

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 6:00 PM. Present: Attending in person: School Board Members Joseph Saulnier, Janice Arsenault, Melissa Sytek, Beth Paris (attending remotely), and Tony Clements; Superintendent Tina McCoy; Business Administrator Marjorie Whitmore; Technology Director Kevin Federico; Youth Program Director Pat Arsenault. Attending remotely: Student Services Director Michael Hatfield; Raymond High School Principal Steve Woodward; School Nutrition Services Director Pat Arsenault; Iber Holmes Gove Middle School Principal Bob Bickford; Safety & Facilities Director Todd Ledoux.

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.

Before School Program and After School Program: Pat Arsenault first discussed the proposed budget for the LEAP After School Program. He stated that this is the ninth year of the 21st Century funding. After year three, the State starts to reduce funding which is why there is money in the school district budget for the program. \$5,000 has been reduced in the transportation line, but other than that, the bottom line is the same as always.

During discussion:

- All aides for the program are coming out of the grant funding.

Mr. Arsenault discussed the proposed budget for the Before School Program. Mrs. Whitmore stated that it would be wise now that Mr. Arsenault is running both programs that he be compensated for that. He is also currently filling the position of the assistant, so they've removed the before school assistant, reducing that to \$2,000 for a substitute.

Food Service: Judy DiNatale presented the proposed budget for the nutrition services department. She noted that there is an increase in the contracted services line for the purchase of the online free and reduced meals application renewal. There's nothing on the vending lines because the district owns those machines now.

During discussion:

- Mrs. Whitmore confirmed that salary lines were shifted due to the move from elementary to middle school.
- Mrs. Whitmore stated that changes in insurance cost are due to changes in staff taking different insurance options.

Facilities: Mr. Ledoux stated that most of the safety and facilities budget is the same. The supply line has gone up due to the unknown of COVID and what will happen next year. The other major change is the oil price. They used the bid amount plus ten cents, which resulted in \$57,000 lower than what was originally being presented in the proposed budget. The software line increased to include camera licensing fees instead of taking that from repair line. The maintenance supplies line increased for camera upkeep.

Technology: Mr. Federico discussed the proposed technology budget. Professional development was reduced due to more remote conferences not requiring travel expenses.

During discussion:

- The repair lines fluctuate because they're a guess. It's an estimated guess from talking to other Tech Directors in the State. The maintenance contracts are reduced because NWEA, STAR, testing contracts were moved over to the Curriculum Coordinator lines.
- Dr. McCoy noted that we have software that is split up between the schools, such as Frontline. The history is that each school pays and the SAU pays a portion. She feels that's confusing and makes it hard to analyze the cost, and it should be a district expense. It's something she hopes to change in the future.
- SAU Computer Software at the SAU, what is that increase? Mrs. Whitmore reviewed the different items in that line. Some of the increased items are because the district went remote. Mr. Saulnier asked if we will need it going forward. GoGuardian was \$13k, Google Apps for Education Enterprise License was \$5100, screencastify is \$1600 or \$1800, Backupify was around \$8,000. That's about \$28,000 which is representative of the increase of this line. Going forward, since transitioning to 1:1, Screencastify is short money and great value. Backupify is something we should have been doing all along - it backs up the entire Google domain. Google Enterprise gives enhanced features for Google Meets, etc. Backupify goes by FTE. Others go by student count.
- New equipment: next year we'll be at about 1600 chromebooks. Dr. McCoy noted that progress regarding our technology equipment has been hastened by COVID and we're at the point that we may be able to get a nice rotation cycle of replacement a manageable amount each year.
- Most of the new equipment is new chromebooks.
- District-wide new technology equipment includes two swivel cameras, two owl cameras, and six Google Meet kits. Mr. Saulnier asked if we really need those cameras for 2021-22. Mr. Federico stated that if we're in a hybrid environment, then yes, we would need them. If we are back in schools, then no. Mr. Clements suggested taking into consideration a permanent remote option. Mrs. Arsenault stated that she would rather have the money in the budget for it. Mr. Saulnier stated he feels it would be better to use the money the District is getting from the State this year to purchase them. Mrs. Arsenault asked for an estimate of the funding - they had heard \$200 per student. Dr. McCoy noted that we can't know what the situation will be next school year and it might be a situation in which cameras become more important. Mrs. Arsenault stated that she would not use money the District can get now for something we might not need, and asked if the money is put into the budget and we don't go remote, what happens to that money? Mr. Federico responded that he would like to turn it into Chromebooks. Dr. McCoy asked that if the Board decides to trim this line, that it not be trimmed back too much because technology will continue to be so important.
- Mr. Saulnier asked how much 55 more Chromebooks would cost. Mr. Federico responded that at \$230 a piece, the total would be \$12,650.
- Mrs. Sytek stated that she feels it's okay to leave the money in there but to make the stipulation that the money will be returned if they don't use it for the purpose of hybrid remote instruction. Mr. Saulnier and Mrs. Arsenault stated that they can't do that. Mrs. Sytek said she would leave the money in there.
- Mr. Federico stated that the purchase of an additional 55 Chromebooks would be distributed among the three buildings for a buffer, in addition to the 10 per building that they accounted for in the proposed budget.
- Mrs. Arsenault stated that she would like to hear about this in the technology report next year.
- Mrs. Arsenault asked if teachers are using the Promethean boards as they are intended and are teachers trained. Mr. Federico stated yes, they installed two per building this year and Promethean has someone come in to work with the teachers and do a training. A couple of teachers still need the training as COVID has thrown the training off a bit.

Raymond School Board Meeting
October 22, 2020
Raymond High School Media Center and Remote
Minutes Page 3
DRAFT

- Mr. Saulnier asked to come up with a plan as to what we will do with the technology equipment funds if we don't need it for a hybrid learning environment next year.
- Mr. Saulnier asked if cameras have an end of life expectancy. Mr. Federico replied not that he is aware of. Chromebooks do because Google actually stops updating them at a certain year.

Adjournment: MOTION: Janice Arsenault moved, seconded by Melissa Sytek, to adjourn the meeting. Voted unanimously in the affirmative. Meeting adjourned at 7:25 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Jennifer Heywood