

MT. BLUE REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT



COMMUNITY | CULTURE | CURRICULUM

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

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Educational Policy Committee

Agenda Minutes

August 6, 2024

7:00 pm - 8:15 pm

The Forum, Mt. Blue Campus

Board Committee Members Present: Kyle Fletcher, Katie Martikke, Kyle Fletcher, Gwen Doak

Absent: Dina Spenciner

Other Board Members Present:

Staff: Monique Poulin, Christian Elkington

Other Staff Present: Katie Duchesne, Keith Acedo

1. **Call Meeting to Order** - Superintendent Elkington
 - a. Meeting called to order at 7:02.
 - b. We have a quorum.

2. **Elect New Chair** - Superintendent Elkington
 - a. Nominations
 - i. Kyle Fletcher nominated Gwen Doak
 - b. Discussion
 - c. Vote
 - i. Unanimous

3. **Elect Vice Chair** - New Chair
 - a. Nominations
 - i. Gwen Doak nominated Wayne Kinney.
 - b. Discussion
 - c. Vote
 - i. Unanimous

4. **Previous Committee Minutes- [6-4-2024](#)** - New Chair
 - a. Any questions?
 - i. None

5. **Updates**
 - a. [Watershed Summer Course](#) - Elkington
 - i. Course Review
 1. Was brought to full Board at the last meeting

2. We had a misstep with the following of the grant approval process which the superintendent takes responsibility for.
 - ii. Questions? - None
 - b. [PreK Summer Planning Work](#) - Principal Acedo
 - i. Planning work
 1. Hiring
 2. Training
 3. Curriculum
 4. Furniture & Equipment
 5. Other?
 - ii. Principal Acedo reviewed the details noted on the linked document with highlights as follows.
 1. Seeking 16 students per class.
 2. Our Ed Techs have a variety of skills and educational experiences. We are fortunate!
 3. The PreK for ME training has been well received by new and veteran educators.
 4. PreK teachers will be able to collaborate on Wednesdays as well as on specified LAWs.
 5. We currently are scheduled to offer four days a week programming (M, T, Th and F). Wednesday will be for preparation and planning. There has been no feedback with concerns that it is a four day week. We have heard more positives about the increased days.
 6. Furniture has arrived and is being constructed.
 7. Teachers will welcome students on Friday, 8/30.
 8. The intention is for students to be as prepared as possible for K with many more foundational knowledge and skills learned in PreK.
- c. HS Enrollment Updates - Elkington
 - i. Request for data was asked.
 - ii. [Advanced Placement](#)
 1. What questions do you have about enrollment #s?
 - a. Is the drop connected to COVID?
 - b. What are the three classes that were dropped?
 - c. Why are the numbers up so much from 23/24 to 24/25?
 - d. Do you think that program offerings at FCTEC have impacted the AP numbers?
 - iii. [2 & 4 yr. College Enrollments](#)
 1. What questions do you have about enrollment #s?
 - a. College enrollment numbers-have remained pretty consistent over time. There was a wondering about the two year number being consistent with free tuition in recent years.

2. We will be asking MBHS to share their answers about your questions and our #s at the Sept. Policy Mtg.
- d. [Sped Referral Data](#) - Elkington
- i. Request for Special Ed Referral Data was asked
 1. Have asked Special Ed Advisory Committee (SPEAC) to review
 - ii. What questions do you have for them?
 1. There were none so the request was made to please share any questions this week.
 - iii. Next steps?
- e. [Dangerous Student Reporting](#) - Elkington
- i. Why do we have it?
 1. There is a concern that students are being more aggressive resulting in an impact on staff safety. Therefore a law was passed to address this.
 2. The eight steps noted were crafted with Drummond Woodsum's expertise.
 3. This did not appear to be a major concern in RSU #9 until this spring. The superintendent and the Association met several times to review this procedure.
 4. The principals and Association reps are scheduled to meet this fall to review this information.
 5. We will collect data to evaluate the procedure.
 - ii. Procedures Review
 1. Eight Step Process
 - a. Explained in the procedures document
 - iii. Questions?
 1. What type of training is there specific to this topic? For administrators, teachers, Ed Techs, etc.? It will be important to address this with all involved.
 2. How do we ensure the best circumstances possible to maximize the safety of all staff and students and the care of our facilities?
 3. We have Safety Care trained staff (at different levels) who respond depending on the circumstances.
 4. We have some staff who are trained in The Regulated Classroom (Tier 1). We will do some further investigation into this.
 5. We may need to look at ALL staff having the first part of Safety Care training
 - iv. Next steps?
 1. There was a question about reviewing present RSU 9 disciplinary policies
 - a. Will be on next agenda
 - b. There may be a need for clarity on our policies and their rationale.
 2. Other?

6. Policy Work - Elkington

- a. Year 3 of 3 for major “Review & Rewrites”
 - i. Why was it needed?
 - 1. The policy manual needed significant attention when the superintendent started three years ago.
- b. 2022-2024 Progress
 - i. Reviewed about 170 policies over the past two years.
 - ii. Progress has been excellent.
 - iii. The hope is to have us back on a seven year review schedule after this year.
- c. [SY 24-25 Policy Work Index](#)
 - i. Plan outline is completed
- d. Policy Folders
 - i. Review Minor Changes
 - 1. [JKE-R-Expulsion-Guidelines](#)
 - a. Discussion/Questions?
 - b. If we do not have concerns or multiple changes the policy will automatically get a review date added and does not need to go to the full Board
 - i. Minor adjustments-will move forward as “reviewed”.
 - ii. Basic Updates and Changes
 - 1. [AC Non Discrimination/Equal Opportunity And Affirmative Action](#)
 - a. Discussion/Questions?
 - i. There were a couple of questions about punctuation and the omitted language.
 - b. Next steps?
 - i. Will go to the board for one reading.
- i. Major Revisions
 - 1. [ACAA Harassment of Students](#)
 - a. Discussion/Questions?
 - b. Next steps?
 - 2. [ACAA-R1 Student Discrimination and Harassment](#)
 - a. Discussion/Questions?
 - b. Next steps?
 - 3. [ACAB Harassment of School Employees](#)
 - a. Discussion/Questions?
 - b. Next steps?
 - 4. [ACAB-R2 Employee Sex Discrimination/Harassment Complaint Procedure](#)
 - a. Discussion/Questions?
 - b. Next steps?
 - 5. Overall, these have been updated to align with the new rules from the Federal Dept of Ed. There was a question about whether the language protects people better? It comes down to timely reporting and educating staff and students.
 - 6. The belief is that the language is clearer. We hope that it helps make people more comfortable to report.
 - 7. The investigator can now be the decision maker if we so choose.

8. These will go to the board for two readings.
 9. The law is in place, and all will be held to it.
 10. Will the staff be operating under two sets of expectations given the timing of the approval and the release?
 - a. Not necessarily as we must follow when the expectations go into effect at the state level, even if the policy isn't yet finalized.
- ii. Brand New
1. [ACAA-R2 Student Sex Discrimination/Harassment Complaint Procedure](#)
 - a. Discussion/Questions?
 - i. Needed for the above changes.
 - b. Next steps?
 - i. Got to Board.
 2. [ACAB-R1 Employee Discrimination and Harassment Complaint Procedures](#)
 - a. Discussion/Questions?
 - i. Needed for the above changes.
 - b. Next steps?
 - i. Got to Board.
 3. [JIE Pregnant Students](#)
 - a. Discussion/Questions?
 - i. We need to ensure that there is a Title IX contact person at MBC due to the expectations. A high school assistant principal will be the lead with assistance from a school counselor.
 - b. Next steps?
 - i. These are all new and related to the changes in rules.
 - ii. Will go to the board for two readings.
 - iii. Katie Duchesne will be attending another training in September for further training.

7. **Next Mtg.** September 3, 2024 at Holman House

8. **Adjourned at 8:25**

9. **Future Agenda Items -**

- Oct Mtg. Science Review, including "Mystery Science" Program
- SNAP Health Center software review (What does it do?)