Raymond School Board Meeting November 16, 2016 Raymond High School Media Center Minutes Page 1 Approved December 7, 2016

<u>Call to Order</u>: The meeting was called order at 7:00 PM. Present: School Board Members Jaclyn Sirrine, John Harmon, Diane Naoum, Joseph Saulnier, and Susan Pettigrew; Student Representative to the School Board James Coomey; Administrator in Charge of Superintendent Services Peter Weaver; Business Administrator Ron Brickett; Lamprey River Elementary School Principal Bryan Belanger; Special Education Director Walter Anacki; Iber Holmes Gove Middle School Principal Bob Bickford; Raymond High School Principal Steve Woodward; Food Service Director Judy DiNatale.

Proof of Posting: It was noted that the meeting was properly posted.

<u>Pledge of Allegiance</u>: All those in attendance stood and recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

Recognition: The School Board recognized and congratulated the student athletes who are part of the IHGMS Girls Soccer Team. The team won the Tri-County Championship recently for second consecutive year. The team captains each spoke about their team, their experiences as a leader of the team, and about their teammate, Jeni Plender. Each student introduced themselves, along with coaches Deborah Papamichael and Michelle Weaver. The team members are:

Kaitlyn BergeronAbigail BrownMadison BrownEmily BrunRachel CarterClare ColeAnya CunninghamMhrissa EmeryBrynna HoneKathryn LaCasseEmma MariniElizabeth Pitts

Madilyn Robinson Ashley Berntsen Kylee Comeau
Lily Mason Clivia Mason Livia Palmer

Bailey Pollock Lydia Cramer

Public Input: There was no public input forthcoming.

Our Students/Our Schools: RHS Transition Specialist Julie Healey and student Joel Patterson discussed the Transition Program for students at the high school. The program provides extended learning opportunities and services for identified special education students, 504 students, and non-identified at-risk students. Ms. Healey reviewed some events, including parent focus groups and attendance at a career day at Manchester Community College. She also stated that the program is receiving the Next Steps professional development grant, which is a two-year grant and will focus on transition and extended learning opportunities for the students. Mr. Patterson talked with the Board about his experiences working at New Life Food Pantry and Granite State Trade School. Ms. Healey also reviewed a presentation featuring student Skyler Espersen who does an internship at McDonalds which helps him with some of his fine motor skills. Currently, ten students are involved in extended learning opportunities through the program.

<u>Town CIP Committee Recommendations</u>: Capital Improvements Committee Chair Colleen West-Coates and Vice Chair Joshua Mann presented to the School Board the recommendations of the CIP Committee regarding the School District capital improvements plan. They reviewed the goals of the CIP Committee, the functions of a capital improvements plan, and their methodology in assessing the needs of both the Town and the District. Their findings regarding the School District Capital Improvements Plan: that the CIP is chronically underfunding; that the CIP is

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used as a budget supplement; and that the actual funding amount to fully fund the CIP far exceeds taxpayer affordability.

During discussion,

- Mrs. West-Coates had thought the SAU and School Board already received the needs assessment; she will
 forward that to the SAU Office.
- The recommendation for more in savings doesn't include a specific amount to save. Mr. Mann stated that any savings would be positive.
- Mrs. West-Coates stated that recommendations regarding specific capital reserve funds were made for the Town's CIP but not the District's because the Town has more, and larger, CRF's.
- The CIP Committee hasn't made any comment regarding the use of unreserved fund balance to go into the CIP because they weren't aware that it was being considered. It was noted that this option was mentioned during the District's presentation of the CIP, but not presented as something for full consideration.

<u>Food Service Update</u>: Food Service Director Judy DiNatale began by reviewing how student meals are structured, looking at daily and weekly requirements. It was noted that even though the 5th grade is housed in the middle school, they fall under elementary school requirements and so the middle school follows elementary school requirements. She discussed how student requests and new items are incorporated into the menus, as well as how menus are sometimes partnered with school events. The menus are reviewed by her as well as each kitchen manager to be sure all the meals are compliant.

Mrs. DiNatale then reviewed the participation in the lunch program in each school, which has been holding steady ever since the implementation of Healthy Hunger Free Kids Act standards and a price increase in 2013-14. She also discussed the vending options, and the fact that the list of vending items had shrunk significantly but sales are starting to rebound a bit as more items are added. The vending does get use after school hours, and is basically self-sustaining.

Mrs. DiNatale stated that menus are posted online as early as possible. Sometimes the menu plan depends on food availability.

Mr. Coomey stated his concern regarding high school students not able to eat lunch if they don't have money and that food may then be thrown away that otherwise would have gone to that student. Mrs. DiNatale and Mr. Brickett reviewed the law regarding providing lunches to students even if their food service account is negative, and the fact that this applies only to elementary and middle school students and not high school. Mrs. DiNatale stated that she sends low balance emails to parents when the lunch balance goes below \$0. Mr. Harmon asked if that email could be sent at a low balance rather than a zero balance to allow some warning time. Mr. Weaver will work with the Technology Director and Mrs. DiNatale to explore doing so within the current bulk mail program. Mrs. DiNatale clarified that most students who don't have money do come back with money to purchase the meal. Though it doesn't happen often, if the student doesn't return, they are required to dispose of the food. Mrs. Naoum asked to have the procedures reviewed by the School Board.

<u>Principals' Reports</u>: Mr. Woodward presented a quarterly report for Raymond High School, including: staff members Pat Nardone and Mark Pantazis receive the Starfish Award; upcoming events such as *I Am College Bound* and 12

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Angry Jurors; field trips taken this past quarter including UNH College Fair and Student Council to Camp Lincoln; 109 students took the PSAT in October; the National Honor Society inducted 18 new members in early November; the mock election took place on November 7.

Bob Bickford presented a quarterly report for Iber Holmes Gove Middle School, including: Friendship Award winners; congratulations to Mary Ann Lessard for being named Art Teacher of the Year; upcoming events including the PSU Tiger Group; field trips including Enterprise City and UNH Ocean Discovery Day; academic highlights of each grade level; the use of Responsive Classroom in the first weeks of school; FCS students are sewing warm hats to be donated to Boston Children's Hospital.

Bryan Belanger presented a quarterly report for Lamprey River Elementary School, including: the LRES Spirit Crew is actively organizing and building a team at LRES; Girls on the Run continues into its 7th season; upcoming events including parent teacher conferences, LRES Holiday Concert; Holiday Tress Lighting and Singalong; field trips taken this past quarter, including DeMerritt Hill Farm and Mt. Kearsarge Indian Museum, DIBELS assessments were completed for Reading and Math; LREs partnered with Lamprey Health Care to offer dental education, screenings, and cleanings; the School to Family Counselor is scheduled to be in the building Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Fridays.

Mr. Weaver presented the curriculum update, including: approximately 55 students at LRES are seen for reading and for math Title I support, and approximately 35 IHGMS students are seen for reading support and 45 for math support; the Professional Development Committee is working to revise the district's professional development plan to submit to the NH DOE in April; all RHS teachers will participate in a directed book study that will offer strategies to assist in overcoming obstacles that poverty can create for students and schools; many teachers/teams have completed their course competencies and are beginning to create or refine performance assessments.

<u>Committee Reports</u>: It was the general consensus of the School Board to address the Committee Reports agenda item while waiting for computer access for the assessment data presentation.

Mrs. Naoum stated that the Superintendent Search Committee met and named Diane Naoum the Chair, Laura Yacek the Vice Chair, and Christina Burns as Secretary. They will be meeting on November 17th, and have two more meetings scheduled for December 14th and January 6th.

Mr. Saulnier stated that the Raymond Coalition for Youth met and that Catholic Charities will be at St. Joseph's in Epping on December 6th, helping families with issues with substance abuse. They also discussed the availability of a 24 hour hotline. Instead of one hotline for everybody, it's a hotline that is designed for individuals.

Mrs. Sirrine stated the SST Governing Board met. The tuition rate is \$1,899 per student. SST has a total of 705 students, 48 of them from Raymond. 29 courses are currently offered. The projected tuition next year is \$1,911.

Mr. Coomey stated that the Student Council just returned from their Waterville Valley trip and they have many ideas that they've talked about and will be implementing this year. He also stated that Colton Corriveau was named the new Mr. Raymond.

<u>Assessment Tests</u>: The building principals reviewed the assessment data from Smarter Balanced testing, SAT's, and NECAP. They reviewed the organization of the Smarter Balanced testing for English-Language Arts and Math;

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cohort comparisons, sample questions, mean scores, NECAP science testing results, and how Raymond students performed on the assessments. They reviewed the positive results for each school, as well as areas of focus. During discussion:

- RHS students have done comparatively better with SAT testing than with NECAP or SBAC (Smarter Balanced Assessment Consortium).
- LRES students must be taught to use a mouse and to express themselves through technology to take the SBAC.
- Mr. Saulnier inquired about the dip in math scores. Mr. Bickford stated that there has been a significant
 change in math curriculum over the past few years, and that when this happens, there is something called
 an "implementation dip" in scoring for that subject. This was the cause of the dip in math scores. He
 anticipates a change in the performance scores.
- Mr. Harmon asked what is being done differently so that regression in scores doesn't continue. Mr. Bickford stated that much of that regression was a direct result in the change in curriculum mentioned above. Mr. Belanger stated that at LRES, universal screening was done and some students who were not identified previously are now receiving Title I services. In some cases, students are receiving double and triple doses of this instruction. They are also reviewing the possibility of pushing the assessment testing back within the window to allow for more time for math instruction before taking the test. Mr. Bickford stated that at IHGMS, they've restructured Title I services to provide more service to students. Additionally, assessment dates this year will be pushed out as long as possible to allow for as much instruction as possible before testing.
- In the lower grades, parents rarely refuse Title I services. At the higher grades, it's more the student who refuses than the parent.
- Mr. Harmon asked if the same assessment is given for material taught in each classroom. Mr. Bickford stated that teachers are focusing now on creating common summative assessments for each content area. Mr. Harmon stated he would like to hear more about this.
- Mr. Harmon asked if the district overall is missing earth and space sciences. Mr. Bickford stated that
 historically, the middle school focuses on one science each year and then students are tested on them all in
 the 8th grade assessment. Some students who take 9th grade science during middle school miss the earth
 science teaching that takes place at the middle school level. RHS continues to offer earth and space
 sciences as part of the physical science course.

<u>2017-18 Budget</u>: Mr. Brickett reviewed the health care and dental rates that have come in for the 2017-18 school year. He recommends not changing the budget as it has already been approved, since he was able to offset the increased costs in the health care and dental rates and not impact the bottom line.

Mr. Brickett then reviewed the estimated revenues for 2017-18, totalling \$9,821,088.

<u>MOTION</u>: John Harmon moved, seconded by Joseph Saulnier, to approve the revenue projection as presented. Voted unanimously in the affirmative.

<u>Monthly Financial Update</u>: Mr. Brickett reviewed the financial update for months ending October 31, 2016. Areas of largest variance include salaries, health insurance, professional services for students, student tuitions, and propane, electricity, & oil.

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<u>Superintendent's Report</u>: Mr. Weaver reported that the Town of Raymond has moved forward with signage along nature trail at LRES. School staff has been provided with lesson plans and academic support. Additional training will be provided after signs have gone up. They are hoping for a ribbon cutting before the first snow.

72 RHS students completed applications today to 261 schools as part of *I am College Bound* Day.

The NEASC Steering Committee has been formed to start to organize standards committees and to discuss what matters most in regards to the accreditation review taking place in 2019.

Correspondence/Other: None.

<u>Manifest Signing</u>: A quorum of the Board signed the manifest. Accounts Payable Total \$160,967.49. Payroll total \$401,436.08.

<u>Adjournment</u>: <u>MOTION</u>: John Harmon moved, seconded by Joseph Saulnier, to adjourn the meeting. Voted unanimously in the affirmative. Meeting adjourned at 10:00 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Jennifer Heywood, Raymond School Board Clerk