

Mt. Blue Regional School District



COMMUNITY | CULTURE | CURRICULUM

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

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

Board of Directors Board Meeting Agenda Minutes

DATE: August 13, 2024
PLACE: The Forum, Mt. Blue Campus
TIME: 6:30pm
LIVESTREAM LINK: <https://boxcast.tv/channel/unvoa3ijkfnyp9oufole>

Board members present: Gerry Provencher, Dina Spenciner, Greg Kimber, Scott Erb, Wayne Kinney, Jeff Barnum, Katie Martikke, Gloria McGraw, Will Jones, Josh Robbins, Rich Ruhlin, Gwen Doak, Dee Robinson

Board members absent: Debbie Smith, Kyle Fletcher, Amanda Caruso

Staff present: Chris Elkington, Monique Poulin

Other staff present: Galen Dalrymple, Joel Smith, Cynthia Bernstein, Mike Hanson, Katie Duchesne, James Black, Kevin Bremner, Carol Keisman, Nichole Goodspeed, Tracy Williams

- I. **Call to Order** - Chair Robinson
 - A. The meeting was called to order at 6:30.

- II. **Pledge of Allegiance**

- III. **Adjustments to the Agenda**
 - A. None

- IV. **Report of the Chairperson** - Chair Robinson
 - A. [Code of Ethics](#)
 1. C

- V. **Communications**
 - A. None

- VI. **Good news stories from the Board or Administrators**
 - A. Sending good thoughts to Doug Hodum who had surgery recently.

- B. There have been a wide variety of literacy professional development offerings this summer supported by the literacy grant funds we applied for. Many thanks to those involved in organizing, creating and attending these events.

VII. Public Comment

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

- A. New Hires, Transfers, Resignations, and Retirements
 - 1. Quality candidates are being hired!
 - 2. There were 36 postings in early July; if we have filled many positions, why are there still 32 postings?
 - a) Several people transferred so they don't give us a gain.
 - 3. Will we have enough staff to cover the openings?
 - a) Most regular education positions will be filled; it is still a challenge to fill special education positions. We will be able to start, but we have to come up with alternate plans to cover all basic program needs.
- B. Current Job Openings / Status
- C. Turf Committee Notes
- D. MBMS Gym Water Leak Update
 - 1. We are talking with the insurance company. There is still much we don't know with remediation estimates still to come. The floor may need major repairs, but we are unsure at this time. We have a \$50,000 deductible. We can still use the bleachers to start the year.
- E. MBC Gym Surface Problem
 - 1. How did we find out that the product was faulty? During the basketball season, it started to wear and peel in places. There was also an issue with the leaking skylights which did not necessarily help.
- F. Important Connectivity Hub Grant Update
 - 1. A lease could be a possibility going forward.
 - 2. The superintendent will be meeting with the President of UMF tomorrow and will also discuss opportunities for further collaboration.
 - 3. There is a list of groups involved and there is a wondering if any of them may be interested in being the lead. This will be on the table.
 - 4. The presentation to the board by Mary Redmond-Luce has been postponed to the late August or early September meeting as we need to meet with all of the groups. We still don't have the final contract.
- G. How will the new Bjorn Center support and help improve student learning?
- H. Billions of Dollars for Technology may be in question?

IX. Administrator Reports

- A. [Special Education](#) - Director Cynthia Bernstein
 - 1. Director Bernstein shared a visual schedule used in programming that can be implemented at all grade levels. This assists with structure of language as well as task prompting and completion.

2. Staff updates-We now have a Day Treatment teacher at MBMS, who will assist with other case management oversight.
 3. Questions:
 - a) We have some higher than state averages in some areas-are those really significant? Yes, in the area of autism. Data is uneven - 2022 is the latest state data we have. Shared our 2024 data for RSU #9.
 - b) Why here? We have really good programming.
 - c) Can we speed up evaluation timelines? We go as quickly as we can. Under the law we have 45 school days to make a determination. We go more quickly if we can. Depending on the needs to assess, we can assess some more quickly than others.
 - d) What is our Identification rate-The influx of families to the area due to our program offerings could explain this.
 - e) Do we have specific reasons for our evidence? If that is a trend, how can we get in front of it?
 - (1) Is something we will need to spend some time on.
 - (2) It will be interesting to get the CDS (Child Development Services) data as well to potentially inform the why of our patterns.
 4. New teachers need experience and practice to fill all related roles.
 5. Happy to share a book of acronyms!
- B. [Technology](#) - Director Kevin Bremner
1. The new Grades 6-12 student machine was reviewed! This includes an iPad, keyboard case, carry bag and stylus. Almost ready to distribute!
 2. Erate-We spend a lot on infrastructure using these funds and MSLN funds.
 3. Summer Tech Institute begins tomorrow-all are welcome to attend. There is a wide variety of offerings. It is a come and go as you please event. An Interest survey was shared to see what people felt they needed. Over 30 teachers signed up and others will also stop by.
 4. MacBook Airs-Teachers have them and we have some others that will be on carts. Is there a big difference between the two? For most of the work we are doing on them, iPads should be sufficient, though the form factor will be a learning curve. It will add versatility. There will be a stylus provided to take notes. Students will be expected to use a carry case .
 5. STEM Workforce 2020-5 year commitment. It is an effort to integrate computational thinking and computer science into lessons we are already teaching. There will be opportunities to collaborate with other districts as well.
 6. E-Waste-no cost! Might that company pick up for other municipality organizations as well? Chris will send the contact info to the towns.

X. Presentations

- A. None

XI. Consent Agenda

- A. New Hires/Resignations etc.
- B. Board Minutes - [7.23.24](#)
- C. Committee Report Outs and Minutes
 - 1. Operations Committee - [8.6.24](#)
 - 2. Personnel & Finance - [8.6.24](#)
 - 3. Educational Policy - [8.6.24](#)
- D. Vote

<p><i>Motion to approve the consent agenda as presented.</i></p>	<p>Yeas: Gerry Provencher, Dina Spenciner, Greg Kimber, Scott Erb, Wayne Kinney, Katie Martikke, Gloria McGraw, Will Jones, Josh Robbins, Rich Ruhlin, Gwen Doak, Dee Robinson Nays: Abstain: Jeff Barnum Vote: 789/0/41</p>	<p>Motion: Rich Ruhlin Seconded: Josh Robbins Motion: Passed</p>
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XII. New Business

- A. Policy Work
 - 1. Basic Updates and Changes (one reading)
 - a) [AC Non Discrimination/Equal Opportunity And Affirmative Action](#)
 - (1) Discussion/Questions?
 - (2) Vote

<p><i>Motion to approve Policy AC as presented.</i></p>	<p>Yeas: Gerry Provencher, Dina Spenciner, Greg Kimber, Scott Erb, Wayne Kinney, Jeff Barnum, Katie Martikke, Gloria McGraw, Will Jones, Josh Robbins, Rich Ruhlin, Gwen Doak, Dee Robinson Nays: Abstain: Vote: 830/0/0</p>	<p>Motion: Scott Erb Seconded: Rich Ruhlin Motion: Passed</p>
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- 2. Major Revisions (two readings)
 - 1. [ACAA Harassment of Students](#)
 - 2. [ACAA-R1 Student Discrimination and Harassment](#)
 - 3. [ACAB Harassment of School Employees](#)
 - 4. [ACAB-R2 Employee Sex Discrimination/Harassment Complaint Procedure](#)
 - 5. Discussion/Questions?

- a. Katie Duchesne (Title IX and Affirmative Action Coordinator for RSU #9) reported that the law changed, which is the reason our policies have changed. MSMA and Drummond Woodsum crafted model policies which we are putting forward. Our policies need to fit federal guidelines.
 - b. These are tied to federal statute and the language is adjusted to meet this need.
 - c. Send any questions to Gwen Doak.
- ii. Brand New (two readings)
 - 1. [ACAA-R2 Student Sex Discrimination/Harassment Complaint Procedure](#)
 - 2. [ACAB-R1 Employee Discrimination and Harassment Complaint Procedures](#)
 - 3. [JIE Pregnant Students](#)
 - 4. Discussion/Questions?
 - a. None
 - b. Concerns or comments, please send them to Gwen Doak who will collaborate with Katie Duchesne.

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

- *Motion to go into* Executive Session pursuant to 1 M.R.S.A. §405(6)(A) - Appointment of Officials
 - Entered Executive Session at 7:21
- Vote

<i>Motion to go into Executive session for Appointment Officials.</i>	Yeas: Gerry Provencher, Dina Spenciner, Greg Kimber, Scott Erb, Wayne Kinney, Jeff Barnum, Katie Martikke, Gloria McGraw, Will Jones, Josh Robbins, Rich Ruhlin, Gwen Doak, Dee Robinson Nays: Abstain: Vote:830/0/0	Motion: Rich Ruhlin Seconded: Jeff Barnum Motion: Passed
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Exited Executive Session at 7:37.

- **RSU 9 Interim Director of Foster Technical Center Nomination**
- *Motion*
- Vote

<i>Motion to appoint Galen Dalrymple as Interim Director of Foster Tech CTE.</i>	Yeas: Gerry Provencher, Dina Spenciner, Greg	Motion: Gwen Doak Seconded: Josh Robbins Motion: Passed
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XIV. Executive Session pursuant to 1 M.R.S.A. §405(6)(D) - Labor Contract Discussions w/Admin Association

- *Motion to go into Executive Session pursuant to 1 M.R.S.A. §405(6)(D) - Labor Contract Discussion w/Admin Association*
 - *Entered Executive Session at 7:40*
- **Vote**

<i>Motion to go into Executive Session to discuss Labor Contract with Admin Association.</i>	Yeas: Gerry Provencher, Dina Spenciner, Greg Kimber, Scott Erb, Wayne Kinney, Jeff Barnum, Katie Martikke, Gloria McGraw, Will Jones, Josh Robbins, Rich Ruhlin, Gwen Doak, Dee Robinson Nays: Abstain: Vote:830/0/0	Motion: Rich Ruhlin Seconded: Wayne Kinney Motion: Passed
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Exited Executive Session at 7:47

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

- *Motion to go into Executive Session pursuant to 1 M.R.S.A. § 405(6)(A) - Compensation of Employees*
 - *Entered Executive Session at 7:48*
- **Vote**

<i>Motion to go into Executive session for Compensation of Employees.</i>	Yeas: Gerry Provencher, Dina Spenciner, Greg Kimber, Scott Erb, Wayne Kinney, Jeff Barnum, Katie Martikke, Gloria McGraw, Will Jones, Josh Robbins, Rich Ruhlin, Gwen Doak,	Motion: Josh Robbins Seconded: Scott Erb Motion: Passed
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	Dee Robinson Nays: Abstain: Vote:830/0/0	
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Exited Executive Session at 8:04 pm

- Possible Motion when returning from Executive Session

XVI. Adjourned at 8:05 pm without exception

NEXT SCHEDULED BOARD MEETINGS

August 27, 2024 - 6:30pm - The Forum, Mt. Blue Campus

- Board Reports - Adult Education, Transportation

September 10, 2024 - 6:30pm - The Forum, Mt. Blue Campus

- Board Reports - AHS, GDCS, CCHS

NEXT SCHEDULED COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Operations - September 3, 2024 - 5:00pm - District Office Conf. Room Farmington

Personnel & Finance - September 3, 2024 - 6:00pm - District Office Conf. Room Farmington

Educational Policy - September 3, 2024 - 7:00pm - District Office Conf. Room Farmington

*****Please note the location change for Committee Meetings in September, which will be in the Conference Room at the District Office.***