

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 6:00 PM. Present: School Board Members Ada Vadeboncoeur, John Harmon, Tony Clements, Cindy Bennett, and Joseph Saulnier; Student Representative to the School Board Alyson Miller; Interim Superintendent of Schools David DeRuosi; Business Administrator Marjorie Whitmore; Technology Director Brittany L'Heureux.

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

Pledge of Allegiance: All those in attendance stood and recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

Non-Public Session: **MOTION:** John Harmon moved, seconded by Joseph Saulnier, to enter into non-public session under RSA 91-A:3 II (a) "The dismissal, promotion, or compensation of any public employee or the disciplining of such employee, or the investigation of any charges against him or her, unless the employee affected (1) has a right to a meeting and (2) requests that the meeting be open, in which case the request shall be granted," (b) "The hiring of any person as a public employee," (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" and (e) "Consideration or negotiation of pending claims or litigation which has been threatened in writing or filed by or against the public body or any subdivision thereof, or by or against any member thereof because of his or her membership in such public body, until the claim or litigation has been fully adjudicated or otherwise settled." Upon the Board members being individually polled, the motion was voted in the affirmative by Joseph Saulnier, Ada Vadeboncoeur, John Harmon, Cindy Bennett and Tony Clements. The Board entered into non-public session at 6:01 PM and resumed public session at 6:08 PM. Other than the vote to exit this non-public session (which was moved by John Harmon, seconded by Joseph Saulnier, and upon the Board members being individually polled, was voted in the affirmative by Joseph Saulnier, John Harmon, Cindy Bennett,, Ada Vadeboncoeur, and Tony Clements), no motions were voted during this non-public session.

Our Students/our Schools: Raymond High School Wrestling Coach Jay Robinson, along with students Hayden Robinson and Gabrielle Hone, talked with the Board about the wrestling team. They are currently an independent team. This season eight of their team members qualified for the state competitions. The team members have academic requirements that they must meet and they developed study halls to help them stay qualified. The students discussed their positive experiences as part of the team, stating that it's among the most positive sports environments they experienced. They've raised \$4500, some of which was given to Manchester Memorial because they allowed the team to wrestle there all year, and some of which went toward the purchase of uniforms. The remaining funds paid for their season. Mr. Robinson stated that he feels it would be safer for the team to not have to travel if we had wrestling in Raymond.

Dr. DeRuosi and Mrs. Whitmore confirmed that next year's budget includes money to fully fund wrestling, including a mat and uniforms.

Mr. Robinson explained the difference between being a school team versus an independent team; that being a standalone team, all of the tournaments that the students worked for count as an independent but NHIAA meets don't count. If Raymond has its own team, the accolades get counted and they get seeded better at the states, and the school gets credit if they win.

Open Public Hearing: The School Board opened the public hearing to to consider the acceptance and expenditure of the following unanticipated funds from state, federal, and/or private sources under 198:20-b: \$1,668,576.23

Title I, Title IIA, Title IVA, Title IVB, IDEA, NH Department of Health and Human Services, Project Aware, ESSER II, American Rescue Plan (ARP) & New Hampshire Charitable Fund (NHCF); \$53,788.27 Impact Fees, \$96,520.23 School Care and Health Trust Refunds, \$407,475.03 Special Education Aid.

There was no input forthcoming.

Close Public Hearing: The School Board closed the public hearing.

Public Input: The School Board Chair read an email from Carlos Maldonado regarding a flyer he had previously asked School Board Member Cindy Bennett about. Ms. Vadeboncoeur stated that this is a matter between two private citizens, and that Ms. Bennett will work through the Board of Selectmen if there is more information. A copy of the email can be found at the end of these minutes.

Student Representative to the School Board Report: Ms. Miller reviewed exams being held; Spirit Week events include dress up day, tourist day, class color day, and other themes and activities. She thanked the Student Council for planning those activities. A Clean-Up Day is being coordinated through Raymond Coalition for Youth.

Technology Committee Charge/Committee: The School Board reviewed the proposed charge to the Technology Committee. A Technology Committee Charge was last approved by the Board in 2017 and the topic comes before the Board this evening for an updated review and discussion about the makeup of the Technology Committee. During discussion, the following revisions to the proposed charge were recommended:

- Second bullet, regarding review of policies, change “periodically” to “annually”
- Last bullet, specify the first meeting in May 2024.
- Add that the Committee will provide a report to the School Board annually, and more frequently (quarterly or biannually) during the 2023-24 school year so the School Board is kept apprised of progress.

Mr. Harmon suggested the following membership for the Technology Committee:

Technology Director
School Board Representative
Teacher from each school
Support Staff from each school
2 parents
School Administrator
Technology Integrator
1 high school student

Technology Director Brittany L’Heureux stated that she is hoping to start the committee back up again at the beginning of the next school year, so we can wait until the start of the year to advertise for those committee roles.

MOTION: John Harmon moved, seconded by Joseph Saulnier, to accept the Charge as amended. Voted unanimously in the affirmative.

MOTION: John Harmon moved, seconded by Joseph Saulnier, to include the membership of the Technology Committee as Technology Director, School Board Representative, Teacher from each school, Support Staff from each school, 2 parents, School Administrator, Technology Integrator, 1 high school student, and that the Technology Director would serve as the Chair. Voted unanimously in the affirmative.

Strategic Planning Committee Membership: MOTION: John Harmon moved, seconded by Joseph Saulnier, to appoint Kathy Lee, as Support Staff from the middle school. Voted unanimously in the affirmative.

MOTION: John Harmon moved, seconded by Joseph Saulnier, to appoint Michelle Dubin as a parent. Voted unanimously in the affirmative.

MOTION: John Harmon moved, seconded by Joseph Saulier, to appoint Dana Zulager as a parent. Voted unanimously in the affirmative.

Strategic Plan Options: Dr. DeRuosi stated that Mark Dolan, from New Hampshire School Boards Association will serve as the Facilitator for the Strategic Planning Committee this year. He's met several times with Mr. Dolan and incoming Superintendent Terry Leatherman to discuss the plan for the District. Dr. DeRuosi invited Mr. Dolan to speak with the Board.

Mr. Dolan stated that typically the development of a new strategic plan is a six to nine month process. Leadership first aligns their priorities, then a big part of the process is engaging the community, which is why it takes several months.

Mr. Harmon stated that the original intent was to start a new plan and that the Strategic Planning Committee would meet at the end of May to do this. That is what he would like to see happen. The proposal by Mr. Dolan is quite different. Mr. Saulnier stated that he is concerned that a day and a half isn't enough time to do what's needed, that there was a lot of public input from the community last time. He would like to see the public and students more involved for more perspectives.

Mr. Dolan stated that a retreat among School Board representatives (not the full Board) and administration could take place in August prior to Strategic Planning Committee meetings, but this could be done at a time that works best for Raymond. The retreat is important because it sets the stage with leadership, with no community members at that point.

Mr. Harmon stated that if the Board chooses to follow Mr. Dolan's recommendation, he would ask that the timeline be consolidated in order to complete the plan by December 31, 2022. His concern is that the Board has asked people to volunteer for the committee and now they are changing things. He suggested asking the individuals if they're still interested and then advertise out again, as more volunteers may come in with the different meeting dates.

After some discussion, it was determined that Dr. DeRuosi would work with Mr. Dolan and Mr. Leatherman to determine their availability and propose dates for a Board/Admin Retreat to Mr. Harmon and Ms. Vadeboncoeur, who are the School Board Representatives to the Strategic Planning Committee. Mr. Dolan will work on a timeline to complete work by December 31st which will be brought back to the Board.

MOTION: John Harmon moved, seconded by Joseph Saulnier, that we change the direction of the Strategic Planning Committee so that they are starting effective July 1 and ending December 31, 2022. During discussion, Mr. Dolan stated that he usually aims for two meetings per month on alternating weeks, and he will share a draft charge to the Board. Voted unanimously in the affirmative by Ada Vadeboncoeur, Tony Clements, John Harmon, and Joseph Saulnier. (Cindy Bennett was not in the room.)

Acceptance and Expenditure of Unanticipated Funds: Mrs. Whitmore reviewed the financial information relative to the acceptance and expenditure of unanticipated funds for the following: \$1,668,576.23 Title I, Title IIA, Title IVA, Title IVB, IDEA, NH Department of Health and Human Services, Project Aware, ESSER II, American Rescue Plan (ARP) & New Hampshire Charitable Fund (NHCF); \$53,788.27 Impact Fees, \$96,520.23 School Care and Health Trust Refunds, \$407,475.03 Special Education Aid.

Ms. Bennett inquired if the acceptance of these funds comes with stipulations that the District must adhere to. Mrs. Whitmore stated that any required use of funds is known when the grant application is completed. Ms. Bennett asked to see what the stipulations are. Mrs. Whitmore stated she can look into it to see if she can include that information in the next financial update. Ms. Bennett stated that she would be nervous to get into a situation in which the District has to do something because the money was accepted. The Board and Administration provided several examples of such stipulations, such as the 21st Century grant requiring bus transportation, and ESSER funding required to be spent on COVID-related issues, but not specific to any one thing such as masks. Mr. Clements stated that it's nothing like the District must teach something like critical race theory or other requirements along those lines.

MOTION: John Harmon moved, seconded by Joseph Saulnier, to accept the \$1,668,576.23 as unanticipated revenue and allow us to expend. Mr. Harmon amended the motion to include that the funds are from federal, state, and private grants. Mr. Saulnier seconded the amendment. Motion passed with John Harmon, Joseph Saulnier, Ada Vadeboncoeur, and Tony Clements voting in the affirmative and Cindy Bennett voting in opposition.

During review of impact fees, Mr. Clements asked what those fees are collected for. Mr. Harmon stated that if a developer wants to build houses in Raymond there's a fee designated to the School District that the district has to use within six years. Those funds can be used toward bond payments or capital improvement.

MOTION: Joseph Saulnier moved, seconded by John Harmon, to accept unanticipated impact fees in the amount of \$53,788.27 and that the funds go toward bond payments. Mr. Saulnier asked if the District should be looking at how much is charged for impact fees. Mr. Harmon stated that it's not the School Board that establishes those fees, but the Planning Board. Mrs. Whitmore stated that she will research it further. Voted unanimously in the affirmative.

Mr. Harmon asked about the original \$75,000 budgeted and if the Board needs to state where that is specifically going. Mrs. Whitmore stated she is not sure and that she will research it.

Regarding Special Education Aid, Mrs. Whitmore stated that in the past the District has received less than what was budgeted but this year we have received more. The Board asked what the source of the special education aid is. Mrs. Whitmore stated she believes it's a pandemic-related reimbursement.

MOTION: Joseph Saulnier moved, seconded by John Harmon, to accept unanticipated funds for special education aid in the amount of \$407,475.03. Voted unanimously in the affirmative.

MOTION: John Harmon moved, seconded by Joseph Saulnier, to accept the unanticipated revenue in the amount of \$217,942.96 from SchoolCare Health Refund. Voted unanimously in the affirmative.

MOTION: John Harmon moved, seconded by Joseph Saulnier, to accept the unanticipated revenue from SchoolCare's dental refund in the amount of \$33,778.27. Voted unanimously in the affirmative.

MOTION: John Harmon moved, seconded by Joseph Saulnier, to accept the unanticipated revenue of \$44,798.90 from HealthTrust. Voted unanimously in the affirmative.

It was noted that some of the above motions did not include the authority to expend the funds.

MOTION: Joseph Saulnier moved, seconded by John Harmon, to rescind his motion relative to the acceptance of special education funds. Voted unanimously in the affirmative.

MOTION: Joseph Saulnier moved, seconded by John Harmon, to accept and expend unanticipated funds for special education aid in the amount of \$407,475.03. Voted unanimously in the affirmative.

MOTION: John Harmon moved, seconded by Joseph Saulnier, to rescind all three motions relative to acceptance of funds from SchoolCare and HealthTrust refunds. Voted unanimously in the affirmative.

MOTION: John Harmon moved, seconded by Joseph Saulnier, to accept and expend the unanticipated revenue in the amount of \$217,942.96 from SchoolCare Health Refund. Voted unanimously in the affirmative.

MOTION: John Harmon moved, seconded by Joseph Saulnier, to accept and expend the unanticipated revenue from SchoolCare's dental refund in the amount of \$33,778.27. Voted unanimously in the affirmative.

MOTION: John Harmon moved, seconded by Joseph Saulnier, to accept and expend the unanticipated revenue of \$44,798.90 from HealthTrust. Voted unanimously in the affirmative.

Update: EEI and HVAC Controls: Mr. Ledoux reviewed with the Board the status of HVAC work controls and the bid for work in the district.

Mr. Harmon asked if the HVAC contractors we work with will be able to work with these controls. Mr. Ledoux stated that we would likely go out to bid for service contracts. He stated that we struggle to find someone to deal with our whole controls, and when we have this upgrade, we can go out to bid.

During discussion:

- Mr. Ledoux stated that the hope is to start the project as soon as possible and complete anything affecting where people are present before the start of school. More behind the scenes work can be done in September or October.
- Mr. Ledoux confirmed that this is for air handling, units, their operation, fresh air, and getting information from those units.

- The work will not impact the ability of anyone to use the media center at the high school during the summer.
- Mr. Harmon noted that the ESSER grant will have to be modified because it's not the same amount. Mrs. Whitmore agreed.

MOTION: John Harmon moved, seconded by Joseph Saulnier, to authorize EEI to do the controls at the middle school and high school as outlined tonight for \$446,096, contingent on ESSER funds being used. Ms. Bennett asked what would happen if the ESSER funds don't come through. Mr. Harmon stated the district will receive the ESSER funds, and they've already approved this project, but they will need to only approve the higher amount than originally applied for. Mr. Harmon withdrew his motion, Mr. Saulnier withdrew his second.

MOTION: John Harmon moved, seconded by Joseph Saulnier, to include "Action" under the agenda item "Update: EEI and HVAC Controls." Voted unanimously in the affirmative.

MOTION: John Harmon moved, seconded by Joseph Saulnier, to authorize EEI to do the controls at the middle school and high school as outlined tonight for \$446,096, contingent on ESSER funds being used. Voted unanimously in the affirmative.

Bid Award: Zero Turn Mower: Mrs. Whitmore reviewed with the Board that two quotes were received for this bid, both in the same exact amount. As per attorney advice, one of the bidders was randomly chosen. During discussion, it was determined that Turf Depot was able to confirm that the item was in stock. To date, that confirmation has not been obtained from the other bidder. MOTION: John Harmon moved, seconded by Joseph Saulnier, to authorize the expenditure of \$18,277 for a zero turn mower from Turf Depot. Mr. Harmon noted that the choice for Turf Depot is based on the fact that we know they have the mower in stock. Voted unanimously in the affirmative.

Looping: Mrs. Yacek reviewed with the Board the status of looping at LRES. Mrs. Yacek stated that it was determined that it would not be beneficial to loop the classes next year as they had hoped. Mr. Harmon stated that he had asked to have this conversation because of the benefits of looping and he hopes to see more of it. He stated that it's work for the teacher to learn the curriculum of another grade, but it's also a benefit to students and parents. He is hoping for a goal of the elementary school to increase the number of teachers who are looping, provided they are the right teachers to do so. Mrs. Yacek stated that this year six groups of students looped together, which is the most that they've ever had at LRES, and it's something that they continue to promote at LRES.

Mrs. Yacek noted that it's challenging to loop kindergarten and first grade, with the need to move physical classrooms. During discussion, it was confirmed that the kindergarten wing could only be used for kindergarten classes for 20 years from the date of construction completion.

Mrs. Yacek stated that currently four teachers are with the students they had last year. Also, two classes stay as a cohesive group of students. She will provide more detailed information for the Board in their Friday Memo.

New/Revised Policies - First Reading: The School Board reviewed newly proposed policy BGAA Policy Development, Adoption, and Review for the first of two readings. During discussion, it was recommended to

remove “and in each school library” regarding location of policy manuals, and to check with the NH School Boards Association for clarification on the wording regarding suspension of the policy process.

The School Board also reviewed the following policies proposed to be withdrawn, for the first of two readings:

BGA Policy Development System
BGC Policy Review and Evaluation/Manual Accuracy Check
BG-R Policy Adoption and Dissemination

Nominations/Resignations/Retirements: MOTION: John Harmon moved, seconded by Joseph Saulnier, to accept the nomination of Daniel Bartlein, PE Teacher. Voted unanimously in the affirmative.

MOTION: John Harmon moved, seconded by Joseph Saulnier, to approve the nomination of Kayla Stickney, LRES Teacher. Voted unanimously in the affirmative.

Summer School Board Meeting Schedule: The following schedule was agreed upon for summer School Board meetings:

Wednesday, July 13 CIP Work Session
Wednesday, July 20 Regular School Board Meeting
Wednesday, August 3 Regular School Board Meeting
Wednesday, August 17 Budget Work Session
Wednesday, August 24 Regular School Board Meeting

Summer School Tuition: Dr. DeRuosi stated that the District has not charged for summer school for the last two years due to the pandemic, and that both the middle and high school building principals feel we should not charge for summer school again. Mr. Harmon stated that he feels the District should reinstate charging tuition for summer school. He asked if ESSER funds are allowable for that. Mr. Clements stated he is not in favor of charging for summer school. Ms. Miller asked if students who qualify for Free & Reduced status have a different summer school rate. Mrs. Whitmore stated she doesn't believe so; that they don't tie together. Ms. Bennett asked if tuition covers the complete cost of the program, to which Mr. Harmon replied it does not.

Dr. DeRuosi will gather projected numbers and costs and bring this item back to the next School Board meeting.

School Board Representative to Search Committee for Deans of Student Support Services: It was generally agreed that the Superintendent would establish the committee for the Search Committee for the Deans of Student Support Services. Tony Clements volunteered to serve as the School Board representative to this search committee.

Committee Reports: Mr. Harmon stated that the Transportation Committee had three requests come through in the last couple of days, all for the same stop, and they have been denied. An additional request has come in today.

Mr. Saulnier stated that the Budget Committee is holding their organizational meeting on May 17th.

Superintendent's Report: Dr. DeRuosi reported that he held several interviews over April break, and he has held some key meetings with directors and other staff.

Correspondence/Other: None.

Manifest Signing: A quorum of the School Board signed the manifest. Accounts Payable total \$224,736.43. Payroll total \$436,627.52.

Approval of Minutes: MOTION: John Harmon moved, seconded by Joseph Saulnier, to approve the public minutes of April 6, 2022. Voted unanimously in the affirmative.

Mr. Harmon stated he has a question on the non-public minutes of April 6, 2022 so they will be brought back to the Board at a non-public session.

MOTION: John Harmon moved, seconded by Joseph Saulnier, to approve the minutes of April 13, 2022. Voted unanimously in the affirmative.

MOTION: John Harmon moved, seconded by Joseph Saulnier, to approve the public minutes of April 20, 2022 with the following amendments: in relation to looping, add a bullet that administration will come back to the Board with a plan if looping for any particular student doesn't work for them specifically. Voted unanimously in the affirmative with Tony Clements abstaining.

Mr. Harmon stated he has a question on the non-public minutes of April 20, 2022 so they will be brought back to the Board at a non-public session.

Adjournment: MOTION: John Harmon moved, seconded by Joseph Saulnier, to adjourn the meeting. Voted unanimously in the affirmative. Meeting adjourned at 8:49 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Jennifer Heywood,
Raymond School Board Clerk

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May 4, 2022
Raymond High School Media Center
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DRAFT

Raymond School Board Non-Public Session
May 4, 2022
Not voted to be kept confidential.

Present: School Board Members Ada Vadeboncoeur, John Harmon, Tony Clements, Cindy Bennett, and Joseph Saulnier; Interim Superintendent David DeRuosi.

Item A

The School Board reviewed the letters of interest received to serve on the Strategic Planning Committee.

Item B

The Superintendent reviewed tonight's nominations with the Board.

Respectfully submitted,

Jennifer Heywood,
Raymond School Board Clerk

Email read during tonight's public input:

Good afternoon Mrs. Vadeboncoeur,

I'm writing this email as a follow up to my inquiry at your last meeting held on Wednesday April 20, 2022. During that meeting I had asked Mrs. Cindy Bennett, who is your School Board Secretary, what flyer or mailer she was referring to that she knew went home with the kids to tell their parents to come out and vote for the town ratification. During the last meeting Mrs. Bennett shared that she couldn't recall what the form looked like, but that she was going to look into it some more. I had brought this up to you all because during the most recent BOS meeting (2 days prior to your 4/20 meeting) Mrs. Bennett was pretty adamant that she knew information was sent home with the children. Where I'm unable to attend this meeting, I wanted to bring this back up since I have yet to hear back from Mrs. Bennett and I would like for her to share the document she was referencing with the residents of Raymond as we should all know what that was. Please feel free to read this email aloud in my absence if needed.

Thank you all for your time and have a great weekend!

Carlos Maldonado

Sent from my iPhone