

Raymond School Board Meeting  
April 17, 2013  
Raymond High School Media Center  
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Approved May 1, 2013

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 7:04 PM. Present: School Board Members John Harmon, Tina Thomas, Kelly Lehman, Stephen Reardon (7:45 PM); Student Representative to the School Board Maria Harmon; Acting Superintendent Ellen Small; Business Administrator Ron Brickett; Lamprey River Elementary School Principal Dan LeGallo; Curriculum Coordinator Lisa Desruisseaux; Raymond High School Principal Kirk Beitler; Raymond High School Acting Assistant Principal Tricia Wentworth; Iber Holmes Gove Middle School Acting Principal Mike Chouinard; Lamprey River Elementary School Principal Assistant Principal Jayme Rodriguez.

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.

Motion to Amend Agenda: **MOTION**: Tina Thomas moved, seconded by Kelly Lehman, to amend the agenda to move the non-public session to the end of the meeting. Voted unanimously in the affirmative.

Public Input: John Stewart approached the Board and questioned whether there is an update on the scheduling of the Office of Civil Rights court case. Mr. Harmon responded that the SAU has inquired and that there is no update as to when the case will be heard. Mr. Stewart stated that he understands it to be between the second and third week of May.

Mr. Stewart asked if exit surveys are done for those students who withdraw from Raymond and referenced the 127 students he believes to have withdrawn as per graphs provided by the SAU. Mr. Stewart stated that the enrollment has decreased by that number from elementary school to high school. Mr. Harmon stated the reason for that is that there are four grade levels at high school and middle school but six grade levels in the elementary school, and so there will always be a larger enrollment number at the elementary school.

Mr. Stewart asked for a status update on a new superintendent search. Mr. Harmon stated that the School Board has no comment.

Mr. Stewart asked if there has been any further effort to talk with Candia and Hooksett regarding a tuition agreement to bring their students to Raymond. Mr. Harmon stated that the Board has had no further conversation about it since Mr. Stewart was on the Board.

Mr. Stewart asked if the dropout rate was up or down. Mr. Harmon responded that the most recent rate is up. The rate is 2.61%.

Our Students/Our Schools: Bob Gagnon, RHS Drama Coach, with students Kailee and Gwendolyn Walsh, talked with the School Board about their upcoming play. The play is called "Yearbook" and is about students who are reflecting on what they've learned throughout the year. The play will show on May 10 and 11. The RHS Drama Club generally puts on two shows

a year. Mr. Gagnon is also working with elementary and middle school students for the Razzmatazz production, which will show on May 31 and June 1.

Principals' Reports: Mr. LeGallo reported on recent events at Lamprey River Elementary School, including the following: assessment scores from earlier in the quarter were converted into individual goal-setting; FEAT Math and Literacy Night took place in February and the Science and Technology Night took place in April; Amigos Parent Night was a great success and brought the students and parents together and meeting; fourth grade science testing takes place the second week in May - the focus in school has been science preparation and study in all grades; the Walmart Writing Challenge is underway; there have been 78 discipline referrals in the third quarter; Spring Parent Conferences will take place April 29 – May 10.

Mr. Beitler reported on recent events at Raymond High School, including the following: eight RHS freshmen make up the new cohort of students in the Summer Education at Dartmouth program; Challenge Night was held in March, with about 40 participants, which included team-building and diversity acceptance exercises; RHS Student Council participated in a Lock-In and planned Spirit Week Activities; Guidance held a career and college day; the high school participated in a town-wide emergency drill which was a successful exercise; Spring Parent Conferences will take place April 29-May 10; there were 408 discipline referrals in the third quarter.

Mr. Chouinard reported on recent events at Iber Holmes Gove Middle School, including the following: email communication with parents has begun with approximately 75% of homes participating; \$500 was received from the NH Charitable Foundation and has been gone toward supplies for the nurse's office; \$1,000 from Walmart helped fund Enterprise City; Mr. Chouinard and Mrs. Small accompanied teacher Kristin Wallace to Concord when she made her presentation for Teacher of the Year; Parent Conferences are taking place after vacation week with different dates for each grade – letters are going home to parents; the Youth Action Group conducted a flash mob in the lunchroom for *Kick Butts Day*; there were 426 discipline referrals in the third quarter.

NECAP Results Overview: Mrs. Small, Mr. LeGallo, and the District Data Team reviewed the Fall 2012 NECAP results with the School Board. It was noted that this year's test resulted in the highest percentage of students scoring proficient since the NECAP testing started. The Data Team reviewed the percentage of students who met their targets for growth, where students scored in comparison to the state average score, and how the subgroups scored. They also reviewed the action plans to address where more attention is needed, such as the transition from grade 4 to 5. There was some discussion about the possibility of a multi-year cohort comparison done in graph form. There was a general consensus to hold another work session to review the rigor and depth of questions for students and action plans taken to address challenges.

2013-2014 RHS Student Handbook: There was some discussion about the changes presented for student/parent handbooks district-wide. It was generally agreed that reduction in printing and

paper savings is beneficial, but there was some concern for not printing entire policies that are believed parents should be made aware of. MOTION: Tina Thomas moved, seconded by Kelly Lehman, to approve the changes for all handbooks district-wide as presented with the exception under policies that if the “referenced” in the handbook or “published,” it must also be published in the handbook. Voted unanimously in the affirmative.

During discussion of the changes specific to the Raymond High School handbook:

- Page 9, correct “four absences *per marking term*” as per policy JH, and change “has tardies to school” to “is tardy to school.”
- The Board questioned whether end-of-day or Saturday detention could replace the out-of-school suspension for 13 tardies, as well as the number of tardies allowed before consequence. The Board asked for administration to come back at the next meeting with a revised tardiness consequence schedule, as well as what happens after the 13<sup>th</sup> day of tardiness.
- Page 38 change detentions to 30 minutes.
- Page 43 JumpStart section take out of RHS Handbook and put in IHGMS Handbook.

Mrs. Thomas stated that there are inconsistencies in the handbooks about alcohol between the schools. Mr. Harmon stated that the Policy Committee had reviewed this and asked the administration to look at June, 2012 minutes to reference what the conclusion of the Policy Committee was.

Mrs. Small asked that the Board hold off on the mid-term and final exams section of the handbooks because some changes may be requested after the Standards-Based Grading work session with the Board.

Monthly Financial Update: Mr. Brickett reviewed the financial update for months ending March 31, 2013. Areas of largest variance include salaries, dental insurance, professional services for students, other services, student transportation, and propane, electricity and oil.

Mr. Brickett stated that the District has received notice from the New Hampshire Department of Education stated that the district will no longer be reimbursed for breakfast at the elementary school unless the meal pattern is changed, as it is currently out of compliance. Reimbursement loss will total approximately \$10,000.

Donation Acceptance: MOTION: Tina Thomas moved, seconded by Kelly Lehman, to accept the \$1,000 from Walmart to Iber Holmes Gove Middle School. Voted unanimously in the affirmative.

It was noted that the \$597 donation from Hannaford Helps Schools will be posted on the next agenda as it was incorrectly designated for LRES on tonight’s agenda. The donation was given to Raymond High School.

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Committee Reports: Mr. Harmon stated the LRES Building Committee met with town officials and was told that the Flint Hill property can no longer be considered. He noted that there will be a bill for some engineering work done at that property before this was known.

Superintendent's Report: Mrs. Small stated that the annual mock crisis drill was held this year at the high school. It went extremely well and administrators, students and staff all had high marks for their actions during the drill.

On April 5, the middle school held a career fair with over 20 vendors. About half of the vendors were in classrooms and did presentations for 7th and 8th grade students. The rest were in the library and set up displays and spoke to the students.

Raymond Police Officer Frotton arranged for the police dogs to search the high school for drugs. The dogs worked very hard and were very thorough. Mrs. Small stated she was pleased to say that the dogs did not find anything at the school.

Correspondence/Other: Mr. Harmon read a letter from Raymond Baptist Church regarding an invitation to the National Day of Prayer Breakfast.

Approval of Minutes: MOTION: Tina Thomas moved, seconded by Kelly Lehman, to approve the public minutes of April 3, 2013 with the following amendments: page 2, last paragraph, revise to read "Mrs. Thomas stated that she felt it was not easy to get on the agenda and she still is waiting for items to go on the agenda," correct a comma to a period, page 3 add "PM" to time for Standards-Based Grading Parent Night. Voted unanimously in the affirmative.

Manifest Signing: A quorum of the Board signed the manifest. Accounts Payable total was \$332,077.38 and Payroll total was \$435,676.48.

Non-Public Session: MOTION: Kelly Lehman moved, seconded by Tina Thomas, 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 John Harmon, Tina Thomas, Kelly Lehman, and Stephen Reardon. The Board entered non-public session at 9:47 PM and resumed public session at 10:05 PM. Other than the vote to terminate non-public session and seal all minutes because it was determined that divulgence of the information likely would affect adversely the reputation of any person other than a member of the public body itself (which was moved by Tina Thomas, seconded by Stephen Reardon, and upon the Board members being individually polled, was voted in the affirmative by John Harmon, Tina Thomas, Kelly Lehman, and Stephen Reardon), two motions were voted during this non-public session.

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Adjournment: MOTION: Tina Thomas moved, seconded by Kelly Lehman, to adjourn the meeting. Voted unanimously in the affirmative. Meeting adjourned at 10:05 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Jennifer Gillespie,  
School Board Clerk