



**READING BOARD OF EDUCATION
BOARD REGULAR SESSION
FEBRUARY 03, 2021**

The Board of Education of the Reading Community City School District met in a Regular Session virtually on February 3, 2021, at 5:30 p.m. Due to COVID-19 restrictions the Board of Education meetings are being streamed lived on RCCSD YouTube channel.

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

Roll Call: Present, Five. Alycia Bemmes, Crystal Menner, Jim Perdue, Amy Thamann, Beth Wernery
Absent. None.

In Attendance:

Mr. Jason Enix, Superintendent, Ms. Colette Lewis, Treasurer; Ms. Rebecca Johnson, Student Services; Mr. Dennis Ramsey, Principal; Dr. Damon Davis, Principal; Ms. Susan Fraley, Principal.

Motion 44-21 Approve Agenda

It was moved by Jim Perdue, seconded by Crystal Menner to approve the agenda as revised.

Roll Call: Present, Five. Alycia Bemmes, Crystal Menner, Jim Perdue, Amy Thamann, Beth Wernery
Absent. None.
The president declared the motion carried.

Presentation:

State of the District

Board Discussion:

Open Enrollment – Mr. Enix provided an overview on the process of open enrollment.

Levy Discussion – The Board discussed the need to begin developing the steering committee for the Levy campaign.

Implications of the Strategic Plan – Mr. Enix provided an update on the strategic planning process and the future steps of the strategic plan.

District COVID-19 Impacts and Future Planning

Superintendent Report

District Master Scheduling - The administrative staff reviewed the master scheduling plan and will bring to a future meeting for approval.

Vaccination Update - Mr. Enix and Ms. Heidi Sandlin are working through finalizing the plans and will continue to communicate with all stakeholders. There may be a need to look at remote learning days for the days and day after vaccines are received. More information to come.

Preschool Update – The lottery process underway.

Motion 45-21 Executive Session

It was moved by Amy Thamann, seconded by Jim Perdue to enter into executive session for ORC 121.22 (G)(3) 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

Time In: 7:31 p.m.

Time Out: 9:21 p.m.

Roll Call: Ayes, Five. Alycia Bemmes, Crystal Menner, Jim Perdue, Amy Thamann, Beth Wernery
Nays. None.
The president declared the motion carried.



Motion 46-21 Approve Agreement with City of Reading

It was moved by Jim Perdue, seconded by Crystal Menner to approve the agreement with the City of Reading regarding the utility poles.

Discussion: The utility pole issue began when Duke requested an easement to move the utility poles now in question, from Columbia, around the corner on to Bolser. The school did not request or move these poles. The school did however, sign off on the easement, as did the City of Reading. Prior to the new school construction beginning, the city and the school signed a PDD, detailing the project. Within that PDD the school agreed to run all utilities for the development of the project under ground. The school complied. All utilities, power, internet, etc. that service the school are under ground. However, it was brought to the school's attention during the project that the city expected the few utility poles at the top of Bolser to be removed and the wires buried. Since the beginning it has been clear that those poles, do not service the school, the power from those poles supply the Bolser residents. The energy, cable, and internet expected to be buried is energy, cable, and internet that runs to homes on Bolser, not the school. Therefore, these poles do not service the school and were not part of the development of the new school. We the District have been adamant since the beginning that because the poles do not supply power to the school, and because the city agreed to moving of the poles in the first place, we have complied with the PDD and have no responsibility to pay for and bury lines that do not service the school. We were advised early on by our attorneys that we were in compliance with the PDD and stand by that still.

The bottom line is, that it is not a wise use of taxpayer money. Not the school's money, not the city's money. Not the citizen's money- which it is, all of our money. It is a complete waste to place underground 2 poles which are surrounded by 10, 20, 30 other poles all in sight, 2 poles which are perfectly safe, which the contractors themselves have asked why are these poles being removed. The citizens of Reading spoke when they came to the Planning Commission meeting, came to the council meeting, and signed a petition telling city council not to pursue this and not to sue the school, in turn suing ourselves. The far and large majority of the citizens of reading do not support paying to bury these poles. Alycia continued to say, "I cannot support spending our students' money, to bury lines that do not service the school, to remove utility poles for no reason. However, if this motion passes, I do support the decision of the board and I will optimistically move forward in hopes to rebuild our relationship with the city."

Roll Call: Ayes, Three. Crystal Menner, Amy Thamann, and Beth Wernery.
Nays. Two. Alycia Bemmes, Jim Perdue.

The president declared the motion carried.

Motion 47-21 Adjournment

It was moved by Jim Perdue, seconded by Crystal Menner to adjourn the meeting at 10:03 p.m. as there is no further business to come before the Board at this time.

President, Reading Board of Education

Attest: Treasurer, Board of Education