

**UP-ISLAND REGIONAL SCHOOL COMMITTEE
OF MARTHA'S VINEYARD
10:00AM, Monday, April 6, 2020
By Zoom Cloud Conference due to COVID-19**

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

Others: Supt's Shared Services Office: Richie Smith, Nancy Dugan,
Mark Friedman,
Principals: Donna Lowell-Bettencourt, Mary Boyd, Susan Stevens,
Chilmark Pre-School: Anja May
Towns – WT FinCom – Greg Orcutt, WT Accountant – Bruce Stone,
Chilmark Board of Health – Matt Poole,
Press – MVTV,
Recorder: Marni Lipke

*Late arrivals or early departures of UIRSC members

Call to Order (Agenda Item #I)

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

Minutes Read and Approved (Agenda Item #II)

A. January 27, 2020 - Tabled

Superintendent's Report (Agenda Item #V)

A. Discussion – Proposed Chilmark Preschool Opening for Children of Essential Employees

The Chilmark Preschool (CPS) had been granted a license for first responder family childcare. To safeguard Chilmark School staff health from the Corona virus the CPS and Head of School Susan Stevens proposed to lock the door that divided the CPS space from the rest of the School. The Chilmark Board of Health agreed the door had to be unlocked and unaltered to be code compliant as an alternate emergency exit. The UIRSC debated the issue at length.

- The Town of Chilmark owned the School and leased it to the UIRSD. The UIRSD declared a classroom surplus space and the Town leased it to the CPS (see 7/12/04 Minutes p.3 #B). Consequently the Town was ultimately responsible. CPS Director Anja May suggested the Chilmark Building Inspector be consulted.
- An alternate proposal to leave the door unlocked but the alarm on was debated. However it would be difficult to restrain curious active children from opening the door. The CPS would then be responsible for the cost of deep cleaning the rest of the School.
- School Teachers came to the School one at a time, leaving notes for the custodian on where they had been in the building. Ms. Stevens emphasized the need for staff safety and comfort.
- First responder daycare was a specific license which the CPS was able to obtain fairly quickly as an already licensed space conforming with fire, health and safety regulations. The license was for 20 children aged 2.9 to 13 years of age, with stringent restrictions to Up Island emergency worker childcare (not education). CPS had space for 16 children and so far had applications for three. Hours were from 6:00AM to 6:00PM corresponding with first responder shifts.

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- The State guidelines for child and staff safety included separated drop-off, masks for teachers, temperature taking, hand washing, etc. However it was understood that emergency workers and their families could not always practice safe social distancing.
 - Suggestions for the CPS to move to a different location would require a long re-licensing procedure, unless another pre-school volunteered space—which was not likely. Martha's Vineyard Community Services (MVCS) was also running a daycare program, but there were no other similar private preschool/public school situations on the Island.
 - Creative scheduling to alternate teacher access and CPS daycare was considered.
 - The UIRSC acknowledged the importance of the service.
 - *KATE DEVANE MOVED TO SUPPORT THE CHILMARK PRESCHOOL LICENSE FOR CHILDREN OF ESSENTIAL EMPLOYEES PROVIDED:*
 - *THE CONNECTING DOOR IS SECURED ACCORDING TO CHILMARK TOWN GUIDELINES, AND*
 - *TO DIRECT THAT AT THE SAME TIME A SUPPLEMENTAL CLEANING PLAN BE DRAFTED AND SENT TO THE CHILMARK HEAD OF SCHOOL AND STAFF;*
- ALEX SALOP SECONDED: MOTION PASSED: 4 AYES, 1 NAY, 0 ABSTENTIONS: ALEX SALOP—AYE, ROBERT LIONETTE—AYE, ROXANNE ACKERMAN—AYE, SKIPPER MANTER—NAY, KATE DEVANE—AYE.*

B. School Choice Vote – Tabled

Finance

(Agenda Item #IV)

A. Expenditure and Revenue Report if Available – Tabled

B. Approval West Tisbury School (WTS) Donations to Martha's Vineyard Hospital (MVH)

As schools were closed, WTS Principal Donna Lowell-Bettencourt proposed donating extra health safety supplies to the Martha's Vineyard Hospital (MVH), including N95 masks, regular masks, wipes, toilet paper, disinfectant, foaming hand soap, gloves, etc. Supplies had been inventoried and moved to the Health/Wellness room which had access to truck loading. The School would retain sufficient supplies for cafeteria workers, nurses, and future use. Some supplies would be shared with the Chilmark School.

- Quantities were reviewed in terms of usefulness to various organizations.
- A suggestion to donate masks to grocery store workers was problematic as a public school to private for-profit donation. Chilmark Health Agent Matt Poole explained that it was more important for the public to wear masks out of respect for grocery workers.
- The UIRSC considered Up Island versus wider community use and financial protocols.
- *SKIPPER MANTER MOVED TO DECLARE THE MATERIALS SUBMITTED BY PRINCIPAL DONNA LOWELL-BETTENCOURT AS SURPLUS TO BE DONATED/OFFERED FIRST TO THE TRI-TOWN AMBULANCE, AND THEN TO THE THREE UP ISLAND TOWN'S POLICE AND TOWN OFFICES, AND THEN IF NECESSARY TO THE MARTHA'S VINEYARD HOSPITAL; KATE DEVANE SECONDED: MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY: 5 AYES, 0*

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NAYS, 0 ABSTENTIONS: ROBERT LIONETTE—AYE, ROXANNE ACKERMAN—AYE, SKIPPER MANTER—AYE, ALEX SALOP—AYE, KATE DEVANE—AYE.

C. Chief Procurement Officer Vote

Later in the meeting,

• *SKIPPER MANTER MOVED TO APPOINT INTERIM MARTHA'S VINEYARD PUBLIC SCHOOLS FINANCE MANAGER MARK FRIEDMAN AS UP ISLAND REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT PROCUREMENT OFFICER; ROBERT LIONETTE SECONDED: MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY: 5 AYES, 0 NAYS, 0 ABSTENTIONS: ROBERT LIONETTE—AYE, SKIPPER MANTER—AYE, ROXANNE ACKERMAN—AYE, ALEX SALOP—AYE, KATE DEVANE—AYE.*

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

- The WTS cafeteria workers had served 1,230 breakfast and 1,578 lunches in 13 days, however the Superintendent's Office sent out a notification of a possible change in protocol to bags of groceries once or twice a week. Assistant Superintendent Richie Smith reported on the growing concern among Martha's Vineyard Public Schools (MVPS) food service workers. These concerns included contact with food supplies received in cardboard boxes and the imminent Massachusetts Covid-19 peak period. The UIRSC debated:
 - State and Federal guidelines and scientific facts versus personnel anxiety;
 - food delivery to a vulnerable population;
 - WTS food workers configuration – two in the kitchen, two in the cafeteria packaging, one runner, no other exchanges and no volunteers;
 - twin goals to feed children and protect staff;
 - Matt Poole's suggestions for a compromise re: numbers and/or protocol to retain the program;
 - Mark Friedman's reporting of Federal and State reimbursements based on food service.
- Massachusetts Superintendents were also debating how to approach April vacation.

Personnel (Agenda Item #VI)

A. Retirement (See documents on file.)

• *SKIPPER MANTER MOVED TO ACKNOWLEDGE THE RETIREMENT OF TECHNOLOGY TEACHER AL MAHONEY AT THE END OF THE 2019-20 ACADEMIC YEAR WITH GREAT APPRECIATION; ROBERT LIONETTE SECONDED; MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY: 5 AYES, 0 NAYS, 0 ABSTENTIONS: ROBERT LIONETTE—AYE, ROXANNE ACKERMAN—AYE, SKIPPER MANTER—AYE, ALEX SALOP—AYE, KATE DEVANE—AYE.*

B. Maternity Leaves of Absence (See documents on file.)

- *ROBERT LIONETTE MOVED TO APPROVE THE MATERNITY LEAVE REQUESTS FOR:*
 - *WEST TISBURY SCHOOL FOURTH GRADE TEACHER DYAN DEMERS FROM MAY 8, 2020 THROUGH THE REMAINDER OF THE 2019-20 SCHOOL YEAR, AND*
 - *CHILMARK SCHOOL EDUCATION SUPPORT PROFESSIONAL KEELAN PARKER FROM MAY 11, 2020 THROUGH THE REMAINDER OF THE 2019-20 SCHOOL YEAR;*

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SKIPPER MANTER SECONDED; MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY: 5 AYES, 0 NAYS, 0 ABSTENTIONS: ROBERT LIONETTE—AYE, ALEX SALOP—AYE, ROXANNE ACKERMAN—AYE, SKIPPER MANTER—AYE, KATE DEVANE—AYE.

Adjournment

• *SKIPPER MANTER MOVED TO ADJOURN AT 11:32AM; ROBERT LIONETTE SECONDED; MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY: KATE DEVANE—AYE, ROBERT LIONETTE—AYE, ROXANNE ACKERMAN—AYE, ALEX SALOP—AYE, SKIPPER MANTER—AYE.*

Meetings/Events

- MVRHSC - 5:00PM, Monday, April 6, 2020 – Zoom Conference
- AISC - 5:00PM, Friday, April 10, 2020 – Zoom Conference
- AISC - 5:00PM, Monday, April 27, 2020 – Zoom Conference
- MVRHSC - 5:00PM, Monday, May 4, 2020 – TBD
- UIRSC Meeting – 5:00PM, Monday, May 18, 2020 - TBD

Documents on File:

- Agenda (Revised) 4/6/20
- D'Andrea letters to Parents re: school closure 3/12/20 & 3/13/20
- Mahoney email re: Retirement 3/9/20
- Demers letter re: Maternity Leave of Absence 1/10/20
- Parker letter re: Maternity Leave of Absence 2/3/20

Minutes approved 5/11/20