

# REED CITY AREA PUBLIC SCHOOLS

# COYOTE NEWS

Winter Edition  
November 2010



## What Does “Support” of Education Mean?

by Steven Westhoff, Superintendent

“I’m in total support of a quality, soundly-funded educational system.” Quote from every politician running for office November 2, 2010. Some of the quotes were stated a little differently but all of them basically said the same thing; education is our top priority, we “support” education! What does support really mean?

- ◆ “I support rigorous standards and expectations.”
- ◆ “I support technology in the classroom.”
- ◆ “I support teacher evaluations tied to data.”
- ◆ “I support anti-bullying legislation for all schools.”
- ◆ “I support safe schools initiatives.”
- ◆ “I support character education.”
- ◆ “I support special education services for all students.”
- ◆ “I support abstinence-based sex education for all students.”
- ◆ “I support early childhood programs.”
- ◆ “I support small class size.”
- ◆ “I support highly-qualified instructional staff.”
- ◆ “I support school athletic programs.”
- ◆ “I support a quality band, choir, and drama program.”
- ◆ “I support safe school transportation for all school programs.”
- ◆ “I support background checks of all staff that work with kids.”
- ◆ “I support strong school discipline policies.”
- ◆ “I support substance abuse prevention programs and policies.”
- ◆ “I support positive after-school programs for all kids.”
- ◆ “I support total school district financial transparency and accountability.”
- ◆ “I support community access and use of facilities after school hours.”
- ◆ “I support No Child Left Behind, MEAP, MME/ACT assessments and School Ranking systems.”
- ◆ “I support consolidation of school districts and services.”
- ◆ “I support schools of choice and competition.”
- ◆ “I support reduction of

retirement benefits”.

- ◆ “I support a reduction of taxes.”
- ◆ “I support on-line learning and college dual enrollment courses.”
- ◆ “I support ...

Wow, that’s a lot of support!

All of the items listed above deserve various levels of support; all are important in the field of education; all of them have been mentioned by people who will lead us during the next few years. Let’s hold all of our elected officials accountable for their promises especially in regards to education and some difficult decisions that will need to be made during the next 8-12 months. After all, we need their support!

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The Board of Education typically meets the THIRD Monday of every month, with a work/study session scheduled at 6 p.m. and a regular monthly meeting at 7 p.m. The meetings are held in the Board Room located at Central Office and are open to the public. Any changes to the meeting schedule may be found on the Board of Education page at [www.reedcity.k12.mi.us](http://www.reedcity.k12.mi.us). Approved minutes of meetings will be available online or at the Office of the Superintendent, 220 West Lincoln Avenue, Suite A, in Reed City. Notices of special meetings and committee meetings are publicly posted online and at the Office of the Superintendent.

**Reed City Area Public Schools  
Board of Education**

- Dan Boyer**, President;
- Randy Park**, Vice President;
- Scott Ridderman**, Treasurer;
- Kathy Yost**, Secretary
- Dave Lucey**, Trustee
- Jim Dawson**, Trustee
- Ed Raby**, Trustee

**School Scheduling Changes**

Information regarding school closing or schedule changes due to severe weather is available on the following radio and TV stations throughout the school year:

<u>FM Radio Stations</u>	<u>TV Stations</u>
WYBR 102.3	TV 9 & 10
WWBR 100.9	TV 7 & 4
WTCM 103.5	TV 8
WKJF 92.9	TV 13
WLXZ 96.7	Fox 33
WOLW 91.1	

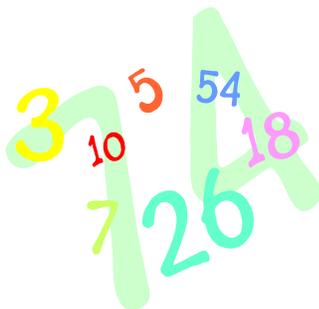
**Looking for more?  
Check Out our Web Site**

We continue to update and improve our web site. For school information including important notices, Board meeting dates, school calendar and much more, please visit us at: [www.reedcity.k12.mi.us](http://www.reedcity.k12.mi.us).



**New Academic Support Program**

At **Reed City Middle School**, we have developed and implemented an Academic Support Program. The program is designed to assist students who are struggling with math or reading. Students participating in the program spend one enrichment class period and/or one homeroom period each week working in small groups with Mr. Nista, the program director. These small groups receive both research-based and motivation-based interventions designed to encourage the students to work hard and increase their academic success



## Raising Salmon in Reed City Middle School

by Tim Webster, Principal



Thanks to an avid salmon fisherman in our community and the Ice Mountain bottled water company the students at Reed City Middle School will have a very interesting science experience each year. Tom Tavis is a former Reed City Area Public Schools board member, works for Ice Mountain, and is serious about salmon fishing. Tom has spearheaded a *Salmon in the Classroom Project* for our middle school and convinced Ice Mountain to fund the project.

The educational project starts by taking the 7<sup>th</sup> grade students on a field trip to Ruby Creek to observe the salmon spawning (October 18). Salmon are particularly interesting because the observation is both the beginning and end of the salmon life cycle. Students will be traveling to Ruby Creek where the water is only about 12 inches deep so observing the egg laying and fertilization is ideal. Ruby Creek is a tributary of the Pere Marquette River. Our school will be given about 300 salmon eggs from the DNR hatchery. The eggs will be placed in a 60 gallon chilled tank which was provided by Ice Mountain and housed in Mr. Smith's science room.

The chilled tank maintains a temperature of 40 to 50 degrees and has a stream-like current. The eggs will hatch and be raised in the tank by our students until the fish reach a length of 3 to 4 inches. In the spring the fish will be taken to the Pere Marquette River in Ludington and placed into a holding pen where they will be raised to 8 to 9 inches at which time they will be released into Lake Michigan. They will roam Lake Michigan over the next four years in search of Alewives, their main source of food. Some may roam as far as Lake Huron. They will grow to an average of 17 to 23 pounds with some reaching 30 pounds. Since the eggs were taken from the Pere Marquette river the fish will return to spawn in the same river in four years.

We are fortunate to have community members who care about schools and conservation. We also thank Ice Mountain for sponsoring this very educational opportunity for our students here at Reed City Middle School.



Mr. Tavis and Mr. Smith. Mr. Smith will be attending a DNR one day training to teach him how to raise the salmon



# Homecoming Spirit Week Activities

by Tim Webster, Principal—Reed City Middle School

The week of October 18 was our Homecoming in Reed City. Downtown was decorated and spirit was shown all over our community, but nothing compares to Reed City Middle School's school spirit. Throughout the week, we held our traditional spirit week dress-up competition between classes and the staff. It was a close race, but the 8<sup>th</sup> grade pulled ahead and won the Spirit Stick. On Friday the 22<sup>nd</sup>, the stands were like a sea of red and black. Mrs. Price organized the pep assembly, and Mr. Howe assisted with the microphone. The varsity cheerleaders came over and did some crowd cheers with the kids. We announced all the athletes and recognized them, which included: cross-country, girls' basketball, and middle school football. We then played some competitive games between grade levels. The games were the Super Shoe Show, Pass the Peanut, and Sip a Soda with Some Friends. If you see a student from the Middle School, be sure to ask them about the games. We then awarded the Spirit Stick to the 8<sup>th</sup> grade and announced the winner of the M&M Guess-a-Roonie. The students were able to guess for a quarter how many M&M's were in a container at lunch time all week. Jesse Gravelle and Mr. Webster were the winners. It was a fantastic week!





# Reed City Community Education

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Judy Miller      Susie Miller  
Co-Directors

## VOLLEYBALL REGISTRATION FORM WINTER 2011

Team Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Team Captain: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Work Phone: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_

E-Mail Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Alternate Captain: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Work Phone: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_

E-Mail Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Did you team play in last year's league:    Yes     No

If yes, team name if different than above: \_\_\_\_\_

### SCRIMMAGE:

- My team DOES NOT want scheduled scrimmage play.
- My team wants scheduled scrimmage on Thursday, January 6, 2011.
- My team wants scheduled scrimmage on Sunday, January 9, 2011.
- My team wants scheduled scrimmage on Monday, January 10, 2011.

**CAPTAINS ARE PERSONALLY RESPONSIBLE FOR ALL TEAM FEES**  
**REGISTRATION FORM DUE BY DECEMBER 10, 2010**



## REED CITY AREA PUBLIC SCHOOLS

220 W. Lincoln Avenue, Suite A  
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Tel: 231-832-2201  
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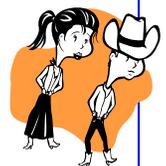
### Meet the New Community Ed Directors



Susie Miller (sitting) and Judy Miller, Co-Directors of Reed City Community Education, are looking forward to continuing current programs and developing new ones based on community interest.

### Current and Upcoming Activities

- ◆ **Fall volleyball** continues through mid December. Registration forms are being accepted for the **winter recreational volleyball season** (see [previous page for form](#)) for co-ed, men's and women's leagues to be played on Sunday, Mondays and Thursdays.
- ◆ **Line dancing** continues at 6 p.m. on Wednesday's in the west gym at Norman Elementary. Judy has taken this class and it is a lot of fun. We hope to get couples dancing started back up in January. These classes are free to the public.
- ◆ **Aerobics exercise** is offered through mid December on Mondays and Wednesdays at Norman Elementary (west gym) from 5:30 – 6:30 p.m. The participants get in a great work out and have fun at the same time, free of charge



We invite all staff and community members to share their time and talents to teach a class and to participate in them. Please email us at [CommunityEd@reedcity.k12.mi.us](mailto:CommunityEd@reedcity.k12.mi.us) if you have any suggestions