

READING COMMUNITY SCHOOLS

BOARD OF EDUCATION REGULAR MEETING October 22nd, 2025 MINUTES

Vice President R Sanders called the regular meeting of the Board of Education of Reading Community Schools to order at 7:03 p.m. in the high school conference room.

Pledge of allegiance was given.

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

Members absent: J. Galloway

Others present: M. DuBois, P. Bassage, S. Boswell, L. Otterbein, G Wisel, M Hubbard, A Decker, S Decker, S Brown, C Willoughby, M Knoll, C North, G Bailey, K Gosling,

IV. Additions/Corrects to Agenda: Under VII, add item "d" C. North Retirement Resolution
Regarding Administrator Pay Increase

V. Annual Audit Presentation Mr. Greg Bailey form Bailey & Hodshire PC:

Greg Bailey gave the annual audit presentation including the annual audit letter, and complete binder with the independent auditor's report. The financial statement disclosures are neutral, consistent, and clear. This will be Baileys/Hodshires last year providing the service to the district. They are terminating any school audit activities in their business structure.

VI. Nice Things:

- M Knoll Made a comment in regards to the monies received for the book fair.

VII. Comments from Guests: NONE

VIII. Board Business / Action Items:

- a. R Grossheim made a motion to approve items 1-4 under consent agenda "a." motion was supported by B Pavka

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

Nays: None – Motion carried.

Absent: J Galloway

b. Mr. Dubois informed the board on the updated "Elopement" Procedures. B Kerspilo made motion to accept the updated elopement procedures, supported by N Pridgeon.

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

Nays: None – Motion carried.

Absent: J Galloway

c. N Pridgeon made motion to approve the K-1 curriculum purchase., supported by B Pavka.

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

Nays: None – Motion carried.

Absent: J Galloway

d. C. North Resolution Regarding Administrator Pay Increase: R Grossheim made a motion to accept the resolution regarding administrator pay increase as presented, supported by N Pridgeon. Roll Call Vote:

R. Grossheim- AYE, B. Kerspilo- AYE, N. Pridgeon-AYE, B. Wheeler- AYE, B Pavka- AYE, R Sanders- AYE

Nays: None – Motion carried, Resolution passed (Resolution Enclosed)

Absent: J Galloway

IX. Items requiring Review and Update:

- a. S. Brown gave an update on the School Safety Committee. They will adopt the new elopement update procedures. Doors are now opening at the Elementary school earlier at 7:15 for walkers and drop off to help with congestion.
- b. The plaque for the Library dedication is still not completed. Mr. Dubois is calling again tomorrow to get an update for next meeting.

- c. Mr. Dubois will be bringing a catalog from Vector to the December meeting. All board members will receive for upcoming training opportunities.
- d. Mr. Dubois gave board an overview of the M-STEP scores for the 3rd-7th grade.

X. Information/Discussion Items:

- a. Mr. Hubbard gave the AD report highlighting cancer night was a big success. Brought in \$1600 that night, and honored Austin Coe. We have also received a \$10,000 grant from Meijer that Mr. Hubbard and K Kerspilo wrote and applied for. Will be used for new bleachers at Barre field. Hillsdale, Vandercook Lake, and Addison have all shown verbal interest in joining the Big 8. Upcoming events including cross country regionals, football crossover, and Big 8 volleyball tournament.
- b. Mrs. Otterbein gave her report citing the 1st annual "tailgate party" was a big success, and very well attended. Jr. High has a new elective class- "Journalism" being taught by Mr. Hulbert. Mrs. Flynn's art students did a great job in decorating the building for Halloween. Report cards go out this Friday, as the marking period is over. Behaviors both major and minor are down more than 50% this year vs. last year. November 8th we host the Big 8 Quiz Bowl. Mr. Wisel gave his report highlighting the fall writing initiative. Students who win from each grade will be recognized at the end of the month. The elementary school has a new "gratitude wall" for November created by SLT team. We also have a hallway of heroes for November honoring veterans. Behaviors- Minors are down, majors were up. Mr. Wisel also introduced Shannon Decker as our newest teacher for kindergarten.
- c. Mr. Dubois gave his Superintendents report:
 - 1. We had 3 bids for the farm property:
 - i. \$184.09 per acre Legacy Farms
 - ii. \$106 per acre Pork Chop Hill
 - iii. \$160 per acre Scott Albright
 - 2. Neola updates he provided board with those in the board packet. This will be an action item at next months meeting. He also had out 3 policies for review.
 - 3. The senior trip was discussed in the work session, will be an action item for November.
 - 4. Mr. Dubois attended the MASA conference. He gave board overview of the conference, noting "AI" was a huge topic, and he will be bringing more information on that in the near future. Also, Mr. Dubois is still looking at doing a podcast per the discussion last meeting. Overall a good conference and networking opportunity.
 - 5. Shannon Decker was already introduced by Mr. Wisel

XI. Additional comments from Board/Superintendent:

R. Grossheim asked about an electric bus grant some other districts received in the surrounding areas, and if we applied for it. Our District did not. Mr. Grossheim also asked about a "non-certified" teacher fine the district is incurring. N Pridgeon expressed concern over classroom sizes in 3rd grade, and noted each of the two 6th grade classes have 30 students in each class. R Sanders made a comment in regards to the positions and comments made by some of the legislators in the state regarding public schools.

XII. Additional comments from guests: **NONE**

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

R Grossheim moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:14 p.m. The motion was supported by B Kerspilo.

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

Nays: None – Motion carried.

Absent: J. Galloway

Respectfully,
Brian Kerspilo
Board Secretary