

## Minutes of the Reading School Board

January 20, 2009  
Unapproved draft

Attendance: School Board- John Fike, John Philpin, Justin Sluka; WCSU- Tom DeBalsi; 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 December 16, 2008, minutes as written was seconded and approved.

### Budget:

The Board reviewed the 4<sup>th</sup> revision of the elementary school budget for the 2009/2010 school year. The expenses for Regular Education are down from last year by 2.04%. The expenses for Special Education are up by 5.00%. This creates a total net increase of only 2.96%. Special Education costs are reimbursed by the State at \$0.56 on the dollar.

A motion to accept the FY 09-10 expense budget in the amount of \$877,707 was seconded and approved.

A motion to accept the FY 09-10 tuition rate of \$8500 was seconded and approved.

### Superintendent Report (Presented by Tom DeBalsi):

On January 19<sup>th</sup> Windsor Central Supervisory Union's elementary school teachers and special educators participated in a day-long technology integration conference at Barnard Academy. During the day, these teachers participated in seven half-hour teacher led workshops that focused on a wide array of topics.

### Principal Report:

The Ski/Snowboard Program has begun, taking place on Fridays in January and February.

On January 8<sup>th</sup> the students attended a performance at the Albert Bridge School that dealt with the prevention of substance abuse and bullying.

Michael Caduto presented "Kids Power" at RES on January 14<sup>th</sup>. His program focused on energy alternatives. The NWEA testing produced such useful data that the students will be taking the tests again in February and May.

The students in 4<sup>th</sup> Grade will be taking the National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP) on March 4<sup>th</sup>. The second marking period ends on March 13<sup>th</sup>.

Congratulations to Lisa Kaija, who was awarded "Picturing America," a resource of the National Endowment for the Humanities. As a result, RES will receive 40 laminated posters of American art masterpieces.

### Chair Report:

Mr. Fike presented a copy of the Town of Reading Highway Ordinance, which establishes traffic regulations on public highways and lots. Signs will be posted at the school and Town Hall to notify the public of the overnight parking ban.

Mr. Fike handed out copies of the January 2009 updated Criminal Record and Abuse Registry Checks in Vermont Public Schools. This is the policy and procedural guidelines for school officials.

A discussion was held regarding the drinking water at RES. A new cooler filtration system has been installed, with favorable results. This could cut water expenses for the school. Mr. Fike requested that the filtered water be tested along with the usual water testing that is done at the school. We are researching other areas within the school to potentially install other cooler filtration units.

### Action Items:

There are none at this time.

The meeting adjourned at 5:38 P.M.