

Minutes of the Reading School Board

February 24, 2009
Unapproved Draft

Attendance:

School Board- John Fike, Justin Sluka, John Philpin
Superintendent- Meg Gallagher
Principal- Ray Pentkowski
Recording Secretary- Rayna Bishop
Visitors- None

The meeting was called to order at 4:35 P.M.

A motion to accept the January 20, 2009, minutes as written was seconded and approved.

The School Board members were treated to a Smartboard presentation by Ms. Collins and Mrs. Shepherd. They showed a few of the various ways that this technology has been incorporated into their classrooms. They discussed the excitement and enthusiasm that the students had for learning when the Smartboard was involved. Both Ms. Collins and Mrs. Shepherd will be attending a Smartboard training session on the March in-service days to further their knowledge of the Smartboard capabilities.

There has been a lot of advancement within schools in the District to achieve a continuity of computer hardware, software, and knowledge, thanks to a prior inventory of all of the District schools by Rick Dustin-Eichler.

Reports:

- Superintendent-
Meg discussed some of the ways that the final budgets had been reached. In order to keep the cost per pupil below the 2-vote threshold, there had to be some reduction in systems.
- Principal-
 - Ray mentioned two upcoming field trips that are being funded mostly by grants.
 - The 4th grade has taken the NAEP test earlier than originally planned to ensure full class participation.
 - The basketball season is almost complete. The Rec. had purchased new uniforms for the team in the school colors with the school logo.
 - Thanks to the PTO for sponsoring the ski program; the last ski day was Feb. 27th. Thanks to Koreen Henne for coordinating the program this year, and for the fun end-of-season barbeque on the slopes.
 - A check was received from the VEHI Wellness program for the faculty and staff to use toward the promotion and pursuit of increased health.
 - The Ottawaquechee Community Partnership is starting a mentoring program in March, and will be offering parenting classes.
 - Ray has had a request to serve on the Food Shelf Board.
- Chair-
John Fike discussed some of the material shared at the State School Board Association Committee meeting. In particular, he talked about the new Sex Offender law recently passed by the legislature, and the fact that it was passed without a plan for funding the Public Education Mandate Section of the Bill.

The Board went into Executive session at 6:06 P.M. to discuss personnel. The session ended at 6:27 P.M.

A motion was made to reduce Guidance from a 20% position to a 10% position for the 2009/2010 school year. The motion was seconded and passed.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:33 P.M.