

Raymond School Board Meeting  
January 6, 2021  
Remote Meeting  
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DRAFT

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 6:00 PM. Present: School Board Members Joseph Saulnier (6:12 PM), Melissa Sytek (6:10 PM), Beth Paris, Tony Clements and Janice Arsenault ; Superintendent of Schools Tina McCoy; Business Administrator Marjorie Whitmore; Curriculum Coordinator Mike Whaland; Director of Student Services Michael Hatfield; Iber Holmes Gove Middle School Principal Bob Bickford; Raymond High School Principal Steve Woodward; Technology Director Kevin Federico; Student Representative to the School Board Isabella daSilva. All were present via Google Meet.

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

Pledge of Allegiance: Those in attendance stood and recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

Tony Clements stated that he posted a comment on social media during the course of the previous School Board meeting, which is a violation of policy. Mr. Clements apologized for the violation.

Public Input: There was an email read by Janice Arsenault (and finished being read by Kevin Federico) from Gretchen Gott, expressing concern that cameras and audio should be used during Google Meets for classes.

Our Students/Our Schools: Preschool teachers Annie Vincent and Megan Cargill joined the Board to share how the move into the High School has gone for the preschool. Students and staff have adjusted well and are very happy with the new space.

Extended Learning Opportunity Follow-Up: Confidentiality and Liability: Dr. McCoy and Holly Londo spoke with the Board about their recent conversation with legal counsel regarding student confidentiality in the ELO setting. As a result of these conversations, there is now a Confidentiality Agreement that will be signed by all students participating in an ELO. A copy of this can be found in the meeting agenda. Janice Arsenault stated that she thinks this is a great part of the ELO packet, but it does not change her opinion that students should not be doing health screenings in our school. Joe Saulnier stated that he agreed with Janice Arsenault. Beth Paris, Tony Clements and Melissa Sytek stated that they have no issue with students doing the COVID screenings at any school.

RHS Student Survey Results: Principal Woodward came to the Board to present the results of the RHS Pandemic Survey that was given to students recently. The charts and open ended responses can be found in the meeting agenda. The data was shared with RHS faculty on

Sunday, and faculty met briefly on Sunday to address the issues that came up, including workload concerns.

Camera Use by Students During Remote Instruction: Mr. Saulnier shared some of the concerns that have come up due to students not needing to have their cameras on during virtual instruction. Janice Arsenault stated that she has not changed her opinion, and wishes that cameras are not required due to privacy. Melissa Sytek agrees with Janice, and does not think it can be forced. Beth Paris also believes that it should be strongly encouraged, but it can not be forced. Dr. McCoy would suggest that we keep the language in the plan the same way that it is now- it can not be forced. Steve Woodward stated that a survey of his teachers showed a split opinion regarding requiring student cameras to be turned on. Mr. Bickford stated that the middle school has seen a slip in engagement and is working to address it. He also stated that it would be hard to reverse the decision made and communicated out at this point.

REA Proposed Collective Bargaining Agreement: Janice Arsenault stated that she would recuse herself from any discussion or voting. Dr. McCoy presented the Board with a new proposed collective bargaining agreement with the Raymond Education Association. The Agreement, as well as the slide presentation, can be found in the agenda. Changes in the CBA were divided into language modifications and salary/benefit changes (changes with financial implications), as found in the presentation document.

Approval of Warrant Articles: Dr. McCoy presented the Board with two versions of the draft warrant articles; a draft of the warrant articles with **total** tax impacts for each warrant article with a tax impact, and a draft of the warrant articles with **additional** tax impacts for each warrant article with a tax impact.

Joe Saulnier would like to change the order back to how it has been in the past: election of officers first, then the budget. Janice Arsenault agreed. The treasurer and deputy treasurer articles will follow the budget.

Tony Clements stated that he liked the warrant articles with additional tax impact (Option 2) instead of total tax impact. Janice Arsenault agreed. Melissa Sytek also agreed.

**MOTION**: Joe Saulnier motioned to move Article 1, "Election of Officers To choose the following School District Officers: a.) To choose two School Board Members for the ensuing three years. b.) To choose one School District Moderator for the ensuing three years. c.) To choose one School District Clerk for the ensuing three years. d.) To choose one School District Treasurer for the ensuing three years", seconded by Janice Arsenault. Voted unanimously in the affirmative (5-0).

**MOTION:** Janice Arsenault moved to accept the warrant article that states “ Shall the School District raise and appropriate as an operating budget, not including appropriations by special warrant articles and other appropriations voted separately, the amounts set forth on the budget posted with the warrant, or as amended by vote of the first session, for the purposes set forth therein, totaling \$26,386,721 (twenty six million, three hundred eighty six thousand, seven hundred twenty one dollars)? Should this article be defeated, the default, budget shall be \$26,237,757 (twenty six million, two hundred thirty seven thousand, seven hundred fifty seven dollars), which is the same as last year, with certain adjustments required by previous action of the Raymond School District or by law; or the governing body may hold one special meeting, in accordance with RSA 40:13, X and XVI, to take up the issue of a revised operating budget only. (This article does not include appropriations proposed under any other warrant article.) (Recommended by the School Board: Yes – 5; No - 0) (The estimated tax impact of passing this article is an increase of \$1.26 per \$1000 assessment. The estimated tax impact of not passing this article is an increase of \$1.10 per \$1000 assessment.), seconded by Joe Saulnier. Voted unanimously in the affirmative (5-0).

**MOTION:** Joe Saulnier moved to recommend and approve warrant Article 3, the REA Contract “Shall the School District vote to approve the cost items included in the collective bargaining agreement reached between the Raymond School Board and the Raymond Education Association, which calls for the following changes in salaries and benefits at the current staffing levels from those paid in the prior fiscal year: Year Estimated Increase 2021-22 \$ 91,286 2022-23 \$459,316 2023-24 \$392,262 and further to raise and appropriate the sum of \$91,286 (ninety one thousand, two hundred and eighty six dollars) for the upcoming fiscal year, such sum representing the additional costs attributable to the increase in salaries and benefits required by the new agreement over those that would be paid at current staffing levels?(The estimated tax impact of this article is an increase of \$0.10 per \$1000 assessment.)”, seconded by Tony Clements. Voted in the affirmative (4-0). Janice Arsenault had recused herself from the vote.

**MOTION:** Janice Arsenault read aloud the article: “Shall the district vote to increase the district treasurer’s stipend by \$750 to \$3,750? (The amount to fund this increase is included in the district’s operating budget.) (The estimated tax impact, which is included in the operating budget, is \$0.000784)”, Joe Saulnier seconded. Voted unanimously in the affirmative (5-0).

**MOTION:** Janice Arsenault read aloud the article “Shall the district vote to add a stipend of \$500 for training purposes for a deputy treasurer to be appointed by the district treasurer, subject to the approval of the school board in accordance with RSA 197:24-a? (The amount to fund this stipend is included in the district’s operating budget.) (The estimated tax impact, which is included in the operating budget, is \$0.000523)” The DRA is not concerned about the estimated

tax impact, so it was noted that using multiple decimal places should not play a role in their approval. Upon being individually polled, all voted unanimously in the affirmative (5-0).

**MOTION:** Joe Saulnier requested to move, right under the contract, (article 4): “Shall the School District, if article 5 is defeated, authorize the governing body to call one special meeting, at its option, to address article 5 cost items only?”, seconded by Beth Paris. Janice Arsenault did not vote on this article, all others voted in the affirmative (4-0).

**MOTION:** Joe Saunier read the next article to be “Shall the School District vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$375,000 (in total) so that the following amounts can be added to the following previously established Capital Reserve Funds in order to implement the School District’s 2021-2022 Capital Improvement Program? Raymond School District Equipment, Facilities Maintenance And Replacement Capital Reserve Fund (established in 2006) \$183,998 Technology Capital Reserve Fund (established in 2001) \$151,992 Food Service Equipment Capital Reserve Fund (established in 2006) \$ 39,010 Total \$375,000 (Recommended by the School Board: Yes – 5; No - 0) (The estimated tax impact of this article is an increase of \$0.04 per \$1000 assessment.), seconded by Janice Arsenault. Voted unanimously in the affirmative (5-0).

**MOTION:** Joe Saulnier read the next warrant article “Shall the School District vote to raise and appropriate up to \$75,000 (seventy five thousand dollars) to be placed in the existing Equipment, Facilities Maintenance and Replacement Capital Reserve Fund (established in 2006), with such amount to be funded from the year- end fund balance available on July 1? (Recommended by the School Board: Yes – 5; No - 0) (No additional tax impact)”, seconded by Janice Arsenault. Voted unanimously in the affirmative (5-0).

**MOTION:** Joe Saulnier read aloud: “Shall the School District vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$10,003.00 (ten thousand and three dollars) to be added to the Raymond School District Equipment, Facilities Maintenance and Replacement Capital Reserve Fund (established in 2006) with this sum to come from the income generated by the water easement conveyed to the town and no amount is to be raised from taxation? (Recommended by the School Board: Yes – 5; No - 0) (No additional tax impact)”, Janice Arsenault seconded. Voted unanimously in the affirmative (5-0).

**MOTION:** Joe Saulnier read aloud “Shall the school district adopt the revisions to RSA 198:4-b, II approved by the legislature in 2020 to allow the district to retain up to 5% of the district’s net assessment in any year and to allow the expenditure of any amount retained after a public hearing? (Recommended by the School Board: Yes – 5; No - 0) (No additional tax impact), seconded by Janice Arsenault. Voted unanimously in the affirmative (5-0).

2021 School District Deliberative Session Options: The Board discussed options for public participation in the Deliberative Session on January 30, 2021. The NHMA Moderator's Association Guidance on Annual Meeting 2021 and some legal advice can be found in the meeting agenda. The discussion revolved around using multiple spaces as necessary to allow for social distancing. Janice Arseanult stated that she was holding her opinion until after the moderators have attended the training and gained more information. Janice Arsenault asked to be updated in a Friday memo as they learn more information.

NHSBA 2021 Delegate Assembly Proposed Resolutions: The Board has already voted on the continuing resolutions, so only needs to vote on the proposed resolutions (found in the meeting agenda) tonight.

The Board read proposed resolution #7.

**MOTION**: Joe Saulnier moved to recommend the COVID-19 Funding Resolution, seconded by Janice Arsnault. All voted against the article (0-5).

The Board read proposed resolution #8.

**MOTION**: Joe Saulnier moved to accept the Last-Mile Broadband Resolution, seconded by Janice Arsenault. The motion passed (3-2), Beth Paris and Joe Saulnier voted against the resolution.

The Board read proposed resolution #9.

**MOTION**: Janice Arsenault moved to accept the resolution previously submitted by the Raymond School Board, seconded by Janice Arsenault. Voted unanimously in the affirmative (5-0).

The Board read proposed resolution #10.

**MOTION**: Janice Arseanult moved to support the alternative language of the NHSBA, seconded by Joe Saulnier. Voted unanimously in the affirmative (5-0).

The Board read proposed resolution #11.

**MOTION**: Janice Arsenault moved to accept Monadnock's resolution to calculate special education funds by the state, seconded by Joe Saulnier. All voted against the motion (0-5).

The Board read proposed resolution #12.

**MOTION:** Joe Saulnier moved to support Resolution 12, seconded by Janice Arsenault. All voted against the motion (0-5).

The Board read proposed resolution #13.

**MOTION:** Joe Saulnier moved to allow Nottingham School Boards proposal to be brought to the floor, seconded by Janice Arsenault. Voted unanimously in the affirmative (5-0).

**MOTION:** Joe Saulnier moved to support resolution #13, seconded by Janice Arsenault. Voted unanimously in the affirmative (5-0).

The Board read proposed resolution #14.

**MOTION:** Joe Saulnier moved to let the Manchester Board of School Committee have their resolution heard on the floor, seconded by Janice Arsenault. Voted unanimously in the affirmative (5-0).

**MOTION:** Joe Saulnier moved to support the Manchester Board of School Committee Resolution, seconded by Janice Arsenault. Voted unanimously in the affirmative (5-0).

Public Forum Meeting Date: Dr. McCoy proposed moving the date for the public forum to be held from January 27th to Thursday January 21st, due to the fact that the Deliberative Session is on January 30th. The Board was fine with moving the date to the 21st of January.

Appointment of Administrators to REA Sick Leave Contingency Committee: The REA Collective Bargaining Agreement states in Article XI (A) 4 (c) that there will be two administrators as appointed by the Board on the Sick Leave Contingency Committee. While the Sick Bank has not been used much in the past few years, we may see more activity during this time of COVID. The Board discussed appointing two administrators to the committee, as per the CBA. Dr. McCoy recommended Dr. Coomey and Dr. Whaland.

**MOTION:** Janice Arsenault moved to appoint Dr. Whaland and Dr. Coomey to the REA Sick Leave Contingency Committee, seconded by Melissa Sytek. Voted unanimously in the affirmative (5-0).

Committee Reports: Joe Saulnier reported that he had been to a budget committee meeting, where the town budget had been approved.

Student Representative's Report: Isabelle daSilva was no longer present in the Google Meet at this point.

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Superintendent's Report: Dr. McCoy reported that the deliberative session is coming up quickly and is hoping for participation at the public forum. The district is already starting to think about prom, graduation, and other upcoming event planning for students. Food Services has reported that lunch deliveries will be able to continue due to the bus company working out the process.

Correspondence/ Other: None

Manifest Signing: Marjorie Whitmore presented the Board with the numbers on the Manifests. Accounts payables totaled \$738,659.21, Payroll totaling \$840,130.64. For a total of \$1,578,789.85.

Approval of Minutes:

**MOTION:** Beth Paris moved to accept the minutes of December 2, 2020, keeping the non-public minutes sealed. Voted unanimously in the affirmative (5-0).

**MOTION:** Janice Arsenault moved to accept the public minutes of December 16, 2020, seconded by Beth Paris. Voted unanimously in the affirmative (5-0).

**MOTION:** Joe Saulnier moved to accept the non-public minutes to remain sealed for December 16th, 2020, seconded by Beth Paris. Janice Arsenault abstained. All others voted in the affirmative (4-0-1).

Adjournment:

**MOTION:** Joe Saulnier moved to adjourn the meeting at 9:25 PM, seconded by Janice Arsenault. Voted unanimously in the affirmative (5-0).

Respectfully Submitted,

Brittany LHeureux  
School Board Clerk