

Mt. Blue Regional School District
Board of Directors Meeting
MINUTES

COMMUNITY | CULTURE | CURRICULUM
Working together to provide high-quality educational opportunities for all

DATE: July 26, 2022

Place: The Forum

Time: 6:30pm

Meeting Video: <https://boxcast.tv/channel/unvoa3ijkfnyp9oufole>

In attendance: Carol Coles, Alexander Creznic, Gwen Doak, Scott Erb (entered at 6:32pm), Kyle Fletcher, Charles Hinds, Judith Kaut, J. Wayne Kinney, Gloria McGraw, Josh Robbins, Dorothy “Dee” Robinson, Richard Ruhlin, Debbie Smith

Absent: Janice David, Irv Faunce, Betsey Hyde, Abigail Goodspeed (Student Member)

Also present: Kevin Bremner, Laura Columbia, Chris Elkington, Jennifer Pooler

- I. Called to Order at 6:30pm
- II. Pledge of Allegiance
- III. Adjustments to the Agenda
 - A. None
- IV. Report of the Chairperson - Carol Coles
 - A. Report of the Chairperson - Carol Coles
 1. [BCA Board Member Code of Ethics](#)
 - a) Preamble
 - B. [Committee Assignments](#)
 - C. [RSU 9 Website](#)
 1. Please peruse the website, it has a wealth of information at your fingertips.
 - D. Board Member Orientation Update
 1. All new members have been through New Board Member Orientation and a refresher by Maine School Management Association will take place in September.

- V. Communications
 - A. [MSBA Update](#) - July 2022
 - B. [RSU 9 Staff Members of the Month for June 2022](#)
 - 1. Support Staff - Stephanie French
 - 2. Professional Staff - Denise Mochamer
 - C. [2022/23 Board and Committee Meeting Schedule](#) - Approved 7/12/22
 - D. [2022/23 Board Pamphlet](#) (revised)
 - E. [2022/23 Administrator Board Report Schedule](#)

- VI. RSU 9 Good News stories - from the Board or Administrators
 - A. Chair Coles spoke to the differences between personal and district-related good news stories, and the place for sharing at a board meeting.
 - B. Laura Columbia, director of curriculum - spoke about the success of the RSU 9 booth at Farmington Summer Fest - job fair, children's activities, photos with the 'Cougar', and the economic status form.
 - C. Chris Elkington, superintendent - joined many in being happy to see Richard Wilde, Foster tech Teacher and Robotics Advisor, healthy and happy after his health scare. Also shared that RSU 9 is trying a new process to collect the Economic Status Form for our School Nutrition Program and that over 700 2022-23 forms have been completed so far.
 - D. Charles Hinds, board member from New Vineyard, spoke to the importance of food being distributed in backpacks instead of paper bags to reduce stigma for students.

- VII. Public Comment
 - A. Richard Wilde spoke about his recent health scare and that he is fine. The need continues for a full-time space for the Robotics Team and that the team will continue beyond his time in the district.

- VIII. [Superintendent's Report](#) - Christian Elkington
 - A. New Hires, Transfers, Resignations, and Retirements
 - 1. Continues to be impressed by the caliber of professional and support staff that he has been interviewing being forwarded by our interview committees.
 - B. Special Education Coordinators, responsibility adjustments
 - C. Open Positions
 - D. Robotics Team
 - E. MLTI Ambassador Program

- F. Bjorn Foundation Gift - Update

 - IX. Administrator Reports
 - A. None
 - X. Presentations
 - A. Teacher Evaluation Update - Laura Columbia, Director of Curriculum;
Doug Hodum, Teacher Evaluation Steering Committee Chair
 - 1. [Presentation](#)
 - a) Shared the review of the teacher evaluation system that has taken place over the last year. A question was asked about the process for which new teachers are evaluated. During the first two years they are evaluated each year, and then are put on a rotation of every three years unless they are placed on an action plan.
 - 2. [Focused Teacher Evaluation Model Flowchart](#)
 - B. 21-22 Immunization Update - Elkington (K, 7, and 12)
 - 1. [Immunization Assessment Letter](#)
 - a) [Cape Cod Hill School](#)
 - b) [G.D. Cushing School](#)
 - c) [W.G. Mallett School](#)
 - d) [Mt. Blue Middle School](#)
 - e) [Mt. Blue High School](#)
 - 2. RSU 9 students are vaccinated per state law at very high levels across the district with RSU students at or above the state average in about 90% of the categories. Superintendent Elkington will provide the board with the number of students who left the district for philosophical reasons after the exemptions were removed from the law.
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- XI. Consent Agenda
 - A. New Hires
 - B. Board Minutes from [July 12, 2022](#)
 - C. Committee Report Outs and Minutes
 - 1. Operations Committee - None
 - 2. Personnel & Finance - None
 - 3. Educational Policy - None

<p><i>Motion to approve the Consent Agenda</i></p>	<p>Yeas: Carol Coles, Alexander Creznic, Gwen Doak, Scott Erb, Kyle Fletcher, Charles Hinds, Judith Kaut, J. Wayne Kinney, Gloria McGraw, Josh Robbins, Dorothy "Dee" Robinson, Richard Ruhlin, Debbie Smith Nays: None Abstained: None Vote: 13:0:0 (814:0:0)</p>	<p>Motion: Gwen Doak Seconded: Richard Ruhlin Motion: Passed</p>
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Discussion included a brief explanation of what the purpose of the consent agenda is.

XII. New Business

A. Should we ZOOM our Standing Committee meetings (Operations, Personnel & Finance, Educational Policy)?

<p><i>Motion to approve a hybrid model for Standing Committees - amended so that each committee can determine whether they would prefer a hybrid method of attendance.</i></p>	<p>Yeas: Alexander Creznic, Gwen Doak, Scott Erb, Kyle Fletcher, Charles Hinds, Judith Kaut, J. Wayne Kinney, Gloria McGraw, Josh Robbins, Dorothy "Dee" Robinson, Richard Ruhlin, Debbie Smith Nays: None Abstained: Carol Coles Vote: 12:0:1 (779:0:35)</p>	<p>Motion: J. Wayne Kinney Seconded: Dee Robinson Motion: Passed as amended</p>
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Discussion in regards to hybrid vs full zoom. Standing committee meetings can legally be held by Zoom, boards must take policy action for a regular board meeting to be held by Zoom. In-person meetings will still be held with participation in-person recommended, with an option to Zoom. An amendment was introduced; see below.

<p><i>Amendment: Amend the main motion so that each committee will determine whether they would prefer a hybrid method of attendance.</i></p>	<p>Yeas: Alexander Creznic, Gwen Doak, Scott Erb, Charles Hinds, Judith Kaut, J. Wayne Kinney, Gloria McGraw, Josh Robbins, Dorothy "Dee" Robinson, Debbie Smith Nays: Kyle Fletcher, Richard Ruhlin, Carol Coles Abstained: None Vote: 10:3:0 (655:159:0)</p>	<p>Motion: Gloria McGraw Second: Richard Ruhlin Motion: Passed</p>
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Discussion was supportive of having each committee decide if this method will be used after a discussion at their August meetings.

B. Impact2032 for Kennebec County

1. [Impact Overview](#)
2. [Impact2032 Vision Details](#)
3. [Impact2032 Endorsement Packet](#)

<i>Motion to support the three impact areas of Impact2032 for Kennebec County.</i>	Yeas: Carol Coles, Gwen Doak, Scott Erb, Kyle Fletcher, Judith Kaut, J. Wayne Kinney, Gloria McGraw, Josh Robbins, Dorothy "Dee" Robinson, Richard Ruhlin, Debbie Smith Nays: Charles Hinds Abstained: Alexander Creznic Vote: 11:1:1 (689:41:84)	Motion: Debbie Smith Seconded: Josh Robbins Motion: Passed
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Discussion in regard to a financial commitment; there is none. One of our communities, Vienna, is located in Kennebec County.

C. Maine School Board Association - Delegate Assembly

1. [Purpose of Delegate Assembly](#)
2. Election of RSU 9 Delegate to MSBA Delegate Assembly

<i>Motion to nominate and elect J. Wayne Kinney as the RSU 9 Delegate to the MSBA's Delegate Assembly meeting on October 22, 2022</i>	Yeas: Carol Coles, Alexander Creznic, Gwen Doak, Scott Erb, Kyle Fletcher, Charles Hinds, Judith Kaut, Gloria McGraw, Josh Robbins, Dorothy "Dee" Robinson, Richard Ruhlin, Debbie Smith Nays: None Abstained: J. Wayne Kinney, Charles Hinds Vote: 11:0:2 (654:0:125)	Motion: Gwen Doak Seconded: Dee Robinson Motion: Passed
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Superintendent Elkington explained the purpose of the Delegate Assembly and what the Delegate would be responsible for.

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

<i>Motion to enter Executive Session pursuant to 1 M.R.S.A. §405(6)(A) - Employment of Officials</i>	Yeas: Carol Coles, Alexander Creznic, Gwen Doak, Scott Erb, Kyle Fletcher, Charles Hinds, Judith Kaut, J. Wayne Kinney, Gloria McGraw, Josh	Motion: Dee Robinson Seconded: Gwen Doak Motion: Passed
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	Robbins, Dorothy "Dee" Robbinson, Richard Ruhlin, Debbie Smith Nays: None Abstained: None Vote: 13:0:0 (814:0:0)	
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No discussion was heard.

Time entered: 7:45pm

Time exited: 8:32pm

E. Motion after Executive Session

<i>Motion to authorize the superintendent to negotiate a new two-year contract for the Director of Curriculum, Instruction, and Special Projects</i>	Yeas: Carol Coles, Alexander Creznic, Gwen Doak, Scott Erb, Kyle Fletcher, Charles Hinds, Judith Kaut, J. Wayne Kinney, Gloria McGraw, Josh Robbins, Dorothy "Dee" Robbinson, Richard Ruhlin, Debbie Smith Nays: None Abstained: None Vote: 13:0:0 (814:0:0)	Motion: Gwen Doak Seconded: Wayne Kinney Motion: Passed
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No discussion was heard

XIII. Adjourn

<i>Motion to adjourn without objection</i>		Motion: Carol Coles Motion passed without objection
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Adjourned at 8:33pm

NEXT SCHEDULED BOARD MEETINGS

August 9, 2022 - 6:30pm - The Forum, Mt. Blue Campus
August 23, 2022 - 6:30pm - The Forum, Mt. Blue Campus

NEXT SCHEDULED COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Operations - August 2, 2022 - 5:00pm - The Forum, Mt. Blue Campus
Personnel & Finance - August 2, 2022 - 6:00pm - The Forum, Mt. Blue Campus
Educational Policy - August 2, 2022 - 7:00pm - The Forum, Mt. Blue Campus

Operations - September 6, 2022 - 5:00pm - The Forum, Mt. Blue Campus
Personnel & Finance - September 6, 2022 - 6:00pm - The Forum, Mt. Blue Campus
Educational Policy - September 6, 2022 - 7:00pm - The Forum, Mt. Blue Campus