

Mt. Blue Regional School District
Board of Directors Meeting
MINUTES

COMMUNITY | CULTURE | CURRICULUM

Working together to provide high-quality educational opportunities for all

DATE: August 9, 2022

Place: The Forum

Time: 6:30pm

Meeting Video: <https://vimeo.com/738404575>

In attendance: Carol Coles, Alexander Creznic, Gwen Doak, Irv Faunce, Kyle Fletcher, Charles Hinds, Betsey Hyde, J. Wayne Kinney, Gloria McGraw, Josh Robbins, Dorothy “Dee” Robinson, Richard Ruhlin, Debbie Smith

Absent: Janice David, Scott Erb, Abigail Goodspeed (Student Member), Judith Kaut

Also present: Nancy Allen, James Black, Kevin Bremner, Chris Elkington, Andy Hutchins, Jennifer Pooler, Monique Poulin, Lisa Sinclair, Tracy Williams

- 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. [BBA: School Board Powers & Responsibilities](#)
- V. Communications
 - A. None
- VI. RSU 9 Good News stories - from the Board or Administrators
 - A. James Black, principal at Mt. Blue Middle School - all teaching positions are filled; shout out to custodial and maintenance staff for work around MBMS this summer.
 - B. Monique Poulin, principal at Mt. Blue Campus - orientating 12 new foreign exchange students in the coming days from Spain, China, Italy, New

Mexico, and Germany; new Director of Student Activities, Cyndi Pratt starts next week.

- C. Chris Elkington, superintendent - glad to have Cyndi Pratt joining us in the near future; we wish Chad Brackett and his family well as they relocate; thanks to James Black for coordinating through the Office of Homeland Security a representative to visit RSU 9 schools for safety walk-throughs; outside structures are taking form at several of our schools and special thanks for custodians and maintenance staff working through very hot weather the last two weeks.
- D. Lisa Sinclair, principal at Cape Cod Hill School - celebrated the targeted tutoring and extended math and reading support provided to 24 students over the summer; all of the students made progress.
- E. Tracy Williams, principal at W.G. Mallett School - celebrating staff retirements with the planting of trees on the grounds at Mallett, present trees are very productive this summer, help yourself to some fruit. Two exterior cameras have been installed.
- F. Carol Coles, board chair - shared that tonight is Betsey Hyde's final board meeting. Betsey has served on the RSU 9 Board of Directors for 13 years.
- G. Betsey Hyde - thankful for the education that her children have received in RSU 9; has many fond memories of her time and service on the Board of Directors.

VII. Public Comment

- A. None

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

- A. New Hires, Transfers, Resignations, and Retirements
- B. Open Positions
- C. Keep Kids Fed Act
- D. Provision 2 Reminder
- E. Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA) Monitoring Adjustments & Paperwork
- F. Student teachers for RSU 9
- G. Franklin County Commissioners Support Franklin County Adult Ed and Other Community Groups

IX. Administrator Reports

- A. [Food Service](#) - Andy Hutchins, Director of Food Services

1. The Summer Meals program is wrapping up later this week. Serving just under 600 meals a day.
2. During the school year, students can still purchase additional meals, snacks, or extra beverages in grades 6-12.
3. There is not a significant difference between the meals that are at no-cost or are paid meals which students receive.
4. Using food service department funding and covid relief funding a new position was added to assist with managerial tasks and paperwork this past winter. Also a culinary specialist was hired in the spring to help drive and lead initiatives at the school building level to raise the bar for food service across the district. The goal being that when the ESSER funds run out the program has created enough revenue to fund this 2nd position. Both positions also serve as substitutes when staff are out around the district.

X. Presentations

A. Strategic Planning Adjustments & Proposed Changes - Elkington

1. [Original Timeline](#)
2. [Edited Timeline](#)
3. [Cleaned Up Timeline](#)
4. [Timeline Overview](#)

Review tonight with the goal that the board vote to approve the revisions at the next board meeting (August 23, 2022). The general reasons for making these adjustments - ('We' = central office staff, administrative team)

1. Do not want to overwhelm people, including our staff, students, and families with a large multiple goal and steps plan all at once
2. Encourage increased community involvement through a more thorough and gradual build-up
3. We have multiple first-year strategic objectives and goals that are similar and that need to be reviewed/audited first
4. Need to empower our staff, community members and parents to be involved and buy into the strategic plan over the long-term
5. Plan cannot be driven by admin, superintendent, and the board alone and needs to have staff, student, and community involvement and ownership.

- XI. Consent Agenda
 - A. New Hires
 - B. Board Minutes from [July 26, 2022](#)
 - C. Committee Report Outs and Minutes
 - 1. Operations Committee - [August 2, 2022](#)
 - 2. Personnel & Finance - [August 2, 2022](#)
 - 3. Educational Policy - [August 2, 2022](#)

<i>Motion to approve the Consent Agenda</i>	Yeas: Carol Coles, Alexander Creznic, Gwen Doak, Irv Faunce, Kyle Fletcher, Charles Hinds, Betsey Hyde, J. Wayne Kinney, Gloria McGraw, Josh Robbins, Dorothy "Dee" Robinson, Richard Ruhlin, Debbie Smith Nays: None Abstained: None Vote: 13:0:0 (757:0:0)	Motion: Dee Robinson Seconded: Irv Faunce Motion: Passed
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No discussion was heard.

- XII. New Business
 - A. COVID Update - Elkington
 - 1. [Infectious Disease - Notifiable Conditions](#)

Last update from the State of Maine was on May 27, 2022 and it expired at the end of June. We were informed that we will be following the protocol for Infectious Diseases (linked above). Five areas the State recommends should be the basis moving forward -

- 1. Cleaning and disinfecting
- 2. Vaccination - offer clinics to staff and students
- 3. Practicing good personal and respiratory hygiene
- 4. Ventilation - fresh air
- 5. Stay home when sick

No discussion or questions were heard.

- B. Community Schools Grant Update - Sinclair/Elkington
 - 1. [Cape Cod Hill School Community School Contract & Application](#)
 - 2. [Community School News](#)

<p><i>Motion to continue to accept and move forward with the Community School grant for the 22-23 school year</i></p>	<p>Yeas: Carol Coles, Gwen Doak, Irv Faunce, Kyle Fletcher, Betsey Hyde, J. Wayne Kinney, Gloria McGraw, Josh Robbins, Dorothy "Dee" Robinson, Richard Ruhlin, Debbie Smith Nays: None Abstained: Alexander Creznic, Charles Hinds Vote: 11:0:2 (632:0:125)</p>	<p>Motion: Gwen Doak Seconded: Richard Ruhlin Motion: Passed</p>
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Will be able to provide before and after school care because of this grant. The grant is for one year and schools can reapply for further funding. Principal Sinclair does not foresee any barriers to meeting the reporting requirements or maintaining compliance with the Maine DOE contract.

C. Executive Session pursuant to 1 M.R.S.A. § 405(6)(A) Employment of officials/appointees/employees - Leave of Absence Request

<p><i>Motion to enter Executive Session pursuant to 1 M.R.S.A. § 405(6)(A) Employment of officials/appointees/employees - Leave of Absence Request</i></p>	<p>Yeas: Carol Coles, Alexander Creznic, Gwen Doak, Irv Faunce, Kyle Fletcher, Charles Hinds, Betsey Hyde, J. Wayne Kinney, Gloria McGraw, Josh Robbins, Dorothy "Dee" Robinson, Richard Ruhlin, Debbie Smith Nays: None Abstained: None Vote: 13:0:0 (757:0:0)</p>	<p>Motion: Gwen Doak Seconded: Richard Ruhlin Motion: Passed</p>
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No discussion was heard.

Break from 7:33 to 7:37pm

Time Entered Executive Session: 7:37pm

Time Exited Executive Session: 7:48pm

<p><i>Motion to approve the Leave of Absence request for Employee A as presented to the Board in Executive Session</i></p>	<p>Yeas: Carol Coles, Alexander Creznic, Gwen Doak, Irv Faunce, Kyle Fletcher, Charles Hinds, Betsey Hyde, J. Wayne Kinney, Gloria McGraw, Josh Robbins, Dorothy "Dee" Robinson,</p>	<p>Motion: Gwen Doak Seconded: Debbie Smith Motion: Passed</p>
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	Richard Ruhlin, Debbie Smith Nays: None Abstained: None Vote: 13:0:0 (757:0:0)	
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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 7:49pm

NEXT SCHEDULED BOARD MEETINGS

August 23, 2022 - 6:30pm - The Forum, Mt. Blue Campus
September 13, 2022 - 6:30pm - The Forum, Mt. Blue Campus

NEXT SCHEDULED COMMITTEE MEETINGS

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

Operations - October 4, 2022 - 5:00pm - The Forum, Mt. Blue Campus
Personnel & Finance - October 4, 2022 - 6:00pm - The Forum, Mt. Blue Campus
Educational Policy - October 4, 2022 - 7:00pm - The Forum, Mt. Blue Campus