

RIS PTA Meeting Minutes

March 6, 2014 7:00 PM

Present: John Reed, Anne Uberti, Rachel Ballard, Rena Estes, Tracey Jaeger, Kristin Larson, Kim O'Rourke, Lisa Wallace, Janet Ziperstein.

1. **Principal's Report** (Anne Uberti, Principal)
 - Have begun transition planning for 4th grade moving into Reed and for 6th grade moving into the Middle School.
 - There will be a picnic at Treadwell Park from 11-1 on August 25th. 4th graders will be invited to the May movie night.
 - Field testing this spring for the Smarter Balanced test. The test takes the same amount of testing time per student, but it is now on the computer. There are 48 computers for 400 students.
2. **PTA President's Report** (Tracey Jaeger/Lisa Wallace, Co-Presidents)
 - Need a PTA Treasurer for 2014-15
 - Need a fundraiser for the spring. Ideas: Game Night, Craft Night, Sing-a-long Movie Night
 - The Reed Book Fair will be March 24-28. Sign up to volunteer using Volunteer Spot.
 - Brandy Jacobs will be coordinating Teacher/Staff Appreciation Week May 4-8.
3. **Meeting Minutes** (Kristin Larson, Secretary) Review of minutes from December 5 2014. Minutes approved.
4. **Town Budget Update** (John Reed, Interim Superintendent)
 - Dr. Reed has developed a series of short videos re: the budget. He encourages residents to watch the videos.
 - Important for Newtown to demonstrate it can pass a town budget. Turning out the vote is key. Need to get supporters to the polls.
 - We need to decide what kind of town we want to be. We have the extra burden of being defined by tragedy. Need to provide reasons for families to move to town.
 - Next 15 months may be the most important months to be involved with the schools. Get involved for a healthy dialog. We need to help the new superintendent be successful.
 - We can demonstrate we are a fiscally conservative system by showing the per pupil expenditure. Have been at 139 in the past. Now at 120. Will be slightly higher next year, due to the SERV grant, but still only in the middle of the state then (at 77)