UP-ISLAND REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
OF MARTHA'S VINEYARD
9:00AM, Wednesday, June 24, 2026
by Zoom Cloud Conference

Present: Chair – Robert Lionette, Alex Salop, Marsha Shufrin,
Others: Chilmark Community Center – Keith Fenner,
Supt.'s Shared Services Office: Superintendent Richard Smith,
Business Administrator Mark Friedman,
Principals: Donna Lowell-Bettencourt, Kate Squire,
*Late arrivals or early departures of UIRSC Members

Call to Order (Agenda Item #I)

The Up-Island Regional School Committee (UIRSC) meeting was called to order.

Chilmark Town Affairs Council (CTAC) Summer Camp Use of Chilmark School Bathroom – Possible Vote (Agenda Item #II)
(See documents on file, & 6/15/26 Minutes p.4-5 #IV B & V A 1.)

• This Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) covered only the Kindergarten (Room 121) bathroom. The UIRSC expressed their appreciation of Chilmark School Principal Kate Squire and Keith Fenner on the collaboration that produced this well-drafted MOA.
- An avenue would be created, the playground fencing moved; and a classroom exterior door key with a bird's eye view map of the campus with the pathway would be provided.
- Access to the rest of the building would not be allowed due to substantial interior/exterior work, moving classrooms and construction—e.g. the bell tower/roof renovation (see Minutes: 1/15/25 p.3 & 2/6/26 p.2-3 #D).
- An external sign would be posted that the bathroom was for PlaySchool students only.
- CTAC would be responsible for cleaning the bathroom and repairing any damage, if done.
• The UIRSC noted that any damage outside the relevant bathroom/space was the responsibility of the UIRSD—as noted in the discretionary clause regarding the Building Leader (Prin. Squire).
• *ALEX SALOP MOVED TO APPROVE THE MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE CHILMARK ELEMENTARY SCHOOL/UP ISLAND REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT AND THE CHILMARK TOWN ADVISORY COUNCIL SUMMER CAMP PROGRAM AS PROPOSED; MARSHA SHUFRIN SECONDED; MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY: 3 AYES 0 NAYS, 0 ABSTENTIONS: MARSHA SHUFRIN—AYE, ALEX SALOP—AYE, ROBERT LIONETTE—AYE.*
• UIRSC Vice Chair Marsha Shufrin and a member of the CTAC Board would sign the MOA before the Monday June 29th deadline, with the CTAC and UIRSC Chairs signing as available.

• In a side issue, Prin. Squire would contact the Chilmark School Lease Subcommittee about meeting dates: preferably 5:30 Wednesdays or if not Thursday evenings.

Superintendent Update (Agenda Item #III)

A. Discussion and Vote of Previously Approved Fiscal Year 2027 (FY27) Non-Union Employee Salary Increases (See documents on file, & 6/15/26 Minutes p.7-8 #VIII A.)

Superintendent Richie Smith thanked the UIRSC for their reconsideration. The originally recommended 3.5% took into account the Martha's Vineyard Regional High School (MVRHS) Project June 2nd vote, and Town feedback about high Martha's Vineyard Public Schools (MVPS) FY27 budgets. In acknowledging the current climate of School Committee and administrative discord, and more importantly emphasizing the deserving work of MVPS non-union employees, Supt. Smith recommended a 5% total across the board increase—adding a 1.5% structural raise to the 3.5% Cost of Living Adjustment (COLA). (The only exception being the newly hired Chilmark School Technologist.)

- This increase was approved by the Edgartown School Committee (ESC), then the All Island School Committee (AISC), followed by Oak Bluffs School Committee (OBSC). The MVRHSC voted 4 ayes, 3 abstentions and 1 nay. Tisbury School Committee (TSC) had not yet voted.

• UIRSD FY27 Budget resources covered the recommended adjustment as follows:
- West Tisbury School (WTS) site cost of $16,165 from the $ 19,398 budgeted,
- Chilmark School site cost of $7,494 from the $11,667 budgeted,
- Districtwide – $7,063 cost from the $8,487 budgeted;
- for a total difference of $9,387.

• Although generally favoring the increase, the UIRSC debated serious problems in the process.
- There were reports of miscommunication/misinterpretation, confusion, consternation and anger from MVPS administrators.
- The ESC vote and TSC's possible rejection put all MVPS School Committees in a difficult situation, regarding parity and regional cooperation.
- As collective bargaining and budgets were school committee purview the situation was the responsibility of the school committees. However, in a trust focused relationship information was taken at face value as presented (or not presented). Elected volunteers could not be expected to be experts on all MVPS employees.
- The UIRSC was disconcerted by this being brought up after approval was voted, and by the ECS premature vote to approve something not recommended.
- There were two issues: the one before the UIRSC and the larger issue of future procedure.

B. Discussion and Vote of Non-Union Fiscal Year 2027 (FY27) Employee Salary Increases

• *ALEX SALOP MOVED TO APPROVE THE FISCAL YEAR 2027 NON-UNION SALARY 1.5% STRUCTURAL SALARY INCREASE AS PROPOSED TO BE ADDED TO THE 3.5% COST OF LIVING ADJUSTMENT PREVIOUSLY VOTED: MARSHA SHUFRIN SECONDED; MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY: 3 AYES, 0 NAYS, 0 ABSTENTIONS: MARSHA SHUFRIN—AYE, ALEX SALOP—AYE, ROBERT LIONETTE—AYE.* Supt. Smith thanked the UIRSC.

Chair Robert Lionette reminded the UIRSC that they had not appointed a Secretary/Clerk (see 6/15/26 Minutes p.4 #IV C). Supt. Smith would remain Clerk until June 30th, after which the new Superintendent could be temporary Clerk until the next UIRSC meeting (see below: Meetings/Events). MVPS Business Administrator Mark Friedman reported there were no Clerk related issues expected before the next meeting.

Adjournment (Agenda Item #XI)

• *ALEX SALOP MOVED TO ADJOURN; MARSHA SHUFRIN SECONDED; MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY: 3 AYES 0 NAYS, 0 ABSTENTIONS: MARSHA SHUFRIN—AYE, ALEX SALOP—AYE, ROBERT LIONETTE—AYE.*

Meetings/Events

• WT Affordable Housing – 6:00PM, Tuesday, June 30, 2026 – Zoom only
• UIRSC – 5:30PM, Monday, July 20 2026 – Aquinnah/Zoom

Documents on File:

• Agenda & Revised Agenda (2 p. each) 6/24/26
• Memorandum of Agreement Draft, Between Chilmark Elementary School and CTAC Summer Camp Program (3 p.)
• Martha's Vineyard Public Schools, Office of Superintendent of Schools memo re: Management and Non-Union Salaries and Adjustments, 6/24/26

Minutes approved 7/20/26