

School Committee Meeting

January 24, 2019

Open Session

7:00 P.M.

RMHS Schettini Library



Town of Reading Meeting Posting with Agenda

Board - Committee - Commission - Council:

School Committee

Date: 2019-01-24

Time: 7:00 PM

Building: School - Memorial High

Location: School Library

Address: 62 Oakland Road

Agenda:

Purpose: Open Session

Meeting Called By: Linda Engelson on behalf of the Chair

Notices and agendas are to be posted 48 hours in advance of the meetings excluding Saturdays, Sundays and Legal Holidays. Please keep in mind the Town Clerk's hours of operation and make necessary arrangements to be sure your posting is made in an adequate amount of time. A listing of topics that the chair reasonably anticipates will be discussed at the meeting must be on the agenda.

All Meeting Postings must be submitted in typed format; handwritten notices will not be accepted.

Topics of Discussion:

7:00 p.m.	A	Call to Order
7:00 p.m.		Public Hearing on FY2020 Budget
7:15 – 7:30 p.m.	B.	Public Comment
7:30 – 7:35 p.m.	C.	Consent Agenda - Approval of Minutes (January 17, 2019)
7:35 – 7:50 p.m.	E.	Reports 1. Students 2. Director of Student Services 3. Assistant Superintendent 4. Chief Financial Officer 5. Superintendent 6. Liaison/Sub-Committee
7:50 – 8:20 p.m.	D.	Old Business 1. FY2020 Budget Presentation – Questions
8:20 – 8:30 p.m.	F.	New Business 1. Director of Student Services Search Process & Timeline

This Agenda has been prepared in advance and represents a listing of topics that the chair reasonably anticipates will be discussed at the meeting. However the agenda does not necessarily include all matters which may be taken up at this meeting.



Town of Reading Meeting Posting with Agenda

	G.	Information/Correspondence 1. Email from Justine Berman – RISE start/end time 2. Email from Alicia Williams – RISE music
	H.	Routine Matters 1. Bills & Payroll Warrants 2. Calendar -
	I.	Future Business
9:00 p.m.	J.	Adjourn

**Times are approximate

John F. Doherty, Ed. D.
Superintendent of Schools

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Reading, MA 01867
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Christine M. Kelley
Assistant Superintendent

Sharon Stewart
Interim Director of Student Services

Gail Dowd, CPA
Chief Financial Officer

Reading Public Schools

Instilling a joy of learning and inspiring the innovative leaders of tomorrow

TO: Reading School Committee

FROM: John F. Doherty, Ed.D.
Superintendent of Schools

DATE: January 22, 2019

TOPIC: Public Hearing on FY2020 Budget

At our meeting on Thursday evening we will hold the public hearing on the FY2020 budget at 7:00 p.m.

If you have any questions, please contact me.



Town of Reading Meeting Minutes

Board - Committee - Commission - Council:

School Committee

Date: 2019-01-17

Time: 7:00 PM

Building: School - Memorial High

Location: School Library

Address: 62 Oakland Road

Session: Open Session

Purpose: Open Session

Version: Draft

Attendees: **Members - Present:**

Chuck Robinson, Linda Snow Dockser, Elaine Webb, Nick Boivin, Jeanne Borawski

Members - Not Present:

Student Representative Maura Drummey

Others Present:

Superintendent John Doherty, Chief Financial Officer Gail Dowd, Assistant Superintendent Christine Kelley, Interim Director of Student Services Sharon Stewart, RMHS principal Kate Boynton, Coolidge principal Sarah Marchant, Parker principal Ricki Shankland, Barrows principal Beth Leavitt, Birch Meadow principal Julia Hendrix, Joshua Eaton principal Lisamarie Ippolito, Killam principal Sarah Leveque, Wood End principal Joanne King, METCO Director Jason Cross, RISE Preschool Director Kelley Bostwick, Assistant Director of Student Services Allison Wright, RPS Team Chairs, Fincom members, Al Sylvia - Reading Chronicle

Minutes Respectfully Submitted By: Linda Engelson on behalf of the Chair

Topics of Discussion:

I. Call to Order

Chair Webb called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m. and reviewed the agenda.

A. Public Input

Mrs. Webb asked if there was any public comment on topics not on the agenda. There was none.

B. Consent Agenda

Mrs. Webb asked if the committee wanted any items removed from the consent agenda. There were none.

Approval of Minutes (January 7, 2019)

Mrs. Borawski moved, seconded by Dr. Dockser, to approve the consent agenda. The motion carried 5-0.

C. Reports

Superintendent's Report

Dr. Doherty reported on the upcoming Martin Luther King Day Celebration scheduled for Monday morning. A light breakfast begins at 9:30 a.m. and the program at 10:00 a.m.

He next reported that the Coolidge Middle School Drama's Sunday performance has been move to Saturday at 2:00 p.m. due to the impending storm.

Lastly, Dr. Doherty announced that the RISE Preschool start times for the 2019-20 school year will be 8:00 a.m. at both the RMHS and Wood End sites.

Liaisons

Mr. Robinson reported that the Recreation Committee met and there was continued discussion about the Birch Meadow project.

Dr. Dockser wanted to thank all the vendors that have contributed to the upcoming MLK Day Celebration.

Mrs. Webb congratulated Dr. Doherty on completing the recent Dopey Challenge (5K, 10K, ½ marathon & marathon) with personal bests in the ½ marathon and marathon.

D. Old Business

FY2020 Budget Presentation

Regular Day Cost Center

Dr. Doherty began by thanking the administrators and staff that were in attendance. He went on to review the Regular Day cost center. He went over the major changes including the addition of 1.2 FTE elementary teachers to address enrollment.

Committee members asked clarifying questions.

Mr. Dockser called the Finance Committee to order at 7:50 p.m.

Special Education Cost Center

Mrs. Dowd started by saying that we have made a conscious decision not to fully fund the out of district tuition and transportation lines and we have been upfront with the Town Manager and Finance Committee Chair regarding this decision. We may have to go back to Town Meeting for additional funding.

Mrs. Stewart took over reviewing this cost center. She reviewed the mission, number of students on IEPs, key items included in this cost center, drivers, out of district placements and enrollment trends.

Birch Meadow principal Julia Hendrix and Coolidge principal Sarah Marchant spoke about the special education programs in their buildings. Both agreed that it is important to have these programs in our buildings.

Mr. Robinson asked about students on IEPs.

Fincom member Mark Dockser asked if any of the students in out of district placements could be returned to our in-district programs.

Resident Tom Wise asked about the recent passage of the Dyslexia bill and what we were doing in Reading. Mrs. Stewart said we are waiting for the regulations from the state. There is funding allocated for next year. Mr. Wise asked some follow up questions and asked if the Legal services line could be broken out by settlement amount.

Mrs. Webb reminded committee members that all questions were due to the Superintendent and Mrs. Dowd by noon tomorrow.

E. New Business

School Committee Vacancy

Mrs. Webb shared that the School Committee will notify the Select Board of the vacancy and the Select Board will opt to initiate the process.

Mrs. Borawski moved, seconded by Dr. Dockser, to allow the School Committee vacancy, which occurred on 1/7/2019, to remain empty until the election on 4/2/2019, and authorize the S.C. Chair to inform the Select Board of this vacancy and vote.

Mrs. Webb explained the rationale of not filling the vacancy until the Town election in April pointing out that there is a short window and there would be only one meeting prior to the April election.

The Finance Committee adjourned at 9:45 p.m.

Mrs. Webb indicated that this vote will not preclude the committee from participating in the process if the Select Board chooses to initiate the process. Mr. Boivin asked that the motion be read again. Mrs Borawski reread the motion.

Mr. Robinson and Mr. Boivin do not feel the School Committee needs to vote. The committee would just need to inform the Select Board.

Dr. Dockser said the School Committee should be allowed to share the best approach to fill this vacancy should be.

Mrs. Borawski moved, seconded by Mr. Boivin to authorize the S.C. Chair to inform the Select Board of the School Committee vacancy which occurred on January 7, 2019. The revised motion carried 5-0.

Resident Tom Wise asked about the status of the unresolved OCR complaints. Superintendent Doherty said we have heard nothing from OCR.

II. Routine Matters

a. Bills and Payroll (A)

Warrant S1928	1.10.19	\$151,887.87
Warrant S1929	1.17.19	\$178,964.12

b. Calendar

III. Information/Correspondence

IV. Future Business

V. Adjournment

Adjourn

Mrs. Borawski moved, seconded by Mr. Boivin, to adjourn. The motion carried 5-0.

The meeting adjourned at 10:00 p.m.

NOTE: The minutes reflect the order as stated in the posted meeting agenda not the order they occurred during the meeting.

Link to meeting video: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vw6eWqaflic>

John F. Doherty, Ed. D.
Superintendent of Schools

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Chief Financial Officer

Reading Public Schools

Instilling a joy of learning and inspiring the innovative leaders of tomorrow

TO: Reading School Committee

FROM: John F. Doherty, Ed.D.
Superintendent of Schools

DATE: January 22, 2019

TOPIC: Continued Discussion - FY2020 Budget

At our meeting on Thursday evening, we will continue our discussion and review the questions submitted on the FY2020 budget. If you have any questions, please contact me or Mrs. Dowd.

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Superintendent of Schools

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Reading, MA 01867
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TO: Reading School Committee

FROM: John F. Doherty, Ed.D.
Superintendent of Schools

DATE: January 22, 2019

TOPIC: Director of Student Services Search & Timeline

At our meeting on Thursday evening I will ask the School Committee to approve the process and timeline for the Director of Student Services search. I have included the draft timeline for your information.

If you have any questions, please contact me.

Reading Public Schools
Screening Committee
Director of Student Services

Please note: All information and discussions by screening committee members are confidential and cannot be shared now or in the future.

I. Screening Committee Members

- a. The Screening Committee will consist of the following members:
 - Human Resources Administrator - Facilitator
 - 4 Administrators
 - 1 Team Chair
 - 4 Teachers
 - 4 Parents
- b. To the extent possible, the composition of the committee will represent the many constituencies that comprise the Reading Public School Community.
- c. Superintendent will attend all interviews and deliberations as part of the decision-making process.

II. Schedule

All dates, times, and locations are tentative.

Date	Time	Event	Location
Week of January 28		Online Posting for Position TalentEd/School Spring, M.A.S.S, M.A.S.P.A Monster.com	Online
January 24		School Committee Review of Process	RMHS Schettini Library
January 28-February 4		Receiving Requests from Staff/Parents to be on Committee & Survey Staff, Parents	District Email, District Websites
February 7	4:00 pm	Organizational Meeting	Superintendent's Conference Room
February 13	4:00 pm	Meeting to Design Questions	Superintendent's Conference Room
February 20		Deadline for Applications	
February 27	All Day	1 st Round Candidate Interviews	Superintendent's Conference Room
February 27-March 4		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Superintendent reviews recommendations, conducts interviews and reference checks of Pre-Finalists • Moves forward finalists for remainder of process 	
March 4-20		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Finalists Announced • Site Visits • COLT/DLT Interviews • Open Microphone Nights(s) • School Committee Interview • Final Superintendent Interview 	TBD
March 21	7:00 pm	Superintendent Announcement to School Committee	RMHS Schettini Library

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TO: Reading School Committee

FROM: John F. Doherty, Ed.D.
Superintendent of Schools

DATE: January 22, 2019

TOPIC: Email Correspondence and Other Information

Please find attached for your information, copies of email correspondence and information received by School Committee members and Central Office Administrators from community members as well as other pertinent information. I have included our responses, if applicable, as well.

If you have any questions, please contact me.

Engelson, Linda

From: Webb, Elaine
Sent: Wednesday, January 16, 2019 8:17 AM
To: Justine Berman
Cc: Doherty, John; Engelson, Linda
Subject: Re: RISE start/end time

Mrs Berman,

I am forwarding your email to the administration. This is an operational question that Dr. Doherty and his staff will be able to address.

Thank you,
Elaine Webb

Get [Outlook for iOS](#)

From: Justine Berman <justine.yandle@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, January 15, 2019 4:22 PM
To: DG School Committee
Subject: RISE start/end time

Hi,

I am reaching out to find out the start/end times of the RISE program for next year. With one child heading off to Kindergarten and another hopefully entering the program, it would be nice to know the times of the program. I need to be able to make sure drop off/pick up times are going to be doable. Other schools around town have already taken applications for the next year and I am relying on RISE to workout with our scheduling. When will this be decided on? Is there a date?

Thank you

-Justine Berman

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Engelson, Linda

From: Doherty, John
Sent: Thursday, January 24, 2019 7:05 AM
To: Alicia Williams; Webb, Elaine
Cc: Bostwick, Kelley; Stewart, Sharon; Engelson, Linda
Subject: RE: RISE music

Good Morning, Alicia,

Thank you for the email. We have not allocated funds in the FY20 budget for an additional position for music at RISE.

I understand your concerns regarding the need for music at the preschool level and Mrs. Bostwick has worked very closely with the PTN and her staff to integrate music as much as possible in the program. Unfortunately, with all of the competing needs and priorities in our district, we are unable to fund a position in next year's budget.

Please contact me if you have any further questions.

Thanks.

John F. Doherty, Ed.D.
Superintendent
Reading Public Schools
781-944-5800
John.doherty@reading.k12.ma.us

-----Original Message-----

From: Alicia Williams <aw@cordelephotography.com>
Sent: Friday, January 18, 2019 4:50 PM
To: DG School Committee <SchoolCommittee@reading.k12.ma.us>
Cc: Bostwick, Kelley <Kelley.Bostwick@reading.k12.ma.us>; Stewart, Sharon <Sharon.Stewart@reading.k12.ma.us>
Subject: RISE music

Hi

I had forgot to ask last night if there's money being put back in the budget to reinstate the RISE music teacher?

The music teacher is a really important position at RISE because a lot of students who come to rise or nonverbal in music helps learn children to speak.

Music is such a huge part of learning language.

Thank you for time.
Alicia Williams
Rise parent

Sent from my iPhone

2018-2019 School Committee Meeting Date

			Anticipated Agenda Items		
Thursday	Jan. 24th	School Committee	FY2020 Budget - Public Hearing		
Monday	Jan. 28th	School Committee	FY2020 Budget - Vote		
Thursday	Feb. 7th	School Committee			Boivin & Vanden Akker
	<i>Feb. 12th</i>	<i>SEPAC Meeting</i>			<i>RMHS Library</i>
	Feb. 27th	Fincom - 7:30 p.m.	FY2020 Budget Presentation		Town Hall
	<i>March 12th</i>	<i>SEPAC Meeting</i>			<i>RMHS Library</i>
	March 13th	Fincom - 7:30 p.m.	Vote FY20 Budget& Town Meeting Articles		Town Hall
Thursday	March 21th	School Committee		Office Hour	Robinson & Webb
Tuesday	<i>April 2nd</i>	<i>Local Election</i>			
Thursday	April 4th	School Committee		Office Hour	Borawski & Snow Dockser
	<i>April 10th</i>	<i>SEPAC Meeting</i>			RPD
Monday	<i>April 22nd</i>	<i>Town Meeting</i>			
Thursday	April 25th	Town Meeting			
Monday	April 29th	Town Meeting			
Thursday	<i>May 2nd</i>	<i>Town Meeting</i>			

All meetings are in the RMHS Schettini Library at 7:00 p.m. unless otherwise noted.
 Office Half Hour will be held in the RMHS Schettini Library at 6:30 p.m.
 Dates and locations subject to change. (Bold indicates new or changed date or location.)

2018-2019 School Committee Meeting Date

Thursday	May 9th	School Committee	School Choice	Office Hours	
	<i>May 14th</i>	<i>SEPAC Meeting</i>			<i>RMHS Library</i>
Thursday	May 30th	School Committee			
Sunday	<i>June 2nd</i>	<i>RMHS Graduation</i>			
	<i>June 11th</i>	<i>SEPAC Meeting</i>			RMHS Library
Thursday	June 13th	School Committee	Staff Recognition	Office Hours	
Thursday	June 27th	School Committee			

1.22.19 *Meeting dates subject to change*

All SEPAC Meeting Dates are Tentative

All meetings are in the RMHS Schettini Library at 7:00 p.m. unless otherwise noted.
 Office Half Hour will be held in the RMHS Schettini Library at 6:30 p.m.
 Dates and locations subject to change. (Bold indicates new or changed date or location.)