

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 6:45 PM. Present: School Board members Jaclyn Serrine, John Harmon, Diane Naoum, Joseph Saulnier, and Susan Pettigrew; Superintendent of Schools Ellen Small; Business Administrator Ron Brickett; Lamprey River Elementary School Principal Bryan Belanger.

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

Non-Public Session: John Harmon moved, seconded by Joseph Saulnier, 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, Jaclyn Serrine, Diane Naoum, Susan Pettigrew, and Joseph Saulnier. The Board entered non-public session at 6:46 PM and resumed public session at 7:15 PM. Other than the vote to exit this non-public session and seal item A (which was moved by John Harmon, seconded by Joseph Saulnier, and upon the Board members being individually polled, was voted in the affirmative by John Harmon, Jaclyn Serrine, Diane Naoum, Susan Pettigrew, and Joseph Saulnier), one motion was voted during this non-public session.

Pledge of Allegiance: All those in attendance stood and recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

Public Input: Tim Brusso approached the Board and stated that the District has just implemented a new policy for progress reports which he feels is greatly affecting the teams and the town. They've been told students will be suspended from the team for ten days due to failing grades on their progress report. He feels that the process is short-sighted and doesn't apply well to all students of different abilities. He stated that he would resign his position as a coach, as he would want to coach under the same NHIAA rules as everyone else in the state.

Tom Bozoian, RHS head football coach, approached the Board and discussed that football is a dangerous sport and requires him to be able to put in the players who are physically ready to do so. He stated that often, a progress report is an incorrect forecast of the actual marking period grade, and that in many cases, football is the reason why a student does well.

David Langlois approached the Board and read his written statement of concerns regarding extracurricular activities and the grading policy. His concerns included not allowing a student to bring grades up from their progress report before facing consequences, as well as the process used to revise the policy. He stated that the Student Athlete Leadership Team, coaches, and the Athletic Director were not involved in the decision.

Student Representative to the School Board James Coomey stated that the RHS Site Council created and sent forth this policy, and that the Site Council is a mix of all types of students, including those who play sports. He stated that if the policy were to be changed, that it should go through Site Council so that students have a voice during policy-making.

Randy LaCasse approached the Board and stated that he applauds the Site Council for their efforts. As a teacher, he sees too many holes with the way the policy is being implemented. He described the process of assessments and

progress reports, and how often progress report grades will not reflect the actual report card grade. He asked that the procedure be revisited with those stakeholders.

Motion to Amend the Agenda: MOTION: Joseph Saulnier moved, seconded by Susan Pettigrew, to amend the agenda to look at the student handbook policy for athletics, and that this be agenda item G. Motion passed with Jaclyn Serrine, Diane Naoum, Susan Pettigrew, and Joseph Saulnier voting in the affirmative and John Harmon voting in opposition.

Gretchen Gott approached the Board for Public Input, but offered to wait until after Our Students/Our Schools to speak.

Our Students/Our Schools: LRES students Mollee Messenger, Drezell Duffaut, Lily Darling, Haylee Deary, Alicia Call, Parker Emerson, Camden Morrill, and Aiza Faraz, along with teacher Natasha Stoyak discussed the LRES Outdoor Classroom that was constructed over the summer. During their presentation, which included a video produced entirely by two 4th grade students, the students stated that they like the outdoor classroom because they can do science experiments with water and they find it to be relaxing. Mrs. Stoyak is a first grade teacher and noticed that students' faces light up when they reach the beach; they notice the sounds and sights and textures because they are in a different environments. Students are more motivated outside because they're in their element. Many studies have shown that different learning styles do much better outdoors and teachers are able to reach those learning styles outdoors. Mr. Belanger added that they have added garden beds to the area and they also now have a trail

Resume Public Input: Gretchen Gott approached the Board. She stated that she is a citizen and added that she is also an employee. She stated that she recognizes that education is paramount and that certain requirements do need to be met, but she feels there should be a balance. She discussed the importance of extracurricular activities in her own education. She stated that she believes that sports are important, and that educational requirements need to be met, as well.

Request for Inclusion on School Board Agenda: Mr. Williams approached the Board to appeal the decision of the Transportation Committee to deny his bus stop change request. He requested that Mr. Harmon recuse himself from voting as he had already voted as part of the Transportation Committee. He distributed a written document which included safety concerns for the current stop as well as information about the proposed bus stop. He also reviewed some questions that he has about the process that led to the denial of his bus stop change request. Mr. Williams asked why his bus stop change request was denied.

Mr. Harmon discussed the process on how the stops are reviewed. He stated that this development area is not unique, in that there are similar conditions throughout the town. The Transportation Committee felt it was a safe and reasonable stop.

Mrs. Naoum stated that she doesn't like the idea of the bus backing up to pick up children. Mrs. Small stated that this is not unique.

Mr. Saulnier stated as a point of disclosure that he lives in the neighborhood.

Mrs. Pettigrew stated that she feels the proposed stop seems safer.

Mrs. Serrine stated that the concern is that it's an additional stop and she's concerned about how additional stops affect other school stops and ultimately affects elementary school students getting home late.

Mrs. Pettigrew clarified with Mr. Williams that he's asking to move the stop, not add a stop. Mrs. Serrine stated she's not sure that it can be changed, dependent on the students in that radius.

Mr. Saulnier stated that he feels the stop is unsafe where it is currently located.

MOTION: Joseph Saulnier moved, seconded by Susan Pettigrew, to accept the bus stop change, moving it from Strawberry and Blueberry to Strawberry and Blake. Mr. Harmon stated for clarification that the biggest concern from a time perspective is not the beginning of the day, but the end of the day when students are not being picked up at LRES by 3:15 PM. He noted that the elementary school day is 20 minutes shorter than at the middle school and the high school and until that changes, there will be the issue of buses not arriving in time for dismissal at 3:15. Motion passed with Diane Naoum, Jaclyn Serrine, Joseph Saulnier, and Susan Pettigrew voting in the affirmative and John Harmon voting in opposition.

Nominations/Resignations: Mrs. Serrine read Ellen Small's letter of retirement as of June 30, 2017 in its entirety.

MOTION: John Harmon moved, seconded by Joseph Saulnier, to accept the retirement of Ellen Small effective June 30, 2017. Voted unanimously in the affirmative.

Update: After School Program: After School Program Director Pat Arsenault discussed the current state of the After School Program. There are 65 students enrolled at LRES, 7 away from the cap. At IHGMS, 16 students enrolled, which is lower than projected. They are counterbalancing this with less staff members. Expenditures to date total about \$17,000.

During discussion with the Board:

- Last year, the middle school had 36 regular attendees. The elementary had about 60 regular attendees.
- Parents are very supportive of the program; they have been assured that the hope is that this is a one year situation. The elementary school free and reduced is over 30%, so they can move forward with applying for the grant.
- A cash calendar fundraiser is planned for November.
- As things are now, the projected loss stands at about \$50,000.
- Current after school staff at LRES: two group leaders, one site coordinator, one adult aide, and three high school students.

Amend Agenda: Mrs. Serrine requested to revisit the agenda item added earlier regarding extra-curricular participation and grading policy at this time. The Board was in general agreement.

Athletic/Extracurricular Participation and Grading Policy: RHS Principal Steve Woodward reviewed the policy put into practice this year. The NHIAA requires students to pass four units of work to continue to play a sport. The RHS

Site Council recommendation was to be passing five units. At progress reports, students then have two weeks to work to get the grade up to passing. If they do so, then they can return to their team/activity.

During discussion:

- Students currently affected by the policy include 2 on volleyball, 1 on boys soccer, 2 on cross country, and 10 on football.
- Mr. Woodward expressed his concern for safety of the members of the football team.
- The policy also impacts all extracurricular activities. Mr. Woodward didn't have those numbers readily available.
- Mr. Woodward stated that coaches were not involved in the decision making. He did have conversations with the Athletic Director, but nothing formal or requiring feedback. Parents were kept informed through his blog and parent forums, so he received feedback there. Each student athlete heard the new policy from Mr. Woodward twice as he visited teams and explained the policy to them.

Mr. Harmon stated that he felt it unfair to be asked to make a decision tonight without having all the information. Mrs. Naoum stated that she would like to suspend the policy for now and then address it at a later meeting.

Mr. Harmon stated that his interpretation of the policy is that if a student is passing five and failing one, that student could still participate. Mrs. Small stated that she reads it the same way but was also hoping that everyone would be working together as a team.

MOTION: Joseph Saulnier moved, seconded by Diane Naoum, to suspend the current eligibility standards for athletics and co-curricular eligibility and go to former guidelines that were stated in 2015-16. During discussion, Mr. Woodward clarified that "former guidelines" means that student must be passing four units of work based on the marking term to be eligible to tryout and participate. Mr. Saulnier amended the motion to include that this topic will be revisited at the January 4, 2017 School Board meeting. Mrs. Naoum seconded the amendment. Voted unanimously in the affirmative.

NHSBA Resolutions: There were no resolutions proposed for the 2017 NHSBA Delegate Assembly.

New Policies - First Reading: The Board read, in their entirety, proposed new policies IHBCA Pregnant Students and JIE Pregnant Students for the first of two readings.

Committee Reports: Mr. Harmon reported that the LRES Building Committee met and decided on their recommendation to present to the Board on October 19th. They will be presenting both options: one with modifications on the gym and the other other without the gym. The Building Committee recommendation is the proposal with the gym.

Mr. Saulnier stated that the Budget Committee met with the Selectmen to go over proposed increases in the budget and that there was nothing abnormal there.

Mrs. Serrine stated that the Capital Improvements Committee met but neither she nor Diane Naoum could attend, as they had a previous commitment for a School Board meeting. Mr. Harmon stated that he believes it important that

the School Board address with the Planning Board (who oversees CIP) the fact that the CIP Committee held a meeting about the school's CIP knowing that the school representatives were not available that evening. Mrs. Serrine stated that she has yet to watch the video to confirm that the meeting did actually address that topic.

Superintendent's Report: Mrs. Small stated that Raymond High School has again been selected as a SEAD priority high school. With this partnership they will design a high-impact strategy for Dartmouth to help advance Raymond's college access program, and Dartmouth will support a new cohort of eight Freshmen. This cohort will be mentored by Dartmouth students at regular meetings throughout the year including a summer camp at Dartmouth to prepare themselves to graduate high school ready to succeed in college. They are looking for students with interests in going to college who will benefit from SEAD's focus on personal growth and academic support and enrichment. The guidance department will be providing recommendations for a pool of students by January 2, and then schedule interviews throughout January.

Dartmouth interns will be ready to arrive in Raymond by January 7th.

Students had many art displays at Deerfield Fair. Among other ribbons, they won overall first place for the high school's display and overall third place for the middle school's display. Mrs. Small thanked art teachers Kathy Mutch, Mary Lessard, and Amy Tilton.

Mrs. Small discussed the October 7th in-service. Teachers met with their principal on their student goals and also worked on competencies. Many teachers have completed their competencies and are working on performance assessments. There was also a presentation on special education laws for para-professionals, case managers and administrators.

The Raymond Coalition for Youth is sponsoring a school and community wide theme for Red Ribbon week with the message "We are Committed to a Safe and Drug Free Raymond". Red Ribbon week is the last week in October, and the Coalition is purchasing t-shirts for the entire student body and staff with this message. In addition to the shirts: yard signs, banners and other things are also being purchased to make this a community wide engagement campaign.

All of the schools have been holding safety drills over the last few weeks and they have been going very well.

Correspondence/Other: Mr. Coomey announced that RHS Student Council will be "Trick-or-Canning" for Halloween, collecting canned food donations door-to-door.

Manifest Signing: A quorum of the Board signed the manifest. Accounts Payable total \$660,119.04. Payroll total \$412,331.91.

Approval of Minutes: MOTION: Diane Naoum moved, seconded by John Harmon, to approve the minutes of June 30, 2016 as written. Voted unanimously in the affirmative with Susan Pettigrew abstaining.

MOTION: Joseph Saulnier moved, seconded by John Harmon, to approve the public minutes of July 27, 2016. Voted unanimously in the affirmative with Diane Naoum and Susan Pettigrew abstaining.

Raymond School Board Meeting  
October 5, 2016  
Raymond High School Media Center  
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Approved November 2, 2016

MOTION: Joseph Saulnier moved, seconded by John Harmon, to approve and keep sealed the July 27, 2016 non-public minutes. Voted unanimously in the affirmative with Diane Naoum and Susan Pettigrew abstaining.

MOTION: Joseph Saulnier moved, seconded by Jon Harmon, to approve the minutes of August 31, 2016. Voted unanimously in the affirmative with Diane Naoum and Susan Pettigrew abstaining.

Adjournment: MOTION: Diane Naoum moved, seconded by John Harmon, to adjourn the meeting. Voted unanimously in the affirmative. Meeting adjourned at 9:50 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Jennifer Heywood,  
Raymond School Board Clerk

Raymond School District Non-Public Session  
October 5, 2016

Not voted to remain confidential.

B. Personnel

Present: School Board Members Jaclyn Serrine, John Harmon, Diane Naoum, Susan Pettigrew, and Joseph Saulnier; Superintendent of Schools Ellen Small.

Mrs. Small submitted her letter of retirement as Superintendent of Schools, effective June 30, 2017.

Respectfully submitted,

Jennifer Heywood,  
Raymond School Board Clerk

Raymond School District Non-Public Session  
October 5, 2016  
Approved and voted to be unsealed November 2, 2016

A. Student Matter

Present: School Board Members Jaclyn Serrine, John Harmon, Diane Naoum, Susan Pettigrew, and Joseph Saulnier; Superintendent of Schools Ellen Small; [Name Redacted].

Mrs. Serrine explained that confidentiality of the non-public session.

Mr. [Name Redacted] explained the circumstances surrounding his appeal of the decision of the Transportation Committee to deny his bus stop request. He expressed concern with the wooded area, the weather, and the lack of houses along the current walking route. He distributed a comparison of the current route and the proposed route. He also referenced school bus stop evaluation criteria from the nh.gov website, which includes a statement about a bus stop being no more than a quarter mile away.

Mr. Harmon discussed how the Transportation Committee reviewed the request and came to their decision to deny Mr. [Name Redacted]'s request. He stated that when bus routes were revised last year, they tried to keep the walking distances for students as equal as possible throughout the district, and that there are many families who are walking up to a mile just as Mr. [Name Redacted]'s child is.

Mrs. Small added that part of the revision to the bus routes included shortening bus routes so elementary students were not arriving home after dark.

During discussion, Mr. [Name Redacted] mentioned that the bus already comes to a stop for the stop sign at the requested stop.

MOTION: John Harmon moved, seconded by Diane Naoum for discussion, to deny the parent's bus request as presented. Mr. Harmon stated that he understands about the bus already stopping there. Dail Transportation calculated about 30 seconds to a minute for each stop, and with all the bus routes in the District, it adds up. Additionally, he doesn't feel the stop is unsafe. Ms. Pettigrew stated some concerns with the woods in the area and the lack of streetlights. Mr. Harmon noted that at the time the student is using the bus, it is light out. Mrs. Naoum stated that she would like to know how many other children would be affected if the bus stop were moved. Motion failed with John Harmon voting in the affirmative and Susan Pettigrew, Diane Naoum, Jaclyn Serrine, and Joseph Saulnier voting in opposition.

Respectfully submitted,

Jennifer Heywood,  
Raymond School Board Clerk