

**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, May 1, 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 (Left 6:12, joined Zoom 6:13, left Zoom 6:24)
Oak Bluffs	Rizwan Malik (Zoom), Kathryn Shertzer (5:34pm)
Edgartown	Kelly Scott, Kristin Brown (5:35pm)
Shared Services Office	Richie Smith – Superintendent, Mark Friedman – School Business Administrator, Hope MacLeod – Director of Special Education, Kim Garrison (Arrived 5:48pm, Left 6:45pm)
Other	Kate Squire – Chilmark Principal (Zoom)

**I. Call to Order**

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

**II. Approval of Minutes**

**A. Including But Not Limited to February 20, 2025 and March 20, 2025.**

*MR. MANTER MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE THE FEBRUARY 20, 2025 AND MARCH 20, 2025 MINUTES. MR SALOP SECONDED;*

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

*Motion passes 8-0.*

**III. Chair General Remarks**

Chair Houghton spoke on having the honor of sitting on a hiring committee for interviews. The team working on this process is great, we are in good hands. Thank you for the opportunity to be a part of that. Next week, there is an effort promoted by Martha’s Vineyard Community Services to have a screen free week. Asking kids and adults to take a pledge to be screen free. Children are eligible for prizes.

*(Items are out of order for the convenience of participants)*

**IV. Superintendent Update**

**C. Discussion and Vote Assistant Superintendent Position**

Superintendent Smith asked to continue Ms. Farrell as a .6 FTE, 10 month position for 25-26. Superintendent Smith stated Ms. Farrell has positively impacted our system this year, and proven herself in this roll. Mr. Watts asked if she has the proper certification, Superintendent confirmed that she does have the Assistant Superintendent certification. Mr. Lionette asked if this needs to be approved by the school committee, the individual to be the Assistant Superintendent at .6 for 10 months. It was confirmed that this does need to be voted on. Ms. Shertzer spoke to Ms. Farrell’s ability and a good for this position. Chair Houghton spoke about the interview with Ms. Farrell and supports the decision to appoint Ms. Farrell as the Assistant Superintendent.

*MR. SALOP MADE A MOTION TO ACCEPT MEGAN FARRELL AS THE ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT WITH THE RESPONSIBILITIES AS OUTLINED BY SUPERINTENDENT SMITH. MS SCOTT SECONDED;*

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

*Motion passes 9-1.*

#### **D. Discussion and Vote of Proposed New Position**

Superintendent Smith discussed the second organizational chart sent to the committee. Proposed new position at this meeting is Curriculum and Instruction and Operations 1.0FTE, 10 month position. This is a coordinator level positions that falls directly under the supervision of the MVYPS Assistant Superintendent. Proposal is to articulate curriculum K-12. Through this process it has become clear to emphasize curriculum. We lack in transitions between grades 5-6 and 8-9. Proposing an instructional position to be embedded in the teaching and learning side of things, a roll that is complimentary to Ms. Farrell. This is not a supervisory role. This position works on instruction every day and supports the principals. We will look within the current approved budget for funds for this roll. Chair Houghton saw this as an opportunity to put a strong foundation in the Superintendent's office that will continue after you are gone. Mr. Lionette would like more feedback from those in the schools and their take on this position. Mr. Salop as a member of the Personnel Committee he had the opportunity to discuss the position with the Superintendent. There may be some overlap in positions but this is a tremendous opportunity and Mr. Salop is comfortable moving forward with this.

*MR. SALOP MADE A MOTION FOR THE COMMITTEE TO ACCEPT THE ROLL OF CURRICULUM AND INSTRUCTION AND OPERATIONS COORDINATOR FOR THE MARTHA'S VINEYARD PUBLIC SCHOOLS. MS CUTRER SECONDED;*

Discussion on motion. Mr. Manter asked about funding for this position. Superintendent Smith spoke to funding. \$170,000 that was budgeted for the Assistant Superintendent. Ms. Farrell has a ceiling of \$75,000 leaving a balance of \$95,000, plus contractual services in HR for \$10,000, plus 1645-1715 ASP \$6,000, some funds can be used from subscriptions/maintenance/techs. Mr. Friedman and Superintendent Smith went through the budget and are confident that they have the funds in the budget for \$120,000 - \$125,000 for this position.

*MR. SALOP AMMENDED THE MOTION, POSITION FUNDED THROUGH MONEY THAT WAS ORIGINALLY EARMARKED FOR THE ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT POSITION AND OTHER AREAS, FOR THE COMMITTEE TO ACCEPT THE ROLL OF CURRICULUM AND INSTRUCTION AND OPERATIONS COORDINATOR FOR THE MARTHA'S VINEYARD PUBLIC SCHOOLS. MS CUTRER SECONDED.*

Ms. Shertzer expressed concerns that the HR funds are being used, funds that were hard fought for. Mr. Manter asked if benefits were budgeted for, Superintendent Smith confirmed that yes benefits for the new position are budgeted for. Superintendent Smith asking for support from the committee for this position as we are moving forward in a positive way. Chair Houghton stated that the HR position will need to be in the budget in future years moving forward. Mr. Manter expressed concerns about the process and the elimination of HR in the budget.

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

*Motion passes 8-1-1.*

**A. 2025-2026 Calendar – Vote**

Change on 2025-2026 calendar that was originally approved back in 2023. Superintendent Smith asked to add two days to the holiday break in December, and add those days at the end of the school year. 245 of staff responded to a survey and 2/3 voted that they do want to extend the holiday by 2 days, giving a two-week break. Last day of the 2025-2026 school year would be June 22 and with 5 snow days is June 29. Superintendent is asking the committee to amend the 2025-2026 calendar. The following three year calendars will be brought to the AISC at a later meeting.

*MS CUTRER MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE THE CALENDAR FOR FISCAL YEAR 2026 AS PROPOSED BY SUPERINTENDENT SMITH. MR SALOP SECONDED;*

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

*Motion passes 9-0.*

**V. Finance Update**

**B. RTAP Grant – Possible Vote**

Ms. Garrison spoke about the Registered Teacher Apprenticeship Program (RTAP) program, a relatively new program. 5 para professionals will selected and apply for the program and have the opportunity to get a bachelor’s degree that leads to a teaching certification through Fitzburg State. We hope to scale up this model in future years.

This will be approved and voted on by the MVRHS School Committee as the fiscal agent.

Ms. Shertzler asked about how this is funded, year to year. Ms. Garrison spoke about the funding structure through the Department of Labor and also Fitzburg State scholarship program, then partnering with ACE MV. No vote needed from AISC.

**IV. Superintendent Update**

**B. Update Edgartown School Principal**

Superintendent Smith spoke about the hiring and committee process. Through this process we identified someone who will help support our district from off island, which is Kate Campbell from Attleboro High School. Those at her school talk about how she is transformational and supportive. The team of Kate Campbell and Debbie Debettencourt will make an amazing administrative team.

**V. Finance Update**

**A. Behavioral Health Direct Contractual Services – FY25**

Mr. Friedman asked the committee to reallocate \$19,000 of funding from 680 budget currently. These funds are coming from the benefit lines and contractual services.

*CHAIR HOUGHTON MADE A MOTION TO TRANSFER FROM THE 680 BUDGET \$19,000 FOR DIRECT SERVICES. MS CUTRER SECONDED;*

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

*Motion passes 9-0.*

**VI. Personnel**

**A. LOA**

Reann Steencamp – Medical LOA 4/28/25 – 5/23/25

Bruce Boran – Medical LOA 4/29/25 – 6/18/25

Olivia Knight – LOA from ESP position in Bridge to become LTS Teacher 3/24/25 – 6/18/25

Rebecca Sharp – Maternity LOA 4/28/25 – 6/18/25

Kristin Mathias – LOA from ESP Position to become a LTS Teacher 4/28/25 – 4/18/25

*MS CUTRER MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE LEAVE OF ABSENCE FOR REANN STEENCAMP, BRUCE BORAN, OLIVIA KNIGHT, REBECCA SHARP, AND KRISTIN MATHIAS. MR SALOP SECONDED;*

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

*Motion passes 9-0.*

### **B. Resignation**

Heather Rodrigues – resignation 6/18/2025 (recognition only, no vote needed)

*MR MANTER MADE A MOTION TO ACKNOWLEDGE THE RESIGNATION OF HEATHER ROGERS-RODRIGUES. MR SALOP SECONDED;*

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

*Motion passes 9-0.*

### **C. Retirement**

None.

## **VII. Sub Committee Updates**

**A. Policy** – Chair Houghton stated the committee continues to meet and have made a lot of progress. Hoping to finish it all up next week or the week after. Then AISC will receive a full copy. This is a lot of material so we will need to figure out the best way to go through it. More to come on this.

**B. Personnel** – Ms. Cutrer stated the committee continues to meet monthly and hear the Superintendents thoughts and questions. Superintendent Smith confirmed the committee has been very supportive.

**C. Negotiations** – Mr. Salop spoke about meeting with union several times. Meet on Monday with ESP/ASP/Custodial/Food Services units and should be close to the finish line.

**D. Regionalization** – Possible Vote

Mr. Salop discussed the last meeting for Regionalization two weeks ago. There were objections on the formation of the exploratory subcommittee based on a possible violation of MA State Law. In the interim we contacted our lawyers to make sure that was not true. The attorney’s opinion letter stated that we are allowed to have these meetings.

*MR SALOP MADE A MOTION TO RELEASE THE LETTER TO THE REGIONALIZATION SUBCOMMITTEE AS OF TODAY AND TO RELEASE TO THE PUBLIC AS OF THE REGIONALIZATION SUB COMMITTEE MEETING WHEN NEXT SCHEDULED, IN THE NEXT 10 DAYS, THE CONTENTS OF THE LETTER FROM OUR ATTORNEYS AT MURPHY, LAMERE, AND MURPHY. MS BROWN SECONDED;*

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

*Motion does not pass 4-5.*

*MR SALOP MADE A MOTION TO RELEASE THE LETTER FROM OUR ATTORNEYS AT MURPHY, LAMERE, AND MURPHY EFFECTIVE TODAY. CHAIR HOUGHTON SECONDED;*  
*ROLL CALL: MALIK – AYE, SCOTT – ABSTAIN, CUTRER – AYE, SHERTZER – NAY, MANTER - AYE, HOUGHTON – AYE, SALOP – AYE, LIONETTE – AYE, BROWN - AYE.*

*Motion passes 7-1-1*

**VIII. Executive Session**

Not Needed

**IX. Adjournment**

*MS CUTRER MADE A MOTION TO ADJOURN THE MEETING AT 7:09PM. MR SALOP SECONDED;*

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

*Motion passes 9-0*

Meeting Adjourned 7:09PM.

**Documents on File:**

- 2/20/25 DRAFT Minutes
- 3/20/25 DRAFT Minutes
- 2025-2026 DRAFT Calendar
- 2025-2026 Proposed Organizational Chart

Minutes submitted by Kristen Lepine.

**Minutes approved 7/31/2025**