



READING BOARD OF EDUCATION
Regular BOARD SESSION
May 6, 2020

The Board of Education of the Reading Community City School District met in Regular Session at Reading Community City School, 810 East Columbia Avenue on May 6, 2020, at 5:30 p.m.

The meeting was called to order by the Board President, Beth Wernery at 6:30 p.m.

Roll Call: Present Five. Alycia Bemmes, Crystal Menner, Jim Perdue, Jason Rader, Beth Wernery.

In Attendance:

Mr. Chuck Lafata, Superintendent; Ms. Colette Lewis, Treasurer; Mr. Jason Enix

Motion 78-20 Approve Agenda

It was moved by Jim Perdue, seconded by Jason Rader to approve the agenda as revised.

Roll Call: Ayes Five. Alycia Bemmes, Crystal Menner, Jim Perdue, Jason Rader, Beth Wernery.
Nays, None.
The President declared the motion carried.

Motion 79-20 Approve Resolution for Executive Order 20201-D

It was moved by Jim Perdue, seconded by Jason Rader to approve the resolution for continued operation of schools during the pendency of Executive Order 20201-D.

A RESOLUTION FOR THE CONTINUED OPERATION OF SCHOOLS
DURING THE PENDENCY OF EXECUTIVE ORDER 2020-01D,
THE OHIO DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH DIRECTOR'S ORDER REGARDING
THE CLOSURE OF ALL DISTRICT K-12 SCHOOLS IN THE
STATE OF OHIO AND THE PASSAGE OF AMENDED SUBSTITUTE H.B. 197

SIGNED BY GOVERNOR DEWINE ON MARCH 27, 2020

WHEREAS, COVID-19 is a respiratory disease that can result in serious illness or death and can easily spread from person to person between individuals who are in close contact with each other (within about 6 feet) or through the touching of a surface that has the virus on it then touching one's own mouth, nose or eyes; and

WHEREAS, the Governor and the 133rd General Assembly of the Ohio Legislature have declared a state of emergency with respect to the spread of the novel coronavirus; and,

WHEREAS, the Ohio Department of Health has ordered that all K-12 schools be closed to students through 11:59 p.m. on June 30, 2020; and

WHEREAS, the Am. Sub. H.B. 197 was signed by Governor DeWine on March 27, 2020; and

WHEREAS, Am. Sub. H.B. 197, in effect during the pendency of the emergency declared by Executive Order 2020-01D, provides for significant changes to the state's Open Meetings Act; provides for on-line remote-based learning to meet annual educational hours for the 2019-2020 school year; provides for tele-health communications for professional licensed service providers providing related services to students under IEP's; provides for the suspension of the state educational testing requirements; provided for the suspension of overall letter grade



report cards for school districts; provides for the suspension of the third grade reading guarantee; provides graduation requirements for 12th -grade students for regular and special education students, and provides for the possible suspension of educational employees' evaluation requirements under OTES, OCESC, OPES.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the Board of Education of the Reading Community City School District, Hamilton County, Ohio as follows:

SECTION I

School Building Closure

Effective 12:01 a.m. on March 17, 2020 and continuing at least until June 30, 2020, all school district buildings are closed to students. The Board confirms the Superintendent's authority to comply with this Order.

SECTION II

Remote Learning Opportunities

The Board hereby authorizes and adopts the attached Educational Plan identified as Exhibit A to provide for on-line learning opportunities in accordance with the requirements of Am. Sub. H.B. 197 and Ohio Revised Code §3313.48. It is the intent of the Board that the attached Educational Plan will provide for remote learning opportunities for students to make up/complete an unlimited number of educational hours in lieu of attendance on the days when school buildings are not open to students during the 2019-2020 school year in compliance with an Order issued by the Ohio Director of Health and Am. Sub. H.B. 197.

SECTION III

Suspending Board Policy Regarding Student Grading System

A. In order to provide appropriate educational opportunities to students through alternative methods, to allow promotion from grade-to-grade, and so not as to penalize students who determine to complete assignments through the offered alternative means, the Board temporarily suspends current Board Policies on the award of letter grades which shall no longer be in effect upon adoption of this Resolution by a majority of the Board. Such policies may be reinstated through a subsequent action taken by the Board or the determination that the state of emergency is lifted.

B. The Board authorizes the Superintendent and School Administration to develop and implement a system of pass/fail, or a modification thereof, for grading each course or grade level within the Reading Community City School District's instructional program until such time as the Board restores the grading policy.

C. The Board hereby suspends any and all Board Policies concerning interscholastic athletic eligibility that are inconsistent with those academic requirements of the Ohio High School Athletic Association for the fourth quarter of the 2019-2020 school year.

SECTION IV

Graduation Requirements

The Superintendent, in accordance with consultation with the high school principal, is authorized to make any and all decisions concerning those students "on-track" for graduation and to determine whether or not the student has met the requirements for graduation, including regular education and special education students.

It is recognized by the Board that the Superintendent is further authorized, in accordance



with the provisions set forth in Am. Sub. H.B. 197, to revise the School District's graduation requirements and to elect to require only the minimum curriculum requirements in the District for graduation in accordance with division (C) of Ohio Revised Code 3313.603 during this emergency.

SECTION V

Supplemental Pay for Spring Athletics and Co-Curricular Contracts of Employment
The Board authorizes the Superintendent and Treasurer to pay the full amount of the supplemental activity contracts of employment for the fourth quarter and spring athletic activities.

SECTION VI

Board Meetings

A. In order to prevent against the further spread of the novel coronavirus, the Board of Education hereby temporarily suspends its public participation policy for Board and/or committee meetings, which shall no longer be in effect upon adoption of this Resolution by a majority of the Board of Education. Such policy may be reinstated through a subsequent action taken by the Board of Education or after the current state of emergency is lifted.

B. In order to enable the Board of Education to continue with District operations during the public health emergency, the Board of Education may meet telephonically or through other electronic means, including, but not limited to, conference calls or other video meeting technology to conduct the public business of the public body while emergency orders of the federal and/or state government are in effect limiting public gatherings. Such meetings will be properly noticed to the public through the established and usual method of notice to the public.

C. In order to provide an opportunity for attendance by the public, news media, and any other person that has requested notification of meetings via the technology utilized will be made available to the extent reasonably possible and feasible, either live or recorded. The means of technology and information on how to access the meeting as a member of the public will be made available on the District's website. The Board of Education intends to fully honor its obligations under the Open Meetings Act.

SECTION VII

Teacher and Administrator Evaluations

Pursuant to the provisions of Am. Sub. H.B. 197, the Board hereby authorizes the Superintendent and Treasurer to enter into any Memorandum of Understanding necessary or appropriate to modify any provisions of a Collective Bargaining Agreement and/or Ohio law necessary to complete teacher, counselor and administrator evaluations for the 2019-2020 contract year. Or, in the alternative, the Superintendent may determine that it is impossible or impracticable to conduct an evaluation of teachers for the 2019-2020 school year. Administrative evaluations shall be completed for the 2019-2020 contract year.

SECTION VIII

Effective Date

This Resolution shall be in full force and effect from and immediately after its adoption and shall supersede and replace any prior resolution or act of this Board of Education that may be inconsistent or duplicative with the provisions of this Resolution.



SECTION IX

Compliance with Public Meetings Laws

The Board of Education hereby finds and determines that all formal actions relative to the adoption of this Resolution were taken in an open meeting of this Board of Education, and that all deliberations of this Board of Education and of its committees, if any, which resulted in formal action, were taken in meetings open to the public, in full compliance with applicable legal requirements, including Section 121.22, ORC.

Roll Call: Ayes Five. Alycia Bemmes, Crystal Menner, Jim Perdue, Jason Rader, Beth Wernery.
Nays, None.
The President declared the motion carried.

Motion 80-20 Executive Session

It was moved by Jim Perdue, seconded by Crystal Menner for the purpose of Preparing for, conducting or reviewing negotiations or bargaining sessions with public employees concerning their compensation or other terms and conditions of their employment.

Mr. Enix was invited into executive session.

Roll Call: Ayes Five. Alycia Bemmes, Crystal Menner, Jim Perdue, Jason Rader, Beth Wernery.
Nays, None.
The President declared the motion carried.

Time In: 5:36 p.m.
Excused: 8:36 p.m – Mr. Chuck Lafata and Mr. Jason Enix
Time Out: 9:10 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 adjourn at 9:12 p.m.

President, Reading Board of Education

Attest: Treasurer, Reading Board of Education