



Raymond School District Community Newsletter

The Green Gazette

January 2020

Happy New Year from the Raymond School District!



As I reflect on 2019 and look forward to a new year, I realize how much our schools 'give back' to the community and the Raymond area. A genuine spirit of generosity and dedication to others exists amongst our students, our employees and our volunteers. Throughout the year there are numerous opportunities for groups and individuals to help others through community engagement or fundraising.

With the support of our staff members and volunteers, Raymond students are contributing to the betterment of society in so many ways. I hope you enjoy this special edition of our community newsletter, which highlights our students' service and commitment to others.

Happy New Year from the Raymond School District!

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Helping Families with School Meals

Often times we are asked at School Board meetings, Budget Committee meetings and in the public eye what people can do to help students and families who are struggling to pay what they owe to the school lunch program. The District has a procedure that is in place to help us take donations and use the funds to help the students that are most in need or those who are specifically designated by the charitable donor. We welcome and appreciate any contribution or assistance that any interested individual or group can provide. Last year, we instituted a voluntary payroll deduction program option for our employees who choose to participate, which allows biweekly school lunch program donations to be made directly from their paychecks. I want to extend our sincere thanks to those who choose to donate to our negative student balances. Every little bit helps.



LRES Students and the Local Raymond Community Show Empathy During the Holiday Season!

During the month of December, LRES students learned about empathy. Mrs. Nivison, a first grade teacher at Lamprey River Elementary School, discussed with her students what it's like to "walk in someone else's shoes." They read stories about holiday elves who were feeling sad, scared, or worried for various reasons and students wrote about how they could help them.

To make this lesson come alive and connect it to our local community, they decided to



collect shoes and socks to benefit local families. Mrs. Nivison said “ It's great to see students so excited to help, and taking some time during the holidays to consider the needs of others!”.

LRES is fortunate to receive support from the greater Raymond Community. For many years the Bethany Church has been providing Christmas gifts to LRES families - this year was no exception. Thanks to the church, 30 LRES families will have a little more under their tree!

In addition to Bethany Church LRES local families, local businesses and our own LRES staff participate in the LRES giving tree. The school social worker, in collaboration with teachers and families identify any unmet needs. These needs are placed on our Giving Tree in the front office and fulfilled by staff and families. This year over 25 items (housewares to toys) were collected and distributed.

The Community Children's Fund (part of Exeter Area Charitable Foundation) has also helped our families this year by donating \$500 to spend on warm clothes and beddings. With the first big snowfall in December we were able to figure out who could use some help from these funds - so far 10 pairs of snow pants, many many mittens and 3 pairs of boots have been given to our students so they can enjoy recess with their peers. This money will be used throughout the year as needs pop up. We are grateful for this flexibility.

Lastly, we are lucky to have our regular anonymous donors who wish to stay out of the spotlight - there is a local woman who donates bags and bags of food to the END68 program monthly, and the NH couple who graciously offers to wipe out overdue lunch accounts. This year 10 families can breathe a little easier because of this.

Quote: “When I let a family know that I can probably find a way to help, I know the Raymond Community has their back. I've never worked in such a generous place!” - Abby Aldous, School Social Worker

Fundraising at IHGMS

Throughout the year there were many fundraising activities at IHGMS. Some allowed students to help their parents pay for special activities, and others raised money to support the community.

The three major fundraising activities each year to support our students are the 5th grade for their Nature's Classroom Trip, the eighth grade for their Washington DC trip and the Parent Core Group who support students and staff throughout the year for a whole host of activities. It is not uncommon for many of our students to pay for their entire trip through fundraising proceeds!



The fifth graders most popular fundraisers are Yankee Candles and Little Caesars Pizzas. Eighth grade has candy bars throughout the year and Maine Farm made pies for Thanksgiving. The Parent Core Group has their huge Rafflemania at the end of March each year.

Our local chapter of the National Junior Honor Society and our Student Council do a number of community support fundraisers, and our faculty and staff join in to support Raymond. Our Honor Society recently did a food drive for local food pantry and were able to deliver over 1,700 items brought in by our students, faculty and staff.



A group of staff members participated in No Shave November and also raised funds for the food bank. The Parent Core Group hopes that you will **join us on the evening of Friday, March 27 in the gym for Rafflemania 2020!** There will be well over a 100 raffle items donated from all over the community and beyond; there is something for everyone. It's a fun filled family evening out and almost everyone goes home with something!

The spirit of giving is alive and well in Raymond and within our school! We all appreciate all the extra support that we receive for our students and our faculty and staff all believe in giving back to our community that supports us. Thank you!

RHS Activities



The days leading up to Winter Break were very busy at Raymond High School. Our band and chorus members held their winter concerts, the interact and chorus hosted members of the community at our Annual Rotary Breakfast, Mrs. Mutch raised over \$1200 for Empty Bowls, and thanks to Mr. Hayes, RHS currently leads high schools from around the state in terms of money raised for the Penguin Plunge.

I would like to thank some special people for organizing our 12 Days of Christmas. This activity brings treats and activities to faculty and staff. Mrs. Stewart, Mrs. Hughes, Mrs. Roman, Mrs. Zulager and many others gave their time and resources in organizing this year's event. Thank you!

Upon return from the break, students have three weeks before midterms begin and should use that time to ensure that all work is completed and that they are prepared for exams.

We wish our students, families, friends, and all of Ram Nation a joyous winter break. May you find rest, comfort, and ease of mind as you navigate the holiday season.

SST Students Working in the Community

Health Science Students at SST are focused on working within the community because they believe in giving back, including two of our first year students in the program.

Gary enjoys the opportunity to visit with the residents of RiverWoods because the residents are open, easy going and appreciative of visitors. Gary is looking forward to also visiting The Elliott after we return from winter break, so that he can work with a more diverse group of people. The experience is important to him because the visits put a smile on the faces of some very kind people who do not have people visit them.



Another student is looking forward to visiting RiverWoods in the near future and expanding upon the volunteer work she has done at Raymond High School. Working with JAG to support the ASPCA has been very important to her and she believes it is important for all people to give back to their community and help more people feel good about life.

Altruism continues in Health Sciences with fundraising opportunities to support finding a

cure for pediatric cancer. Senior, Anya Cunningham, brought forth the suggestion of selling PuraVida bracelets and the funds will be donated to helping find a cure. Look for more information on that in the future!

We are all very lucky to have such incredible students representing both schools and communities.

Student Service to the Business and Community - Automotive ELO



Student Tyler Christopher is a junior participating in a year long internship with Southern NH Undercar LLC in Hampstead NH. Tyler spends 5 afternoons a week observing and working on different aspects of automotive repair. Some of the tasks Tyler has experienced are how to find the correct angles for exhaust tubing, fitting brake lines, changing spark plugs, taking the wheel hub off the brake rotors and welding, as well as an immersion into customer service. Tyler has worked on several make and model of vehicles and has experienced the challenges that each one presents. Throughout the ELO, information is being taught, skills are being learned and the business and community have benefited from the quality of work and professionalism Tyler has

demonstrated. The Automotive industry is a passion Tyler plans to continue for his postsecondary career.

LEAP Contributions to the Community

As we enter this new year, we reflect back on all of the wonderful contributions LEAP has made to our community. Participating in Operation: Raymond Clean-Up, assembling a garden bed for the IHGMS garden (pictured), making signs to support Girls On The Run at the finish line of their practice 5-K, and decorating candle bags for the LRES PTO Halloween Party are just a few examples of how our participants spend time at LEAP to make a difference. While it is fun to look back at all of the positive impact, it's also exciting to look forward to our upcoming opportunities. One opportunity we are very excited about is our partnership with RCFY to offer PASTA (Parenting A Second Time Around). This program is geared toward grandparent/caregiver relatives who are guardians of children in place of their parents. There will be a table at Family Fun Night with more information about this program, which takes place in the middle school gym on Friday, January 24th from 6:00-8:00. If you are interested in learning more but can not make it to Family Fun Night, you can contact Pat at p.arsenault@sau33.com. Thank you and we're looking forward to a great 2020!



Raymond Athletes Doing Their Part



The Student Athletic Leadership Team recently visited NH Veterans and brought supplies, gathered from our winter sports teams and RHS classes, for the NHVH Sunshine Cart.

New Hampshire Tackles Hunger was a huge success in Raymond. We collected 1,038 lbs of food for the local food pantry!

Connections

RCFY Events and Resources

FREE FAMILY FUN for all ages!

You are invited to join the community on January 24th, 2020, for our 15th Annual Raymond Coalition For Youth, Family Fun Night event. We will be in the gym of the Iber Holmes Gove Middle School.

This FREE family-friendly event is an opportunity to learn about the great organizations, services, and resources our community has to offer. Games, prizes, raffles and refreshments (while they last). Visit our website for more information: www.rcfy.org or check us out on social media.



Join the Raymond Coalition For Youth, Youth Action groups! Open to youth in the IHGMS on Wednesday's afterschool, 2:35 – 3:45, Raymond High School, Tuesdays, 2:15 – 3:15. More info at www.rcfy.org

Monthly RCFY meetings open to all adults who want to learn more about working together to support our youth are on the second Thursday of the month, 9:00 am – 10:30 am, in the downstairs community room of the Raymond Baptist Church. January our guest is from Teen Challenge. Upcoming dates are: January 9, February 13, March 12, April 9, May 14, June 11.

Resources for talking about prevention with your child, Treatment options for a loved one dealing with addiction and support services for individuals and families who are in recovery, as well as a lot more information are on our website www.rcfy.org and there is also an email newsletter you can sign up for, send your email to info@rcfy.org.

2020

Raymond School District Filing Notice

The filing period for school district offices will begin on Wednesday, January 22, 2020 and end on Friday, January 31, 2020 at 5:00 PM. The following positions are open:

- One (1) School Board members for 3 years
- One (1) School Board Member for 1 year

You can file with the school district clerk during the filing period at the Dudley-Tucker Library on the following dates:

Wednesday, January 22 nd	10:00 AM – 1:00 PM
Thursday, January 23 rd	5:00 PM – 7:00 PM
Saturday, January 25 th	10:00 AM – 12:00 PM
Monday, January 27 th	1:00 PM – 3:00 PM
Thursday, January 30 th	5:00 PM – 7:00 PM
Friday, January 31 st	2:00 PM – 5:00 PM

If these hours are inconvenient, please call the clerk at 603-767-3984 or email lwoodman28@gmail.com to make an appointment.

Please note that Friday, January 31st is the last day to sign up.

Linda Hoelzel
School District Clerk
Raymond, NH



Events are subject to change. Please check our Events Calendars at www.sau33.com.

School Board Meeting

Wednesday, January 8th, 6:00 PM, RHS Media Center

LRES Principal's Coffee Hour

Thursday, January 9th, 9:15 AM, LRES

RHS Principal's Coffee Hour

Monday, January 13th, 10:00 AM, RHS

IHGMS Principal's Coffee Hour

Thursday, January 16th, 9:00 AM, IHGMS

Schools Closed - Civil Rights Day

Monday, January 20th

School Board Meeting

Wednesday, January 22nd, 6:00 PM, RHS Media Center

Public Forum re: School District Budget and Warrant Articles

Wednesday, January 29th, 6:00 PM, RHS Media Center

Special Edition Coffee Hours re: School District Budget and Warrant Articles

Tuesday, January 28th, 10:00 AM, RHS

Wednesday, January 29th, 9:00 AM, IHGMS

Friday, January 31st, 10:00 AM, LRES



[Visit our website](#)