

**Mt. Blue Regional School District Board of Directors
Minutes**

DATE: February 12, 2019

Place: The Forum - Mt. Blue Campus

Time: 6:30pm

In attendance: Carol Coles, Cherieann Harrison, Doug Dunlap, Scott Erb, Irv Faunce, Lisa Laflin, Jeff Harris, Betsey Hyde , Tami Labul, Angie LeClair, ~~Ryan Morgan~~, Lidie Robbins, Jesse Sillanpaa, Iris Silverstein, Debbie Smith, Craig Stickney, ~~Chris Marshall~~, Hallie Pike, ~~Olivia Sehanck~~, Riley Drummond

Also present: Monique Poulin, James Black, Nichole Goodspeed, Tracy Williams, Keith Acedo, Lisa Sinclair, Melissa Williams, ~~Andy Hutchins~~, ~~Glenn Kapiloff~~, Jonathan Chalmers, ~~Richard Joseph~~, Katie Duchesne, ~~Todd Demmons~~, ~~Joel Smith~~, John Jones, ~~Cynthia Bernstein~~, Laura Columbia, Kris Pottle, Chad Brackett

- I. Call to Order
 - A. 6:35 pm
- II. Pledge
- III. Report of the Chairperson
 - A. Chairperson reviewed correction of the amount spent by the board.
 - B. Clarified misconception on the hiring of the PAL staff.
 - C. We Care Kids and Care for Kids Curriculum can be reviewed in meeting minutes and taped board discussion.
 - D. Reviewed bullying misconceptions and training.
 - E. Reviewed items that were in the amount of money that was overspent, and clarified misconception of funds being spent on ed techs.
- A. Good news stories from Board/Administrators
 - a. Mt. Blue Cheerleaders, Girls Basketball, and Boys and Girls Cross Country all won sportsmanship banners. Unofficial count of 22 sportsmanship banners since 2015
 - b. Cheerleading Coach won coach of the year.
 - c. Franklin County Spelling Bee
 - i. Moriah Reusch
 - ii. 3 of the top 4 were Mt.Blue Middle School Students
 - iii. Tracy Williams shoutout to UMF for the ReadtoME challenge (35 students and faculty going to Mallett to read to students)

- iv. National Career and Technical Education Month (many students from neighboring schools visiting)
- v. The Dyar Trust Fund and the Doug Dunlap and family donated funds to the library and was able to purchase books to add to the library
- vi. PBE Forum had small but mighty attendance.
- vii. Doug Dunlap shared visit and welcoming at WGM and GDC/AHS School.
- viii. All four ski teams won combined championship and individual awards.
- ix. Boys Basketball Team will be playing in the first round of the class A tournament.

IV. Public Comment

- A. Betsy Hyde arrived at 6:48 pm.

V. Consent Agenda

- A. New Hires/Resignations/Retirements
- B. Consideration of Committee Minutes
 - i. Operations Committee meeting minutes January 15, 2019
 - ii. Personnel & Finance meeting minutes January 15, 2019
- C. Consideration of the Board minutes from January 22, 2019
- D. Board Budget Workshop notes January 29, 2019

Motion to approve consent agenda	Yeas: All present Nays: Abstained: Vote: unanimous	Motion: Angie LeClair Seconded: Tami Labul Motion: Passed
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VI. Committee/Board Reports

- A. Operations
 - Plans regarding the middle school will be reviewed next meeting.
- B. Personnel & Finance
 - Proposed revision of bidding guidelines will be brought to the board and policy to comply with most recent codes, line item review, at will contracts process, budget committee process, and negotiation process for administration
 - Strategic Plan process is in the works for thinking of it as well as streaming options.
 - Exploring sound systems in Forum and Auditorium.
- C. Educational Policy
 - Reviewed policy and postponed March meeting.

VII. New Business

- A. Robotics field trip request to New Hampshire -Richard Wilde

Motion to approve Robotics field trip	Yeas: All present Nays: Abstained: Vote: unanimous	Motion: Doug Dunlap Seconded: Lidie Robbins Motion: Passed
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B. Franklin County Fiddlers field trip request to Boston-Steve Muise

Motion to approve Franklin County Fiddlers field trip	Yeas: All Present Nays: Abstained: Vote: Unanimous	Motion: Scott Erb Seconded: Iris Silverstein Motion: Passed
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C. Nordic Team field trip request to Starks Hill Nordic Trails in Fryeburg

Motion to approve Nordic Team field trip	Yeas: All present Nays: Abstained: Vote: Unanimous	Motion: Scott Erb Seconded:Lidie Robbins Motion: Passed
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D. Suspending March committee meetings

Motion to suspend March committee meetings	Yeas: All present Nays: Abstained: Vote: Unanimous	Motion: Lisa Lafflin Seconded:Angie LeClair Motion: Passed
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Irv Faunce arrived at 6:54

E. Financial Statement for January

- a. Report of lines, with removing of the dept, we have spent 45.91%

Jesse Sillanpaa arrived at 7:05 pm.

F. State of the Schools Reports

- i. Wilton Continued-Keith Acedo

Keith Acedo shared action steps taken including first-grade writing responses, strategies for students with math questions, Franklin County Fiddlers will come and former students to talk about motivation, reviewing data and triangulating academic data with behavior data.

Questions were asked from the school board regarding computer use and accessibility, teaching to the tests, teacher motivation.

ii. Mt.Blue Middle School presentation-James Black

<p>Motion to table agenda items G, H, and Superintendent's Report to the next board meeting</p>	<p>Yeas: All present Nays: Abstained: Vote: Unanimous</p>	<p>Motion: Angie LeClair Seconded: Iris Silverstein Motion: Passed</p>
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G. Second readings:

- i. JLF Reporting Child Abuse and Neglect
- ii. JLFA Child Sexual Abuse Reporting and Response
- iii. JLF-E Suspected Child Abuse/Neglect Form

H. First readings:

- i. ACAB Harassment and Sexual Harassment of School Employees
- ii. ACAB-R Employee Discrimination and Harassment Complaint Procedure
- iii. AC Non-Discrimination/Equal Opportunity and Affirmative Action

VIII. Superintendent's Report-Tina Meserve

IX. Executive session 1 M.R.S.A. § 405(6)(A) Evaluation of officials/appointees/employees

Enter into executive session (time): 8:11 pm

<p>Motion to enter into executive session 1 M.R.S.A. § 405(6)(A) Evaluation of officials/appointees/employees</p>	<p>Yeas: All present Nays: Abstained: Vote: Unanimous</p>	<p>Motion: Angie LeClair Seconded: Iris Silverstein Motion:Passed</p>
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Returned to public session (time): 8:31

X. Executive session 1 M.R.S.A. § 405(6)(F) Information in confidential records; discussion or review

Enter into executive session (time): 8:31

Motion to enter into executive session 1 M.R.S.A. § 405(6)(F) Information in confidential records; discussion or review	Yeas: All present Nays: Abstained: Vote: Unanimous	Motion: Angie Leclair Seconded: Iris Silverstein Motion: Passed
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Returned to public session (time): 8:45 pm

XX. Executive session 1 M.R.S.A. § 405 (6)(A) Assignment of public officials/appointees/employees

Entered into executive session (time): 8:45 pm

Craig Stickney exited at 8:47pm

Motion to enter into executive session 1 M.R.S.A. § 405(6)(A) Assignment of public officials/appointees/employees	Yeas: All others Nays: Abstained: Craig Stickney Vote: 14:1:0 (843:74:0)	Motion: Irv Faunce Seconded: Scott Erb Motion: Passed
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Returned to public session (time): 9:58 pm

Motion: Cherieann Harrison Seconded: Irv Faunce

I move that the Board reaffirm that individual Board members do not act or speak for the full Board of Directors; and that the Board expressly disavow the following acts or statements made by Board Member Mr. Stickney because the Board finds them to be inaccurate or because they carry with them the potential to expose the District to legal liability.

On February 6, 2019, without the approval of the Board, Mr. Stickney orchestrated a public meeting at the Chesterville Town Hall to discuss school board business. During the February 6 meeting, Mr. Stickney admitted that he has been previously told that he should not act independent of the Board but falsely stated that the Board Chair has not explained why doing so is problematic. In truth, the Board Chair offered such an explanation in a registered letter sent to him in December 2018.

When the subject of the District's curriculum was raised in this independent forum, Mr. Stickney stated that he had never see the K-5 curriculum before but that he was instructed to vote on it anyway.

The February 6 meeting did not serve as a meeting to understand a citizen complaint so that it could be routed to the appropriate administrator. Rather, Mr. Stickney created the forum independent of the school board so that he could make disparaging remarks about others and to undermine school programs.

During the forum on February 6, 2019, Mr. Stickney made a number of false criticisms about District staff responsible for certain expenditures and for payroll. Contrary to the facts Mr. Stickney claimed that the District made \$8000 in "unauthorized expenditures" and may have unlawfully overpaid staff in the amount of \$230,000. The Board is an employer and, as a member of the Board, it is inappropriate

and a violation of Maine law to discuss personnel matters in public.

Mr. Stickney also made the false statement that the District does not have any staff for the District's PALs program.

The Board also emphasized that members of the Board must be cognizant of the fact that they are an employer and must maintain appropriate decorum in that role. It is never appropriate to tell the Superintendent in a private conversation to "screw you" or to use other inappropriate, unprofessional or disrespectful words or tone of voice when addressing the Superintendent. The Superintendent is the Chief Executive Officer of our District. Aside from deserving our respect, such actions can create a hostile work environment for our employee.

Yeas: all others

Nays:

Abstained: Jesse Sillanpaa

Vote: 13:1:0 (793:0:50)

Motion: Passed

XXX. Adjournment: 10:05pm

NEXT SCHEDULED MEETINGS:

February 26, 2019-7:00pm-Board Meeting-The Forum at Mt. Blue Campus

March 12, 2019-7:00pm-Board Meeting-The Forum at Mt. Blue Campus

COMMITTEE MEETINGS:

School Board Budget Committee-February 27, 2019-9:00am-4:30pm-Forum at Mt. Blue Campus

School Board Budget Committee-March 6, 2019-7:00pm-9:00pm-Mt. Blue Campus (Room TBD)

School Board Budget Committee-March 14, 2019-7:00pm-9:00pm-The Forum at Mt. Blue Campus

School Board Budget Committee-March 21, 2019- 7:00pm-9:00pm-The Forum at Mt. Blue Campus

School Board Budget Committee-March 28, 2019-7:00pm-9:00pm-The Forum at Mt. Blue Campus