

RAYMOND SCHOOL DISTRICT

Raymond, New Hampshire



GREEN GAZETTE NEWSLETTER

December 2021

From the Superintendent

“Alone, we can do so little; together, we can do so much.”

- Hellen Keller

I hope you had a nice Thanksgiving Holiday and had the opportunity to spend some time with family and friends. We now prepare to head into the month of December and the start of winter. Looking back, the last few months have been challenging on so many levels as we continue to deal with a virus that seems to keep us from that return to normal we all hope to obtain soon.

We continue to keep our schools open and deal with this ongoing virus situation with the support we are receiving from our parents and community partners. I appreciate our parents' ability to be adaptive as we continue to work through this return to in-person learning. We will continue to do our best to keep students and staff healthy and schools open.

Over the last few weeks we have expanded our attempts to manage the COVID-19 situation in our schools. The district now offers testing for students and staff on a regular basis. With parent consent we are testing more students and by using the rapid tests we have been able to keep students in school when there is a negative test result. Testing allows us to assess and make the needed adjustments to ensure we better control the overall health of our school buildings. I would encourage parents to provide their consent to allow your child to be part of our testing protocols. For more information contact your child's school nurse.

As a district we have run several vaccine and flu shot clinics with the support of our local Walgreens. This is another attempt to provide students, staff and the community the opportunity to join us in our efforts to keep our schools open for in person instruction. Our most recent attempt to keep schools healthy will include another community partner Lamprey Health.



On December 14, 2021 we will be offering an opportunity for 5-11 year-olds to get vaccinated. Lamprey Health will be providing the team and the vaccines to support this effort.

The second vaccine shot is scheduled for January 4, 2022 and both events will happen after school at IHGMS from 4:00-7:00 p.m. Please check [our website](#) for more information on how to take part in this clinic - register by Sunday, December 5th. If you have questions about the vaccine itself I would advise you to react out to your child's pediatrician.

It will take all of us to continue to work together to achieve our goal of keeping school open during these unpredictable times. Your continued support is greatly appreciated and on behalf of the school district I would like to thank you.

Dave DeRuosi, Jr.,
Interim Superintendent

Voter Information



Continue to check back at our [Voter Information web page](#) as we progress through the budget and voting season. We'll continually update that page with information, documents, and important dates to remember.

Some Guests at LRES!

We had a month of fun activities where guests were invited to join us at LRES. Accommodations were made to ensure social distancing was in place, as it truly is wonderful to have our traditions returning. Guests that were invited to LRES included families and outside learning programs.

We had a fantastic Thanksgiving Feast at LRES! Kindergarten parents joined us for our annual tradition. I always look forward to serving lunch with the cafe staff on this special day!



We also welcomed Wildlife Encounters, a local wildlife ecology center and farm, to share all about their animals with our Kindergarten classes. Students had the opportunity to get up close to some amazing animals like a fennec fox, a macaw, a king snake, a jelly belly frog, hissing cockroaches, and a chinchilla.

Second graders had the opportunity to learn from some experts from the Mt. Kearsarge Indian Museum. Students participated in a customized travel program where they learned about the Native Americans through storytelling and hands-on activities.

During this time, it is important that we continue with our traditions as well as bring outside learning experiences to us at LRES. Happy Holidays!

Sincerely,
Laura Yacek, LRES Principal

Extended Learning Opportunities (ELO's) at IHGMS

Several years ago as the NH Department of Education was updating the minimum school standards and looking at ways that students could earn high school credits for learning activities that are not traditionally offered in most schools, the concept of Extended Learning Opportunities was developed.

ELO's are an opportunity for students to learn about things that they are interested in and, ideally, would like to continue learning about after high school. We at the middle school are very fortunate to have one of our former students who wanted to come back and work with our students and teachers.



Senior, Bailey Pollock, is participating in a year-long internship with Ms. Bridle's 7th grade Math class. Today, Bailey assisted the students with a lesson regarding circumference and also coordinated and facilitated the monthly STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Math) activity. The activity involved dry spaghetti, marshmallows and tape. The object for the students was to work in pairs to create the tallest structure, this was a fun, yet challenging task to say the least. This is Bailey's third education focused extended learning activity (ELO). Education is a career path Bailey is considering following high school. We are very proud of Bailey and the great work she is doing with our students.

To learn more about ELO's in Raymond, please contact Holly Londo, Extended Learning Coordinator at Raymond High School at 603-895-6616 x 2310 or h.londo@sau33.com. She is always looking for additional ELO sites to meet the interests of our students.

Social and Emotional Wellness During the Winter Months

As we all strive for a new normal during COVID-19, the winter months can add another layer for staff and families. Even pre-covid, winter months and the holiday season can provide a diverse experience for individuals. For some, it is a welcomed time of spending time with loved ones. For others, it is a stressful and challenging time. There are many other possible experiences in between. It can be especially challenging for those impacted by mental illness.



Whether a family observes holidays or not, this is a difficult time. Pandemic or not, the holidays can also be a difficult time. Please remember to be patient and kind to yourself and those around you. While times are challenging, there are many things we can do to ensure we are staying as healthy as possible and maintaining ongoing connection to those we care about.

During times of high stress, there are small simple steps that can be taken to boost protective and positive factors that promote behavioral health wellness. Some examples are: being kind to oneself, connecting with friends and family members, engaging in physical activities and laughing. Please see our [happiness toolkit](#) to learn more about the science behind happiness.

If you have concerns for you or a loved one, please see our [district at-risk flier](#) for support and resources. Raymond School District provides many layers of support for students. Please reach out to your school counselor if you have any questions or concerns regarding the behavioral health wellness of your student(s).

RHS Extended Learning Opportunities

December College and Career Connections Visitors

3. Great Bay Community College
7. United States Navy
8. Colby Sawyer College
9. Manchester Community College
10. National Aviation Academy
14. Job Corps
15. Institute of Art and Design/New England College

Workforce to Learn Development Program

(TRADES, SKILLS, FUTURE CAREER OPPORTUNITIES)

Looking for a junior or senior student that is interested in taking part in the Workforce to Learn Development Program from January to June, one afternoon a week. This opportunity is for a student who enjoys taking apart and rebuilding appliances and electronics and understands mechanics. The student will be learning about mechanical calibration testing at Jewell Instruments in Manchester NH, all expenses paid for and credit earned, read on.



What is the Workforce to Learn Development Program?

The Career Pathways Partnership Grant, established by the NH Charitable Foundation, is a grant that will provide options for students to explore work based experiences. In addition to ELOs, the Workforce Development program will engage students in career exploration opportunities and skill development. The Workforce to Learn Program is a collaboration between Raymond High School and business sectors in and around the Raymond Community.

Students will have the chance to explore a field of interest, learn skills of the trade and experience a real world learning environment, at no cost to the student. The grant funds will provide transportation and or mileage reimbursement, a small work stipend and a scholarship towards trade school, or college pursuit upon successful completion of the program.

To date, the two confirmed businesses we will be working with are **Palmer and Sicard Inc Construction** (Exeter), and **Jewell Instruments** (Manchester).

What are the benefits of the program?

- Gain knowledge of the profession, learn skills, and train for work ready experiences.
- Small stipend, transportation (if needed) and mileage reimbursement provided as well as a post-secondary scholarship to a trade school or college, pending completion of the program.
- Clothing/boots/work supplies will be provided, if needed, at no cost to the student.
- Individualized learning opportunity.
- Students can apply experiences towards ELO credit.
- Resume builder.
- Potential employment with the business, following graduation.

Substitutes Wanted!



Did you know that working as a substitute is not what it used to be? Here are the top reasons why working as a substitute might be the perfect fit for you!

- You are able to create your own schedule up to 3 months in advance by using our online scheduling system Frontline! Or you may work with the School Secretary to create a personalized schedule. This means no early morning calls if you don't want them! You are able to outline your schedule and availability. Subbing is one of the most flexible jobs in existence.
- Gain hands-on experience with rewarding employment!
- No experience or credentials are required!
- Acquire an impressive array of transferable skills
- Spice up your daily routine with plenty of variety! Between other teachers, staff, and students, you will encounter- and learn from diverse and creative individuals!
- Schools make for an incredibly fun work environment! Schools are bursting with vibrant creativity, hopefulness, and youthful energy!
- Give back to your local community when it is needed the most.
- Make a difference in the lives of children! Children need to have positive adult role models in their lives, and it only takes one moment to make a lasting impression. This perhaps is the best reason of all to be a substitute!

Please go to www.sau33.com/jobs to view our open positions and apply today!

Nurse Substitute- \$100 per day

Certified Teacher Substitute- \$95 per day

Non-certified Teacher Substitute- \$90 per day

Paraeducator Substitute- \$75 per day

Custodian and Food Service Substitute- \$10.00 per hour

Contacting Tech Support

Due to the district no longer being remote, the technology hotline phone number will no longer be available. The technology team can be reached at each school via email or their phone extension. Please contact your the school's Technology Support Specialist for assistance with hardware or software needs, or the Data Integration Specialist for support with PowerSchool.

Staff Name	Role	Email	Phone
Cameron Tkalcic	LRES Technology Support Specialist	c.tkalcic@sau33.com	895-3117 ext 3387
Luke Bergeron	IHGMS Technology Support Specialist	l.bergeron@sau33.com	895-3394 ext 4193
TBD	RHS Technology Support Specialist		
Matt Clifton	Technology and Data Integration Specialist	m.clifton@sau33.com	895-6616 ext 2341
Brittany L'Heureux	Director of Technology	b.lheureux@sau33.com	895-6616 ext 2364

Nutrition Services: Thankful



It was with great excitement and appreciation that we celebrated this year's Harvest Feast in all three schools on November 18. Excitement that we have all the kids in school, can use normal seating and real trays to fit the full feast menu again, and that adults joined us, including the kindergartners' guests. Appreciation that we were able to get all of our ingredients in for the meal - stuffing, squash, potatoes, etc., that go with our turkey roast.

Finally, both excitement and appreciation for all of the folks who made it possible - our vendors, delivery people, and school staff who helped get the menus and notices out and cover lunch duties. Most of all, for our dedicated, creative and flexible Lunch Ladies and School Food Dudes who have stuck with it through shortages of both staff and original menu items to feed kids!

The phrase "Menu subject to occasional change" has always been a standard on every published menu. But this year it has taken on a new meaning as we and our fellow school nutrition service professionals across the country navigate supply chain shortages.

Gratefully, we do a lot of scratch cooking and have talented, adapting minds in each school. Delightful, nutritious and complete meals continue to be served for the students with very few hitches. On those days, the staff is exhausted, but with mission accomplished: Thankful.

Reach High Scholars: Summer Academic Enrichment Programs



From Reach High Scholars: A question that frequently comes up in college interviews and applications is "What have you done with your past few summers?" With increasingly competitive application pools to select from, admissions offices at many colleges and universities want to see that serious applicants are being proactive about their education not only during the school year, but during the summer as well.

Many top-tier private boarding schools and universities offer summer academic enrichment programs that provide intensive yet fun summer experiences. These programs cultivate an enjoyment of learning for the sake of learning, encourage students to take control of their academic destiny, and provide unforgettable life-changing experiences with like-minded peers—all while making the students more competitive college applicants. [Read more here.](#)

From Raymond Coalition for Youth

You Are Not Alone.....

Use this QR code to access help and/or supportive resource numbers, websites and text lines. Or visit www.rcfy.org

You have a community of people who are here for you and want to help and support in any way possible. **SCAN AND SAVE TO YOUR PHONE TO USE AS NEEDED.**



Join us **December 9, 2021**
RCFY Monthly Networking Meeting
9:00 am - 10:30 am
Raymond Baptist Church
Special Guest



UNITE US IN NEW HAMPSHIRE
The full Agenda is at www.rcfy.org



Upcoming Events

Events are subject to change. Please check our Events Calendars at www.sau33.com.

School Board Meeting

Wednesday, December 1, 6:00 PM, RHS Media Center

IHGMS Principal's Coffee Hour

Thursday, December 2, 9:00 AM

Superintendent Search Committee Meeting

Thursday, December 2, 3:30 PM, IHGMS Room 192

Policy Committee Meeting

Tuesday, December 7, 10:00 AM, SAU 33 Office

Superintendent Search Committee Meeting

Tuesday, December 7, 3:30 PM, IHGMS Room 192

IHGMS Parent/Teacher Conferences

Wednesday, December 8

8th Grade Parent Info Meeting - Washington D.C. Trip

Thursday, December 9, IHGMS Cafeteria

RHS Band/Choral Concert

Thursday, December 9, 6:30 PM

Tickets required in advance: contact Mr. Lacasse r.lacasse@sau33.com

LRES Parent/Teacher Conferences

Thursday, December 9

LRES Principal's Coffee Hour

Friday, December 10, 10:00 AM

Vaccination Clinic for 5-11 Year-Olds

Tuesday, December 14, 4:00 - 7:00 PM, IHGMS Gymnasium

Registration Required

Regular School Board Meeting

Wednesday, December 15, 6:00 PM, RHS Media Center

IHGMS Principal's Coffee Hour

Thursday, December 16, 9:00 AM

RHS Parent/Teacher Conferences

Thursday, December 16

School Closed - Holiday Break

December 23 - December 31



Visit our website

