***Mt. Blue Regional School District Board of Directors***

**Minutes**

**DATE: April 17, 2018**

**Place: Mt. Blue Campus- Forum**

**Time: 6:30 p.m.**

**Board Members 2017-18**

**In attendance:** Heather Ahern-Huish, Jennifer Zweig Hebert, Cherieann Harrison, Doug Dunlap, Scott Erb, Irv Faunce, Richard Hargreaves, Jeff Harris, Betsey Hyde, Tami Labul, Angie LeClair, Robert Patterson, Lidie Robbins, Jesse Sillanpaa, Iris Silverstein, Debbie Smith, Craig Stickney, ~~Joe Crandall, Griffin Mayhew, Chris Marshall, Hallie Pike~~

**Also present:** ~~Monique Poulin, James Black, Nichole Goodspeed,~~ Tracy Williams, ~~Darlene Paine,~~ ~~Keith Acedo~~, ~~Melissa Williams,~~ ~~Andy Hutchins, Glenn Kapiloff,~~ Jonathan Chalmers, ~~Richard Joseph,~~ Katie Duchesne, ~~Christine Gatto-Shea, Cynthia Bernstein,~~ Laura Columbia, Joel Smith

1. Call to Order
2. Pledge

III. Public Comment

A parent of two children at CBS in support of PALs K-5 read letter written by students.

A Chesterville resident spoke on social work budget from last year, and hopes the school board supports adding social workers to the budget. His taxes went down the last two years.

A parent and student came in support of the full time sign language course and expressed how beneficial this was.

A question was asked about the difference in price, if went to k-5 for PALs, $138,220.

Review of social workers and how that will fit into the district.

IV. Budget Workshop

1. Deliberations Iris Silverstein discussed having a psychological review before entering the PALs program, also concerned about moving it k-5, as the 3-5 might look different. Addressed letter from parent, there still would be kids with challenging behaviors. Dr.Tom affirmed that this will help, but will not solve all behavioral problems, the daily behavioral issues. Heather Huish arrived at 7:05pm **Motion to approve k-5 PALs at $461,603. Scott Erb Seconded: Irv Faunce Vote: 9-7 (622/379) Motion passed Craig Stickney, Jesse Sillanpaa, Betsy Hyde, Lidie Robbins, Iris Silverstein, Jeff Harris and Jenn Zweig-Hebert voted against**  More discussion about the PALs k-5 program. Doug Dunlap asked about location, Tracy Williams responded to unsure of location. Also inquired about how the k-5 program would run. Cherieann Harrison discussed all students need to be addressed Lidie Robbins asked about numbers k-2 vs. 3-5 Tracy Williams responded to question about training Iris Silverstein asked about adding an additional social worker instead of going k-5 Tami Labul be aware of micro managing, trusting the professionals. Scott Erb still supports motion K-5. Jeff Harris would like to see it k-2 to get it going and give it a try. **Motion to change stipend for teacher evaluation from $8034 to $5000 Irv Faunce Seconded: Craig Stickney Motion to amend stipend for teacher evaluation to $8000 Irv Faunce Seconded: Craig Stickney Vote: 15/1 (927/74) Cherieann Harrison voted against Vote on original motion as amended** **15/1 (927/74) Cherieann Harrison voted against** Doug Hodum spoke about the teacher evaluation position. Tami Labul questioned full time vs. hall time position, how to configure it differently. Dr.Tom discussed different scenarios, half time, stipend with liaisons, or just pay a stipend to keep the work continuing.Heather Huish offered teacher perspective, hoping for continuity, have one person lead **Motion to add a 3rd grade teacher Craig Stickney Seconded: Irv Faunce Vote: Unanimous**  Cherieann Harrison asked questions about bonds, Jonathan Chalmers responded. Kris Pottle added that section K would be helpful to answer any bond questions. Doug Dunlap asked to verify if the phone system went down earlier this year. Commented on fuel purchase, and would encourage ways we can make arrangements with towns with buying fuel. Jesse Sillanpaa asked when snow bids when out and how are they advertised. Jonathan Chalmers stated that it does not go out to bid for public notification. Cherieann Harrison asked about ed techs in speech telepractice program, we have four that range from 1 hour a day to 4 hours a day. Cherieann also asked that the board be notified of grant positions. Betsy Hyde reviewed overall increase. Jeff Harris also shared a similar sentiment. Irv Faunce stated that this budget has the maximum input on students, it is an investment that will have an impact on many students. Scott Erb also agrees that this is a great investment. We have not been asking for more, we have been cutting, he wants to support those who want to invest in education. Cherieann Harrison worried about seeing a 5% increase, what is the increase if we had just the Bjorn donation, and fixed increase (2.9%), board is actually increasing budget by 2.1% (if you take away Bjorn donation and fixed increases). Health insurance increased by, $33,000, that would come out of contingency, leaving contingency at $7,000 Dr.Tom discussed how this is a chance to improve school climate and culture.
2. Set Budget **Motion to set the budget at $35,513,537 Cherieann Harrison Second Tami Labul Cherieann Harrison amended the motion to set the budget at $35,547,403 Seconded: Tami Labul (this includes health insurance costs) Voting on amendment: Unanimous Voting on original motion as amended, 13-3 (801/200) Jeff Harris, Jesse Sillanpaa and Craig Stickney voted against**
3. **Motion to set Adult Ed budget at 398,244 Irv Faunce Seconded: Scott Erb Vote: Unanimous**
4. Annual Budget Meeting **Motion to have the Annual Budget Meeting on May 7th at 7:00pm at MBC Scott Erb Seconded: Irv Faunce Vote: Unanimous**
5. Budget Referendum Date  **Motion to have the budget referendum on May 22nd Scott Erb Seconded: Angie Vote: 5/11 (327/674) Motion failed Motion to have the budget referendum on May 15th Scott Erb Seconded: Irv Vote: 11/5 (674/327) Motion passed**
6. **Motion to have open articles at the May 7th annual meeting, Iris Silverstein Seconded: Cherieann Harrison Vote: Unanimous** =
7. Angie asked that the budget review be in booklet form, and readable. Richard echoed Angie’s remarks. Heather volunteered to meet with Kris and work on the budget handout. Kris asked the board if they wanted the warrants in the mailings, it could be on the website and handed out to the board. Scott also wants a smaller, less information handout to avoid confusion. Tami also agrees with Scott.

V. Superintendent’s Report- Dr.Tom Nothing at this time

VI. Motion to adjourn: 8:40pm

**NEXT SCHEDULED MEETINGS:**

**April 24, 2018-6:30pm-Board/Budget Meeting-Sign Warrants-The Forum-Mt. Blue Campus**

**COMMITTEE MEETINGS**

**Admin. Eval Committee-April 17, 2018-5:30pm-Central Office-Mt. Blue Campus**

**Policy Committee-April 23, 2018-5:00pm-Chef’s Table-Mt. Blue Campus**