

Mt. Blue Regional School District

COMMUNITY | CULTURE | CURRICULUM

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

Board of Directors Meeting AGENDA MINUTES

DATE: November 14, 2023
PLACE: The Forum, Mt. Blue Campus
TIME: 6:30pm
LIVESTREAM LINK: <https://boxcast.tv/channel/unvoa3ijkfnyp9oufole>

In attendance: Wayne Kinney, Greg Kimber, Libby Kaut, Scott Erb, Janice David, Rich Ruhlin, Will Jones, Jeff Barnum, Gloria McGraw, Amanda Caruso, Carol Coles, Josh Robbins, Debbie Smith, Kyle Fletcher, Gwen Doak, Dee Robinson

Absent:

Staff present: Chris Elkington, Monique Poulin

Other staff present: Melissa Williams, Mary Redmond-Luce, Joel Smith, Nichole Goodspeed, Cindy Pratt, Kevin Bremner, Tracy Williams,

- I. Call to Order - Chair Robinson
 - A. Chair Robinson called the meeting to order at 6:31.
- II. Pledge of Allegiance
- III. Adjustments to the Agenda
 - A. None
- IV. Report of the Chairperson - Chair Robinson
 - A. [Code of Ethics](#) M & N
 - B. Chair Robinson recognized the staff members of the month.
 1. Heidi Luce, Kindergarten teacher at Cushing School, was recognized as the professional staff member of the month.
 2. Danielle Harris, ET III at FCTEC, was recognized as the support staff member of the month.
- V. Communications
 - A. [Tech Talk RSU 9 Technology Newsletter Oct. 2023](#)
 - B. ["How many kids are homeschooled in the US?" - Article](#)
- VI. Good news stories from the Board or Administrators
 - A. Our boys' soccer, girls' soccer and boys' cross country teams were honored with fall sportsmanship awards!

- B. Female Freshman students from all of the FCTEC sending schools participated in a collaboration with New Ventures Maine last week regarding careers in the trades. The same day, full tech students participated in trade opportunities at Sugarloaf. FBLA members had a successful trip to the FBLA National Conference. The FCTEC Electrical Program is off the ground with much support from local electricians. The PAC meeting was held last week with excellent attendance and an excellent meal prepared and served by the Culinary Arts program.
- C. Mallett will be having a Community Book Day tomorrow with a family event in the evening. The Book Character Parade will be held on Friday.
- D. Several board members attended the MSMA Conference a couple of weeks ago. It was extremely informative and beneficial.
- E. Teachers at AHS and at Cushing were awarded grants related to outdoor learning.
- F. One of our graduates, Kahryn Cullenberg, a senior at Bates, took 17th place at Northeast X-Country Regionals and will participate in the NCAA Championships this weekend.
- G. Congratulations to Student Board Rep Abbey Goodspeed - For earning KVAC All Academic Recognition!

VII. Public Comment

- A. None

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

- A. New Hires, Transfers, Resignations, and Retirements
 - 1. There was a question about the number of openings. Superintendent will share the updated number at the next Board meeting.
- B. Multilingual (English) Learner Hardship Funds
 - 1. These funds are very timely due to our current population and needs.
 - 2. We believe this area will only grow and so a new position will be reflected in the FY25 budget request.
- C. Support for Lewiston
 - 1. Many thanks to our school counselors and social workers for putting together a plan of support, if called upon, by the Lewiston schools.
- D. Congratulations go to Kathryn Clement
 - 1. For earning National School Nurse certification!
- E. Possible Student Milk Carton Shortage
- F. New Digital Resource Approval Process for RSU 9 Teachers and Staff

IX. Administrator Reports

- A. [Technology](#) - Director Bremner
 - 1. Cyber performance grant-Allowed us to fund items missed with another grant. Replacing district switches will be a focus. One switch was installed today at CBS.

2. The ACTEM conference was well attended. There were excellent sessions, and it was a wonderful opportunity to collaborate with tech coaches.

B. [MBHS Student Activities](#) - Director Pratt

1. Director Pratt celebrated the three sportsmanship awards received this fall. This is a reflection of our student-athletes, but also of the quality coaches that we have.
2. Henri McCourt finished 108 at the New England Cross Country Championships in Belfast.
3. 14 of our senior athletes were recognized as All Academic for the KVAC conference.

X. Presentation

A. Sept - Oct Attendance Data Update - Elkington

1. Superintendent Elkington reviewed the progress being made.
2. There was a question about staff attendance. Superintendent Elkington will share that data in a future meeting.
3. There was a question about CCHS attendance rates. The increase is significant in this school (and the others), and Superintendent Elkington will ask for information from the building leaders specific to their thoughts on the rationale. Lack of access to before and after school care in Wilton is a critical issue.
4. There was a question about community school funding. The state is awaiting a decision on whether or not they will receive the grant. Several schools applied and so it will be quite competitive.
5. Depending on flu season etc. attendance can fluctuate throughout the year, and the board can expect regular updates.

XI. Consent Agenda

A. New Hires/Resignations etc.

B. Board Minutes [10-24-2023](#)

1. Board minutes will need to be adjusted. Replace Carol Coles with Carol Kiesman, and yearly costs at \$20,000 and not monthly.

C. Committee Report Outs and Minutes

1. Operations Committee - [11-7-2023](#)
2. Personnel & Finance - [11-7-2023](#)
3. Educational Policy - [11-7-2023](#)

<i>Motion to approve the consent agenda with suggested edits.</i>	Yeas: Greg Kimber, Libby Kaut, Scott Erb, Janice David, Rich Ruhlin, Will Jones, Jeff Barnum, Gloria McGraw, Amanda Caruso, Carol Coles, Josh Robbins, Debbie Smith, Kyle	Motion: Rich Ruhlin Seconded: Jeff Barnum Motion: Passed
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	Fletcher, Gwen Doak, Dee Robinson Nays: Abstained: Wayne Kinney Vote: 917/0/84	
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XII. New Business

A. Certification of Nov 7th Ballot Question Results

1. Computation and Declaration of Votes - Elkington

- *BE IT VOTED: That the Computation and Declaration of Votes dated November 7, 2023 and attached hereto be approved; That the Computation and Declaration of Votes be entered upon the records of Regional School Unit No. 9; That a certified copy of the Computation and Declaration of Votes be sent to each of the municipal clerks within the RSU; and That the foregoing Computation and Declaration shall be signed by a majority of the School Board, and that these signatures may be made electronically, by execution of counterparts, or in person at the convenience of the members of the School Board.*

<i>Motion to certify the November 7th Ballot Question Results</i>	Yeas: Wayne Kinney, Greg Kimber, Libby Kaut, Scott Erb, Janice David, Rich Ruhlin, Will Jones, Jeff Barnum, Gloria McGraw, Amanda Caruso, Carol Coles, Josh Robbins, Debbie Smith, Kyle Fletcher, Gwen Doak, Dee Robinson Nays: Abstained: Vote: 1001/0/0	Motion: Josh Robbins Seconded: Gloria McGraw Motion: Passed
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B. Policy Review

1. Basic Updates (one reading)

- a) [BID-R BOARD MEMBER COMPENSATION AND EXPENSES](#)

(1) Review

- (2) Questions?
- b) [DJ BIDDING/PURCHASING REQUIREMENTS](#)
 - (1) Review
 - (2) Questions?
- c) [DJH PURCHASING AND CONTRACTING: PROCUREMENT STAFF CODE OF CONDUCT](#)
 - (1) Review
 - (2) Questions?
- d) [EEAEAA DRUG AND ALCOHOL TESTING OF SCHOOL BUS DRIVERS ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEDURE](#)
 - (1) Review?
 - (2) Questions?
- e) [IHCDA POST-SECONDARY ENROLLMENT OPTIONS](#)
 - (1) Review?
 - (2) Questions?
- f) **Approve as one group?**
 - (1) Motion

<i>Motion to approve the policies as written</i>	<p>Yeas: Wayne Kinney, Greg Kimber, Libby Kaut, Scott Erb, Janice David, Rich Ruhlin, Will Jones, Jeff Barnum, Gloria McGraw, Amanda Caruso, Carol Coles, Josh Robbins, Debbie Smith, Kyle Fletcher, Gwen Doak, Dee Robinson</p> <p>Nays: Abstained: Vote: 1001/0/0</p>	<p>Motion: Janice David Seconded: Debbie Smith Motion: Passed</p>
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- 2. Major Changes/Updates (First of two readings)
 - a) [ACAAA Transgender and Gender Expansive Students](#)
 - (1) Moves from guideline to policy
 - (2) Questions?
 - (a) Section D-Two number 2s. This needs to be corrected.
 - (b) There was a question about the MPA policy. Is it in development or is it developed? The link will be forwarded to the board.
 - b) [IMG Animals in School](#)
 - (1) This is a complete replacement of the current policy.
 - (2) Questions?

(a) None

3. Brand New (First of two readings)

a) RSU 9 does not have this procedure

(1) [DKC-R TRAVEL EXPENSE REIMBURSEMENT PROCEDURE](#)

(a) Questions?

(i) None

XIII. Executive Session pursuant to 1 M.R.S.A. §405(6)(A) - Admin Evaluation

- *Motion to go into* Executive Session pursuant to 1 M.R.S.A. §405(6)(A) - Admin Evaluation

<i>Motion to go into Executive Session pursuant to 1 M.R.S.A. §405(6)(A) - Admin Evaluation</i>	Yeas: Wayne Kinney, Greg Kimber, Libby Kaut, Scott Erb, Janice David, Rich Ruhlin, Will Jones, Jeff Barnum, Gloria McGraw, Amanda Caruso, Carol Coles, Josh Robbins, Debbie Smith, Kyle Fletcher, Gwen Doak, Dee Robinson Nays: Abstained: Vote: 1001/0/0	Motion: Rich Ruhlin Seconded: Gloria McGraw Motion: Passed
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Exited Executive Session at 8:02.

XIV. Executive Session pursuant to 1 M.R.S.A. §405(6)(A) - Superintendent's Goals

- *Motion to go into* Executive Session pursuant to 1 M.R.S.A. §405(6)(A) - Superintendent's Goals

<i>Motion to go into Executive Session pursuant to 1 M.R.S.A. §405(6)(A) - Admin Evaluation</i>	Yeas: Wayne Kinney, Greg Kimber, Libby Kaut, Scott Erb, Rich Ruhlin, Will Jones, Jeff Barnum, Gloria McGraw, Amanda Caruso, Carol Coles, Josh Robbins, Debbie Smith, Kyle Fletcher, Gwen Doak, Dee Robinson Nays: Janice David	Motion: Rich Ruhlin Seconded: Debbie Smith Motion: Passed
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	Abstained: Vote: 917/84/0	
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Exited Executive Session at 8:12

XV. Adjourn

A. Chair Robinson adjourned the meeting without objection at 8:12.

NEXT SCHEDULED BOARD MEETINGS

November 28th, 2023 - 6:30pm - The Forum, Mt. Blue Campus

- Board Reports - School Nutrition, McKinney-Vento

December 13th, 2023 - 6:30pm - The Forum, Mt. Blue Campus

- Board Reports - CBS, FCTC, Transportation

NEXT SCHEDULED COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Operations - December 5th, 2023 - 5:00pm - The Forum, Mt. Blue Campus

Personnel & Finance - December 5th, 2023 - 6:00pm - The Forum, Mt. Blue Campus

Educational Policy - December 5th, 2023 - 7:00pm - The Forum, Mt. Blue Campus