

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 6:00 PM. Present: School Board Members Joseph Saulnier, Cindy Bennett, Tony Clements, Dawn Leamer, and John Harmon; Superintendent of Schools Terry Leatherman; Business Administrator Marjorie Whitmore; Director of Technology Brittany L'Heureux; Iber Holmes Gove Middle School Principal Bob Bickford; Raymond High School Principal Sharon Wilson.

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.

Public Input: Public Input was opened at 6:01 PM. Public input is open for 30 minutes. If anyone arrives within that timeframe and would like to speak, they will be allowed to do so. There was no public input forthcoming at this time.

Department Budget Presentations: Administrators presented the 2023-24 proposed budgets:

Technology: Brittany L'Heureux presented the proposed Technology budget. During discussion:

- Ms. L'Heureux noted that she has tried to negotiate some contracts, so there are some small changes throughout due to that.
- Line 500321 District Wide Tech Training is mostly for PowerSchool University, though that cost has decreased due to online offerings. It also includes Google training for each IT staff member and various other training, including PowerSchool training for school staff.
- Line 500330 District Wide Tech Consultants is for assistance with network management; while they try to do much of the work in-house, they do sometimes need outside consultation.
- Ms. L'Heureux has done some work to separate out repairs from supplies and that cleanup is reflected in the budget.
- The I.T Department has looked into and verified that the software being budgeted for is actually used.
- The cost for new Chromebooks has been left at \$250 each. A larger size Chromebook would be a higher price point. Mr. Harmon suggested that the purchase of new Chromebooks to replace older Chromebooks be moved to the Replacement line. Mr. Saulnier suggested looking into leasing Chromebooks.
- Ms. L'Heureux removed the purchase of projectors, as there is one in every building as a backup, but Promethean boards are mostly used now so there's no need to purchase projectors.
- Mr. Harmon asked if there are enough laptops for students taking computer classes. Ms. L'Heureux stated there are enough for all students while they are in the class, but not for all students taking the course. They've been researching a virtual option to allow students to access Windows from a Chromebook so they can use CAD software at home through the district-provided devices.

Iber Holmes Gove Middle School: Bob Bickford presented the proposed IHGMS budget. During discussion:

- Mr. Harmon asked why the salary for grades 4-8 has increased \$250,000. Ms. Whitmore stated she will look into that.
- Mr. Bickford stated that he anticipated changing the summer school budget line to competency recovery starting in the second trimester, so they will be using that mid-year instead of end of year. Mr. Harmon

expressed his concern for eliminating summer school and what will happen for those students that need it at the end of the year. He asked if the District could consider reinstating a charge for summer school and suggested it as a future agenda item.

- The increase to the nurse's line is due to the fact that they are now required to have two certifications.
- The increase to the assembly line is not due to more assemblies, just that they are more expensive to hold.
- Mr. Bickford noted that there has been a significant increase to the cost of a box of paper, and that much of the middle school paper supply had gone toward the ESY program.
- Ms. Bennett asked for math manipulatives to be discussed as a future agenda item.

Raymond High School: Sharon Wilson presented the proposed RHS Budget. During discussion:

- There are no staffing changes proposed at the high school.
- NH is now mandating that a personal literacy class be offered, but Ms. Wilson is waiting for more information as to whether that will be part of the social studies department or a business class.
- Mr. Harmon asked to investigate why there is no stipend for the JumpStart program.
- Mr. Harmon asked Ms. Whitmore why this proposed budget has nothing budgeted for high school teacher retirement whereas in the past there has been money spent.
- Mr. Harmon asked for a breakdown of field trip cost increases.
- Ms. Wilson will look into why the police may have been present at past graduation ceremonies, and whether students have ever paid for their own caps and gowns.
- Mr. Harmon asked for a breakdown of the general supplies line.

Ms. Leamer asked why some initiatives that were originally submitted to the Board were removed. Mr. Leatherman stated he was trying to be cost-efficient. Ms. Leamer stated that she feels the full-time School Resource Officer (SRO) is an important one to consider. It was agreed that Mr. Leatherman will bring the costs for an SRO to the next budget meeting.

Mr. Saulnier asked for more information about the duties of the Human Resources Assistant.

Mr. Harmon stated he is considering suggesting an increase to wagepool, an increase to nurses' salaries, and he asked for information about the increase in enrollment from kindergarten to grade 1 over the last five years.

The Board scheduled a meeting to continue budget discussion on October 26th at 6 PM.

MOTION: Dawn Leamer moved, seconded by Tony Clements, to adjourn the meeting. Voted unanimously in the affirmative. Meeting adjourned at 8:00 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Jennifer Heywood,
Raymond School Board Clerk