

Mt. Blue Regional School District Board of Directors

Minutes

DATE: April 27, 2021

Place: Zoom

Time: 6:30pm

Meeting Video: <https://vimeo.com/542643384>

In attendance: Carol Coles, ~~Kirk Doyle~~, Doug Dunlap, ~~Scott Erb~~, Irv Faunce, Jeff Harris (entered 7:17pm), Cherieann Harrison (entered 6:35pm), Betsey Hyde, ~~J. Wayne Kinney~~, Lisa Laflin, Angie LeClair, Dennis O'Neil, Josh Robbins, Jesse Sillanpaa, Debbie Smith (entered at 6:40pm), Craig Stickney (entered at 7:12pm)

Also present: Keith Acedo, Nancy Allen, ~~Cynthia Bernstein~~, James Black, ~~Chad Brackett~~, Jeff Brazee, Laura Columbia, ~~Galen Dalrymple~~, ~~Todd Demmons~~, ~~Katie Duchesne~~, Nichole Goodspeed, ~~William Greenlaw~~, ~~Andy Hutchins~~, John Jones, ~~Richard Joseph~~, Kris Pottle, Lisa Sinclair, Joel Smith, Melissa Williams, Tracy Williams

- I. Call to Order at 6:32pm
- II. Pledge of Allegiance led by Mrs. Edmondson's Remote Afternoon Kindergarten Class
- III. Public Comment
 - A. No public comment was heard.
- IV. Report of the Chairperson
 - A. Updates
 1. Professional staff negotiations are ongoing. Administrator negotiations are almost complete. Support staff negotiations will be starting shortly. Superintendent search is ongoing; interviews have begun.
 - B. Good news stories from Board / Administrator
 1. Laura Columbia, Director of Curriculum, reported on the academic support that was offered over April break at Mt. Blue Campus.
- V. Superintendent's Report - Monique Poulin
 - A. [New Hires, Transfers, Resignations, and Retirements](#)
 - B. Updates
 1. Changes in county color designations were announced last Friday. Although still Green, Franklin County is being closely monitored. A review of outbreak status was shared, as well as how the CDC works with nurses and district administration. An update to vaccinations and close contacts was shared. A pooled testing protocol is being discussed, and recommendations will be brought forward.
 2. Nationwide waivers are available for School Nutrition - this will allow us to provide no-cost meals for students through June 2022. More information will be shared as it becomes available.

3. May 4th, we will have shortened committee meetings, as well as a brief board meeting. Times and agendas will be posted by 4/30.

VI. Presentations

- A. [Educational Programming Update](#) - Laura Columbia
- B. [COVID Grant Updates](#) - Sue Pratt
 1. CRF 1 - [Budget](#) [Revised Budget](#)
 2. CRF 2 - [Complete Application](#)
 3. ESSERF I - [Complete Application](#)
 4. ESSERF II - [Application Narrative](#)

VII. Consent Agenda

- A. Minutes from [March 23, 2021](#) and [April 6, 2021](#)

Motion to approve consent agenda	Yeas: Carol Coles, Doug Dunlap, Irv Faunce, Cherieann Harrison, Betsey Hyde, Lisa Laflin, Angie LeClair, Dennis O'Neil, Josh Robbins, Jesse Sillanpaa, Debbie Smith, Craig Stickney Nays: none Abstained:none Vote: 12:0:0 (673:0:0)	Motion: Irv Faunce Seconded: Lisa Laflin Motion: Passed
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VIII. Committee Reports - None

- A. Operations
- B. Personnel & Finance
- C. Educational Policy
- D. Dropout Prevention

IX. New Business

- A. FY 22 RSU 9 District Budget
 1. [Budget Documents](#)
 2. [Requests Supported by ESSER II Funding](#)

Motion to set the RSU 9 21/22 District budget at \$38,860,509	Yeas: Carol Coles, Doug Dunlap, Irv Faunce, Jeff Harris, Cherieann Harrison, Betsey Hyde, Lisa Laflin, Angie LeClair, Dennis O'Neil, Josh Robbins, Jesse Sillanpaa, Debbie Smith, Craig Stickney Nays: none Abstained: none Vote: 13:0:0 (749:0:0)	Motion: Irv Faunce Seconded: Debbie Smith Motion: Passed
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Monique Poulin and Kris Pottle clarified numbers that were stated at the last meeting.

- Our current student enrollment is 2,186

- Our student enrollment on this date in 2020 2,400
- The total cost of employee health insurance is \$415,000 per month; the district (employer) portion is approximately \$340,000 per month. It does not take into account positions that are currently vacant.
- There was clarifying information regarding town valuation.

Discussion was heard regarding staff positions in grants versus local budget.

B. FY 22 Adult Education Budget

<p>Motion to set the 21/22 Franklin County Adult Basic Education budget at \$477,406</p>	<p>Yeas: Carol Coles, Doug Dunlap, Irv Faunce, Jeff Harris, Cherieann Harrison, Betsey Hyde, Lisa Laflin, Angie LeClair, Dennis O'Neil, Josh Robbins, Jesse Sillanpaa, Debbie Smith, Craig Stickney Nays: none Abstained: none Vote: 13:0:0 (749:0:0)</p>	<p>Motion: Cherieann Harrison Seconded: Irv Faunce Motion: Passed</p>
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C. Budget Referendum Date

<p>Motion to set the date for the RSU 9 budget referendum to June 8, 2021</p>	<p>Yeas: Carol Coles, Doug Dunlap, Irv Faunce, Jeff Harris, Cherieann Harrison, Betsey Hyde, Lisa Laflin, Angie LeClair, Dennis O'Neil, Josh Robbins, Jesse Sillanpaa, Debbie Smith, Craig Stickney Nays: none Abstained: none Vote: 13:0:0 (749:0:0)</p>	<p>Motion: Cherieann Harrison Seconded: Irv Faunce Motion: Passed</p>
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Monique Poulin expressed gratitude for the thoughtful process and input. Doug Dunlap also expressed appreciation for the preparedness of the administrative team for the budget process.

Craig Stickney requested an executive session today or the next meeting regarding negotiations. It was agreed to wait until the May 11, 2021 meeting.

Kris Pottle is requesting an article be added to the warrant that would allow the board to transfer more than 5% to another cost center so long as the overall budget does not increase.

<p>Motion to add an article to the warrant that would allow cost center transfers exceeding 5%.</p>	<p>Yeas: Carol Coles, Doug Dunlap, Irv Faunce, Jeff Harris, Betsey Hyde, Lisa Laflin, Angie LeClair, Josh Robbins, Jesse Sillanpaa, Debbie Smith, Craig Stickney Nays: Cherieann Harrison, Dennis O'Neil Abstained: none Vote: 11:2:0 (591:158:0)</p>	<p>Motion: Doug Dunlap Seconded: Irv Faunce Motion: Passed</p>
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Kris Pottle informed the board that after the May 4th board meeting, the warrants will need to be signed on Wednesday morning so that delivery can be made to each of the ten towns this week. E-sign will also be accepted. Please send signatures to Kris after the vote on 5/4.

X. Adjourn 8:05pm

<p>Motion to adjourn without objection</p>	<p>Yeas: Nays: Abstained: Vote:</p>	<p>Motion: Angela LeClair Seconded: Motion: Passed without objection</p>
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NEXT SCHEDULED MEETINGS

May 4, 2021 - 6:30pm - *SPECIAL BOARD MEETING* (Sign Warrants) - Location TBD
May 11, 2021 - 6:30pm - Location TBD

VIRTUAL BUDGET HEARING

May 25, 2021 - 7:00pm

COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Operations - May 4, 2021 - 5:00pm - Location TBD
Personnel & Finance - May 4, 2021 - 5:45pm - Location TBD
Educational Policy - May 4, 2021 - 7:15pm - Location TBD