

Mt. Blue Regional School District

Board of Directors Meeting

AGENDA Minutes

COMMUNITY | CULTURE | CURRICULUM

“Working together to provide high-quality educational opportunities for all.”

DATE: June 13, 2024

PLACE: The Forum, Mt. Blue Campus

TIME: 6:30pm

LIVESTREAM LINK: <https://boxcast.tv/channel/unvoa3ijkfnyp9oufole>

Members present: Libby Kaut, Greg Kimber, Scott Erb, Wayne Kinney, Jeff Barnum, Amanda Caruso, Gloria McGraw, Carol Coles, Will Jones, Josh Robbins, Kyle Fletcher, Rich Ruhlin, Gwen Doak, Dee Robinson

Members not present: Debbie Smith

Student members present:

Student members absent: Brielle Tinker, Addie Collelo

Staff members present: Christian Elkington, Monique Poulin

Other staff members present: Nichole Goodspeed, Carol Kiesman, Mary Redmond-Luce, Kevin Bremner, Joel Smith

I. Call to Order - Chair Robinson

A. Called to order at 6:31.

II. Pledge of Allegiance

III. Adjustments to the Agenda

A. None

IV. Report of the Chairperson - Chair Robinson

A. [Code of Ethics](#) - E

V. Communications

A. Staff Members of the Month for April & May

1. Jake Perry-CBS-Adaptive Skills-April

2. Cynthia Pooler-GDC-Custodian-April

3. Kevin McFadden-MBHS/MBC-Science Teacher-May

4. Bob Tourtelotte-CCHS-Custodian-May

B. Superintendent's Newsletters - [5/24/24](#), [6/10/24](#)

VI. Good news stories from the Board or Administrators

A. MBMS-Eighth grade end of year celebration went very well with lots of varied recognitions.

- B. MBHS/MBC-It has been a busy couple of weeks with many end of year celebratory ceremonies, including FCTEC Recognition, MBHS Awards Night, Senior Assembly, Senior Class Trip and Graduation.
- C. Literacy Grant-It has been approved in its final form, and the first session already has 20 educators enrolled.
- D. Adult Education Graduation-This went extremely well with 30 students graduating and Maine Commissioner of Ed Pender Makin joining the celebration.
- E. The budget passed!
- F. Congratulations to Gwen Doak who was re-elected to the board.

VII. Public Comment

- A. None

VIII. [Superintendent's Report](#) - Christian Elkington

- A. New Hires, Transfers, Resignations, and Retirements
 - 1. Given that some are transfers, we are now at about 30 differing openings this spring with several filled.
 - 2. Many new hires expressed being very pleased to apply and to then be hired in RSU #9.
- B. Projected 25-26 and Beyond Budget Support
- C. Summer Meals Program
 - 1. Community members are welcome to come to any and all locations to pick up meals.
- D. Article on AI Skills in Education & the Workforce
 - 1. As a follow up to the committee meetings last week, this article notes that it is estimated that about 60% of our jobs will be impacted by AI in the future.

IX. Administrator Reports

- A. [Adult Education](#) - Mary Redmond-Luce
 - 1. Mary celebrated the good news about graduation as well.
 - 2. She also shared appreciation for those who attended the day long MDOE visit last month. She read a letter/thank you note from a student regarding her experience presenting to the audience.
- B. [Technology](#) - Kevin Bremner
 - 1. Our district was accepted into the workforce readiness program (Maine Math and Science Alliance) with the goal of integrating computer science and computational thinking into our curriculum. This is a great opportunity for us to work with a variety of districts on this initiative. Kevin is now pulling a team together. We appreciate Amanda Caruso's collaboration on this project.
 - 2. Summer Tech Institute-All board members are welcome. We are collaborating with MSAD #58 and Rangeley. It is scheduled for 8/14 and 15.
 - 3. iPads have arrived!

X. Presentations

A. BARR Review

1. Nichole Goodspeed presented with support from Reilly Romanoski (MBMS) and Sofie Mattens (AHS). (Katie Duchesne was involved as well but was unable to be present.)
2. Fourteen staff members attended the conference (two from each school) supported by our ESSER funds.
3. The highlights of the conference included:
 - a) Wonderful and relevant presentations and speakers, as well as 40 sessions broken out into grade spans.
 - b) Data over 20 years demonstrates that the evidence based approach is working over time.
 - c) Sofie Mattens and Gracie Vaughan (AHS) were presenters!
 - d) Reflection on strengths and areas for growth.
 - e) Focus on relationships was a wonderful takeaway.
 - f) The inspiration that they walked away with was amazing and carried forward.
 - g) The connections among staff from different buildings was a wonderful outcome.
 - h) There is a way to overcome obstacles, and that message was powerful.
 - i) It was a wonderful experience to meet new people but also to make strong connections with RSU #9 colleagues. The energy and excitement were inspiring and infectious. Informal networking worked well. Key takeaway came from those who had been doing it for years and how to extend it into all aspects of your schools.
4. Much appreciation was shared with the board for their support of BARR.

XI. Consent Agenda

- A. New Hires/Resignations etc.
- B. Board Minutes - [5/14/24](#), [5/21/24](#)
- C. Committee Report Outs and Minutes
 1. Operations Committee - [6/4/24](#)
 2. Personnel & Finance - [6/4/24](#)
 3. Educational Policy - [6/4/24](#)
- D. Vote

<p><i>Motion to approve consent agenda as presented.</i></p>	<p>Yeas: Libby Kaut, Greg Kimber, Scott Erb, Wayne Kinney, Jeff Barnum, Amanda Caruso, Gloria McGraw, Carol Coles, Will Jones, Josh Robbins, Kyle Fletcher, Rich Ruhlin, Gwen Doak, Dee Robinson Student Yeas: Nays: None Student Nays: Abstained: Vote: 894/0/0</p>	<p>Motion: Scott Erb Seconded: Wayne Kinney Motion: Passed</p>
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XII. New Business

- A. [Computation and Declaration of Votes, Certificate of Secretary](#) - Elkington • *BE IT VOTED: That the Computation and Declaration of Votes dated June 13, 2023 and attached hereto be approved; That the Computation and Declaration of Votes be entered upon the records of Regional School Unit No. 9; That a certified copy of the Computation and Declaration of Votes be sent to each of the municipal clerks within the RSU; and That the foregoing Computation and Declaration shall be signed by a majority of the School Board, and that these signatures may be made electronically, by execution of counterparts, or in person at the convenience of the members of the School Board.*
- B. *Each Board Member then approved the Declaration of Votes by signing said document.*
- C. Assessment Warrants and Installment Schedules - Elkington
 - 1. *“Motion that the Warrant for Assessment of Tax and the Assessment Schedule and notice of Installments for each member municipality prepared by the Treasurer for fiscal year July 1, 2024 to June 30, 2025 be approved and be issued in form presented to this meeting; and that the Treasurer be authorized and directed to deliver to each member municipality its Warrant for Assessment of tax and its Assessment Schedule and Notice of Installments.”*

2. *Vote*

<p><i>Motion to approve the Warrant for Assessment of Tax and the Installment Schedule as read and with the correct dates</i></p>	<p>Yeas: Libby Kaut, Greg Kimber, Scott Erb, Wayne Kinney, Jeff Barnum, Amanda Caruso, Gloria McGraw, Carol Coles, Will Jones, Josh Robbins, Kyle Fletcher, Rich Ruhlin, Gwen Doak, Dee Robinson Student Yeas: Nays: None Student Nays: Abstained: Vote: 894/0/0</p>	<p>Motion: Rich Ruhlin Seconded: Gwen Doak Motion: Passed</p>
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- D. Authorization of Superintendent to hire professional and support staff through the summer - Elkington
 - 1. *“Motion to approve the Superintendent hiring professional and support staff through the summer.”*

2. *Vote*

<p><i>Motion to approve the Superintendent hiring professional and support staff through the summer.</i></p>	<p>Yeas: Libby Kaut, Greg Kimber, Scott Erb, Wayne Kinney, Jeff Barnum, Amanda Caruso, Gloria McGraw, Carol Coles, Will Jones, Josh Robbins, Kyle Fletcher, Rich Ruhlin, Gwen Doak, Dee Robinson Student Yeas: Nays: None Student Nays: Abstained: Vote: 894/0/0</p>	<p>Motion: Scott Erb Seconded: Rich Ruhlin Motion: Passed</p>
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E. Authorization to transfer funds between cost centers for the 2023-2024 Budget - Elkington

1. Motion

- a) *“Motion to conditionally authorize the transfer of amounts not exceeding 5% of the total appropriation for any school budget cost center to another cost center or among other cost centers for the 2023-2024 fiscal year, provided that transfers shall not be permitted to increase the total authorized school budget, pursuant to 20-A M.R.S. § 1485(4).” (Conditionally means that the Board will be informed by the Superintendent and will be able to ask questions.)*

2. Vote

<p><i>Motion to conditionally authorize the transfer of amounts not exceeding 5% of the budget with the correct dates</i></p>	<p>Yeas: Libby Kaut, Greg Kimber, Scott Erb, Wayne Kinney, Jeff Barnum, Amanda Caruso, Gloria McGraw, Carol Coles, Will Jones, Josh Robbins, Kyle Fletcher, Rich Ruhlin, Gwen Doak, Dee Robinson Student Yeas: Nays: None Student Nays: Abstained: Vote: 894/0/0</p>	<p>Motion: Scott Erb Seconded: Wayne Kinne Motion: Passed</p>
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F. Leave of Absence

1. Motion to approve the leave of absence for Melissa Williams for one year

2. Vote

<p><i>Motion to approve the on year Leave of Absence</i></p>	<p>Yeas: Libby Kaut, Greg Kimber, Scott Erb, Wayne Kinney, Jeff Barnum, Amanda Caruso, Gloria McGraw, Carol Coles, Will Jones, Josh Robbins, Kyle Fletcher, Rich Ruhlin, Gwen Doak, Dee Robinson Student Yeas: Nays: None Student Nays: Abstained: Vote: 894/0/0</p>	<p>Motion: Scott Erb Seconded: Will Jones Motion: Passed</p>
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Superintendent Elkington and Melissa Williams met with FCTEC staff and shared that the plan will be to post for a one year interim director filled by an experienced administrator.

G. Cancel the first Board Mtg. in July

1. Review
2. Vote

<p><i>Motion to approve canceling the first Board Mtg. in July</i></p>	<p>Yeas: Libby Kaut, Greg Kimber, Scott Erb, Wayne Kinney, Jeff Barnum, Amanda Caruso, Gloria McGraw, Carol Coles, Will Jones, Josh Robbins, Kyle Fletcher, Rich Ruhlin, Gwen Doak, Dee Robinson Student Yeas: Nays: None Student Nays: Abstained: Vote: 894/0/0</p>	<p>Motion: Rich Ruhlin Seconded: Gwen Doak Motion: Passed</p>
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Board Member McGraw noted that there will be a little social prior to the 7/25 Board Meeting to welcome new board members. Details will be shared.

H. Admin Eval Process-Postponed until the next meeting.

1. Review
2. Updates for 24-25 Pilot Year
3. Motion
4. Vote

<p><i>Motion to approve the updates for the 24-25 Pilot Year Admin Eval Process.</i></p>	<p>Yeas: Libby Kaut, Greg Kimber, Scott Erb, Wayne Kinney, Jeff Barnum, Amanda Caruso, Gloria McGraw, Carol Coles, Will Jones, Josh Robbins, Kyle Fletcher, Rich Ruhlin, Gwen Doak, Dee Robinson Student Yeas: Nays: None Student Nays: Abstained: Vote: 894/0/0</p>	<p>Motion: Seconded: Motion: Passed</p>
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I. Policy Review - Doak & Elkington

1. Minor Changes (one reading)
 - a) [GCFB](#) Recruiting and Hiring of Administrative Staff
 - b) [GCFB-R](#) Recruiting and Hiring of Administrative Staff - Administrative Procedure
 - c) Questions
 - (1) Do these incorporate MSMA language?
 - (a) Yes, they align.
 - d) Motion
 - e) Vote

<p><i>Motion to approve Policy and the Regulation as presented.</i></p>	<p>Yeas: Libby Kaut, Greg Kimber, Scott Erb, Wayne Kinney, Jeff Barnum, Amanda Caruso, Gloria McGraw, Carol Coles, Will Jones, Josh Robbins, Kyle Fletcher, Rich Ruhlin, Gwen Doak, Dee Robinson Student Yeas: Nays: None Student Nays: Abstained: Vote: 894/0/0</p>	<p>Motion: Scott Erb Seconded: Wayne Kinney Motion: Passed</p>
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2. Total Replacement (two readings)
 - a) [GCF](#) Professional Staff Hiring
 - (1) Total replacement
 - b) Questions?
 - (1) None
3. Brand New (two readings)
 - a) [JCDA - R](#) Request to Administer Form
 - b) Questions?
 - (1) None

XIII. Executive Session pursuant to 1 M.R.S.A. § 405(6)(A) - Evaluation of Superintendent

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

<p><i>Motion to go into Executive Session for Evaluation of Superintendent</i></p>	<p>Yeas: Libby Kaut, Greg Kimber, Scott Erb, Wayne Kinney, Jeff Barnum, Amanda Caruso, Gloria McGraw, Carol Coles, Will Jones, Josh Robbins, Kyle Fletcher, Rich Ruhlin, Gwen Doak, Dee Robinson Student Yeas: Nays: None Student Nays: Abstained: Vote: 894/0/0</p>	<p>Motion: Gwen Doak Seconded: Wayne Kinney Motion: Passed</p>
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Entered Executive Session at 7:34.
Exited Executive Session at 7:36.

XIV. Executive Session pursuant to 1 M.R.S.A. §405(6)(C) - Disposition of Property

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

<p><i>Motion to go into Executive Session to discuss Disposition of Property.</i></p>	<p>Yeas: Libby Kaut, Greg Kimber, Scott Erb, Wayne Kinney, Jeff Barnum, Amanda Caruso, Gloria McGraw, Carol Coles, Will Jones, Josh Robbins, Kyle Fletcher, Rich Ruhlin, Gwen Doak, Dee Robinson Student Yeas:</p>	<p>Motion: Rich Ruhlin Seconded: Gwen Doak Motion: Passed</p>
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	Nays: None Student Nays: Abstained: Vote: 894/0/0	
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Entered Executive Session at 7:37.
Exited Executive Session at 8:10.

XV. Executive Session pursuant to 1 M.R.S.A. §405(6)(D) - Labor Contract Discussions w/Association

- *Motion to go into Executive Session pursuant to 1 M.R.S.A. §405(6)(D) - Labor Contract Discussion w/Association*
- Vote

<i>Motion to go into Executive Session for discussion on Labor Contract w/ Association.</i>	Yeas: Libby Kaut, Greg Kimber, Scott Erb, Wayne Kinney, Jeff Barnum, Amanda Caruso, Gloria McGraw, Carol Coles, Will Jones, Josh Robbins, Kyle Fletcher, Rich Ruhlin, Gwen Doak, Dee Robinson Student Yeas: Nays: None Student Nays: Abstained: Vote: 894/0/0	Motion: Gwen Doak Seconded: Wayne Kinney Motion: Passed
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Entered Executive Session at 8:11.
Exited Executive Session at 8:15.

XVI. Adjourned without objection at 8:15.

NEXT SCHEDULED BOARD MEETINGS

June 25th, 2024 - 6:30pm - The Forum, Mt. Blue Campus

- Board Reports - NONE

NEXT SCHEDULED COMMITTEE MEETINGS

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