

**READING COMMUNITY SCHOOLS  
BOARD OF EDUCATION  
REGULAR MEETING  
September 24th, 2025  
MINUTES**

President J Galloway called the regular meeting of the Board of Education of Reading Community Schools to order at 7:10 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  
B Pavka

**Members absent:** R. Sanders

**Others present:** M. DuBois, P. Bassage, L. Otterbein, S. Brown, C. Willoughby, M. Knoll, M. Healy, K. Rinard, L. Lott, G. Wisel, M. Trott, K. Evans, P. Bailey, M. Conklin, W. Hulbert, M. Hubbard

**IV. Additions/Corrects to Agenda:** None

**V. Nice Things:**

- Nice things in board packet.

**VI. Comments from Guests:**

- M. Trott gave comments regarding bussing/transportation issues, including district sports teams being late for events. She gave some potential alternate ideas to the board for consideration to help with transportation. P. Bailey commented on how great it was the band room was named and dedicated to Clifford Nix.

**VII. 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, B Pavka, J Galloway, N Pridgeon, B. Wheeler  
Nays: None – Motion carried.

Absent: R Sanders

**VIII. Items requiring Review and Update:**

- a. S. Brown updated the board on the most recent Safety Committee Meeting including pick up/drop off and signage.
- b. Mr. Dubois updated board on the plaque status for Don Richardson. Plaque Company is saying it still could be 6-8 weeks out.
- c. Mr. Dubois is meeting soon with NEOLA to discuss upcoming policy changes.
- d. Still have no applicants for the school SRO Position. Mr. Dubois has reported this back to the state as it pertains to the SRO grant.

**IX. Information/Discussion Items:**

- a. Mr. Hubbard at home volleyball match. Report in board packet.
- b. Mr. Wisel gave his report continuing to create positive culture. Student "shot outs" is new and going over very well. He commended the custodial staff for responding quickly to the "hand, foot, and mouth" issue in the building. The SLT Team has created the "Ranger Club" using the "3 R's" as a reward system for kids. B Pavka asked about and supported the Ranger Club. B Wheeler asked a question regarding the 95% attendance rule. G Wisel clarified that excused absences will not be counted against the student. L Otterbein gave her report highlighting homecoming went well, kids had their first dance. All activities were highly attended by students. There are a couple field trips coming up soon. We have added a new "seminar" course and purchased a "typing" account for each child. Thanked Mrs. Brown for hosting "topic of the month" for mental health. She talked about the great participation we have in the county career centers, student of the month, and the monthly PBIS bingo rewards for the semester. Discussed the school of choice chart, and we have only had 3 phone write ups so far. Listed upcoming events.
- c. Mr. Dubois gave the Superintendents report
  1. Farm Bids: will be released on 9/30 and brought to October board meeting.
  2. State Budget Update: Still on course for a potential state shutdown. If the state can get this passed by 10/1- state aid probably will not be affected. If it is after that state aid will be delayed. We have enough to get through November. If budget is not resolved in time P Bassage has had initial discussion for a potential "short term note" from Southern Michigan Bank & Trust. P Bassage stated approximately 40% of public schools cannot make it through October without state aid. Mrs. Bassage confirmed we can make it through November and confirmed initial discussion for potential note with SMBT.
  3. Student Count: 282 in the highs school, 419 in elementary school. As of 9/11 we have 262 "school of choice" students that come in out of district. We have lost 11 students from last year.

4. New Hire at Reynolds: Shannon Decker is the new Kindergarten teacher
5. New Curriculum for K-1: 35M grant fund received. We are planning on using that for a new K-1 common curriculum.
6. Podcast: Mr. Dubois has his podcast appearance tomorrow with Lighthouse Therapy. He will share with board once it's completed. Mr. Dubois is considering starting his own podcast.

**X. Additional comments from Board/Superintendent:**

B Kerspilo commented on the pickup and drop off at elementary school, and how nice the homecoming events were. Mr. Hubbard arrived at this time from the home volleyball game. He noted that Sand Creek is leaving the Big 8 conference, and the hudl camera at Barre field livestream is up and working on the website.

**XI. Additional Comments from Guests:**

L Ringman handed out the "Fall Festival" presented by the PTO to the board members and encouraged that any help is appreciated.

<b>XII. Future Meetings:</b>	October 22nd, 2025	6:00 p.m.	Work Session
	October 22nd, 2025	7:00 p.m.	Regular Meeting

R Grossheim moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:59 p.m. The motion was supported by N Pridgeon.

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

Nays: None – Motion carried.

Absent: R Sanders

Respectfully,  
Brian Kerspilo  
Board Secretary