

**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**

*6:00pm, Thursday, October 24, 2024
Hybrid Meeting in person at MVRHS or via zoom*

Present	Chair – Amy Houghton (Tis)
Up-Island	Roxanne Ackerman, Robert Lionette, Alex Salop, Skipper Manter, Jim Newman (zoom left 6:34, re-enter 6:41)
Tisbury	Jennifer Cutrer, Amy Houghton,
Oak Bluffs	Rizwan Malik (6:12), Kathryn Shertzer, Laurel Schneider
Edgartown	Kristin Brown (6:13), Sarah Murphy (Zoom 6:19, left Zoom 6:53)
Shared Services Office	Richie Smith – Superintendent, Mark Friedman – School Business Administrator, Hope MacLeod – Director of Special Education (left 7:44pm), Kristen Lepine – Administrative Assistant to the Superintendent

I. Call to Order

The All-Island School Committee (AISC) meeting was called to order at 6:07pm.

II. Finance – FY26 Budget

Superintendent Smith thanked Mr. Friedman for the budget documents.

Next meeting November 7th AISC Zoom only budget meeting. Regularly scheduled AISC meeting on November 21st.

Two workflow charts presented. First version (Budget 1C version) has one Operations and one Curriculum/Instruction position. Second version (Budget 1D version) has one Assistant Superintendent position.

There is a need for a succession plan in the central office.

Proposed New Positions FY25

- Operations position is a full time 10-month position. Will oversee daily school operations and administrative support, facilities, food service accountability and reporting and transportation (not all inclusive list).
- Curriculum and Instruction full time 10-month position. Will oversee alignment of state frameworks and curriculum, island wide professional development, accountability reporting (MCAS), assessment schedules and curriculum adoption.

Superintendent Smith went over the other positions already in the system on the workflow charts.

Human Resources budgeted, looking into HR Consulting services. Mr. Salop asked about how in the past there has been an ask for a full time HR position in the school system. Why is consulting better than a position? Superintendent Smith stated we have a bigger need to focus on operations and curriculum at this time.

Discussion and clarification of the number of FTEs in this flowchart. Student Support Services (5.6 FTE), ELL (2 FTE), Finance (7 FTE), Curriculum (.6 FTE), Operations (Currently Superintendent).

Discussion that the preferred model organizational chart has the Operations and Curriculum positions. These are two different skill sets, Chair Houghton appreciates the need to separate out these two positions versus having one Assistant Superintendent.

Committee members requested going through each budget.

Budget Document 1C with the 2 new positions in the operational chart.

Items increased in budget;

Contractual Increases - \$785,540 7.15% increase

- Step increases
- Lane changes
- Health insurance premiums
- COLA
- Differential changes
- Longevity
- Payroll obligations

SPED Increases - \$861,927 10.58% increase

- Human Resources – Contracted Services
- Assistant Superintendent (Operations)
- Administrative Support Personnel
- ASCI Salary
- LRPC Other Expenses
- Behavioral Health Ed Coordinators Salary
- Behavioral Health Ed Contracted Services
- Behavioral Health - Social Worker Salary
- Speech Teachers Salary
- Project Headway Teachers
- Bridge/Compass ESPs
- Bridge Compass Supplies
- SPED Transportation
- Island-Wide Music Stipends
- OPED
- Miscellaneous

The committee is asking for more detail on grants, more information on items that are budgeted for and also applying for grants to see what the delta is between those numbers.

Discussion on how many FTEs are being requested in this budget. This budget is up 6 FTE's from FY24 to FY25. Concerns by Committee members that the Operations position should be a year-round position and not 10-months. The Operations position will be in charge in the Superintendents' absence.

Budget Document 1D. The delta between Budget Document 1C and Budget Document 1D are the benefits and salary for the Curriculum position. All other budget items are the same in Budget 1C and 1D.

Committee question on flow chart with 1 Assistant Superintendent. Committee is requesting more information on why the 2 Assistant Superintendents budget is preferred. Superintendent Smith replied that the Curriculum position will be able to have a clear focus on instruction and it's purely instruction, that growth in that area will grow drastically.

Chair Houghton asking committee members to think about areas of priority and areas that could be looked at cutting. The Committee can give guidance on this after review of this budget.

Committee members asked questions and provided feedback. What the SPED budget was up last year. Up 14% in FY24. Members are concerned about teacher attrition and the inability to retain

staff our schools and to attract new teachers. To think only in terms of if it's the right adjustment to the budget or not is missing the point. Passionate about supporting better resources for our teachers. There are a lot of retirements on the horizon and empty spots we cannot fill. It is not unrealistic that towns can only afford so much. The need for services is growing, and it's growing statewide and nationally, it's not just us. We have to be sensitive to look at all the layers and to have enough left for the local school. In the past, when we have seen significant increases, we have seen ratios and best practices, what is recommended, to help rationalize the ask. This type of support and data would be helpful and then we can discuss the other parts and make decisions on what is available. This body needs to begin to have the conversation to regionalize. Committee members supported the discussion of regionalization.

The Shared Program budget last year 2/3 of it was direct services in special needs in our shared programs. We are looking at different models, for example pulling these services back into the schools. Hope is working on different models and discussing at our monthly cabinet meetings.

Chair Houghton requested when we start working on the next go around of the budget can you identify;

- How much funding you can pull from grants
- Percentage of dollars going towards direct services for special education (including transportation)
- Payroll is a component of HR and not the opposite. Question of restructuring payroll and HR.

Committee member expressed concern about micromanagement as a committee when it comes to the budget. Another member asked how do these increases impact the towns? Superintendent Smith stated there is a formula for each town based on head count from the October 1st census.

Ms. MacLeod asked committee members to request in an email what information they need.

III. Negotiations Update Executive Session –

MS SHERTZER MADE A MOTION TO GO INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION NOT TO RETURN TO REGULAR SESSION TO DISCUSS STRATEGY WITH RESPECT TO COLLECTIVE BARGAINING OR LITIGATION IF AN OPEN MEETING MAY HAVE A DETRIMENTAL EFFECT ON THE BARGAINING OR LITIGATION POSITION OF THE PUBLIC BODY AND THE CHAIR SO DECLARES AND TO INVITE SUPERINTENDENT SMITH, BUSINESS MANAGER MR. FRIEDMAN AND RECORDER MS. LEPINE TO BE PRESENT THROUGHOUT. MR. SALOP SECONDED.

JIM NEWMAN DECLARED HE IS ALONE AND PREPARED TO ENTER EXECUTIVE SESSION VIA ZOOM.

Discussion on the motion. Mr. Manter does not feel there is a need to go into executive session.

ROLL CALL: LIONETTE – AYE, CUTRER – AYE, SHERTZER – AYE, ACKERMAN – AYE, MANTER - NAY, BROWN – AYE, HOUGHTON – AYE, SCHNIEDER – AYE, SALOP – AYE, BROWN – AYE, MALIK – AYE, NEWMAN - AYE AT 8:08PM Motion passes 11-1-0

The meeting adjourned at 8:38PM

Documents on File:

- Agenda 10/24/24
- 25-26 MVYPS Organizational Chart
- 25-26 MVYPS Organizational Chart Assistant Superintendent
- FY26 Super Budget 1C Highlights
- FY26 Super Budget Worksheet 1C

- FY26 Super Budget 1D Highlights
- FY26 Super Budget Worksheet 1D
- Job Descriptions
 - Director of Student Services
 - Director of ELL
 - Director of Operations
 - Director of Curriculum
 - Director of Finance
 - Director of Shared Services
 - Behavioral Health Coordinator
 - Early Childhood Coordinator

Minutes submitted by Kristen Lepine

Minutes approved 12/19/24