

Raymond School Board Meeting

March 3, 2021

Remote Meeting

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Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 6:00 PM. Present: School Board Members Joseph Saulnier, Melissa Sytek, Tony Clements , Beth Paris and Janice Arsenault; Superintendent of Schools Tina McCoy; Curriculum Coordinator Mike Whaland; Raymond High School Principal Steve Woodward; Iber Holmes Gove Middle School Principal Bob Bickford; Lamprey River Elementary School Principal Laura Yacek; Director of Student Services Michael Hatfield; Business Administrator Marjorie Whitmore. All 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.

Public Hearing:

Open Public Hearing: Chairman Saulnier opened a public hearing to consider the acceptance and expenditure of the following unanticipated funds from state, federal, and/or private sources under 198:20-b: \$897,632.70 Title I A, Title II A, Title IV A, IDEA, IDEA/Preschool, Title IV B 21st Century, Project AWARE, CARES-ESSER, Student Assistance, Workforce to Learn; and \$246,876.64 School Care "Contribution Holiday" Refund.

Close Public Hearing: Hearing was closed with no discussion.

Recognition: Isabella Dasilva has been the representative for the student body this past year. Dr. McCoy and the Board thanked her for her participation during this atypical year.

Public Input: No Public Input at this time.

Our Students/Our Schools: LRES School Counselors Nicole Bertrand and Laura Milner spoke with the Board and community how Social Emotional Learning (SEL) has supported the school community during a pandemic. Students Julia DaSilva, Branson Ankiewicz, Molly O'Meara shared things they have learned from this program.

2021-2022 School District Calendar: Dr. McCoy shared a draft of a possible School Calendar for the 2021-2022 year, as found in the meeting agenda. Joe Saulnier would like to see when the trimesters and quarters would be on this calendar as well.

**MOTION**: Janice Arsenault moved to accept the Raymond School District 2021-2022 Calendar as presented, seconded by Melissa Sytek. Beth Paris did not vote on this matter, the motion passed (4-0).

Student Services Update: Student Services Director Michael Hatfield presented the Board with an update on student services. Mr. Hatfield was joined by Gretchen Roussin to speak on Medicaid to Schools Revenue. Dr. McCoy pointed out that next Tuesday at 10 am is the Superintendents Coffee Hour with discussion revolving around student services.

2021-2022 Student Handbooks: Proposed changes to each handbook can be found in the meeting agenda. Dr. McCoy pointed to a few changes to the Preschool handbook.

Joe Saulnier would like to keep the belief statements in all handbooks.

Dr. Whaland spoke with the Board about the changes to the grade scale that can be found in all of the handbooks. Joe Saulnier would like to see all the “red” grades as an F (D and D-). Mr. Saulnier would also like it to be made clear on the charts that you will not receive credit for the “red” grades- D, D- and F.

Dorothy Franchini presented the changes for the LRES handbook. Joe Saulnier would like to keep college visitation on the list of absences on page 9.

Brigitte Cunningham presented the changes for the IHGMS handbook. Mr. Bickford clarified that Spanish I will remain in the accelerated coursework section after the decision of the School Boards last meeting. Dr. McCoy suggested changing the language to reflect the other HS courses that will be offered as well.

Dr. Coomey presented the changes to the High School handbook. Tony Clements suggested that students should be able to get whatever score they would like if they complete a retake.

Janice Arsenault also agreed that the students should get the grade they get and not be limited to a B-. Melissa Sytek and Beth Paris agreed. The consensus was that if a student has a 3.5 or above, only one retake will be allowed. Any retake grades will be allowed, with no cap.

Tony Clements asked what happens if the retake score is lower than the original score. He would like to see that outlined and clear.

Mr. Arsenault shared that the LEAP Handbooks are currently the same as last year, but any changes may come from the DOE if necessary.

**MOTION**: Janice Arsenault moved to second the handbooks presented tonight as amended, seconded by Joe Saulnier. Voted unanimously in the affirmative (5-0).

RHS Class Sizes 2021-2022: Mr. Woodward presented the Board with the current RHS Course Requests for the 2021-2022 year. His presentation can be found in the meeting agenda.

Janice Arsenault asked where Project Lead the Way feeds into the Computer Classes. Mike Whaland stated that it was Cyber Security. Steve will gather information on where this fits in and get it to Tina. Janice asked if they could alternate Probability and Statistics and Quantitative Reasoning each year since they are Project Running Start Courses.

Honors Geometry will be changed from 2 sections to only 1 section

Zoology will change from 3 sections to 2 sections

Intro to Electricity will be reduced from 2 sections to 1

Classes in Yellow that were looking for Board input:

Artisan Workshop will not run  
Honors Algebra I will not run- these students can do embedded honors.  
AP Calculus  
Pre-Calculus  
Honors Pre-Calculus  
Probability & Statistics will not run  
Quantitative Reasoning will run as long as there are enough students.  
Raymond Singers I-IV will run  
Physics will be offered  
Honors Physics will not be offered- these students can do embedded honors.  
Chemistry will run  
Honors Chemistry will run as long as the numbers stay high enough.  
Sociology will not run  
Economics will run- since it is a required class for graduation  
Anthropology will not run  
Political Science will not run  
Spanish III will not run  
Spanish IV/V will not run  
French II will run  
French III/IV will not run

Acceptance and Expenditure of Unanticipated Funds:

**MOTION:** Janice Arsenault moved to accept \$897,632.70 for Title I A, Title II A, Title IV A, IDEA, IDEA/Preschool, Title IV B 21st Century, Project AWARE, CARES-ESSER, Student Assistance, Workforce to Learn; and \$246,876.64 in School Care "Contribution Holiday" Refund, seconded by Beth Paris. Voted unanimously in the affirmative (5-0).

SchoolCare "Contribution Holiday" Refund: The District has received a refund from SchoolCare. This refund is part of SchoolCare's surplus, which the courts have determined must be returned back to their members. In the past, the Board has voted to return to employees a percentage of the District's refund equivalent to their original contribution. The proposed refunds to employees for funds received in 2020 total \$16,371,13.

**MOTION:** Janice Arsenault moved to refund to employees the refund part of the SchoolCares Surplus totaling \$16,371.13, seconded by Joe Saulnier. Voted unanimously in the affirmative (5-0).

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Joe Saulnier recognized and thanked Melissa Sytek and Beth Paris for their service to the Board. Tina McCoy joined him in thanking them for their contributions.

Committee Reports: Janice Arsenault joined the District Community Leadership Team on Monday. Janice Arsenault is working on the data collection sub committee. Janice Arsenault also joined the CIP Committee tonight, where they voted to ask the selectmen to allow RCTV to use funds for new servers that are needed.

Student Representative's Report: Isabella Dasilva reported that the student council has not been very active for the last few weeks. She was thankful for her time working with the Board.

Superintendent's Report: Dr. McCoy reported that the Middle School Girls Basketball team is the Division III Tri-County Champions. It is currently Read Across America Week. Voting is next Tuesday, March 9th.

Correspondence/Other: None.

Manifest Signing: Marjorie Whitmore presented the Board with the Manifest totals: For \$231,598.95 in payables, \$421,896.80 in Payroll for a total of \$653,495.75.

Approval of Minutes:

MOTION: Janice Arsenault moved to accept the minutes of February 17, 2021, seconded by Beth Paris. Voted unanimously in the affirmative.

Adjournment:

**MOTION:** Beth Paris moved to adjourn the meeting at 9:45 PM, seconded by Janice Arsenault. Voted unanimously in the affirmative (5-0).

Respectfully Submitted,

Brittany L'Heureux  
School Board Clerk