

Mt. Blue Regional School District - RSU 9



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: November 18, 2025
PLACE: The Forum - Mt. Blue Campus
TIME: 6:30pm
LIVESTREAM LINK: <https://boxcast.tv/channel/unvoa3ijkfnyp9oufole>

Board Members Present: Jeff Barnum, Amanda Caruso, Gwen Doak, Scott Erb, Patty Hastings, Greg Kimber, Wayne Kinney, Katie Martikke, Griffin Mayhew, Gloria McGraw, Gerald Provencher, Josh Robbins, Debbie Smith, Dina Spenciner

Board Members Absent: Lance Harvell, Rich Ruhlin

Student Reps Present: Reed Cousineau, Julian Reynolds

Student Reps Absent: Brynne Fournier, Rowan Shanti

Staff Present: Christian Elkington, Monique Poulin

Other Staff Present: Cynthia Bernstein, Nicole Iburguen, Stacey Gilbert, Keith Acedo, Mike Hanson, Nichole Goodspeed

- I. **Call to Order** - Chair Gwen Doak
 - A. Meeting was called to order at 6:30.

- II. **Pledge of Allegiance**

- III. **Adjustments to the Agenda**
 - A. Remove Item 6.

- IV. **Report of the Chairperson** - Chair Doak
 - A. [BCA - Board Member Code of Ethics](#)
 1. "N & O"

- V. **Communications**
 - A. Superintendent's Newsletter - [10.31.2025](#) & [11.14.25](#)

1. A board member reminded everyone to read the 11-14-2025 Newsletter and to watch the video as it is inspiring!
- B. [25/26 Storm Closing-Delay Memo](#)
- C. [Letter from the Commissioners Office](#) - RSU 9 School Nutrition Balance
- D. [Deep Appreciation](#)
 1. Positive letter related to FCTEC offerings.

~~VI. Good News Stories from the Board or Administrators~~

- Because of the need for more public comment time this item was eliminated from the agenda.

VII. Public Comment

- A. [11-14-2025 Memo](#)
- B. Reminders and Guidelines
 1. Review
 - a. Chair Doak reviewed the content of the memo.
- C. Motion to increase time

<p><i>Motion to extend Public Comment by 20 minutes.</i></p>	<p>Yeas: Jeff Barnum, Gwen Doak, Scott Erb, Patty Hastings, Greg Kimber, Wayne Kinney, Katie Martikke, Gloria McGraw, Griffin Mayhew, Gerald Provencher, Josh Robbins, Debbie Smith, Dina Spenciner, Amanda Caruso Nays: Abstain: Student Yeas: Reed Cousineau, Julian Reynolds Student Nays: Student Abstain: 867/0/0</p>	<p><i>Motion: Jeff Barnum Second: Debbie Smith Motion: Passed</i></p>
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D. Motion to increase time

<p><i>Motion to extend Public Comment by 15 minutes.</i></p>	<p>Yeas: Jeff Barnum, Gwen Doak, Scott Erb, Patty Hastings, Greg Kimber, Wayne Kinney, Katie Martikke, Gloria McGraw, Griffin Mayhew, Josh Robbins, Debbie Smith, Dina Spenciner, Amanda Caruso Nays: Gerald Provencher Abstain: Student Yeas: Reed Cousineau, Julian Reynolds Student Nays: Student Abstain: 791/76/0</p>	<p><i>Motion: Scott Erb Second: Josh Robbins Motion: Passed</i></p>
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Speakers;

1. Janice David-Farmington
2. Alexander Creznic-Farmington

3. Ed David-Farmington
4. Nancy Richardson-Wilton
5. Susan Black-Wilton
6. Tina Decker-Wilton
7. Doug Hodum-Farmington
8. Joshua Goulette-New Sharon
9. Chose not to speak and passed.
10. Tammy Mayhew-Wilton
11. Chose not to speak and passed.
12. Patricia McCleary-Farmington
13. Chasya Silvestre-Farmington
14. Matthew Mitchell-Farmington
15. Abigail Goodspeed-Wilton
16. Edward Ferreira-New Sharon
17. Tyler Looney-Farmington
18. Amy Byron-Livermore

5 minute recess starting at 7:18.

The chair called the meeting back to order at 7:26.

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

- A. New Hires, Transfers, Resignations, and Retirements
- B. Openings as of 11-18-2025
- C. Removing Phones from classrooms Improves Academic Performance
- D. Why cell phone bans are worth the pushback
 1. Superintendent Elkington shared that there has been no pushback.
Students are not all using the pouches, but they are not using the devices.
Students are having multiple face-to-face conversations.
- E. RSU 9 CACFP Review Notification

IX. Administrator Reports

- A. Moved to December

X. Presentations

- None

XI. Consent Agenda

- A. New Hires/Resignations etc.

- B. Board Minutes - [10/28/2025](#) & [11/5/2025](#)
- C. Committee Report Outs and Minutes
 - 1. Operations Committee - [11/4/2025](#)
 - 2. Personnel & Finance - [11/4/2025](#)
 - 3. Educational Policy - None (meeting was not held)
- Motion/Vote

<i>Motion to approve the consent agenda as presented.</i>	Yeas: Jeff Barnum, Gwen Doak, Scott Erb, Patty Hastings, Greg Kimber, Wayne Kinney, Katie Martikke, Gloria McGraw, Griffin Mayhew, Gerald Provencher, Josh Robbins, Debbie Smith, Dina Spenciner, Amanda Caruso Nays: Abstain: Student Yeas: Reed Cousineau, Julian Reynolds Student Nays: Student Abstain: 867/0/0	<i>Motion: Scott Erb Second: Patty Hastings Motion: Passed</i>
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XII. New Business

- A. [Hockey Cooperative Proposal](#)
 - 1. Review
 - a. Superintendent Elkington reviewed the proposal.
 - 2. Discussion/Questions?
 - a. Our responsibility won't exceed \$1,000 from the athletic budget.
 - Motion/Vote

<i>Motion to approve the Hockey Cooperative Proposal</i>	Yeas: Jeff Barnum, Gwen Doak, Scott Erb, Patty Hastings, Greg Kimber, Wayne Kinney, Katie Martikke, Gloria McGraw, Griffin Mayhew, Gerald Provencher, Josh Robbins, Debbie Smith, Dina Spenciner, Amanda Caruso Nays: Abstain: Student Yeas: Reed Cousineau, Julian Reynolds Student Nays: Student Abstain: 867/0/0	<i>Motion: Josh Robbins Second: Katie Martikke Motion: Passed</i>
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- B. FY27 Budget
 - 1. Budget development process review and [timeline](#) approval
 - a. Review
 - i. The superintendent reviewed the timeline.
 - ii. One requested change is to move 1/30 to Wednesday, 1/28.
 - b. Questions/Discussion

- i. There was a misunderstanding about the start of the budget discussion. Administrators and the district office have started working on the process.
 - ii. Appreciation was shared for those on the Budget Committee.
- c. Changes?
- Motion/Vote

<p><i>Motion to approve the FY27 Budget Timeline as amended (1/30 meeting to 1/28)</i></p>	<p>Yeas: Jeff Barnum, Gwen Doak, Scott Erb, Patty Hastings, Greg Kimber, Wayne Kinney, Katie Martikke, Gloria McGraw, Griffin Mayhew, Gerald Provencher, Josh Robbins, Debbie Smith, Dina Spenciner, Amanda Caruso Nays: Abstain: Student Yeas: Reed Cousineau, Julian Reynolds Student Nays: Student Abstain: 867/0/0</p>	<p><i>Motion: Amanda Caruso Second: Patty Hastings Motion: Passed</i></p>
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2. Board discussion and suggested budget parameters and district priorities following RSU 9's Strategic Plan
- a. Discussion
 - i. Board Members would like to have as part of the next two board meetings a discussion of their thoughts about what the Budget Advisory Committee and district administration should be thinking about as they create a budget.
 - b. Focus
 - Motion/Vote

<p><i>Motion to approve the suggested budget parameters and district priorities as presented, following RSU 9's Strategic Plan.</i></p>	<p>Yeas: Jeff Barnum, Gwen Doak, Scott Erb, Patty Hastings, Greg Kimber, Wayne Kinney, Katie Martikke, Gloria McGraw, Griffin Mayhew, Gerald Provencher, Josh Robbins, Debbie Smith, Dina Spenciner, Amanda Caruso Nays: Abstain: Student Yeas: Reed Cousineau, Julian Reynolds Student Nays: Student Abstain: 867/0/0</p>	<p><i>Motion: Second: Motion: Passed</i></p>
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Right before Adjournment, Board Member Scott Erb wanted to share a Good News story. Scott Erb was a Judge at the debate tournament held at MBC this weekend, and it was a wonderful experience.

XIII. Adjourned without objection at 7:40.

NEXT SCHEDULED BOARD MEETINGS

Tuesday, December 9, 2025 - 6:30pm - The Forum - Mt. Blue Campus
Board Reports - Adult Ed, Athletics, Special Services, Technology, Transportation

- *Tentative Presentation Schedule*
 - *TBD*

Tuesday, January 13, 2026 - 6:30pm - The Forum - Mt. Blue Campus

- *Board Reports - AHS, GDCS, CCHS*
- *Tentative Presentation Schedule*
 - *TBD*

Tuesday, January 27, 2026 - 6:30pm - The Forum - Mt. Blue Campus

- *Board Reports - CBS, MBMS, WGMS*
- *Tentative Presentation Schedule*
 - *TBD*

OTHER: Tiered schools (Feb?)

NEXT SCHEDULED COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Operations - December 2, 2025 - 5:00pm - The Holman House, District Office

Personnel & Finance - December 2, 2025, - 6:00pm - The Holman House, District Office

Educational Policy - December 2, 2025, - 7:00pm - 8:15pm - The Holman House, District Office