

**Readsboro School District
School Board Meeting Minutes**

Tuesday, November 4, 2025

6:00 PM

Location: Readsboro School Gym & Remote

Present: Cindy Florence, Helyn Strom-Henriksen, Bill Bazyk, James Irace, Bruce Busa, Larry Hopkins

I. Call to Order

Cindy called the meeting to order at 5:59 PM.

II. Changes to the Agenda

None

III. Approval of Minutes

- [2025-10-07 Readsboro School District Minutes](#)

Jim Moved to approve the minutes; seconded by Helyn. *Motion passed.*

IV. Hearing of Visitors / Public Comment

None

V. Reports & Updates

- **Office of the Principal**

- **Principal's Report**

Robyn was not present, she was attending a conference for professional development, but the report was available in the Board folder. The Board also reviewed the October recap, which included updates from each classroom and the Special Person's Day flyer. The Board agreed that, given the current circumstances, no student's special person should be excluded from participating in the event due to the \$5 fee if they are facing hardship. Bill will work with Robyn to address any hardships and ensure every student has the opportunity for someone to attend.

- **Fast Bridge Results (Fall 2025 vs. Spring 2025)**

The results were presented to the Board.

- % of Student Improvement
 - a. Math = 52%
 - b. Reading = 64%
- % of Students with no Growth
 - a. Math = 16%
 - b. Reading = 8%
- % of Students that Declined
 - a. Math = 32%
 - b. Reading = 28%

- Notes from the report publicly discussed:
 - No Growth should be considered a positive outcome, as students take a new grade-level assessment with higher benchmarks.
- **Office of the Superintendent**
 - **Superboard**
 - Tomorrow night at the Superboard meeting, there will be a budget presentation, discussions around teacher negotiations, and there will be a curriculum presentation.
 - **Readsboro Budget**
 - The first draft will be available in December
 - **Food Service Reconciliation (Mar-Jun 2025)**
 - Bill reported this should be all set and Stamford was paid.

VI. Fiscal Matters – Possible Action

- **Warrants**

Cindy moved to approve warrants in the amount of \$30,166.94; seconded by Helyn.
Motion passed.
- **Finance - Other**
 - **Current Financials FY26**

Bill included the updated FY26 financials in the Board folder. No questions.
 - **Audit**

The audit process has started.

VII. Discussion

- **Federal Funded Food**

The Board discussed the current situation regarding SNAP funding. Those currently receiving benefits will continue to do so for a few more weeks, with the hope that the issue will be resolved by then. The school will consider organizing local support or a food drive if a need arises. Bill will communicate with Robyn and keep the Board updated.

VIII. Items for Discussion with Possible Action

- **Act 73**

Redistricting Discussion

Bill reported that the Redistricting Task Force is narrowing options down; they are considering three maps. There has not been significant movement for Readsboro in any of the proposals:

 - **CTE Map:** Focused on Vocational school's places Readsboro in Bennington County.

- **Regional High School Map:** Focused on regional high schools - also places Readsboro in Bennington County.
- **Comprehensive High School Map:** Proposes constructing new high schools in some areas. Wilmington would remain an option. However, this map also places Readsboro in the Bennington district.

The finalized map is expected to be released on December 1st from the Redistricting Task Force.

Discussion on Tuition and Act 73

Bruce Busa asked about tuition for public schools, referencing students who attend McCann and Drury. Bill reported that, under the current version of Act 73, tuition funding would still apply to public schools in (Massachusetts or Vermont), but not private schools (for example: Charlemont). However, if a student is currently enrolled in a private school they are grandfathered until completion.

The current maps were discussed here is a link to review that map and all the layers: <https://map.vermont.gov/education/school-explorer/>

Bill reported there are also slideshow resources available online.

Bruce asked what date the public comment remained open. It was unknown. You can submit feedback by email ADM.Redistricting@vermont.gov All of the public hearings were completed in October around the state.

Additional Comments

Bruce Busa asked if the Board had any public comment at this time. Cindy reported that the Readsboro Board joined the Rural School Community Alliance a few months ago for additional support and resources. She also noted that the Board previously approved and submitted a resolution to the Task Force expressing support for remaining within a larger Supervisory Union rather than transitioning to a Supervisory District. These motions can be found in the minutes from the September Board meeting.

Cindy explained that the Board supports the position of remaining in a larger Supervisory Union as it would preserve the current operational structure with local school boards, while forming a larger Supervisory District would remove local control and there would be one larger district board. Bill added that under a Supervisory District model, all local boards would be dissolved, and a single district-wide board would be elected to make decisions for the entire region. The legislative target date for forming a new district board is July 1, 2028.

The Board will hold a “Town Hall” style meeting in January to address the finalization of the District/Supervisory mapping, if available. A specific date will be determined when the information from the state is given regarding the maps. At that meeting the Board will review options for Readsboro moving forward.

- **Scope & Sequence**
 - Curriculum Mapping
Garon is presenting at the SU tomorrow. Discussed earlier under Superintendent’s report.
- **Policy**
 - [Recommended Policies - Review/Identify Additional Policies for RSD](#)

- The Board will continue to review recommended policies and identify which policies to pull out at a local level.
- o **Required Policies**
 - **C9 - Local Wellness**

The Board reviewed and discussed the policy. Bill will speak with Cheryl regarding the two food options and present a recommendation to the Board in December. The policy will be drafted for the Readsboro School District with both options for review at the next Board meeting.
 - **Transportation**

Bill reported the current policy appeared satisfactory. He will link it to the December meeting agenda for the Board's review.

IX. Executive Session

- To consider the evaluations of a public employees pursuant to 1 V.S.A. § 313(a)(3)
- None

X. Return to Regular Session

N/A

XI. Next Scheduled Meetings

- Readsboro Regular Meeting – December 2, 2025 @ 6:00 PM TBD
- Supervisory Board Meeting – December 3, 2025 @ 6:30 PM
- Readsboro Regular Meeting – January 6, 2026 @ 6:00 PM

XII. Adjournment

Helyn moved to adjourn at 6:33 PM; seconded by Jim. *Motion passed.*

*Respectfully submitted,
Cindy Florence*