



**READING BOARD OF EDUCATION
BOARD REGULAR MEETING
July 24, 2024**

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 July 24, 2024, 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:

Dr. Damon Davis, Mrs. Jennifer Burke, Mr. Mark Edward.

Motion 203-24 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

Terrace Metrics: (5:45) –

Assistant Superintendent Mark Edwards presented data from Terrace Metrics, highlighting its role in measuring student resilience, grit, positive outlook, and hope. These metrics are crucial for effective learning and are gathered through surveys taken by students from third to twelfth grade. Mr. Edwards emphasized the ability to identify individual student needs through scores on factors such as anxiety and grit. He noted that the Junior Senior High showed improvements in all categories, including a significant decrease in anxiety levels. At the elementary level, there was a high rate of positive school connections, though this connection tends to decrease as students advance in grade levels. Programs like Second Step at the elementary level and advisory bells and clubs at the High School are designed to improve these metrics.

This data also allows for detailed analysis by subgroups such as race, gender, and disabilities, ensuring all student groups are well-represented and feel connected to the school. Mr. Edwards discussed the potential impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on these metrics, noting that improvements might be partly due to being further removed from the disruptions caused by the pandemic. Moving forward, the goal is to use this data to continuously enhance student engagement and well-being, with a call for expanded mentoring programs to support high school students. The data will be instrumental in tracking the effectiveness of these programs and ensuring that all students have the support they need to thrive.

Chad Richmond Memorial Basketball Court Ribbon Cutting: (15:32)

Superintendent Damon Davis shared a presentation on the ribbon-cutting ceremony for the Chad Richmond Memorial Court, promoting the community's efforts in bringing this project to life. Dr. Davis played a video that was created for the event and celebrated the contributions of the Richmond family and the community, emphasizing that over 70% of the donations came from individuals rather than large corporate sponsors. In the video Regina Richmond passionately recounted the journey from the project's inception three years ago to its completion, noting how the court now serves as a space for students to



enjoy and remember Chad Richmond, who had a deep connection to the court both before and after his military service.

Dr. Davis commended Regina Richmond and others for their dedication, which resulted in a well-attended and meaningful ceremony. He also acknowledged the work of Treasurer Jen Burke in coordinating between architects and the Richmond family. The court not only provides a place for physical activity but also raises awareness for PTSD among veterans, an issue close to the Richmond family's heart. Discussions are ongoing about enhancing the facility with security cameras and Wi-Fi, possibly in partnership with the City, to ensure safety and potentially stream sporting events for broader community engagement. Davis encouraged those who haven't visited the court to see its transformation and the positive impact it has on the community.

BOARD COMMITTEE UPDATES

Building & Grounds - Next meeting scheduled August 21, 2024 at 4:30 p.m. in the Media Center. There was a small discussion on the stadium lease, which had been received and revised to update outdated language. The revised lease was submitted to the city on June 5th for review and approval. As of July 24th, the board is still awaiting the city's response.

Finance Committee Next meeting scheduled for September 4th at 4:30 p.m. in the Media Center.

Policy - Next meeting is scheduled for October 2, 2024 @10:30 a.m. in the Board Office.

BOARD DISCUSSION

None.

DISTRICT REPORT

Superintendent Damon Davis provided a district report and the presentation can be found [here](#). Key highlights are below: (26:12)

Start of 2024-2025 School Year Updates

Dr. Davis provided an update on the district's preparations for the upcoming 2024-25 school year. He confirmed that there would be no changes to the school day schedule for elementary and junior-senior high students. Key dates were highlighted, including new student orientation and "getting ready days" in mid-August, the first day of school for different grade levels, and various open house events. He also mentioned several important district dates, such as new staff orientation and professional development days. Additionally, Dr. Davis introduced a new initiative, aimed at increasing student, staff, and family engagement by ensuring all students participate in school activities, staff engage in wellness opportunities, and high school juniors and seniors take part in job shadowing or internships.

The summer learning program for kindergarten and first grade, focusing on literacy, is off to a positive start. Dr. Davis also detailed several safety and security upgrades, including new fob readers, relocated Aon systems for enhanced security, and the repositioning of the panic button to the school resource officer's office. The district's facilities have undergone significant cleaning and maintenance, with updates to the landscaping and the introduction of new outdoor spaces for students and staff. Dr. Davis commended the maintenance staff, custodians, and cafeteria team for their hard work over the summer, ensuring the buildings and grounds are in excellent condition for the new school year.



Treasurer's Recommendations

Motion 204-24 Approve Minutes – June 26, 2024 Regular Session.

It was moved by Amy Thamann, seconded by Crystal Menner to approve the June 26, 2024 Regular Session Meeting Minutes.

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

Motion 205-24 Approve Financial Reports / Bank Reconciliation / Investments for June 2024

It was moved by Jim Perdue, seconded by Alycia Bemmes to approve the Financial Reports/Bank Reconciliation / Investments for June 2024.

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

NEW BUSINESS

Motion 206-24 Approve the following Administrative Contract:

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

Name of Staff	Contract	Dates
Jennifer Burke	260 Day Contract	8/1/2024-7/31/2029

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

Motion 207-24 Approval to Rescind the Following Staff Supplementals for 2024-2025 School Year:

It was moved by Alycia Bemmes, seconded by Crystal Menner to rescind the following staff supplementals for 2024-2025 School Year.

Name of Staff	Position
Laura Freese	Class Sponsor, Freshman
Laura Freese	Department Chair, Specials

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

Motion 208-24 Approve the Following Staff Supplementals 2024-2025 School Year:

It was moved by Jim Perdue, seconded by Crystal Menner to approve the following Staff Supplementals 2024-2025 School Year.

Name of Staff	Position
Kim Blair	LPDC Committee

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



Motion 209-24 Approve the Following Non-Staff Supplementals 2024-2025 School Year:

It was moved by Amy Thamann, seconded by Crystal Menner to approve the following Non-Staff Supplementals 2024-2025 School Year.

Name of Staff	Position
Elliott Hungler	Band Director Assistant (HS)
Gwen Hensley	Cheerleading, JV Head Coach
Rachel Bronner	Volleyball, Varsity Assistant
TJ Manning*	Soccer, Girls JV Head Coach
Jordan Harvey	Soccer, Girls Varsity Assistant

*pending PAP

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

The President declared the motion carried.

Motion 210-24 Approve the Following Staff Training in August 2024 at \$30.00/hour:

It was moved by Jim Perdue, seconded by Crystal Menner to approve the following Staff Training at \$30.00/hour.

Name of Staff	Position
Kayla Reyes	Summer PD (Up to 3.5 hours)
Sophie Goodman	Summer PD (Up to 3.5 hours)
Jacqueline Smith	Summer PD (Up to 3.5 hours)
Dana Simon	Summer PD (Up to 3.5 hours)
Brittany Vandy	Summer PD (Up to 3.5 hours)

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

The President declared the motion carried.

Motion 211-24 Approve the following Contracts for the 2024-2025 School Year:

It was moved by Crystal Menner, seconded by Jim Perdue to approve the following contracts for the 2024-2025 School Year unless otherwise noted.

Vendor	Service
CAEL	FY25 Connected Pathways
Hamilton Clermont Cooperati	FY25 Annual Agreement
Best Point	FY25 Placement Contract
SWOCA	FY25 Schedule of Software Services
Parent	FY25 Personal Service Contract for Student
Stanley's Driver Training	FY25 Drivers Ed Usage Agreement
UCIT Agreement	FY25 Educational Program
WeEmpower	FY25 Support and Leadership Development
Sharonville Convention Cente	2025 Graduation
Mercy Health Physicians	FY25 Sports Medicine Agreement

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

The President declared the motion carried.



Motion 212-24 Approve Barb Cooper for School Psychological Services for 2024-2025 School Year:

It was moved by Jim Perdue, seconded by Crystal Menner to approve Barb Cooper for the School Psychological Services for Reading Community City School District, 1 day a week, 8 hours/day at the rate of \$50.00/hour effective 8/15/24-5/30/25.

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

Motion 213-24 Approve Southwest Ohio EPC Liability Insurance Plan for 2024-2025 School Year:

It was moved by Crystal Menner, seconded by Amy Thamann to approve Southwest Ohio EPC Liability Insurance Plan effective 2024-2025 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 214-24 Approve Industrial Appraisal Company for on-site inspection and appraisal of equipment:

It was moved by Crystal Menner, seconded by Jim Perdue to approve the district to work with Industrial Appraisal Company to conduct an on-site inspection and appraisal of the building and equipment associated with all district property locations.

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

Motion 215-24 Approve Voya Severance / Incentive 403b Plan:

It was moved by Crystal Menner, seconded by Amy Thamann to approve the Voya Severance / Incentive 403b Plan for employer paid distribution.

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

Motion 216-24 Approve Executive Session

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

Economic Development Assistance ORC 121.22 (G) 8: For the purpose(s) of considering the confidential information related to the marketing plans, specific business strategy, production techniques, trade secrets or personal financial statements of an applicant for economic development assistance, and to negotiate with other political subdivisions respecting requests for economic development assistance.

Invited Mr. Mark Edwards

In: 6:13 p.m.

Out: 7:25 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 217-24 Adjournment

It was moved by Crystal Menner, seconded by Jim Perdue to adjourn at 7:25 p.m.

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



Beth Wernely

President, Reading Board of Education

Jenny Bunde

Attest: Treasurer, Reading Board of Education