

# MT. BLUE REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT



COMMUNITY | CULTURE | CURRICULUM

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

**227 MAIN STREET, FARMINGTON, ME 04938**

**(207) 778-6571 | (fax) 778-4160**

## **Educational Policy Committee**

### **Agenda NOTES**

April 7, 2026 | 7:00 pm - 8:15 pm

The RSU 9 District Office, Main Street Farmington

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**Members Present:** Wayne Kinney, Katie Martikke, Dina Spenciner, Patty Hastings (7:25pm)

**Members Absent:**

**Other Members Present:** Gwen Doak, Jeff Barnum

**Staff Present:** Alison Gamache, Chris Elkington

**Other Staff Present:** Katie Merrill (notes), Doug Hodum

- I. **Call Meeting to Order** - Chair Kinney
  - A. Called to order at 7:13pm
  
- II. **Previous Committee Minutes** - [3.3.2026](#)
  - A. Approved at the 3.10.26 Board Meeting
  
- III. **Updates** - Elkington
  - A. Grant Awards
    1. None
  - B. Presentations
    1. None
  - C. Visit from JGPR
    1. Brief update from Superintendent Elkington
      - a. A letter(s) and survey will be going out to different focus groups
    2. Communications audit
      - a. Help develop a communication plan
        - i. Better use of social media, print, etc.
      - b. Next steps
        - i. April 14th & 15th
        - ii. Board Input @ 5:15-6:15pm before 4-14-2026 Board meeting
  
- IV. **Added - Other**
  - A. Superintendent Elkington met with the Minister of the Adventist Church - Regional Minister - who requested to use AHS for their seminars.
    1. Discussed Flyer and the RSU 9 process for flyer approval with the required disclaimer
      - a. The group will make sure to verbally announce and put a letter in the paper to make it clear that this is not an RSU 9 event
      - b. Superintendent will send out a note also on behalf of the district
    2. 20 days requested, reduced to 10
  - B. Facilities use policies to will be reviewed, updated, and clarified by a committee

- 1. Conversation about forming a committee
- C. Superintendent talked to the school's attorney
  - 1. Can we make them send a new flyer?
    - a. No

V. [25-26 Policy Work](#) - Elkington

A. Policy Folders

1. Discussion for Possible Revisions

a. [BEDH-Rev-3 Public Participation at meetings2024](#)

b. Review/Discussion/Questions

i. Wayne provided [sample amendments](#)

- o Idea - Paragraph 2 - Sign in to include disclaimer at top w/ signature line required to confirm they are familiar with and agree to the policy.
  - 1. Is it legal to do this?? - we will ask
- o Personal attacks
  - 1. Can the Board or superintendent correct the record after the speaker finishes?
    - a. Yes
      - i. Especially when reputation damaging
    - b. It was suggested to be able to correct the record at the end of public comment period or after the meeting
      - i. Professionally
    - c. We need to make sure it doesn't turn into discussion
    - d. Will need to address the Board Chair
- o Intro to public comment is too long
  - 1. Stick to a few key points of policy
    - a. What do we want to emphasize

ii. We need to make the rules clearer

iii. Are there more repercussionable options for violators?

iv. Time? Depending on the number of speakers?

- o "Please finish your thought"
- o It's all in the approach

v. Personal comments

- o Board and super are the only people public comment participants can identify and speak about.
- o Principals and teachers are covered as employees

c. Will continue the discussion

i. Committee chair would like to get this before the Board by June

ii. Need wording suggestions

- o 2 &\* new 3B

2. For another time -

- a. Board Member Barnum - Interest from November meeting regarding Administrator actions
    - i. Comments made - we need to look at policies and procedures
    - ii. We need to prevent this from happening again
  - b. New policy under policy manual section G or K? Or a new social media policy??
    - i. Not just this one incident but district as a whole
  - c. Refer to student policies
3. Brand New
- a. [GCFA Draft Employee Social Media Privacy](#)
  - b. [GCSB Draft Employee Use of Social Media](#)
    - i. Jeff's first paragraph - to add?
      - i. Second paragraph to compare to student policies
    - ii. Doug Hodum - Association President
      - i. Are google and wikipedia social media sites?
      - ii. Expectation of professional expectation of personal page
        - 1. Is that censorship
        - 2. Professional or a personal page?
    - iii. Picture posted by someone else
      - 1. Where does the responsibility lie?
    - iv. Do staff want this policy?
      - 1. Depends on the school
      - 2. There was little response
    - v. Ethical vs. Moral
      - 1. Ethically questionable, the Board can investigate whether the person can do their job?
      - 2. Steps to follow - a process
        - a. Need a -R for the policy
  - c. Discussion
  - d. Review/Questions
  - e. Next steps?
    - i. Bring back in May with adjusted wording

**VI. Next Mtg. May 5, 2026**

**VII. Adjourned at 8:19pm**

**VIII. Future Agenda Items -**