

MT. BLUE REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT



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

Personnel & Finance Committee

Agenda - Draft Notes

August 5, 2025 | 6:00 pm - 7:00 pm

The RSU 9 District Office, Main Street Farmington

Members Present: Amanda Caruso, Gloria McGraw, Josh Robbins, Rich Ruhlin

Members Absent: Jeff Barnum

Other Members Present: Patty Hastings

Staff Present: Christian Elkington, Monique Poulin

Other Staff Present: Galen Dalrymple

1. Call Meeting to Order - Superintendent Elkington

- a. Meeting called to order at 6:01.

2. Elect New Chair - Elkington

- a. Nominations
 - i. Gloria McGraw nominated Josh Robbins
- b. Discussion
- c. Vote
 - i. Approved by acclamation

3. Elect Vice Chair - Chair Robbins

- a. Nominations
 - i. Rich Ruhlin nominated Amanda Caruso.
- b. Discussion
- c. Vote
 - i. Approved by acclamation.

4. Previous Committee Minutes- [06-03-2025](#) - Chair

- a. Approved at 6.23.25 Board meeting
- b. Any questions?
 - i. None

2. [25-26 Warrant Schedule](#) - Elkington

- a. Questions?
 - i. None.

- ii. Chair Robbins explained the process to Patty Hastings, new board member on the Ed Policy Committee.

3. Updates - Elkington

a. FY26 Budget

i. Additional teaching positions

1. A 1-year 5th Grade position at CBS is filled
2. A second 1-year position has not been determined
 - a. Several options are still on the table
 - b. I would like to add another possible option
 - i. Hiring two Ed Tech 3's to support specific larger classes to help support Literacy and Math in them

3. Discussion/Questions

- a. Many questions about #s.
- b. Superintendent Elkington shared that we have not seen as many move outs that we have typically seen.
- c. Where would the ETs be located?
 - i. May be possible options for CCHS or AHS as teaching applicants are few and far between
- d. Are there qualified Ed Techs?
 - i. Yes, we have been impressed with the quality of the candidates.
- e. Principal agreements-Where are we with that?
 - i. We have not approved any new ones if there is a question of class size. We are approving those who have been at school previously.
- f. Where are we with the numbers of low class sizes at MBHS?
 - i. The superintendent has not looked at these as an option at this time.
 - ii. If funding drops in the future, we would look to MBHS for reductions.
- g. There was a suggestion to hold off on hiring Ed Techs at this time as we consider class sizes. We will discuss this at the board meeting next week.

b. [24-25 Monthly Budget Update](#)

i. June Review

1. 5% not spent
2. Article 2- Approximately \$800,000 in Special Education was not spent this year. Multiple factors each year can make these accounts shift dramatically.

ii. End of year outlook

iii. Balance Forward line

1. \$2.5 million
2. Potentially \$200,000 more special education reimbursement to come.

3. 2.1 million from the balance-forward will not need to be used which is VERY Good news!
 - iv. Special Ed Revenue
 1. This is challenging to budget due to many variables (out of district, move ins, what kind of insurance do staff take, revenue, etc.).
 2. Question-Do we know how many hours we are allotted as a whole if we asked for reimbursement for every opportunity?
 - a. We put in for as much as we can with the staff who are qualified to be billed for and the staffing we have at the building and district level to do this work.
 3. Are we meeting the requirements to get that money?
 - a. For what we put in for YES!
 - b. There was a discussion about the purpose of the special education reserve account and how and why it was set up.
 - v. Director Gamache is working on possible revolving renovation funds applications-4 projects will be submitted this year or next cycle
 1. Possible projects (Sprinkler AHS). HVAC at others.
 - c. [25-26 Monthly Budget Update](#)
 - i. You have the raw #s
 - ii. First review by Director Gamache will be at the Sept. Mtg.
- 4. New - Elkington/Dalrymple**
- a. [Donation/Gift of Ford Interceptor Police Cruiser for FTC](#)
 - i. [Review Information](#)
 1. Galen Dalrymple explained the rationale for the request to accept.
 - ii. Discussion/Questions
 1. All in support.
 - iii. Next Steps
 1. Move to full board for approval.
 - b. Solar Net Billing - Harmon
 - i. Waiting for more information on possible renegotiation steps. Have no new info.
 - c. Board Member Mtg. Pay
 - i. Statute only allows voters to raise pay past \$25.00
 1. The most you can compensate is \$25/meeting.
 2. Is there a way to go back to square one and present?
 3. How much business office time is involved? This is pretty straight forward and not difficult to add.
 4. Keep it simple-Recommend to board (4-0 in support)
 - a. \$25 for each meeting if you are officially on the committee meeting, this includes negotiations.
 - b. Also, the board chair or vice chair (not both) in attendance at multiple committee meetings will get paid \$25 per each meeting.
 - ii. Suggested adjustments

1. Chair/Vice Chair
 - a. Pay for attending two of the three (Operations, Finance, Ed Policy) meetings
2. Negotiations
 - a. Pay negotiation members for each session they attend, not just a stipend
3. Other Board assignments
 - a. Pay \$15.00 per meeting instead of the \$25 per meeting for Board & Committee Mtgs.
- d. Committee Functions & Duties Creation
 - i. [Standing Committee Resolution \(1\).docx](#)
 - ii. Discussion
 1. Suggestions
 2. Ideas?
 3. Superintendent Elkington will bring a draft paragraph to the next meeting.

5. Next Meeting - September 2, 2026

6. Adjourned at 7:00

7. Future Agenda Items:

- FY24 Audit & Balance Forward
- FY State Audit acceptance
- FY25 Estimated Balance Forward
- Possible renovation projects
- Digitize warrant signing?
- Move in #s and breakdown