

**READING COMMUNITY SCHOOLS
BOARD OF EDUCATION
REGULAR MEETING
February 26th, 2025
MINUTES**

President J Galloway called the regular meeting of the Board of Education of Reading Community Schools to order at 7:01 p.m. in the high school band room.

Pledge of allegiance was given.

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

Members absent: None

Others present: M. DuBois, P. Bassage, S. Boswell, L. Otterbein, D. Hard, J Scholler, B Moore, S Brown, C Willoughby, S. Otterbein, M Draheim, M. Draper, K Rennard, M Knoll

IV. Additions/Corrects to Agenda: Under X, section c. "Superintendent's Report", delete.5., and add a 5th bullet point under X, section c, #3 "Adrian Locksmith Bid."

V. Nice Things:

- Nice Things in board packet, and there are many this month

VI. High School Presentation:

- Mr. Affolter with students Steven Anderson and Charles Russo gave a presentation about their business class, specifically the Spirit Wear project. They noted how this project relates to and correlates with skills in accounting/financials, spreadsheets, ordering, marketing, etc. They showed the board examples of shirts, hats, cups and other items they have designed with this software and hardware for the project. They asked for 3 words from the board, and then used those to make custom drink "koozies" and handed out to the board members.

VII. Comments from Guests: None

VIII. Board Business / Action Items:

- a. B. Wheeler made a motion to approve items 1-3 under consent agenda "a." motion was supported by R Grossheim

Ayes: R. Grossheim, B. Kerspilo, N. Pridgeon, B. Wheeler, B Pavka, J Galloway, R Sanders
Nays: None – Motion carried.
Absent: None

- b. N Pridgeon made motion to select Cory McLaughlin for our district selection to MASB board, support by B Wheeler.

Ayes: R. Grossheim, B. Kerspilo, N. Pridgeon, B. Wheeler, B Pavka, J Galloway, R Sanders
Nays: None – Motion carried.
Absent: None

- c. R Grossheim made motion to accept Ken Stillwell bid for Maintenance truck repair, supported by N Pridgeon.

Ayes: R. Grossheim, B. Kerspilo, N. Pridgeon, B. Wheeler, B Pavka, J Galloway, R Sanders
Nays: None – Motion carried.
Absent: None

- d. B Kerspilo made motion to accept proposed FAFSA language to student handbook – completion of the FAFSA will be a Graduation requirement beginning with the graduating class of 2025 - supported by N Pridgeon.

Ayes: R. Grossheim, B. Kerspilo, N. Pridgeon, B. Wheeler, B Pavka, J Galloway, R Sanders
Nays: None – Motion carried.
Absent: None

- e. R. Sanders made motion to have former superintendent Chuck North facilitate the Strategic plan with Board and Mr. Dubois, supported by N Pridgeon.

Ayes: R. Grossheim, B. Kerspilo, N. Pridgeon, B. Wheeler, B Pavka, J Galloway, R Sanders
Nays: None – Motion carried.
Absent: None

IX. Items requiring Review and Update:

Mr. Draper gave update on the recent school safety committee meeting. Breakfast change is going well, and the small tweaks are working. He also gave a handout to the board with a design for the entry/vestibule at elementary showing “see out/see in” vinyl on windows for security. Furthermore, talked about the threat assessment done, and the team is lining up both policies to match at each building in the district.

X. Information/Discussion Items:

- a. Mr. Hubbard at district games the school is hosting. Mr. Dubois asked if there were any questions on his report in the packet, which there were none. R. Sanders made a comment about how much Mr. Hubbard does, and has done over the years and his commitment to the district/years of service. N Pridgeon asked about the visitors’ bleachers at Barre field, Mr. Dubois responded that we are still waiting on bids.
- b. B Wheeler asked Mr. Hard about locks on the doors in the ladies’ bathroom at the Elementary. Mr. Hard explained they were taken off for a day, and then put back on. N Pridgeon asked Mr. Hard about disciplines, and he responded with the current numbers, and comparison to the last year. R. Sanders asked Mrs. Otterbein about the phone policy at the high school. She responded that it has been very effective, and that we have had approx. 20 phone related write ups the entire year so far. This Friday Mrs. Otterbein will be doing the first meeting with 6th graders who will be coming to high school building next year. She has a new orientation process that will include them participating in lunch, showing them locks and how to use on lockers, etc. B. Pavka asked Mr. Hard about the SLT team pause from last months meeting. He explained they are still exploring some changes, and they did meet yesterday (2/25) after school, and he will have more update at the next meeting.
- c. Mr. Dubois gave the Superintendents report:
 1. Mr. Dubois met with the Food Service Committee for the annual meeting. No major changes to report, but they are looking at potentially moving Elementary lunches to after recess, rather than before in the future.
 2. Mr. Dubois announced the resignation of J Weatherwax, and J Marsh. We have open positions for 1st grade, and H.S. Science.
 3. In regards to the Maintenance /Facilities Committee sinking fund project bids:

- Exterior painting was discussed in work session, getting more information from vendor on that item
 - Mr. Dubois handed out a revised bid from JD construction for the water main
 - Mid States Recreation bids are in the board packet. He clarified we only need 2 of the 3 structures they quoted. Mr. Dubois going to get more bids for this, J Galloway had a list of potential other vendors.
 - Classroom doors were discussed in the work session
 - Adrian Locksmith bid was also discussed in work session
4. Midwest Transit is Mr. Dubois recommendation for the bus lease. This will be an action item on next months agenda. The new lease is 20,000 miles, instead of 12,000. Mr. Dubois was asked by board members about the difference in cost between 12,000 and 20,000 miles. Mr. Dubois to get the exact numbers, and also inquire with Midwest about cost for 15,000 miles. Mr. Dubois also talked to the ISD about a “corrective action plan”, to which the ISD will help the district on that- specifically at the Elementary building. The State will be coming to the district on March 7th, as they are looking at Special Education countywide. Every District was evaluated by ISD, and we are in process complying with their suggestions.

XI. Additional comments from Board/Superintendent:

N Pridgeon asked about the new policy from the State for a “threat assessment team”. She also asked about sports/athletics still not on the website, and board minutes not on the website. Mr. Dubois to follow up on these items and report back at next meeting.

XII. Future Meetings:	March 19th, 2025	6:00 p.m.	Work Session
	March 19th, 2025	7:00 p.m.	Regular Meeting

XIII. Additional comments from guests: NONE

R Grossheim moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:08 p.m. The motion was supported by N Pridgeon.

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

Nays: None – Motion carried.

Absent: None

Respectfully,
Brian Kerspilo
Board Secretary