

Tisbury School Committee
4:00PM, Tuesday, October 14, 2025
Tisbury School Cafeteria

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TSC Members Present: Chair Amy Houghton, Jen Cutrer,

Staff: John Custer – Principal, Melissa Ogden – Assist. Principal;
Richie Smith – Superintendent,
Mark Friedman – Business Administrator,
Danielle Sherman, Nicole Shirley,
Others: CHA – Mike Owen, Aditya Modi,
Marni Lipke – Recorder

* Late Arrivals or early departures of TSC members

The Tisbury School Committee (TSC) meeting was called to order at 4:04PM.

I. Approval of Past Meeting Minutes

• **ON A MOTION DULY MADE BY MS. JEN CUTRER AND SECONDED BY MS. AMY HOUGHTON THE MINUTES OF THE SEPTEMBER 9, 2025 MEETINGS WERE APPROVED; 1 AYE, 0 NAYS, 1 ABSTENTION** due to absence.

II. Tisbury School Building Project

A. Project Update

- The team was tracing and repairing a few small leaks, probably in the flashing.
- The roof was laid out for solar but required a pull test for the parking lot foundations. Once the pull test was approved, roof installation would begin with an on-line target of early December.
- There was some difficulty with the piles so parking lot canopies were not expected to be on line until January 2026.
- W.T. Rich was working through a local contractor.
- The solar panels were in hand but would not be shipped until everything was ready.

B. Approval of Invoices

(See documents on file.)

These were standard invoices.

• **ON A MOTION DULY MADE BY MS. CUTRER AND SECONDED BY MS. HOUGHTON THE TISBURY SCHOOL COMMITTEE UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED AND RECOMMENDED (2 AYES, 0 NAYS, 0 ABSTENTIONS) THE FOLLOWING SEPTEMBER 1 THROUGH OCTOBER 14, 2025 INVOICES TOTALING \$463,797.53 TO BE SENT TO TOWN HALL FOR APPROVAL AND PAYMENT:**

- CHA INVOICE # 39235-54 FOR \$5,500.00,
- W.T. RICH 10/9/2025 INVOICE # 39 FOR \$469,882.00,
- RDA SOFT NET INVOICE # 2508670 FOR \$1308.17,
- CHA – COMMISSIONING INVOICE # 74327-9 FOR \$4,650.24,
- ALTA MATERIAL HANDLING INVOICE FOR \$2,100.00
- APEX CORPORATION INVOICE FOR \$1,930.12.

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IV. Martha's Vineyard Regional High School (MVRHS) Building Project Report

(See below: p. 3 #III A, and 9/9/25 Minutes p.2-3 #IV.)

- The Project was in the midst of Schematic Design on a December 18th deadline.
- Out of the 4 Construction Manager At Risk (CMR) bidders, 3 were scheduled for interviews next week. Of the three, 2 were partnering with larger companies: W.T. Rich with Shawmut Design and Construction, and Consigli with Gilbane, Inc.
- The MVRHS Committee would vote on November 3rd on the type of vote to approve the project—6 Annual Town Meetings (ATMs) and 6 ballots, or an Islandwide vote.
- The TSC confirmed that Tisbury's Building Committee representative was in touch with the Parent Teacher Organization (PTO) and discussed other ways of keeping everyone informed.

VI. Principal's Report

A. School Events (See documents on file.)

- This Friday the PTO would sponsor a fundraiser of what used to be the FunRun but was now the Tiger Trot. Under Co-Presidents Megan Baptist and Elizabeth Clark Derrick the PTO was gaining momentum and membership.
- School pictures were scheduled for tomorrow.
- **The School musical** *James and Giant Peach* would be November 14-16th.
- The next TSC meeting would be November 18th—avoiding Veterans Day.
- Health Teacher Ms. Jane Taylor was working with Harvard dental students for presentations on dental hygiene, when dental problems became posed serious health risks, etc. Other Martha's Vineyard Public Schools (MVPS) were invited to participate. The Harvard students were also working with primary care physicians and the Wampanoag Tribe.

B. October 1 Census (See documents on file.)

The October 1st Census set enrollment at 280 students in the building including the 9 Project Headway students. This was the official census that set budgetary and other regulations. In reality enrollment shifted throughout the school year.

Staff Update

Administration gave a shout out to 3rd Grade teachers Ms. Nicole Shirley and Ms. Danielle Sherman for their meetings with the Wampanoag Tribal Center and Mr. Brad Lopes on culture and history. Classes would then visit the Martha's Vineyard Museum (MVM) for their exhibition on tribal artifacts.

- The TSC reported wonderful parent feedback on Ms. Sherman who replaced long-time, much-loved teacher Ms. Anne Williamson.

V. Financial Report

A. Fund Balances (See documents on file.)

- The Manter Fund was very healthy and might be used to help pay for school pictures.
- School Choice was ~ \$137,000 of which \$24,000 was voted to offset the Fiscal Year 2026 (FY26) Budget.

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- If solar panels could not be installed in time, electricity charges for the calendar year were roughly projected at \$180,000 but only budgeted at \$119,000. The TSC would consider possible sources to cover the overage.

B. Fiscal Year 2027 (FY27) Budget

Superintendent Richie Smith told all MVPS he expected level serviced FY27 budgets.

C. Grants – Nothing to report.

III. Superintendent’s Report

A. All Island School Committee (AISC) (See below: Meetings/Events.)

There would be a joint AISC/MVRHSC/Bldg Com. meeting on Thursday, October 23rd which would consider and/or vote on:

- the CMR Selection Committee recommendation,
- an update on the Superintendent search including proposals from 3 firms and the creation of a Search Committee, including the election of Search Com. Chairs;
- sharing/review of MVPS goals to focus the search for the right skill set.

B. Shared Services Update - Tabled

Adjournment

• ON A MOTION DULY MADE BY MS. CUTRER AND SECONDED BY MS. HOUGHTON THE TISBURY SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING UNANIMOUSLY (2 AYES, 0 NAYS, 0 ABSTENTIONS) ADJOURNED AT 4:29PM.

Appendix A: Meetings/Events:

- AISC/MVRHSC/Bldg. Com. - 5:30PM, Thursday, October 23, 2025 - Hybrid/MVRHS
- MVRHSC - 5:30PM, Monday, November 3, 2025 – Hybrid/MVRHS LCR
- TSC – 4:00 Tuesday, November 18, 2025 – Tisbury School
- TSC – 4:00PM, Tuesdays,

<u>December 8, 2025</u> (joint meeting w/ SAC)	<u>March 10, 2026</u>	<u>June TBD</u>
<u>January 13, 2026</u>	<u>April 14, 2026</u>	
<u>February 10, 2026</u>	<u>May 12, 2026</u>	

Appendix B: Actions

- Ms. Houghton–distribute MVRHS Project flyers at MVPS Parent/Teacher Conferences

Appendix C: Documents on File:

- Agenda 10/14/25
- Tisbury School Fund Balances Fiscal Year, 2025-2026 10/10/25
- Tisbury School Events
- School Attending Report “Worksheet”, Census Date As of October 1, 2025, 2025-2026, School: Tisbury School
- Tisbury School Addition and Renovations Project Invoice Summary Sheet, For Period: August 01, 2025 –August 31, 2025, (*error)

continued >

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Minutes respectfully submitted by Office On Call/Marni Lipke.

Marni Lipke – Recorder

Date

Amy Houghton – TSC Chair

Date

Minutes approved 11/18/25