

# MT. BLUE REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT



COMMUNITY | CULTURE | CURRICULUM

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

227 MAIN STREET, FARMINGTON, ME 04938

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## Personnel & Finance Committee Agenda Minutes

March 3, 2026 | 6:00 pm - 7:00 pm

Holman House/District Office Conference Room

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**Members Present:** Jeff Barnum, Gloria McGraw, Josh Robbins, Rich Ruhlin

**Members Absent:** Amanda Caruso

**Other Members Present:** Gwen Doak

**Staff Present:** Monique Poulin, Alison Gamache, Chris Elkington (remote)

**Other Staff Present:**

**1. Call Meeting to Order** - Chair Robbins

- a. Meeting called to order at 6:02.

**2. Previous Committee Minutes- [2-3-2026](#)**- Chair Robbins

- a. Approved at 2.10.26 Board meeting
- b. Any questions?
  - i. None

**3. [25-26 Warrant Schedule](#)** - Director of Finance Gamache

- a. Questions?
  - i. Up to date at this time.

**4. Updates**

- a. Director Gamache

- i. [25-26 Monthly Budget Update](#)

- 1. February 2026

- a. Up to date at this time.
      - b. Some future operations projects will be fixed in FY26.
      - c. Questions?
        - i. Transportation balance is in good shape.
        - ii. We have not locked in fuel prices for FY27. We will do some research and get back to this committee with an update..

- ii. 2025 Audit

- 1. Any new info?

- a. The auditor has completed our journal entries and so we could have an audit draft by the end of this month.

- iii. Building Infrastructure Management Systems (BIMS)

- 1. [Energy Savings Audit Application Final 12.1.25](#)

- 2. Application Status

- a. This could assist us with recommendations for cost-friendly options in the future.
      - b. The organization helps to direct work towards contractors.

- c. Are any of our building systems designed for BIMs?
      - i. Maybe WGM and MBC? Nicole Ibarguen will do some research with the architects and/or Sealander.
- iv. Mapping Services
  - 1. RFP Update
    - a. We likely won't have to use a mapping service at all based on what Sealander Architects will be sharing with us.
- v. 26-27 Budget Development Progress - Elkington
  - 1. Budget committee discussions
    - a. Committed to supporting our schools and the strains our towns are under. Are working on reducing the present draft budget to get us to less than an inflationary increase to all but two of our towns.
    - b. Reductions will be shared with staff soon.
  - 2. Scenarios
    - a. There are four scenarios that were proposed and the committee is considering maintaining. Chris reviewed Scenarios C & D with us. We may separate FCTEC as it confuses things a bit when they receive funding.
    - b. At the next negotiations team meeting, the superintendent will share the figures.
    - c. Concern was shared that some may come to the district meeting to raise the budget, it will be important for Board Members to speak up at future budget meetings.
  - 3. Areas of concern
    - a. The year to year question of staffing at our elementary schools.
      - i. We need to look at multi-age classroom options This requires a mindset shift and professional development support for the model.
- vi. School Lighting Retrofits
  - 1. Efficiency Maine was here to assess over Feb. Break (AHS, CBS, CCHS)
  - 2. Next Steps?
    - a. We are waiting for further information from Efficiency Maine.
    - b. What is the estimate for these replacements? The Director of Finance will work with Operations to do some research on this.

## 5. New - Elkington

- a. # of students who are new to RSU 9 in 2025-2026
  - i. By School/grade level
    - 1. This will be shared with the committee when it is finalized.
    - 2. The estimate is about 150 student changes per year across all grade levels Other students leave the district as well. The number fluctuates between 5% to 10% fluidity year-to-year. Our current student population is 2153 as of 3/3/26.

## 6. Next Meeting - April 7, 2026

## 7. Adjourned at - 6:52.

## 8. Future Agenda Items: Digitize Warrant Signing, # of students who moved in, Audit Firm RFP?