



# Mt. Blue High School Board Update 1.25.22



## School Year Priorities

Given our unusual educational models beginning in March, 2020 and continuing throughout the 20-21 school year, our priority for 21-22 involves maximizing a normal routine as much as possible for all at MBHS/MBC. Our leadership teams helped to direct our focus related to campus goals of staff support and collegiality, a strong welcome to new members of our community, student support and interventions, and maintaining a social-emotional priority for both staff and students. We continue to assess our campus climate and work to make adjustments as different needs arise. Given our priority of maintaining a model of in person learning, we will increase our focus on proper mask wearing to support the health and safety of all on campus. Although we seek ways to acknowledge staff monthly, we want to give a shout out to our nurses for their commitment given the changing demands that arise each day. We will continue to work together as a staff as we face new challenges, and we will also take time to celebrate the many successes that we have found to date this year.

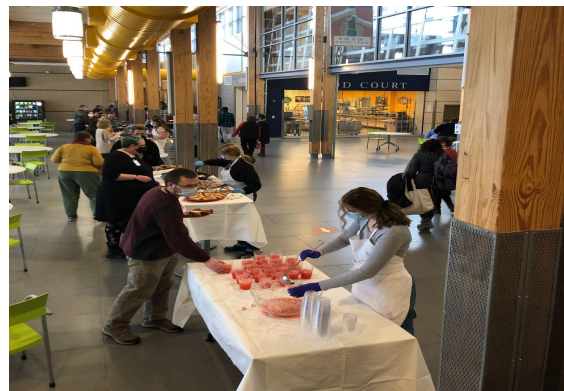


## Student Life

Given our focus on climate and culture, we start each day with a positive “welcome to campus” greeting led by Mr. Smith and Mr. Demmons, no matter the weather. We have ensured that opportunities for students to be involved in activities that support their interest and promote engagement are varied and accessible. In addition to our academic programming being back on track in a more typical fashion, clubs, activities, athletics and extended day programming are also in place. Our newest student leadership team is the Student Strategic Planning Committee, a group whose mission is to provide student voice throughout the planning process. We are proud that our students are involved in all aspects of their learning and are working to impact the future of our district. Going forward, we anticipate the representation of students on our RSU 9 School Board again and are working on structures to support them. We strive to honor our students and held our first virtual Student Acknowledgement Event of the year in December with over 50 students recognized for a variety of successes. We will look forward to future events each quarter going forward!

## MBC Staff Appreciation

As the 2021 year came to a close, MBC celebrated a successful fall and early winter with a staff campus celebration. Sean Minear and students in the Foster CTE Center Culinary Arts program planned and prepared a wonderful catered menu including sweet and savory items in recognition of the commitment of all staff members at MBC. We count ourselves thankful each day to collaborate with our colleagues in the best interest of student success, and we send along our great appreciation to the Culinary Arts program for sharing their skills and learning with us!





## Highlights!

### Mt. Blue High School Jobs for Maine Graduates (JMG) Program-Specialist Matt Reynolds

The school year has been busy for the JMG program. Students have been actively involved with supporting the community in various ways. Students discussed how they could make a difference and give back in a positive manner. As part of this planning, school culture was discussed, and students brainstormed how they could get other students and teachers involved to make the school a positive learning environment outside of the traditional classroom setting. Below are a few of the events that have been planned and implemented.

- Coat drive- Collected and distributed over 65 coats, snow pants and hats (October)
- Halloween Door Decorating Contest- This year we had a record number of Halloween doors! (October)
- Cereal Box Challenge- Collected 359 boxes of cereal to donate to families in need, schools and food pantries (November)
- Free School Store- Currently working with the Employability Skills program to create and supply a Free Store here at MBC that provides clothing as well as food for those in need (ongoing)



### Farewell to an Extraordinary Volunteer!

In the fall of 2003, Patricia Hayden became the MBHS choral accompanist. She has since been the rehearsal and performance accompanist for MBHS Chorus and Band each Blue Day 1st period. Some of the highlights of Patricia's career with our district include:

- \*Rehearsal and performance accompanist for two MBHS musicals.
- \*Rehearsal and performance accompanist and chaperone for MBHS Women's Ensemble "Syncopations" which included traveling with the group to the National Womens' Honor Choir at Carnegie Hall, a London tour, a Montreal tour and a second trip to Carnegie Hall
- \*Rehearsal and performance accompanist for MBHS Chamber Singers and Mt. Blue Voices
- \*Rehearsal and performance accompanist for the choral programs at CBS, CCHS, AHS, MBMS and the MBHS band.



Patricia performed her final concerts with the MBHS Chorus and Band this past November. However, what cannot ever be overlooked are the hundreds of rehearsals and performances Patricia gave freely and in service of our students. She demonstrated loyalty, commitment, compassion, kindness, friendship, love, integrity, and passion for excellence. Patricia was loved and respected by the students, teachers and parents she met each day. We will miss all that she brought to our school and our district!