Readsboro School District
School Board Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, April 7, 2026
6:00 PM

Location: Readsboro School Gym & Remote

Present: Cindy Florence, Helyn Strom-Henriksen, James Irace, Bill Bazyk, Lisbeth Toth, Robyn Oyer , Bruce Busa, Cyndi Candiloro, Danielle Mixon

I. Call to Order

Cindy Florence , called to order 6:00pm

II. Board Reorganization

This item was removed

III. Changes to the Agenda -

The Board removed Board Reorganization
Approval of Minutes will be added back to future agendas
Readsboro Action Items List added to the agenda for discussion with possible action

IV. Hearing of Visitors / Public Comment - Cyndi Candiloro - Parent and child is going to a half day visit, yes this can be arranged to visit during the day. Bill - The official term is shadowing

V. Reports & Updates

- **Office of the Principal**
  - Principal's Report - Student experience starting March 26th 3-6th graders will be state testing, spring parent conferences were held the same week, Thank you to our parents, we had the largest percentage of parents come in the last five years since Robyn has been here, Science fair tomorrow night, March 30-4/2 outdoor classroom trip for the 5th and 6th graders to Freedom, NH for the outdoor classroom , 6th graders picking where to go on their trip, Field trips in May to Mass Moca and the Hancock shaker village and fitness day at Twin Valley Elementary. We have a date in June for the end of the year concert and moving up ceremony.
  - Students went last week to see Drury and working on a date to go to Twin Valley

- **Office of the Superintendent**
  - Superintendent's Report - Act 73 reports. Bill - a large report was done last week at the Superboard meeting, nothing new. No questions for Bill.

VI. Fiscal Matters – Possible Action

- **Warrants**
  Cindy moved to approve payroll warrants in the amount of $42,626.17, and general AP warrants in the amount of $187,050.64; Jim seconded. *All in favor, motion passed.*
  - Leah had not sent the summary sheet yet with the total dollar amount for the board to approve $187,050.64 was received during the meeting but checks and the back up were not attached. Bill was not in the office and did not have the checks and backup with him.
- **Finance Meeting - Update -**
  Cindy added a high level overview of the Budget Summary document and the new process.
  Bill Records for FY23/24 and FY24/25 were sent to Lisbeth. She will be looking at them and attempting to reconcile this data. When these are reconciled Lisbeth will work on the current year FY26/27, at that point the Board will review if they want to go back to the two years before from FY21/22 and FY22/23.
  All of our audits were completed with spot checks and the Board can make a decision once we get through these three years. The board did not have anything to add and Bill thought it was very helpful.

VII. Discussion

None

VIII. Items for Discussion with Possible Action

- **Act 73 - Update -**
  - Bill we did this the other night, really nothing new, maps, plans and posturing and politics but nothing solid to go off of. It is kind of disappointing.
  - Cindy mentioned there was a press conference today, Cindy sent the transcript and highlights to the Board which stated legislation was going to try and move forward with the CESA's and shared services. There will be mandatory study committees but there will not be any forced or mandatory mergers at this time.
  - Bill reported that is just the House proposal.
  - Cindy provided clarity on recent concerns around Act 73 that have circulated and Readsboro's current position:
    There was a presentation at last week's Superboard meeting outlining an option to consolidate the entire Supervisory Union into a single district. Readsboro expressed that it does not favor this option.

    The most recent information that has been received was as follows:
    The Board Chair has been in ongoing communication with the State Representative, Jonathan Cooper, regarding school choice concerns. He was specifically asked for clarification around the potential impact on school choice for Massachusetts schools, such as McCann and Drury.

Jonathan Copper reminded Readsboro that he worked with other representatives from border towns with a history of out-of-state public school equivalents to secure that option into the future in Act 73.

Jonathan Cooper followed up with another statement after consulting with Chair Conlon.
"Peter Conlon, Chair of the education committee, has assured me that the legislation does not and will not jeopardize Stamford and Readsboro continuing to tuition students to Drury and McCann. That was my understanding and I am glad to share that confirmation. The committee was made well aware of the public nature of those schools, therefore subjecting them to the oversight of the Massachusetts Department of Education."

Cindy added that legislators are aware that Readsboro voted to close the school and tuition students effective July 1, 2026. They are also aware that Readsboro is proactively exploring merger options and tuition agreements with other Districts. Readsboro will continue the path they have set forth. They will continue as a school choice District, continue navigating tuition agreements, and continue pursuing merger opportunities with prospective, agreeable, like-minded districts in the region. Above all, Readsboro will continue to follow the voice and pulse of this community.

- **Readsboro action items**
  There are a lot of action items that need to be tracked. Jim and Cindy will update the action item list and the Board will start using this again to keep projects, contracts, and actions on track and assignees accountable.

- **Readsboro School District - Action Items**
  - **Contracts - Review/updates**
    The Board asked Bill about the contracts and the status of the review. Bill reported it did not look like we were tied into anything and could cancel at this time. Bill's team will continue to review and provide an update at the next meeting.
  - **Legal**
    Cindy is meeting with their attorney, Sean Toohey, approximately every other week. Cindy reached out to Karen, nothing has come back from Bob Fisher. Sean Toohey is supposed to work with Bob Fisher to make sure the couple of Board considerations are included in an agreement. Specific details would be discussed in executive session, if necessary.
  - **Student Transition**
    Cindy reported "Open Houses" have been scheduled for next week as follows:
    - **April 14th at 5:00 PM - Clarksburg School** - The open house at Clarksburg will end in time to allow for families to then proceed to the Stafmford.
    - **April 14th at 6:00 PM - Stamford Elementary**

- No “Open House” announced from Twin Valley to date
- All contact information will be posted on the **Readsboro Community Board**, as well as the **Board page online**. Beth asked if the Principal would communicate this information in a newsletter to families. It could be included in the Friday update.
- Contact the principals if interested in school tours:
    a. Clarksburg: Principal, Kimberly Rougeau
    b. Florida: Principal, Griffin Labbance
    Phone number and email address are posted at the end of the minutes.

- **Massachusetts Lottery Enrollment**
  This has been moved to May/June. NBSU will wait for the Applications of Interest to be completed by Readsboro families until the end of April. Those spots will be held, then they will open up the remaining slots in May/June.
    - The Board will continue to keep updates posted on the website, including deadlines. Robyn can include information in her Friday updates.
- Cyndi - mentioned that a parent is having a ½ day visit at Stamford. Bill reported a notice was sent out to all the families so parents will have that information. Students can shadow there or at Twin Valley in Wilmington.
- **Pre-K**
  Bill reviewed the current Pre-K structure, outlining program options for Pre-K 3 year old and Pre-K 4-year-old. Bill reported that next year Stamford will have a full day program for both: Pre-K 3 and Pre-K 4; Twin Valley will have a full day program for Pre-K 4 only.
    - Bill asked whether the Board wants to maintain the current model or transition both age groups to full-day programming.
    - Bill noted the cost differences: The full day tuition is $15,500 but the program is technically a (.6) so the tuition would be approximately $9,000 for full-day. Current tuition paid when applicable is around $4,000.
    - The Board discussed the options. Pre-K 3 was not budgeted for full time. The current count for Pre-K 3 was not available.

- Helyn moved to continue the Pre-K 3 program as it is now for 10 hours a week; seconded by Jim. *Motion passed, unanimously.*
    - The District will pay 10 hours a week for Pre-K 3, parents will be responsible for any tuition above that.

- Jim moved to approve the Pre-K 4 program to continue full day; seconded by Helyn. *Motion passed, unanimously.*

        - The District will pay full tuition for full day Pre-K 4.

    - Cyndi Candiloro commented there might be 3 students that would be 3 years old by Sept 1st.
    - **School Building**
      The attorneys are working on the transfer of the building from the School to the Town. Once the documents are ready the Board will have to have another town vote to authorize the school director to sell the building to the town. A vote will need to be warned. Any other consideration will also be included on the warning.
    - **Additional Meetings, if necessary**
      There are a lot of moving pieces, the Board will schedule Special Meetings in coming weeks, if necessary to keep things moving forward.

IX. Executive Session

- **Legal/Contractual Matters**
  Jim moved to enter the executive session at 6:36 PM for legal and contractual matters which included Bill Bazyk; seconded by Helyn. *Motion passed.*

X. Return to Regular Session

The Board returned to regular session at 6:45 PM.

XI. Next Scheduled Meetings

- Readsboro Regular Meeting – May 5, 2026 @ 6:00 PM
- Supervisory Board Meeting at TVMHS – May 6, 2026 @ 6:30 PM

XII. Adjournment

Helyn moved to adjourn at 6:45 PM; seconded by Jim. *Motion passed.*

School Contact Information

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56 N County Road | Florida MA
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CLARKSBURG SCHOOL
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STAMFORD ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
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Julie Swanson, Principal
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TWIN VALLEY ELEMENTARY
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