

Mt. Blue Regional School District Board of Directors

Minutes

DATE: March 22, 2022

Place: The Forum

Time: 6:30pm

Meeting Video: <https://vimeo.com/691493306>

In attendance: Carol Coles, Gwen Doak, Kirk Doyle, Doug Dunlap, Scott Erb, Irv Faunce, Judith Kaut, J. Wayne Kinney, Lisa Laffin, Gloria McGraw, Josh Robbins, Dorothy “Dee” Robinson, Debbie Smith

Absent: Cherieann Harrison, Betsey Hyde, Mark Prentiss

Also present: Chad Brackett, Jeff Brazee, Laura Columbia, Katie Duchesne, Chris Elkington, Andy Hutchins, John Jones, Jennifer Pooler, Monique Poulin (Zoom), Lisa Sinclair (Zoom), Tracy Williams (Zoom)

- I. Called to Order at 6:30 pm
- II. Moment of Silence and Pledge of Allegiance
- III. Adjustments to the Agenda
 - A. None
- IV. Report of the Chairperson - Carol Coles
 - A. New Board Member
 1. New board member from Industry (Richard Rhulin) will start in July.
 - B. [BCA Board Member Code of Ethics](#)
 - Focus item - E
- V. Communications
 - A. The next budget meeting will be Thursday, March 24th (all day), and the following meeting will be Wednesday, March 30th, 6 pm -8 pm.
- VI. Good news stories from the Board or Administrators
 - A. Debbie Smith, board member from Weld, reported how thankful she is to be able to deliver the monthly staff awards. As well as how great it is that we have the Free Store at MBC run by Kyle Minear and the Employability Skills class students.

- B. Chris Elkington, superintendent, reported on the Blue Crew's receiving the Chairman's award at the recent Robotics Competition. As well as the recent Wax Museum at Cape Cod Hill School, and reported the excellence of the front office staff at WGM.
- C. Laura Columbia, director of curriculum, shared that we had a very successful and collaborative workshop day on March 18.
- D. Dee Robinson, board member from Chesterville, discussed a vote taken at a recent Chesterville town meeting to continue to allow Foster Tech to work on forestry projects on town property.
- E. Doug Dunlap, board member from Farmington, discussed the Eastern Ski Championship hosted at Titcomb Mountain and shared the success of the ski meet with many volunteers from RSU 9. FYI - The awards were created by Jake Bogar's FTC class and Emma Charles designed the t-shirts.
- F. Lisa Laflin, board member from New Vineyard, gave a "shout out" to Sherilyn Chick, FTC student who volunteers at the United Way.
- G. John Jones, director of special education, announced that Farmington is one of the top 10 places to live in Maine according to Downeast Magazine. Last week special education hosted a compliance monitoring visit from the Maine DOE; this process started in August. That he spent time with bus drivers on the workshop day talking about behavior and the importance of the bus drivers in our students' lives.

VII. Public Comment

- A. None

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

- 1. New Hires, Transfers, Resignations, and Retirements
 - a) Carl Bachman and John Churchill have announced their retirements; both long-time educators who have worked in public service for several decades and that they will be missed.
- 2. 22-23 Budget Update
 - a) Thanks to the administrators and central office team for their work and responsiveness to requests as the RSU 9 Process is new for the superintendent and business manager.
- 3. Special Boiler Replacement Request at CCHS

4. "Blue Crew" Success
5. Wax Museum Project at CCHS

IX. Administrator Reports

- A. [MBMS Athletics](#), Katie Duchesne, MBMS Assistant Principal/Athletic Director
 1. Questions were heard regarding the spring sports schedule that is posted on MBMS website, and their Facebook page and about doing all we can to share it with the community.
- B. [Curriculum](#), Laura Columbia, Director of Curriculum
 1. Professional development opportunities on our workshop day were very informative and well received by both professional and support staff as an effort was made to adjust based on staff requests. Questions were heard about student assessments.
 2. Curriculum question was heard regarding NEASC, and it was suggested to bring forward at the next Educational Policy Committee.
- C. [Child Nutrition](#), Andy Hutchins, Director of Child Nutrition
 1. Supply chain difficulties and the options of processed foods vs. scratch-made foods were briefly discussed as costs are going up.
- D. [Technology](#), Jeff Brazee, Director of Technology
 1. Discussion of the firewall and protection we are offering students when they use their MBRSD devices.
- E. [MBHS Athletics](#), Chad Brackett, Athletic Director
 1. It was mentioned the extent that the high school ski team has grown in numbers and the possible need for an increase in coaching support.
 2. Mt. Blue student-athletes have long been recognized by coaches, officials, and other students for their sportsmanship.

X. Presentations

- A. Blue Crew Robotics: Team 6153 and robot - Richard Wilde and students
Several students spoke about their experience at the 2022 Northeast Pine Tree Event and winning the District Chairman's Award!



B. Strategic Planning Committee - Lisa Laflin

1. [Draft Mission & Vision Statements](#)
2. Review - Chair Laflin reviewed the process for the board
3. Questions and Feedback
 - a) Thanks go to the Strategic Planning Committee and its facilitator, Mary Jane McCalmon, for their hard work and dedication to the process.

<p><i>Motion to approve the draft Mission and Vision Statements as presented</i></p>	<p>Yeas: Carol Coles, Gwen Doak, Kirk Doyle, Doug Dunlap, Scott Erb, Irv Faunce, Judith Kaut, J. Wayne Kinney, Lisa Laflin, Gloria McGraw, Josh Robbins, Dorothy "Dee" Robinson, Debbie Smith Nays: None Abstained: None Vote: 13:0:0 (848:0:0)</p>	<p>Motion: Dee Robinson Seconded: Wayne Kinney Motion: Passed</p>
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No discussion was heard.

XI. Consent Agenda

- A. Minutes from [March 8, 2022](#)
- B. Approval of New Hires, Transfers, Resignations, and Retirements
- C. Committee Report Outs and Minutes
 - Operations Committee - None
 - Personnel & Finance - None
 - Educational Policy - None

<p><i>Motion to approve the Consent Agenda, to include</i></p>	<p>Yeas: Carol Coles, Gwen Doak, Kirk Doyle, Doug Dunlap, Scott Erb, Irv</p>	<p>Motion: Dee Robinson Seconded: Gwen Doak Motion: Passed</p>
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<i>new hires, transfers, resignations, and retirements.</i>	Faunce, Judith Kaut, J. Wayne Kinney, Lisa Laflin, Gloria McGraw, Josh Robbins, Dorothy "Dee" Robinson, Debbie Smith Nays: None Abstained: None Vote: 13:0:0 (848:0:0)	
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No discussion was heard.

XII. New Business

A. Approval of the [2022-2023 Calendar Draft](#)

<i>Motion to approve the 2022-2023 District Calendar (Draft 6)</i>	Yeas: Carol Coles, Gwen Doak, Kirk Doyle, Doug Dunlap, Scott Erb, Irv Faunce, Judith Kaut, J. Wayne Kinney, Lisa Laflin, Gloria McGraw, Josh Robbins, Dorothy "Dee" Robinson, Debbie Smith Nays: None Abstained: None Vote: 13:0:0 (848:0:0)	Motion: Irv Faunce Seconded: Gwen Doak Motion: Passed
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No discussion was heard.

B. Field Trip Request - Mt. Blue High School Softball Team

1. [The Ripken Experience, Pigeon Forge, TN](#) - 4/13 - 4/19/2022 - [Additional Information](#)

<i>Motion to approve the Mt. Blue High School Softball Team field trip request as proposed.</i>	Yeas: Carol Coles, Gwen Doak, Kirk Doyle, Doug Dunlap, Scott Erb, Irv Faunce, Judith Kaut, J. Wayne Kinney, Lisa Laflin, Gloria McGraw, Josh Robbins, Dorothy "Dee" Robinson, Debbie Smith Nays: None Abstained: None Vote: 13:0:0 (848:0:0)	Motion: Scott Erb Seconded: Irv Faunce Motion: Passed
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Mention was made that this trip has been postponed twice already due to COVID.

C. Field Trip Request - Blue Crew Robotics

1. [Pease Event - Durham, NH](#) - 3/31 - 4/2/2022
2. [New England District Championship - West Springfield, MA](#) - 4/13 - 4/16/2022

<i>Motion to approve the Blue Crew Robotics field trip requests as proposed.</i>	Yeas: Carol Coles, Gwen Doak, Kirk Doyle, Doug Dunlap, Scott Erb, Irv Faunce, Judith Kaut, J. Wayne Kinney, Lisa Laflin, Gloria McGraw, Josh Robbins, Dorothy "Dee" Robinson, Debbie Smith Nays: None Abstained: None Vote: 13:0:0 (848:0:0)	Motion: Debbie Smith Seconded: Gwen Doak Motion: Passed
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Superintendent Elkington shared that the team voted to forgo submitting a field trip request for a few students to go the World Championships so that all students could participate at these two events.

D. First reading of Board Policies -

1. [JLC](#): Wellness Policy
 - a) Feedback on the amount of time lunch is scheduled.
 - (1) Include general language around the amount of time provided for lunch.
 - (2) Lunchtime could be a time to destress and focus on wellness.
2. [LJJ](#): Instructional and Library-Media Materials Selection
 - a) Discussion was heard regarding the inconsistencies among the policy and the instructional material request form.
 - b) Moved to go to the next board meeting for review.

E. Draft [Apportionment Letter to Maine DOE](#) Approval - Kinney

1. Review - the numbers in the letter are misaligned
2. Questions - None

<i>Motion to the Draft Apportionment Letter to Maine DOE as written (with formatting changes)</i>	Yeas: Carol Coles, Gwen Doak, Kirk Doyle, Doug Dunlap, Scott Erb, Irv Faunce, Judith Kaut, J. Wayne Kinney, Lisa Laflin, Gloria McGraw, Josh Robbins, Dorothy "Dee"	Motion: Kirk Doyle Seconded: Irv Faunce Motion: Passed
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	Robbinson, Debbie Smith Nays: None Abstained: None Vote: 13:0:0 (848:0:0)	
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No discussion was heard.

F. Special Request - [Estimate from Specialty Services](#)

1. Boiler Replacement Upgrade at CCHS

2. Review/Questions

- a) Question was heard on clarifying the specific boiler (vs. the biomass boiler). And a clarifier on the heat pump system. Funds will be used from this year's budget, or if time does not allow from the FY23 budget.

<i>Motion to approve boiler replacement as requested depending on arrival time to be paid for out of the 21/22 or 22/23 budgets.</i>	Yeas: Carol Coles, Gwen Doak, Kirk Doyle, Doug Dunlap, Scott Erb, Irv Faunce, Judith Kaut, J. Wayne Kinney, Lisa Laffin, Gloria McGraw, Josh Robbins, Dorothy "Dee" Robbinson, Debbie Smith Nays: None Abstained: None Vote: 13:0:0 (848:0:0)	Motion: Irv Faunce Seconded: Judith Kaut Motion: Passed
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No discussion was heard.

XIII. Adjourn

<i>Motion to adjourn without objection.</i>		Motion: Carol Coles Passed without objection
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Adjourned at 8:27 pm

NEXT SCHEDULED MEETINGS

April 12, 2022 - 6:30pm - The Forum, Mt. Blue Campus

April 26, 2022 - 6:30pm - The Forum, Mt. Blue Campus

UPCOMING COMMITTEE MEETINGS

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

Operations - May 3, 2022 - 5:00pm - The Forum, Mt. Blue Campus

Personnel & Finance - May 3, 2022 - 6:00pm - The Forum, Mt. Blue Campus

Educational Policy - May 3, 2022 - 7:00pm - The Forum, Mt. Blue Campus