

**Tisbury School Committee**  
**8:30AM, Friday, June 8, 2018**  
**Tisbury School Conference Room**

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**TSC Members Present:** Chair Amy Houghton, Colleen McAndrews, Janet Packer\*,  
**Staff:** John Custer – Principal, Matt D’Andrea – Superintendent,  
Richie Smith\* – Asst. Superintendent,  
Sean DeBettencourt\*, Alison Smith – Teachers,  
Nevette Previtt – Wellness Com.,  
**Others:** Les Baynes\* – former ESC, Paul Lazes, Rachel Orr,  
**PTO:** Siobhan Mullin,  
**Town:** Melinda Loberg\* – Selectman, Ben Robinson – Planning Bd.,  
**WST:** Joy Robinson Lynch\*, Alex Palmer\*,  
**Press:** Holly Pretsky – Vineyard Gazette,  
Marni Lipke – Recorder

\* Late Arrivals or early departures.

The Tisbury School Committee (TSC) meeting was called to order at 8:32AM.

I. Approval of Minutes of May 8, 2018

**• ON A MOTION DULY MADE BY MS. COLLEEN MCANDREWS AND  
SECONDED BY MS. JANET PACKER THE MINUTES OF THE MAY 8, 2018  
MEETING WERE UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED; 3 AYES, 0 NAYS, 0  
ABSTENTIONS.**

IV. Facilities Needs

A. Capital Building Committee (See below: Meetings/Events & Actions.)

*(Recorder’s note: this discussion is summarized and re-grouped for clarity and brevity. In the middle of the discussion the TSC discussed and voted the three revised policies (#II A.)*

• After the failed vote Town Administrator Jay Grande and Board of Selectmen (BOS) Chair Tristan Israel asked if there would be a way to begin thinking about a Committee to move forward. The matter would be discussed at the next BOS meeting and a joint BOS/TSC meeting was proposed. In addition:

- Superintendent Matt D’Andrea was invited to the next All Island Board of Selectmen meeting to discuss regionalization, and
- the Martha’s Vineyard Regional High School Committee (MVRHSC) Regional Agreement Subcommittee was discussing changes in the MVRHSD.

The BOS suggested the following membership for a Capital Building Committee: Principal John Custer, Planning Board and Tisbury School Building Committee (TSBC) member Cheryl Doble, TSBC member Reade Milne, Selectman Jim Rogers, and TSC Chair Amy Houghton.

• The TSBC had not been disbanded, pending further invoicing or business and Chair McAndrews was fielding questions regularly from the community.

• Issues were:

- authority to form the Committee i.e.: TSC as elected officials representing Tisbury children versus BOS representing Town finances;

- BOS request for TSC input on Committee mission;
  - public input at preliminary meetings;
  - both chairs having authority over the joint BOS/TSC meetings;
  - inclusion or exclusion of former TSBC members re: previous controversy versus their wealth knowledge.
  - Prin. Custer was meeting regularly with Tisbury Facilities Manager Kirk Metell, who had been most helpful with both large and small projects from security to landscaping. Despite ongoing maintenance (see 5/7/18 Minutes p.2 #III A) the building would be expensive to renovate including such immediate problems as:
    - short term repair, painting, etc.;
    - replacement of all windows;
    - ventilation – a huge project involving structural and health/safety concerns;
- The TSC again requested a list of short and long term facility needs from, maintenance to capital projects, no matter what the future, as important information for the Committee (see below: Actions).
- However the primary problem was overcrowding, especially for student services (Special Education, English Language Learners (ELL), etc.), but also space for an extra section to address enrollment fluctuations. A school building presented layout challenges such as: prohibitions on segregation, appropriate age/service locations, etc. Any large project was several years in the future and the current “white house” was no longer a viable “make-do” option.
  - Ms. Rachel Orr suggested Administration be creative about programing such as using the Home Economics space (see 11/7/17 Minutes p.1 #III A). Assistant Superintendent Richie Smith assured her that Prin. Custer, one of the most creative administrators he knew, was constantly thinking about space/cost savings.
  - Planning Board Chair Ben Robinson suggested the School examine its chemical use for immediate results.
  - All interested parties were urged to attend public meetings as next step. There was a request to post all agendas on the Town and School websites.

#### B. Les Baynes – Edgartown School Project

Former Edgartown School Committee member Mr. Les Baynes acknowledged the school community pain in the failed vote and described the Edgartown experience when a new school was defeated twice. He saluted the United States system where everybody had rights and that despite differing opinions the Town could come together for its children.

### II. Superintendent’s Report

#### A. Policy – Second Reading for Immunization, Lesbian/Gay/ Bisexual/ Transgender/Queer (LGBTQ), Automated External Defibrillator (AED)

Assistant Superintendent Richie Smith was working with Ms. Joy Robinson Lynch of We Stand Together (WST) on training/implementation to fit the culture of each school. The TSC thanked WST for its leadership and praised the process as a model of different points of view turning into a great partnership (see 5/8/18 Minutes p.1-2 #II A).

• **ON A MOTION DULY MADE BY MS. MCANDREWS AND SECONDED BY MS. PACKER THE TISBURY SCHOOL COMMITTEE UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED (3 AYES, 0 NAYS, 0 ABSTENTIONS) THE SECOND READING OF THE TISBURY SCHOOL:**

- REVISED ANTI-BIAS POLICY,
- REVISED AUTOMATED EXTERNAL DEFIBRILLATOR POLICY, AND
- REVISED IMMUNIZATION POLICY.

B. Non-Union Salary Recommendations (Prin. Custer recused himself.)

Management and non-union 2.25% raises were fairly consistent across the Martha's Vineyard Public Schools (MVPS). Prin. Custer's 4% increase was to align his salary with other elementary school principals and to compensate for years when he declined increases. The TSC praised both Administrators' dedication, particularly on facilities.

• **ON A MOTION DULY MADE BY MS. MCANDREWS AND SECONDED BY MS. HOUGHTON THE TISBURY SCHOOL COMMITTEE UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED THE TISBURY SCHOOL ADMINISTRATIVE AND NON-UNION SALARY RECOMMENDATIONS FOR FISCAL YEAR 2019 AS PROPOSED: 2 AYES, 0 NAYS, 0 ABSTENTIONS.**

### III. Financial Report

A. Fund Balances (See documents on file.)

The School Choice Fund reflected the transfer of \$100,000 to the FY18 Budget (see 12/12/17 Minutes p.2 #IV C). The Manter Fund showed a healthy balance despite FY18 scholarships due to sale of property to the Landbank which raised the level of capital (see Minutes: 10/11/11 p.1 #II & 3/10/15 p.2 #B & 1/10/17 p.2 # III B). The Fund was entirely dedicated to Tisbury School students in need.

B. Fiscal Year 2018 (FY18) General Budget Transfers (See documents on file.)

• MVPS Business Administrator Amy Tierney and Tisbury School Financial Assistant Rachel Hickey proposed these transfers in preparation for closing FY18 Town accounts.  
- The School did not participate in the Drum Workshop resulting in a Student Enrichment residual. The Conferences & Workshop residual was due to grant funding.

• **ON A MOTION DULY MADE BY MS. MCANDREWS AND SECONDED BY MS. HOUGHTON THE TISBURY SCHOOL COMMITTEE UNANIMOUSLY AUTHORIZED THE TRANSFERS AS PROPOSED WITH PERMISSION TO ADJUST AMOUNTS PENDING PRINCIPAL AND/OR BUSINESS ADMINISTRATOR APPROVAL; 2 AYES, 0 NAYS, 0 ABSTENTIONS.**

• All delinquent family lunch debt (not to be confused with the Revolving Lunch Account deficit) was covered at the end of each year. The amount was not set as payments came in at the last minute. This was a constantly debated Islandwide issue.

• **ON A MOTION DULY MADE BY MS. MCANDREWS AND SECONDED BY MS. HOUGHTON THE TISBURY SCHOOL COMMITTEE UNANIMOUSLY AUTHORIZED THE TRANSFERS OF FUNDS, AMOUNT TO BE DETERMINED FROM THE TISBURY SCHOOL GENERAL FUND TO COVER STUDENT LUNCH ACCOUNT DEFICITS AT THE END OF THE FISCAL YEAR 2018; 2 AYES, 0 NAYS, 0 ABSTENTIONS.**

• **ON A MOTION DULY MADE BY MS. MCANDREWS AND SECONDED BY MS. HOUGHTON THE TISBURY SCHOOL COMMITTEE UNANIMOUSLY (2 AYES, 0 NAYS, 0 ABSTENTIONS) AND GRATEFULLY ACCEPTED THE FOLLOWING DONATIONS:**

- **\$315.01 FROM THE STOP & SHOP REWARDS PROGRAM, AND**
- **\$167.44 FROM AMERIGAS.**

- A security training later in the summer would include emergency kit delivery.
- The TSC asked about installing seat belts on all school buses (~ \$10,000 per bus) including the new purchases, with a priority for off-Island buses.

#### IV. Principal's report

##### A. Personnel

###### 1. Retirement Announcements

- **ON A MOTION DULY MADE BY MS. MCANDREWS AND SECONDED BY MS. HOUGHTON THE TISBURY SCHOOL COMMITTEE UNANIMOUSLY ACKNOWLEDGED (2 AYES, 0 NAYS, 0 ABSTENTIONS) THE RETIREMENTS OF:**
- **CAFETERIA HEAD COOK LINDA ROSE; AS OF JUNE 30, 2018; AND**
- **EDUCATION SUPPORT PROFESSIONAL BRENDA DIMOVICH AS OF OCTOBER 7, 2018; WITH BEST WISHES.**

###### 2. Hiring Announcement

Education Support Professional (ESP) Laura Bernard would cover Ms. Nicole Shirley and Ms. Julie Shilling would return to fill in for Ms. Emily Anderson (see 5/8/18 Minutes p.3 #IV B).

- The Wellness Committee was working with West Tisbury School Head Cook Jenny DeVivo on proposing a candidate, however the deadline had already passed.

##### B. School Events (See documents on file and below Meetings/Event.)

- The Martha's Vineyard Sharks Collegiate Baseball invited MVPS to their June 6th game, however there were not enough buses to transport all the promised trips. Those who went had a great time and those who missed it will be first on the list if the event continued next year.
- The School was looking forward to collaborating with other Island organizations for Wellness Day (including free lunch).
- The School Year would end Friday, June 22nd at 12:00N.

##### C. Parent Teacher Organization (PTO)

###### 1. Improved Involvement/Outreach

The new building project had sparked increased PTO participation. They were looking for better communication/collaboration with the TSC and new projects—they were designating a parent representative for each classroom. The TSC suggested the PTO send a representative (not necessarily always the same member) to every TSC meeting as well as a joint PTO/School Advisory Council (SAC)/TSC meeting. The TSC would also include a PTO report as a standing agenda item.

#### Adjournment

- **ON A MOTION DULY MADE BY MS. MCANDREWS AND SECONDED BY MS. HOUGHTON THE TISBURY SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING UNANIMOUSLY ADJOURNED AT 9:50AM.**

**continued**

**Appendix A: Meetings/Events:**

- BOS - 5:00PM, Tuesday, June 12, 2018 at Town Hall KCT
- AIBOS - 5:00PM, Thursday, June 14, 2018 at
- **Graduation - 5:00pm, Wednesday, June 13, 2018 at the Tisbury School Gym**
- **BOS/TSC Meeting – 5:00pm, Tuesday, June 19, 2018 at Town Hall KCT**
- AISC - 5:00PM, Wednesday, June 20, 2018 at the MVRHS LCR
- MVRHSC - 5:00pm, Monday, June 25, 2018 at the MVRHS LCR
- MVRHSC - 5:00pm, Monday, July 9, 2018 at the MVRHS LCR
- MVRHSC - 5:00pm, Monday, August 6, 2018 at the MVRHS LCR
- **TSC Meeting - 8:30pm, Tuesday, TBD at the Tisbury School**

**Appendix B: Actions**

- Prin. Custer – report to the TSC on a list of maintenance and capital projects
- Prin. Custer/Ms. Houghton – Post June 6, & 12, 2018 TSC/BOS meetings.
- Prin. Custer – cc Heidi Rydzewski on all agendas ([hrydzewski@tisbury.ma.gov](mailto:hrydzewski@tisbury.ma.gov))
- Prin. Custer – show TSC the lock-down video.
- Supt. D’Andrea – propose seat belt installation in school buses, esp. off-Island.
- Prin. Custer/Ms. Houghton – include PTO Report on all TSC agendas.
- Prin. Custer/Ms. Houghton – schedule a joint TSC/SAC/PTO meeting.

**Appendix C: Documents on File:**

- Agenda 6/8/18
- Tisbury School Events
- Tisbury School Fund Balances Fiscal Year 2017-2018 6/7/18
- Tisbury School, School Committee Meeting June 8, 2018 FY18 End of Year Transfers
- D’Andrea Superintendent of Schools memo re: Management and Non-Union Salary Adjustments 6/8/18

Minutes respectfully submitted by Office On Call/Marni Lipke.

*Minutes approved by the TSC 9/11/18*