

**Mt. Blue Regional School District**  
**Board of Directors Meeting**  
**AGENDA MINUTES**

COMMUNITY | CULTURE | CURRICULUM

Working together to provide high-quality educational opportunities for all

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**DATE:** September 12, 2023  
**PLACE:** The Forum, Mt. Blue Campus  
**TIME:** 6:30pm  
**LIVESTREAM LINK:** <https://boxcast.tv/channel/unvoa3ijkfnyp9oufole>

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In attendance: Jan David, Scott Erb, Libby Kaut, Greg Kimber, Jeff Barnum, Amanda Caruso, Carol Coles, Gloria McGraw, Josh Robbins, Kyle Fletcher, Rich Ruhlin, Gwen Doak, Dee Robinson

Absent: Will Jones, Debbie Smith, Alexander Creznic, Abbey Goodspeed

Other Staff Members present: Nichole Goodspeed, Joel Smith, John Jones, Tracy Williams, and James Black

- I. Call to Order
  - A. Meeting was called to order at 6:31 by Chair Robinson
- II. Pledge of Allegiance
- III. Adjustments to the Agenda
  - A. Presentation will be moved to the next board meeting.
- IV. Report of the Chairperson - Dee Robinson
  - A. [Code of Ethics E & F](#)
- V. Communications
  - A. None
- VI. Good news stories from the Board or Administrators
  - A. The MBHS Field Hockey team received a shout out for the 2-0 start to the season.
  - B. Abbey Goodspeed is ready to recruit for the next class of school board representatives. She will be in touch with Dee Robinson
  - C. Green Harrington, a junior at Mt. Blue High School, received an award from the National Arts Program.

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VII. Public Comment

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

- A. New Hires, Transfers, Resignations, and Retirements
- B. Immunization Updates
- C. RSU 9 Community Food Pantry
  - 1. Katie Hallman started this a decade ago at Mallett School, and Kristen Wroble is now overseeing it. A steady group of volunteers support this effort. The Town of Farmington has agreed to host the Food Pantry at the Community Center due to tight space at Mallett. The first pick up at the new location will be held tomorrow.
- D. 23-24 ERATE Funding
  - 1. What is ERATE? The FCC's E-Rate program makes telecommunications and information services more affordable for schools and libraries. With funding from the Universal Service Fund ([fcc.gov/general/universal-service-fund](https://fcc.gov/general/universal-service-fund)), E-Rate provides discounts for telecommunications, Internet access, and internal connections to eligible schools and libraries.
- E. Superintendent Elkington will give an update on staffing at the next board meeting.

IX. Administrator Reports

- A. [MBHS](#) - Joel Smith
  - 1. This was a busy summer with a focus on reviewing attendance and campus wide expectations. It is great to have our students back on campus.
  - 2. We welcomed nine international students to MBC who benefit from and enrich our campus. We also have students visiting from the Canary Islands for two weeks in October. There was a question about the J-1 vs. F-1 visas and the funding for the International Student Program.
  - 3. The morning welcome sets the tone for the day and is a highlight for the principal.
  - 4. A focus area of attendance is in line with the district goal for the year. There is an internal group reviewing data and doing positive outreach to families.
  - 5. MBC by the numbers demonstrates the significant size of our campus and the busy nature each day.
  - 6. The gym floor is delayed, and everyone is working around the lack of availability during the rainy weeks.

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7. Shout out to the IT department for laptop rollout.
- B. [CBS](#) - Nichole Goodspeed
1. Dr. Goodspeed highlighted the incredible upgrade to the cafeteria and the positive response by our students. Seating choice is a highlight. Many thanks to Chef Andy.
  2. This week, Dr. Goodspeed is participating in BARR training with fourth grade teachers, a social worker and an interventionist. The systems and format of BARR are designed to help staff reach more students and families. The training was informative and engaging. The trainer will be our coach going forward this year. There were many positive comments about BARR.
  3. With regards to attendance rates, BARR will assist with the relationships and outreach.
  4. Our overall attendance and NWEA data is positive, and so a shout out to the staff.
- C. [Mallet](#) - Tracy Williams
1. Attendance is a focus area, and positive phone calls home have kicked off the year.
  2. The start of the year was incredibly smooth.
  3. The staff is at the center of the school, and on day one, they recite a pledge that they revisit throughout the year.
  4. Chronic Absenteeism is a concern that we recognize and will work hard towards improving.
  5. Food Pantry Update- 47,500 lbs of food last year-844% increase from last year, 39000 meals.

~~X. Presentations Postponed to the next meeting.~~

~~A. 23-24 Attendance Focus/ Strategic Plan Update – Elkington & Poulin~~

~~1. “Every Day In School Matters!”~~

~~a) [Pester](#)~~

~~b) [Codes](#)~~

~~2. Connecting to the [RSU 9-23-24 Strategic Plan](#) Next Steps~~

XI. Consent Agenda

- A. New Hires/Resignations etc.
- B. Board Minutes [8-22-2023](#), [9-6-23](#)
- C. Committee Report Outs and Minutes
  1. Operations Committee - [9-5-23](#)
  2. Personnel & Finance - [9-5-23](#)
  3. Educational Policy - [9-5-23](#)

<p><i>Motion to approve the consent agenda.</i></p>	<p>Yeas: Jan David, Scott Erb, Libby Kaut, Greg Kimber, Jeff Barnum, Amanda Caruso, Carol Coles, Gloria McGraw, Josh Robbins, Kyle Fletcher, Rich Ruhlin, Gwen Doak, Dee Robinson</p> <p>Nays: Abstained: Vote: 810/0/0 Unanimous</p>	<p>Motion: Rich Ruhlin Seconded: Scott Erb Motion: Passed</p>
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Superintendent Elkington reviewed the process for committee meetings and the work and important discussions that happen in those sessions.

XII. New Business

- A. Approve Dr. Emily Jacobs as the RSU 9 District Physician for 2023-2024
  - Motion to approve Dr. Emily Jacobs as the RSU 9 District Physician at a cost of \$2,000.00

<p><i>Motion to approve Dr. Emily Jacobs as the RSU 9 District Physician for 2023 - 2024 for \$2,000.00</i></p>	<p>Yeas: Jan David, Scott Erb, Libby Kaut, Greg Kimber, Jeff Barnum, Amanda Caruso, Carol Coles, Gloria McGraw, Josh Robbins, Kyle Fletcher, Rich Ruhlin, Gwen Doak, Dee Robinson</p> <p>Nays: Abstained: Vote: 810/0/0 Unanimous</p>	<p>Motion: Scott Erb Seconded: Gwen Doak Motion: Passed</p>
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- B. Policy Review
  - 1. Basic Updates and Changes
    - a) [JEA Compulsory Attendance](#)
      - Motion to approve

<p><i>Motion to approve JEA as shared</i></p>	<p>Yeas: Jan David, Scott Erb, Libby Kaut, Greg Kimber, Jeff Barnum, Amanda Caruso, Carol Coles, Gloria McGraw, Josh</p>	<p>Motion: Rich Ruhlin Seconded: Greg Kimber Motion: Passed</p>
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	Robbins, Kyle Fletcher, Rich Ruhlin, Gwen Doak, Dee Robinson  Nays: Abstained: Vote: 810/0/0 Unanimous	
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2. Complete Rewrite, First Reading
  - a. KE Public Concerns and Complaints
    - i. [Present KE](#)
    - ii. [Draft Revision](#)
  - b. Questions? None.

This will come before the board at the next meeting for a second reading and a vote.

3. Brand New, First Reading
  - a) RSU 9 does not have these and they are suggested to have
    - (1) [BEB School Board Use of Social Media](#)
      - (a) Review
      - (b) Questions? None.
    - (2) [BHC Board Relationships and Communications with Staff](#)
      - (a) Review
      - (b) Questions? None
    - (3) [CHCAA Student Handbooks](#)
      - (a) Review
      - (b) Questions? None.
    - (4) [FF Naming Rights](#)
      - (a) Review
      - (b) Questions?

Rich Ruhlin shared that Mike Bolduc, President of the Boosters, was present and happy to answer any questions. Superintendent Elkington shared that he would continue working on a set of guidelines for naming and hopes to have a draft by the next board meeting. With a policy being approved, the Boosters can go forward with fundraising based on the policy and that based on today's review, the Boosters should be moving forward with next steps. It was noted that the Boosters add an incredible amount of support and funding to our athletic programming.

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All of these policies will come before the board for a second reading and a vote at the next meeting.

C. Executive Session pursuant to 1 M.R.S.A. §405(6)(D) - Labor Contract Discussion w/Association - Elkington

- Motion to go into Executive Session pursuant to 1 M.R.S.A. §405(6)(D) - Labor Contract Discussion w/Association
  - Entered Executive Session at 7:34 PM

<i>Motion to go into Executive Session to Discuss Labor Contract with Association</i>	Yeas: Jan David, Scott Erb, Libby Kaut, Greg Kimber, Jeff Barnum, Amanda Caruso, Carol Coles, Gloria McGraw, Josh Robbins, Kyle Fletcher, Rich Ruhlin, Gwen Doak, Dee Robinson  Nays: Abstained: Vote: 810/0/0 Unanimous	Motion: Rich Ruhlin Seconded: Gwen Doak Motion: Passed
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Exited executive session without exception at 7:50.

D. Executive Session pursuant to 1 M.R.S.A. §405(6)(C) - Disposition of Property - Elkington

- Motion to go into Executive Session pursuant to 1 M.R.S.A. §405(6)(C) - Disposition of Property
  - Entered Executive Session at 7:51

<i>Motion to go into Executive Session re: Disposition of Property</i>	Yeas: Jan David, Scott Erb, Libby Kaut, Greg Kimber, Jeff Barnum, Amanda Caruso, Carol Coles, Gloria McGraw, Josh Robbins, Kyle Fletcher, Rich Ruhlin, Gwen Doak, Dee Robinson  Nays: Abstained: Vote: 810/0/0 Unanimous	Motion: Rich Ruhlin Seconded: Gwen Doak Motion: Passed
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Exited Executive Session without objection at 8:27.

- Coming out of the Executive Session there may be a motion to lease/purchase space for the RSU 9 District Office

<p><i>Motion to approve the superintendent entering into a lease-purchase agreement for the RSU 9 District Office and to approach our attorneys on having a district wide vote in November if possible regarding acquiring a property.</i></p>	<p>Yeas: Jan David, Scott Erb, Libby Kaut, Greg Kimber, Jeff Barnum, Amanda Caruso, Carol Coles, Gloria McGraw, Josh Robbins, Kyle Fletcher, Rich Ruhlman, Gwen Doak, Dee Robinson          Nays:          Abstained:          Vote: 810/0/0 Unanimous</p>	<p>Motion: Josh Robbins          Seconded: Gloria McGraw          Motion: Passed</p>
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XIII. Adjourn without objection at 8:28

**NEXT SCHEDULED BOARD MEETINGS**

- September 26th, 2023 - 6:30pm - The Forum, Mt. Blue Campus
- Board Reports - AHS/GDC, CCHS, MBMS
- October 10th, 2023 - 6:30pm - The Forum, Mt. Blue Campus
- Board Reports - Adult Ed.

**NEXT SCHEDULED COMMITTEE MEETINGS**

- Operations - Oct. 3rd, 2023 - 5:00pm - The Forum, Mt. Blue Campus  
 Personnel & Finance - Oct. 3rd, 2023 - 6:00pm - The Forum, Mt. Blue Campus  
 Educational Policy - Oct. 3rd, 2023 - 7:00pm - The Forum, Mt. Blue Campus