

# Mt. Blue Regional School District

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January 8, 2021

Dear RSU 9 Community,

As we begin the new year, I wanted to take a moment to introduce myself and to welcome staff and students back to school. I am both honored and excited to have the opportunity to fill the role of interim superintendent for the next six months.

I began my administrative career in MSAD 9 in the last century (1999!) as an assistant principal and athletic director at Mt. Blue Middle School. I was fortunate to work with a team-oriented and supportive group of teachers, administrators and staff, and I have continued to be surrounded by incredibly collaborative and student-centered colleagues in my roles as assistant principal and principal at Mt. Blue High School. Being a part of the busy pace among the several entities on Mt. Blue Campus has helped to keep me focused on the effectiveness of collaborating and developing relationships to best serve our students and our school and district communities. I will plan to carry that experience forward and anticipate visits to each school and facility around the district so that I can best orient myself to all facets of our student and staff support systems. My favorite part will certainly be observing teaching and learning in action, the magic of our professions. I know that it takes all aspects of our district (to include a wide variety of employees with different roles and responsibilities) to make that teaching and learning happen safely these days, and we all appreciate those efforts.

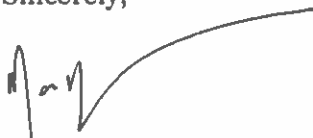
While we have experienced some recent obstacles, I do feel confident that we will find our way forward as a district given that our stakeholders are clearly focused on the priority of what is best for our students. My intention is to draw upon my years and experiences in the district and throughout my career as I work in a collaborative fashion to assist in guiding the district forward in this new role. I will also count on our current protocols and procedures to maintain continuity in expectations for the remainder of the school year.

My priority over the past couple of weeks has been to work towards getting up to speed, and I am fortunate to be oriented by several members of our staff. However, there is still much to learn. I am sure that there will be challenges ahead that will need to be addressed given the reality of the impact of COVID on the health and safety of our schools and our larger community, as well as the impact on our economy. These unique and challenging times in our history will require patience, understanding, and perseverance. They will require a district community working together in a solutions-based fashion with a common goal. There is no

script for our current reality, and so please know that our mission of supporting student achievement, well-being and engagement, both in and out of the classroom, while balancing the health and safety of all, will be at the foundation of all our efforts and decisions. We will communicate determinations as they are made and will continue to value the input of all stakeholders in supporting the well-being of our district.

Thank you to our students for bringing your best each day, and to our families, staff, board members, and the larger community for your patience, support, commitment and desire for collaboration and solutions as we work to balance the many needs and variables of education in our district. I look forward with anticipation and hope to 2021 in RSU 9.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Monique Poulin', with a long, sweeping horizontal line extending to the right.

Monique Poulin  
Interim Superintendent  
RSU 9