

# Raymond School District Community Newsletter

# The Green Gazette

January 2021

# From the Superintendent

Happy New Year from the Raymond School District! We are all looking forward to brighter times ahead this year. Now that the COVID-19 vaccine is being rolled out in our state, we are excited and hopeful about a process of transitioning our students back into school (on-site) as soon as it is feasible to do so.

At this time, we still need your help and cooperation to keep the spread of the virus under control and *out of our schools*. If any student travelled outside of New



England for the holiday break, he or she must stay out of the school environment (including any school sponsored activity) and self-isolate for ten days after a return to New Hampshire.

January is an important month for the District, with many opportunities for you to be involved with upcoming meetings that will determine the future of the organization. Please make note of many different ways that you can participate and support the District and the community; they are included in this newsletter.

# **Public Hearing on School District Budget/Warrant Articles**



The Budget Committee will be holding their public hearing on the proposed 2021-22 School District Budget and Separate and Special Warrant Articles on Thursday, January 7th at 6:30 PM. Visit the Town website to see the Budget Committee agenda, which includes information on how to view and participate in this meeting, which will be held remotely via Zoom. We'll be posting the presentation we provide to the Budget Committee for this hearing on our Voter Information page prior to the meeting.

# **Contact Update for Telephone and Email Notifications**



Over the holiday break we performed an upgrade to SwiftK12, the automated notification

system that we use to send alerts out through telephone and email.

Parents, this past fall when you completed your returning student registration, you filled out at least two contact fields. Now, as a result of this upgrade, *all* notifications will be turned on for Student Contacts #1 and #2. You now also have the ability within the parent portal to edit the notifications that are sent to you.

This upgrade will help us ensure that the notification system is used efficiently, and that your contact information is accurate and up-to-date at all times.

<u>Click here</u> to see instructions on how to update your notification settings within Parent Portal.

# LRES Students Learn about Snowmen; Holiday Activities!

Winter Weather is here, which is the perfect time for our Kindergarteners to learn about snowmen! During Library time with Mrs. Connelly, Kindergarteners read <u>The Biggest Snowman Ever</u>. Students then were able to look at pictures of snowmen and participate in snowmen activities.



















In Miss. Jortberg's Kindergarten class students celebrated Grinch Day by making Grinch hats and writing about how they would make the Grinch grin.



Kindergarteners incorporated the holidays into their language arts ("what would they do if Santa were to get stuck in their chimney!), math, and science lessons too!







Ms. Hauswirth, second grade teacher at LRES created a school-wide story <u>The Gingerbread Man Loose at LRES</u>. The Gingerbread Man made his way around the school building, looking for the students, while the students have been learning remotely. This story was shared with all students, in the hopes that it would bring a smile to their faces as they read it and to let them know that we can't wait for them to return to school!



He started in first grade, "Oh where could they be?"



Time for another book in Mrs. Boyd's room! Did I mention how much he loves to read?



# **IHGMS Students Celebrate the Season!**

The Behavior Action Team at the middle school sponsored a Virtual Holiday Spirit Week for our students prior to the winter vacation. There were dress up events each of the days that classes were held that week. They were:

- Merry Monday Morning Wear Festive Pajamas
- Sweater / Flannel Tuesday Ugly Sweater / Rock Your Flannel
- Santa's Workshop Wednesday Dress up as a Christmas Character
- Holly & Ivy Thursday Wear Red and Green



Homeroom teachers kept a tally each day as to the number of students that participated. The homeroom from each grade with the highest percentage of participation received gift certificates provided by the IHGMS Parent Core Group.

The homeroom winners are: 4th Grade: Ms. Meyer, 5th Grade: Ms. Wallace, 6th Grade: Mrs. Hamm, 7th Grade: Ms. Roschewski - 90% participation, highest overall for the school and 8th Grade: Ms. Kabat





Throughout the week there was a drawing contest with a winter theme. The drawings could be done by hand or digitally. The grade level winners also received gift certificates provided by the PCG.





The winners of the drawing competition are below. Please view their beautiful artwork attached!

4th Grade: Callum W 5th Grade: Ryleigh D 6th Grade: Allie B 7th Grade: Sydney W 8th Grade: Julianna R

We would like to thank everyone who participated and a special thank you to the IHGMS Parent Core Group who provided the gift certificates to our students.

The IHGMS Behavior Action Team works with staff and students to promote a physically, emotionally, and socially safe environment by modeling and instilling pro-social behaviors within our school community.



## **RHS Exam Schedule**

From RHS Principal Steve Woodward: The holidays are a great opportunity to pause our busy lives and reflect on our accomplishments. And even in the middle of a pandemic, there have been many. The season offers us a chance to say "thank you" to the entire school

community for all of the support that you provide to our students, our families, and our staff. This year has certainly like no other in education. It is your support and understanding that has made this crazy year just a little less crazy.

We are approaching the halfway point to the school year and look forward to having students back in the building on Tuesday, January 19. The schedule for exams can be found below. We have



delayed testing a week so teachers would have a couple of opportunities to meet with students face to face before testing occurred. The PM SST will not be impacted and the AM SST will only be impacted on one day.

Time	Mon, Jan. 25	Tue, Jan 26	Wed, Jan. 27	Thu, Jan 28
7:30 - 9:30	A Day, Block 1	B Day, Block 1	A Day, Block 3	B Day, Block 3
9:45 - 11:45	A Day, Block 2	B Day, Block 2	A Day, Block 4	B Day, Block 4
11:45 - 12:15	Lunch	Lunch	Lunch	Lunch
12: 15 - 2:10	Make-Up	Make-Up	Make-Up	Make-Up



It has been a long journey to get to the holidays as we navigated the pandemic, I would like to take this opportunity on behalf of the entire staff at Raymond High School to thank you for your support, and wish you and your family a safe and joyful New Year! Hopefully the worst of the pandemic is behind us and we can work towards returning to normal as we begin 2021.

# **Help Wanted: RHS Secretary**

The Raymond School District is seeking an outgoing, friendly person to fill the Secretary position open at the Raymond High School. Must be highly motivated and organized. Please go to <a href="https://www.sau33.com/jobs">www.sau33.com/jobs</a> to read more about this position and to fill out the application.



# WHY Extended Learning Opportunities?

According to a 2019 survey administered by the Department of Education, almost 7,000 NH public school students have taken advantage of hands-on extended learning opportunities.







#### WHY ELOs?

- Improved attitude toward school
- More opportunities to learn about and choose college and career options
- Stronger connections to adults and peers
- Improved health and ability to make healthy choices
- Lower drop-out rates and higher rates of school attendance Reference: Next Steps NH

## Explore the possibilities!

Find out how you can get involved in a second semester ELO. Contact Mrs. Londo, <a href="mailto:h.londo@sau33.com">h.londo@sau33.com</a>

# Reach High Scholars SAT/PSAT Boot Camp



The COVID era has changed the landscape of the college application process. Many colleges have made standardized testing optional or deleted scores entirely as criteria for review. In light of the current situation, and even in general, you may be asking yourself, "Why is test prep important?"

The answer to that in the past and now, is that good SAT scores allow students to prove themselves when compared

with others across the country. A good score demonstrates that no matter where you come from, you have the potential to succeed academically. A good program of test preparation gives you the strategies, skills, and confidence to achieve your best result.

<u>Click here</u> to read the complete letter from Reach High Scholars regarding SAT/PSAT Boot Camp Test Preparation.

## **Parents as Educational Partners**

The Raymond School District is excited to partner with Demonstrated Success to provide educational support for our Raymond families. Parents with children in grades K-8, attending LRES and IHGMS are welcome to join the live webinars to support remote learning. The webinars are free through secured grant funding (use code ParentsRock2021) and are recorded for your convenience. The next webinar in the Parents As Instructional Partners program will take place Wed, January 6 from 1-2pm (note: this is a new time). Tune in for tips to help your child stay organized.

Here are details:

Title: Supporting Your Student with Executive Functioning During Remote Instruction

INE WEBINAR TOPICS

To register, click any hyperlinked title and use discount code
ParentsRock2021 for free access (PLEASE DO NOT SHARE THIS CODE).

January

Supporting Your Student with Executive Functioning
During Remote Instruction (1/06) @1pm

Simple Activities to Develop Your Child's Number
Fluency (1/27) @ 5pm

Reading With Your Child to Build Comprehension &
Yocabulary (2/10) @1pm

March

Unpacking the Language in Math Programs (3/03) @5pm

Simple Activities to Improve Your Child's Fluency &
Decoding (3/31) @1pm

April

Tools to Monitor Your Student's Internet Access (4/07) @5pm

Routines & Organizers for Deeper Learning (4/21) @1pm

Each webinar will be followed by an office hour for those who would like some extra help. All webinars will be recorded for viewing at a later date. Email Support@DemonstratedSuccess.com with questions.

https://register.gotowebinar.com/register/5835740838577508107\_

Discount Code: ParentsRock2021

Registration Link:

This webinar, and previous ones, are recorded so you can watch when it's convenient for you. To replay a previous webinar, simply click one of the titles below and enter the passcode ParentsRock2021, if prompted.

\*\*We ask you please do not share this code outside of the school community\*\*

**How to Use Seesaw and Google Classroom** 

**Tools and Strategies to Help Your Child with Problem Solving In Math** 

# **LEAP is Open Full Day Until January 14th!**



LEAP has limited openings for our full day LRES program while the 1-12 grade remains remote. We open at 7:00 and close at 5:30. Our program is located in the LRES cafeteria. We are accepting new participants on a first come, first serve basis. Students are allowed to attend on days they would normally be at the school (A or B day). There are approximately 10 spots open for each day. To secure your spot, email Pat Arsenault

at <u>p.arsenault@sau33.com</u> The cost for these 2 weeks is \$75/student. Food service is providing free lunch for those who request it. Students must bring the required technology to participate in their classes.

Registration forms can be found at this link: <a href="https://www.sau33.com/lamprey-river-elementary-school/families-students/pages/leap-learning-enrichment-after-school">https://www.sau33.com/lamprey-river-elementary-school/families-students/pages/leap-learning-enrichment-after-school</a>
Email Pat if you have any questions!

## Food Service Update; Change to Remote Meal Pickup Pattern

December brought a continuing string of changes in the nature of our situations for feeding the students in all three schools. During the course of these transitions, we revised our online ordering system twice, extended "order by" dates for four separate occasions and added bus stop delivery of meals once we were all fully remote.

As the temperatures dropped, our staff continued to create and develop more new "Bowl Meals" and reheat-able combinations for hearty lunches. With kindergarten back in hybrid session at LRES, along



with a growing number of LEAP students present daily, we did resume in-school meals for a small, but enthused group. Also, in addition to having preschool at RHS for their daily Special Milk program, we have been working with the staff to provide full meal components for a specific group of students through a collaborative life skills experience. It has been nice to see some of them come for breakfast in the cafeteria.



As we return in January our first two weeks' course is set. Breakfast and lunch meals remain free to students thru the end of the school year. The online order system has those dates in it, still with delivery as an option.

Plans are underway to change our pickup pattern from a week's worth, one day a week to a split. In addition to logistical considerations for our food service preparation, feedback from some families has been that it is difficult to store a full five days worth of breakfast and lunches all at once.

Starting the week of January 19th, we will be making two days worth of meals available on the first school day of the week (1/19) and two days worth on the third school day of the week (1/21). On normal five-day weeks, this will be two days worth on Monday and three days worth on Wednesday. Pickup location will remain at RHS. If we are back in school, the time window will return to 11:00-12:00, in between the two RHS lunch periods. A return to hybrid learning also would mean that the buses would be back on routes with students, so the delivery option would not be available.

The online order system will be updated to reflect these changes, and information will be included in the schools' weekly newsletters.

# **Community Leadership Team Identifies Priorities Areas**

The Raymond School District Community Leadership Team (DCLT) represents a variety of school and community stakeholders. This team meets regularly to serve as the district wide Multi-Tiered System of Supports for Behavioral Health and Wellness (MTSS-B) planning and implementation team. Through monthly meetings this team has prepared for implementation by learning about MTSS-B, the implementation process and reviewing data to identify priorities for action planning.



The Raymond DCLT has identified the following priorities to action plan around for phase I of MTSS-B implementation:

# 1. Truancy

Students are engaged in in- person and remote learning. Schools have regular communication with families. Students are comfortable and connected to their learning environment. This is evidenced by rates of attendance, graduation, grades and climates/culture survey results.

#### 2. Immediate Response to Student Crisis

Staff are able to respond to student crises immediately. All staff know the protocols to respond. New staff are trained and ongoing staff receive refresher training at a minimum of 2 hours per school year. We understand who are community partners and resources are and when to reach out to them

## 3. Tier I Teams

There are identified Tier I representatives in each building. Membership and responsibility is clear. All school staff understand their responsibility in Tier I. There is a district system in place. There is clear communication with community partners.

## 4. Data Collection & analyzation

Data informs annual planning and improvement efforts. The district uses platforms in consistent ways. All stakeholders understand a data driven dialogue.

#### What is a Tier I Team?

Tier I teams create and monitor systems that ensure all students have access to preventative universal supports. This is ensured by inventorying existing teams and wellness initiatives, routinely reviewing relevant data and sharing this data with their school. Tier I teams ensure all staff are trained in MTSS-B key elements and selected interventions. These teams also evaluate and monitor the impact and fidelity of selected interventions. Tier I team membership consists of building administration, teacher/school staff, community mental health representation, students and their family members.

Interested in learning more or participating in our DCLT or Tier I efforts? Please contact Director of Student Behavioral Health: Jessica Caron, j.caron@sau33.com

## **Classrooms Outfitted with Air Purifiers**

The Facilities Department is still working hard to stop the spread of the COVID-19 in our buildings. We have had no issue obtaining products for cleaning, disinfecting, and PPE. We have also purchased additional hydration stations to allow building users touch-free access to fill water bottles. All classrooms have also been outfitted with a standalone air purification system. These units utilize medical grade HEPA filtration as well as UV-C light technology to ensure the air is as clean as possible. The addition of the air purification systems adds another layer to our efforts to ensure the safety of staff and students.



# **Holiday Wishes from Our School Nurses**



Raymond's school nurses wish you health and happiness this holiday season. They look forward to seeing students return for in person learning. Deeply appreciative of the ways families have partnered with them this fall and winter, please see the following tips and requests to support a successful return to school:

- As the scheduled return date nears, please communicate any recent exposure, illness or quarantine needs for your student in advance of their return
- Students experiencing symptoms listed on the daily screener are encouraged to seek testing through their primary care physician if possible. If families need additional guidance while school is not in session they can call 211
- Please note the following changes in quarantine periods from NH DHHS:
  - 10 days if you have been exposed
  - 10 days if you travel outside of New England (but must continue to

monitor for 4 more days)

- As a reminder, self isolation after testing positive remains 10 days after symptom onset
- School nurses are still available even in this remote environment, please feel free to call or email.

Emily Donati, LRES
e.donati@sau33.com
895-3117 x335

Monique Gauthier, IHGMS m.gauthier@sau33.com
895-3394 x4186

Mark Hastings, RHS m.hastings@sau33.com 895-6616 x2304



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

Keep an eye out for an evening Warrant Article Information Forum in January. The date is still being finalized - we'll be sharing that date out asap!

## **School Board Meeting**

Wednesday January 6, 6:00 PM, Remote Find viewing and participation info at <a href="https://www.sau33.com/agenda">www.sau33.com/agenda</a>

## **IHGMS Principal's Virtual Coffee Hour**

Thursday, January 7, 9:00 AM, Remote

# **Budget Committee Public Hearing on School District Operating Budget and Separate/Special Warrant Articles**

Thursday, January 7, 6:30 PM, Remote via Zoom Click here to see viewing and participation info from the Raymond Town website

## **LRES Principal's Virtual Coffee Hour**

Friday, January 8, 9:00 AM, Remote

#### **Superintendent's Virtual Coffee Hour -**

An informal discussion about the proposed budget and warrant articles to date

Tuesday, January 12, 10:00 AM, Remote

Email invite@sau33.com to request an invitation to join

# **LRES Building Committee Meeting**

Wednesday, January 13, 6:30 PM, Remote

#### School Closed - Staff In-Service

Friday, January 15

#### School Closed - Civil Rights Day

Monday, January 18

# **School Board Meeting**

Wednesday January 20, 6:00 PM, Remote Find viewing and participation info at <a href="https://www.sau33.com/agenda">www.sau33.com/agenda</a>

# **RHS Principal's Virtual Coffee Hour**

Monday, January 25, 10:00 AM, Remote

RHS Principal's Virtual Coffee Hour - Warrant Article Information Forum Tuesday, January 26, 10:00 AM, Remote

Check back at <a href="https://www.sau33.com/voterinformation">www.sau33.com/voterinformation</a> to see how to join this event

IHGMS Principal's Virtual Coffee Hour - Warrant Article Information Forum Wednesday, January 27, 11:00 AM, Remote

Check back at <a href="https://www.sau33.com/voterinformation">www.sau33.com/voterinformation</a> to see how to join this event

LRES Principal's Virtual Coffee Hour - Warrant Article Information Forum Thursday, January 28, 9:00 AM, Remote

Check back at <a href="https://www.sau33.com/voterinformation">www.sau33.com/voterinformation</a> to see how to join this event

**School District Deliberative Session** 

Saturday, January 30, 10:00 AM, RHS Cafeteria



