

Mt. Blue Regional School District
Board of Directors Meeting
AGENDA

COMMUNITY | CULTURE | CURRICULUM
Working together to provide high-quality educational opportunities for all

DATE: April 23, 2024
PLACE: The Forum, Mt. Blue Campus
TIME: 6:30pm
LIVESTREAM LINK: <https://boxcast.tv/channel/unvoa3ijkfnyp9oufole>

Board members present: Debbie Smith, Janice David, Libby Kaut, Scott Erb, Wayne Kinney, Jeff Barnum, Carol Coles, Greg Kimber, Amanda Caruso, Josh Robbins, Will Jones, Kyle Fletcher, Rich Ruhlin, Gwen Doak, Dee Robinson

Board members absent: Gloria McGraw

Student members absent: Abbey Goodspeed, Brielle Tinker, Addie Colello

Staff members present: Chris Elkington, Monique Poulin, Alison Gamache

Other staff members present: Joel Smith, Greg Henderson, Kevin Bremner, James Black, Melissa Williams, Travis Tierney, Sarah Reynolds

- I. **Call to Order** - Chair Robinson
 - A. Meeting called to order at 6:30pm

- II. **Pledge of Allegiance**

- III. **Adjustments to the Agenda**
 - A. AHS/Cushing and M-V reports moved to 5/14 due to illness
 - B. Super's report section C, should read No Board Meeting on May 28th

- IV. **Report of the Chairperson** - Chair Robinson
 - A. [Code of Ethics](#) - P

- V. **Communications**
 - A. Staff Members of the Month
 1. Support Staff
 - a) Amanda Barry-School Nutrition-MBMS
 2. Professional Staff
 - a) Bethany Cote-Math Interventionist at CBS
 - B. Superintendent's Newsletter - [April 12, 2024](#)

VI. Deliberation and Approval of the FY 25 RSU 9 District Budget

- A. Suggested budget changes or adjustments from the Board
 - 1. None
- B. Public Comments
 - 1. None
- C. Final deliberations/thoughts
 - 1. Nothing new shared
- D. Motion to approve the 2024-2025 RSU 9 Budget as presented to move forward to the Annual Budget Meeting
- E. [FY 25 Warrant Article Motions Draft](#)

<p><i>Motion to set the 2024-25 Mt. Blue Regional School District budget amount at \$45,155,670</i></p>	<p>Yeas: Debbie Smith, Janice David, Libby Kaut, Scott Erb, Wayne Kinney, Jeff Barnum, Carol Coles, Greg Kimber, Amanda Caruso, Josh Robbins, Will Jones, Kyle Fletcher, Rich Ruhlin, Gwen Doak, Dee Robinson Nays: None Abstained: Vote: 917/0/0</p>	<p>Motion: Scott Erb Seconded: Wayne Kinney Motion: Passed</p>
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<p><i>Motion for the Board to appropriate \$599,956 and raise \$212,572 as the local share for Adult Education.</i></p>	<p>Yeas: Debbie Smith, Janice David, Libby Kaut, Scott Erb, Wayne Kinney, Jeff Barnum, Carol Coles, Greg Kimber, Amanda Caruso, Josh Robbins, Will Jones, Kyle Fletcher, Rich Ruhlin, Gwen Doak, Dee Robinson Nays: Abstained: Vote: 917/0/0</p>	<p>Motion: Rich Ruhlin Seconded: Wayne Kinney Motion: Passed</p>
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<p><i>Motion to set the Annual budget meeting for Tuesday, May 21, 2024 at 7:00pm in the Bjorn Auditorium at Mt. Blue Campus</i></p>	<p>Yeas: Debbie Smith, Janice David, Libby Kaut, Scott Erb, Wayne Kinney, Jeff Barnum, Carol Coles, Greg Kimber, Amanda Caruso, Josh Robbins, Will Jones, Kyle Fletcher, Rich Ruhlin, Gwen Doak, Dee Robinson Nays: Abstained:</p>	<p>Motion: Rich Ruhlin Seconded: Wayne Kinney Motion: Passed</p>
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	Vote: 917/0/0	
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<i>Motion to set the Budget Validation Referendum for Tuesday, June 11, 2024</i>	Yeas: Debbie Smith, Janice David, Libby Kaut, Scott Erb, Wayne Kinney, Jeff Barnum, Carol Coles, Greg Kimber, Amanda Caruso, Josh Robbins, Will Jones, Kyle Fletcher, Rich Ruhlin, Gwen Doak, Dee Robinson Nays: Abstained: Vote: 917/0/0	Motion: Scott Erb Seconded: Wayne Kinney Motion: Passed
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<i>Motion to have open articles at the May 21, 2024 Annual Budget Meeting</i>	Yeas: Debbie Smith, Janice David, Libby Kaut, Scott Erb, Wayne Kinney, Jeff Barnum, Carol Coles, Greg Kimber, Amanda Caruso, Josh Robbins, Will Jones, Kyle Fletcher, Rich Ruhlin, Gwen Doak, Dee Robinson Nays: None Abstained: Vote: 917/0/0	Motion: Wayne Kinney Seconded: Scott Erb Motion: Passed
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- Discussion focused on what Open Articles are and that the Open Article Format will be used once the Board approves its use.

<i>Motion to add an additional article to the Annual Budget Meeting warrant that authorizes the School Board to use all or part of the additional state subsidy to increase expenditures for school purposes in cost center categories approved by the School Board, increase the allocation of finances in a reserve fund approved by the School Board and/or decrease the local cost share expectation for local property taxpayers for funding public education.</i>	Yeas: Debbie Smith, Janice David, Libby Kaut, Scott Erb, Wayne Kinney, Jeff Barnum, Carol Coles, Greg Kimber, Amanda Caruso, Josh Robbins, Will Jones, Kyle Fletcher, Rich Ruhlin, Gwen Doak, Dee Robinson Nays: None Abstained: Vote: 917/0/0	Motion: Gwen Doak Seconded: Scott Erb Motion: Passed
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<p><i>Motion to add an additional article to the Annual Budget Meeting warrant that authorizes the School Board to transfer amounts exceeding 5% of the total appropriation for any cost center to another cost center or among other cost centers for the 2024-2025 fiscal year. Provided that transfers shall not be permitted to increase the authorized total school budget.</i></p>	<p>Yeas: Debbie Smith, Janice David, Libby Kaut, Scott Erb, Wayne Kinney, Jeff Barnum, Carol Coles, Greg Kimber, Amanda Caruso, Josh Robbins, Will Jones, Kyle Fletcher, Rich Ruhlin, Gwen Doak, Dee Robinson Nays: None Abstained: Vote: 917/0/0</p>	<p>Motion: Scott Erb Seconded: Wayne Kinney Motion: Passed</p>
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<p><i>Motion to authorize the district to expend state, federal and other aid grants it may receive during the fiscal year provided these funds do not require expenditure of local funds not previously appropriated.</i></p>	<p>Yeas: Debbie Smith, Janice David, Libby Kaut, Scott Erb, Wayne Kinney, Jeff Barnum, Carol Coles, Greg Kimber, Amanda Caruso, Josh Robbins, Will Jones, Kyle Fletcher, Rich Ruhlin, Gwen Doak, Dee Robinson Nays: None Abstained: Vote: 917/0/0</p>	<p>Motion: Gwen Doak Seconded: Debbie Smith Motion: Passed</p>
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<p><i>Motion to authorize the School Board to transfer up to \$250,000 to the Capital Reserve Fund from available fund balances at the end of the 2023-2024 fiscal year, and to expend from said Reserve Fund as needed in the discretion of the School Board?</i></p>	<p>Yeas: Debbie Smith, Janice David, Libby Kaut, Scott Erb, Wayne Kinney, Jeff Barnum, Carol Coles, Greg Kimber, Amanda Caruso, Josh Robbins, Will Jones, Kyle Fletcher, Rich Ruhlin, Gwen Doak, Dee Robinson Nays: None Abstained: Vote: 917/0/0</p>	<p>Motion: Gwen Doak Seconded: Debbie Smith Motion: Passed</p>
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<p><i>Motion to authorize the School Board to transfer up to \$300,000 to Special Ed. Reserve Fund from available fund balances at the end of the 2023-2024 fiscal year, and to expend from said</i></p>	<p>Yeas: Debbie Smith, Janice David, Libby Kaut, Scott Erb, Wayne Kinney, Jeff Barnum, Carol Coles, Greg Kimber, Amanda Caruso, Josh Robbins, Will Jones, Kyle Fletcher, Rich Ruhlin, Gwen</p>	<p>Motion: Scott Erb Seconded: Gwen Doak Motion: Passed</p>
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<i>Reserve Fund as needed in the discretion of the School Board?</i>	Doak, Dee Robinson Nays: None Abstained: Vote: 917/0/0	
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<i>Motion to authorize the School Board to transfer up to \$300,000 to said Reserve Fund from available fund balances, including revenues from sales of RSU-purchased electronic devices, at the end of the 2023-2024 fiscal year, and to expend from said Reserve Fund as needed in the discretion of the School Board?</i>	Yeas: Debbie Smith, Janice David, Libby Kaut, Scott Erb, Wayne Kinney, Jeff Barnum, Carol Coles, Greg Kimber, Amanda Caruso, Josh Robbins, Will Jones, Kyle Fletcher, Rich Ruhlin, Gwen Doak, Dee Robinson Nays: None Abstained: Vote: 917/0/0	Motion: Gwen Doak Seconded: Jeff Barnum Motion: Passed
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VII. Good news stories from the Board or Administrators

- A. MBHS/MBC: Celebration-Student of the Month Assembly for May; start of spring sports season; shout out to James Black and Mike Turner for getting fields ready in a pinch.
- B. New Vineyard community members-budget presentation; food pantry
- C. Administrative Professionals Day 2024 is tomorrow and a “Shout Out” goes to them for their hard work and positive efforts!

VIII. Public Comment

- A. None

IX. [Superintendent’s Report](#) - Christian Elkington

- A. New Hires, Transfers, Resignations, and Retirements
- B. No Committee Meetings in May
- C. ~~Move June 11th Board Mtg. to June 13th~~ No Board Mtg. on May 28th
- D. 24-25 Budget Communications Planning
- E. Community Schools Grant Award
 - 1. One of five schools awarded this grant!
- F. Safety Net Building: Single Mothers Needs
 - 1. Please take a moment to read this.
- G. Move June 11th Board Mtg. to June 13th
 - 1. Will send budget mailers over the next month
- H. Maine Commissioner of Ed Pender Makin will be visiting Franklin County Adult Education next Tuesday (4/30). If time is available, we will try to

invite board members to speak with her about the work, difficulties, and efforts being made in RSU 9..

X. Administrator Reports

- A. ~~AHS/GDC~~ – ~~Principal Acedo~~ (moved to 5/14/24)
- A. MBMS - Principal Black/ Assistant Principal Duchesne
 1. Shout out to Amanda Barry!
 2. Five student teachers from UMF this year. Have hired one for next year.
 3. Denise Mochamer has been leading the yearbook club this year, and it has been a great success so far.
 4. First news broadcast to take the place of regular announcements-shout out to Mary Ellen Quimby and Nicole Lesperance
 5. Chili and chowder cookoff
 6. BARR-Conference this week, and it is expanding to the rest of the school next year. MBMS will share data at the end of the year. All schools use
 7. Bjorn Center-95% complete and will invite folks to the ribbon cutting.
 8. Excellent music concert celebration and 130 students participating in spring sports.
 9. Principal Black shared some details about step up day for rising sixth grade students and the transition plan.
- B. ~~McKinney Vento~~ – ~~Amanda Clark~~ (moved to 5/14/24)

XI. Presentations

- A. None

XII. Consent Agenda

- A. New Hires/Resignations etc.
- B. Board Minutes 04-09-2024
- C. Committee Report Outs and Minutes
 1. Operations Committee - None
 2. Personnel & Finance - None
 3. Educational Policy - None

<i>Motion to approve Consent Agenda as presented</i>	Yeas: Debbie Smith, Janice David, Libby Kaut, Scott Erb, Wayne Kinney, Jeff Barnum,	Motion: Scott Erb Seconded: Wayne Kinney Motion: Passed
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	Carol Coles, Greg Kimber, Amanda Caruso, Josh Robbins, Will Jones, Kyle Fletcher, Rich Ruhlin, Gwen Doak, Dee Robinson Nays: None Abstained: Vote: 917/0/0	
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XIII. New Business

A. Reschedule June 11th Board meeting to Thursday June 13th

1. Due to Budget Referendum

a) Proposed without objection-Rich Ruhlin

B. Possible Trip Approval

1. [CTE Outdoor Leadership Training](#)

a) May 2-5

b) Adventure Bound - Caratunk, ME

(1) \$500 training for free for each student

(2) All students in the class were invited, but only seven will be able to attend.

c) Questions?

(1) Some comments were shared about the positive future this program has.

d) Vote

<i>Motion to approve trip as presented</i>	Yeas: Debbie Smith, Janice David, Libby Kaut, Scott Erb, Wayne Kinney, Jeff Barnum, Carol Coles, Greg Kimber, Amanda Caruso, Josh Robbins, Will Jones, Kyle Fletcher, Rich Ruhlin, Gwen Doak, Dee Robinson Nays: None Abstained: Vote: 917/0/0	Motion: Gwen Doak Seconded: Debbie Smith Motion: Passed
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C. [24-25 RSU 9 Calendar Draft](#)

1. Second Reading

a) No requested changes

2. Questions

a) None

3. Vote

<p><i>Motion to approve the 24-25 RSU 9 School Year Calendar as presented.</i></p>	<p>Yeas: Debbie Smith, Janice David, Libby Kaut, Scott Erb, Wayne Kinney, Jeff Barnum, Carol Coles, Greg Kimber, Amanda Caruso, Josh Robbins, Will Jones, Kyle Fletcher, Rich Ruhlin, Gwen Doak, Dee Robinson Nays: None Abstained: Vote: 917/0/0</p>	<p>Motion: Rich Ruhlin Seconded: Gwen Doak Motion: Passed</p>
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D. Policy Review

1. Brand New (Second of 2 Readings)
 - a) [KDB](#) Public's Right to know / Freedom of Access
 - (1) Questions
 - (a) None
 - (2) Vote

<p><i>Motion to approve the adoption of Policy KDB</i></p>	<p>Yeas: Debbie Smith, Janice David, Libby Kaut, Scott Erb, Wayne Kinney, Jeff Barnum, Carol Coles, Greg Kimber, Amanda Caruso, Josh Robbins, Will Jones, Kyle Fletcher, Rich Ruhlin, Gwen Doak, Dee Robinson Nays: None Abstained: Vote: 917/0/0</p>	<p>Motion: Wayne Kinney Seconded: Scott Erb Motion:</p>
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XIV. Executive Session pursuant to 1 M.R.S.A. §405(6)(A) - Appointment of Officials

- *Motion to go into Executive Session pursuant to 1 M.R.S.A. §405(6)(A) - Appointment of Officials*
- *Vote*

<p><i>Motion to go into Executive Session pursuant to 1M.R.S.A. §405(6)(A) - Appointment of Officials</i></p>	<p>Yeas: Debbie Smith, Janice David, Libby Kaut, Scott Erb, Wayne Kinney, Jeff Barnum, Carol Coles, Greg Kimber, Amanda Caruso, Josh Robbins, Will Jones, Kyle Fletcher, Rich Ruhlin, Gwen Doak, Dee Robinson Nays: None Abstained:</p>	<p>Motion: Gwen Doak Seconded: Rich Ruhlin Motion:</p>
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	Vote: 917/0/0	
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- Moved out of executive session at 7:21.

XV. Mt. Blue High School Assistant Principal Nomination

- *Motion* to appoint, Greg Henderson, as an Assistant Principal of MBHS for the 2024-2025 School Year
- Vote

<i>Motion to appoint, TBD, as an Assistant Principal of MBHS for the 2024-2025 School Year</i>	Yeas: Debbie Smith, Janice David, Libby Kaut, Scott Erb, Wayne Kinney, Jeff Barnum, Carol Coles, Greg Kimber, Amanda Caruso, Josh Robbins, Will Jones, Kyle Fletcher, Rich Ruhlin, Gwen Doak, Dee Robinson Nays: None Abstained: Vote: 917/0/0	Motion: Scott Erb Seconded: Wayne Kinney Motion:
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- As this is Janice David’s last board meeting, a "Shout Out" goes to her for stepping into the position of Farmington School Board Member two years ago!

XVI. Adjourned without objection at 7:24

NEXT SCHEDULED BOARD MEETINGS

- April 30, 2024 - 6:30pm - Special Board Meeting & Budget Workshop - Warrant Signing The Forum, Mt. Blue Campus
- May 14, 2024 - 6:30pm - The Forum, Mt. Blue Campus
- Board Reports - AHS/Cushing, CCHS, MBHS, WGMS
- May 21, 2024 - 7:00pm - Annual Budget Mtg. Bjorn Auditorium, Mt. Blue Campus
- June 13th, 2024 - 6:30pm - The Forum, Mt. Blue Campus
- Board Reports - Adult Ed, Technology
- June 25th, 2024 - 6:30pm - The Forum, Mt. Blue Campus
- Board Reports - NONE

NEXT SCHEDULED COMMITTEE MEETINGS

- Operations - June 4, 2024 - 5:00pm - The Forum, Mt. Blue Campus
- Personnel & Finance - June 4, 2024 - 6:00pm - The Forum, Mt. Blue Campus
- Educational Policy - June 4, 2024 - 7:00pm - The Forum, Mt. Blue Campus