

# Mt. Blue Regional School District - RSU 9



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

Chesterville | Farmington | Industry | New Sharon | New Vineyard | Starks | Temple | Vienna | Weld | Wilton

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## Board of Directors Workshop (for Board Members and the Superintendent)

**DATE:** July 22, 2025  
**PLACE:** ~~The Chef's Table - MBC/FTC (Rm. D120, on the right just past the cafeteria)~~  
UPDATED LOCATION FOR BOARD WORKSHOP - ROOM A139  
**TIME:** 5:30pm

1. Introductions, responsibilities, Board dynamics, and sharing.

**No decisions or votes will be taken at the Board Workshop.**

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## Board of Directors Board Meeting Agenda - Notes

**DATE:** July 22, 2025  
**PLACE:** The Forum - Mt. Blue Campus  
**TIME:** 6:30pm  
**LIVESTREAM LINK:** <https://boxcast.tv/channel/unvoa3ijkfnyp9oufole>

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**Board Members Present:** Jeff Barnum, Amanda Caruso, Gwen Doak, Scott Erb, Lance Harvell, Patti Hastings, Greg Kimber, Wayne Kinney, Katie Martikke, Griffin Mayew, Gloria McGraw, Gerald Provencher, Josh Robbins, Rich Ruhlin, Debbie Smith, Dina Spenciner

**Board Members Absent:**

**Student Reps Present:** (New Student Reps begin in Sept.)

**Student Reps Absent:** Julian Reynolds, Rowan Shanti

**Staff Present:** Christian Elkington

**Other Staff Present:** Cyndi Pratt

### I. Call to Order - Superintendent Elkington

At 6:31 PM
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### II. Pledge of Allegiance

### III. Adjustments to the Agenda

A. None

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#### IV. Reorganization of the Board - Superintendent Elkington

##### A. Election of Officers, Chair & Vice Chair

1. [Reorganization Memo](#)
  - a. Reviewed
2. Nominations from the floor for Chair
  - a. Discussion/Questions

Wayne Kinney nominated Gwen Doak

- Motion/Vote

<i>Motion to appoint TBD as Board Chair</i>	<b>Yeas:</b> Jeff Barnum, Amanda Caruso, Scott Erb, Lance Harvell, Patti Hastings, Greg Kimber, Wayne Kinney, Katie Martikke, Griffin Mayhew, Gloria McGraw, Gerald Provencher, Josh Robbins, Rich Ruhlin, Debbie Smith, Dina Spenciner <b>Nays:</b> <b>Abstain:</b> Doak <b>Student Yeas:</b> <b>Student Nays:</b> <b>Student Abstain:</b> 927/0/74	<i>Motion: Wayne Kinney Second: Motion: Passed</i>
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3. Nominations from the floor for Vice Chair
  - a. Called for by Chair Doak

Robbins nominated McGraw

- b. Discussion/Questions

None

- Motion/Vote

<i>Motion to appoint TBD as Board Vice Chair</i>	<b>Yeas:</b> Jeff Barnum, Amanda Caruso, Gwen Doak, Scott Erb, Lance Harvell, Patti Hastings, Greg Kimber, Wayne Kinney, Katie Martikke, Griffin Mayhew, Gerald Provencher, Josh Robbins, Rich Ruhlin, Debbie Smith, Dina Spenciner <b>Nays:</b> <b>Abstain:</b> McGraw <b>Student Yeas:</b> <b>Student Nays:</b> <b>Student Abstain:</b> 917/0/84	<i>Motion: Josh Robbins Second: Motion: Passed</i>
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##### B. Appointment of Parliamentarian - Chair Doak

1. Per Policy [BEDD - Rules of Order](#)
2. Motion by Chair to appoint

Scott Erb

3. Discussion/Questions

None

- **Vote**

<i>Motion to appoint TBD as Parliamentarian</i>	<b>Yeas:</b> Jeff Barnum, Amanda Caruso, Gwen Doak, Lance Harvell, Patti Hastings, Greg Kimber, Wayne Kinney, Katie Martikke, Griffin Mayhew, Gloria McGraw, Gerald Provencher, Josh Robbins, Rich Ruhlin, Debbie Smith, Dina Spenciner <b>Nays:</b> <b>Abstain:</b> Erb <b>Student Yeas:</b> <b>Student Nays:</b> <b>Student Abstain:</b> 927/0/84	<i>Motion: Chair Doak</i> <i>Second:</i> <i>Motion: Passed</i>
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C. [Elect a voting delegate and alternate to participate in the Association's Annual Delegate Assembly](#)

1. MSBA would like us to appoint this no later than the first meeting in August
2. Discussion/Questions

Ruhlin Nominated by Doak

- **Motion/Vote**

<i>Motion to appoint TBD as Delegate and Alternate</i>	<b>Yeas:</b> Jeff Barnum, Amanda Caruso, Gwen Doak, Scott Erb, Lance Harvell, Patti Hastings, Greg Kimber, Wayne Kinney, Katie Martikke, Griffin Mayhew, Gloria McGraw, Gerald Provencher, Josh Robbins, Debbie Smith, Dina Spenciner <b>Nays:</b> <b>Abstain:</b> Ruhlin <b>Student Yeas:</b> <b>Student Nays:</b> <b>Student Abstain:</b> 951/0/50	<i>Motion: Chair Doak</i> <i>Second:</i> <i>Motion: Passed</i>
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**V. Report/Welcome by the (new) Chairperson - Chair Doak**

A. Welcome new Board Members

Chair Doak gave Patty and Griffin a warm welcome

1. Patricia (Patty) Hastings - Chesterville
2. Griffin Mayhew - Wilton

B. [BCA - Board Member Code of Ethics](#)

1. "A"

Was reviewed by Chair Doak

**VI. Communications**

A. Maine DOE Newsroom

1. [FTC Firetruck](#)

- Superintendent was happy to report

B. [25-26 Calendar Approved by State](#)

- Superintendent was happy to report

**VII. Good news stories from the Board or Administrators**

Expectations for this time were read by Chair Doak

**VIII. Public Comment**

- Staff Member Rich Wilde thanked the Board for their support along with his love of his students in his two + decades of work at FTC as he will not be returning. That he hopes Robotics/Blue Crew will continue to shine in RSU 9

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

- A. New Hires, Transfers, Resignations, and Retirements
- B. Openings as of 6-23-2025
- C. iPads - cost to district
- D. Referendum History
- E. Maine DOE Diploma
- F. Miracles do happen!
- G. LD 1248 - Physical Escort, Restraint, and Seclusion
- H. Class Size update
- I. State Law Salary Adjustments
- J. Special thanks to the Cormier Family
  - 1. For their generosity!
- K. Franklin Savings Tax Anticipation Note support
  - 1. For their willingness to work with us in case of a state shutdown
- L. Blue Crew update

Superintendent Elkington shared that we have options to keep the Blue Crew at MBC for 25-26. They will be flushed out in the next few weeks.

**X. Administrator Reports**

A. [MBHS Athletics](#) - Director Cyndi Pratt

Brielle Tinker was a state champion in Racewalk this past Spring. 27 senior athletes earned academic recognition. Girls Tennis earned the sportsmanship award. Baseball had an excellent bounceback season. The competition field is in pretty good shape. We hope it will recover for the fall.

**XI. Presentations**

- None

## XII. Consent Agenda

- A. New Hires/Resignations etc.
- B. Board Minutes - [6/23/2025](#)
- C. Committee Report Outs and Minutes
  - 1. Operations Committee - None
  - 2. Personnel & Finance - None
  - 3. Educational Policy - None

- Motion/Vote

<i>Motion to approve the consent agenda as presented</i>	<b>Yeas:</b> Jeff Barnum, Amanda Caruso, Gwen Doak, Scott Erb, Lance Harvell, Patti Hastings, Greg Kimber, Wayne Kinney, Katie Martikke, Griffin Mayhew, Gloria McGraw, Gerald Provencher, Josh Robbins, Rich Ruhlin, Debbie Smith, Dina Spenciner <b>Nays:</b> <b>Abstain:</b> <b>Student Yeas:</b> <b>Student Nays:</b> <b>Student Abstain:</b> 1001/0/0	<i>Motion: Erb</i> <i>Second: Harvell</i> <i>Motion: Passed</i>
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## XIII. New Business

- A. [Proposed Board Meeting Schedule 25/26](#)

- 1. Discussion/Questions

None

- Motion/Vote

<i>Motion to approve the proposed 25/26 Board meeting schedule as presented</i>	<b>Yeas:</b> Jeff Barnum, Amanda Caruso, Gwen Doak, Scott Erb, Lance Harvell, Patti Hastings, Greg Kimber, Wayne Kinney, Katie Martikke, Griffin Mayhew, Gloria McGraw, Gerald Provencher, Josh Robbins, Rich Ruhlin, Debbie Smith, Dina Spenciner <b>Nays:</b> <b>Abstain:</b> <b>Student Yeas:</b> <b>Student Nays:</b> <b>Student Abstain:</b> 1001/0/0	<i>Motion: Ruhlin</i> <i>Second: Mayhew</i> <i>Motion: Passed</i>
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- B. [Proposed Standing Committee Meeting Schedule 25/26](#)

- 1. Committee assignments TBD by Board Chair by the end of next week
  - a. Operations, Finance, Ed. Policy
    - i. Please email Chair TBD your ranked order of choice by next week
- 2. Discussion/Questions

None

- Motion/Vote (to approve proposed schedule)

<i>Motion to approve the proposed 25/26 standing committee schedule as presented</i>	<b>Yeas:</b> Jeff Barnum, Amanda Caruso, Gwen Doak, Scott Erb, Lance Harvell, Patti Hastings, Greg Kimber, Wayne Kinney, Katie Martikke, Griffin Mayhew, Gloria McGraw, Gerald Provencher, Josh Robbins, Rich Ruhlin, Debbie Smith, Dina Spenciner <b>Nays:</b> <b>Abstain:</b> <b>Student Yeas:</b> <b>Student Nays:</b> <b>Student Abstain:</b> 1001/0/0	<i>Motion: Ruhlin Second: Barnum Motion: Passed</i>
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C. Field Trip - Elkington

1. [MBHS Cross Country field trip to Acadia National Park](#)
2. Discussion/Questions

- Motion/Vote

<i>Motion to approve the field trip as presented</i>	<b>Yeas:</b> Jeff Barnum, Amanda Caruso, Gwen Doak, Scott Erb, Lance Harvell, Patti Hastings, Greg Kimber, Wayne Kinney, Katie Martikke, Griffin Mayhew, Gloria McGraw, Gerald Provencher, Josh Robbins, Rich Ruhlin, Debbie Smith, Dina Spenciner <b>Nays:</b> <b>Abstain:</b> <b>Student Yeas:</b> <b>Student Nays:</b> <b>Student Abstain:</b> 1001/0/0	<i>Motion: Erb Second: Smith Motion: Passed</i>
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Question on chaperones.

D. 2025-2026 District Physician Appointment - Elkington

1. Dr. Emily Jacobs
  - a. Same Physician, new practice/hospital affiliation
    - i. At a cost of approximately \$2,000
2. Discussion/Questions

None

- Motion/Vote

<i>Motion to appoint Emily Jacobs of Reddington Fairview General Hospital, as District Physician for the 25/26 school year</i>	<b>Yeas:</b> Jeff Barnum, Amanda Caruso, Gwen Doak, Scott Erb, Lance Harvell, Patti Hastings, Greg Kimber, Wayne Kinney, Katie Martikke, Griffin Mayhew, Gloria McGraw, Gerald Provencher, Josh Robbins, Rich Ruhlin, Debbie Smith, Dina Spenciner <b>Nays:</b> <b>Abstain:</b> <b>Student Yeas:</b> <b>Student Nays:</b>	<i>Motion: Caruso Second: Harvell Motion: Passed</i>
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	<b>Student Abstain:</b> 1001/0/0	
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E. Maine Paid Family & Medical Leave Program - Elkington

1. [Private Plan option](#)
2. Discussion/Questions

Superintendent Elkington explained that we are moving this right to the Board because it needs to be completed ASAP to take advantage of savings. That we have to have this per state law. That our investigation of possible plans took longer than expected and that we couldn't get info ready for the last Finance Committee Meeting in June. That the plan presented by MSMA is less than the only other plan proposed by the State.

• Motion/Vote

<i>Motion to approve the private plan option as presented</i>	<b>Yeas:</b> Jeff Barnum, Amanda Caruso, Gwen Doak, Scott Erb, Lance Harvell, Patti Hastings, Greg Kimber, Wayne Kinney, Katie Martikke, Griffin Mayhew, Gloria McGraw, Gerald Provencher, Josh Robbins, Rich Ruhlin, Debbie Smith, Dina Spenciner <b>Nays:</b> <b>Abstain:</b> Barnum, Hastings <b>Student Yeas:</b> <b>Student Nays:</b> <b>Student Abstain:</b> 1001/0/0	<i>Motion: Ruhlin  Second: Harvell  Motion: Passed</i>
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Questions were asked about why we bypassed the Finance Committee.

F. Postage Meter Vendor Change/Contract - Elkington

1. [Comparison Sheet](#)
2. Discussion/Questions

Superintendent Elkington explained that we moved this right to the Board to take advantage of an extra month of savings. That it is less expensive for us to use BDT.

• Motion/Vote

<i>Motion to approve TBD as Postage Meter Vendor</i>	<b>Yeas:</b> Jeff Barnum, Amanda Caruso, Gwen Doak, Scott Erb, Lance Harvell, Patti Hastings, Greg Kimber, Wayne Kinney, Katie Martikke, Griffin Mayhew, Gloria McGraw, Gerald Provencher, Josh Robbins, Rich Ruhlin, Debbie Smith, Dina Spenciner <b>Nays:</b> <b>Abstain:</b> <b>Student Yeas:</b> <b>Student Nays:</b> <b>Student Abstain:</b> 1001/0/0	<i>Motion: Erb  Second: Ruhlin  Motion: Passed</i>
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A question was asked about why we bypassed the Finance Committee.

G. Town Assessment Form Part 2 - Director of Finance Gamache

- Second Form
- One form for each town, signed by all Board Members

These were passed around for signatures.

H. Policy Work

1. Minor Revision w/ Elimination

- [BE - School Board Meetings](#)
  - Missing Language - "Voting Power"
- [BEDC - Quorum](#)
  - Was replaced in error after elimination, but now contains the correct language
- Language from BEDC (3/25/2025) is incorporated into BE and can be eliminated
- Discussion/ Questions

The superintendent reviewed the errors.

- Motion/Vote

<i>Motion to approve incorporating Policy BEDC Quorum Language into Policy BE School Board Meetings and Eliminate Policy BEDC as originally intended</i>	<b>Yeas:</b> Jeff Barnum, Amanda Caruso, Gwen Doak, Scott Erb, Lance Harvell, Patti Hastings, Greg Kimber, Wayne Kinney, Katie Martikke, Griffin Mayhew, Gloria McGraw, Gerald Provencher, Josh Robbins, Rich Ruhlin, Debbie Smith, Dina Spenciner <b>Nays:</b> <b>Abstain:</b> <b>Student Yeas:</b> <b>Student Nays:</b> <b>Student Abstain:</b> 1001/0/0	<i>Motion: Kinney Second: Smith Motion: Passed</i>
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I. "New" Federal funds hold (6 billion) means what for us?

- ["New" Federal Funds put on hold](#)
- How much is it for us?
  - \$255,220**
    - Title I-C - zero
    - Title II-A **-\$165,408.15**
    - Title III-A - zero
    - Title IV-A **-\$89,812.03**
  - Net loss of \$255,220**
- What do these funds help pay for?
  - Intervention Positions, Positions, Positions
  - Superintendent Elkington explained that we do have some carryover funds for about 60% of this if the funds don't come from the Feds.
- This could mean what for RSU 9?
  - Loss of programming support?



b. Possible next steps?

i. Option 1

(a) Wait and hope

ii. Option 2

(a) Plan to use title carryover funds (\$160,000)

(b) Use funding for the remaining class size position to keep what we have instead of adding

iii. Option 3

(a) Cut positions funded by these monies

5. Discussion/Questions

Lots of questions about what services could be lost if we reduced positions. Math & Literacy Coordinators Morgan Badeau and Jen Ladd explained the importance of these positions.

• Possible Motion/Vote

<i>Motion to use present carryover funds along with remaining class size funds if needed.</i>	<b>Yeas:</b> Jeff Barnum, Amanda Caruso, Gwen Doak, Scott Erb, Lance Harvell, Patti Hastings, Greg Kimber, Wayne Kinney, Katie Martikke, Gloria McGraw, Gerald Provencher, Josh Robbins, Rich Ruhlin, Debbie Smith, Dina Spenciner <b>Nays:</b> <b>Abstain:</b> Mayhew <b>Student Yeas:</b> <b>Student Nays:</b> <b>Student Abstain:</b> 1001/0/0	<i>Motion: Kinney Second: Harvell Motion: Passed</i>
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**XIV. Executive Session**

1. Executive Session pursuant to 1 M.R.S.A. §405(6)(A) - Compensation of Officials

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

<i>Motion to go into Executive Session for Compensation of Officials at 7:42 pm</i>	<b>Yeas:</b> Jeff Barnum, Amanda Caruso, Gwen Doak, Scott Erb, Lance Harvell, Patti Hastings, Greg Kimber, Wayne Kinney, Katie Martikke, Griffin Mayhew, Gloria McGraw, Gerald Provencher, Josh Robbins, Rich Ruhlin, Debbie Smith, Dina Spenciner <b>Nays:</b> <b>Abstain:</b> <b>Student Yeas:</b> <b>Student Nays:</b> <b>Student Abstain:</b> 1001/0/0	<i>Motion: Ruhlin Second: Harvell Motion: Passed</i>
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Out at 7:48pm
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**XV. Adjourned at 7:48 without objection**

### **NEXT SCHEDULED BOARD MEETINGS**

Tuesday, August 12, 2025 - 6:30pm - The Forum - Mt. Blue Campus

- *Board Reports - None*

Tuesday, August 26, 2025 - 6:30pm - The Forum - Mt. Blue Campus

- *Board Reports - Special Services, Technology, Transportation*

### **NEXT SCHEDULED COMMITTEE MEETINGS**

Operations - August 5, 2025 - 5:00pm - The Holman House, District Office

Personnel & Finance - August 5, 2025, - 6:00pm - The Holman House, District Office

Educational Policy - August 5, 2025, - 7:00pm - The Holman House, District Office