

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 6:00 PM. Present: School Board Members John Harmon, Tony Clements, Cindy Bennett, Joseph Saulnier, and Stephen Scarfo; Student Representative to the School Board Alyson Miller; Superintendent of Schools Terry Leatherman; Business Administrator Marjorie Whitmore; Raymond High School Principal Sharon Wilson; Raymond High School Assistant Principal Joanne McCann; Iber Holmes Gove Middle School Principal Bob Bickford; Lamprey River Elementary School Principal Laura Yacek; Lamprey River Elementary School Assistant Principal Dorothy Franchini; Director of School Nutrition Services Tasha Ball.

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.

Non-Public Session: MOTION: Joseph Saulnier moved, seconded by Cindy Bennett, 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, John Harmon, Stephen Scarfo, Cindy Bennett, and Tony Clements. The Board entered into non-public session at 6:01 PM and resumed public session at 6:10 PM. Other than the vote to exit this non-public session (which was moved by Joseph Saulnier, seconded by Stephen Scarfo, and upon the Board members being individually polled, was voted in the affirmative by Joseph Saulnier, John Harmon, Stephen Scarfo, Cindy Bennett, and Tony Clements), no motions were voted during this non-public session.

Recognition: The School Board recognized the following RHS students for achieving the Principal's List for the second quarter of 2022-23 (receiving all A's for the quarter):

Grade 9

Trevor Goulette, Sophie Huynh, Cameron Mello, Rachel Ni, Christopher So

Grade 11

Acadia Gafford, Vicky Ni, Violet Reynolds

Grade 12

Sarah Bouchard, Tina Chen, Lydia Cramer, Adrian Dichard, Jasmin French, Payton Hartlen, Jacob Parsons

Public Input: Public input was opened at 6:11 PM. Mr. Harmon noted that public input would be open for 30 minutes. If anyone arrives within that timeframe and would like to speak, they will be allowed to do so. There was no public input forthcoming at this time.

Our Students/Our Schools: RHS Principal Sharon Wilson introduced RHS student Nathan Wallace, who discussed the Student Athlete Leadership Team (SALT) with the Board. Mr. Wallace discussed how the students in SALT were trying to increase participation in and excitement for sports in schools, working to get students to enjoy the games and make sports more popular in the schools. As a group they are setting a precedent for student behavior, participation and sportsmanship. One member is working on a student and coaching handbook as part of an ELO, and they are working toward the establishment of a pop-up shop to sell school merchandise. Some subgroup forums are held to help teach leadership and community engagement, and some members are attending a field trip to a leadership summit. Membership in SALT is open to student athletes.

Student Representative to the School Board Report: Ms. Miller reviewed that students in both Site Council and Student Council are providing input regarding student handbook revisions; she reviewed upcoming sports events; seniors are starting to get their college acceptances and decisions. Ms. Miller asked if a student would be considered for the RHS Principal Search Committee. Mr. Harmon said that when the Board discussed the committee membership there was no discussion about student involvement. Ms. Miller stated that students would like to have input on that committee.

Principals' Reports and Curriculum Report to the Board: LRES Principal Laura Yacek reviewed the report to the School Board, including: grade level and team highlights, acknowledgements, curriculum and activity updates, discipline and student achievement data, and upcoming events.

During discussion:

- Correction: i-Ready Math Tier III schoolwide data should say 7%, not 31%
- Mr. Harmon asked if the Monster Concert could appear on all school calendars.

RHS Principal Sharon Wilson reviewed the report to the School Board, including: grade level and team highlights, acknowledgements, curriculum and activity updates, discipline and student achievement data, and upcoming events.

During discussion:

- Mr. Harmon asked when the 8th grade schedule would be completed. Ms. McCann responded that the date has not yet been set.
- Ms. Wilson confirmed that the high school student schedules will be completed by the last day of school.
- Mr. Harmon asked that discipline numbers in the high school report be reflected in the same manner as the middle school report.
- Mr. Harmon asked how many parents and students are involved in the Scheduling Committee. Ms. Wilson stated that they have a larger teacher subgroup and that upcoming, the committee will include teachers, parents, and students. Mr. Harmon noted that the Board had asked that parents and students be involved in the committee. Ms. Wilson confirmed later in the

discussion that students (juniors and below), through SALT, Site Council, and Student Council, will be participating on the Scheduling Committee.

- Mr. Harmon asked about parent involvement on the Grading Committee, and Ms. Wilson responded that one parent has expressed interest and there's been some correspondence, but she's not sure if they've had a subsequent meeting.

IHGMS Principal Bob Bickford reviewed the report to the School Board, including: grade level and team highlights, acknowledgements, curriculum and activity updates, discipline and student achievement data, and upcoming events.

During discussion:

- Mr. Saulnier asked if we think we'll be able to have Spanish for 8th graders at the high school? Mr. Bickford stated that is challenging, there needs to be sufficient space available in the classes, and it limits the flexibility of the middle school master schedule, and transportation needs to be set up. It worked that one year but it would be extremely challenging to continue that process.
- Mr. Bickford stated that they're looking at sharing resources for music classes between the middle and high schools.

Ms. Yacek, Ms. Franchini, and Mr. Bickford reviewed i-Ready Assessment Data. The assessments are administered three times a year schoolwide. Students have the opportunity for 30 minutes of personalized instruction per week in reading and math.

Assessment results fall within five categories: Mid or Above Grade Level, Early On Grade Level, One Grade Level Below, Two Grade Levels Below, and Three or More Grade Levels Below. This presentation on the winter benchmark assessment compares results with the fall assessment results, and there was growth throughout.

Schoolwide at LRES for Reading:

- 23% are mid or above grade level, 28% are early on grade level, 40% are one grade level below, 7% are two grade levels below, and 1% are three or more grade levels below.
- Schoolwide, 71% are at 50% or above of annual reading growth.

Teachers are using this information to drive their WIN groups and to provide students specifically what they need. Teachers with students at less than 50% growth are being provided support.

Schoolwide at for LRES at Math:

- 13% are at mid or above grade level, 18% are early on grade level; 62% are one grade level below, and 7% are two grade levels below.
- Schoolwide, 59% are at 50% or above of annual math growth.

LRES Goals:

Reading Goal: To move 20% of students from yellow to green in vocabulary. In the fall, 22% were in green, in winter 51% were in green.

Math Goal: To move 20% of students from yellow to green in numbers and operations. In the fall, 12% were in green, in winter 37% were in green.

Schoolwide at IHGMS for Reading:

- 26% are mid or above grade level, 18% are early on grade level, 32% are one grade level below, 10% are two grade levels below, and 15% are three or more grade levels below.
- Schoolwide, 88% are at 50% or above of annual reading growth.

Schoolwide at IHGMS for Math

- 14% are mid or above grade level, 24% are early on grade level, 41% are one grade level below, 10% are two grade levels below, and 12% are three or more grade levels below.
- Schoolwide, 74% are at 50% or above of annual reading growth.

Mr. Bickford explained that the middle school has traditionally based its goals on state assessment results, and as such, the goals for reading and math are grade-level goals based on that data. Mr. Harmon suggested that moving forward, goals can be based on i-Ready data which is now more readily available and more frequent than state assessment data.

During discussion:

- Mr. Harmon asked administration to consider what can be done at the high school to provide similar data as was provided this evening for the middle and elementary schools. He suggested reviewing how many students in a class have A, B, C,...etc.. a starting point for similar data.
- Mr. Harmon asked how does the significant growth that Raymond has had compare to other area schools?
- Mr. Harmon asked if it would be possible to show how many individual students met their individual goal, perhaps in exchange for domain data. Mr. Bickford stated that the individual results shared with parents and students show this type of growth and he is anticipating that the data they receive in the spring will include this information.

School Meal Prices: Director of School Nutrition Services Tasha Ball reviewed some follow-up information about school meal prices, including the average cost to the district per meal, projected revenue with various levels of meal price increases, and recommendations to increase revenue and participation.

Ms. Ball noted that the projected revenue from meal price increases was incorrect. Corrected information below:

*Projected monthly additional revenue per building if we raise meals 5c 10c 15c
Figures are based on current average PAID student meals per month

	<i>5c</i>	<i>10c</i>	<i>15c</i>
<i>LRES</i>	<i>\$122.00</i>	<i>\$245.60</i>	<i>\$368.40</i>
<i>IHGMS</i>	<i>\$123.30</i>	<i>\$246.60</i>	<i>\$369.90</i>
<i>RHS</i>	<i>\$52.20</i>	<i>\$104.40</i>	<i>\$156.60</i>
<i>Total</i>	<i>\$297.50</i>	<i>\$597.60</i>	<i>\$894.90</i>

Mr. Saulnier asked what can be done to close the gap. Ms. Ball stated that she will be meeting with student groups to determine how to make more foods that they will purchase. They're also reviewing their cycle menus to see which meals are popular, and are looking to increase a la carte sales and breakfast sales. "Second Chance Breakfast" is an opportunity for students to come back and get breakfast a little later in a grab-and-go style.

Mr. Harmon asked what the effect would be if we stopped serving breakfast at the middle school and high school. Ms. Ball stated we would lose that revenue. MS breakfast is \$1.90 and at the HS is \$2.00. There are two people in the HS and two people in the MS preparing breakfast meals. Ms. Ball stated she would need to work out the exact cost and time, and that they're probably there for two hours. She noted the reimbursement rates are higher than what we are charging, and the rates are different for paid, free, and reduced. Reimbursement is not provided for a la carte meals. Ms. Ball will provide more detail about reimbursement rates in a Friday Memo update.

Ms. Bennett asked about Ms. Ball's feeling about removing breakfast. Ms. Ball stated that regardless of how many students are being fed, the need for students who rely on breakfast through free and reduced meal status wouldn't change, as well as the impact to staff members.

Mr. Scarfo asked if the revenue numbers provided this evening include the reimbursement from the federal government. Ms. Ball stated yes, that is included.

Mr. Clements stated he would not be in support of removing breakfast, since there are only two people for two hours. Mr. Harmon asked for the number of students that are free, reduced, and paying who purchase breakfast, and the same information for lunch, at each school. Mr. Saulnier asked if the receipt of reimbursement for paid meals is new. Ms. Ball will research that.

Mr. Harmon asked for a cost-benefit analysis of keeping breakfast versus removing breakfast. Mr. Harmon stated he feels something should be done with meal prices to add more revenue. As of right now, the transfer from the general fund to food service is estimated to be \$74,000.

Ms. Ball confirmed that if we are offering breakfast, we cannot deny a student who wants breakfast regardless of ability to pay.

Mr. Saulnier stated he agrees with Mr. Clements that he would not remove breakfast, but he would like to see what can be done to increase revenue. Mr. Scarfo stated that the savings would have to be pretty significant to eliminate a meal that kids rely on. Mr. Saulnier suggested allowing students to eat breakfast in the classrooms. Mr. Harmon asked if they could hear from the schools if there are reasons not to do it and any other information needed from the building principals, Todd Ledoux, etc.

MOTION: Joseph Saulnier moved, seconded by Cindy Bennett, to increase lunch prices throughout the district by 15 cents. Mr. Harmon stated that the Board doesn't have all the numbers and the concern always is if we increase prices, will people eat less. Motion passed with John Harmon, Cindy Bennett, Tony Clements, and Joseph Saulnier voting in the affirmative and Stephen Scarfo voting in opposition. It was generally agreed that this increase will take effect on March 6th.

RHS 2023-24 Program of Studies: Ms. Wilson and Ms. McCann reviewed the proposed changes to the RHS Program of Studies. During discussion:

- Page 9, mention the importance of AP courses for military academies.
- Mr. Saulnier said he wouldn't want to see students skip algebra in 8th grade so that they can take honors algebra in high school. Mr. Harmon suggested adding a note on page 9 that taking algebra in 8th grade would allow a student to open up math choices for another year. Ms. Wilson said it can also say "or" algebra.
- Regarding Honors by Exhibition - Mr. Harmon stated he hopes we wouldn't reduce a student's ability to take an honors course because the numbers aren't there. Consensus to keep Honors by Exhibition and try to publicize it more.
- Mr. Harmon suggested consideration in the future for students who take the AP exam to not have to take a final.
- Mr. Harmon asked why the asterisks for even and odd years on page 22 are being stricken out. Ms. Wilson stated they were going to let the schedule be dictated by family choice. Mr. Harmon stated that we cannot offer all courses and have enough students sign up, and it also allows students to plan ahead because they know which year those courses will be offered.

- Mr. Harmon asked why the requirement to take an honors course went from recommended 2.5 to required 2.7. Ms. Wilson stated the recommendation came from faculty and she supports it. After some discussion it was agreed to leave it at 2.7, but to be recommended, not required.
- Mr. Harmon asked, on page 26, why we are eliminating two honors courses in English, reducing the honors level English courses from five courses to three. Ms. Wilson stated that the change was driven by student numbers, as there is not much student interest in those courses. Mr. Harmon stated that for juniors and seniors who don't take an AP course, there would be only one honors English course option. He asked if that could be reviewed to keep more English honors options for students.
- Mr. Harmon asked that, on page 31, to keep in mind that they had talked about making sure students took the preparatory course for the required NH civics exam by junior year.
- Mr. Clements asked for a list of books required for the Diverse Perspectives in Literature course on page 28.
- Regarding Personal Finance, Ms. Wilson stated that right now she's being told that the State is satisfied with the school offering the course, and that it is not yet required.

MOTION: Joseph Saulnier moved, seconded by Cindy Bennett, to approve the Program of Studies as amended for the 2023-24 school year with the only exception being the question of those Honor Courses in English. Voted unanimously in the affirmative.

RHS Principal Search Committee Membership: MOTION: Joseph Saulnier moved, seconded by Stephen Scarfo, to appoint Danielle Karcz, Elizabeth McGovern, Katherine Shaw, Kristin Wallace, and Dana Zulager to the RHS Principal Search Committee. Voted unanimously in the affirmative.

Postponement of Agenda Items: The School Board agreed to postpone the following agenda items to the next meeting: Policy Readings (First and Second Readings), Superintendent Vacation Approval, Monthly Financial Update, AED's Purchase, Superintendent and Committee Reports, and Approval of Minutes.

School Board Meeting Dates: Due to the Superintendent not being available for the March 1st School Board meeting: MOTION: Joseph Saulnier moved, seconded by Tony Clements, to move the regularly scheduled [March 1st] meeting to March 8th. Voted unanimously in the affirmative.

Financial Update: While the monthly financial update was postponed to the next meeting, Mr. Leatherman asked to discuss with the Board his decision to initiate a budget freeze in the district so they can see how their finances straighten out over the next couple of months. His decision is based on a review of special education costs, including transportation, which leaves a projected surplus of \$162,000, which causes him concern. Any expenditures will come through him for prior approval during this freeze. Mr. Harmon noted that there is a capital reserve fund for special education that is still available. He stated his concern is that there are so many things that need to be done, he doesn't want this to slow the district down, and he asked if there's money in the budget why wouldn't we

continue that course? He's concerned that the district won't be getting the things we need. Mr. Leatherman stated that maybe in a month things will look better. Mr. Harmon suggested that at this point, the teaching staff is settled and perhaps the district could stop posting for those positions, but continue posting for paraeducators. The Board was in agreement.

Motion to Extend the Meeting Beyond 10:00 PM: MOTION: Joseph Saulnier moved, seconded by Cindy Bennett, to go past 10:00 PM but not to exceed 10:20 PM. Voted unanimously in the affirmative.

Manifest Signing: A quorum of the Board signed the manifest. Accounts Payable total \$603,441.19. Payroll total \$496,004.23.

Non-Public Session: MOTION: Joseph Saulnier moved, seconded by Stephen Scarfo, to enter into non-public session under RSA 91-A:3 II (k) "Consideration by a school board of entering into a student or pupil tuition contract authorized by RSA 194 or RSA 195-A, which, if discussed in public, would likely benefit a party or parties whose interests are adverse to those of the general public or the school district that is considering a contract, including any meeting between the school boards, or committees thereof, involved in the negotiations." Upon the Board members being individually polled, the motion was voted in the affirmative by Joseph Saulnier, John Harmon, Cindy Bennett, Stephen Scarfo, and Tony Clements. The Board entered into non-public session at 9:54 PM and resumed public session at 10:22 PM. Other than the vote to exit this non-public session and seal the minutes, as not doing so would render ineffective the action/proposed action taken in non-public session (which was moved by Joseph Saulnier, seconded by Stephen Scarfo, and upon the Board members being individually polled, was voted in the affirmative by Joseph Saulnier, John Harmon, Cindy Bennett, Stephen Scarfo, and Tony Clements), no motions were voted during this non-public session.

Adjournment: MOTION: Joseph Saulnier moved, seconded by Stephen Scarfo, to adjourn the meeting. Voted unanimously in the affirmative. Meeting adjourned at 10:23 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Jennifer Heywood,
School Board Clerk

Raymond School Board Meeting
February 15, 2023
Raymond High School Media Center
Minutes Page 9
DRAFT

Raymond School Board Non-Public Session
February 15, 2023

Not voted to be kept confidential.

Item A

Present: School Board Members John Harmon, Joseph Saulnier, Tony Clements, Cindy Bennett, and Stephen Scarfo; Superintendent of Schools Terry Leatherman.

The School Board reviewed the letters of interest for the RHS Principal Search Committee.

Respectfully submitted,

Jennifer Heywood,
School Board Clerk