

**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

**All Island School Committee
Thursday, October 23, 2025 at 5:30 pm
MVRHS Library or Zoom**

Present: Edgartown: Chris Greene*, Kelly Scott
Zoom: Sarah Murphy**
Oak Bluffs: Rizwan Malik, Kathryn Shertzer
Tisbury: Amy Houghton (Chair), Alicia Lesnikowski
Up-Island: Alex Salop (Vice Chair), Robert Lionette, Jessica Mason, Marsha Shufrin, Skipper Manter
Supt.'s Office: School Business Administrator – Mark Friedman, Director of Student Services - Hope MacLeod, Administrative Assistant to the Superintendent - Kristen Lepine
Zoom: Superintendent – Richard M. Smith, Ed.D.
Recorder: Rebecca Claussen
*Indicates late arrival
**Indicates early departure

Please note: All business will consist of a discussion and possible vote to take action.
(Recorder's Note: Discussions are summarized and grouped for clarity and brevity)

I. Call to Order

Chair Amy Houghton called this meeting to order at 5:30 pm.

II. Request from the Town of Aquinnah to discuss allocation of expenses for Tribal students

Tom Murphy from the Town of Aquinnah select board attended to speak about the Tribal students. Aquinnah is the smallest town with the lowest number of homes, large amounts of conversation land and a Sovereign Nation. The budget last year was \$7.4 million with the largest percentage covering Education, with a cost of \$45,000 per student. Tom brought forward a request for the island to share the cost of education for the tribal community, given its deep roots across the island, not just Aquinnah. Aquinnah covers the cost of approximately 20 tribal students, totaling around \$900,000 annually. Aquinnah is hoping the schools and towns could put forth a formula to assist in cost sharing for the education of these students. Skipper asked the committee how a formula for this would work and would agreements need to be modified, to which Robert Lionette had some suggestions after the Up Island Regional School Committee meeting earlier in the week. There is a suggestion to divide by all six towns and distribute them equally. Alex suggested looking at incorporating this cost into the All Island School Committee Shared Services Budget but is not sure that can legally be done, and would need to be researched, but this would remove some of the complexity of this type of change, if allowed. After a brief discussion the committee agreed to move forward with approaching the district's lawyers, and will continue this discussion at the next All Island School Committee meeting.

Votes Required

III. Approval of Minutes

A. Including But Not Limited to September 25, 2025

Skipper Manter made a motion to approve the minutes of September 25, 2025, seconded by Alex Salop. Roll call: Murphy - Aye, Greene - Aye, Mason - Aye, Lesnikowski - Aye, Salop - Aye,

Malik - Aye, Manter - Aye, Shertzer - Aye, Shufrin - Aye, Lionette - Aye, Scott - Aye, Houghton - Aye.

Motion Passes: 12-0-0

IV. Chair General Remarks

Amy wanted to encourage each member to be thoughtful with their budgets given where we're at. In addition, asking the committee to be aware of the new building and its current process. There is a large soccer tournament this weekend and there will be a table there to answer questions from the community related to the building project, all members are encouraged to attend.

V. Superintendent General Update

A. Review of Proposals - Discussion and Vote

Jessica Mason presented on behalf of the Superintendent given her work with this project. Three groups were approached for proposals, one being MASC, in addition to New England School Development Council (NESDEC) and the Cape Cod Collaborative were approached. Cape Cod Collaborative did not submit a proposal but after some research, the group was able to identify a general idea of cost and services provided. The MASC Proposal is the most comprehensive and most economical, including hands on support and travel to the island, Sean and MASC were more responsive and had a customer service approach, in addition the district has worked with MASC before. The NESDEC was over \$13,000 and did not include travel costs. The Cape Cod Collaborative is anywhere from \$12,000 to \$20,000. In addition, NESDEC does not feel they can take us on at this time, and Cape Cod Collaborative has not completed a search in over two years. *Alex Salop made a motion to approve MASC as the search organization that helps us find our next Superintendent, seconded by Malik. After a brief discussion and funding source questions the motion is amended by Alex Salop to approve MASC as the search organization that helps us find a new Superintendent, using up to \$12,000 from the insurance lines to fund the search through MASC, seconded by Greene. Roll call: Murphy - Aye, Greene - Aye, Mason - Aye, Lesnikowski - Aye, Salop - Aye, Malik - Aye, Manter - Aye, Shertzer - Aye, Shufrin - Aye, Lionette - Aye, Scott - Aye, Houghton - Aye.*

Motion Passes: 12-0-0

B. Discussion and Vote of Funding Amount and Source for Search

Mark Friedman's office did a review of the budget and have identified a little of \$46,000 in savings for Health benefits savings for this year, therefore he would recommend looking in that area as a funding source.

Votes Required

C. Creation of Superintendent Search Subcommittee

After a lengthy discussion where the committee discussed potential search committee member representatives from each of the schools, the superintendent's office, tribal members, NAACP members, students and other members across the island.

- *Skipper Manter made a motion to create a subcommittee of the school committee to conduct a search for a new Superintendent, seconded by Kathryn Shertzer. Roll call: Greene - Aye, Mason - Aye, Lesnikowski - Aye, Salop - Aye, Malik - Aye, Manter - Aye, Shertzer - Aye, Shufrin - Aye, Lionette - Abstain, Scott - Aye, Houghton - Aye. Motion Passes: 10-0-1*
- *Robert Lionette made a motion to nominate Kelly Scott, Jessica Mason and Alex Salop to be the three representatives to chair the committee, to build the committee to conduct the search for a new superintendent, seconded by Scott. Greene - Aye, Mason - Aye, Lesnikowski - Aye, Salop - Aye, Malik - Aye, Manter - Nay, Shertzer - Aye, Shufrin - Aye, Lionette - Aye, Scott - Aye, Houghton - Aye. Motion Passes: 10-1-0*
- *Skipper Manter made a motion that the subcommittee to conduct the superintendent search would not exceed 21 members, and the construct of the membership will include*

3 school building administrators, 6 school employees one from each school, 4 community members who represent the tribe, the diversity coalition, LPAC, CPAC, 3 school committee members, 2 students, 1 special education educator, 1 parent, seconded by Scott. Roll call: Greene - Aye, Mason - Aye, Lesnikowski - Aye, Salop - Aye, Malik - Aye, Manter - Aye, Shertzer - Aye, Shufrin - Aye, Lionette - Aye, Scott - Aye, Houghton - Aye.
Motion Passes: 11-0-0

D. Review of District-wide Goals for Successor
Tabled for the evening.

VI. Finance Update

Mark Friedman kept it brief but indicated we are not currently projected to go over budget this year.

VII. Policy

A. Review Section A - 3rd reading - Discussion and Vote
Tabled for the evening.

Votes Required

B. Review Section B - 2nd reading - Discussion and Vote

Robert Lionette made a motion to accept the second reading of review section B, seconded by Skipper Manter. Roll call: Greene - Aye, Mason - Aye, Lesnikowski - Abstain, Salop - Aye, Malik - Aye, Manter - Aye, Shertzer - Aye, Shufrin - Aye, Lionette - Aye, Scott - Aye, Houghton - Aye.
Motion Passes: 10-0-1

Votes Required

C. Initial Review Section C - 1st reading - Discussion and Vote

The committee spoke briefly on this section and agreed to come back with additional questions. Robert Lionette made a motion to accept the first reading of Section C of the policy handbook, seconded by Kelly Scott. Roll call: Greene - Aye, Mason - Aye, Lesnikowski - Aye, Salop - Aye, Malik - Aye, Manter - Aye, Shertzer - Aye, Shufrin - Aye, Lionette - Aye, Scott - Aye, Houghton - Aye.
Motion Passes: 11-0-0

VIII. District and School Committee Goals and MVYPS Commitments - Discussion

Tabled for the evening.

IX. Personnel

A. Retirement

No update at this time.

B. LOA

No update at this time.

C. Resignation

No Update at this time.

X. Sub Committee Updates

A. Policy

No update at this time.

B. Personnel

Goals and superintendent search are the current goals for this group.

C. Negotiations

There is an upcoming meeting to discuss the Transportation updates with regard to negotiations.

Votes Required

D. Regionalization

MARS is still completing this work, there are two more meetings scheduled, with the December 18, 2025 meeting hopefully convening to discuss the final outcomes of the research conducted. Alex is also seeking to add another member given the passing of Roxanne Ackerman. *Kathryn Shertzer made a motion to add Jessica Mason to the Regionalization subcommittee to replace Roxanne Ackerman, Seconded by Skipper Manter. Roll call: Greene - Aye, Mason - Abstain, Lesnikowski - Aye, Salop - Aye, Malik - Aye, Manter - Aye, Shertzer - Aye, Shufrin - Aye, Lionette - Aye, Scott - Aye, Houghton - Aye.*
Motion Passes: 10-0-1

Votes Required

XI. Adjournment

Alex Salop made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Kathryn Shertzer. Roll call: Greene - Aye, Mason - Aye, Lesnikowski - Aye, Salop - Aye, Malik - Aye, Manter - Aye, Shertzer - Aye, Shufrin - Aye, Lionette - Aye, Scott - Aye, Houghton - Aye.
Motion Passes: 11-0-0

Appendix A: Documents on File

- 1. All Island School Committee Presentation; MVYPS Moving Forward**
- 2. C - Section - Draft - Administration Goals**
- 3. MASC Superintendent Search Cost Summary**
- 4. NESDEC - MVYPS MA Supt Search Options**
- 5. CCC Search Process**

Appendix B: Zoom Next Steps

- 1. Richie to reach out to the District Attorney to explore what Tribal student cost sharing could look like**

Minutes submitted by Rebecca Claussen
Date of Approval of Minutes: November 20, 2025