

DRAFT

RAYMOND SCHOOL BOARD
MINUTES OF MEETING
JULY 9, 2008

Commissioner of Education's Acknowledgement of the Raymond School District as a Follow the Child District – At 7:15 PM, Lyonel Tracy, Commissioner of the State Department of Education, acknowledged the Raymond School District as a Follow the Child District, during which he stated, in part, the following: Former Acting Superintendent Michael Shore submitted a letter to him asking that the Raymond School District become a Follow the Child district and submitted to him various goals and objectives of the district. He (Commissioner Tracy) congratulated the board for taking the No Child Left Behind (NCLB) federal legislation to another level and stated the following: It is not enough to test students once a year. The NCLB legislation takes scores to another level, of which New Hampshire is the national leader. Tangible evidence of the results of the legislation need to be shown. If a district has good leadership and good relationships with the community and teachers working together, the positive results with the students will be seen. The Raymond School Board has shown that they are committed to student learning and results.

I. CALL TO ORDER: The meeting, which was held in the Media Center of Raymond High School, was called to order at 7:30 PM by Chairperson Diane Naoum. Present were School Board Members Diane Naoum, Christina Vogel, John Harmon, and Gretchen Gott. Also present were Superintendent Dr. Jean Richards, Business Administrator Ronald Brickett, High School Principal Kirk Beitler, and Middle School Principal Ellen Small.

II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Everybody in attendance at the meeting stood and recited the pledge of allegiance to the flag.

III. PROOF OF POSTING: The board noted from the return of posting submitted by Mrs. Naoum that this meeting had been properly posted.

IV. PUBLIC INPUT: None of the members of the public in attendance at this meeting wished to address the board.

V. BUSINESS

V.A. Principals – End of Year Reports

Raymond High School

Mr. Beitler reported as follows:

Emergency Response Team – He thanked the emergency response team at the high school this past Spring for doing a great job and for being thoughtful, helpful, and considerate of other students. The school was also supported by staff of the middle and elementary schools. The team was on task and he extends his kudos to them.

DRAFT

RAYMOND SCHOOL BOARD
MINUTES OF MEETING
JULY 9, 2008
PAGE 2

Underclassmen Awards Night - On Wednesday, May 28th, Underclassmen Awards Night was held, during which 143 students were recognized for their academic achievement.

Spring Track Season - Spring track season was successful and the team qualified for the state meet.

New England Association of Schools and Colleges (NEASC) Accreditation Process - The goal for the school during the 2008-09 school year is to complete NEASC's accreditation process. Their visit was successful and he is waiting for their first draft report, which should be received any day now.

Early Drop-Out Prevention Measures - Early drop-out prevention measures continue to be developed.

Student Leadership Team - A Student Leadership Team has been established which consists of 24 students who meet several times during the school year, participate in training at New England College, and in an on-line survey. They establish goals for the following school year based on the results of student surveys. They felt strongly about student-to-student and student-to-teacher relationships. Students want more of a voice within the school.

Universal Team - The Universal Team defined student behavioral expectations and gave them to the faculty and, in a limited way, to the student body. The team thought the success of the program was mediocre. They implemented a system whereby students were rewarded, but the team felt it had limited success.

Summer Classes - Thirty-three students are taking summer classes.

Results of the Northwest Evaluation Association Test – Based on the results of this test, the school needs to continue to use data more effectively in classroom instruction.

School Web Site - The school's web site has been updated.

Monthly Newsletter - A monthly newsletter was mailed to all parents last school year.

Curriculum Alignment – The school's curriculum has been aligned with grade level expectations. Curriculum coaches were used in mathematics and English this year to work with the faculty.

DRAFT

RAYMOND SCHOOL BOARD
MINUTES OF MEETING
JULY 9, 2008
PAGE 3

Upon Mr. Harmon's questioning, Mr. Beitler responded as follows: He has been talking with Former Acting Superintendent Michael Shore and Dr. Richards regarding bringing the Assistant Principal and building administrators' offices up to the front of the school to facilitate him having daily chats with them. The Guidance Office will be located in the back of the school. A security system is in place whereby, during school hours, people have to be buzzed into the building. The security system will be up and running very shortly.

Upon Miss Gott's questioning, Mr. Brickett responded that the Superintendent's Office also has security cameras.

Mrs. Naoum stated that \$300,000 was received by high school students for scholarships and grants.

Iber Holmes Gove Middle School

Mrs. Small reported as follows:

End-of-Year Student Activities

Fourth Graders Visit to the Middle School – Fourth graders visited the middle school, met with teachers, had lunch in the cafeteria, and were taken through a typical day at the school. The comments received were that they liked the school. That night, an open house was held for parents, at which Assistant Principal Michael Chouinard, Administrative Assistant Christopher Lord, and Coordinator of Student Services Becky Hadik were in attendance, as well as about 60 other people.

Fifth Grade Trip - Fifth graders went to Boston on a field trip.

Sixth Grade Trip - Sixth graders finished up Nature's Classroom.

Seventh Grade Trip - Seventh graders ended the school year with a science curriculum activity – they went to the aquarium in Boston and participated in a whale watch.

Eighth Grade Trip - Eighth graders went to Washington, DC., during which they participated in a night tour of Washington.

Class Day - Class Day was held for eighth graders on June 20th.

DRAFT

RAYMOND SCHOOL BOARD
MINUTES OF MEETING
JULY 9, 2008
PAGE 4

Presidential Academic Fitness Awards - Some students received Presidential Academic Fitness awards, which consisted of two categories - silver and gold. She explained the requirements that students had to meet in order to receive this award and read the names of the students who received the silver and gold awards. These awards were presented before the student body.

Good Citizenship Award – This award was given to one student.

Mathematics/Literature Oversight Committee – These two committees joined together to become the Mathematics/Literature Oversight Committee.

V.B. RHS 2008-09 Parent Student Handbook

Mr. Beitler discussed with the board the proposed changes to be made to the Raymond High School Parent/Student Handbook for the 2008-09 school year, during which board members suggested several changes to be made to it.

V.C. RHS Freshman Orientation Delayed Opening - The board acknowledged receipt of the handout entitled “Freshman Orientation Delayed Opening for August 26th” from which the following were noted: The purpose of this delayed opening is to allow the incoming freshmen, Class of 2012, to start their first day of high school in the building by themselves, which will hopefully eliminate any anxiety or fear they have about the school. It was noted from Dr. Richards’ memo to the board, dated July 7th, that High School Principal Kirk Beitler is proposing this delayed opening at the start of the school year to allow for this orientation, during which students will get to meet teachers, learn where their lockers are, where the lunch room is, etc. After the board discussed this matter, MOTION: John Harmon moved, seconded by Christina Vogel, to accept Mr. Beitler’s proposal for a delayed opening in order to have a freshman orientation to the building. Voted unanimously in the affirmative.

V.D. Revised Workweek – SAU

The following were noted from Dr. Richards’ memo to the board, dated July 7th, regarding business items: She would like to begin discussions about the feasibility of reorganizing the SAU workweek to a four-day week during the summer months. The usefulness of this increasingly popular trend is that it may reduce operating expenses for the building. While it may be too late to start this summer, it might be a good time to consider it for next summer

DRAFT

RAYMOND SCHOOL BOARD
MINUTES OF MEETING
JULY 9, 2008
PAGE 5

Dr. Richards stated the following: There have been discussions with Town Manager Christopher Rose regarding a four-day workweek during the summer school vacation. It is probably too late to start such a schedule this year. The Town Manager said he would be willing to work with us in terms of the Recreation Program. She thinks that the school administration should give this matter more thought for next summer.

Mr. Harmon stated that he hopes that the SAU workweek will not be changed to a four-day week during the summer months and that he would not support a four-day week.

Upon Mrs. Vogel's questioning, Dr. Richards and Mr. Brickett both stated that there would be no extra cost to the district in having a four-day workweek.

After further discussion, no vote or action was taken regarding this matter.

V.E. Nominations/Resignations - The board noted from Dr. Richards' memo to them, dated July 8th, regarding resignation/nominations, that she is recommending that they vote to accept the following:

Resignation

Kindergarten Teacher Robin Proulx

Nominations

Middle School Case Manager Jennifer Ferreira
Elementary School Half-Time Kindergarten Teacher Mallory Lefebvre
High School English Teacher Shelly Tudisco
Middle School Special Education Teacher David McKinniss
High School Library Media Specialist Robert LaMoine
Elementary School Teacher Kelly Garcea
High School Reading Specialist Caryn Burton
High School Art Teacher Kathy Mutch
Elementary School Teacher Catherine Strough
Elementary School Teacher Amanda Beauchene

MOTION: John Harmon moved, seconded by Gretchen Gott, to accept the nominations and resignations listed above. Voted unanimously in the affirmative.

VI. COMMITTEE REPORTS

Elementary School Facilities Committee – Mr. Harmon reported that this committee met again at the end of June and its status is the same as what he has been reporting.

DRAFT

RAYMOND SCHOOL BOARD
MINUTES OF MEETING
JULY 9, 2008
PAGE 6

Raymond Economic Development Commission – Mrs. Naoum reported as follows: This commission is still looking for potential businesses to come to Raymond. They are also looking into having a farmers market in Raymond which will be advertised on Channel 22 so that the town can go forward in the future.

Planning Board – Miss Gott reported that the master plan meeting will be held on Thursday, July 24th.

Raymond Cable TV Committee – Miss Gott reported that during the recent tour of the high school, committee members pointed out what they would like to do regarding lights and other issues and they will be talking directly with Dr. Richards about them. Mr. Brickett stated that members of the committee would not have to come before the board.

VII. SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT

Dr. Richards reported as follows:

She has been very busy for the last six days, including the three days she spent with Mr. Shore, during which he shared a lot of information with her. She met with staff of the Seacoast School of Technology, Public Works Director Dennis McCarthy, Budget Committee Chairperson Edward French, Police Chief David Salois, Mr. Brickett, and Town Manager Christopher Rose. She also met with Mr. Beitler and will be meeting with Mrs. Small and Mr. LeGallo. Everyone she has met with has been very gracious. She has not yet received final bus route information. Hiring of staff members is moving along and there are still some open positions. She is making progress, but the district is not yet fully staffed.

She stated that the district has an opportunity to participate in an oil collaborative with other school districts. Mr. Brickett stated that if the district joined with the collaborative, it would be paying a penny more a gallon, which would be \$550. If the district buys its own oil, it would have to buy 2,400 gallons at a different price. He would like the district to go with the collaborative to see what bids they have and to continue looking on its own.

Upon Mr. Harmon’s questioning, Mr. Brickett responded as follows: The collaborative would have a fixed rate which would have to be paid by mid-July and he should know what that rate is by the end of July.

It was the board’s consensus that the district join the collaborative.

DRAFT

RAYMOND SCHOOL BOARD
MINUTES OF MEETING
JULY 9, 2008
PAGE 7

Continuation of Meeting Beyond 10:00 PM – At 9:54 PM, MOTION: John Harmon moved, seconded by Christina Vogel, to continue this meeting beyond 10:00 PM. Voted unanimously in the affirmative.

VIII. OTHER: It was the board's consensus that there was no other business to be discussed at this meeting.

IX. APPROVAL OF MINUTES: June 18, 2008

The board noted the following amendments to be made to the public session minutes of the June 18, 2008 meeting:

(1) On Page 1, the first line of the last paragraph should be amended to "Mr. LeGallo read Mrs. Boynton's statement..."

(2) On Page 3, the second and third lines of the fifth paragraph should be amended to "...there is an 80/15/5 expectation in any population – 80% of students do well, 15% of students need additional support, and 5% of students..."

(3) On Page 4, the second full paragraph, beginning with Mrs. Vogel recommended... should be deleted in its entirety.

(4) Also on Page 4, beginning in the sixth line of agenda item VII.B., should be amended to "...tardiness because it was less stringent than what is current, but does accept..."

(5) On Page 5, the second and third paragraphs should be moved to agenda item VII.B. on Page 4.

(6) Also on Page 5, in the fourth existing paragraph, the paragraph beginning with "Upon Miss Gott's..." the first and second lines should be amended to "...between the high school and the middle school handbooks."

(7) On Page 7, the third paragraph under "Planning Board" should be amended to "A representative from state offices stated..."

(8) Also on Page 7, the paragraph titled "Selectmen's Subcommittee" should be amended to "Planning Board Discussion."

(9) Also on Page 7, the first paragraph under "Superintendent's Report" should be amended to read "Draft District Goals for the 2008 through 2009 School Year" and the end of the second line should be amended to "...2008 through 2009 School Year."

(10) On Page 8, after the paragraph entitled "Parting Remarks," the next paragraph should be entitled "Goals" and the following seven items should be indented under it.

Amendment to June 4, 2008 Minutes – The board noted that on Page 8, the second paragraph should be amended to "Mr. Comai stated the following: The administration already has that data. The school's CO2 levels are very good. Having the testing conducted is not prudent because there is not a mold problem and he will state that there is not such a problem."

DRAFT

RAYMOND SCHOOL BOARD
MINUTES OF MEETING
JULY 9, 2008
PAGE 8

MOTION: John Harmon moved, seconded by Christina Vogel, that the above section of Page 8 of the public session minutes of the June 4, 2008 meeting be accepted as amended. Voted unanimously in the affirmative.

MANIFEST SIGNING - The board members signed the manifest.

X. NON-PUBLIC SESSION – RSA 91-A:3II(a)

A. Personnel

MOTION: John Harmon moved, seconded by Christina Vogel, that the board enter into non-public session under RSA 91-A:3,II.(a) - “The dismissal, promotion or compensation of any public employee or the disciplining of such employee, or the investigation of any charges against him, unless the employee affected (1) has a right to a meeting and (2) requests that the meeting be open, in which case the request shall be granted” – to discuss personnel matters. Upon the board members being individually polled, the motion was voted unanimously in the affirmative by John Harmon, Christina Vogel, Gretchen Gott, and Diane Naoum. The board entered into non-public session at 10:12 PM and resumed public session at 10:54 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Barbara Freeman, Clerk
Raymond School Board

Raymond School Board Minutes – continued
July 9, 2008

MOTION: John Harmon moved, seconded by Christina Vogel, to exit non-public session and that the minutes of tonight’s non-public session be kept confidential until such time as the circumstances under which they are being kept confidential no longer apply. Upon polling the Board, voted unanimously in the affirmative.

MOTION: John Harmon moved, seconded by Christina Vogel, to adjourn the meeting. Voted unanimously in the affirmative. Meeting adjourned at 10:54 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Jean Richards,
Superintendent