

**READING COMMUNITY SCHOOLS
BOARD OF EDUCATION
REGULAR MEETING
August 28, 2024
MINUTES**

President Galloway called the regular meeting of the Board of Education of Reading Community Schools to order at 7:04 p.m. in the high band room.

The Pledge of Allegiance was given.

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

Members absent: None

Others present: Martin DuBois, Pam Bassage, Linda McDowell, Mitch Hubbard, Lisa Otterbein, Dakota Hard, Tiffini Toppel, Linda Hurley, Kareny Camacho, Emily Bethel, Kelly Stewart, Charity Willoughby, Lesleigh Clark, Caiden Siler, Olivia Critz, Dahlia Cramer, Olive Ruiz, Hannah Tunis

IV. Additions/Corrects to Agenda: None

V. Nice Things: The board packet included nice things and no additional comments.

VI. Comments from Guests: Hannah Tunis commented on the school board, bullying, and cell phone policy. Olivia Critz provided a comment to the board regarding the cell phone policy.

VII. Board Business/Action Items

- A.** R. Grossheim made a motion to approve items 1-3 under the consent agenda. The motion was supported by B. Pavka.

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

Nays: None – Motion carried.

Absent: None

- B.** B. Kerspilo made a motion to adopt changes to policy po6210, Fiscal Planning. The motion was supported by R. Sanders.

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

Nays: B. Wheeler – Motion carried.

Absent: None

- C.** B. Kerspilo made a motion to table the sale of the farm property pending a market analysis by a local realtor while also obtaining a plat map showing property and “lot” splits along with any other pertinent information regarding the property. The motion was supported by B. Pavka.

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

Nays: None – Motion carried.

Absent: None

- D.** President Galloway requested that the Superintendent Evaluation be tabled and discussed in the September work session meeting to continue developing and discussing goals per the evaluation tool.

- E.** B. Wheeler made a motion to approve the resignation of paraprofessional, Kelsee Padget. The motion was supported by N. Pridgeon.

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

Nays: None – Motion carried.

Absent: None

- F.** N. Pridgeon made a motion to approve the medical leave request for Nick Draheim. The motion was supported by R. Grossheim.

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

Nays: None – Motion carried.

Absent: None

VIII. Items Requiring Review and Update:

- A.** M. DuBois announced the new hires at each building, including teachers and paraprofessionals. The new hires announced were:
- a. Mark Lama – JH/HS Math (open position from last year)
 - b. Bethany Johnston – JH/HS Science replacing C. Musser
 - c. Christine Plank – Elementary Paraprofessional replacing Kelsee Padget
 - d. Kari Jo Rinard – Elementary Paraprofessional/Latchkey – Nancy Stoddard
 - e. Kayleigh Eaton – Elementary Paraprofessional new to place a paraprofessional in 2nd Grade

- f. Jillian Marsh – Elementary Paraprofessional replacing Mary Maclean

IX. Informational and Discussion Items:

- A. M. Hubbard reported that all fall senior and junior high sports are in full swing, starting their respective seasons. M. Hubbard noted that we have solid numbers in every sport and that we are still looking for a long-term announcer at Barre Field.
- B. D. Hard reported that the elementary school has 399 students right now. D. Hard noted that the new hire teachers are doing well, and he is looking at different scenarios to help with the “pick up and drop off” at the building. Picture day is September 16th.
- C. L. Otterbein reported that the Middle/High School is “fully staffed” with teachers at each position. This is the first time in her tenure that all positions have had a permanent employee. L. Otterbein discussed the new cell phone policy is going well and showed the board one of the security boxes used for the cell phones. She also briefly described the policy for “use” and the “check-in, check-out” process for students and the noticeable difference in student social activity and lunch room environment. We also have a student who has been chosen to be on the MDE Student Advisory Council.
- D. Superintendent DuBois gave the following updates/reports:
1. M. DuBois informed the board the contract with the current website company has been terminated. He has been working with a new vendor, Fox Brite, and should have a mock up done by the September meeting.
 2. M. DuBois informed the board that we have been officially voted out of HCISD fiber consortium, and are using DMCI now. However, per the HCISD contract we are obligated to pay the next 18 months. M. DuBois is working with Thrun to try and get the district out of this obligation, and backdating the termination to March of 2024 when we first asked to be relieved of the contract.
 3. M. DuBois gave an update on the po4140 policy to possibly amend in the future so the board does not have to vote to accept a staff resignation.

X. Additional Comments from Board/Superintendent:

N. Pridgeon asked about the “I love you protocol.” M. DuBois gave brief comments on this concept as did Mrs. Otterbein. Mrs. Otterbein also commented on “hold” (soft lockdown) protocol. Mrs. Otterbein and M. DuBois are looking into a keycard with “terms.” J. Galloway asked the administration to give an overview presentation about the “I love you protocol” at the next board meeting.

XI. Comments from Guests:

None

XII. Future Meetings:	September 25, 2024	6:00 p.m.	Work Session
	September 25, 2024	7:00 p.m.	Regular Meeting

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

August 28, 2024

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

Nays: None – Motion carried.

Absent: None

Respectfully,

Brian Kerspilo
Board Secretary