

**READING COMMUNITY SCHOOLS  
BOARD OF EDUCATION  
REGULAR MEETING  
June 26, 2024  
MINUTES**

President Galloway called the regular meeting of the Board of Education of Reading Community Schools to order at 7:02 p.m. in the high school band room.

The Pledge of Allegiance was given.

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

**Members absent:** B. Kerspilo

**Others present:** Martin DuBois, Pam Bassage, Linda McDowell, Charity Willoughby, Mitch Hubbard, Lisa Otterbein, Hannah Tunis (arrived late at 7:09)

**Additions/Corrects to Agenda:** A Request to move item IX. 8. Elementary Art Teacher. from an Informational/Discussion Item to Action Item VII. q. and to add approval of the Special Meeting Minutes from 6/3/2024 to Action Item VII. r.

**V. Nice Things:** N. Pridgeon made mention to the board that the PTO would be at the Elementary to paint the playground and invited anyone who was available to attend.

**Comments from Guests:** None

**VII. Action Items:**

- A.** B. Wheeler made a motion to accept the consent agenda as presented with a correction to the Regular Meeting Minutes from 5/29/2024. Item VII. B. Approval of the 24/25 District Calendar. He did not vote no on the action item and would request this be corrected. The motion was supported by R. Grossheim.

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

Nays: None – Motion carried.

Absent: B. Kerspilo,

- B.** Approval of NEOLA Policies: po1240, po2410, po2414, po2418, po3220, po6320, po6321, po6325, po6350, po6520, po8390, and po8800.

- B.** Wheeler made a motion to approve the NEOLA Policy Updates as presented. The motion was supported by N. Pridgeon .

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

Nays: None— Motion carried

Absent: B. Kerspilo

- C.** N. Pridgeon made a motion to accept the Approval of the Phone Service upgrade with DMCI as presented. The motion was supported by B. Wheeler.

Roll Call Vote was taken.

Ayes: R. Grossheim, N. Pridgeon, J. Galloway, B. Pavka, B. Wheeler

Nays: None – Motion carried.

Absent: B. Kerspilo,

Abstained: R. Sanders

- D.** B. Wheeler made a motion to approve the Boynton Security Service Quote as presented. The motion was supported by B. Pavka.

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

Nays: None – Motion carried

Absent: B. Kerspilo

- E.** N. Pridgeon made a motion to approve the district's Wellness Policy as presented. The motion was supported by R. Grossheim.

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

Nays: NONE – Motion carried

Absent: B. Kerspilo

- F.** B. Pavka made a motion to approve the termination of the contract with JCISD Fiber Consortium and use DMCI as the new provider. The motion was supported by N. Pridgeon.

Discussion: The board discussed the terms of the termination of the contract and requested M. DuBois to speak with an attorney to see if there is a way to avoid being bound to the 18 months of payments due to increased costs without justification or notice.

Roll Call Vote was taken.

Ayes: R. Grossheim, N. Pridegeon, J. Galloway, B. Pavka, B. Wheeler

Nays: None – Motion carried.

Absent: B. Kerspilo,

Abstained: R. Sanders

- G.** R. Sanders made a motion to approve the 2023/2024 Budget Amendments as presented. The motion was supported by R. Grossheim.

Discussion: B. Wheeler had clarifying questions regarding the change in some of the amounts from the previous budget. P. Bassage explained the amount was due to the State Aid Note and the amount we were approved to borrow.

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

Nays: None – Motion carried

Absent: B. Kerspilo

- H.** R. Grossheim made a motion to approve the 2024-25 General Fund Budget. The motion was supported by N. Pridgeon. **BE IT RESOLVED** that this resolution shall be the general appropriations of Reading Community Schools General Fund 2024-2025. A resolution to make appropriations, to provide for the expenditure of appropriations, and to provide for the disposition of all income received by Reading Community Schools General Fund. **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the total revenues and unappropriated fund balance estimated to be available for appropriations in the General Fund of Reading Community Schools for the fiscal year 2024-2025, which includes 17.386 mills of taxes, on all non-homestead property, is \$10,276,259. **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, the \$10,276,259 of the total available to appropriate in the General Fund is hereby appropriated in the amounts and for the purposes set forth below.

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

Nays: None – Motion carried

Absent: B. Kerspilo

- I.** B. Wheeler made a motion to approve the 2024-25 Food Service Budget. The motion was supported by R. Sanders. **BE IT RESOLVED** that this resolution shall be the general appropriations of Reading Community Schools Food Service Fund for 2024-2025. A resolution to make appropriations, to provide for the expenditure of appropriations, and to provide for the disposition of all income received by Reading Community Schools Food

Service Fund. BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the total revenues and unappropriated fund balance estimated to be available for appropriations in the Food Service Fund of Reading Community Schools for the fiscal year 2024-2025 is \$1,388,001. BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the \$1,388,001 of the total available to appropriate in the Food Service Fund is hereby appropriated in the amounts and for the purposes set forth below.

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

Nays: None – Motion carried

Absent: B. Kerspilo

- J.** B. Wheeler made a motion to approve the 2024-25 Special Revenue Budget. The motion was supported by N. Pridgeon. BE IT RESOLVED that this resolution shall be the general appropriations of Reading Community Schools Special Revenue Fund for 2024-2025. A resolution to make appropriations, to provide for the expenditure of appropriations, and to provide for the disposition of all income received by Reading Community Schools Special Revenue Fund. BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the total revenues and unappropriated fund balance estimated to be available for appropriations in the Special Revenue Fund of Reading Community Schools for the fiscal year 2024-2025 is \$125,765. BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the \$125,765 of the total available to appropriate in the Special Revenue Fund is hereby appropriated in the amounts and for the purposes set forth below.

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

Nays: None – Motion carried

Absent: B. Kerspilo

- K.** B. Wheeler made a motion to approve the 2024-25 (2012) Debt Retirement Fund Budget. The motion was supported by B. Pavka. BE IT RESOLVED that this resolution shall be the general appropriations of Reading Community Schools 2012 Debt Retirement Fund for 2024-2025. A resolution to make appropriations, to provide for the expenditure of appropriations, and to provide for the disposition of all income received by Reading Community Schools 2012 Debt Retirement Fund. BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the total revenues and unappropriated fund balance estimated to be available for appropriations in the 2012 Debt Retirement Fund of Reading Community Schools for the fiscal year 2024-2025, which includes 1.31 mills of taxes on all property, is \$279,970. BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the \$279,970 of the total available to appropriate in the 2012 Debt Retirement Fund is hereby appropriated in the amounts and for the purposes set forth below.

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

Nays: None – Motion carried

Absent: B. Kerspilo

- L.** B. Wheeler made a motion to approve the 2024-25 (2020) Debt Retirement Fund Budget. The motion was supported by N. Pridgeon. BE IT RESOLVED that this resolution shall be the general appropriations of Reading Community Schools 2020 Debt Retirement Fund for 2024-2025. A resolution to make appropriations, to provide for the expenditure of appropriations, and to provide for the disposition of all income received by Reading Community Schools 2020 Debt Retirement Fund. BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the total revenues and unappropriated fund balance estimated to be available for appropriations in the 2020 Debt Retirement Fund of Reading Community Schools for the fiscal year 2024-2025, which includes 1.81 mills of taxes on all property, is \$426,921. BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the \$426,921 of the total available to appropriate in the 2020 Debt Retirement Fund is hereby appropriated in the amounts and for the purposes set forth below.

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

Nays: None – Motion carried

Absent: B. Kerspilo

- M.** R. Grossheim made a motion to approve the 2024-25 Land Acquisition Fund Budget. The motion was supported by R. Sanders. BE IT RESOLVED that this resolution shall be the general appropriations of Reading Community Schools Land Acquisition Fund for 2024-2025. A resolution to make appropriations, to provide for the expenditure of appropriations, and to provide for the disposition of all income received by Reading Community Schools Land Acquisition Fund. BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the total revenues and unappropriated fund balance estimated to be available for appropriations in the Land Acquisition Fund of Reading Community Schools for the fiscal year 2024-2025 is \$-0-. BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the \$-0- of the total available to appropriate in the Land Acquisition Fund is hereby appropriated in the amounts and for the purposes set forth below.

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

Nays: None – Motion carried

Absent: B. Kerspilo

- N.** R. Sanders made a motion to approve the 2024-25 Sinking Fund Budget. The motion was supported by B. Wheeler. BE IT RESOLVED that this resolution shall be the general appropriations of Reading Community Schools Sinking Fund for 2024-2025. A resolution to make appropriations, to provide for the expenditure of appropriations, and to provide for the disposition of all income received by Reading Community Schools Sinking Fund. BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the total revenues and unappropriated fund balance estimated to be available for appropriations in the Sinking Fund of Reading Community Schools for the fiscal year 2024-2025, which includes 1.8448 mills of taxes on all property, is \$639,087. BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the \$639,087 of the total available to appropriate in the Reading Community Schools Sinking Fund is hereby appropriated in the amounts and for the purposes set forth below.

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

Nays: None – Motion carried

Absent: B. Kerspilo

- O.** R. Grossheim made a motion to approve the 2024-25 Capital Projects Fund Budget. The motion was approved by B. Wheeler. BE IT RESOLVED that this resolution shall be the general appropriations of Reading Community Schools Bond Capital Projects Fund for 2024-2025. A resolution to make appropriations to provide for the expenditure of appropriations and to provide for the disposition of all income received by Reading Community Schools Sinking Fund. BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the total revenues and unappropriated fund balance estimated to be available for appropriations in the Bond Capital Fund Projects Fund of Reading Community Schools for the fiscal year 2024-2025 is \$0. BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the \$0 of the total available to appropriate in the Reading Community Schools Bond Capital Projects Fund is hereby appropriated in the amounts and for the purposes set forth below.

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

Nays: None – Motion carried

Absent: B. Kerspilo

- P.** N. Pridgeon made a motion to accept the resignation/retirements of Mary Maclean and Nancy Stoddard. Both were elementary paraprofessionals. The motion was supported by B. Wheeler.

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

Nays: None – Motion carried

Absent: B. Kerspilo

- Q.** B. Wheeler made a motion to approve the addition of Elementary Art and the hiring of an Elementary Art Teacher for the 2024-25 school year. The motion was supported by B. Pavka.

Ayes: B. Pavka, B. Wheeler

Nays: R. Grossheim, N. Pridgeon, J. Galloway, R. Sanders – motion not carried.

Absent: B. Kerspilo

- R.** B. Wheeler made a motion to approve the Special Meeting Minutes from 6/3/2024. The motion was supported by N. Pridgeon.

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

Nays: None – Motion carried

Absent: B. Kerspilo

### **VIII. Items Requiring Review and Update:**

- A.** M. DuBois updated the board the status of open positions in the district.
- i.** Interviews are in process for the Elementary Principal
  - ii.** Interviews are in progress for the Elementary Teacher
  - iii.** Stephanie Brown has been hired for the Behavior Interventionist
  - iv.** We have no candidates yet for the SRO Officer
  - v.** We have no applicants for the High School Science Teacher
  - vi.** Applicants but no interviews scheduled yet for the Food Service Position

### **XI. Informational and Discussion Items:**

- A.** M. Hubbard told the board that we hosted the Baseball Districts this year and had great feedback. Mitch thanked Jerry Coe and Brad Wright for their outstanding job at setting things up. M. Hubbard updated the board on the open coaching positions. M. Hubbard spoke about regulations coming down from the state regarding having AEDs. Our district needs more. Currently, all staff is CPR certified. M. Hubbard is working so that all coaches will be CPR-certified as well.

- B.** L. Otterbein gave an overview of her High School Principal Report noting the first day of school for students will be August 20, 2024 and ask the board to review the handbook and reach out if they have any questions or concerns.
  
- C.** M. DuBois asked the board if they had any questions regarding the Elementary Principal Report. There were no questions.
  
- D. Superintendent Report**
  - 1.** P. Bassage explained the State Aid Note process again and told the board that the district cannot decide on the borrowing amount. A calculation is used by the State to determine borrowing amounts from year to year.
  - 2.** M. DuBois presented the proposed 2024-25 Board Meeting Schedule for approval next month.
  - 3.** M. DuBois informed the board that the district has not been provided with any lunch prices for the 2024-25 school year by the state. Prices will be for adult meals only because students receive free meals currently.
  - 4.** M. DuBois presented the MHSAA membership renewal information to the board for approval at the next meeting.
  - 5.** M. DuBois presented the MASB membership renewal information to the board for approval at the next meeting.
  - 6.** At the next meeting, M. DuBois will request that the board approve Thrun Law Firm as the district attorney for the 2024-2025 school year.
  - 7.** M. DuBois presented a quote from Adrian Mechanical to the board for the replacement of doors at the front of the building by the GP room for security purposes and will be brought to the board for approval next month.
  - 8.** Elementary Art Teacher – was moved to Action Item VII. Q.
  - 9.** Farm Property was not discussed at the work session meeting. M. DuBois will put it on the work session agenda for July.
  - 10.** M. DuBois presented the board with updated language for the Superintendent contract that is being recommended to be added by counsel. J. Galloway has sent the language to MASB for guidance.
  - 11.** M. DuBois spoke to the board regarding the upcoming Title IX policy changes that will come to the board for approval next month.

**Additional Comments from Board/Superintendent:**

- A.** B. Wheeler asked M. DuBois about the status of the district website. M. DuBois said the vendor has indicated that the website should be done by July 8th. He is still looking at a different company for the district website as he has not been happy with the progress and communication of the current vendor.
- B.** B. Wheeler asked about receiving the proposed strategic plan survey questions that have been discussed in the past.
- C.** The Board discussed the lack of scheduling for the Superintendent Evaluation. J. Galloway informed the board that HCISD is hosting a free Superintendent Evaluation Training on August 14th at 6:00 p.m.; otherwise, the district must pay for the board training.



**Comments from Guests:**

None

<b>Future Meetings:</b>	July 24, 2024	6:00 p.m.	Work Session
	July 24, 2024	7:00 p.m.	Regular Meeting

R. Grossheim moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:34 p.m. The motion was supported by N. Pridgeon.

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

Nays: None – Motion carried.

Absent: B. Kerspilo

Respectfully,  
Becky Pavka  
Board Trustee