

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 7:30 PM. Present: School Board members John Harmon, Jaclyn Sirrine, Michelle Couture, Joseph Saulnier, and Janice Arsenault; Student Representative to the School Board Jeffrey Rivard; Superintendent of Schools Tina McCoy; Business Administrator Ron Brickett; Raymond High School Principal Steve Woodward; Iber Holmes Gove Middle School Principal Bob Bickford; Lamprey River Elementary School Principal Bryan Belanger; Curriculum Coordinator Michael Whaland.

Proof of Posting: It was noted that the meeting was properly posted.

Pledge of Allegiance: All those in attendance stood and recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

Public Input: There was no public input forthcoming.

Overnight Field Trip Request: It was noted that Mrs. Brazeau was involved in a school activity and that this agenda item would be taken up later in the evening.

Request for Inclusion on the School Board Agenda: Lorrie O'Connor approached the Board as a representative of the Conservation Commission. Mrs. O'Connor reviewed some of the history of the area around Carroll Lake Beach and the eco-center area near Lamprey River Elementary School.

Mrs. O'Connor raised the concern that the opening and closing of the gates to the beach and eco-center area is not consistent with the closing of the signs, which leads to some confusion. Another concern is the lack of handicap accessibility to the area behind the sign. Additionally, there is no designated parking area for the eco-center or designated handicap parking in that area.

Mr. Harmon stated that the School Board had asked to have that rope on the gate at all times so that people can move it when they want to access the area. If the sign says that the area is open, even if a gate is closed, they can still open the gate and go through. Parking is at the elementary school. He stated that perhaps the sign should say that parking is at the school.

Mrs. O'Connor stated that the original path states that parking would be on the other side of the school with a handicapped accessible paved path leading to the water. When the school was extended back, the path was blocked off, which has made access difficult.

Mrs. O'Connor offered the following proposals:

- Leave the rope gate at Old Manchester Road open at all times.
- Install a larger sign on the shoulder of Old Manchester Road more visible to the public with "Closed to the public during school hours." The smaller sign with more detail could remain in place.
- Move the metal gate more toward the far end of the playground toward the eco-center, which would allow handicap access.
- A four space gravel parking area to share in the garden area, with a sign to indicate where parking is located.
- Two handicapped spaces at the pavillion with handicap signs.

- Restore paved path to water.
- Pave the area at the bottom of ramp to the pavillion and continue paving to the interpretative walkway sign.
- Add boulders at the edge of the septic area to protect it from vehicle traffic.
- Add a fence on either side of the pavillion to keep students from going beyond.

Mrs. O'Connor suggested proceeding to agree on a scope and sequence for project, and that possibly the Town engineer could do the design once a plan is in place. She suggested that the Gown take on some labor, and some funding could come from grants, including possibly Conservation Fund grants. A third water conservation grant would usually require matching funds in the form of labor, money, or volunteer services.

Mr. Saulnier stated that he wished that some of these issues were discussed when these things were first installed. Mrs. O'Connor stated that she doesn't think that anyone knew that there would be these concerns. Mr. Harmon clarified that the gates came up for fishing, kayaking, etc., The eco-center came after that. The School Board's concern was to limit access during school hours and the gates were put up intentionally in their locations so people would recognize the hours that the area is open, and to stop cars from going too far down the access road.

Jan Kent approached the Board and stated during discussion that there is some confusion around the fact that people are allowed to move the rope aside to access the area. Ms. Sirrine stated that it was her understanding that the second gate is there so that vehicles don't go past that point. Mrs. Arsenault suggested a gate that doesn't open stating no vehicles beyond that point.

Mr. Harmon suggested using the already existing parking spots at the school for use for the eco-center. He stated he doesn't believe that there's enough room behind the building to have multiple spots.

Mrs. Kent stated that it would be good to make the area inviting and that information be provided in such a way so that visitors know what to do. There are very few people there at any given time, other than during events.

Mr. Harmon suggested clarifying with signage as to what can happen and how. Mrs. Couture asked if it's possible where the gate currently is to put a handicap accessible path around the gate. It was agreed that yes, there is space for that. It was the consensus of the Board that a Board member be assigned in March to work with the Conservation Commission on this to bring a proposal back to the Board.

Overnight Field Trip Request: Athletic Director Davinney Brazeau and RHS student Kalena Shanahan presented their request for the Athletic Student Leadership Conference overnight field trip. Schools can send up to a maximum of eight athletes to the conference. The breakout sessions have much to do with *Life of an Athlete*. The students make connections with each other in a different way than they do while playing sports. The trip is funded through the *Life of an Athlete* program. NHIAA distributes funding to schools that participate in *Life of an Athlete*, as long as they meet certain requirements. First Student is providing transportation free of charge from locations south of Concord. This year, four students from Raymond will be attending. MOTION: Janice Arsenault moved, seconded by Michelle Couture, to approve the overnight field trip request for the Student Athlete Leadership Conference. Voted unanimously in the affirmative.

Principals'/Curriculum Quarterly Reports: Mr. Whaland reported on the curriculum update for the last quarter, including: the hiring of an additional Title 1 tutor at IHGMS; the district level data team has been meeting and have examined and analyzed assessment data at each school to identify strengths and challenges; students have completed the winter benchmark for the STAR 360.

During discussion, Mr. Whaland stated that they've been discussing how to proactively communicate information about competency-based grading, and that possibly a video is something that can be considered. Mr. Harmon stated that the Board has asked to have dates as to when informational meetings in May will take place. Mr. Rivard stated that he would be interested in seeing more information geared to students. Mrs. Arsenault suggested holding forums on competency-based grading during parent-teacher nights when parents are already in the building. Mr. Harmon asked if any time could be scheduled during the March in-service for vertical work. Mr. Whaland stated that there is some vertical work happening but it's more broad.

Mr. Woodward reported on the second quarter in Raymond High School, including: 63 students were inducted into the Reach High Scholars Program; 8 students attended the Unified Snowball, which is an extension of the unified sports program; 105 RHS students are participating in winter sports; faculty and staff have been familiarizing themselves with 21st Century Learning Expectations; French III students have been traveling regularly to LRES to teach basic French to kindergarten students; juniors will be taking the SAT on March 21.

During discussion: The PSAT comparison is against others of the same grade level. Mr. Harmon asked that Mr. Woodward provide clarified discipline numbers to Dr. McCoy for the School Board's Friday Memo.

Mr. Bickford reported on the last quarter at Iber Holmes Gove Middle School, including: a piano and guitar recital was held and was a huge success; a career fair was held for grades 6-8; a school-based Data Team has been developed to review and analyze school level data to develop recommendations regarding instructional practices; team leaders and their teams are working in their Professional Learning Communities; the lack of substitutes continues to be a challenge.

Mr. Belanger reported on the last quarter at Lamprey River Elementary School, including: they completed the second administration of the STAR benchmark assessment in English language arts and mathematics; students have completed mid-year Dibels in reading and mathematics; teachers are piloting the Units of Study curriculum for writing and reading instruction, being implemented by at least one teacher per grade level.

RHS Graduation - Day of Week: Mr. Woodward reviewed the results of surveys regarding moving the graduation day of the week from Friday to Saturday. Among faculty, 54.5% prefer Saturday, 27.3% prefer Friday, and 18.2% had no preference. Among the 85 parent responses, 54.1% prefer Saturday, 20% prefer Friday, and 25.9% have no preference. Mr. Woodward noted that any changes made wouldn't take place this year as there is a track meet that would conflict with the date.

Mr. Saulnier stated that the biggest issue he heard was regarding Grad Nite and it sounds like it can be worked around one way or another. Mr. Woodward state that there are a couple of routes that can be taken regarding that. Mr. Harmon stated that the track meet exists every year on Saturday. He stated that traditionally graduation has been done on a Friday and he doesn't see a need to change it to a Saturday. Mrs. Arsenault stated that she believes that if graduation took place on a Saturday then there's no purpose for a Grad Nite. MOTION: Joseph

Saulnier moved, seconded by Michelle Couture, to accept the graduation day of the week from a Friday to a Saturday for the 2018-19 school year. Mr. Harmon stated that he doesn't see a need to change it one way or another. Mr. Rivard stated that a Friday afternoon seems more satisfying than a Saturday. Ms. Sirrine stated that she would be concerned about putting a student in a position to have to choose between a track meet and graduation, and she's not sure how the celebration afterwards would work. Motion failed with all voting in opposition.

LRES & IHGMS Trimester Schedule Proposal: Mr. Belanger and Mr. Bickford reviewed their proposal for trimester scheduling at both LRES and IHGMS. Currently, all academic classes at LRES are reported quarterly. At IHGMS, English, math, science, social studies, band, and chorus are reported quarterly, and unified arts classes are on a trimester schedule.

Mr. Harmon stated that early in the school year the Board asked that LRES look at the Unified Arts schedule and asked if a change to the Unified Arts schedule is part of this trimester proposal. Mr. Belanger stated that's not part of this proposal.

Ms. Sirrine expressed concern for how well students would be prepared for the quarterly schedule at the high school if they've followed a trimester schedule at the elementary and middle schools. Mr. Harmon stated that moving to a trimester schedule means less reporting to parents, and that the first time parent teacher conferences would be held would be December/January.

Motion to Extend the Meeting Beyond 10:00 PM: MOTION: Mr. Saulnier moved, seconded by Jaclyn Sirrine, to extend the meeting beyond 10:00 PM. Voted unanimously in the affirmative.

Mr. Harmon and Ms. Sirrine expressed concern for making two major changes in the same year: scheduling and competency grading. It was noted that information will be provided to the Board in late March/early April about how to roll out competency grading. It was suggested that any decision on trimester schedules be postponed until more information is provided about competency based grading and curriculum.

School Board Letter to the Editor: Mrs. Couture had written a letter to the editor from the School Board regarding the warrant articles for the upcoming Deliberative Session. MOTION: Joseph Saulnier moved, seconded by Janice Arsenault, to accept the letter to the editor. Mr. Harmon asked that each of the Board members' names be listed out as signers on the letter. Voted unanimously in the affirmative.

Committee Reports: Ms. Sirrine stated that she attended the NHSBA Delegate Assembly and that all delegates were present. All resolutions passed as the School Board had voted except the one from Hampstead.

Ms. Sirrine also attended the SST meeting where they talked about some different graduate success stories. The new attendance policy was passed, which has been successful. They're seeing less issues with students getting there.

Mr. Saulnier stated that the Town Deliberative Session was held on Saturday and the operating budget was raised \$60,000 to incorporate a fourth firefighter that wasn't in the original budget.

Superintendent's Report: Dr. McCoy thanked parents and Board members for coming out to coffee hours/principal's forums to discuss warrant articles.

The District has started to use GovDeals.com to sell items that are no longer fit for use in the schools. The account is set up and a system is in place, and some items have already been sold.

Dr. McCoy has nominated John McDaniels for the Champions for Children Award, which is an award to recognize those who go above and beyond for students. Mr. Harmon added that Mr. McDaniels is a graduate of Raymond and has built Reach High Scholars into what it is today.

Dr. McCoy stated that there has been some rise in flu cases at the high school, less at the middle school, and less at the elementary school. Custodial crews are staying on top of cleaning and using disinfectant for high touch areas.

Correspondence: None.

Manifest Signing: A quorum of the Board signed the manifest. Accounts Payable total \$814,442.73. Payroll total \$863,463.80.

Adjournment: MOTION: Jaclyn Sirrine moved, seconded by Joseph Saulnier, to adjourn the meeting. Voted unanimously in the affirmative. Meeting adjourned at 10:26 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Jennifer Heywood,
Raymond School Board Clerk