

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

Operations Committee

Agenda NOTES

April 7, 2026 | 5:00 pm - 6:00 pm

The RSU 9 District Office, Main Street Farmington

Members Present: Scott Erb, Greg Kimber, Gerald Provencher, Debbie Smith

Members Absent: Angie Leclair

Other Members Present: Gwen Doak, Jeff Barnum

Staff Present: Alison Gamache, Nicole Ibarguen, Chris Elkington

Other Staff Present: Katie Merrill (Notes)

1. Call Meeting to Order - Chair Erb

- a. Called to order at 5:00pm

2. Previous Committee Minutes- [3/3/2026](#) - Chair Erb

- a. Approved at 3/10/2026 Board meeting
- b. Questions?

3. Work Progress - Operations Supervisor Ibarguen

a. [FY26](#)

i. Review

1. 143 work orders in March
2. All camera upgrades have been completed
3. Preparing for change over
 - a. Lots of work on the facilities side
4. April break coming up with multiple projects to do

ii. Building Specific FYIs?

1. AHS/Cushing
 - a. Camera Upgrades at AHS
 - b. AHS door project coming up
2. Adult Ed
3. CBS
 - a. Camera upgrades
4. CCHS
 - a. Camera Upgrades
5. Mallett
6. MBMS

- a. Camera installed in the Bjorn Center Hallway
 - b. Upgrades because of software issue (blacklisted)
 - c. Door project coming up
7. MBC

4. Updates - Ibarguen

- a. Staff Openings
 - i. Employees looking for summer time hours
- b. Board Member Tours
 - i. Complete
 - 1. The final school tours on March 19th and 26th took place.
 - 2. All went well, small group - good questions
 - a. Board member feedback - "Eye opening"
- c. School Lighting Retrofits
 - i. Efficiency Maine (EM) was here to assess over Feb. Break (AHS, CBS, CCHS)
 - 1. To replace fluorescent lighting
 - 2. Go around and look at every light bulb and fixture and determine cost to replace or retrofit for LED
 - 3. They are only offering minimal incentives
 - 4. Breakdown
 - a. Total AHS \$167,262
 - i. EM would only rebate just over \$11,000 (6.8%)
 - b. CBS was \$129,572
 - i. EM rebate \$7,000
 - 5. Payback is years out and not worth investment at this time
 - a. 10-11 years
 - 6. There are no current regulations that require LED
 - a. Can no longer buy fluorescent
 - i. So replacing as we go
 - ii. Bought some bulk before we couldn't buy anymore
 - 1. They will last us awhile
 - iii. Sylvania has LED bulb replacement
 - 1. Some fixtures may have to be replaced
 - ii. Thoughts on what we might qualify for?
 - iii. Possible next steps?
 - 1. Have a plan for replacement
 - 2. Custodians have been informed of plan going forward
 - d. Ten year plan progress and review?
 - i. Where are we?
 - 1. Currently working on CBS additional heating source
 - 2. MBHS and WGM Sealander assessments
 - a. Sealander will come talk to committee
 - ii. What are the final steps?

1. 10 year plan is always a 10 year plan
 - a. FY30 projects on the radar
 - b. Things keep getting re-prioritized
 - i. But things are getting done
 - c. Point system for things so that when a project gets bumped it earns greater focus
- iii. How will we build it into future budgets?
 1. We are looking at big projects at this point in time
 2. Bond?
 - a. What might be needed at each school?
 3. Need to really start thinking about
 - a. By fall we hope to have the next 4-5 years planned
 4. Bus garage future?
 - a. Has not had a deep dive
- e. 26-27 possible RFPs
 - i. Sprinkler, Extinguishers, Hood maintenance
 1. Looking into 2 companies Eastern Fire & Maine Fire to take care of fire system needs fire extinguishers and sprinklers
 2. It might be beneficial to get a new vendor
 3. Hoodz - several companies that clean hoods
 - a. RFP in the next month
 - ii. Process progress/learning more about the process?
- f. Building Infrastructure Management Systems (BIMS)
 - i. [Energy Savings Audit Application Final 12.1.25](#)
 - ii. Application Status
 - iii. Possible next steps?
 1. Nothing new
 2. There has been no communication
- g. Visit from JGPR - Elkington
 - i. Communications audit
 1. Help develop a communications plan for us
 - a. Better use of social media, print, etc.
 2. Next steps
 - a. April 14th & 15th
 - b. Board Input @ 5:15 -6:15pm before 4-14-2026 Board meeting

5. New - Ibarguen

- a. [AHS Gym Floor information.docx](#)
 - i. Review
 1. Nicole met with Keith
 - a. Reviewed doc
 - ii. Next Steps?
 1. Barrier walk off mat will be purchased this summer for kids to walk on

- a. 1 class in cafeteria for now
- 2. Small cost
- b. [Maintenance Vehicle Replacement/Purchase](#)
 - i. Purchase one vehicle to replace two?
 - ii. Use funding approved for RJ Goan (\$67,000) now not being used?
 - iii. Two vehicles failed inspection
 - 1. Likely to lose another this year
 - iv. O'Connor 2026 GMC sierra 3500 gas 4x4
 - 1. Incorporating the van and pickup truck into one vehicle
 - a. Space for tools
 - b. Ladder
 - c. Multipurpose vehicle and pulling capacity
 - d. Safe to haul flat bed trailer
 - 2. \$64,111 - we don't usually buy new, but there's nothing out there to serve a multitude of needs that isn't very high mileage
 - a. Richard got \$4,000 off the cost
 - 3. 1 will be good for now
 - 4. Will need to budget for another one next year
 - a. Keep vans for enclosed transport
 - v. Vote: Provencher motion, Kimbal second, unanimous 4-0

6. Next Mtg. May 5, 2026

7. Adjourned at

- a. 5:35pm

8. Future Agenda Items

- School Revolving Renovation Fund Grant funding
- Foster Tech Project work in RSU 9
- Sprinkler system at AHS
 - Part of a district-wide project
 - State funds/Maine Bond Bank
- Climate change concerns and adjustments for schools
 - Start conversation/ brainstorm with principals about possible temperature needs
- AHS & Mallett signage
 - More directional signage at both buildings
- Ten Year Maintenance Plan
 - [Building Assessments](#)
 - [Projects already completed](#)