

**READING COMMUNITY SCHOOLS
BOARD OF EDUCATION
REGULAR MEETING
May 29, 2024
MINUTES**

President Galloway called the regular meeting of the Board of Education of Reading Community Schools to order at 7:00 p.m. in the high school band room.

The Pledge of Allegiance was given.

Members present: R. Grossheim, J. Galloway, R. Sanders, B. Pavka, B. Wheeler

Members absent: B. Kerspilo

Others present: Martin DuBois, Pam Bassage, Josh Sholler, Nikki Pridgeon, Hannah Tunis, Shawn Shook, Charity Willoughby

Additions/Corrects to Agenda: A Request to move item IX. D. 3. from an Informational/Discussion Item to Action Item VII. G.

Nice Things: J. Galloway commented that she appreciates Pam Bassage for all of the grants she finds for the district. B. Pavka commented on how smoothly graduation went and thanked Charity Willoughby for the balloon arches.

Comments from Guests: None

Action Items:

- A.** B. Wheeler made a motion to accept the consent agenda as presented. The motion was supported by R. Sanders.

Ayes: R. Grossheim, J. Galloway, R. Sanders, B. Pavka, B. Wheeler

Nays: None – Motion carried.

Absent: B. Kerspilo,

- B.** M. DuBois presented the proposed 2024/2025 district calendar to the board.

B. Wheeler made a motion to approve the 2024/2025 District Calendar as presented. The motion was supported by R. Sanders.

Ayes: R. Grossheim , J. Galloway, R. Sanders, B. Pavka, B. Wheeler

Nays: None– Motion carried

Absent: B. Kerspilo

- C.** R. Sanders made a motion to approve the hiring of a Behavior Interventionist. The position will be paid by grant funds. The motion was supported by B. Pavka.

Ayes: R. Grossheim, J. Galloway, R. Sanders, B. Pavka, B. Wheeler

Nays: None – Motion carried.

Absent: B. Kerspilo,

- D.** B. Wheeler made a motion to approve the HCISD General Fund Education Budget for the 2024/2025 year. The motion was supported by R. Grossheim.

Ayes: R. Grossheim, G. Sims, J. Galloway, R. Sanders, B. Pavka, B. Wheeler

Nays: NONE – Motion carried

Absent: B. Kerspilo

- E.** R. Grossheim made a motion to approve Kusters's Dairy as the provider for milk and Gordons Food for the bread bids for the 2024/2025 year. The motion was supported by R. Sanders.

Ayes: R. Grossheim, J. Galloway, R. Sanders, B. Pavka, B. Wheeler

Nays: NONE – Motion carried

Absent: B. Kerspilo

- F.** B. Pavka made a motion to approve the resignations of Melanie Marquart - Elementary Parapro, Amanda Harding - Kindergarten Teacher, Carly Musser - High School Science Teacher, Brenda Coe - Food Service Worker, and Gary Sims - Board Trustee. The motion was supported by B. Wheeler.

Discussion: The board trustee position must be backfilled within 30 days per bylaws. The board discussed a Special Meeting and scheduled the meeting for Monday, June 3, 2024, at 6:00 pm.

Ayes: R. Grossheim, J. Galloway, R. Sanders, B. Pavka, B. Wheeler

Nays: NONE – Motion carried

Absent: B. Kerspilo

- G.** B. Wheeler made a motion to approve the new Elementary Curriculum. The motion was supported by B. Pavka.

Ayes: R. Grossheim, J. Galloway, R. Sanders, B. Pavka, B. Wheeler

Nays: NONE – Motion carried

Absent: B. Kerspilo

Items Requiring Review and Update:

- A.** M. DuBois updated the board on the potential tax dollar losses for the Headlee rollback for next year. This could possibly be as much as \$10k. M. DuBois is asking the board if we should consider putting this back on the ballot for next year. M. DuBois feels like November would be the best time because we share the cost of the election. M. DuBois recommends starting to campaign at the beginning of the school year.
- B.** M. DuBois updated the board on the status of the district's common start time for the next school year. The normal elementary day will begin at 8:10 a.m. and be dismissed at 3:13 p.m. The normal high school day will start at 8:05 a.m. and be dismissed at 3:03 p.m.
- C.** M. DuBois informed the board that the "Hoop House" was voted down by the City of Reading Planning Commission. He has not received formal notification. There is no clear answer at this point. The district could also appeal the decision. We also might consider an alternate location in the grassy area next to the weight room or down by the track. This would be closer to both schools. B. Wheeler suggested selling the lots out by the farm. B. Wheeler feels like there is a housing shortage. Farmers are currently leasing the land from the school, and the lease money covers taxes. B. Wheeler will contact L. McDowell or M. DuBois to get this item added to the next work session agenda.
- D.** Gary Sims's resignation has created an open board seat. Nikki Pridegeon and Hannah Tunis have expressed interest in applying. The board has agreed to schedule a Special Meeting on Monday, June 3, 2024, to conduct interviews for the open seat.
- E.** Currently, 22 adults and 63 students are signed up for the Band Trip to San Antonio, TX, next year. Josh Sholler has collected \$45k so far and is excited and encouraged by the progress. Josh feels the price may be reduced due to the high-interest cost.

Informational and Discussion Items:

- A.** P. Bassage inquired to find out how/when the board as a whole would prefer the budget to be presented. J. Galloway, R. Sanders, and R. Grossheim would like to keep the budget presentation and timing of the presentation the same as it is now. A discussion was had by the board. P. Bassage informed the board that the district would not get the 4.5% per pupil increase we typically have gotten in the past few years. She encouraged the board to be conservative in planning. If the district does not plan conservatively and the fund balance goes below 5%, the State of MI will come in and give the district a budget and tell us where we have to make the cuts. Most of the time, extracurricular activities such as P.E., Music, Art, etc., are the things that will be cut first. The board discussed and decided that

the budget presentation would be presented as it has been at the June board meeting. The board policy will be adjusted to reflect this language.

B. M. Hubbard was attending the Spring Sports Banquet and was unavailable for commentary or to answer questions.

C. L. Otterbein was attending the Spring Sports Banquet and was unavailable for commentary or to answer questions.

D. Superintendent Report

1. M. DuBois spoke about the recent NEOLA policy updates that need approval. Most of the updates are minor verbiage updates. M. DuBois will bring it to the board for approval in June.
2. M. DuBois spoke about upgrading the current phone system to be E911 compliant. M. DuBois will bring it to the board for approval in June.
3. Elementary Curriculum – Moved to Action Item and was approved by the board.
4. M. DuBois spoke to the board regarding the Boyton Security Service Upgrade. M. DuBois will bring it to the board in June for approval.
5. The board reviewed the current district Wellness Policy.

Additional Comments from Board/Superintendent:

A request was made to add an action item to add an Art Teacher/Program to the Elementary.

Comments from Guests:

None

Future Meetings:	June 3, 2024	6:00 p.m.	Special Meeting
	June 26, 2024	6:00 p.m.	Work Session
	June 26, 2024	7:00 p.m.	Regular Meeting

R. Grossheim moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:51 p.m. The motion was supported by B. Pavka.

Ayes: R. Grossheim, J. Galloway, R. Sanders, B. Pavka, B. Wheeler

Nays: None – Motion carried.

Absent: B. Kerspilo

Respectfully,
Becky Pavka
Board Trustee