

Mt. Blue Regional School District



COMMUNITY | CULTURE | CURRICULUM

"Working together to provide high-quality educational opportunities for all."

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Chesterville | Farmington | Industry | New Sharon | New Vineyard | Starks | Temple | Vienna | Weld | Wilton

Board of Directors Board Meeting Agenda

DATE: January 28, 2025

PLACE: Mt. Blue Campus Forum

TIME: 6:30pm

LIVESTREAM LINK: <https://boxcast.tv/channel/unvoa3ijkfnyp9oufole>

Board members present: Katie Martikke, Dina Spenciner, Gerry Provencher, Greg Kimber, Debbie Smith, Josh Robbins, Jeff Barnum, Gloria McGraw, Lance Harvell, Kyle Fletcher, Scott Erb, Gwen Doak, Dee Robinson

Board members absent: Amanda Caruso, Rich Ruhlin, Wayne Kinney

Student board members present: Rowan Shanti, Julian Reynolds, Addie Colello

Student board members absent: Brielle Tinker

Staff present: Chris Elkington, Monique Poulin

Other staff members present: James Black, Galen Dalrymple, Katie Duchesne, Amanda Clark, Nichole Goodspeed, Tracy Williams, Kevin Bremner

I. Call to Order - Chair Robinson

A. Called to order at 6:31

II. Pledge of Allegiance

III. Adjustments to the Agenda

IV. Report of the Chairperson - Chair Robinson

A. [Code of Ethics](#)

1. B & C

2. The chair actually read C and D. She had read B at the last meeting.

V. Communications

A. [PowerSchool Data Breach Update - 1/21/2025](#)

1. We have received more information from PowerSchool. They have hired Pride Source to assist with security for those affected.
- B. Staff Members of the Month for November & December 2024
 1. Professional Staff
 - a. November-JT Nutting - Phys Ed. Teacher, MBMS
 - b. December-Tina Davis - 5th Grade Teacher, CBS
 2. Support Staff
 - a. November-Crystal Oliver - Secretary, CCHS
 - b. December-Heather Carleton - Ed Tech III, WGMS

VI. Good news stories from the Board or Administrators

- A. Welcome to Lance Harvell, board member of Farmington taking Will Jones' place.
- B. MBC-The campus celebration on Friday was a big success. Some students were offsite, with one board member expressing appreciation for our international students and for the opportunity for MBC students to learn to ski. The first game of the season for Unified Basketball took place with a student victory against the staff team.
- C. Wabanaki materials were distributed to all elementary schools to support the implementation of state and district standards. Thanks to those involved in curating the collection and aligning grade level lessons.
- D. A shout out to the FCTEC Forestry Program that is assisting with the CCHS leach field project by clearing trees and building roads.

VII. Public Comment

- A. None

VIII. [Superintendent's Report](#) - Christian Elkington

- A. New Hires, Transfers, Resignations, and Retirements
- B. Openings as of 1-14-2025
- C. Operations Supervisor Earns Certificate
 1. Congratulations to Nicole Ibarguen.
- D. Corrective Action Plan
 1. Adjustments to the plan have been made.
- E. New Staff Wifi at MBC & MBMS
- F. MBMS Unified Basketball Team
 1. Minimal cost with much volunteer support!
- G. FY26 Budget Update
 1. Did not meet as planned tonight with the Budget Committee.
 2. The ED279 was released yesterday. We received an increase of about \$1 million. We will still be working with some revenue shortfalls and will

carefully be managing our balance forward. Given this forecast, it appears that we will not need to look more closely at reductions past the first round of possible reductions that were suggested as part of the budget creation process for FY26.

3. Questions

a. Impact with recent federal freezing of grants?

(1) It was indicated that it was a momentary pause and does not impact the Connectivity Grant.

b. What is the number for figures that we bill MaineCare?

(1) We had hoped to bill for \$1.3 million but we will only be able to reach 900,000 this year.

(2) How much do we have to spend in order to bill? The billing service get's about 38 cents for every dollar we will bill for.

c. List of retirees

(1) When do these take effect? At the end of the year.

d. List of resignations

(1) If someone leaves now during the freeze will their position be filled? They must demonstrate that for safety reasons that we need to fill the spot. We will fill the gaps from within as necessary.

e. Are the budget concerns in DC worrisome? We will need to carefully consider how to proceed with potential reductions to our federal funding.

f. Are we losing positions created with federal funding during the pandemic? We did not increase positions with Title I or ESSER funding during the pandemic that were long-term. Short term positions were already eliminated.

IX. Administrator Reports

A. [Cascade Brook School](#) - Nichole Goodspeed

1. Dr. Goodspeed reviewed highlights from her report.
2. Additional good news! CBS and MBMS are being recognized by BARR and the MDOE. Representatives from both organizations will be visiting and will observe BARR in action. Two Community Connect members were offered scholarships to attend and present at the BARR Conference in Palm Springs in April.

B. [WG. Mallett School](#) - Tracy Williams

1. Principal Williams reviewed highlights from her report.
2. SWIS numbers indicate a positive behavioral trend, but incidents remain higher than desired.

3. School-wide assemblies reinforce the current school theme, fostering student engagement and a shared sense of community.
4. Adjustments to the literacy program aim to increase student engagement and academic success.

C. [Mt. Blue Middle School](#) - James Black

1. Principal Black and Assistant Principal Duchesne reviewed highlights from their report.
2. BARR: The impact on school climate is evident. Katie Duchesne will be presenting at a national conference, and we are hosting BARR & MDOE reps next month. I-Times are team-building activities & social skills lessons implemented by teachers.
3. Students are thoroughly enjoying the new culinary program.
4. The new interventionist helps students with academics & behavior.
5. Absenteeism is similar to last year.
6. Alternative Learning: 8-10 students (mostly eighth grade) receive interdisciplinary hands-on learning.
7. Retirements: Three confirmed, with a possible fourth.

X. Presentations

A. [Family Engagement & Student Support Services/McKinney Vento](#) - Amanda Clark

1. Amanda reviewed highlights from her report.
2. Community Connect: Effective for receiving student support referrals and engaging families. Teams effectively collaborate to address complex needs.
3. Proactive School Presence: "How can I help?" approach fosters strong relationships and personalized support.
4. Differentiated Plans: Tailored interventions are based on individual student needs.
5. Focus on Homelessness: McKinney Vento (M-V), Eastward Mission referrals, and MDOE grant support address housing challenges. The M-V role aligns directly with the goals of the position.
6. This new strategic plan, planned position, plays a vital role in supporting students and families across multiple schools and requires dedicated resources and expertise. One of this program's priority goals is to bridge school and home, encouraging student attendance and family engagement with our schools.
7. It was acknowledged that if each school tried to meet these needs on their own that it would be challenging at best. Kudos were shared with Amanda for the work completed so far, her commitment, passion and drive.

XI. Consent Agenda

- A. New Hires/Resignations etc.
- B. Board Minutes - [01/14/2025](#)
- C. Committee Report Outs and Minutes
 - 1. Operations Committee - None
 - 2. Personnel & Finance - None
 - 3. Educational Policy - None
- D. Motion/Vote

<i>Motion to approve the consent agenda as presented with the correction of vote tallies on the special election-Caruso and Barnum voted no and not yes</i>	<i>Yeas: Katie Martikke, Dina Spenciner, Gerry Provencher, Greg Kimber, Debbie Smith, Josh Robbins, Jeff Barnum, Gloria McGraw, Lance Harvell, Kyle Fletcher, Scott Erb, Dee Robinson</i> <i>Nays:</i> <i>Abstain: Gwen Doak</i> <i>Student Yeas: Addie Colello, Julian Reynolds, Rowan Shanti</i> <i>Student Nays:</i> <i>Student Abstain:</i> <i>719/0/74</i>	<i>Motion: Gwen Doak</i> <i>Second: Scott Erb</i> <i>Motion: Passed</i>
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XII. New Business

- A. [Connectivity Ed Ingalls School Purchase update](#) - Elkington
 - 1. Chris distributed and reviewed an update.
 - a. Language on back page-Why wait to add the Connectivity grant language at the end? Will be moved to the top.
 - b. Could the federal freeze impact this? Yes.
 - c. New Board Member Harvell requested the background material.
 - d. We will be letting towns know when the final election date will take place, shortly.
- B. Policy Work
 - 1. Minor Changes (one reading)
 - a. None
 - 2. Replacements (second of two readings)
 - a. [BG Policy Process](#)
 - b. [BGB-R Policy Adoption Procedure](#)
(1) Replaces BGB
 - c. [BIB Board Member Development Opportunities](#)
(1) Language
 - d. [JJ Student Rights and Responsibilities](#)
 - e. [AD * Educational Philosophy/Mission](#)
 - f. Discussion/Questions?
 - Motion/Vote

<p><i>Motion to approve as a group as presented.</i></p>	<p><i>Yeas: Katie Martikke, Dina Spenciner, Gerry Provencher, Greg Kimber, Debbie Smith, Josh Robbins, Jeff Barnum, Gloria McGraw, Lance Harvell, Kyle Fletcher, Scott Erb, Dee Robinson, Gwen Doak</i></p> <p><i>Nays:</i></p> <p><i>Abstain:</i></p> <p><i>Student Yeas: Addie Colello, Julian Reynolds, Rowan Shanti</i></p> <p><i>Student Nays:</i></p> <p><i>Student Abstain:</i></p> <p>793/0/0</p>	<p><i>Motion: Scott Erb</i></p> <p><i>Second: Lance Harvell</i></p> <p><i>Motion: Passed</i></p>
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3. Major Revisions (second of two readings)
 - a. [IHBH](#) Alternative Education Programs
 - (1) Combines IHB and IHBH
 - b. Discussion/Questions?
 - Motion/Vote

<p><i>Motion to approve as a group as presented.</i></p>	<p><i>Yeas: Katie Martikke, Dina Spenciner, Gerry Provencher, Greg Kimber, Debbie Smith, Josh Robbins, Jeff Barnum, Gloria McGraw, Lance Harvell, Kyle Fletcher, Scott Erb, Dee Robinson, Gwen Doak</i></p> <p><i>Nays:</i></p> <p><i>Abstain:</i></p> <p><i>Student Yeas: Addie Colello, Julian Reynolds, Rowan Shanti</i></p> <p><i>Student Nays:</i></p> <p><i>Student Abstain:</i></p> <p>793/0/0</p>	<p><i>Motion: Scott Erb</i></p> <p><i>Second: Lance Harvell</i></p> <p><i>Motion: Passed</i></p>
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4. Complete Rewrites (second of two readings)
 - a. [JLDBG * Reintegration Of Students From Juvenile Correctional Facilities](#)
 - b. Discussion/Questions?
 - Motion/Vote

<p><i>Motion to approve as a group as presented.</i></p>	<p><i>Yeas: Katie Martikke, Dina Spenciner, Gerry Provencher, Greg Kimber, Debbie Smith, Josh Robbins, Jeff Barnum, Gloria McGraw, Lance Harvell, Kyle Fletcher, Scott Erb, Dee Robinson, Gwen Doak</i></p> <p><i>Nays:</i></p> <p><i>Abstain:</i></p> <p><i>Student Yeas: Addie Colello, Julian Reynolds, Rowan Shanti</i></p> <p><i>Student Nays:</i></p> <p><i>Student Abstain:</i></p>	<p><i>Motion: Dina Spenciner</i></p> <p><i>Second: Debbie Smith</i></p> <p><i>Motion: Passed</i></p>
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	793/0/0	
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5. Brand New (second of two readings)
 - a. [ACEA Service Animals](#)
 - b. [BIC-E FOA Training Completion Form](#)
 - c. [JLCDB Students With Severe Food Allergies](#)
 - d. [JLF-R Reporting Child Abuse and Neglect Adminstrative Procedure](#)
 - (1) Replaces JHCA-R
 - e. Discussion/Questions?
 - (1) Service Animals-adopting policy in line with state law; we have a separate policy for emotional support animals.
 - Motion/Vote

<p><i>Motion to approve as a group as presented.</i></p>	<p><i>Yeas: Katie Martikke, Dina Spenciner, Gerry Provencher, Greg Kimber, Debbie Smith, Josh Robbins, Jeff Barnum, Gloria McGraw, Lance Harvell, Kyle Fletcher, Scott Erb, Dee Robinson, Gwen Doak</i></p> <p><i>Nays:</i></p> <p><i>Abstain:</i></p> <p><i>Student Yeas: Addie Colello, Julian Reynolds, Rowan Shanti</i></p> <p><i>Student Nays:</i></p> <p><i>Student Abstain:</i></p> <p>793/0/0</p>	<p><i>Motion: Scott Erb</i></p> <p><i>Second: Debbie Smith</i></p> <p><i>Motion: Passed</i></p>
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XIII. Adjourned without objection at 7:55.

NEXT SCHEDULED BOARD MEETINGS

February 11, 2025 - 6:30pm - The Forum, Mt. Blue Campus

- *Board Reports - MBHS, FTC*

February 25, 2025 - 6:30pm - The Forum, MBC Campus

- *Board Reports - School Nutrition*

NEXT SCHEDULED COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Operations - February 4, 2025 - 5:00pm - The Holman House, District Office

Personnel & Finance - February 4, 2025, 2024 - 6:00pm - The Holman House, District Office

Educational Policy - February 4, 2025, 2024 - 7:00pm - The Holman House, District Office