

Mt. Blue Regional School District
Board of Directors Meeting
AGENDA

COMMUNITY | CULTURE | CURRICULUM

Working together to provide high-quality educational opportunities for all

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

In attendance: Carol Coles, Janice David, Gwen Doak, Scott Erb, Kyle Fletcher, Judith Kaut, Greg Kimber, J. Wayne Kinney (7:17 pm), Gloria McGraw, Josh Robbins, Dorothy “Dee” Robinson, Richard Ruhlin, Debbie Smith, Abigail Goodspeed (Student Member),

Absent: Irv Faunce, Alexander Creznic, Charles Hinds, Elizabeth “Ella” Mayhew (Student Member),

Also present: Laura Columbia, Chris Elkington, Melissa Williams, Monique Poulin, John Jones, Nancy Allen

- I. Call to Order 6:30 pm

- II. Pledge of Allegiance

- III. Adjustments to the Agenda
 - A. Removal of the second executive session.

- IV. Report of the Chairperson - Carol Coles
 - A. [BCA Board Member Code of Ethics](#)
 - Section M
 - B. Important Transparency of the Board’s Committee Process
 1. Chair shared clarity of the efforts that the RSU 9 Board makes around transparency, through the posting of recorded meeting videos, minutes taken, and all resources available on the district website.
 2. Also reviewed the importance of confidentiality in executive sessions.

- V. Communications

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- A. None
- VI. Good news stories from the Board or Administrators
- A. Abigail Goodspeed, the Girls' and Boys' Nordic Teams are now Class A Champions, and the Girls' Alpine Ski Team received second place. Henry McCourt, a member of the nordic ski team, will be going to Junior Nationals.
 - B. Debbie Smith, shared the great press around Career and Technical Education Month this past month.
 - C. Monique Poulin, shared the great start to the Unified Basketball season. Seeing great collaboration among the teams is magical.
 - D. Melissa Williams, reported that the Robotics Team had a great competition this past weekend, that they will be advancing, and how they garnered the most points of any team near us. They also won the Spirit Award.
 - E. Chris Elkington shared that another sportsmanship award is on the way from the Winter Season with our Girls Basketball Program being recognized.
 - F. Dee Robinson said the Girls' and Boys' Wrestling teams did well by all reports.
- VII. Public Comment
- A. None
- VIII. [Superintendent's Report](#) - Christian Elkington
- A. New Hires, Transfers, Resignations, and Retirements
 - B. American teens are unwell because American society is unwell
The superintendent reviewed several points and areas of concern in regards to the multiple negative forces which our young adults need to battle through as they grow up today. That more and more evidence is being shared about the harm that is done through social media and the conflicts created with its use. Unfortunately, students bring this conflict to school with them and that more and more staff are at a loss with how to focus on academics, problem solving, skill development, and student progress and success when conflict from away from school overtakes, impares, and interferes with what schools have been expected to do. The RSU 9 Administration is looking at how these multiple, new concerns are making it more and more difficult to fulfill our schools' and district's

mission. That our staff need more support and supports and that our schools need to re-engage with our families and communities.

C. Bullying doesn't look like it used to. Experts share.

The superintendent reviewed how the concerns and conflicts of everyday life is giving parents less places to look for hope. Unfortunately, many times conflict is interpreted by students and parents as bullying, when much of the time it is really everyday conflict which sometimes can appear to be bullying because of the increased burden exacerbated by click-flowing social media.

IX. Administrator Reports

A. [Adult Education](#) - Nancy Allen, Director of Franklin County Adult Education

1. Digital Literacy was highlighted as a great resource.
2. Increasing internet services in Franklin County through various grants and in other districts.
3. Also highlighted was the CNA Med Class.
4. Questions were heard regarding how Franklin Adult Ed worked with schools outside of Franklin County.

B. [Special Services](#) - John Jones, Director of Special Services

1. Shared the excellent work that is happening in Unified Basketball.
2. All Ed Tech positions are filled, with five filled with long-term subs. A year ago we were looking at 25-30 openings.
3. Looking into how we will improve our services to students with Autism.
4. The Educational Advisory Committee is also focusing on and working on goals from the Strategic Plan.
5. Questions were heard regarding the recent move-in of students with disabilities. Some of the movement is related to housing needs.
6. Another question was heard regarding the number of out-of-district placements. The number has gone down over the last 4 years by about a 3rd.
7. A question was raised regarding how our programs are evaluated. What's the parental satisfaction with our programs? It depends, overall it has been favorable but understandably concerns come up and need to be worked on. The state does complete a review on an annual basis.

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- X. Presentations
- None

- XI. Consent Agenda
- A. New Hires
 - B. [Board Minutes from February 14, 2023](#),
 - C. Committee Report Outs and Minutes
 - 1. Operations Committee - None
 - 2. Personnel & Finance - None
 - 3. Educational Policy - None
 - *Motion to approve the consent agenda.*

<i>Motion to approve the Consent Agenda</i>	Yeas: Carol Coles, Janice David, Gwen Doak, Scott Erb, Kyle Fletcher, Judith Kaut, Greg Kimber, Gloria McGraw, Josh Robbins, Dorothy "Dee" Robinson, Richard Ruhlin, Debbie Smith, Nays: 0 Abstained: 0 Vote: 12:0:0 (685:0:0)	Motion: Dee Robinson Seconded: Scott Erb Motion: Passed
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- XII. New Business
- A. [2023-2024 District Calendar \(Draft 2c\)](#)
 - 1. Review and discussion

<i>Motion to approve the 2023-2024 District Calendar as presented.</i>	Yeas: Carol Coles, Janice David, Gwen Doak, Scott Erb, Kyle Fletcher, Judith Kaut, Greg Kimber, Gloria McGraw, Josh Robbins, Dorothy "Dee" Robinson, Richard Ruhlin, Debbie Smith, Nays: 0 Abstained: 0 Vote: 12:0:0 (685:0:0)	Motion: Scott Erb Seconded: Debbie Smith Motion: Passed
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- B. Policy Review
 - 1. Second reading and adoption of Board policies
 - a) [ACAC: Therapy Dogs in Schools](#)
 - b) [JLF: Child Abuse Reporting, Prevention, and Education](#)

<i>Motion to approve the Board policies listed above.</i>	Yeas: Carol Coles, Janice David, Gwen Doak, Scott Erb, Kyle Fletcher, Judith Kaut, Greg Kimber, Gloria McGraw, Josh Robbins, Dorothy "Dee" Robinson, Richard Ruhlin, Debbie Smith, Nays: 0 Abstained: 0 Vote: 12:0:0 (685:0:0)	Motion: Judith Kaut Seconded: Gwen Doak Motion: Passed
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A question was heard regarding section two, of duty to report, to include volunteers. And do the volunteers receive any training? All volunteers have to review the volunteer handbook and sign that they have. Items on this expectation are included. It could be better but we do expect a heightened sense and expectation of volunteers to report concerns if they hear or see something.

C. Executive Session pursuant to 1 M.R.S.A. §405(6)(B) - For the purpose of discussing a student disciplinary matter

<i>Motion to go into Executive Session pursuant to 1 M.R.S.A. §405(6)(B) - For the purpose of discussing a student disciplinary matter</i>	Yeas: Carol Coles, Janice David, Gwen Doak, Scott Erb, Kyle Fletcher, Judith Kaut, Greg Kimber, Gloria McGraw, Josh Robbins, Dorothy "Dee" Robinson, Richard Ruhlin, Debbie Smith, J. Wayne Kinney Nays: 0 Abstained: 0 Vote: 13:0:0 (769:0:0)	Motion: Rich Rhulin Seconded: Gwen Doak Motion: Passed
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Entered into executive session 7:24 pm

Exited executive session.

9:50 pm

<i>Motion to amend the motion to include academic support.</i>	Yeas: Carol Coles, Janice David, Gwen Doak, Scott Erb, Kyle Fletcher, Greg Kimber, Gloria McGraw, Josh Robbins, Dorothy "Dee" Robinson, Richard Ruhlin, Debbie Smith, J. Wayne Kinney Nays: Judith Kaut, Abstained: 0 Vote: 12:0:1 (693:0:76)	Motion: Dee Robinson Seconded: Gwen Doak Motion: Passed
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Discussion on tutoring versus education provided in other ways. Clarity on re-entry planning.

<i>To expel a student pursuant to 20A MRS Section 1001(9) on the grounds that such an expulsion is necessary for the peace and usefulness of the schools, and to direct the Superintendent to provide the student's parents written notice of this action and to direct the principal to develop a reentry plan for the student as required by law and that said plan will have academic supports provided by RSU 9.</i>	Yeas: Carol Coles, Janice David, Gwen Doak, Kyle Fletcher, Greg Kimber, Gloria McGraw, Josh Robbins, Dorothy "Dee" Robinson, Richard Ruhlin, Debbie Smith, J. Wayne Kinney Nays: Judith Kaut, Scott Erb, Abstained: 0 Vote: 11:0:2 (609:0:160)	Motion: Dee Robinson Seconded: Gwen Doak Motion: Passed
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Discussion was around the administrators' procedures, as well as the procedures.

XIII. Adjourn
10:01 pm

NEXT SCHEDULED BOARD MEETINGS

March 14, 2023 - 6:30pm - The Forum, Mt. Blue Campus

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

- Board Reports - MBHS Athletics, School Nutrition

NEXT SCHEDULED COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Operations - March 7, 2023 - 5:00pm - The Forum, Mt. Blue Campus

Personnel & Finance - March 7, 2023 - 6:00pm - The Forum, Mt. Blue Campus

Educational Policy - March 7, 2023 - 7:00pm - The Forum, Mt. Blue Campus

Operations - April 4, 2023 - 5:00pm - The Forum, Mt. Blue Campus

Personnel & Finance - April 4, 2023 - 6:00pm - The Forum, Mt. Blue Campus

Educational Policy - April 4, 2023 - 7:00pm - The Forum, Mt. Blue Campus