

# Operations Committee

## Minutes

June 7, 2022

5:00 - 6:00pm

The Forum, Mt. Blue Campus

COMMUNITY | CULTURE | CURRICULUM

Working together to provide high-quality educational opportunities for all

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Members: Scott Erb, **Cherieann Harrison**, Gloria McGraw, Josh Robbins (left at 5:52)

Other Members Present: Carol Coles, Dee Robinson, Judith Kaut

Staff: Chris Elkington, Dan Higgins, Sherry Wyman, James Black

Other Staff Present:

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1. Called Meeting to Order at 5:05 pm
2. Review [approved minutes](#) from the last meeting - Harrison  
There were no questions or changes.
3. Updates:
  - a. Land for Sale [adjacent to Cascade Brook School](#) - Elkington  
Our present field is not on anyone else's property so we are set.
  - b. Net Energy Billing Credits - Higgins
    - i. [Jan 2022](#)      [Feb 2022](#)      [March 2022](#)      [April 2022](#)
    - ii. Review  
Dan Higgins shared a review of the bills and how the rate is determined. That some savings started in Nov, not December.
    - iii. Savings?  
At present about \$77,000 in savings with the first two Months smaller as the power allowance was about 50% power generation. Questions were raised about some of the accounts used.
  - c. School Visits - Elkington
    - i. The business of spring made this difficult to schedule
    - ii. We will now need to wait until the new Board is set in July

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- iii. Will need to balance new board members needs with this committee
  - 1. Ideas
    - a. A couple of afternoons in August?
    - b. Other?

The new committee will need to determine when these meetings will happen. A point was made that seeing kids in the schools with the principal on the tour is better than just an empty building.
- d. [ESSER Projects](#) - Wyman/Elkington
  - Sherry Wyman shared some changes with ESSER 2 & 3. Outside Learning Structures and additional cameras and intercom systems were brought up as examples of changes. She also gave an update on work being done this summer. A request was made that in the future please show when funds are changed and to give an update of final # changes.
- e. District Project Planning Summer 2022 - Higgins
  - Information was shared about the main projects being done this Summer:
    - 4 Pavilions at 4 schools (Mike Smiley) and roofs on these structures (District staff)
    - Playgrounds at 3 schools (O'Brien & Sons)
    - Awnings (Nuimage)
    - RFP for Architecture & Engineering is being completed.
- f. Legislator Visits - Elkington
  - i. Was too difficult to get everyone together this spring
  - ii. Need to try and have it earlier
    - 1. Early winter - Dec?
    - 2. Wait a little for bills to come forward?
    - 3. Feb?

Jan/Feb are possible timeframes. Questions were raised about our needing the new committee to decide and which communities have changed reps with reorganization.
- g. Maintenance Reorganization - Elkington
  - i. Director of Maintenance Reorganization

## Operations Committee

1. 22-23 Plan
    - a. Dir of Finance & Operations
    - b. Dir of Transportation & Custodial Services
  2. Job Description Review
  - ii. Any questions?

There were no questions.
  - iii. Approval

Committee is set with the approvals made in the Budget process.
4. Addition to MBMS - Elkington
- a. [Outside donor interest](#)
  - b. Draft plan possible next steps
    - i. Program availability was reviewed, as well as specific locations due to access to facilities.
    - ii. The goal of this addition is to have greater hands-on learning opportunities at the middle school. This would potentially be one of the first such programs in Maine
    - iii. The donation is for \$2.5 million to build the facility.
    - iv. If approved, the addition would be built for hands-on learning, with approximate class sizes of 16:1.
    - v. FTC does now work with other elementary schools, for our sending schools.
    - vi. What are the constraints? Any from the Maine DOE? None from the Maine DOE, time to complete the project. The Bjorn Foundation is looking to approve an offer like this sooner than later. Other updates are needed at the middle school.
    - vii. Given the age of MBMS, does it make sense to add it to an older school?
      1. Structurally the school is in good shape, but there are many cosmetic items needed.
    - viii. Currently, there are staff members who have expressed interest and the schedule could be made conducive for changes to support this.
    - ix. Developing a program like this will mean that next steps will force us to look at what we do for students in grades 9 and 10.
    - x. Lots of questions:

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1. Districts have discussed over the last 4-5 years the middle-level needs
  2. There is a district expense for expanding a program like this, for a third staff member. Present MBMS staffing would supply the two other teachers. Program offerings are presently being looked at for 3 teachers with each having two CTE-like, hands-on learning options.
  3. Who oversees the middle school program? MBMS Principal.
- xi. The committee supports moving forward with the proposal to go before the school board.
5. Ten Year Plan - Higgins
- a. Architect & engineering study
    - Early next month will begin a draft of what we know now
    - Presently researching history of starts & stops
    - Working with two super's to plan RFQ around future planning suggestions
    - Scott Brown from the MDOE is also being very helpful!
  - b. RFQ
    - Will go out after final budget is approved.

Adjourned at 6:05pm

6. Future Agenda Items - New chair
- a. School layouts with outside structures