

Raymond School Board Meeting
Wednesday, August 17, 2022
Raymond High School Media Center
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Approved November 2, 2022

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 6:00 PM. Present: School Board Members John Harmon, Tony Clements, Cindy Bennett, and Joseph Saulnier; Superintendent of Schools Terry Leatherman; Business Administrator Marjorie Whitmore.

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.

Non-Public Session: MOTION: Joseph Saulnier moved, seconded by Tony Clements, 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;" 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 Joseph Saulnier, John Harmon, Cindy Bennett, and Tony Clements. The Board entered into non-public session at 6:01 PM and resumed public session at 6:27 PM. Other than the vote to exit this non-public session and seal item A, as not doing so would affect adversely the reputation of someone other than a Board member (which was moved by Joseph Saulnier, seconded by Tony Clements, and upon the Board members being individually polled, was voted in the affirmative by Joseph Saulnier, John Harmon, Cindy Bennett, and Tony Clements), two motions were voted during this non-public session.

Public Input: There was no public input forthcoming.

Nominations/Resignations: MOTION: Joseph Saulnier moved, seconded by Tony Clements, to accept the nomination for Abigael Massey, SAP Counselor. Voted unanimously in the affirmative.

MOTION: Joseph Saulnier moved, seconded by Tony Clements, to accept the nomination of Jerilyn Nadeau [School Nurse]. Voted unanimously in the affirmative.

MOTION: Joseph Saulnier moved, seconded by Tony Clements, to accept the nomination of Ada Vadeboncoeur as a preschool special education teacher. Voted unanimously in the affirmative.

MOTION: Joseph Saulnier moved, seconded by Tony Clements, to accept the resignation of Taryn Ward in accordance with the contract and separation fee, effective August 11, 2022. Voted unanimously in the affirmative.

MOTION: Joseph Saulnier moved, seconded by Tony Clements, to accept the resignation of Deb Daniels effective August 17, 2022, pending receipt of liquidated damages fee as per the collective bargaining agreement. Voted unanimously in the affirmative.

Budget Development Planning Work Session: Mrs. Whitmore reviewed the Budget Development Planning worksheet for the 23-23 school year. She reviewed the budget for the current year and expected increases for the 23-24 school year.

During discussion:

- Mr. Saulnier asked if we had looked to outsource our electricity. Ms. Whitmore stated that we already outsource with Standard Power, something that we've had for years.
- Mr. Harmon asked about the decreases for retirement. Ms. Whitmore stated that every once in awhile it goes down slightly. Mr. Leatherman stated it's a one-time adjustment.
- Mr. Harmon asked if, now that we have the grant for LEAP, in the budget we have \$150,000 more than needed. Is that taken out when we calculated this budget because we don't need it? Ms. Whitmore stated no. Mr. Harmon asked what percentage we're paying for LEAP and does it increase in Year 2. He stated we could probably anticipate that the budget could be \$100k less.
- Mr. Harmon asked if it's accurate that each year that we have Project Aware the amount we pay into it increases, and he asked for a sense as to how big those increases are. Ms. Whitmore stated she's unsure at the moment.
- Mr. Harmon asked what happened this year that special education tuition will be \$600k more than today. Ms. Whitmore stated that the law has changed and students now age out at 22 years old instead of 21 years old. She stated also that since she's been here the line has been cut over the years and they've never been budgeted enough in that line. Mr. Harmon stated his concern that special education tuition continues to go up. Ms. Whitmore noted that the rates for 22-23 have not yet been set so these figures are based on 21-22. There are 22 out-of-district students budgeted.
- Mr. Harmon asked if we are still sharing buses for out of district transportation with other districts, and if not can we start doing that.

Mr. Saulnier stated that he is comfortable with seeing where the budget goes and what is presented. He stated he wants to know the needs of the district. Mr. Harmon stated that he believes we should set a number knowing whether we are going to support that number. Ms. Bennett stated that she would like to name a number to be sensitive to the needs of those who are dealing with increased expenses just like the District is.

Motion to Amend the Agenda: MOTION: Joseph Saulnier moved, seconded by Tony Clements, to amend the agenda to propose action on budget development plan work session. Voted unanimously in the affirmative.

MOTION: Joseph Saulnier moved, seconded by Tony Clements, to direct the District to plan out for the needs of the District in the upcoming 23-24 budget planning session. Mr. Saulnier stated that he believes the Board does its budgeting work in October. Mr. Harmon asked who is defining "needs of the district" to which Mr. Saulnier replied that it would be administration. Motion passed with Joseph Saulnier, Cindy Bennett, and Tony Clements voting in the affirmative and John Harmon voting in opposition.

Budget Delivery Date: It was the consensus of the Board that the School Board Budget Work Sessions be scheduled for October 12 and 13.

RHS Assistant Principal Search Committee: MOTION: Joseph Saulnier moved, seconded by Tony Clements, to nominate Jason Robinson and Dana Zulager to the RHS Assistant Principal Search Committee. Voted unanimously in the affirmative.

Mr. Saulnier volunteered to serve as the School Board Member on the Search Committee.

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Other: Mr. Clements stated that the PTO and Parent Core Group are seeking donations for the back-to-school barbecue for staff on August 25. Donations may be dropped off at the middle school main office or through Sign-Up Genius.

Adjournment: MOTION: Joseph Saulnier moved, seconded by Tony Clements, to adjourn the meeting. Voted unanimously in the affirmative. Meeting adjourned at 7:20 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Jennifer Heywood,
Raymond School Board Clerk

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Not voted to be kept confidential.

Present: School Board Members John Harmon, Tony Clements, Cindy Bennett, and Joseph Saulnier; Superintendent of Schools Terry Leatherman.

Item B

The School Board reviewed the letters of interest received to serve on the RHS Assistant Principal Search Committee.

Item C

The School Board reviewed this evening's nominations and resignations.

MOTION: Joseph Saulnier moved, seconded by Tony Clements, to waive Taryn Ward's liquidated damages of \$1,000. Motion failed with Joseph Saulnier, Tony Clements, Cindy Bennett, and John Harmon voting in opposition.

Item D: Mr. Leatherman reviewed proposed salary increases for I.T. staff members. It was the consensus of the Board to authorize the Superintendent to increase the salaries as discussed.

Respectfully submitted,

Jennifer Heywood,
Raymond School Board Clerk