



READING BOARD OF EDUCATION
BOARD REGULAR MEETING
December 13, 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 December 13, 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

In Attendance:

Mark Edwards, Becky Johnson, Susan Fraley, Michael Howton

Motion 305-23 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.

Motion 306-23 Approve Executive Session

It was moved by Jim Perdue, seconded by Crystal Menner to approve entering into Executive Session.

Personnel, R.C. 121.22 (G) (1): For the purpose(s) of considering the
___ appointment __X__ employment ___ dismissal ___ discipline ___ demotion
of a public employee or public official of the School District.

Not in executive session: Mrs. Alycia Bemmes
Invited in to the meeting district attorney Mr. William Deters

No action was taken.

In: 5:32 p.m.

Out: 6:56 p.m.

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

The President declared the motion carried.

PRESENTATIONS

None.

BOARD COMMITTEE UPDATES

Building & Grounds – The district invited the Bolser & Thurnridge residents to the January 17th, 2024 meeting to discuss the district's plan for the return to natural state the hillside facing their property. Rooted in Community will be onsite to present plans.

Finance Committee – No update but dates for 2024 will be presented at the organizational meeting.



Policy Committee – Mrs. Wernery noted the second reading on policies for approval this evening.

Great Oaks Board & Student Highlights –

The board meeting for the Great Oaks is scheduled at the same time as tonight's meetings and Mr. Perdue was unable to attend.

BOARD DISCUSSION

None.

DISTRICT REPORT

Superintendent Dr. Damon Davis provided a district report; the presentation can be found [here](#). Key highlights are below: [1:27:36](#)

Safety and Security Updates

Coordinated meetings with local law enforcement

The district has coordinated quarterly safety meetings with local law enforcement and City Leaders. The second meeting was recently held, involving key personnel such as Chief Edens, Chief Owens, Mayor Bemmes, Shawn Riley, HCESC and other district and county representatives.

Emergency Early Dismissal Plan

Following a reunification workshop attended by District Representatives, plans are underway to develop an emergency early dismissal plan. This action is in response to increasing threats and hoaxes in schools nationwide. An updated form for parents detailing early dismissal preferences will be sent out over break.

Turnkey Solutions Contract

Starting December 20th, Turnkey Solutions will be updating safety and security software and hardware in school buildings. This project, co-funded with OFCC, involves testing alarms, intercom systems, and doors.

Emergency Test of School Messenger

A test message was sent to parents in early November to ensure effective communication channels are working properly.

Upcoming Drills

The district plans to conduct more lockdown and evacuation drills, with a full-scale drill scheduled for next fall.

Preschool and Kindergarten Open House

The District successfully held a preschool and kindergarten open house. The event, promoted through social media and with the help of Serendipity, featured model classrooms and allowed families to interact with teachers and administrators. Around 30 families attended. Registration for the next academic year is now available.

High Aims Leadership

The District's Administrative Team participated in the High Aims Leadership Retreat, focusing on artificial intelligence (AI) in education and collaborative initiatives with other districts. The retreat included presentations on AI tools, integration in classrooms, and district-district collaboration projects.



Holiday Programs and Events

A variety of holiday events were organized which included; Holiday Bazaar with over 100 vendors, a Chamber of Commerce holiday dinner, and various school concerts and play. The school also hosted special events for new teacher staff and a Memorial basketball game honoring longtime supporter Mr. Richard Morgan which showcased strong community and school spirit.

Other Updates

The district is preparing for the end-of-semester exams which are on a new schedule allowing the semester to conclude before the holiday break. This change aims to provide a more seamless transition for students and staff into the new semester.

TREASURER'S RECOMMENDATIONS

Motion 307-23 Approve Minutes – November 15, 2023 Regular Session Meeting and November 29, 2023 Work Session Minutes:

It was moved by Jim Perdue, seconded by Crystal Menner to approve the November 15, 2023 Regular Session Meeting and November 29, 2023 Work Session Minutes.

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

Motion 308-23 Approve Financial Reports / Bank Reconciliation / Investments for November 2023:

It was moved by Crystal Menner, seconded by Alycia Bemmes to approve the Financial Reports/Bank Reconciliation / Investments for November 2023.

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

Motion 309-23 Approval of the Following Donations:

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

Donation From	Donation To	Amount
Elementary PTO	Elementary (Buses)	\$844.20
FOE 1094	Wrestling	\$1,500.00
Air Plus Heating	Wrestling	\$200.00

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

Motion 310-23 Approval of the Following New Fund:

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

Fund	Description
200-9226	Class of 2026

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



Motion 311-23 Approve the Following Invoices under the Then and Now Certificate:

It was moved by Crystal Menner, seconded by Alycia Bemmes to approve the following invoices under the Then and Now Certificate.

Vendor	PO Date	Invoice Date	PO #	Amount	Item
New Richmond HS	12/7/2023	10/7/2023	20240929	\$200.00	Cross Country Entry Fee
Madeira HS	12/13/2023	8/19/2023	20240938	\$185.00	Volleyball Tournament

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 312-23 Approval of the Following Volunteer for 2023-2024 School Year:

It was moved by Jim Perdue, seconded by Crystal Menner to approve the following volunteer for 2023-2024 School Year.

Name of Staff	Position
Johnathan Schramm	Basketball

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

Motion 313-23 Approval of the Following Non-Staff Supplemental for 2023-2024 School Year:

It was moved by Jim Perdue, seconded by Crystal Menner to approve the following non-staff supplemental for 2023-2024 School Year.

Name of Staff	Position
Jason Hirt*	MS Wrestling

*PAP Pending

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

Motion 314-23 Approve the Following Staff Members for PreK/K Open House on December 5, 2023.

It was moved by Crystal Menner, seconded by Amy Thamann to approve the following staff members attending the PreK/Kindergarten Open House on December 5, 2023, 5:45 p.m.-7:15 p.m. @\$30.00/hour.

Name of Staff	Name of Staff
Kayla Reyes	Brittany Robbins
Andi O'Connor-King	Kelly Goldner
Sophia Easton	Julianne Ford

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

Motion 315-23 Approve the Following Staff Members for FMLA Leave of Absence:

It was moved by Alycia Bemmes, seconded by Amy Thamann to approve the following staff members for FMLA Leave of Absence.



Name of Staff	Position	Effective Dates	Reason
Brooke Nichols	2nd Grade Teacher	4/15/2024-5/27/2024	Paid FMLA
Pam Pinnix	Elementary Secretary	12/20/2023-1/19/2024	Paid FMLA
April Black	Wellness/Stem Teacher	12/16/2023-12/31/2024 (Intermittent use of days)	Paid FLMA

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

Motion 316-23 Approve the Fall Policy Update 41.1 – 2nd Reading:

It was moved by Jim Perdue, seconded by Crystal Menner to approve the following Fall Policy Update 41.1 policies:

Policy Number	Policy
po0141.2	Conflict of Interest
po2623.02	Third Grade Guarantee
po3120.08/ po4120.08	Employment of Personnel for Co-Curricular/Extra-Curricular Activities
po5320	Immunization
po5330	Use of Medications
po5337	Care of Students with Active Seizure Disorders
po6240	Board of Revision Complaints and Countercomplaints
po6700	Fair Labor Standards Act (FLSA)
po7440	Facility Security
po8120	Volunteers
po8210	School Calendar
po8330	Student Records
po8600	Transportation
po8650	Transportation by School Van
po9160	Public Attendance at School Events
po9211	District Support Organizations
po9270	Equivalent Education Outside the Schools and Participation in Extracurricular for Students Not Enrolled in the District

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

Motion 317-23 Approve the Varsity Wrestling Overnight Field Trip to Vandalia Butler High School on 12/27/23-12/28/23.

It was moved by Crystal Menner, seconded by Amy Thamann to approve the Varsity Wrestling Overnight Field Trip to Vandalia Butler High School on 12/27/23-12/28/23.

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



Motion 318-23 Approve the following contract(s):

It was moved by Jim Perdue, seconded by Crystal Menner to approve the following contract(s).

Vendor	Service
Applied Behavior Services	Student Services
Constellation New Energy	Gas Supply Agreement (4/1/2024-3/31/2027)
Master Electric Energy	Electric Supply Agreement (12/4/2023-12/3/2026)

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

Motion 319-23 Approval for January Organizational Meeting & Tax Budget Hearing on January 3, 2024:

It was moved by Jim Perdue, seconded by Crystal Menner to approve date of January 3, 2024 as the Organizational Meeting at 5:30 p.m. & Tax Budget Hearing at 5:00 p.m in the Media Center at 810 E. Columbia Avenue, Cincinnati, Ohio 45215.

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

Motion 320-23 Approval Temporary Chairperson for the January Organizational Meeting:

It was moved by Beth Wernery, seconded by Alycia Bemmes to approve Jim Perdue as the temporary chairperson for the January 3, 2024 at the Organizational Meeting.

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

Motion 321-23 Approve the Consolidated School Report Survey for the 2022-2023 School Year:

It was moved by Crystal Menner, seconded by Amy Thamann to approve the Consolidated School Report Survey for the 2022-2023 School Year.

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

Motion 322-23 Approve the Following New Staff for the 2023-2024 School Year:

It was moved by Jim Perdue, seconded by Crystal Menner to approve the revised effective date for the following staff member for the 2023-2024 School Year.

Name of Staff	Position	Recommended Salary Placement	Effective Date
Sophie Goodman *	Preschool Teacher	BA Step 0	01/08/2024 (Revised start date: 01/05/2024)

*Pending Licensure

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



Motion 323-23 Adjournment:

It was moved by Crystal Menner, seconded by Jim Perdue to adjourn at 7:18 p.m.

Roll Call: Ayes: Five. Alycia Bemmes, Crystal Menner, Jim Perdue, Amy Thamann, Beth Wernery

Nayes: None

The President declared the motion carried.

Beth Wernery

President, Reading Board of Education

Jenny Bull

Attest: Treasurer, Reading Board of Education