May 12, 2003

Dear Town Meeting Members,

Now that April Town Meeting has ended, the Reading School Committee and I would like to take a moment to thank you personally for your continued support of the Reading Public Schools.

This past year Town Meeting has approved $450,000 for design work on the high school, $55 million for the renovation and addition to Reading Memorial High School, a $2.5 million supplement on the new elementary school at Sunset Rock Lane and most recently a $4.5 million override for operational purposes. No other town can come close to the support that we have received in the school department this past year. During the next few weeks hopefully the House and the Senate will settle on a final budget so that on July 1st we can begin our operational budget.

I want to take a moment to personally thank each of you for your support of the Reading Public Schools and me these past eight years. As I begin my transition to become the Superintendent of Schools in North Andover, I leave Reading with nothing but fond memories and a great number of friendships. There has never been a time in my eight-year tenure that Town Meeting, after considerable debate and many questions, has not stood firmly behind the Reading Public Schools. On behalf of the parents, teachers, administrators and most of all the children in the Reading Public Schools I want to thank you for your continued support.

Sincerely,

Harry K. Harutunian, Ph.D.
Superintendent of Schools