

Mt. Blue Regional School District Board of Directors

Minutes

NOTICE: Pursuant to RSU 9's Health and Safety guidelines, ***face masks are required*** to attend an in-person event inside a school building.

DATE: February 15, 2022

Place: The Forum

Time: 6:30pm

Meeting Video: <https://vimeo.com/678177781>

In attendance: Carol Coles, Gwen Doak, Doug Dunlap, Scott Erb, Irv Faunce (entered at 6:37pm), Cherieann Harrison (entered at 6:41pm), Judith Kaut, J. Wayne Kinney, Gloria McGraw, Josh Robbins, Dorothy “Dee” Robinson, Debbie Smith

Absent: Kirk Doyle, Betsey Hyde, Lisa Laflin, Mark Prentiss

Also present: Nancy Allen, Cynthia Bernstein, James Black, Jeff Brazee (Zoom), Laura Columbia, Chris Elkington, Nichole Goodspeed, John Jones, Richard Joseph, Jennifer Pooler, Monique Poulin, Lisa Sinclair, Tracy Williams

- I. Called to Order at 6:33pm
- II. Pledge of Allegiance
- III. Adjustments to the Agenda
 - A. Agenda Item X.B. Strategic Planning Update is postponed until the March 8, 2022 meeting.
- IV. Report of the Chairperson - Carol Coles
 - A. [BCA Board Member Code of Ethics](#)
 1. Focus item - L
- V. Communications
 - A. [Longevity Awards](#) (35 years of service completed at end of the 2020/2021 school year) - Chair Coles read statements about each employee
 1. David Alexander, bus driver
 2. Roger Bolduc, mathematics teacher, MBHS
 3. Deb Muise, English teacher, MBHS
 - B. RSU 9 Staff Members of the Month for [January 2022](#)
 1. Support Staff
 - a) Andrew Rothert, mechanic, Bus Garage

2. Professional Staff

a) Maria Howatt, science teacher, Mt. Blue High School

C. Date Change for Morning Meeting w/Legislators and Mt. Blue Campus Tour -
March 4, 2022

VI. Good news stories from the Board or Administrators

- A. Chris Elkington thanked Cindy Dixon for her weekly “Shout Outs”, and gave a shout out to the administrators for the time they are putting into their budgets, and a thanks to our school counselors and social workers for School Counselors Week, a shout out to the staff at Cushing School for their attention and care to their students during dismissal time which he saw and finally to the National Technical Honor Society Induction ceremonies this week, w/names to be shared at the next meeting.
- B. Monique Poulin, principal of MBHS shared that the Cheering Squad came in 15th out of 64 teams at competition, that a few members of the wrestling team will be headed to the states meet, there is a girls’ preliminary basketball game against Camden tonight, that the boys team will go against Skowhegan this coming weekend in the playoffs, as well as ski team results from this past weekend, as our girls were Kvac champions and the boys’ team came in second with both teams combining as champions for the Kvac. Lastly she shared the Climate Workshop that took place last Friday organized a day of sessions with a keynote speaker, and a variety of presenters participated.
- C. James Black, principal at Mt. Blue Middle School shared Geography Bee winners Julian Reynolds and Heinrich Whiteside and that wrestling started recently.

VII. Public Comment

A. None

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

- A. New Hires, Transfers, Resignations, and Retirements
- B. 22-23 Admin Budget Expectations
- C. New Bus Approvals
- D. Importance of Hiring, Onboarding, HR and transitions
Article: Teachers are Quitting & Finding Jobs elsewhere
- E. Blue Crew Robotics Field Trip Request

IX. Administrator Reports

- A. [Special Services](#) - John Jones, Director of Special Services
 - 1. The depth of the report and the data was appreciated by the Board.
- B. [McKinney Vento](#) - Lisa Sinclair, McKinney Vento Liaison

1. Funding received from the American Rescue Plan - \$9,000 and approximately \$23K in a second disbursement. That our local needs are mostly for unaccompanied youth. A national push toward counseling, help, and healing of families, making families intact is being shared. With questions about how do we work better together with other local agencies who also help with homelessness?

X. Presentations

- A. [Related Services for Special Education Updates](#) - Bernstein/Jones
 1. We employ OT and COTA and share PT with another district. Emergency certification, word of mouth, inviting folks to visit our schools, some former employees coming back - all playing a part in helping to fill the vacancies. Offering support for new hires through the two district special education coordinators has been a key to our progress this year.
- B. Postponed until March 8, 2022 - Strategic Planning Next Steps: Drafting Mission & Vision - Laflin/McCalmon
 1. Mission Vision Presentation
 2. Agenda for 2/10/22 Meeting
 3. Strategic Planning Committee Charge
 4. Data Themes from 2/2/22
 5. Mission/Vision Traits

XI. Consent Agenda

- A. Minutes from [January 25, 2022](#) and [February 1, 2022](#)
- B. Committee Report Outs and Minutes
 1. Operations Committee - [February 1, 2022](#)
 2. Personnel & Finance - [February 1, 2022](#)
 3. Educational Policy - None (meeting canceled)

<i>Motion to approve the consent agenda.</i>	Yeas: Carol Coles, Gwen Doak, Doug Dunlap, Scott Erb, Irv Faunce, Cherieann Harrison, Judith Kaut, Gloria McGraw, Josh Robbins, Dorothy "Dee" Robinson, Debbie Smith Nays: None Abstained: None Vote: 11:0:0 (713:0:0)	Motion: Dee Robinson Seconded: Debbie Smith Motion: Passed
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Update January 25th, 2022 Board Minutes with correct attendance (Cherieann Harrison was absent)

XII. New Business

A. Apportionment Follow-Up - Kinney

1. [Memo](#)
2. Questions
 - a) Historical questions were asked, clarity on the law, and options for next steps were discussed.
3. Next Steps
 - a) Wayne Kinney will share a draft letter to Commissioner Makin requesting a review begin at the March 8 meeting.

B. Approval of New Hires, Transfers, Resignations, and Retirements

<i>Motion to approve the New Hires, Transfers, Resignations, and Retirements as presented in the Superintendent's Report.</i>	Yeas: Carol Coles, Gwen Doak, Doug Dunlap, Scott Erb, Irv Faunce, Cherieann Harrison, Judith Kaut, Gloria McGraw, Josh Robbins, Dorothy "Dee" Robinson, Debbie Smith Nays: None Abstained: None Vote: 11:0:0 (713:0:0)	Motion: Dee Robinson Seconded: Gwen Doak Motion: Passed
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No discussion was heard.

C. [Blue Crew Robotics](#) - Field Trip Request - [Follow up information](#)

<i>Motion to approve the Blue Crew Robotics field trip request to Bedford, NH for the Week Zero Competition</i>	Yeas: Carol Coles, Gwen Doak, Doug Dunlap, Scott Erb, Irv Faunce, Cherieann Harrison, Judith Kaut, J. Wayne Kinney, Gloria McGraw, Josh Robbins, Dorothy "Dee" Robinson, Debbie Smith Nays: None Abstained: None Vote: 12:0:0 (797:0:0)	Motion: Cherieann Harrison Seconded: Gwen Doak Motion: Passed
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Discussion about the chaperones and the inclusion of students from Spruce Mt. High School (RSU 73).

XIII. Adjourn

<i>Motion to adjourn without objection.</i>		Motion: Carol Coles Motion passed without objection.
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Adjourned at 8:05pm

NEXT SCHEDULED MEETINGS

March 8, 2022 - 6:30pm - The Forum, Mt. Blue Campus

March 22, 2022 - 6:30pm - The Forum, Mt. Blue Campus

UPCOMING COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Operations - March 1, 2022 - 5:00pm - The Forum, Mt. Blue Campus

Personnel & Finance - March 1, 2022 - 6:00pm - The Forum, Mt. Blue Campus

Educational Policy - March 1, 2022 - 7:00pm - The Forum, Mt. Blue Campus

Operations - April 5, 2022 - 5:00pm - The Forum, Mt. Blue Campus

Personnel & Finance - April 5, 2022 - 6:00pm - The Forum, Mt. Blue Campus

Educational Policy - April 5, 2022 - 7:00pm - The Forum, Mt. Blue Campus