

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 6:02 PM. Present: School Board Members Joseph Saulnier, John Harmon, Ada Vadeboncoeur, Dawn Leamer, and Tony Clements (remote); Student Representative to the School Board Mason Lord (remote); Interim Superintendent of Schools David DeRuosi; Business Administrator Marjorie Whitmore; Iber Holmes Gove Middle School Principal Bob Bickford; Lamprey River Elementary School Principal Laura Yacek.

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

Non-Public Session: MOTION: John Harmon moved, seconded by Dawn Leamer, to enter into non-public session under RSA 91-A:3 II (b) "The hiring of any person as a public employee." Upon the Board members being individually polled, the motion was voted in the affirmative by Joseph Saulnier, John Harmon, Dawn Leamer, Ada Vadeboncoeur, and Tony Clements. The Board entered into non-public session at 6:01 PM and resumed public session at 6:06 PM. Other than the vote to exit this non-public session (which was moved by John Harmon, seconded by Ada Vadeboncoeur, and upon the Board members being individually polled, was voted in the affirmative by Joseph Saulnier, John Harmon, Dawn Leamer, Ada Vadeboncoeur, and Tony Clements), no motions were voted during this non-public session.

Student Representative to the School Board Report: Mr. Lord reported that students are getting ready for the Penguin Plunge, and commented on the school spirit of the underclassmen.

Our Students/Our Schools: IHGMS National Junior Honor Society Advisor Suzy Gagnon and students Amber Sarofian, Dominic Lambert, Casey Peters, and Makenna Brackett discussed their recent food drive efforts with the Board. They had researched the need to help those with food insecurity, and held a food drive for those in need especially due to the pandemic. They discussed food insecurity with the homeroom classes in every grade and answered questions about the drive. All donations stayed within Raymond, through either the Raymond Food Pantry or *End 68 Hours of Hunger*.

Public Input: There was no public input forthcoming.

Nature's classroom: IHGMS student Jasmine Saulnier discussed with the School Board the petition that the 6th grade class had submitted to Principal Bickford for their grade to attend Nature's Classroom. Nature's Classroom is typically a 5th grade trip, but due to the pandemic, the 5th grade last year was unable to attend the traditional week-long program and instead attended a daily, abbreviated version of the program.

In response to questions from the Board, Mr Bickford stated that students are not required to be vaccinated to attend this Nature's Classroom facility, about 82 students would likely attend, and they required one chaperone for every ten students. He noted that this may be a challenge relative to staffing, but they've always been able to find volunteers.

MOTION: Ada Vadeboncoeur moved, seconded by Tony Clements, to approve the trip for 6th grade to go to Nature's Classroom the week of March 14, 2022. Upon the Board members being individually polled, the motion was voted in the affirmative by Tony Clements, Dawn Leamer, John Harmon, and Ada Vadeboncoeur. (Joseph Saulnier had recused himself from this discussion and vote.)

Follow-Up: Social & Emotional Needs of Students and Potential Behavioral Health In-Service Day: Dr. DeRuosi reviewed with the School Board a presentation about the social/emotional needs of students and families. He reviewed poverty and homelessness data, the educational impact of trauma and neglect, and common behaviors of children with unmet needs. He stated he is considering using some of the ESSERS funds for a home/school liaison position.

Dr. DeRuosi stated he is recommending March 8th for the in-service day dedicated to behavioral health. As part of that in-service, the District will be bringing in some training for a group of district staff regarding threat assessment.

Mr. Harmon asked if there is a timeframe in mind when he might be able to implement the home/school liaison. Dr. DeRuosi stated he would be looking to post the position in April.

Mr. Harmon asked if the fact that behavioral staff personnel have other duties has been curtailed. Dr. DeRuosi stated he will be meeting with administrators regarding being able to free them up and will be developing a common message about behavioral health issues. Mr. Harmon stated he hopes that we could transition out of that practice sooner rather than later. Mr. Bickford stated that in the middle school the SAP Counselor last year volunteered to be part of morning duty, and this year the counselors rotate greeting the students in the morning; none of their other counselors have been assigned to recess or lunch or other duties.

Ms. Leamer asked what is in place in the district for suicide prevention. Dr. DeRuosi stated that there has been training, from what he can tell it's been implemented well in previous years, and staff members are trained.

Mr. Harmon asked about the logic of holding the in-service on March 8th just after vacation week. Dr. DeRuosi stated he hesitates to make a decision tonight without discussing it with his administrative team and he will bring a date back to the next Board meeting. Mr. Harmon requested that it be either a Monday or a Friday, as he feels a midweek closure is too disruptive to the educational process.

MOTION: Joseph Saulnier moved, seconded by Tony Clements, to amend the agenda to discuss the Washington D.C. trip and maybe give direction. Mr. Harmon asked if the administrators were ready to have this discussion. Dr. DeRuosi stated that they are up against a tight timeline, deposits are due on Monday, and now would be a time to discuss it. Upon the Board members being individually polled, the motion was voted in the affirmative by Tony Clements, Dawn Leamer, John Harmon, Joseph Saulnier, and Ada Vadeboncoeur.

Washington D.C. Trip: Mr. Saulnier stated his questions are: Would the travel company be willing to hold off on us delivering the money as there are some students who may want to attend a trip in a different location depending on COVID requirements? Mr. Bickford stated he doesn't know if the travel company even offers trips in other locations. He feels if we want to look at something different, then we will need to cancel the Washington D.C. trip as funds are due Monday. Ms. Leamer stated that the new protocol sheet for the Washington D.C. trip requires that the students are vaccinated, and so it's not an 8th grade trip anymore, it's a vaccinated student trip. She understands that these are the guidelines in Washington D.C.

Mr. Harmon about those individuals who didn't sign up for the trip because the students didn't have to be vaccinated. Those students were being excluded. He asked if that wasn't a concern before, why is this a concern now. Ms. Leamer asked about those students who can't be vaccinated for medical reasons. Mr. Clements stated

he feels someone not wanting to go if not everyone is vaccinated is a choice, versus being told they can't go based on vaccination status.

Mr. Bickford noted that the due date for parents who are choosing for their child to go is Friday. He has been in communication with the majority of the families. A few have dropped out and a few joined, so the number of students participating has stayed steady at about 68. Mr. Clements stated that he feels the definition of "fully vaccinated" should be clearly defined for parents. Ms. Vadeboncoeur stated that as a Board they don't have control over what goes on in Washington. Mr. Saulnier stated that when the Board first voted on this field trip, the vaccination requirement in Washington D.C. wasn't in effect. He read aloud the medical exemption information.

Mr. Bickford confirmed that at this point, no money has been paid to the tour company, but as of Monday deposit money is no longer refundable. Mr. Bickford stated that there is insurance available if the trip is canceled due to COVID.

School District 22-23 Operating Budget Warrant Article: It was noted that since the Budget Committee did not amend the proposed School District operating budget, there was no need to address it at this meeting.

School District Warrant Articles Speaking Schedule: The School Board established the School District Deliberative Session speaking schedule as follows:

Warrant Article #2 Operating Budget: Tony Clements  
Warrant Article #3 REA CBA: John Harmon  
Warrant Article #5 RESS CBA: Joseph Saulnier  
Warrant Article #7 Capital Reserve Funds: Dawn Leamer  
Warrant Article #8 Surplus Funds to CRF: Ada Vadeboncoeur

Mr. Saulnier stated he will inquire with the School District Moderator as to how warrant articles 4 and 6, regarding special meetings, will be addressed.

New/Revised Policies - Second Reading: MOTION: John Harmon moved, seconded by Dawn Leamer, to approve policy DFB Post-Issuance Tax Compliance Policy. Upon the Board members being individually polled, the motion was voted in the affirmative by Tony Clements, Dawn Leamer, John Harmon, Joseph Saulnier, and Ada Vadeboncoeur.

MOTION: John Harmon moved, seconded by Dawn Leamer, to approve policy DJE Bidding Requirements. Upon the Board members being individually polled, the motion was voted in the affirmative by Tony Clements, Dawn Leamer, John Harmon, Joseph Saulnier, and Ada Vadeboncoeur.

New/Revised Policies - First Reading: The Board reviewed the following policies for the first of two readings:

BAAA School Board Policies and Administrative Procedures  
IK Earning of Credit  
GCCDA COVID Leave for Wage Pool Employees

Monthly Financial Update: Mrs. Whitmore reviewed the monthly financial update for months ending December 31, 2021. She noted that the special education aid received in December was significantly higher by about \$400,000. She will be looking into why, and will check to be sure it's not at the expense of something else.

She stated that through December the District has received an additional \$62,000 for food service than expected by this time. Mr. Harmon stated that it's showing right now that food service will be positive \$392,000. He asked if it's attributable to the lunches. Mrs. Whitmore stated it's just the free meals at this point. She stated that she is concerned about what to do if the food service balance is indeed positive at the end of the year.

Mr. Harmon asked if the grant that expired two years ago should still be included in the monthly reporting. It was the general consensus of the School Board that it could be removed.

Mr. Saulnier inquired about what the budgeted amount for ESSER III includes. Mrs. Whitmore stated that it covers five interventionists (through 2024) and facility upgrades from the CIP for the high school and the middle school.

Mr. Saulnier suggested that the topic of using surplus funds for purchases not already budgeted be a future agenda item. Mr. Harmon stated that he would not support that; that voters are being asked for \$400,000 to the capital reserve fund and if the district spends other money we run the risk of losing support for that article. Mr. Saulnier, Ms. Leamer, Ms. Vadeboncoeur, and Mr. Clements all stated their agreement to include the topic as a future agenda item, Mr. Harmon opposed.

Approval of School District Warrant for Signature: Mrs. Whitmore reviewed the addition of the Budget Committee recommendations to the draft school district warrant. This agenda item was postponed as Mr. Saulnier verified the Budget Committee votes.

Nominations/Resignations: Dawn Leamer moved, seconded by Joseph Saulnier, to approve the nomination of computer teacher Taryn Lytle. Upon the Board members being individually polled, the motion was voted in the affirmative by Tony Clements, Dawn Leamer, John Harmon, Joseph Saulnier, and Ada Vadeboncoeur.

MOA's re: COVID-19 Employee Leave Time: Dr. DeRuosi stated that the proposed RESS MOA is similar to the one agreed to with the REA. The RESS is willing to accept the MOA with no remote option. MOTION: Dawn Leamer moved, seconded by Ada Vadeboncoeur, to accept the RESS MOA and for the Board Chair to sign. Upon the Board members being individually polled, the motion was voted in the affirmative by Tony Clements, Dawn Leamer, John Harmon, Joseph Saulnier, and Ada Vadeboncoeur.

It was noted that the School Board had not officially voted on the similar REA MOA. MOTION: Dawn Leamer moved, seconded by Ada Vadeboncoeur, to approve the MOA for the REA and for the Board Chair to sign. Upon the Board members being individually polled, the motion was voted in the affirmative by Tony Clements, Dawn Leamer, John Harmon, Joseph Saulnier, and Ada Vadeboncoeur.

Committee Reports: Mr. Saulnier reported that the Budget Committee had voted everything in the affirmative for the School Board warrant articles.

Ms. Leamer reported that at the Raymond Coalition for Youth meeting, they discussed the approval of THC stores, the proposed removal of the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, and Firearms, and about what can be done as a community in relation to suicide prevention.

Mrs. Whitmore stated that the Superintendent Search Committee has selected five people to interview before the end of the month.

Mr. Harmon reported that the Policy Committee met recently.

Approval of School District Warrant for Signature: Mr. Saulnier stated that the Budget Committee vote was confirmed and that the warrant could be approved as presented. MOTION: John Harmon moved, seconded by Dawn Leamer, to approve the warrant as presented. Upon the Board members being individually polled, the motion was voted in the affirmative by Tony Clements, Dawn Leamer, John Harmon, Joseph Saulnier, and Ada Vadeboncoeur.

Superintendent's Report: Dr. DeRuosi stated that COVID-19 regulations shifted a bit, and the changes previously submitted to the Board will take effect on Monday the 24th. He reviewed the changes regarding isolation and quarantine times. If a student tests positive and has no new symptoms, that student can return to school on day 6 as long as they will wear a mask for days 6-10. A student who tested positive and doesn't want to comply with the mask recommendation on days 6-10 will have the option of completing their 10 days at home with remote learning available. He stated that they will need to review lunchtime mitigation measures.

Ms. Leamer stated that if an unvaccinated student is exposed, after they've tested negative they can come back days 6-10 wearing a mask, but vaccinated students don't have the same requirement. She feels vaccinated students should be treated the same as unvaccinated students. Dr. DeRuosi stated that they are following the recommendations from the State Department of Health and Human Services. Mr. Saulnier stated that the Board has already voted to follow New Hampshire guidelines.

Correspondence/Other: Ms. Leamer asked for clarification, as she was told that sending an email to the Superintendent and to the Board is not okay. Mr. Saulnier explained the laws surrounding written communication among a quorum of the Board, and that a discussion of the quorum of the Board via email can be construed as a public meeting.

Manifest Signing: A quorum of the Board signed the manifest. Accounts Payable total \$729,937.76. Payroll total \$427,452.98

Approval of Minutes: MOTION: John Harmon moved, seconded by Ada Vadeboncoeur, to approve the public minutes of December 15, 2021 as presented. Upon the Board members being individually polled, the motion was voted in the affirmative by Tony Clements, Dawn Leamer, John Harmon, Joseph Saulnier, and Ada Vadeboncoeur.

MOTION: John Harmon moved, seconded by Dawn Leamer, to approve the non-public minutes of December 15, 2021 items B and D and keep them sealed. Upon the Board members being individually polled, the motion was voted in the affirmative by Tony Clements, Dawn Leamer, John Harmon, Joseph Saulnier, and Ada Vadeboncoeur.

MOTION: John Harmon moved, seconded by Ada Vadeboncoeur, to approve the non-public minutes of December 15, 2021 item E. Upon the Board members being individually polled, the motion was voted in the affirmative by Tony Clements, John Harmon, Joseph Saulnier, and Ada Vadeboncoeur. Dawn Leamer abstained.

MOTION: John Harmon moved, seconded by Ada Vadeboncoeur, to approve the non-public minutes of December 15, 2021 item C and unseal. Upon the Board members being individually polled, the motion was voted in the affirmative by Tony Clements, Dawn Leamer, John Harmon, Joseph Saulnier, and Ada Vadeboncoeur.

MOTION: John Harmon moved, seconded by Ada Vadeboncoeur, to approve the public minutes of December 21, 2021 and the non-public minutes of December 21, 2021. Upon the Board members being individually polled, the motion was voted in the affirmative by Tony Clements, John Harmon, Joseph Saulnier, and Ada Vadeboncoeur. Dawn Leamer abstained.

MOTION: John Harmon moved, seconded by Ada Vadeboncoeur, to approve the January 10, 2022 minutes as presented. Upon the Board members being individually polled, the motion was voted in the affirmative by Tony Clements, Dawn Leamer, John Harmon, Joseph Saulnier, and Ada Vadeboncoeur.

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, John Harmon, Dawn Leamer, Ada Vadeboncoeur, and Tony Clements. The Board entered into non-public session at 8:28 PM and resumed public session at 8:42 PM. Other than the vote to exit this non-public session and seal the minutes (which was moved by John Harmon, seconded by Ada Vadeboncoeur, and upon the Board members being individually polled, was voted in the affirmative by Joseph Saulnier, John Harmon, Dawn Leamer, Ada Vadeboncoeur, and Tony Clements), no motions were voted during this non-public session.

Adjournment: MOTION: John Harmon moved, seconded by Joseph Saulnier, to adjourn the meeting. Upon the Board members being individually polled, the motion was voted in the affirmative by Joseph Saulnier, John Harmon, Dawn Leamer, Ada Vadeboncoeur, and Tony Clements. Meeting adjourned at 8:43 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Jennifer Heywood

Raymond School Board Non-Public Session  
January 19, 2022

Not voted to be kept confidential.

Item A

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

Dr. DeRuosi reviewed this evening's nomination with the School Board.

Respectfully submitted,

Jennifer Heywood,  
Raymond School Board Clerk