

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM. Present: School Board Members John Harmon, Jaclyn Serrine, Joseph Saulnier, and Susan Pettigrew; Student Representative to the School Board James Coomey; Superintendent of Schools Ellen Small; Business Administrator Ron Brickett; Raymond High School Principal Steve Woodward; Student Services Director Walter Anacki; Iber Holmes Gove Middle School Principal Bob Bickford; Raymond High School Student Services Coordinator Scott Riddell; Raymond High School Assistant Principal Peter Weaver.

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: There was no public input forthcoming.

Our Students/Our Schools: Mr. Bickford, and students Samantha Roy and Hannah Paquette, talked about their recent experience attending Project Safeguard. Project Safeguard is an off-site conference designed for 7th grade students to address various issues, including substance abuse, peer pressure, self esteem, and internet safety. The students discussed their activities during the conference, and Raymond Coalition for Youth's Christine Bostaph noted that because middle school is a time when children begin to think about experimenting, 7th grade is a good time to expose them to this kind of conference.

Raymond High School Schedule 2017-18: Mr. Woodward presented the updated proposed schedule for 2017-18. He reviewed a presentation with some facts about the proposed 8 period block schedule, including some area schools who use block scheduling and the advantages for a 4x4 block schedule.

During the presentation:

- Two credits would be added to the Raymond High School diploma requirements - 1 credit in Social Studies, .5 credit in the Arts, and .5 in Personal Finance.
- The Raymond High School Honors Diploma would add on 4 credits: 1 credit in ELO/Online Learning, .5 credit in Science, 2 credits of consecutive World Language, and .5 elective.
- A GPA of 85% over the four years of high school would be required for an Honors Diploma.
- Students who attend SST in the morning will have the ability to take a Literature or a History class which would be structured according to a traditional schedule, so the timing works out for those students.
- Individual Learning Time would be broken up into Humanities or Math/Science Labs, ELO's/Online Learning, or Self-Directed Study.
- During the TASC Block, students have the opportunity for enrichment, credit recovery, research and use of computer labs, content specific reteaching, and Grade Level Units study skills.

Mrs. Serrine read an email from Tina Thomas in its entirety. Mrs. Thomas wrote to support the 8-period schedule for 2017-18.

During discussion:

- The revised graduation requirements would be applicable to incoming freshmen. Mr. Woodward stated that if an upperclassmen did meet the requirements for an Honors Diploma, he would be in favor of awarding the diploma.

- Mr. Woodward stated that feedback from students was mostly positive.
- The TASC block would only be scheduled for the last period of the day.
- Self-Directed Study is different than TASC because students don't necessarily have access to all of their teachers, but they have the opportunity to work independently.
- The hope is to have 5 or 6 para-educators available to assist with self-directed study.
- Mr. Harmon asked for clarification as to the expectations of the students during self-directed study that differentiates that time from a study hall period. Interventions would be provided for those students who are not proficient in a class. Mrs. Small stated that she sees the number of students having TASC on top of the self-directed period to be a small number of students.
- Students with an IEP have the TASC block built in automatically.
- RHS Teacher Christina Pauli noted that a number of teachers are trained in how to facilitate student-driven activities and that they can help train other teachers.
- Mr. Woodward stated that the schedule as distributed would be corrected to end at 2:10 each day.
- Mr. Woodward stated that there are enough technology resources available to support the online learning opportunities for students.
- Mr. Coomey expressed concern with the effect block scheduling will have on field trips and AP classes.

MOTION: John Harmon moved, seconded by Joseph Saulnier, to approve the Raymond High School proposed schedule for the 2017-18 school year, with the understanding that the school day will end at 2:10 PM. During discussion, Mr. Harmon asked that Mr. Woodward come back to the Board in the spring to discuss options available during self-directed study for those students who are excelling in their schoolwork, and how these options will challenge those students. Voted unanimously in the affirmative.

Raymond High School Graduation Requirements: Mr. Anacki and Mr. Riddell presented their recommendation for a Certificate of Completion as new option for high school students. For students who earn a Certificate of Attendance or Completion, a student's participation in a graduation ceremony would be a team decision. It was noted that the current offering of the Certificate of Attendance can only be awarded when the student reaches age 21. MOTION: John Harmon moved, seconded by Joseph Saulnier, to authorize the Certificate of Completion for Raymond High School starting school year 17-18. Mr. Harmon clarified that the Certificate of Completion would still need to be put into policy, but procedurally, it can be included in the Program of Studies. Voted unanimously in the affirmative.

During further discussion of graduation requirements:

- Mr. Harmon noted that the .5 credit for personal finance isn't specified under the math requirements in the Program of Studies.
- Mr. Harmon stated that he's disappointed that the electives requirement is being decreased.
- Mr. Harmon questioned whether the teacher coverage would be available to cover the increased requirements for math and social studies, and whether electives would be easier to cover in terms of staffing.
- Mrs. Sirrine stated that she feels that students could increase their credit requirements through electives rather than the required math or social studies courses.
- Mr. Coomey stated that he supports keeping personal finance as a requirement.
- Mrs. Small suggested raising the credit required to 24 and raising the Honor's Diploma requirement to 28. (Without specific requirements as to what those credits are.)

- Mrs. Serrine asked if the increase in credit requirements could be applied prorated to all underclassmen, not just incoming freshmen. Mrs. Small stated that she feels the logistics would be difficult. Mr. Weaver stated that he has seen it done both ways and it could be a reasonable transition. Mr. Harmon stated he's not sure he would support changing requirements mid-stream in a student's high school career.
- Mrs. Serrine asked if the Honors Diploma requirements could be prorated with lesser requirements for current upperclassmen. Mr. Woodward asked for time to discuss that with the administrative team. Mrs. Small stated she supports the idea of making the Honors Diploma available.
- Mr. Harmon stated that he would not have an issue with 26 credits being required for incoming freshmen. It was the consensus of the Board that the additional credits could be included as electives, though both Mrs. Pettigrew and Mr. Saulnier stated they like the personal finance requirement.

MOTION: John Harmon moved, seconded by Joseph Saulnier, to approve the graduation requirements beginning with the class of 2021 of 24 credits with the additional 1.75 credits to come from electives. Voted unanimously in the affirmative.

MOTION: John Harmon moved, seconded by Susan Pettigrew, to approve the Honors Diploma with math at 3 credits, social studies at 3 credits, arts at 1 credit, world languages at 2 credits, ELO/online at .5 credits, and electives at 8 credits. The Diploma would require 28 credits and an overall GPA of 85% over the four years. This diploma option would be available beginning with the Class of 2018. Mrs. Small suggested that the 85% requirement be stated in the Program of Studies. It was understood that administration may still come forward with a graduated Honors diploma for current underclassmen. Mr. Saulnier stated that he feels that for the Honors diploma, the requirements should be less electives and more guided. Voted unanimously in the affirmative.

2017-18 Program of Studies: Mr. Woodward presented the 2017-18 Program of Studies. During discussion:

- Page 11 - Remove Personal Finance under Math.
- Page 6 - Hesser College no longer exists.
- Pages 18-19 - Academic planner would be updated to match the changes made this evening.
- Anthropology and History class will be noted as running every other year. (pull these classes from backup.)

MOTION: John Harmon moved, seconded by Joseph Saulnier, to approve the Raymond High School Program of Studies as amended tonight for the 17-18 school year. Voted unanimously in the affirmative.

2017-2018 School District Calendar: Mrs. Small reviewed the proposed calendar.

Mr. Harmon asked about the days when there is high absenteeism, is new information introduced in the class as normal? Mrs. Small stated that it is to her knowledge.

Mrs. Small stated that this year there were two in-service days at the beginning of the year and she heard complaints that the time was too rushed.

MOTION: John Harmon moved, seconded by Joseph Saulnier, to approve the Raymond School District calendar for 17-18 as presented. Voted unanimously in the affirmative.

Raymond School Board Meeting
February 1, 2017
Raymond High School Media Center
Minutes Page 4
Approved February 15, 2017

March Meeting Dates: John Harmon moved, seconded by Joseph Saulnier, to move the March regular School Board meeting dates to March 8th and March 22nd. Voted unanimously in the affirmative.

Committee Reports: Mr. Saulnier stated that the Cable Committee approved their budget.

Mrs. Serrine reviewed the New Hampshire School Boards Association Delegate Assembly. She said that everything went the same way the School Board had voted. There was a lengthy discussion about the right to carry in school, which didn't move forward. They elected new officers, and she noted that NHSBA Director Ted Comstock is retiring.

Mr. Harmon stated that the Policy Committee met and they will have some policies coming before the Board at upcoming meetings.

Mr. Coomey stated that the Site Council is looking for their next endeavor, and that the Drama Club is starting on a production of *Barefoot in the Park*.

Superintendent's Report: Mrs. Small thanked all who contributed to the *Giving Tree* for the *Children Helping Children Program*. The middle school collected \$284.00. This money will be used to purchase winter clothing for children in Raymond.

Mrs. Small congratulated the middle school basketball teams. Both the girls' and boys' teams made it to the Tri-County Playoffs.

Work has begun on the emergency access road for the high school. All the permits were approved and they are aware of the times when their trucks should not be on the high school road due to heavy traffic and buses.

The District Reading Committee has been meeting and is setting targets for our DIBELS testing to reach our strategic goal that all students will read on grade level.

The Professional Development Committee is in the process of rewriting the District's plan, which is due to the state in April.

Correspondence/Other: None.

Manifest Signing: A quorum of the Board signed the manifest. Accounts Payable total: \$640,105.09. Payroll total: \$415,746.67.

Approval of Minutes: MOTION: John Harmon moved, seconded by Joseph Saulnier, to approve the minutes of January 4, 2017 as presented. Voted unanimously in the affirmative.

MOTION: John Harmon moved, seconded by Joseph Saulnier, to approve the non-public minutes of January 4, 2017, to unseal item B, and to keep item C sealed. Voted unanimously in the affirmative.

MOTION: John Harmon moved, seconded by Joseph Saulnier, to approve the minutes of January 10, 2017. Voted unanimously in the affirmative with Susan Pettigrew abstaining.

Raymond School Board Meeting
February 1, 2017
Raymond High School Media Center
Minutes Page 5
Approved February 15, 2017

MOTION: John Harmon moved, seconded by Joseph Saulnier, to approve the minutes of January 12, 2017. Voted unanimously in the affirmative with Susan Pettigrew abstaining.

MOTION: John Harmon moved, seconded by Joseph Saulnier, to approve the minutes of January 17, 2017 (Budget Committee Meeting). Voted unanimously in the affirmative with Susan Pettigrew abstaining.

MOTION: John Harmon moved, seconded by Joseph Saulnier, to approve the minutes of January 17, 2017 (Bond Hearing). Voted unanimously in the affirmative.

MOTION: John Harmon moved, seconded by Joseph Saulnier, to approve the minutes of January 18, 2017. Voted unanimously in the affirmative.

MOTION: John Harmon moved, seconded by Joseph Saulnier, to approve and keep sealed the non-public minutes of January 18, 2017. Voted unanimously in the affirmative.

Adjournment: MOTION: Joseph Saulnier moved, seconded by John Harmon, to adjourn the meeting. Voted unanimously in the affirmative. Meeting adjourned at 9:40 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Jennifer Heywood,
Raymond School Board Clerk