

**ALL ISLAND SCHOOL COMMITTEE OF MARTHA'S VINEYARD PUBLIC SCHOOLS**  
**SUPERINTENDENCY UNION #19**  
**Edgartown School Committee**  
**Oak Bluffs School Committee**  
**Tisbury School Committee**  
**Martha's Vineyard Regional School District**  
**Up Island Regional School District**

**6:30PM, Thursday February 17, 2022**  
**Zoom Meeting**

Present: Chair – Kate DeVane (UI), Vice Chair – Michael Watts (TIS)  
Up-Island Roxanne Ackerman, Kate DeVane, Robert Lionette, Skipper Manter, Alex Salop  
Tisbury Jennifer Cutrer, Amy Houghton\*, Michael Watts  
Oak Bluffs Kris O'Brien, Kathryn Shertzer  
Edgartown Kimberly Kirk, Kelly McCracken, Louis Paciello  
Others: About 250 attendees including: Cape Cod Collaborative – Paul Hilton, Edgartown Health Agent – Matt Poole, Coordinator of Pathways and Special Projects – Samuel Hart, Martha's Vineyard Educators Association (MVEA) Co-Presidents – Nedine Cunningham and Spencer D'Agostino  
Shared Services Office Superintendent – Matthew D'Andrea, Asst. Superintendent – Richie Smith, School Business Administrator – Mark Friedman, Director of Student Support Services for MV Public Schools – Hope MacLeod, Administrative Assistant – Ruda Stone  
Principals Martha's Vineyard Regional High School (MVRHS) – Sara Dingledey  
FinComs Oak Bluffs – Mike Taus, Tisbury – Mary Ellen Larson  
Press MV Times – Lucas Thors, MVTV, Vineyard Gazette – Louisa Hufstader  
Recorder Teresa Kruszewski *\*Late arrivals or early departures of AISC members (see \* in text)*

**Please note: All business will consist of a discussion and possible vote to take action**

**Call to Order**

(Agenda Item #I)

The All-Island School Committee (AISC) meeting was called to order at 6:33 PM by Chair Kate DeVane. In order to facilitate the technology: the meeting was being recorded; video cameras should be off except for AISC members or Administrators or when actively participating; attendees were asked to identify themselves with first and last names; the chat feature was turned off. *(Recorder's Note: Discussions are summarized and grouped for clarity and brevity).*

Chair DeVane set the expectations for the meeting and asked that all conversations remain respectful; comments should remain brief, not to exceed 2 minutes; everyone would have the opportunity to speak once. She said many letters had been received and read.

Asst. Superintendent Richie Smith apologized to the Committee for disparaging remarks made prior to this meeting; with great appreciation he thanked everyone for all the work that has been done for the schools.

**Approval of Minutes**

(Agenda Item # II)

**A. Including But Not Limited To: October 20, 2021; November 4, 2021; December 2, 2021**

*KELLY MCCRACKEN MOVED TO APPROVE THE OCTOBER 20, 2021, NOVEMBER 4, 2021 AND DECEMBER 2, 2021 ALL ISLAND SCHOOL COMMITTEE MINUTES; ROXANNE ACKERMAN SECONDED; MOTION PASSED WITH ABSTENTIONS AS ABSENT: 10 AYES, 0 NAYS, 2 ABSTENTIONS: MS. ACKERMAN—AYE, MS. DEVANE—AYE, MS. KIRK—AYE, MR. MANTER—AYE, MS. MCCRACKEN—AYE, MS. O'BRIEN—AYE, MR. PACIELLO—AYE, MR. SALOP—AYE, MS. SHERTZER—AYE AND MR. WATTS—AYE. MS. CUTRER—ABSTAINED AND MR. LIONETTE—ABSTAINED.*

*\*Amy Houghton arrived at 6:39 PM*

# ALL ISLAND SCHOOL COMMITTEE OF MARTHA'S VINEYARD PUBLIC SCHOOLS

**6:30PM, Thursday February 17, 2022**  
**Zoom Meeting**

## **Old/New Business**

(Agenda Item #III)

### **A. Cape Cod Collaborative – Approval to Develop a Capital Reserve Fund**

Paul Hilton explained this was a statutory requirement to have a fund that could go from year to year; there was no financial obligation. Chair DeVane said a  $\frac{2}{3}$  yes vote was needed, the vote was a formality.

*ROXANNE ACKERMAN MOVED TO APPROVE THE REQUEST TO ESTABLISH THE CAPITAL RESERVE FUND; KELLY MCCRACKEN SECONDED; MOTION PASSED: 12 AYES, 1 NAYS, 0 ABSTENTIONS: MS. ACKERMAN—AYE, MS. CUTRER—AYE, MS. DEVANE—AYE, MS. HOUGHTON—AYE, MS. KIRK—AYE, MR. LIONETTE—AYE, MS. MCCRACKEN—AYE, MS. O'BRIEN—AYE, MR. PACIELLO—AYE, MR. SALOP—AYE, MS. SHERTZER—AYE AND MR. WATTS—AYE. MR. MANTER—NAY.*

## **Superintendent's Report**

(Agenda Item #IV)

### **A. Negotiations Update**

Michael Watts said an agreement could be reached within the next few weeks with the teachers union as one item was still under discussion; masks were not part of negotiations. Kathryn Shertzer recommended an Executive Session be on the next agenda in anticipation of negotiation needs.

### **B. Mask Policy**

Superintendent Matthew D'Andrea said on February 28, 2022 the mask mandate would be lifted by the State; he recommended March 7, 2022 be the date to lift the Island mask mandate. The School Committee/s needed to rescind or revise the current policy. If lifted, the schools would still have to follow town mandates. Masking exceptions would continue for students and staff: riding on buses, in Health Offices and when tested positive.

Superintendent D'Andrea said the Health and Safety Committee (HSC) recommended that schools do not lift the mandate prior to March 28, 2022, as there was concern about the uptick from February vacation. They wanted to support the Boards of Health and community without burdening the hospital, keeping students safe.

Spencer D'Agostino said the MVEA position since the beginning, has been to follow the recommendations of the professionals and the HSC.

### **Committee Discussion Highlights:**

- Using statistics was a non-emotional approach. With a school policy in place we could then follow the BOH. The data was available to help make the decisions; mask removal could be tied to vaccination rates.
- Thresholds should be set; it was important to put a mandate back in place if needed, to slow the spread. Some Members advocated for amending/revising and not rescinding.
- Matt Poole said a joint BOH meeting was planned at the beginning of March to consider mask mandates and the calendar; they wanted to time it right for suspending mandates. He said there had been much debate over the quality of masks; N95's were the recommended solution going forward.
- State guidelines have been followed throughout, we should continue to follow their recommendations. We were an elected body, let's be leaders for the towns.
- Great feedback and letters from the community; there was surprise expressed that vacations would result in a spike/be a problem. Caution was advised; perhaps review at the classroom level.
- Masking did not make a difference as numbers went up and down. Concern about crafting amendments, we should revoke the mandate and follow the town leadership/BOH to continue moving forward.
- We were different from the mainland as we had a 23 bed hospital; ICU beds were very limited.
- Our sports teams compete with unmasked schools.

# ALL ISLAND SCHOOL COMMITTEE OF MARTHA'S VINEYARD PUBLIC SCHOOLS

**6:30PM, Thursday February 17, 2022**  
**Zoom Meeting**

## **Public Discussion Highlights:**

- Masks were not healthy for kids; the accumulated moisture and gunk was not good at all. There was the illusion we have control of the virus, the reality was it had a mind of its own.
- Mental health fallout; kids felt scared not to wear a mask and terrified when they are off. We have to be part of the world, and cannot think we live in this little bubble. Having a choice would be a reasonable option.
- Schools were town buildings and therefore must follow town guidance; a vote to revoke was premature. Chair DeVane replied, we would send a message to the towns if we voted to rescind.
- In support of the State decision for February 28, 2022, it was time to let kids be kids again. Students were unmasked during lunch and recess since September; we should work with the State recommendations.
- Studies have shown that natural immunity was better than vaccinated immunity.
- Kids were learning and having fun with or without masks, why rush?
- More information was needed about the HSC: when was it appointed; who was on it; when does it meet?
- Many were in support of the BOH and a scientific approach; putting thresholds in place. Following the science made the most sense. We needed to think about others in the community; respecting and caring for health care workers and others.

*LOUIS PACIELLO MOVED TO RESCIND THE MASK MANDATE AND LET IT EXPIRE WITH THE STATE; KATHRYN SHERTZER SECONDED.*

After a lengthy procedural discussion; Superintendent D'Andrea said this needed to be voted on by each of the locals. He asked to craft a motion most advantageous, a uniform motion among the towns, that would pass throughout. He asked that all the schools do the same thing, but said that it wasn't necessary.

*THE MOTION TO RESCIND THE MASK MANDATE AND LET IT EXPIRE WITH THE STATE WAS WITHDRAWN BY LOUIS PACIELLO FROM THE ALL ISLAND SCHOOL COMMITTEE.*

Mr. Paciello put his motion forward: *TO RESCIND THE MASK MANDATE*, for all locals to vote.

*(Please see individual School Committee/District votes below, listed after the AISC Adjournment, Agenda Item #VIII, pgs. 4-6.)*

## **C. Approval of Grant-Funded, School-Based (pK-8) Mental Health Clinician position**

This was a (temporary) pilot position, working specifically with elementary schools. Amy Houghton thanked Kim Garrison and Asst. Superintendent Smith for doing this work; the \$350,000.00 grant was phenomenal but questioned how this amount of funding would be spent in such a short period of time. *(Please see document on file for time-sensitive discussion: APPROVED Minutes MVRHSC January 20.pdf; pg 2, Grants & Donations/Vote: Agenda item #III)*

Ms. Garrison explained two applicants were being reviewed; the prep work allowed a more aggressive approach to recruiting, including outreach from the teachers. Members discussed what it would take to make this position/s go beyond July 1, 2022.

*ROBERT LIONETTE MOVED TO APPROVE THE GRANT-FUNDED, SCHOOL-BASED (PK-8) MENTAL HEALTH CLINICIAN POSITION; ALEX SALOP SECONDED; MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY: 13 AYES, 0 NAYS, 0 ABSTENTIONS: MS. ACKERMAN—AYE, MS. CUTRER—AYE, MS. DEVANE—AYE, MS. HOUGHTON—AYE, MS. KIRK—AYE, MR. LIONETTE—AYE, MR. MANTER—AYE, MS. MCCRACKEN—AYE, MS. O'BRIEN—AYE, MR. PACIELLO—AYE, MR. SALOP—AYE, MS. SHERTZER—AYE AND MR. WATTS—AYE.*

# ALL ISLAND SCHOOL COMMITTEE OF MARTHA'S VINEYARD PUBLIC SCHOOLS

**6:30PM, Thursday February 17, 2022**  
**Zoom Meeting**

## **D. January 29, 2022 Storm: Acknowledgment & Thanks**

Chair DeVane recognized and thanked everyone that helped to clean-up after the most recent, major storm.  
(Please see document on file for complete list: 1.29.22 Storm Clean up.pdf)

### **Personnel**

(Agenda Item #V)

#### **A. Leave of Absence**

*KRIS O'BRIEN MOVED TO APPROVE THE REQUESTED LEAVE OF ABSENCE OF LAURA KNIGHT; ROBERT LIONETTE SECONDED; MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY: 13 AYES, 0 NAYS, 0 ABSTENTIONS: MS. ACKERMAN—AYE, MS. CUTRER—AYE, MS. DEVANE—AYE, MS. HOUGHTON—AYE, MS. KIRK—AYE, MR. LIONETTE—AYE, MR. MANTER—AYE, MS. MCCRACKEN—AYE, MS. O'BRIEN—AYE, MR. PACIELLO—AYE, MR. SALOP—AYE, MS. SHERTZER—AYE AND MR. WATTS—AYE.*

### **Public Comment**

(Agenda Item #VI)

None.

### **Topics not reasonably anticipated by the Chair**

(Agenda Item #VII)

- Ms. Shertzler asked to discuss in-person meetings; Chair DeVane said she would be happy to put that to a vote at the next AISC meeting.
- Meeting dates were scheduled for the balance of the year, if needed please see Ruda Stone.
- Ms. Houghton said she resigned from the Personnel Sub-Committee and that Jennifer Cutrer was stepping into that position; a Chair would need to be elected.

### **Adjournment**

(Agenda Item #VIII)

*ALEX SALOP MOVED TO ADJOURN THE AISC MEETING AT 8:48 PM; KRIS O'BRIEN SECONDED; MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY: 13 AYES, 0 NAYS, 0 ABSTENTIONS: MS. ACKERMAN—AYE, MS. CUTRER—AYE, MS. DEVANE—AYE, MS. HOUGHTON—AYE, MS. KIRK—AYE, MR. LIONETTE—AYE, MR. MANTER—AYE, MS. MCCRACKEN—AYE, MS. O'BRIEN—AYE, MR. PACIELLO—AYE, MR. SALOP—AYE, MS. SHERTZER—AYE AND MR. WATTS—AYE.*

### **• THE EDGARTOWN SCHOOL COMMITTEE (ESC) WAS CALLED TO ORDER AT 8:50 PM.**

Kimberly Kirk asked for clarification; the change would not go into effect until the Town lifted their mandate? Mr. Poole said if things were to get worse, the mask policy would be updated by the BOH and governed by Town decisions for public places.

*LOUIS PACIELLO MOVED TO REMOVE THE MASK MANDATE; KELLY MCCRACKEN SECONDED; MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY: 3 AYES, 0 NAYS, 0 ABSTENTIONS. MS. KIRK—AYE, MS. MCCRACKEN—AYE AND MR. PACIELLO—AYE.*

*KIMBERLY KIRK MOVED TO ADJOURN THE MEETING AT 8:57 PM; LOUIS PACIELLO SECONDED; MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY: 3 AYES, 0 NAYS, 0 ABSTENTIONS. MS. KIRK—AYE, MS. MCCRACKEN—AYE AND MR. PACIELLO—AYE.*

# ALL ISLAND SCHOOL COMMITTEE OF MARTHA'S VINEYARD PUBLIC SCHOOLS

**6:30PM, Thursday February 17, 2022**  
**Zoom Meeting**

- **THE MARTHA'S VINEYARD REGIONAL HIGH SCHOOL COMMITTEE (MVRHSC) WAS CALLED TO ORDER AT 8:58 PM.**

*KATHRYN SHERTZER MOVED TO RESCIND THE MASK MANDATE; KELLY MCCRACKEN SECONDED; MOTION FAILED: 4 AYES, 5 NAYS, 0 ABSTENTIONS. MS. KIRK—AYE, MS. MCCRACKEN—AYE, MS. O'BRIEN—AYE AND MS. SHERTZER—AYE. MS. ACKERMAN—NAY, MS. HOUGHTON—NAY, MR. LIONETTE—NAY, MR. MANTER—NAY AND MR. WATTS—NAY.*

*SKIPPER MANTER MOVED TO ADJOURN THE MEETING AT 9:00 PM; KRIS O'BRIEN SECONDED; MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY: 9 AYES, 0 NAYS, 0 ABSTENTIONS: MS. ACKERMAN—AYE, MS. HOUGHTON—AYE, MS. KIRK—AYE, MR. LIONETTE—AYE, MR. MANTER—AYE, MS. MCCRACKEN—AYE, MS. O'BRIEN—AYE, MS. SHERTZER—AYE AND MR. WATTS—AYE.*

- **THE OAK BLUFFS SCHOOL COMMITTEE (OBSC) WAS CALLED TO ORDER AT 9:01 PM.:**

Kathryn Shertzer encouraged everyone to reach out to their Boards of Health and Select Boards.

*KATHRYN SHERTZER MOVED TO RESCIND THE MASK MANDATE; KRIS O'BRIEN SECONDED; MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY: 2 AYES, 0 NAYS, 0 ABSTENTIONS. MS. O'BRIEN—AYE AND MS. SHERTZER—AYE.*

*KATHRYN SHERTZER MOVED TO ADJOURN THE MEETING AT 9:02 PM; KRIS O'BRIEN SECONDED; MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY: 2 AYES, 0 NAYS, 0 ABSTENTIONS. MS. O'BRIEN—AYE AND MS. SHERTZER—AYE.*

- **THE TISBURY SCHOOL COMMITTEE (TSC) WAS CALLED TO ORDER AT 9:02 PM.**

*MICHAEL WATTS MOVED TO SUSPEND THE MASK POLICY COMMENSURATE WITH THE DECISION OF THE BOARDS OF HEALTH WITH THE THRESHOLD OF ISLAND WIDE 5%; JENNIFER CUTRER SECONDED; MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY: 3 AYES, 0 NAYS, 0 ABSTENTIONS. MS. CUTRER—AYE, MS HOUGHTON—AYE AND MR. WATTS—AYE.*

*MICHAEL WATTS MOVED TO ADJOURN THE MEETING AT 9:03 PM; JENNIFER CUTRER SECONDED; MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY: 3 AYES, 0 NAYS, 0 ABSTENTIONS. MS. CUTRER—AYE, MS HOUGHTON—AYE AND MR. WATTS—AYE.*

- **THE UP ISLAND REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT (UIRSD) WAS CALLED TO ORDER AT 9:04 PM.**

*ROBERT LIONETTE MOVED TO SUSPEND THE MASK POLICY COMMENSURATE WITH THE DECISION OF THE BOARDS OF HEALTH WITH THE THRESHOLD OF ISLAND WIDE 5%; KATE DEVANE SECONDED.*

After much discussion on how to define and measure Island Wide 5%, Mr. Lionette amended his motion:

*ROBERT LIONETTE MOVED TO SUSPEND THE MASK POLICY COMMENSURATE WITH THE DECISION OF THE BOARDS OF HEALTH; SKIPPER MANTER SECONDED; MOTION PASSED: 4 AYES, 1 NAYS, 0 ABSTENTIONS: MS. DEVANE—AYE, MR. LIONETTE—AYE, MR. MANTER—AYE AND MR. SALOP—AYE. MS. ACKERMAN—NAY.*

MVRHS Principal Sara Dingley lamented the lack of discussion during the High School meeting; the vote was pushed through and was very unfortunate. Principal Dingley said that decision should be in line with all the other schools. Mr. Lionette apologized and asked MVRHS SC Chair, Amy Houghton, to include this on the February 24, 2022 agenda.

# ALL ISLAND SCHOOL COMMITTEE OF MARTHA'S VINEYARD PUBLIC SCHOOLS

**6:30PM, Thursday February 17, 2022**  
**Zoom Meeting**

*SKIPPER MANTER MOVED TO ADJOURN THE MEETING AT 9:26PM; ROBERT LIONETTE SECONDED; MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY: 5 AYES, 0 NAYS, 0 ABSTENTIONS. MS. ACKERMAN—AYE, MS. DEVANE—AYE, MR. LIONETTE—AYE, MR. MANTER—AYE AND MR. SALOP—AYE.*

## **Documents on File:**

- AISC Agenda 2.17.22 Revised.pdf
- AISC Agenda 2.17.22.pdf
- DRAFT Minutes AISC December 2 2021.pdf
- DRAFT Minutes AISC November 4, 2021.pdf
- DRAFT Minutes AISC October 20, 2021.pdf
- III.A CC Collaborative Capital Reserve Fund.pdf
- Supt Lttr Mask Policy 2.12.22.pdf
- Supt Lttr Mask Mandate 2.12.22.pdf
- Supt Lttr Mask Mandate 2.12.22 Portug.pdf
- Celia Gillis Email Fwd For AISC.pdf
- FY23 SuptBudgetWorkbook#3 BY DISTRICT - O.B. -12-02-21 E CERTIFIED.pdf
- FY23 SuptBudgetWorkbook#3 HIGHLIGHTS -12-02-21 E CERTIFIED.pdf
- 1.29.22 Storm Clean up.pdf
- SEL & MH Grant FC613\_311 Outline.pdf

**APPROVED MAY 5, 2022**