



**READING BOARD OF EDUCATION
ORGANIZATIONAL AND BUDGET BOARD SESSION
JANUARY 8, 2020**

The Board of Education of the Reading Community City School District met in Organization and Budget Session at Reading Community City School, 810 East Columbia Avenue on January 8, 2020, at 5:30 p.m.

The meeting was called to order by the President Pro Tempore, Jim Perdue at 5:30 p.m.

Treasurer administered the Oath of Office to Crystal Menner, and Jason Rader, the newly elected board members.

Do you solemnly swear (or affirm) that you will support the Constitution of the United States and the Constitution of the state of Ohio; and that you will faithfully and impartially discharge your duties as members of the board of education of the Reading Community City school district, Hamilton County, Ohio, to the best of your ability, and in accordance with the laws now in effect and hereafter to be enacted, during your continuance in said office, and until your successor is elected and qualified?

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'C. Menner', written over a horizontal line.

Crystal Menner

Do you solemnly swear (or affirm) that you will support the Constitution of the United States and the Constitution of the state of Ohio; and that you will faithfully and impartially discharge your duties as members of the board of education of the Reading Community City school district, Hamilton County, Ohio, to the best of your ability, and in accordance with the laws now in effect and hereafter to be enacted, during your continuance in said office, and until your successor is elected and qualified?

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'J. Rader', written over a horizontal line.

Jason Rader

Roll Call: Present, Five. Bemmes, Menner, Perdue, Rader, Wernery
Absent. None.

In Attendance:
Mr. Chuck LaFata, Superintendent, Ms. Colette Lewis, Treasurer, and community members



Motion 01-20 Approve Agenda

It was moved by Jim Perdue, seconded by Alycia Bemmes to approve the agenda as revised.

Roll Call: Ayes. Five. Bemmes, Menner, Perdue, Rader, Wernery
Nays. None.
The president pro tempore declared the motion carried.

Mr. Perdue called for nominations for the office of President.

Alycia Bemmes nominated Beth Wernery for the office of President.

Motion 02-20 Nomination for President Closed

It was moved by Jim Perdue, seconded by Crystal Menner that nominations for the office of President be closed.

Roll Call: Ayes. Five. Bemmes, Menner, Perdue, Rader, Wernery
Nays. None.
The president pro tempore declared the motion carried.

Roll Call Vote on Office of President

Vote: Alycia Bemmes, Beth Wernery; Crystal Menner, Beth Wernery; Jim Perdue, Beth Wernery; Jason Rader, Beth Wernery; Beth Wernery, Beth Wernery.

The President Pro Tempore declared Beth Wernery as President for 2020.

The Treasurer administered the oath of office to Beth Wernery, Board President.

Do you solemnly swear (or affirm) that you will support the Constitution of the United States and the Constitution of the state of Ohio; and that you will faithfully and impartially discharge your duties as members of the board of education of the Reading Community City school district, Hamilton County, Ohio, to the best of your ability, and in accordance with the laws now in effect and hereafter to be enacted, during your continuance in said office, and until your successor is elected and qualified?



Beth Wernery



Beth Wernery now presided over the meeting.

President Beth Wernery declared that nominations were in order for the office of Vice President of the Reading Board of Education.

Jim Perdue nominated Alycia Bemmes for the office of Vice President.

Motion 03-20 Nominations for Vice President Closed

It was moved by Jim Perdue, seconded by Jason Rader that nominations for the office of Vice President be closed.

Roll Call: Ayes. Five. Bemmes, Menner, Perdue, Rader, Wernery
 Nays. None.
 The president declared the motion carried.

Roll Call Vote on Office of Vice President

Vote: Alycia Bemmes, Alycia Bemmes; Crystal Menner, Alycia Bemmes; Jim Perdue, Alycia Bemmes;
Jason Rader, Alycia Bemmes; Beth Wernery, Alycia Bemmes

The President declared Alycia Bemmes as Vice President.

The Treasurer administered the oath of office to Alycia Bemmes, Board Vice President.

Do you solemnly swear (or affirm) that you will support the Constitution of the United States and the Constitution of the state of Ohio; and that you will faithfully and impartially discharge your duties as members of the board of education of the Reading Community City school district, Hamilton County, Ohio, to the best of your ability, and in accordance with the laws now in effect and hereafter to be enacted, during your continuance in said office, and until your successor is elected and qualified?



Alycia Bemmes

Public Participation

Mr. James Shelton, addressed the board about the stadium contract negotiations with the city.



Motion 04-20 Approve Meeting Schedule for 2020

It was moved by Jim Perdue, seconded by Crystal Menner to approve the board meeting calendar for 2020 as follows:

**Reading Community City School District
2020 Board Meeting Dates
1/8/2020**

Meeting	Day	Date	Time	Location
Organizational & Tax Budget	Wednesday	1/8/2020	5:30 p.m.	Media Center
Regular	Wednesday	1/22/2020	5:30 p.m.	Media Center
Board Retreat	Saturday	1/25/2020	10:00 a.m.	Media Center
Work Session	Wednesday	2/5/2020	5:30 p.m.	Media Center
Regular	Tuesday	2/11/2020	5:30 p.m.	Media Center
Regular	Wednesday	2/12/2020	5:30 p.m.	Media Center
Regular	Thursday	2/13/2020	5:30 p.m.	Media Center
Regular	Wednesday	2/19/2020	5:30 p.m.	Media Center
Regular	Monday	2/24/2020	5:30 p.m.	Media Center
Regular	Tuesday	2/25/2020	5:30 p.m.	Media Center
Work Session	Wednesday	3/4/2020	5:30 p.m.	Media Center
Regular	Wednesday	3/18/2020	5:30 p.m.	Media Center
Work Session	Wednesday	4/1/2020	5:30 p.m.	Media Center
Regular	Wednesday	4/15/2020	5:30 p.m.	Media Center
Work Session	Wednesday	5/6/2020	5:30 p.m.	Media Center
Regular	Wednesday	5/20/2020	5:30 p.m.	Media Center
Work Session	Wednesday	6/3/2020	5:30 p.m.	Media Center
Regular	Wednesday	6/17/2020	5:30 p.m.	Media Center
Work Session	Wednesday	7/1/2020	5:30 p.m.	Media Center
Regular	Wednesday	7/15/2020	5:30 p.m.	Media Center
Work Session	Wednesday	8/5/2020	5:30 p.m.	Media Center
Regular	Wednesday	8/19/2020	5:30 p.m.	Media Center
Work Session	Wednesday	9/2/2020	5:30 p.m.	Media Center
Regular	Wednesday	9/16/2020	5:30 p.m.	Media Center
Work Session	Wednesday	10/7/2020	5:30 p.m.	Media Center
Regular	Wednesday	10/21/2020	5:30 p.m.	Media Center
Work Session	Wednesday	11/4/2020	5:30 p.m.	Media Center
Regular	Wednesday	11/18/2020	5:30 p.m.	Media Center
Work Session	Wednesday	12/2/2020	5:30 p.m.	Media Center
Regular	Wednesday	12/16/2020	5:30 p.m.	Media Center

Roll Call: Ayes. Five. Bemmes, Menner, Perdue, Rader, Wernery
 Nays. None.
 The president declared the motion carried.



Motion 05-20 Approve Board Service Fund

It was moved by Jim Perdue, seconded by Alycia Bemmes to approve establishing a board service fund for calendar year 2020 not to exceed \$20,000.

Roll Call: Ayes. Five. Bemmes, Menner, Perdue, Rader, Wernery
Nays. None.
The president declared the motion carried.

The Board solicited public input during the portion of the agenda for the budget hearing, but public had no comment.

Motion 06-20 Approve Tax Budget for Fiscal Year 2021

It was moved by Alycia Bemmes, seconded by Jim Perdue to approve the tax budget for fiscal year 2021 as presented by the Treasurer.

Discussion: The Treasurer explained the modified format used in the tax budget and the basis for the tax budget is the five-year forecast approved by the Board of Education.

Roll Call: Ayes. Five. Bemmes, Menner, Perdue, Rader, Wernery
Nays. None.
The president declared the motion carried.

Jim Perdue was excused from the meeting to attend the Great Oaks Board meeting.

Motion 07-20 Authorize Treasurer to Purchase Liability Insurance and Performance Bonds

It was moved by Alycia Bemmes, seconded by Jason Rader to approve the following items for the period of January 8, 2020, to January 15, 2021.

- Authorize the Treasurer, Colette Lewis, to purchase liability insurance for the board members.
- Authorize the Treasurer, Colette Lewis, to secure performance bonds for the Superintendent, Treasurer and Board President.

Roll Call: Ayes. Four. Bemmes, Menner, Rader, Wernery
Nays. None.
The president declared the motion carried.

Appointments

The Board President, Beth Wernery, made the following appointments:

- Appointed Colette Lewis, Treasurer, as the representative to the Hamilton County Tax Incentive Review Council.
- Appoint Colette Lewis, Treasurer, as the public records office.
- Appoint Superintendent Committee Members
 - Buildings Ground – Alycia Bemmes, Crystal Menner
 - Finance Committee – Jim Perdue, Jason Rader
 - Policy Committee – Beth Wernery, Crystal Menner



- Student Achievement – Beth Wernery, Jason Rader

Roll Call: Ayes. Five. Bemmes, Menner, Perdue, Rader, Wernery
Nays. None.

The president declared the motion carried.

Motion 08-20 Superintendent Authorizations

It was moved by Donna Engel, seconded by Jim Perdue to authorize the Superintendent to take the following actions effective 1/08/2020 to 1/15/2021.

- Authorize the Superintendent to employ temporary personnel, as needed, subject to vote of ratification by the Board.
- Authorize the Superintendent to serve as the Board's designee/hearing officer for the purpose of hearing suspension or expulsion appeals, unless the suspension or expulsion is issued by the Superintendent at which time the District's attorney will serve as the hearing officer.
- Authorize the Superintendent to accept resignations which have been submitted by employees during times when this Board is not in session, subject to ratification by this Board; provided however, that upon ratification by this Board, such resignations shall be deemed effective as of the date and time of the Superintendent's acceptance.
- Authorize the Superintendent to employ staff during times when this Board is not in session, subject to ratification by this Board; provided however, that upon ratification by this Board, such hiring shall be deemed effective as of the date and time of the Superintendent's acceptance.

Roll Call: Ayes. Four. Bemmes, Menner, Rader, Wernery
Nays. None.

The president declared the motion carried.

Board Appointments

The Board President made the following appointments:

Legislative Liaison to Ohio School Boards Association (OSBA) – Crystal Menner
Student Achievement Liaison to OSBA – Jason Rader

Motion 09-20 Appoint Corporate Officers

It was moved by Alycia Bemmes, seconded by Crystal Menner to appoint the Superintendent and Treasurer as the Corporate Officers of the District and execute documents on behalf of the District for the period 1/08/20 to 1/15/21.

Roll Call: Ayes. Four. Bemmes, Menner, Rader, Wernery
Nays. None.

The president declared the motion carried.



Motion 10-20 Approve Assistant Principal

It was moved by Jason Rader, seconded by Alycia Bemmes to eliminate the PK-2 Principal position for an Elementary Assistant Principal position PK-5 for the 2020-2021 school year.

Roll Call: Ayes. Four. Bemmes, Menner, Rader, Wernery
Nays. None.

The president declared the motion carried.

Superintendent's Report

Mr. Chuck Lafata discussed the following items

- Mrs. Johnson and Mr. Lafata are in the process of looking at other options for Headstart and Reading Preschool programs.
- Construction update – The next milestone for the project is the substantial completion date.
- Neola Policy First Reading –
 - o PO 1310
 - o PO1340
 - o PO 2431
 - o PO 5113.02
 - o PO 5200
 - o PO 5230
 - o PO 5350
 - o PO 7300
 - o PO 7440.03
 - o PO 8462
 - o PO 1615
 - o PO 3215
 - o PO 4215
 - o PO 5512
 - o PO 7434

Motion 11-20 Executive Session

It was moved by Alycia Bemmes, seconded by Jason Rader to conference with an attorney for the public body concerning disputes involving the public body that are the subject of pending or imminent court action.

Mr. Bill Deters was asked to join the session at 6:54pm via conference call.

Time In: 6:54 p.m.
Time Out: 7:16 p.m.

Adjournment

There being no further business to come before the Board at this time, it was the consensus of the Board that the meeting be adjourned at 7:16 p.m.

President, Reading Board of Education

Attest: Treasurer, Board of Education