



**READING BOARD OF EDUCATION
BOARD REGULAR MEETING
January 18, 2023**

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 January 18, 2023, at 5:30 p.m.

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:

Dr. Damon Davis, Ms. Jennifer Burke, Mr. Mark Edwards, Ms. Rebecca Johnson, Ms. Stephanie Glad, Mr. Michael Howton, and Ms. Susan Fraley.

Motion 23-23 Approve Agenda

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

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

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

None.

PRESENTATIONS

Board Recognition Month

Dr. Davis Presented the Board Members with an appreciation gift in honor of Board of Education Recognition Month. Reading Community Schools are honored to have Beth Wernery, Alycia Bemmes, Crystal Menner, Jim Perdue, and Amy Thamann serving on the Board of Education.

5:35 p.m. Board went to Cafeteria for the Student Character Awards

Student Character Awards

Susan Fraley and Michael Howton acknowledged the 2nd quarter character award winners. Pictures of the awardees can be found [here](#). A short reception followed the awards.

6:02 p.m. Board return to the meeting

Program of Studies

Mark Edwards gave a curriculum update. His presentation can be found [here](#). Three goals were detailed during the update.

Developing Cohesive Departments

Departments have been working on developing mission statements that coincide with the mission statement for the district. The purpose of this is to help drive departmental decisions regarding curriculum and course offerings.

Building a Data Culture

A district data suite has been built to help teachers access data in one place.



Developing an Engaging Curriculum

A new Program of Studies was introduced, highlighted by new credentialing courses in construction and manufacturing, as well as a new CCP Introduction in Education Course. A new plan to accelerate a cohort of English students was discussed as well. Finally, a new tool to help students select classes was introduced where students would match a career they are interested in with course offerings at the HS. The new Career Community Cards will help students successfully select the courses to help them transition to their next steps after graduation.

Mrs. Wernery asked if the district has study hall opportunities. Mr. Edwards advised study hall opportunities still exist but not as many opportunities to take a study hall within the new Program of Studies when following a specific path. Study Hall was removed from the Program of Studies for 7th and 8th grade students for 22/23 School Year.

Mrs. Thamann asked if students who start on one pathway and wish to switch to another pathway after 1-2 years how this works. Mr. Edwards advised the student is not stuck in the original pathway and are not in jeopardy to graduate on time, however the student will be not have as long on the new pathway and courses will be limited and won't experience the entire pathway of opportunities.

Mrs. Thamann voiced a need to add additional coursework for those students in the 11th and 12th grade who started on the Advanced pathway in 7th or 8th grade as the student starts to run out of coursework since it was taken earlier.

BOARD COMMITTEE UPDATES

Building & Grounds – Meeting was held prior to the board meeting at 3:00 p.m. Ms. Bemmes provided an update of the highlights of the meeting.

- Bleacher donation - \$10,000 accepted already and another \$12,000 anticipated in February. \$22,000 will be donated specifically for bleachers and bat racks. Several donors will contribute. The donations cover almost all of the cost.
- The bleachers are for the baseball and softball fields at Hilltop Athletic Complex.
- Due to the timing of the baseball and softball season and the lead time needed for order and delivery of the bleachers, it was recommended a resolution was added to approve the purchase of the bleachers and bat racks.
- The district received quotes to double the size of the sidewalk and adding walkways from the sidewalk to both fields and the storage shed. This will be considered a long term project and the district will work to raise donations to help fund this project. We currently do not have any donations. In the meantime, the district will investigate adding gravel pathways from the sidewalk to both fields and the storage shed to eliminate wear and tear on the new grass.
- Scoreboards were priced and currently there is no funding to support the purchase.
- The district received in the fall of 2021 a quote to repair the property at Central for approx. \$85,000. Currently the Soccer teams practice in Evendale and do not have a practice space in the district. At this time, the district has not allocated any funding to repair Central.
- The district is reviewing options with the City on turfing the Football Stadium which will result in soccer space (as alternative to Central) at an increase in facility usage fee. The City is awaiting status of their NFL grant.

City/School Relation - Next meeting Feb. 1, 2023 @ 4:30 p.m. in the Media Center.

Finance Committee – Next meeting will be scheduled in the coming month to be held in the spring.

Policy – Next meeting will be scheduled in the spring to cover the Spring Policy Updates.

OSBA Student Achievement – No Update.

OSBA Legislative Update – No Update.

Great Oaks Board & Student Highlights – Mr. Perdue provided an update below.



Great Oaks Board Organizational Meeting:

The Board elected Mary Cleveland of Princeton as Chair of the Oaks Board of Directors. JB Stamper of Wilmington was elected Vice Chair.

Other leadership roles appointed:

- Ron Friend (Fairfield Local), Parliamentarian
- Terry Gibson (Lockland), Legislative Liaison
- Bill Ferguson (HCESSC), ACTE Liaison

Committee Leaders:

- JB Stamper (Wilmington), Administration and Human Resources
- Tim Sharp (Indian Hill), Building Assets
- Fred Hunt (HCESSC), Education, Program Evaluation
- Al Long (North College Hill), Financial and Investments
- Carole Ellis (Mounty Healthy), Planning and Policy
- Jim Perdue (Reading), Salary
- Amber Ballard (Norwood), Diversity and Unity Ad-Hoc

The Board welcomed new Treasurer Brian Rabe who gave an annual comprehensive financial report. The Board Approved a resolution to replace roof top units at Scarlet Oaks in a two-phase process.

BOARD DISCUSSION

2023-2024 Calendar Revision

Discussion was held regarding the need to add a contractual work day missing from the 2023-24 work calendar. There was a priority when deciding the day to complete the first semester and winter exams prior to Winter Break as well as consolidating breaks for the least disruption to academics and families. The most significant change was moving the 2024 Spring Break a week earlier to the week of March 25th instead of April 1st to better align with the Ohio State Testing Schedule. To see the full revised calendar that was approved during this meeting please visit this [link](#).

DISTRICT REPORT

Superintendent Dr. Damon Davis provided a district report; the presentation can be found [here](#). Key highlights are below:

Bullying Report

Dr. Davis shared the first half bullying report with the board per Ohio State Law.

Negotiations

The current certified teaching staff contract expires June 30th. Negotiations are set to begin on a new contract January 24th-26th.

Effective School Board A-Z Award

The Reading Community City School District has received the Gold award for distinction for the past 12 years. The award is given to outstanding work in meeting Board goals and is issued by the Ohio School Board Association. The self-evaluation was discussed for this year's award.

January/February Professional Development

The district engaged in professional development on January 17th. Teachers spent time learning about vape education, dyslexia training, math curriculum adoption, safety training and more.



Evans Caddie Scholarship

The district was visited by a board member of the Evan’s Caddy Scholarship program this past week. The organization which gives full tuition scholarships to 22 different colleges across the nation was seeking Reading students to apply for the scholarship. In order to qualify the students must work as a golf caddy for a select number of rounds and have a strong academic performance in the classroom. The high school will be giving out more information about this scholarship in the near future. For more information please refer to this brochure.

District AED Devices and Replacement Cycles

The district currently has eight AED devices throughout the district and three of the devices are in need of new pads and batteries in order to pass their two year inspection. The district will be replacing the needed items. Some discussion was made around getting more devices so anyone leaving campus would be able to bring a device with them. District Nurse Niki Luken is working with Nick Wilson, the Athletic Director, to create emergency action plans and plan training. All coaches are trained on the AED device.

Mr. Perdue advised all coaching staff must have CPR training as part of the Pupil Activity Permit requirements. He recommends coaches to have access to AEDs at all times.

Treasurer’s Recommendations

Motion 24-23 Approve Minutes – January 4, 2023 Organizational Meeting and Work Session Meeting

It was moved by Jim Perdue, seconded by Alycia Bemmes to approve the January 4, 2023 Organization Meeting and the January 4, 2023 Board Work Session Meeting minutes.

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

Motion 25-23 Approve Financial Reports / Bank Reconciliation / Investments for December 2022

It was moved by Crystal Menner, seconded by Amy Thamann to approve the Financial Reports/Bank Reconciliation / Investments for December 2022.

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

Motion 26-23 Approve Following Donations

It was moved by Jim Perdue, seconded by Crystal Menner to approve the following donations.

Donation From	Donation To	Amount
F.O.E. 1095	Wrestling	\$1000.00

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

Motion 27-23 Approve Following Invoices

It was moved by Amy Thamann, seconded by Jim Perdue to approve the following invoices.

Vendor	PO Date	Invoice Date	PO #	Amount	Item
Theis Motors	12/1/2022	11/17/2022	20230852	\$281.41	Band Booster Van Repair
St. Xavier	1/4/2023	10/1/2022	20230878	\$345.00	HS / JH Cross Country Meet
OSHAA	1/12/2023	12/12/2022	20230893	\$800.00	Sports Dues

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



Motion 28-23 Authorize Treasurer to Invest Funds

It was moved by Crystal Menner, seconded by Jim Perdue to authorize Treasurer to invest inactive and interim funds in permissible investments, pursuant to Board Policy and Ohio Revised Code when funds are available.

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

The President declared the motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS

Motion 29-23 Approve the Following Staff Supplementals for 2022-2023:

It was moved by Jim Perdue, seconded by Amy Thamann to approve the following staff supplementals for 2022-2023.

Name of Staff	Position
Garrett Edwards	Baseball, JV Assistant
James Singleton	Baseball, JV Head Coach
Evan Marsh	Baseball, Varsity Assistant
RJ Hayes	Baseball, Varsity Head Coach
Mike Denney	Softball, Varsity Assistant
Amanda Shinkle	Softball, Varsity Head Coach
Luke Cripe	Weight Room Coordinator - Spring

Roll Call: Ayes, Four. Alycia Bemmes, Jim Perdue, Amy Thamann, Beth Wernery
Nays. None.

Abstain One: Crystal Menner

The President declared the motion carried.

Motion 30-23 Approve the Following Non-Staff Supplementals for 2022-2023:

It was moved by Alycia Bemmes, seconded by Amy Thamann to approve the following non-staff supplementals for 2022-2023 school year.

Name of Staff	Position
Jordan Harvey	Softball, JV Assistant
Brett Morton	Softball, JV Head Coach
Joe Godbey	Track, Boys Varsity Head Coach
Emma Pletz	Track Girls Head Coach (MS)
Dave Ramsey	Track, Boys Varsity Assistant
Ben Kolb	Track, Girls Varsity Head Coach

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

The President declared the motion carried.



Motion 31-23 Approve the Following Athletic Volunteer Positions for 2022-2023 School Year:

It was moved by Amy Thamann, seconded by Crystal Menner to approve the following volunteers for 2022-2023 school year.

Name of Staff	Position
Nick Lunsford	Baseball
Eric Conner	Baseball

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

The President declared the motion carried.

Motion 32-23 Approve the 1st Half 2022-2023 Bullying Report

It was moved by Jim Perdue, seconded by Crystal Menner to approve the 1st Half 2022-2023 Bullying Report.

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

The President declared the motion carried.

Motion 33-23 Approve the Program of Studies for 2023-2024 School Year

It was moved by Amy Thamann, seconded by Jim Perdue to approve the 2023-2024 School Year Program of Studies.

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

The President declared the motion carried.

Motion 34-23 Approve the Overnight Varsity Wrestling Trip To Lima, Ohio

It was moved by Crystal Menner, seconded by Amy Thamann to approve the Overnight Varsity Wrestling Trip to Lima, Ohio to Central Catholic High School from 1/27/23-1/28/2023.

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

The President declared the motion carried.

Motion 35-23 Approve the Installation of Safety and Security Upgrades by Nor-Com (via Omnia)

It was moved by Jim Perdue, seconded by Alycia Bemmes to approve the purchase and installation of safety and security upgrades by Nor-Com (via Omnia).

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

The President declared the motion carried.

Motion 36-23 Approve the Purchase of Bleachers & Bat Rack for Hilltop Athletic Complex

It was moved by Alycia Bemmes, seconded by Crystal Menner to approve the purchase of bleachers and bat racks for the Hilltop Athletic Complex from BSN not to exceed \$23,200.

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

The President declared the motion carried.



Motion 37-23 Approve the Following Contracts / Agreements for 2022-2023:

It was moved by Jim Perdue, seconded by Crystal Menner to approve the following contract(s) and agreement(s) for 2022-2023.

Vendor	Contract
Applied Behavioral Services	Student Service Agreement
Hamilton County ESC	Workforce Development Focus Work & Expansion

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

The President declared the motion carried.

Motion 38-23 Approval Continued Membership and Subscriptions for Ohio School Boards Association

It was moved by Jim Perdue, seconded by Crystal Menner to approve continued membership and subscriptions for Ohio School Boards Association from January-December 2023.

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

The President declared the motion carried.

Motion 39-23 Adjournment

It was moved by Jim Perdue, seconded by Alycia Bemmes to adjourn at 7:49 p.m.

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

The President declared the motion carried.

President, Reading Board of Education

Attest: Treasurer, Reading Board of Education