced Graduate Studies (CAG)).

- Further financial exploration of a full time Chilmark School health provider (whether a nurse or Certified Nursing Assistant (CNA)) was important to insure every UIRSD child could have a choice of all schools without loss of health resources.

- The 0.6 reading teacher increase was compensated by a different line reduction.

- The UIRSC commended the planning of hiring a 0.2 FTE (one day per week) custodian, funded by shifting resources from the Extra-Custodial/Overtime lines. This would give regular help to the current custodian and provide a readily available substitute.

- Ms. Stevens delineated projected Professional Development (PD) expenses, noting the current lines covered a single training spread among a teaching staff of 19:

- three teachers to the Lucy Calkins Institute (see 10/3/19 Minutes p.2);

- Letterland training for new Special Education and new kindergarten (K)/first grade teachers;

- Nurse health/wellness training.

- *KATE DEVANE MOVED TO ADD CHILMARK SCHOOL CONFERENCES AND WORKSHOPS, AND THE READING TEACHER INCREASE INTO THE FISCAL YEAR*

UP-ISLAND REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT OF MARTHA'S VINEYARD

November 7, 2019

Page 3 of 4

2021 BUDGET DRAFT #2A; ALEX SALOP SECONDED; At Skipper Manter's suggestion:
MOTION WITHDRAWN.

• *KATE DEVANE MOVED TO ADD CHILMARK SCHOOL CONFERENCES AND WORKSHOPS, INTO THE NEXT FISCAL YEAR 2021 BUDGET DRAFT #2A; ALEX SALOP SECONDED; MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY: 5 AYES, 0 NAYS, 0 ABSTENTIONS.*

• Roxanne Ackerman protested that Ms. Stevens, who knew the School best, had presented her recommendations for the most efficient fit and that consideration of so many hypotheticals was beyond UIRSC expertise. Robert Lionette concurred but noted the scenarios had been raised. The UIRSC discussed a number of other budget topics.

• The Chilmark Police Chief had previously proposed splitting the cost (\$2,500 Chilmark Police/\$2,500 Chilmark School site) of a School Resource Officer (SRO) 3 hrs. per week.

- The UIRSC also requested a WTS site SRO total cost (with the patrolman as chosen—see 10/21/19 Minutes p.1 #V C).

- The UIRSC briefly reviewed the SRO roles as previously discussed.

• The UIRSC agreed to continue the practice of adding \$50,000 to the Other Post Employee Benefits (OPEB) line item. Coupled with the pay-as-you-go expenses, OPEB funding for new hires, and previous Excess and Deficiency (E & D) commitments the UIRSD was 20.8% funded and moving swiftly toward the Actuarially Determined Employer Contribution (ADEC) or Annual Required Contribution (ARC). The latest actuarial evaluation reduced the liability to \$8,500,000. The E & D commitment could be continued but it would involve a more cumbersome process later in a fiscal year (see 3/18/19 Minutes p.4 #E).

* Skipper Manter left the meeting.

• Capital project status was reviewed (see documents on file).

- The Chilmark School flooring and WTS bell wing roof were completed.

- The WTS parking lot design funds were still in play (see 12/17/18 Minutes p.4 #B).

- Phase II of the Chilmark School windows and WTS decks were scheduled for FY21.

- Prin. Lowell Bettencourt proposed a new pro-active project to replace the WTS rubber roof before the warranty expired in two years (the current warranty was in constant use due to numerous leaks). The project would include roof redesign to minimize equipment and skylight flaws. She suggested \$109,000 for roofing engineer design and Owners Project Manager (OPM) costs—general practice at 10% of total project costs.

• The WTS stage elevator was constantly being repaired and should eventually be replaced.

• It would be less expensive to complete the remaining Chilmark school flooring (Phase III) in one project estimated at \$55,900—especially if reduced by the \$9,600 residual from the previous flooring article (see below: #IV). The UIRSC requested contingency costs be included.

• The UIRSC requested information on updated electrical specs for a Chilmark School generator (see 10/21/19 Minutes p.2 #VI B).

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

• Prin. Lowell Bettencourt stated the WTS did not need to replace its 2009 Prius although the Martha's Vineyard Regional High School (MVRHS) sometimes borrowed it for Special

UP-ISLAND REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT OF MARTHA'S VINEYARD

November 7, 2019

Page 4 of 4

Education transportation. The UIRSC suggested it be offered to the MVRHS with a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) that the UIRSC could borrow it when needed. • The WTS roofing article showed a \$58,646 residual. Like the Chilmark flooring residual it could be transferred to reduce the new roofing and flooring articles or returned to the Towns.

- IT WAS THE CONSENSUS OF THE UIRSC TO INFORM THE TOWNS OF ALL WARRANT ARTICLE RESIDUALS. The Chair would research the correct language for the official notification.

- These funds still resided at the Towns as they had not been billed. If returned to the Towns the funds would go to each Town's general fund. THERE WAS SOME CONSENSUS TO RETURN ALL RESIDUALS TO TOWNS AS A GOOD FAITH GESTURE, SO THAT EACH NEW ARTICLE WOULD START FRESH.

• ROBERT LIONETTE MOVED TO ACCEPT WITH GREAT APPRECIATION A \$3,000 ANONYMOUS DONATION FOR THE PLASTIC FREE GROUP; ALEX SALOP SECONDED; MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY: 4 AYES, 0 NAYS, 0 ABSTENTIONS.

Adjournment

Mr. Lionette apologized for his tardiness.

• *ALEX SALOP MOVED TO ADJOURN AT 7:00PM; ROBERT LIONETTE SECONDED; MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.*

Meetings/Events

• UIRSC Budget – 6:00PM, Wednesday, November 12, 2019 – WTS

• AISC – 4:30PM, Thursday, November 14, 2019 – MVRHS

• 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

Documents on File:

• Agenda 11/7/19

• Sign In Sheet 11/7/19

• 5-Year Technology Budget Realignment Overview (Revised)

• UIRSD FY21 Budget Draft #1...(2 p.)

- Up-Island Regional School District FY21 General Fund Budget – Draft #2A November 7, 2019 (14 p.)

• UIRSD Capital Projects Update – November 7, 2019

• Up-Island Regional School District Minutes excerpt re: West Tisbury School Technology (2 p.)

Minutes approved 12/16/19.