

**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, November 21, 2024  
Hybrid Meeting in person at MVRHS or via zoom**

Present	Chair – Amy Houghton (Tis)
Up-Island	Roxanne Ackerman (6:07), Robert Lionette, Alex Salop, Skipper Manter, Jim Newman (Zoom)
Tisbury	Jennifer Cutrer, Mike Watts (6:07 Zoom)
Oak Bluffs	Rizwan Malik, Kathryn Shertzer (6:13)
Edgartown	Kelly Scott, Kristin Brown
Shared Services Office	Richie Smith – Superintendent, Mark Friedman – School Business Administrator, Hope MacLeod – Director of Special Education\
Other	Jenny Royal – Early Childhood Coordinator (Zoom), Leah Palmer – ELL Coordinator (Zoom, left 7:08), Kim Garrison (Zoom left 7:07)

**I. Call to Order**

The All-Island School Committee (AISC) meeting was called to order at 6:03 pm.

**II. Minutes**

*MR LIONETTE MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE THE OCTOBER 3, 2024 MINUTES. MR MANTER SECONDED;*

*ROLL CALL: NEWMAN – AYE, LIONETTE - AYE, SKIPPER – AYE, HOUHGTON – AYE, MALIK – AYE, BROWN – AYE, CUTRER – AYE, SCOTT – AYE, SALOP – AYE*

*Motion passes 9-0-0*

**III. Chair General Remarks**

Thanks given to Richie and the School Committee for getting the Superintendent evaluation process done.

**IV. Superintendent Update**

**A. FY26 Shared Services Budget**

Superintendent Smith budget discussion. Presented summary and detail of the revised budget.

Committee member asked Ms. MacLeod to share the speech and language ratios. Ms. MacLeod discussed the difficulty in comparing our ratios to other districts. Discussion on ratios and comparisons to other districts with 38-40 case loads. Discussion on why there is no need for a new teacher in Tisbury for shared services.

Mr. Lionette concerned about future goals on line 64 Behavioral Health Ed Contracted Services. Chair Houghton discussed the total amount of money on that line will not be bumped up. There is money in that line already that will support these students needing contracted services. \$50,000 does not represent all of the other students who are already contracted. This represents a buffer to help with those new students identified, who need services. How do you arrive at that number? Request of Ms. Garrison on this question. Funds in that line is a percentage of consistent funding used through grants for programs and students.

Discussion between committee members and administration on contracted services, long term, medium term and short term, past work with Medstar. Superintendent Smith discussed trying to

keep kids in school as part of our behavioral health program funded by grants. Now working to grow the program and restore programs.

Mr. Salop asked about working to get students back into the main stream services. Ms. Garrison spoke to student care plans and when they are discontinuing services. Chair Houghton asked how many students are receiving services through clinical contracts. Kids currently contracted 60 students (12 MVRHS Students) receiving services through clinical contracted services/direct mental health services at this time.

Superintendent Smith spoke about 3.5 adjustment counselors embedded in our schools, it used to be 2.5. Being able to have those services in Elementary, Middle School, and High School.

Question from committee member on residential students, why aren't those in the shared services budget. Ms. MacLeod responded that when a team says a student's needs can no longer be met in the Shared Services program and they need more services, they go to a residential program. The cost goes to their home district. If they return they would be put back into the shared services program. Chair Houghton mentioned the budget question with residential students is a good discussion for regionalization later in the meeting.

Mr. Watts mentioned the need for more Human Resource (HR) services. Mr. Salop and Ms. Shertzer mentioned the need for more HR and maybe to come back to that item and possibly recertify later if we find there is a need. Superintendent Smith discussed the HR needs to focus on first. This will get scaffold in over the years. The goal is to have this position in house at some point, but there are so many asks each year that affect the towns in their own budgets. Chair Houghton stated there is that option to come back and certify if we want to increase the HR line in the budget. Discussion on the outsourced payroll and HR needs. What types of contracted services would be needed. We could have the consultant come in and tell us where our gaps are and where we would need to focus on. Committee is asking to have a consultant come in an audit/evaluate the payroll and HR in our system.

Mr. Friedman spoke about Harpers outsourcing payroll and all three ASPs processing payroll, so it is partially outsourced. Then payroll is processed through the other three towns. These three payroll officers are already maxed out on what they are processing. We would like to have someone come in to work with us on where we can become more efficient. There is a need to review this quarterly.

Chair Houghton, any other questions on the budget?

*MR LIONETTE MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE PRESENTATION OF THE FY26 BUDGET \$10,621,495. MR SALOP SECONDED. DISCUSSION;*

Discussion on all documents provided with budget. Conversation on allocation model based on October 1<sup>st</sup> student census.

Allocation of increase;

11.52% High School

13.25% Up-Island

7.45% Edgartown

7.79% Oak Bluffs

30.82% Tisbury (increase due to large student population coming into the school)

*ROLL CALL: WATTS – AYE, NEWMAN – AYE, ACKERMANN – AYE, SALOP – AYE, SCOTT – AYE, SCHERTZER – AYE, CUTRER – AYE, BROWN – AYE, MALIK – AYE, HOUGHTON – AYE, SKIPPER – NAY, LIONETTE - AYE*

*Motion passes 11-1-0*

## V. Regionalization

General discussion on the need to look at regionalization. Mr. Lionette suggestion to create a group to organize this and bring it back to the committee formally. Get more information to present at town meetings. There is going to be a lot of education and learning needed. Chair Houghton asked committee members who would like to help with this new regionalization information gathering work group. Ms. Ackermann, Mr. Salop, and Ms. Brown volunteered. Working group can work without a quorum to gather information. The group can access town resources, other resources through DESE and the Mass Association of Schools. Discussion of a working group versus a sub-committee. Chair Houghton will ensure and find out that the committee is not in violation by having a working group.

Discussion on budgeting money to implement this. Discussion also that there would be cost savings in regionalization that could cover the cost to implement. Mr. Friedman brought up at least two cost savings if we regionalize that would be large just off the top of his head. Superintendent Smith talked about the efficiencies that there would be as one district, for example working with grants. Huge upgrade in efficiencies.

## VI. Superintendent Evaluations (Item discussed out of order – last item discussed at meeting)

Chair Houghton discussed that the superintendent evaluation is complete. Comments and full evaluation available at the Superintendent's Office. Agreement on summative rating for Superintendent Smith. Summative evaluation rating is proficient. There are areas that are noted as strengths. A consistent message of the difference in elementary and high school leadership.

The standards Superintendent Smith was evaluated by committee members (13 out of 14 members participated);

- Instructional Leadership
- Management and Operations
- Family and Community
- Professional Culture

Superintendent Smith thankful to the personnel sub-committee and this committee for their review and support.

## VII. Personnel

### Maternity Leave Request

1. Claudia Wilson - Starting 1/7/25, 12 weeks
2. Ally Pearce -12/16/24 – 3/21/25
3. Prudence Fisher - Starting 1/6/2025

*MR MANTER MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE. MR SALOP SECONDED*

*ROLL CALL: WATTS – AYE, NEWMAN – AYE, ACKERMANN – AYE, SALOP – AYE, SCOTT – AYE, SCHERTZER – AYE, CUTRER – AYE, BROWN – AYE, MALIK – AYE, HOUGHTON – AYE, SKIPPER – AYE, LIONETTE - AYE*

*Motion passes 12-0-0*

### Resignations

Katelyn Marshand - Resign ESP position in bridge program in Edgartown to lead teacher bridge program in West Tisbury

Jill Ridel – Resign from compass teacher to teach in Tisbury School

*MR MANTER MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE. MS SCOTT SECONDED*

*ROLL CALL: WATTS – AYE, NEWMAN – AYE, ACKERMANN – AYE, SALOP – AYE, SCOTT – AYE, SCHERTZER – AYE, CUTRER – AYE, BROWN – AYE, MALIK – AYE, HOUGHTON – AYE, SKIPPER – AYE, LIONETTE - AYE*

*Motion passes 12-0-0*

### Leave of Absence

Joellen Muse – one year LOA from Edgartown School bridge program to third grade position.

*MR MANTER MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE. MS SCOTT SECONDED*

*ROLL CALL: WATTS – AYE, NEWMAN – AYE, ACKERMANN – AYE, SALOP – AYE, SCOTT – AYE, SCHERTZER – AYE, CUTRER – AYE, BROWN – AYE, MALIK – AYE, HOUGHTON – AYE, SKIPPER – AYE, LIONETTE - AYE*

*Motion passes 12-0-0*

### **VIII. Sub Committee Updates**

1. Policy Committee continues to work on and update policies - Section A & B presented. Changes in Section A are requirements by law. Section B all adopted as policy for the district.

*MR MANTER MADE A MOTION TO ACCEPT THE FIRST READING OF SECTION A AND B OF THE POLICY. MS SCOTT SECONDED*

*ROLL CALL: WATTS – AYE, NEWMAN – AYE, ACKERMANN – AYE, SALOP – AYE, SCOTT – AYE, SCHERTZER – AYE, CUTRER – AYE, BROWN – AYE, MALIK – AYE, HOUGHTON – AYE, SKIPPER – AYE, LIONETTE - AYE*

*Motion passes 12-0-0*

2. Negotiation Committee - Superintendent Smith discussed that we are working toward an agreement. Negotiations started back up. Employer side has met twice and we have also met twice as a full group with the employer and teacher side. Good forward movement. There has been a request for the AISC to act on. The request is for a new sub-committee to consider career pathways. Support current teachers to move to other content area and move to administrative areas. Table until next meeting.

Look at coaching stipends, Appendix A-1, these salaries have not moved up for at least 15 years. Looking at Appendix A stipends.

### **IX. Executive Session – Not Needed**

### **X. Adjournment**

*MS SHERTZER MADE A MOTION TO ADJOURN AT 8:12PM. MS SCOTT SECONDED;*

*ROLL CALL: WATTS – AYE, NEWMAN – AYE, ACKERMANN – AYE, SALOP – AYE, SCOTT – AYE, SCHERTZER – AYE, CUTRER – AYE, BROWN – AYE, MALIK – AYE, HOUGHTON – AYE, SKIPPER – AYE, LIONETTE - AYE*

*Motion passes 12-0-0*

Meeting Adjourned 8:12pm

### **Documents on File:**

- 11/21/2024 Agenda
- FY26 Budget Version #3 Summary
- FY26 Budget Version #3 Detail
- FY26 Budget Version #3 By School District
- FY26 New Formula Calculations
- Shared Services Brief Overview
- Shared Service Students by Home District
- Preschool Special Education Numbers
- Draft 10/3/24 Minutes
- Policy Section A
- Policy Section B

Minutes submitted by Kristen Lepine

**Minutes approved 1/16/25**