

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 Tyler Dunphy; Superintendent of Schools Terry Leatherman; Business Administrator Marjorie Whitmore; Lamprey River Elementary School Principal Jessica Benson; 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 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, John Harmon, Cindy Bennett, Stephen Scarfo, and Tony Clements. The Board entered into non-public session at 6:01 PM and resumed public session at 6:04 PM. Other than the vote to exit this non-public session (which was moved by Joseph Saulnier, seconded by Cindy Bennett, 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.

Public Input: Public input was opened at 6:05 PM. Nick Gregoire presented his case for early graduation. He discussed his learning style, welding classes, and work experience. He aims to join Manchester Community College's welding program.

Kristin Wallace raised concerns about grading issues at the high school, affecting her son's scholarship opportunities.

Craig Macy expressed frustration about the lack of communication regarding the grading issues.

Terry Leatherman explained that a change in grading weight from formative assessments was not updated in the system, leading to incorrect grade calculations.

Our Students/Our Schools: LRES Teacher Carolyn Malo and third-grade students Jaxon St. John, Camden Parks, Audrey Lamb, and Abigail Masi presented their Ellis Island immigration unit, which included interactive tours, audio stories from immigrants, and a simulation project involving suitcase preparation.

Student Representative to the School Board Report: Mr. Dunphy discussed the concerns among students and teachers about the grading system.

Nate Wallace approached the Board. He discussed his concern about the grading issue at the high school and the impact on students. He asked if we know that this is a big issue, why are we postponing fixing it. Ms. Bennett asked for clarification as to whether fixing the error entails going back to the start of the school year or would mean being fixed going forward. Mr. Leatherman confirmed the plan is to start semester two and go forward.

Kristin Wallace approached the Board and stated that changing the grades from the start of the school year wouldn't be for the teachers to do - that would be taken care of in PowerSchool. She also stated that the difference of an A+ or a B- can make a difference for scholarships. Nate Wallace added that it can affect other opportunities as well.

Mr. Saulnier suggested making the correction now. Mr. Harmon recommended doing it now, rather than waiting for the second semester, by whatever means it can be done. There was general agreement to do so.

Gretchen Gott approached the Board. She spoke in support of Nick Gregoire's appeal for early graduation and asked the Board to approve his appeal.

School Nutrition Services Update: School Nutrition Services Director Tasha Ball provided an update on nutrition services, including statistics on free and reduced lunch percentages and meal participation. She also highlighted a successful catering event by the school's chef, Adam Mycko. During discussion:

- Ms. Ball confirmed that the current student meal debt is \$14,630.15, which is pretty evenly divided between the schools.
- Mr. Saulnier asked if it's possible to get an old fashioned vending machine that won't get shaken up as much. Ms. Ball stated she can look into it.

RHS 2024-25 Program of Studies: RHS Principal Peter Dannible and School Counselor Tricia Wentworth reviewed the recommended revisions to the Raymond High School Program of Studies for the 2024-25 school year. During discussion:

- Mr. Harmon asked that the information about the school that they are removing from the Program of Studies be made available elsewhere, possibly on the website, for prospective parents.
- Pages 8 and 9 - Civics Exam and FAFSA - reword to reference the district rather than the class of 2024.
- Mr. Harmon asked that Spirit be added to Athletics and Co-curriculars on page 9.
- Regarding college credit, Mr. Harmon asked that it be made clear that even though community college is earned, it may not transfer as credit at any college.
- Mr. Harmon asked if page 17, Protocol for Student Course Changes, could be revised as follows "...unless it is deemed necessary to have a study hall *or requested by parents/guardian.*"

- Mr. Harmon suggested staggering the English honors courses offerings so all four are not offered in one year, as there may not be the numbers for adequate enrollment.
- Mr. Harmon suggested that, with World Geography being a full year course, that the graduation requirements change to 3 full credits for social studies, and remove one half credit from electives, starting with the Class of 2028.
- Mr. Harmon asked that it be made clear that if a student takes Algebra I they will need to take Algebra II.
- Mr. Harmon asked that consideration be given in the future to an increase in credit requirements for math and the types of courses being offered.
- Mr. Saulnier asked why some honors classes require a certain GPA and some don't. Mr. Harmon stated that they had discussed previously that we can't really tell a parent that their student can't take a class. He feels that a prerequisite is fine, but a GPA should be a recommendation, not a requirement, unless it's an AP course. It was the consensus of the Board that anything other than an AP course referencing a GPA say that it's recommended, not required.
- Page 36 Quantitative Reasoning will include the early college symbol.
- Mr. Saulnier asked to consider the use of links in the Program of Studies to make it more interactive.
- Teacher recommendations for honors science classes will be changed to recommended rather than required. (AP will retain the requirement.)
- Mr. Harmon asked that the statement that physical education courses can only be taken one time per year be clarified so that it doesn't imply that a student can take the class again in another year.
- Mr. Harmon asked about the removal of STD's from the health class and asked for more information on that. Mr. Scarfo asked about the removal of fitness.
- Wording will be added to the Digital Photography description about software being used.
- Mr. Clements asked to look into whether guitars from the middle school could be available for use by the high school guitar class.
- Live Sound and Studio Recording - remove the requirement for after school time to fulfill competencies.
- Mr. Harmon asked about staggering the offering of woodworking so that enrollment may be higher each time it's offered, giving a better chance that it will actually run.
- Mr. Scarfo suggested adding the number of students required to run a course be added to elective course descriptions that could potentially not run based on low enrollment.

MOTION: John Harmon moved, seconded by Cindy Bennett, to approve the RHS Program of Studies for 2024-2025 as amended. Voted unanimously in the affirmative.

2024-25 Operating Budget Warrant Article: The School Board reviewed the proposed operating budget for 2024-25 as revised by the Budget Committee. The Budget Committee revised the 24-25 School District Operating Budget to \$30,723,861, a decrease of \$317,880. After some discussion: MOTION:

Joseph Saulnier moved, seconded by Cindy Bennett, to recommend the 2024-25 operating budget as presented by the Budget Committee. Voted unanimously in the affirmative.

School District Warrant Article Approval: The School Board reviewed the final draft of the warrant. MOTION: John Harmon moved, seconded by Tony Clements, to approve the school district warrant as presented with the addition of the School Board recommendation on the operating budget. Voted unanimously in the affirmative by Cindy Bennett, John Harmon, Stephen Scarfo, and Tony Clements. (Joseph Saulnier was not present for this vote.)

Monthly Financial Update: Ms. Whitmore reviewed the financial update for months ending December 31, 2023. During discussion, she noted that she has not yet heard about impact fees. She also stated that we have received our special education aid and the Board will see that in next month's report. After continued discussion, Mr. Harmon stated that he would be willing to start purchasing things with the understanding that within a month's time they might have to revisit things again.

New/Revised Policies - First Reading: The School Board reviewed the following new/revised policies for the first of two readings: EHAB Data Governance and Security, IMBA Distance Education, and JFAA-R Admission of Resident Students (to be redacted). There were no further revisions suggested at this time.

New/Revised Policies - Second Reading: MOTION: Tony Clements moved, second by Cindy Bennett, to approve policy FA Annual Facility Plan and Unused District Property. Voted unanimously in the affirmative.

MOTION: Tony Clements moved, seconded by Joseph Saulnier, to approve policy FG Capital Improvement Plan [as revised and recoded]. Voted unanimously in the affirmative.

Donation Acceptance: MOTION: Joseph Saulnier moved, seconded by Cindy Bennett, to accept the donation of \$1,596 [value of paper donated] from Walmart Distribution Center to Raymond High School. Voted unanimously in the affirmative.

Nominations/Resignations: MOTION: Joseph Saulnier moved, seconded by Tony Clements, to accept the resignation of Donald Pierce, effective February 2, 2024, pending receipt of liquidated damages. Voted unanimously in the affirmative.

Committee Reports: Mr. Harmon stated the CIP Committee met and they discussed the Town Master Plan, impact fees, and exaction fees.

Mr. Saulnier stated that there was a Wellness Committee meeting during which they discussed possibly breaking out into subcommittee meetings.

Superintendent's Report: Mr. Leatherman stated that the Army National Guard will be working with high school students as part of their Help Everyone Achieve Respect (HEAR) program, a bullying prevention program. A staff in-service day was held yesterday but the weather prevented presenters from attending in person. There were presentations held on i-Ready and Universal Design for Learning.

Correspondence/Other: Mr. Saulnier noted that tonight's meeting has not been recorded through Google Meet (due to technical difficulties) but is available through RCTV.

Manifest Signing: A quorum of the Board signed the manifest. Accounts Payable total \$430,040.15. Payroll total \$501,477.56.

Approval of Minutes: MOTION: Joseph Saulnier moved, seconded by Cindy Bennett, to approve the minutes of December 20, 2023. Voted unanimously in the affirmative.

MOTION: Joseph Saulnier moved, seconded by Cindy Bennett, to approve the minutes of December 21, 2023. Voted unanimously in the affirmative with Stephen Scarfo and Cindy Bennett abstaining.

MOTION: Joseph Saulnier moved, seconded by Cindy Bennett, to approve the minutes of January 2, 2024. Voted unanimously in the affirmative.

MOTION: Joseph Saulnier moved, seconded by Cindy Bennett, to approve the minutes of January 3, 2024 with the following amendment: page 4 add "Voted unanimously in the affirmative." Voted unanimously in the affirmative.

MOTION: Joseph Saulnier moved, seconded by John Harmon, to approve the minutes of January 4, 2023. Voted unanimously in the affirmative with Stephen Scarfo and Cindy Bennett abstaining.

Non-Public Session: MOTION: Joseph Saulnier moved, seconded by Cindy Bennett, to enter into non-public session under RSA 91-A:3 II (m) "Consideration of whether to disclose minutes of a nonpublic session due to a change in circumstances under paragraph III." 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 9:01 PM and resumed public session at 9:11 PM. Other than the vote to exit this non-public session (which was moved by Joseph Saulnier, seconded by Tony Clements, 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.

Unsealing Minutes: MOTION: Cindy Bennett moved, seconded by Joseph Saulnier, to unseal the following non-public minutes: June 24, 1986 IVC and v; September 10, 1985; September 19, 1985 VA.3, VA.2, VIA.3, VIA.5, Exe; October 3, 1985; October 24, 1985 Exec and VIA.2; November 7, 1985; December 5, 1985 VII A3, EXE. Voted unanimously in the affirmative.

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Adjournment: MOTION: Joseph Saulnier moved, seconded by Tony Clements, to adjourn the meeting. Voted unanimously in the affirmative. Meeting adjourned at 9:12 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Stephen Scarfo,
Raymond School Board Member

Raymond School Board Non-Public Session
January 17, 2024

Not voted to be kept confidential.

Item A

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

The Superintendent reviewed this evening's resignation with the School Board.

Respectfully submitted,

Stephen Scarfo,
Raymond School Board Member

Item B

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

The School Board reviewed sealed minutes for consideration of whether to unseal them.

Respectfully submitted,

Stephen Scarfo,
Raymond School Board Member