

**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**

***5:30pm, Thursday, March 20, 2025  
Hybrid Meeting in person at MVRHS or via zoom***

Present	Chair – Amy Houghton (Tis)
Up-Island	Robert Lionette, Alex Salop, Skipper Manter
Tisbury	Jennifer Cutrer, Michael Watts
Oak Bluffs	Rizwan Malik, Kathryn Shertzer (Left 6:22pm), Laurel Schneider
Edgartown	Kristen Brown (Zoom, Left 6:35pm), Sarah Murphy
Shared Services Office	Richie Smith – Superintendent, Mark Friedman – School Business Administrator, Hope MacLeod – Director of Special Education
Other	Hope Hansom – CCC (Zoom, left 5:40)

**I. Call to Order**

The All-Island School Committee (AISC) meeting was called to order at 5:32pm.

**II. Chair General Remarks**

This has been a sad week in our school district. Our thoughts go out to all of those families affected. We are here for each other and there are resources for those that need it.

*(The agenda order was modified to accommodate participants)*

**IV. Cape Cod Collaborative**

**A. Discussion and Vote to Accept the Cape Cod Collaborative Amended Articles of Agreement**

Hope Hanscom discussed her roll at Cape Cod Collaborative (CCC), started at CCC January 1, 2025. Plymouth has been a member of the Collaborative as an adjunct for a number of years. Plymouth being added to the Collaborative has been in the works for a while, over two years ago. The only change to the Amended Articles of Agreement is adding Plymouth as a full member. A few regulatory changes have been made per DESE.

**B. Accept Plymouth as New Member – Vote**

*MR MANTER MADE A MOTION TO ACCEPT THE AMENDED ARTICLES OF THE AGREEMENT AND TO ACCEPT PLYMOUTH AS A NEW MEMBER OF THE CAPE COD COLLABORATIVE AND TO AUTHORIZE THE CHAIR PERSON TO SIGN THE AGREEMENT ON OUR ACCOUNT. MR MALIK SECONDED*

*ROLL CALL: BROWN – AYE, SCHNEIDER – AYE, WATTS – AYE, CUTRER – AYE, SHERTZER – AYE, SALOP – AYE, MANTER – AYE, HOUGHTON – AYE, LIONETTE – AYE, MURPHY – AYE, MALIK – AYE.*

*Motion passes 11-0-0*

**III. Superintendent Update**

**A. HMH Into Reading**

Houghton Mifflin Harcourt (HMH) into Reading. Trying to make consistent our programing. On February 12, 2025, all K-5 teachers met and made the decision to move forward to adopt programing HMH Into Reading. This will begin in June at our professional development day and early parts of the Fall of 2025. Mr. Lionette asked for a layperson’s presentation later on this new program and happy that the Superintendent is moving forward with standardizing.

Superintendent Smith agreed to a presentation at All-Island or at the local level. Committee agreed a presentation at AISC is good. Ms. Shertzer is excited keeping curriculum consistent throughout the schools but asked what the financial implications are. Superintendent Smith stated the funds have been approved in the budget. As we buy programs across the district there will be a bulk cost and a savings.

#### **B. Edgartown Principal Search**

Principal search visit days on March 11, 13, and 18. Met via zoom yesterday as a group. March 24 we are going to meet and have a conversation on the three candidates. We have three great candidates. Debbie DeBettencourt - current Assistant Principal of Edgartown School, Justine DeOliviera – Assistant Principal MVRHS, Kate Campbell – Attleboro High School Principal. We will determine the next steps. We may go to their sites and visit with them there. There will be a decision made by the second week of April. Ms. Murphy spoke about how we all feel really good that we have three strong candidates. Good to see all of those participating in the process, parents, staff, community members and kids. Thank you to the Superintendent for his leadership on the project, it is working very well.

#### **C. Invite Municipal Representatives from the Towns to Serve on the Regionalization Committee**

Mr. Salop stated there was the inaugural meeting of the Regionalization Subcommittee yesterday. Also attended by two representatives from the Massachusetts Association of Regional Schools (MARS). MARS has done this in several multi district communities around the State. MARS can help us in a variety ways, including the process to achieve the end result. The best way to accomplish this goal is to start developing partners from all of the towns involved in the process. We would like to make sure we have a representative from each Town government.

*MR. SALOP MADE A MOTION TO ADD ONE REPRESENTATIVE FROM EVERY TOWN TO THE REGIONALIZATION SUBCOMMITTEE. MS SCHNEIDER SECONDED;  
ROLL CALL: BROWN – AYE, SCHNEIDER – AYE, WATTS – AYE, CUTRER – AYE,  
SHERTZER – AYE, SALOP – AYE, MANTER - AYE, HOUGHTON – AYE, LIONETTE – AYE  
MURPHY – AYE, MALIK – AYE.*

*Motion passes 11-0-0*

#### **D. Meeting Start Times**

Superintendent Smith discussed those members on the Personnel Subcommittee and a discussion they had at the last Personnel Subcommittee meeting. Meeting times were discussed and succession plans in administration in the central office. There is one path to finding a new Superintendent is to have an Assistant Superintendent with a direct path to the Superintendent's position. The other path is to make the school system so attractive that we can get good candidates to apply for the position of Superintendent.

Discussion on how the Superintendent works with the School Committee. Superintendent Smith asked each school committee to consider their meeting times. We have multiple school committee meetings. Oak Bluffs School committee is already meeting at 8:00am on Tuesdays, Tisbury School meeting is at 4:00pm on Tuesdays, and all other meetings start at 5:30pm. There are a lot of variables that go into this. If you can talk within your school committees to see if we can start embedding school committee meetings within our school day. Or at the very least, starting school committee meetings at 4:00pm. All select boards start their meetings at 5:00pm or earlier, 4 and 4:30. If we start at 4:00pm we will still get that public access to the meetings. This will be a more sustainable model if we are getting home at 5:30 – 6:00.

Chair Houghton stated the other consideration for Tisbury School Committee meetings was meetings were at 9:00am and teachers were not able to attend, so meetings were changed to 4:00pm so there can be teacher representation at meetings.

**V. FY26 Budget Recertification Discussion and Vote (All Districts May Vote)**

Chair Houghton states that Tisbury has not set its warrant yet. They asked school committee if we can go back to the budget and reduce the ask because it is significant increase. Mr. Custer, Mr. Friedman, Superintendent Smith and I sat down to look at what we can do within the Tisbury Budget and Shared Services Budget. Chair Houghton shared costs savings of around \$60,000, around \$10,000-\$15,000 for each Town. Summary sheet of savings and line items distributed, items in yellow were reduced.

Savings on Summary Sheet;

-\$20,000 Human Resources Consultant

-\$10,000 Research and Development

-\$15,000 Long Range Planning (LRPC)

-\$10,000 Salary Administrative Support Personnel

-\$5,000 Supplies, Maintenance, Tech, etc.

Overall Request is a reduction of \$60,691.92.

*MR. SALOP MADE A MOTION TO RECONSIDER THE EXISTING CERTIFIED FY26 BUDGET. MR MANTER SECONDED;*

*ROLL CALL: BROWN – AYE, SCHNEIDER – AYE, WATTS – AYE, CUTRER – AYE, SHERTZER – AYE, SALOP – AYE, MANTER - AYE, HOUGHTON – AYE, LIONETTE – AYE MURPHY – AYE, MALIK – AYE.*

*Motion passes 11-0-0*

*MR. SALOP MADE A MOTION TO RECERTIFY THE FY26 SHARED SERVICES BUDGET IN THE AMOUNT OF \$10,482,369.67 WHICH REPRESENTS A 12.33% INCREASE. MR MANTER SECONDED;*

*ROLL CALL: BROWN – AYE, SCHNEIDER – AYE, WATTS – AYE, CUTRER – AYE, SHERTZER – AYE, SALOP – AYE, MANTER - NAY, HOUGHTON – AYE, LIONETTE – AYE MURPHY – AYE, MALIK – AYE.*

*Motion passes 10-1-0*

*MS MURPHY CALLED THE EDGARTOWN SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING TO ORDER AT 6:06PM.*

*MR MALIK CALLED THE OAK BLUFFS SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING TO ORDER AT 6:08PM.*

*CHAIR HOUGHTON CALLED THE TISBURY SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING TO ORDER AT 6:08PM.*

*MS MURPHY MADE A MOTION TO RECONSIDER THE FY26 EDGARTOWN BUDGET. MS BROWN SECONDED.*

*ROLL CALL: BROWN – AYE, MURPHY – AYE*

*MS MURPHY MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE THE REVISED FY26 EDGARTOWN BUDGET FOR \$12,515,059.57 WITH A REVISED SHARED SERVICES FY26 BUDGET OF \$2,429,101.71. MS BROWN SECONDED.*

*ROLL CALL: BROWN – AYE, MURPHY – AYE*

*MS MURPHY MADE A MOTION TO ADJOURN THE EDGARTOWN SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING AT 6:12PM. MS BROWN SECONDED.*

*ROLL CALL: BROWN – AYE, MURPHY – AYE*

*MR MALIK MADE A MOTION TO RECONSIDER THE FY26 OAK BLUFFS BUDGET. MS SCHNEIDER SECONDED.*

*ROLL CALL: SCHNEIDER – AYE, SHERTZER – AYE, MALIK – AYE.*

*MR MALIK MADE A MOTION TO REVISE THE FY26 OAK BLUFFS BUDGET TO REFLECT THE REDUCTION OF \$12,715.59 RESULTING IN A NEW TOTAL FOR FY26 BUDGET OF \$11,514,896.27. MS SCHNEIDER SECONDED.*

*ROLL CALL: SCHNEIDER – AYE, SHERTZER – AYE, MALIK – AYE.*

*MR MALIK MADE A MOTION TO ADJOURN THE OAK BLUFFS SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING AT 6:14PM.*

*ROLL CALL: SCHNEIDER – AYE, SHERTZER – AYE, MALIK – AYE.*

*MS CUTRER MADE A MOTION TO RECONSIDER THE TISBURY SCHOOL FY26 TISBURY SCHOOL BUDGET. MR WATTS SECONDED.*

*ROLL CALL: WATTS – AYE, CUTRER – AYE, HOUGHTON – AYE.*

*MR WATTS MADE A MOTION TO REVISE THE FY26 TISBURY BUDGET TO AN AMOUNT OF \$10,632,535.58. MS CUTRER SECONDED.*

*ROLL CALL: WATTS – AYE, CUTRER – AYE, HOUGHTON – AYE.*

*MR WATTS MADE A MOTION TO ADJOURN THE TISBURY SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING AT 6:16PM. MS CUTRER SECONDED.*

*ROLL CALL: WATTS – AYE, CUTRER – AYE, HOUGHTON – AYE.*

Up-Island and High School Committee will vote at a later date.

**VI. Personnel**

**A. LOA**

**B. Resignation**

**C. Retirement**

None.

**VII. Sub Committee Updates**

**A. Policy** - Committee is continuing to work.

**B. Personnel** - Continues to meet regularly.

**C. Negotiations**

**ii. Discussion of Representation for Negotiations Beginning 3/24/25 for ESP, FSW, ASP, and Custodial Units.**

Chair Houghton asked if Ms. Schneider will continue to be the leader for these upcoming negotiations. Ms. Schneider confirmed yes she will. Superintendent Smith said this is a smaller negotiation team with one representative from each school committee. Asked if this school committee can approve them as a subcommittee. The full committee is approving Ms. Schneider and her committee to make decisions in the negotiations and bring a signed MOA back to this committee for full ratification. Mr. Lionette recommended that only one member from UIRSD be on the committee as one member will represent the full district. Chair Houghton listed off Ms. Schneider for Oak Bluffs, Mr. Salop for UIRSD, Ms. Murphy for Edgartown, and Mr. Watts for Tisbury.

*MR MANTER MADE A MOTION TO APPOINT MS SCHNEIDER, MR WATTS, MS MURPHY, AND MR SALOP TO THE NEGOTIATIONS SUBCOMMITTEE FOR ESP, FSW, ASP, AND CUSTODIAL UNITS. MR MALIK SECONDED.*

*ROLL CALL: BROWN – AYE, SCHNEIDER – AYE, WATTS – AYE, CUTRER – AYE, SHERTZER – AYE, SALOP – AYE, MANTER - AYE, HOUGHTON – AYE, LIONETTE – AYE MURPHY – AYE, MALIK – AYE.*

*Motion passes 11-0-0*

Mr. Lionette suggested there be two alternates or each district appoint an alternate within your own school committees. It was agreed an alternate be selected in each committee at the local level.

**i. Teacher Agreement Ratification Discussion and Vote**

Chair Houghton stated she may need to excuse herself as her husband and brother-in-law are both teachers. However, due to no executive session needed, Chair Houghton may remain but can not participate.

Ms. Schneider stated the Memorandum of Agreement (represents the parts of the contract that were changed) has been handed out. Those items were listed by Ms. Schneider.

- Year 1 – FY26 Salary 3.5% COLA, New Top Step 3% higher than the previous year top step.
- Year 2 – FY27 Salary 3.5% COLA, New Top Step 3.75% higher than the top step. \$2,000 top step only market adjustment.
- Year 3 – FY28 Salary 3.5% COLA, \$1,000 top step only market adjustment.

Worked hard to bring us more into line with our peers. This doesn't get us all the way there but it does get us closer.

- Sick leave is now 18 days.
- Renamed Family Leave to Parental Leave.
- Retirement incentive increased from \$500 to \$2,000 if announced by October 1<sup>st</sup>.
- Support longevity.
- Language around personal leave really needed some work, which can be farmed out to JLMC.
- Appendix A – coaches.
- Eliminated first two steps on the scale.

*MS MURPHY MADE A MOTION TO ACCEPT THE TERMS AS DESCRIBED IN THE MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT FOR THE NEW TEACHERS AGREEMENT STARTING SEPTEMBER 1, 2025. MR WATTS SECONDED.*

*ROLL CALL: BROWN – AYE, SCHNEIDER – AYE, WATTS – AYE, CUTRER – AYE, SALOP – AYE, MANTER - NAY, LIONETTE – AYE MURPHY – AYE, MALIK – AYE.*

*Motion passes 8-1-0*

Superintendent Smith stated those appointed to the Negotiation Subcommittee, we will start on Monday, March 24<sup>th</sup> at 5:30pm at the Oak Bluffs School.

Request that the next AISC meeting be at the Tisbury School.

**VIII. Executive Session**

Not needed.

## **XII. Adjournment**

*MR. SALOP MADE A MOTION TO ADJOURN THE MEETING AT 6:37PM. MS CUTRER SECONDED;*

*ROLL CALL: SCHNEIDER – AYE, WATTS – AYE, CUTRER – AYE, SALOP – AYE, MANTER - AYE, HOUGHTON – AYE, LIONETTE – AYE MURPHY – AYE, MALIK – AYE.*

*Motion passes 9-0-0*

Meeting Adjourned 6:37PM.

### **Documents on File:**

- 3/20/2025 Agenda
- MVYPS FY26 680 Shared Services Budget Highlights Version #5
- FY26 Budget Version #5
- CCC members District March 2025 SC Meetings
- CCC Memorandum 2/10/2025
- Articles of Agreement Cape Cod Collaborative

Minutes submitted by Kristen Lepine.

**Minutes Approved 5/1/2025**