

Readsboro School District School Board Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, May 5, 2026

6:00 PM

Location: Readsboro School Gym & Remote

Attending: Larry Hopkins, Cindy Florence, Jim Irace, Helyn Strom-Henrickson, Karen Boisvert, Bill Bazyk, Lisbeth Toth, Asa Whitcomb

- I. Call to Order** - Meeting called to order at 6:03pm
- II. Changes to the Agenda** - Cindy would like the executive session in the beginning, but will now keep it to the end.
- III. Approval of Minutes**
 - [4-7-26](#) = Jim motioned to approve, Helyn seconds, motion approved
- IV. Hearing of Visitors / Public Comment** - no public comment
- V. Reports & Updates**
 - **Superintendent & Principal**
 - Superintendent's Report - will be present tomorrow to the board
 - Contracts Spreadsheet with Updates - Cindy asked for a Motion to let Central office to terminate the copier lease, Helyn made motion, Jim seconded, not to exceed 3,400 in termination fees. Bill - Lawn person 400.00 a month until June 30th, 1,200 until June 30th, We will need to maintain the building until September. Cindy asks for a motion to have Mountain Home property care to maintain the lawn until September, Helyn motioned, Jim Seconded, Cindy asks Bill to talk with DV Fiber regarding the fiber agreement. Cindy will authorize the district to authorize the DV Fiber to extend the contract or draft an MLU until September 1st, Jim Motioned, Helyn Seconded., Phone services to be shut off. Oil will be terminated whatever is in the tank, you buy, Alarm, Water service security and camera - no formal contracts. Cindy asked for a motion to terminate the copier contract, Jim seconded
 - Student Counts Readsboro (All ages - including 3 year old by fall deadline)
 - Full report - District Census -
 - Estimated enrollment numbers per school - Cindy - we don't have numbers yet this year, we don't know what families are considering what schools. These will impact transportation. Stamford needs more staffing based on the estimates. Bill - to send out an email to put soft pressure on the parents to get maybe 60-70%. Stamford would like to know. Online question-Asa - want to say they are waiting in Massachusetts before they make a decision. Cindy - asking Bill to put in Multiple choice on the email, 1st choice, 2nd choice. Bill is saying that

parents who have made a decision to begin the process and actually sign up with the selected school. Jim - enrollment asking about school times, 8:15am to 3:15pm Stamford hours - per Bill, Jim - 8:00am - 3:30pm Clarksburg.

- Vermont: Stamford, TVES, TVMHS, Other
MA - NBSU: Clarksburg, Florida, Rowe, Drury, McCann
- o Principal's Report - Robin to present at the next meeting
- o Principal's Review Year End Needs - Robin to present at the next meeting
- o Inventory of School (Classrooms & Closets) Robin is working on this list - We need to discuss how to distribute. Do we want to distribute items to other schools? Some items were purchased with ESSUR and SU funds and some items may need to be returned to the state. Bill - Chromebooks may need to be returned because these were bought with grant money. Bill will need to research since the grant was for Readsboro, Halifax and Stamford, they would probably go to Stamford, but I am not prepared to answer that tonight I need to check on that. Bill, probably, curriculum and technology.
- o Year End Celebration & Send Off (To include the community) - Do we want to have a send off? Bill suggests that we have it after the school closure because of liability issues. Possibly the fourth of July weekend as the town is already having a celebration having hot dogs.

Fiscal Matters – Possible Action - AP warrant of \$42,682 and \$350,429.02 Cindy asking about loan payment, Cindy asked for current balance, balance was pulled and sent to the board, Bill - two financial items, gives Cindy the proposal for the TAN for next year and it is non-binding, Cindy asking if we did 200k last year, Bill talked about the deficit for the tuitions and food service fund balances being negative for these two items, will be 196,384 deficit. We were in a deficit of 60k in March for tuition, there were 3 students where we are actually over budget for high school tuition, 3 unanticipated students. Cindy, what is our total deficit this year Bill- around 70k maybe a little less, maybe 63k.

- **Warrants**
- **Financials - Other** = Town needs to put together dates and timing for the vote to purchase the building.

VI. Discussion

VII. Items for Discussion with Possible Action

- **Readsboro Action Item List**
 - o Legal - What do we need to do next, set up a vote with the town there is discussion with both of the attorneys now. Maybe an inspection environment, maybe an architectural study might have everything they need. They need something documented to get the grant, if you don't take action then you are not eligible for those things.

- Cindy discusses a special meeting for next week - prior to the vote and have a couple of items also. Cindy and Bill the meeting must be 30-45 days before, Cindy - have the vote after the school is closed for the year then we will not disrupt the school day. The town has to authorize the school board to sell the building, but the town needs to vote to buy the building. Bill will put out a warning and put that together and that will trigger a special meeting. Beth - to look at the sewer tax for the town we are prepaying and remember not to pre-pay when we know the sale date. Bill - we need to approve the wording has to be approved and the posting dates must align. Bill will set up a quick internet meeting next week. Town would need to conduct an Australian ballot, Cindy - will there be absentee ballots? Karen, - I don't know that is a question for James.
- Karen - are we doing a town vote? We need to know what the town needs to do to make this happen. We will deal with our town clerk issue separately
- Student Transition - still need counts
- Transportation - need counts
- Contractual Matters - Other to discuss in executive session
- Letter sent out to all of the staff for separation, some will be found places in other schools.
- Distribution of Assets - to be determined there may be issues with items from grants
- Pre-K - Possible Reconsideration/Vote - 10 hours - half day for 3 parents and full day for PreK for 4 year olds - Revision vote - we have to say formally 4k prek and pay up to the 10 hours for the 3k program. Bill - parents can go beyond the 10 hours but they would have to pay for that. Cindy, we are leaving it as is and will notify parents.
- A letter went out to all of the staff, a separation letter, some staff will be placed in other places in the district, Bill- some yes - some no, depending on the union unit you are in.
- Student records will be transferred, additional storage back at the central office so we are prepared.
- The AOE took us off the list for June 30th
- Bill - transportation - Dave could be invited to a meeting. Cindy we have to start talking to them and bring us back recommendations. They feel that transportation can be handled with one bus. He will not deviate from the route once he hits the Mass border, Jim - would there be piggybacking? They are waiting for us to direct him on what to do. Bill - will give him a call tomorrow. Jim - keep me in the loop on that. Bill will set up a google meet.

VIII. Executive Session - executive session at 7:00 pm

- **Legal/Contractual Matters**

IX. Return to Regular Session

X. Next Scheduled Meetings

- Readsboro Regular Meeting – June 2, 2026 @ 6:00 PM
- Supervisory Board Meeting at CO – May 6, 2026 @ 6:30 PM

XI. Adjournment

GROUND RULES FOR PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

1. UNRULY OR DISRUPTIVE PERSONS WILL BE ASKED TO LEAVE THE MEETING
2. 3-Minute time frame per person for public comment
3. Speaker must identify themselves for the record
4. Direct all comments and questions to Chair
5. Keep comments concise and on current subject
6. Repetitious comments will be curtailed
7. NO PERSONAL ATTACKS – These are not acceptable
8. DO NOT INTERRUPT OTHERS
9. Listen well
10. Be respectful of others