



READING BOARD OF EDUCATION
Regular Board Session
July 1, 2020

The Board of Education of the Reading Community City School District met in Special Session at Reading Community City School, 810 East Columbia Avenue on July 1, 2020, at 5:30 p.m.

The meeting was called to order by the Board President, Beth Wernery at 5:30 p.m.

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

In Attendance:

Ms. Colette Lewis, Treasurer; Mr. Jason Enix, Superintendent, Mr. Steve Horton OSBA

Motion 137-20 Approve Agenda

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

Roll Call: Ayes Five. Alycia Bemmes, Crystal Menner, Jim Perdue, Jason Rader, Beth Wernery.
Nays, None.

The President declared the motion carried.

Superintendent Report

Mr. Jason Enix Provided an update on the following items:

Hamilton County School Continuity Task Force Update

The district is working with area schools in Hamilton County on a reopening plan. A plan has been developed that provides a framework for local consideration and decision-making. The reopening plan will be updated based on guidance from the Governor.

Utility Poles

The district is working with legal counsel and waiting for the next action steps.

Reading Reopening Survey

- District family survey completed on returning to school
- 712 responses
- Summary information attached

Reopening Planning and Preparations

Technology

- Recent order placed to increase Chromebook capacity to 1:1 for grades K-12 with blended and/or remote learning a certainty for the upcoming school year.
- Student Chromebook return facilitated by Forward Edge to prepare for 2020-2021.
- Ongoing analysis of building technology capability, devices, server capacity, fiber, and other issues to ensure readiness for August.

Safety

- Transition to Omnia360 on July 1 for the building maintenance contract.
- Developing cleaning/sanitizing needs and protocols for return to school.
- Placed order for district PPE equipment through CARES Act Funding.
- Research/purchase additional equipment/best practices needed as guidance is released.



Operational

- State guidance will assist in defining operational practices.
- Hygiene will be a priority - washing/sanitizing hands, no shared supplies, wiping desks, best practices/guidance for face coverings.

Educational

- 1:1 device capacity
 - Planning staff professional development needs and support
- Planned work in the coming months:
- Social/emotional programming and support
 - Assessing students and plans addressing gaps
 - Curriculum alignment, standards assessment/priorities
 - Instructional strategies
 - Resources

Financial

- State financial reports for June 2020 released week of July 6th will give indication of COVID-19 financial impact.
- Continued analysis and allocation of CARES Act funding, Student Wellness funding, and federal grants being completed for 2020-2021.
- Anticipated impact of state budget reduction by July 31st

School Calendar Revision

- Adjusts student start date to August 31, 2020.
- Staff begins August 17 to allow time for professional development and planning for new instructional and operational approach to education
- Board to vote on the revised calendar at the regular Board meeting on July 15, 2020

Small District Collaborative

- Reading will collaborate with Lockland, New Miami, and St. Bernard/Elmwood Place staff for joint virtual professional development planning for August 18-21.

Tentative Reopening Planning Timeline

- July 2 State guidance shared
- July 6-10 Development of draft district reopening plan
- July 13 Staff advisory team
- July 14 Parent advisory group
- July 15 Board presentation of reopening plan DRAFT
- July 16 Begin revision and finalizing
- July 22 Present district plan for 2020-2021
- July 23 Begin implementing Reading Reopening model

Motion 138-20 Stadium Contract

It was moved by Jim Perdue, seconded by Beth Wernery to approve the stadium contract between the Reading Board of Education and the City of Reading

Roll Call: Ayes Five. Alycia Bemmes, Crystal Menner, Jim Perdue, Jason Rader, Beth Wernery.
 Nays, None.

The President declared the motion carried.



Motion 139-20 Approve Revised Final Appropriations and Amended Certificate FY20

It was moved by Jason Rader, seconded by Alycia Bemmes to approve the revised final appropriations and amended certificate of resources

Roll Call: Ayes Five. Alycia Bemmes, Crystal Menner, Jim Perdue, Jason Rader, Beth Wernery.
Nays, None.

The President declared the motion carried.

Motion 140-20 Approve Revised Temporary Appropriations FY 21

It was moved by Jim Perdue, seconded by Jason Rader to approve the revised temporary appropriations for FY 2021

Roll Call: Ayes Five. Alycia Bemmes, Crystal Menner, Jim Perdue, Jason Rader, Beth Wernery.
Nays, None.

The President declared the motion carried.

Board Development:

Mr. Steve Horton facilitated a board development conversation around challenges, strengths, and opportunities.

Discussion points:

Challenges

- Reopening schools
- Communication with the public and with the district in general
- Building a bridge to the community and city government
- Lack of an introduction of the new superintendent to the community and staff
- Finances and new management – what about the levy?
- State decrease in revenue
- Staffing reductions due to loss of revenue
- Rebuilding culture and staff
- Building confidence in the safety of reopening the schools

Important points to consider

- A new 5-year strategic plan is necessary
- The new building brings new opportunities
- District image needs to be built up. Reading students can perform as well as any in the area.
- Welcoming the Community into the school
- Communication, customer service, and branding

Priorities

- The challenges of this next school year
- The need for more and consistent communication
- Decisions on the two outstanding pieces of property (Hilltop & Central)
- Continue to build transparency with each other, staff and community
- Build a better understanding of finances and communicate that well to the community
- Work on a strategic plan

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 8:39 p.m.

President, Reading Board of Education

Attest: Treasurer, Reading Board of Education