Raymond School Board Meeting December 1, 2021 Raymond High School Media Center Minutes Page 1 DRAFT

<u>Call to Order</u>: The meeting was called to order at 6:00 PM. Present: School Board Members John Harmon, Tony Clements, Dawn Leamer, Ada Vadeboncoeur (remote), and Joseph Saulnier (remote); Interim Superintendent of Schools David DeRuosi; Business Administrator Marjorie Whitmore; Director of Student Services Michael Hatfield; Iber Holmes Gove Middle School Principal Bob Bickford.

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

<u>Pledge of Allegiance</u>: All those in attendance stood and recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

Non-Public Session: MOTION: Dawn Learner moved, seconded by Tony Clements, to enter into non-public session under RSA 91-A:3 II (c) "Matters which, if discussed in public, would likely affect adversely the reputation of any person, other than a member of the public body itself, unless such person requests an open meeting." Upon the Board members being individually polled, the motion was voted in the affirmative by Joseph Saulnier, Ada Vadeboncoeur, Dawn Learner, John Harmon, and Tony Clements. The Board entered into non-public session at 6:01 PM and resumed public session at 6:07 PM. Other than the vote to exit this non-public session (which was moved by Dawn Learner, seconded by Tony Clements, and upon the Board members being individually polled, was voted in the affirmative by Joseph Saulnier, Dawn Learner, John Harmon, Ada Vadeboncoeur, and Tony Clements), no motions were voted during this non-public session.

MOTION TO AMEND THE AGENDA: MOTION: Dawn Learner moved, seconded by Tony Clements, to amend the agenda to add a non-public session at the end of the meeting. Upon the Board members being individually polled, the motion was voted in the affirmative by Joseph Saulnier, Dawn Learner, John Harmon, Ada Vadeboncoeur, and Tony Clements. Motion passed.

<u>Our Students/Our Schools</u>: IHGMS Science Teacher Mary Colburn, along with students Allie Bronson, Madilyn Alfonso, Matthew Shaw, Aidan Lord, and Abigail Gordon, discussed their study of the Lamprey River. They discussed studying insects, the use of nets to collect organisms, the types of organisms they found, and the higher than normal water level this year which allowed them to locate more of several types of organisms.

<u>Recognition</u>: The School Board acknowledged the following students for achieving the designation of Principal's List at Raymond High School for the first quarter:

Acadia GaffordLydia CramerSara AmovicColin CartaRiley CheeverAden DeyarminJoseph HsuSpencer MarchandMaren O'NeillSophie RugolettiJacob SavageKiana Witham

Public Input: There was no public input forthcoming.

Student Representative to the School Board Report: The Student Representative was not present.

Request for Inclusion on the School Board Agenda: Robert Lemoine spoke on behalf of the Raymond Education Association in support of higher pay for teachers and health insurance plan needs. He stated he was joined by over 40 educators representing approximately 120 throughout the district. Several teachers and parents spoke to voice their support, as well:

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Krystal Kebler stated that she's not sure she can continue to afford to work in Raymond.

Deborah Daniels read a letter on behalf of someone who was not able to attend this evening. The letter stated that this person loves working in Raymond but they may not be able to afford working here anymore.

Linda Chretien stated that to hear the contract was defeated in March was disheartening. She spoke of the value of educators in the district and retaining long term teachers.

Steve Scarpo stated that the teachers are amazing and they shouldn't have to move on because of money.

Carlos Maldonado thanked everyone in the room, discussed his experience, and stated his support for the teachers.

Art Wolinsky stated that he sees dedicated teachers and that it's up to every person watching to get behind the teachers and support them.

Darcy Cohen spoke in support of teachers, stating that if Raymond continues to lose teachers others will not want to come work here, and that the message with impasse is that they have given up on the teachers. She discussed how the teachers worked with children during the pandemic.

Katharine Brooks stated that she is one more voice to add as a parent in support of teachers. She stated her surprise to hear of the impasse and that it could be hurtful for the community to think there is apprehension to passing the contract.

Sandra Swiechowicz discussed her family's experiences and the importance of being able to rely on teachers being in Raymond next year.

Kristin Wallace discussed her family's experiences and how the town needs to rally around the teachers in the same way they rallied around her family.

<u>2022-2023 Budget</u>: Mrs. Whitmore reviewed the estimated revenues for the 2022-23 school year. She stated that she doesn't have all of the information from the State regarding the differences in some of the aid from last year, and that the State is holding a remote meeting next week to address this information with districts throughout the State.

(Mr. Saulnier arrived at the meeting in person at 6:54 PM.)

Mrs. Whitmore stated that her calculations regarding the tax commitment for the school district portion do not agree with the DRA estimates, and she will be discussing that further with them tomorrow. She stated that by her calculations, the school district portion of the tax commitment is about \$200,000 lower than last year. If the DRA numbers are correct, that could change significantly, to possibly \$600,000 higher than last year. She confirmed that the proposed operating budget is an increase of 2.4% over the current year's operating budget.

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<u>MOTION</u>: John Harmon moved, seconded by Joseph Saulnier, to accept the 2022-23 budget of \$26,798,318. Upon the Board members being individually polled, the motion was voted in the affirmative by Joseph Saulnier, Ada Vadeboncoeur, Dawn Leamer, John Harmon, and Tony Clements. Motion passed.

<u>2022-23 Default Budget</u>: Mrs. Whitmore reviewed the default budget presented at tonight's meeting. <u>MOTION</u>: John Harmon moved, seconded by Dawn Leamer, to approve the 2022-23 default budget of \$26,780,772. Upon the Board members being individually polled, the motion was voted in the affirmative by Joseph Saulnier, Ada Vadeboncoeur, Dawn Leamer, John Harmon, and Tony Clements. Motion passed.

<u>New/Revised Policies - Second Reading</u>: <u>MOTION</u>: John Harmon moved, seconded by Dawn Leamer, to approve revised policy DK Payments, Checks and Manifests. Upon the Board members being individually polled, the motion was voted in the affirmative by Joseph Saulnier, Ada Vadeboncoeur, Dawn Leamer, John Harmon, and Tony Clements. Motion passed.

<u>MOTION</u>: John Harmon moved, seconded by Dawn Leamer, to approved policy DK Vendor Relations. Upon the Board members being individually polled, the motion was voted in the affirmative by Joseph Saulnier, Ada Vadeboncoeur, Dawn Leamer, John Harmon, and Tony Clements. Motion passed.

<u>Nominations</u>: John Harmon moved, seconded by Dawn Leamer, to approve the retirement of Judson Slack, effective June 30, 2022. Upon the Board members being individually polled, the motion was voted in the affirmative by Joseph Saulnier, Ada Vadeboncoeur, Dawn Leamer, John Harmon, and Tony Clements. Motion passed.

Review of Special Education Organizational Chart: Mr. Hatfield reviewed the organizational chart and roles and responsibilities of the special education administrators. These documents were shared with staff during opening days this school year. During discussion:

- Barbara Kelly is the schools' go-to person for 504 plans, but Michael Hatfield is the lead coordinator.
- These organizational documents were presented in hard copy to all those who attended the required training; Mr. Harmon suggested making an electronic version available to staff.
- New hires during the school year receive this information usually through face-to-face meetings with special education administrators.

<u>Deliberative Session Public Information Timeline</u>: The School Board reviewed the proposed public information timeline. It was noted that due to limitations on wording and newspaper coverage, the School Board doesn't write letters to the editor any longer for the Union Leader and the Carriage Town News. Tony Clements offered to participate in the RHS coffee hour, John Harmon volunteered for the IHGMS coffee hour, and Joseph Saulnier will participate in the LRES coffee hour.

Committee Reports: None.

<u>Superintendent's Report</u>: Dr. DeRuosi stated that he had a request to look into running another vaccination clinic for 5-11 year olds.

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<u>Correspondence/Other</u>: The School Board read an email from Katharine Brooks in support of funding for a high school wrestling team. A copy of that email can be found at the end of these minutes.

<u>Manifest Signing</u>: A quorum of the Board signed the manifest. Accounts Payable total \$256,730.52. Payroll total \$443,019.02.

<u>Approval of Minutes</u>: <u>MOTION</u>: John Harmon moved, seconded by Dawn Leamer, to approve the public minutes of November 17, 2021 as presented. Upon the Board members being individually polled, the motion was voted in the affirmative by Joseph Saulnier, John Harmon, Dawn Leamer, and Tony Clements, with Ada Vadeboncoeur abstaining. Motion passed.

<u>MOTION</u>: John Harmon moved, seconded by Joseph Saulnier, to approve and unseal November 17, 2021 non-public minutes item A. Upon the Board members being individually polled, the motion was voted in the affirmative by Joseph Saulnier, John Harmon, Dawn Leamer, and Tony Clements, with Ada Vadeboncoeur abstaining. Motion passed.

<u>MOTION</u>: John Harmon moved, seconded by Joseph Saulnier, to approve and unseal November 17, 2021 non-public minutes item B. Upon the Board members being individually polled, the motion was voted in the affirmative by Joseph Saulnier, John Harmon, Dawn Leamer, and Tony Clements, with Ada Vadeboncoeur abstaining. Motion passed.

Non-Public Session: MOTION: John Harmon moved, seconded by Dawn Leamer, to enter into non-public session under RSA 91-A:3 II (c) "Matters which, if discussed in public, would likely affect adversely the reputation of any person, other than a member of the public body itself, unless such person requests an open meeting." Upon the Board members being individually polled, the motion was voted in the affirmative by Joseph Saulnier, Ada Vadeboncoeur, Dawn Leamer, John Harmon, and Tony Clements. The Board entered into non-public session at 7:31 PM and resumed public session at 7:43 PM. Other than the vote to exit this non-public session (which was moved by John Harmon, seconded by Tony Clements, and upon the Board members being individually polled, was voted in the affirmative by Joseph Saulnier, John Harmon, Ada Vadeboncoeur, and Tony Clements), one motion was voted during this non-public session.

<u>Adjournment</u>: <u>MOTION</u>: John Harmon moved, seconded by Tony Clements, to adjourn the meeting. Upon the Board members being individually polled, the motion was voted in the affirmative by Joseph Saulnier, Ada Vadeboncoeur, John Harmon, and Tony Clements. Motion passed. Meeting adjourned at 7:44 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Jennifer Heywood, Raymond School Board Clerk Raymond School Board Meeting December 1, 2021 Raymond High School Media Center Minutes Page 5 DRAFT

## Raymond School Board Non-Public Session December 1, 2021

Not voted to be kept confidential.

## Item A

Present: School Board Members John Harmon, Tony Clements, Dawn Leamer, and Ada Vadeboncoeur (remote); Interim Superintendent David DeRuosi.

Dr. DeRuosi reviewed the retirement coming before the School Board this evening.

Respectfully submitted,

Jennifer Heywood, Raymond School Board Clerk

## Item B

Present: School Board Members Joseph Saulnier, John Harmon, Tony Clements, and Ada Vadeboncoeur (remote); Interim Superintendent David DeRuosi.

The School Board continued discussion of a bus stop request that they have reviewed at an earlier meeting. It was noted that it had been confirmed that, in relation to this bus stop, there was not a student walking more than the allowable distance to their assigned stop. Mr. Clements suggested that the routes be reviewed in the future regarding the distances that students walk to their assigned bus stops.

<u>MOTION</u>: John Harmon moved, seconded by Tony Clements, to uphold the decision of the Transportation Committee. Upon the Board members being individually polled, the motion was voted in the affirmative by Joseph Saulnier, John Harmon, and Tony Clements, with Ada Vadeboncoeur abstaining. Motion passed.

Respectfully submitted,

Jennifer Heywood, Raymond School Board Clerk Raymond School Board Meeting December 1, 2021 Raymond High School Media Center Minutes Page 6 DRAFT

Email read at tonight's meeting:

I'm very happy that a wrestling team has been formed this year. Many kids are taking advantage of it, including my daughter. The coach has pioneered girls participation in the sport in NH for a while - making him a perfect coach for the 3 girls who have decided to participate. Coach Jay is phenomenal at creating an enriching, team atmosphere for all the wrestlers. I want to advocate for the wrestling team to move from an independent team, to a full High school team in the 2022-2023 school year. I know it's in the budget, and I strongly advocate we keep it throughout the upcoming budgeting process. (In other words, let's not cut it).

Thanks, Kate Brooks