

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 6:00 PM. Present: School Board Members John Harmon, Jaclyn Serrine, Michelle Couture, Joseph Saulnier, and Janice Arsenault; 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; Special Education Director Walter Anacki; Facilities Director Todd Ledoux; Food Service Director Judith DiNatale.

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.

### 2018-2019 Budget Work Session - Department Presentations

Dr. McCoy oriented the School Board to the budget binder. She then introduced new Curriculum Coordinator Michael Whaland. Dr. McCoy stated that she has received much correspondence, especially regarding the music program, and she thanked all those who were present that evening.

Mr. Brickett detailed a summary of expenses by code and wage pool wages, and reviewed the budget changes already included in the budget, highlighted.

#### **Curriculum: Tina McCoy**

Dr. McCoy reviewed the curriculum coordinator salary and benefits, stipends for new teacher mentors, tuition and workshop reimbursement, assessment services, online periodical subscription, and mileage.

During discussion, Dr. McCoy confirmed that tuition reimbursement is the amount of a three credit course at UNH.

#### **Food Service: Judith DiNatale**

Mrs. DiNatale reviewed the budget, which was for the same number of food service employees: 5 at LRES, 6 at IHGMS, and 5 at RHS. She stated that some equipment is getting older and while they don't need replacement, they do need repair. Maintenance contracts are close to what they were last year. She reviewed license renewals, mileage, and that this is the last year for vending machine rentals; the District will own the vending machines. Replacement equipment needed includes the high school ice machine and to add a deli-bar at IHGMS. Equipment needed at the elementary school for \$1,000 includes signage, merchandising, as well as can openers, steam pans, and other small equipment.

#### **Iber Holmes Gove Middle School: Bob Bickford**

Mr. Brickett reviewed the salaries associated with IHGMS. The proposed budget shows a decrease of one 8th grade teacher, a decrease of a music teacher and the addition of ½ high school music teacher, decrease of one guidance counselor, elimination of LNA, and substitute salary average of three years actual salary.

During discussion, regarding one music teacher, Request for Information: How many students are currently enrolled in music classes at both schools? Request for current enrollment in all Unified Arts classes. Request for music schedules at both schools.

Mr. Harmon stated that the Board would allow public comment on the band position.

Randy LaCasse requested that music teachers be part of the music program budgeting conversation going forward. Most people outside of the program talk about it as band and chorus. A complete music education is made up of Instructional, choral, and general music. Regarding numbers, Mr. LaCasse asked that the Board consider student load. His student load at the high school is 125 per quarter. The middle school band and chorus student load per marking period is 188.

Mr. Harmon read a letter from Grace Woolson, Class of 2017, in favor of keeping the music program as is.

Speaking in favor of keeping the music program as is: Sandy Ellis, Beth Paris, Bridgid Auclair, Rita Aguilera (who spoke at this time and also asked to keep the special education budget and to promote language education as well), Maureen Cheever (who also spoke to the LNA reduction), Gary Williams, Dottie Yaris (who also spoke on behalf of keeping language at the middle school), Sergio DiLeo (who also spoke of teacher and LNA positions), Chan DiLeo, Lynne Towle, Diane Robinson, Deborah Levesque, Christine Bailey, and Abigail Bailey.

Mr. Harmon stated that the Board will be discussing the budget, including the music program, again a week from Thursday and again on November 8th. Mr. Saulnier stated that this is only the first step.

Steve Reardon approached the Board to ask that they listen to what the voters and parents are saying.

Continuation of review of IHGMS budget:

Discussion around eliminating an LNA in each school and hiring one LPN to be housed at the elementary school but serving all three schools as needed. Questions arose regarding the level of care in the schools now versus if there were an LPN, as well as about the duties of the current LNA's.

During discussion:

- Some classrooms have student computers; teacher workstations are old and slow. Request in the budget to replace student computers (Chromeboxes) and some teacher computers (in technology budget).
- Classrooms were equipped with chair/desk combos, which are not conducive to collaboration. \$9,867 to replace two 5th grade classrooms outfitted with 5 tables and 24 chairs per classroom.
- Regarding transportation, athletics away games busses are paid in full. Increase in curriculum-directed field trips will be covered (will increase also at high school). Request: get list of specific trips for each of the three schools.
- Reduction of one guidance counselor is driven by enrollment and the method of processing 504 plans.

### **Lamprey River Elementary School: Bryan Belanger**

Mr. Brickett reviewed that there is a proposed reduction of one first grade teacher and a nurse assistant. Mr. Belanger stated that the reduction of a first grade teacher is due to current kindergarten enrollment.

Mr. Harmon requested information on co-curricular lines at all three schools.

During discussion:

- Elementary Language Arts: Increase to complete reading material (phonics)
- Health: previously budgeted from general supplies
- Math Consumables: two year average plus \$2,000 increase for other
- The Board requested a breakdown of what is being mailed.
- Pupil testing: all student tested, diagnostic kits for assessments, screening preschool students
- Science kits \$15,000 balance in CIP
- Magazines moved from general supplies to periodicals
- Software: Mystery Science and Vocabulary Video Tool
- Physical Education: volleyball stands (uprights and net)
- Office: 2 iPads for administrators (\$450 each), safe (\$225)
- Furniture: standing desks (\$1,000), music risers (\$2,391), library furniture, modular curved furniture, current chairs to be put in computer lab, also 50 folding chairs for cafeteria.
- The Board requested the cost for birthday cards and pencils.

Initiatives: Math interventionist: 25 minutes a day for math intervention. The Board requested data of growth with kindergarten being full day.

### **Student Services: Walter Anacki**

Mr. Anacki presented the initiative to reduce special education coordinators to two. Gaps in transitions between schools would be addressed, and we have more coordinators than other schools our size. The position would continue at the elementary school and attend meetings in 5th grade and the other coordinator would work with the student at both the middle and high school. The coordinators' days would be increased to 200. The Board requested the number of students with IEP's and case loads, as well as the total number of special education student and the percentage of the student body.

During discussion:

- The speech aide salary is eliminated.
- Special Education PLATO is now in the high school budget.
- YEES program at the high school, general supply lines, speech and OT increases due to rise in prices from major suppliers for testing materials.
- Replace equipment: district-wide, adaptive equipment, replacing audio amplification system, 4 @ \$1,800, and 6 Chromebooks for special education students \$1,022. Specialized equipment for occupational and physical therapy.

Motion to go Beyond 10:00 PM: MOTION: Jaclyn Sirrinc moved, seconded by Michelle Couture, to extend the meeting beyond 10:00 PM. Voted unanimously in the affirmative.

**Facilities: Todd Ledoux**

Mr. Brickett reviewed that there were no changes in personnel and changes are due to RESS increases.

Initiatives include the security entrance into the middle school for \$110,000.

During discussion:

- Partition for gym entrance at IHGMS \$30,000.
- Rise in fees due to increases in contracts.
- Once new town well is in service, the District will not be paying town water fees.
- Grounds care: paving at LRES, parking lot line striping at all schools.
- Repair lines: ERV repairs at LRES, split unit in server room at IHGMS.
- Bleacher boards at IHGMS and RHS, exterior doors and windows at RHS.
- Still leasing LRES portables.
- New equipment: steam washer, used district-wide.

Adjournment: MOTION: Michelle Couture moved, seconded by Jaclyn Sirrinc, to adjourn the meeting. Voted unanimously in the affirmative. Meeting adjourned at 10:45 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Janice Arsenault,  
Raymond School Board Secretary