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Kimberly Keil, Assistant Redding Town Clerk  
3 Pages*

REDDING BOARD OF EDUCATION REGULAR MEETING  
John Read Middle School Community Room  
April 4, 2023 – 7:00 p.m.

On YouTube:

[https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCSJhKa9oQfe3lydov\\_I-EvA](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCSJhKa9oQfe3lydov_I-EvA)

Minutes

ATTENDANCE

Board members: Parkin, Hoffman, Belfatto, Gibbons, Sadana  
Administration: McKinnon, Pierson Ugol, Scrofani, DelConte  
Others: 5 members of the staff and public, and the recording secretary.

CALL TO ORDER

C. Parkin called the Redding Board of Education Regular meeting to order at 7:05 p.m.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

C. Parkin asked for any comments, questions or concerns about the Minutes of the March 7, 2023 Redding Board of Education Regular meeting. Hearing none, he deemed the Minutes approved by unanimous consent.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

BOARD MEMBER COMMENT

None.

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS

Superintendent of Schools, Dr. Jason McKinnon, congratulated the UCONN men's basketball team for winning the National Championship and introduced the district administrators for their reports.

Redding Elementary School Principal, Melissa Labrosciano, read from her prepared report to the BOE, highlights included: the Battle of the Books; Kids Heart Challenge; and the RES Art Show scheduled for June 1. BOE members had questions about the after-school art club enrollment. M. Labrosciano replied that staffing precluded the club from having more students enrolled and that next year a lottery-type system will be used for enrollment.

John Read Middle School Principal, Jennifer Desmarais, read from her prepared report to the BOE, highlights included: the visit from Two by Two Animal Haven; what's happening in STEM 6; applying learning to creating placemats about books; and the spring musical, "Once Upon a Mattress - Youth

Edition!” which will take place the first week in May. Examples of the 6th grade STEM projects - wooden boxes with a pivoting lid – and the book placemats were passed out to BOE members to examine and admire.

Director of Special Services, Jennifer DConte, reported that this is the time of year when her department does transition planning. She said she wanted the BOE to be aware that there is an uptick in identification in the birth-3 year old age group, and that the 3-year old program will need more support. She confirmed that the 3rd grade also has a spike in identification and that this grade is involved with accelerated learning.

Director of Finance, Operations & Technology, Sara Scrofani, reported that several transfers needed to be made and read through the details of her memo to the BOE about these transfers. A discussion took place about whether or not to conduct the transfers; fix as you go vs. allowing these budget lines to run into the negative. It was decided to not proceed with the motion for transfers.

C. Parkin reported that the budget referendum date is May 2. He also reported that the Redding Board of Finance approved the Capital Plan for RES at \$304,000, but rejected the JRMS piece of the proposal. C. Parkin said that the JRMS piece will now be presented to the Redding Board of Selectmen for ARPA funding consideration.

Dr. McKinnon presented the District’s strategic planning website and said that he was still asking for the community to respond to it; so far 44 people have offered commentary about the site. He also said that he wants to have follow-up meetings with staff about the site.

Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum and Instruction, Dr. Stephanie Pierson Ugol, reported on the upcoming visit from the Tri-State Consortium, which was originally scheduled for Spring 2020. She said the visit will focus on strategic planning, with the visitors walking the schools and visiting classrooms. Dr. Pierson Ugol said that the District will receive feedback immediately and then a written report eight weeks after their visit.

#### DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION: RECOMMENDATIONS FROM SUPERINTENDENT FOR NON-RENEWALS

Dr. McKinnon said that there were none.

#### DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION: MIDDLE SCHOOL (GRADES 6-8) MATH TEXTBOOK

Dr. Pierson Ugol reported that the Curriculum Committee had selected, and is recommending for purchase, the Desmo math program for grades 6-8. She further explained that the Committee is recommending a three-year contract that includes a math workbook in year one and digital resources only in year two and year three. Dr. Pierson Ugol said that there is the option of buying a workbook in the other two years of contract, if they decide there is a need, and that the total cost of the program ranges between \$19-25K. A discussion about the Desmo program took place.

**Motion: Move that the Redding Board of Education adopt Desmos as the core grades 6-8 math textbook as recommended by the Curriculum Committee. (Gibbons, Sadana). Approved. Unanimous.**

BOARD COMMITTEE REPORTS

None.

ADJOURNMENT

**Motion: Move that the Redding Board of Education meeting be adjourned. (Hoffman, Sadana).**

Hearing no objections, C. Parkin deemed the meeting adjourned. The meeting was adjourned at 8:10 p.m.

Submitted by Stephanie Oulton  
Secretary, Redding Board of Education

Recorded by,  
Sarah Ota