

**READING COMMUNITY SCHOOLS
BOARD OF EDUCATION
REGULAR MEETING
December 17th, 2025
MINUTES**

President J Galloway called the regular meeting of the Board of Education of Reading Community Schools to order at 7:14 p.m. in the high school band room.

Pledge of allegiance was given.

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

Members absent: B. Pavka

Others present: M. DuBois, J Sholler, J Coe, L. Otterbein, S Brown, M. Knoll, K Stump, G Wisel,
K Eaton, M Hubbard, K Stewart, M Hodshire

IV. Additions/Corrects to Agenda: Delete letter "c" under VIII, it is in the Superintendent report under 2.

V. Nice Things:

- Nice Things in board packet.

VI. Comments from Guests:

- M Knoll made a comment on the new lighting at Reynolds Elementary, and how it has helped with morning drop-off. R Sanders commented on the "box characters" in the halls of the H.S building. J. Sholler noted that 50 choir students went Christmas Caroling at the MacRitchie Center, Junes Place, and the Senior Center. Officer Mark Hodshire introduced himself to the board as the new City Police Chief.

VII. Board Business / Action Items:

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

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

Nays: None – Motion carried.

Absent: B Pavka

- b. ETI was the final quote recommended by Mr. Sholler for the Band & Choir Trip to Nashville, TN. B Wheeler made a motion to approve the Nashville Band and Choir trip, supported by R Sanders.

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

Nays: None – Motion carried.

Absent: B Pavka

- c. N Pridgeon made a motion to adopt the 31 AA resolution. There is a pending December 19th decision by state of Michigan. Motion supported by B Kerspilo. A roll call vote was taken:

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

Nays: None – Resolution Adopted

Absent: B Pavka

- d. Adult meal prices are set at \$5.50, and \$3.25 respectively. R Sanders made a motion to approve, supported by N Pridgeon

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

Nays: None – Motion carried.

Absent: B Pavka

- e. B Wheeler made a motion to accept all Neola updates Vol 39, No 2, February 2025 except policy po2340, supported by N Pridgeon.

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

Nays: None – Motion carried.

Absent: B Pavka

VIII. Items requiring Review and Update:

- a. Mr. Dubois handed out (for review) the board templates for NEOLA policies po3440, po5136, po8430
- b. S. Brown gave the Safety Committee Meeting update including the addition of two (2) new members- Officer Hodshire, and A. Sanderson. She also noted that her and Officer Hodshire will be walking both buildings and getting his recommendations from his prior experience as an SRO.
- c. DELETED
- d. Mr. Dubois handed out a bullet point list to board members pertaining to the meeting he and Mrs. Bassage had with METS, highlighting the key points to their services.
- e. We have 8 new students through the “open enrollment.” All are at the elementary building.
- f. Climate & Culture Survey results were emailed to the board, and to be discussed at the next work session meeting.

IX. Information/Discussion Items:

- a. Mr. Hubbard gave overview of the Athletic Directors report in the board packet. Isaac Westfall just won his 100th wrestling match. Stockbridge is officially leaving the Big in the 2027-2028 school year. January 17th is the annual Athletic Booster reverse raffle. The 7th grade boys’ basketball team finished 3rd in the league tournament- 5 of the players were also on the recent 1st place Quiz Bowl Team. Stockbridge is joining the Cascades Conference, as is Hillsdale.
- b. Mr. Wisel gave his report highlighting the Christmas program was standing room only. He praised Mr. Sanford, all the teachers and students, Para pros, and custodians, for coming together to make it a successful event. NWEA testing for the first semester is all done. Mrs. Otterbein announced that 71% (191 students) met the attendance requirements to be exempt from exams. The “semester incentive” which includes attendance, grades, and discipline was met by 151 students. Behaviors in the H.S. are down from prior year. We hired Kelsee Padget as the new Special Education Teacher, and Amber Sanderson is the new Behavioral Interventionalist at

the High School. Corey Norris has been hired as the new Trap/Clay Club shooting advisor.

c. Mr. Dubois gave the Superintendents report:

1. New Hire and Open Positions: L. McDowell is the new Superintendent Secretary. We still have one (1) permanent bus driver, and one (1) substitute bus driver position open. In addition, we have an opening for GSRP teacher
2. Incentive Grants: Everyone received incentive grants
3. Board Training Options: Mr. Dubois shared these opportunities in the Board report, including Vector Training courses.
4. Mr. Dubois wished all board members a Merry Christmas. He also showed the board three samples of Industrial Arts student woodburning art, and had the board vote on one to complete the wood plaque for the Don Richardson Memorial Library signage

X. Additional comments from Board/Superintendent:

B Kerspilo made a comment on the success of the Elementary Christmas program, as well as the Band/Choir program this month. R Sanders made a comment acknowledging Officer Hodshire and thanking him for the introduction.

XI. Additional Comments from Guests: NONE

XII. Future Meetings: January 28th, 2026, 6:00 p.m. Work Session
January 28th, 2026, 7:00 p.m. Regular Meeting

B Kerspilo moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:03 p.m. The motion was supported by R Sanders.

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

Nays: None – Motion carried.

Absent: B Pavka

Respectfully,
Brian Kerspilo
Board Secretary