

Raymond School Board Meeting  
April 3, 2013  
Raymond High School Media Center  
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Approved April 17, 2013

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM. Present: School Board Members Daniel Chouinard, John Harmon, Kelly Lehman, Stephen Reardon, and Tina Thomas; Acting Superintendent Ellen Small; Business Administrator Ron Brickett; Raymond High School Principal Kirk Beitler; Facilities Director Todd Ledoux.

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.

Recognition: The School Board recognized and thanked John Stewart for his years of service on the Raymond School Board.

Public Input: John Stewart approached the Board. He requested an update on the Office of Civil Rights Issue.

Mr. Stewart then recommended the former Cool School as a possible location for elementary school students. He stated the building could accommodate the fourth grade, is in close proximity to the Safety Complex, and could possibly be renovated by Seacoast School of Technology students.

Mr. Stewart stated that during the 2013-14 Budget PowerPoint presentation, it was stated that there was an approximate 22% loss of students over the years and he questioned why the students were leaving the district.

Our Students/Our Schools: Raymond High School teachers/advisors Mike Brazeau and Tom Koch spoke with the Board with the some of the students who made up the LifeSmarts Team. The full LifeSmarts Team includes Mike Steed, Kamin Sylvia, Ryan Zahler, Rob Meade, and Shaun Spinney. LifeSmarts is a fun way to teach students skills to be consumers in the future. The competition focuses on personal finance, health and safety, environmental technology, and consumer rights and responsibilities. The competition begins with an online exam and proceeds through several phases until the final competition. The Raymond High School Team placed the second in the State, which is the highest level achieved by Raymond.

LRES Building Committee Expenditure Request: Mr. Harmon stated that the LRES Building Committee has a request for an expenditure for engineering work on possible building sites – the high school property, Flint Hill (two locations), and a private property – for a total of four fees. Administration had gotten an estimate of \$1,200 per location for this work. Mr. Harmon requested an authorization of either \$6,000 or not more than \$1,500 at each location. Ms. Lehman asked about existing plans. Mrs. Small stated that the engineers would be reviewing what it would take to get the site ready. Mr. Harmon stated that it would be a rough estimate as to what site work and potentially acquisition would cost to access the property and get it ready for a building. Mrs. Thomas asked what line the funds would come from. Mrs. Small stated that there was some savings in the communication line that could be used. MOTION: Kelly Lehman

moved, seconded by Daniel Chouinard, to approve an expenditure of \$6,000 for engineering work for the LRES Building Committee. The work should not exceed a cost of \$1,500 for each site. Mrs. Thomas asked if one site could be done at a time. Mr. Harmon stated that the hope is to have the information for a final comparison because no one site has yet been chosen. Mrs. Thomas stated she feels the Flint Hill site would be too costly and so she cannot vote in favor of this motion. Motion passed with Daniel Chouinard, John Harmon, and Kelly Lehman voting in the affirmative and Stephen Reardon and Tina Thomas voting in opposition.

LRES Storage: Mr. Ledoux reviewed the last project in the LRES Five-Year Plan, which is cabinet storage. The purpose of the cabinets included the possibility of taking the cabinets down and reusing them in a different or new location. Mrs. Small inquired as to whether the School Board wanted to continue with the planned expenditure, which totals \$42,000 for storage in 15 rooms. Mr. Harmon stated that there is a marked difference in the organization of classrooms that do have the cabinets installed already compared to those that don't. The cabinets are also a part of the Healthy Schools initiative (closed door cabinetry for less dust). Mrs. Thomas asked if the money is not spent on the cabinets, would it be returned to the taxpayers. Mr. Chouinard responded that the funds would stay in the capital reserve fund until needed for another expenditure. Mr. Harmon stated that the intention of the capital reserve fund is for savings. Mrs. Thomas stated that if the cabinets aren't installed, the Board would be doing a disservice to the students and the taxpayers. MOTION: Stephen Reardon moved, seconded by Tina Thomas, to move forward with a Request for Proposals for the LRES storage cabinets. Voted unanimously in the affirmative.

RHS Assistant Principal Search Committee Representation: Daniel Chouinard volunteered to serve on the committee to interview candidates for the RHS Assistant Principal position.

Discuss "Other" on Board Agenda: Mr. Harmon requested that "Other" be removed as a regular agenda item. He stated that he feels a Board member discussing an item that the remainder of the Board has no knowledge of isn't productive. Board members can add items to the agenda while in the planning stage. Mrs. Thomas stated that she felt it is was not easy to get on the agenda and she still is waiting for items to go on the agenda. She stated that she feels that discussion of policies is more productive than a discussion of "Other." Mr. Chouinard stated that items regarding policy are usually an agenda item and that he doesn't like to be blindsided and he wants to be aware of what's going to be discussed. Ms. Lehman stated that she doesn't like not knowing information or having to make decisions without backup. Mr. Reardon stated that he doesn't have a way to gauge if it's been a problem in the past or not and he would like to see if it actually is an issue or not; does it cause disruption to the meeting. Mr. Harmon stated that in emergency situations, items can be added if the Chair and/or Superintendent are notified. Mr. Chouinard and Mr. Reardon recommended holding on removing "Other" for three or six months so new members can get a sense as to whether the item is disruptive. Ms. Lehman asked for parameters around the use of "Other" in the meantime. It was the general consensus to continue with "Correspondence/Other" until further notice.

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\$519 Donation to LRES from Hannaford Helps Schools: **MOTION:** Kelly Lehman moved, seconded by Stephen Reardon, to accept the \$519 donation to Lamprey River Elementary School from the Hannaford Helps Schools program. Voted unanimously in the affirmative.

Committee Reports: None in addition to discussion already held during the meeting.

Superintendent's Report: Mrs. Small reported that the annual drop out rate has been released. The 2011-2012 rate for Raymond is 2.61%. The guidance counselors and administrators have been meeting with her to address the needs of students who may not be successful in a traditional setting. They are working on a proposal that will be discussed at a future Board meeting.

The Raymond School District Special Olympic Team is starting their training. Two coaches, Stacey Wooster and Lorraine Doyle-Gayhart, will take students to the qualifying matches on May 5th and then to the actual event in June at UNH. Raymond students are taking part in track and field events.

At present, 33 students have signed up for the summer program with Phillips Exeter at the middle school. 8 have signed up at the high school and the District would like to recruit more.

On May 15, the Standards-Based Grading Committee will present the report cards for the 2013-2014 school year to the board for approval. May 14 at 6:30 PM in the middle school cafeteria is the date set for a Parent Night on the new grading system for the 2013-2014 school year.

At the SST there was a ceremony to induct students into the National Technical Honor Society. Three Raymond students received this honor- they are: Caitlyn Downey for Culinary Arts; Bobbi Olivier for Early childhood Education; and Bridget Prince for Health Sciences Technologies.

Correspondence/Other: None

Approval of Minutes: **MOTION:** Tina Thomas moved, seconded by Daniel Chouinard, to approve the public minutes of March 20, 2013 with the following amendments: page 1, correct to Kelly Lehman being nominated for Chair in the first vote for Chair; page 3, under Monthly Financial Update, correct to read "...established by the *federal* government." Voted unanimously in the affirmative.

Manifest Signing: A quorum of the Board signed the manifest. The Accounts Payable total is \$453,108.68 and the Payroll total is \$414,980.37.

Motion to Amend Agenda: **MOTION:** Kelly Lehman moved, seconded by Daniel Chouinard, to amend the agenda to enter into Non-Public Session under RSA 91-A:3 B and C. Voted unanimously in the affirmative.

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Non-Public Session: MOTION: Tina Thomas moved, seconded by Stephen Reardon, to enter into non-public session under RSA 91-A:3 II (b) – “The hiring of any person as a public employee” and (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, Stephen Reardon, and Daniel Chouinard. The Board entered non-public session at 8:02 PM and resumed public session at 9:20 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 Daniel Chouinard, and upon the Board members being individually polled, was voted in the affirmative by John Harmon, Tina Thomas, Kelly Lehman, Stephen Reardon, and Daniel Chouinard), four motions were voted during this non-public session.

Adjournment: MOTION: Tina Thomas moved, seconded by Stephen Reardon, to adjourn the meeting. Voted unanimously in the affirmative. Meeting adjourned at 9:20 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Jennifer Gillespie,  
Raymond School Board Clerk

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Raymond School Board Non-Public Session  
April 3, 2013

Approved and voted to be unsealed January 8, 2014

A. REA Settlement Agreement

Present: School Board Members John Harmon, Kelly Lehman, Tina Thomas, Daniel Chouinard, and Stephen Reardon; Acting Superintendent Ellen Small.

MOTION: Kelly Lehman moved, seconded by Daniel Chouinard, to approve the Settlement Agreement brought forward tonight regarding Open Houses/Parent Conferences. It was noted that the agreement had already signed by the REA. Voted unanimously in the affirmative.

Respectfully submitted,

Raymond School Board Clerk,  
Jennifer Gillespie

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B. Alternative Diploma

Present: School Board Members John Harmon, Kelly Lehman, Tina Thomas, Daniel Chouinard, and Stephen Reardon; Acting Superintendent Ellen Small.

Mrs. Small stated that she has begun the process of researching alternative diploma options for the small number of students that may not otherwise receive a diploma. Most other schools have alternative diplomas. She's still researching, but she wanted to make the Board aware of what she is looking into. It was once being done in Raymond, then it was removed. Mrs. Small will confirm what the age-out age is for regular education.

Respectfully submitted,

Raymond School Board Clerk,  
Jennifer Gillespie

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D. Approval of Minutes

Present: School Board Members John Harmon, Kelly Lehman, Tina Thomas, Daniel Chouinard, and Stephen Reardon; Acting Superintendent Ellen Small.

MOTION: Tina Thomas moved, seconded by Daniel Chouinard, to approve the non-public minutes of March 20, 2013 with the following amendment: correct the first paragraph of item E to begin with "Mrs. Thomas" instead of "Ms. Lehman;" and to keep item A unsealed (previously unsealed), to unseal items B and C, and to keep sealed items D and E. Voted unanimously in the affirmative.

It was agreed that the School Board Clerk would get attorney opinion on whether the remaining non-public minutes surrounding the *name redacted* matter could be unsealed.

MOTION: Tina Thomas moved, seconded by Daniel Chouinard, to amend and unseal the previously approved March 6, 2013 non-public minutes, item B, to read as follows "...for him if he is to be disposed in the matter." Motion passed with Kelly Lehman, Tina Thomas, and John Harmon voting in the affirmative and Daniel Chouinard and Stephen Reardon abstaining.

Respectfully submitted,

Raymond School Board Clerk,  
Jennifer Gillespie

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E. School Matter

Present: School Board Members John Harmon, Kelly Lehman, Tina Thomas, Daniel Chouinard, and Stephen Reardon; Acting Superintendent Ellen Small.

Mrs. Small discussed the concerns surrounding a vendor at the LRES PTO Vendor Fair. Among discussion, it was noted that the items being advertised were weapon-like and not appropriate for a school venue.

MOTION: Daniel Chouinard moved, seconded by Stephen Reardon, to not allow *Damsels in Defense* as a vendor at the LRES PTO Vendor Fair. Voted unanimously in the affirmative with Tina Thomas abstaining.

Mrs. Small will review the other vendors scheduled to be present at the fair.

Respectfully submitted,

Raymond School Board Clerk,  
Jennifer Gillespie



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F. Superintendent's Contract

Present: School Board Members John Harmon, Kelly Lehman, Tina Thomas, Daniel Chouinard, and Stephen Reardon.

The Board discussed the contract offer for Mrs. Small.

Respectfully submitted,

Raymond School Board Clerk,  
Jennifer Gillespie