Raymond School Board Meeting Monday, October 29, 2018 Raymond High School Room 109 Minutes Page 1 Approved November 14, 2018

<u>Call to Order</u>: The meeting was called to order at 6:00 PM. Present: School Board Members Joseph Saulnier, Janice Arsenault, Moe Titcomb, and Beth Paris; Superintendent of Schools Tina McCoy; Business Administrator Marjorie Whitmore; Curriculum Coordinator Michael Whaland; Student Services Director Scott Riddell; Raymond High School Principal Steve Woodward; Iber Holmes Gove Middle School Principal Bob Bickford.

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.

NHSBA Proposed Resolution: The School Board reviewed the wording for the proposed resolution regarding the default budget and SB 342 for submission to the New Hampshire School Boards Association Delegate Assembly. Mrs. Arsenault stated that she asked to have this come back to the Board because after hearing Representative Matthews' explanation at the last regular meeting, she was not certain that she understood the resolution correctly. She stated that she does not agree that a brand new position should be in the default budget. If a position replaces an eliminated position, then yes, but not a brand new position. Mr. Saulnier and Mrs. Paris both expressed their agreement with the wording as presented. MOTION: Janice Arsenault moved, seconded by Beth Paris, to accept this proposed resolution to send to New Hampshire School Boards Association making this recommendation on SB 342. Motion failed with Joseph Saulnier and Beth Paris voting in the affirmative and with Moe Titcomb and Janice Arsenault voting in opposition.

<u>High School Cost/Program Comparison</u>: Dr. McCoy reviewed that the administration was asked to reach out to area school districts to determine their interest in and viability to be districts to potentially tuition Raymond High School students to. The three area high schools that were considered as part of this comparison are Pinkerton Academy, Manchester Memorial High School, and Sanborn Regional High School. Dr. McCoy, Mr. Riddell, and Mr. Whaland reviewed the presentation, including program comparisons, enrollment, teacher degree attainment, dropout and graduation rates, state assessment performance, course of studies, extracurricular activities, and special education programs. The overall estimated comparison among the four schools:

Raymond High School \$6,786,765 Sanborn Regional High School \$8,601,235 Pinkerton Academy \$5,803,695

Memorial High School \$5,928,191 (rough estimate only)

During discussion:

- Pinkerton Academy's ACT and Sanborn Regional High School's Life Skills program are similar to Raymond's Connections program.
- Sanborn Regional High School's PASS is similar to Raymond's TLC program.
- Manchester Memorial High School's PASSES program is similar to Raymond's REAP.
- Mr. Saulnier asked if the CTE program at Pinkerton Academy is an extra cost to students. Dr. McCoy stated that she believes it's not an extra cost, though it was noted that there may be fees for certain individual classes.

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- Mrs. Arsenault asked about the makeup of the other school boards. Dr. McCoy stated that she believes
 Pinkerton has representation from member towns. Dr. McCoy will research the School Board makeup in
 the comparison towns.
- Mr. Saulnier asked how the teachers' contract works at Pinkerton. Dr. McCoy stated that Pinkerton teacher salaries aren't publicly available. Mr. Saulnier asked if Pinkerton teacher salaries are increased, where would that come from? Dr. McCoy stated if their costs go up, everyone's costs go up. Mr. Saulnier asked that administration research how this would work with a ten-year tuition contract. Mr. Riddell stated that it's part of the clause for special education costs that there's a cost increase to the school, then the contract cost is increased. Mrs. Whitmore stated that typically an annual increase is built into a multi-year contract.
- Mrs. Paris asked why Raymond is so much smaller but operating at a higher cost than Pinkerton. Mr.
 Saulnier stated that it can be dependent on enrollment, with the costs for larger populations of students being able to be spread out more widely.
- Dr. McCoy stated that if Raymond was to send its high school students to another high school, there's no smooth way to transition them over a certain amount of time; students may be switching in their senior year.
- Mrs. Paris stated for the public that this is research only at this point. Mr. Saulnier stated that the issue will be on the warrant as a non-binding warrant article.
- Dr. McCoy stated that Sanborn Regional High School has been a leader in competency based grading, while Memorial High School is more traditional. Pinkerton Academy is making the shift. Mr. Whaland will find out how long each school has been doing competency based grading.
- Mr. Saulnier asked to research if the students are equipped with devices and who has financial responsibility for that.

Athletic Participation Fees: Dr. McCoy reviewed the results of polling area districts as to whether they charge a fee to participate in athletics. In the districts that do charge a fee, there is a mechanism in place for those students who may have trouble meeting the expense. Mr. Woodward stated that some consideration should be given to whether sports are considered to be an extra activity or a vital part of a student's education. He stated that 7% of students who receive Free and Reduced lunch are involved in athletics, which is three times less than the school average. There are some concerns when considering athletic fees, such as when people pay, there's an expectation they they will play. Mrs. Paris stated that she had inquired about the cost for the Athletics Program and the possibility of athletic fees just to know where the money is going, but it seems that instituting a fee wouldn't impact the budget much. She stated that she feels that \$90,000 for athletics is a large amount, but she doesn't want students to not be able to play. Mr. Woodward stated that the bulk of the cost is for transportation and officials. MOTION: Beth Paris moved, seconded by Janice Arsenault, to impose a fee for sports. Motion failed with all Board members voting unanimously in opposition.

Regular Transportation Contract: Dr. McCoy reviewed the proposed contract extension with Dail Transportation, which would extend the current regular education transportation contract three years or five years, based on the option chosen. She noted that it's a difficult time for transportation with a critical shortage of drivers throughout the state, and that Dail Transportation has been responsive to the needs of the District. Mr. Woodward and Mr. Bickford questioned why a co-curricular field trip that requires transportation incurs a fee if the District pays for each bus per day. Dr. McCoy will look into that. It was the consensus of the School Board to disregard the three year proposal by Dail Transportation and to issue a Request for Proposals for regular transportation.

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<u>New/Revised Policies - Second Reading</u>: <u>MOTION</u>: Janice Arsenault moved, seconded by Beth Paris, to accept policy IJOA Field Trips and Excursions as amended. Voted unanimously in the affirmative.

<u>MOTION</u>: Janice Arsenault moved, seconded by Beth Paris, to accept policy IJOA-R Request for Educational Field Trip [as presented for review]. Voted unanimously in the affirmative.

<u>MOTION</u>: Janice Arsenault moved, seconded by Beth Paris, to accept policy EEAF-R Student Overnight Travel [as presented for review]. Voted unanimously in the affirmative.

<u>MOTION</u>: Janice Arsenault moved, seconded by Beth Paris, to accept policy JICDA Student Safety and Violence Prevention as amended. Voted unanimously in the affirmative.

<u>New/Revised Policies - First Reading</u>: The School Board read, in its entirety, proposed new policy GADA Employment References and Verification (Prohibiting Aiding and Abetting of Sexual Abuse) for the first of two readings. It was noted to correct a typo: "probably" should be "probable."

<u>Monthly Financial Update</u>: Mrs. Whitmore presented the financial update for months ending September 30, 2018. Areas of largest variance include Admin Services, Professional Development, and Transfers - Food Service.

<u>Donation Acceptance</u>: <u>MOTION</u>: Janice Arsenault moved, seconded by Moe Titcomb, to accept the donation of \$2,000 from the Walmart Drive Safely Campaign to Lamprey River Elementary School. Voted unanimously in the affirmative.

Review of Committee Assignments: The Board reviewed Mr. Titcomb's meeting attendance as the School Board Representative to the Budget Committee and Seacoast School of Technology. It was the general consensus of the Board that Joseph Saulnier serve as the Representative to the Budget Committee, with Beth Paris as an Alternate. Mrs. Arsenault offered to serve as the Representative to SST if Mr. Titcomb was not able to keep that commitment.

<u>Committee Reports</u>: Mrs. Arsenault stated that she attended the Raymond Coalition for Youth Summit and that the Board Chair and the Superintendent also attended. She said it was great to see what they do for the community and school. Last week was Red Ribbon Week. Mrs. Arsenault also attended the RCFY meeting on October 11, where most of the discussion was about the Summit, Red Ribbon Week, and the Drug Takeback this past weekend.

Mr. Saulnier stated that the Capital Improvements Committee will be meeting with the School Board next week to give their recommendations. The Technology Committee has not met yet this year. The Library Media Workgroup met last week.

<u>Superintendent's Report</u>: Dr. McCoy stated that at the last SST Board meeting, they voted to adopt the adjusted budget for this year and the proposed budget for next year. She stated how fortunate Raymond is to have Raymond Coalition for Youth. ALICE drills have been successfully completed at all schools. There will be a

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parent information night about ALICE sometime in November. Recycled Percussion made a surprise visit to LRES on Friday. IHGMS teacher Krystal Kebler was named the Breathe NH Volunteer of the Year.

Correspondence/Other: None.

<u>Manifest Signing</u>: A quorum of the Board signed the manifest. Accounts Payable total \$24,657.17. Payroll total \$45.76.

<u>Adjournment</u>: <u>MOTION</u>: Janice Arsenault moved, seconded by Beth Paris, to adjourn the meeting. Voted unanimously in the affirmative. Meeting adjourned at 7:40 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Jennifer Heywood, Raymond School Board Clerk