

June 2023 Raymond School District Community News

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From the Superintendent

The end of the school year is fast approaching and we are celebrating our success. This is an opportunity to recognize and appreciate the hard work, efforts and accomplishments of students throughout the school year. It is a chance to honor their academic achievement, personal growth, and the milestones our students have achieved. Please enjoy this newsletter and help us celebrate the growth and achievement our students have had over the school year.

Terry Leatherman,
Superintendent of Schools

A Celebration of Career Exploration

This year, students had the opportunity to participate in a variety of career exploration opportunities through the ELO Program, located in the School Counseling Office.

Such opportunities included:

- 82 student-driven Extended Learning Opportunities.
- 9 off-site field trips: Construction field day, Job Corps, Heavy Construction Academy, Aviation Museum, Seacoast School of Technology, NHTI, COED Sportswear, Coast Guard Station and Forestry Career Day.
- 45 professional guests which included all military branches, trades, employment, and many college representatives from all over the country.
- A successful school job fair which included over 25 business vendors.

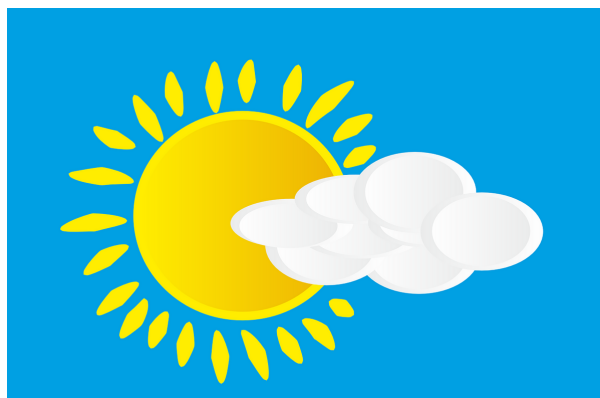
Each year students are introduced to a diverse set of career opportunities to inform, educate, inspire and hopefully assist towards postsecondary decision making. Opportunities are available to all students in the high school. I encourage students to reach out to me sooner than later to discuss all the options available.

Holly Londo,
ELO Coordinator
h.londo@sau33.com

LEAP Summer Programs

LEAP has made it through year 1 of our new grant cycle! It's amazing that, even though this is the start of our 3rd cycle, this year has felt like a beginning in so many ways. From new staff, new members, and new opportunities, this year has really set a new path for LEAP moving forward. I thank all of you that have participated in LEAP this school year, and want you to know that we don't stop when school stops and have some great opportunities for you during the summer! Firstly, if you have registered your child for summer recreation, you may have noticed on your paperwork that LEAP was mentioned. We have been partnering with Raymond Rec for over 10 years offering enrichment programming built into their morning station rotation so all kids get an opportunity to participate in some fun LEAP activities (and get out of the sun for a little bit)! But our enrichment isn't open to just Raymond Summer Rec participants. If your child would like to participate in our programs but aren't attending summer rec, you can email me at the information provided below and we can talk about how to get your child involved.

One program I'd like to highlight here is **4th Grade Academy**. This is a 3-week orientation program for all incoming 4th graders to familiarize them with the building and expectations of middle school as well as to ease any anxiety they may have about coming to IHGMS in the fall. This program runs from 9am-11am on Wednesdays starting July 5th and ending July 19th. As mentioned above, this program is open to ALL INCOMING 4th GRADERS regardless of their participation in summer rec. If you would like to enroll your child in this program or get more information about how summer LEAP works, you can email me, Pat Arsenault, at p.arsenault@sau33.com.



Patrick Arsenault,
Director of Youth Services

Thank you from Nutrition Services



As the year school year comes to a close, Nutrition Services would like to recognize the efforts of the kitchen teams in bringing to life many fun celebratory events and implementing changes to our meal program that improved meals and expanded options for students.

Elementary school was able to bring new menu options such as the very popular munchable meal alternatives to hot lunch, giving students more choices. They also ran a successful Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Program, giving all students an opportunity to try new fruits and vegetables throughout the year. The middle school team also introduced munchables and new hot menu options such as chicken and waffles, which was a huge success with students. At the high school, we were awarded a New England Dairy grant to purchase a piece of equipment allowing us to offer hot chocolate milk to our students as a part of their regular meal. We also provided a variety of samples and taste tests with focus groups all year and received valuable feedback to tailor the menus and offerings. We thank you for the opportunity to provide nutritious meals to your children every day and look forward to welcoming them back at the start of the next school year with enthusiasm and fresh ideas to continue growing Raymond's Nutrition Services Program.

Tasha Ball,
Director of School Nutrition Services

IHGMS Celebrations!

Is it really June already?!!! It seems like just yesterday that we were starting the school year last August and we were welcoming everyone for the new school year. Maybe one of the reasons that it seems like this school year has gone by so quickly is that it is the most “normal” school year that we have had since the 2018-2019 school year; when our current 8th graders were in 4th grade at LRES. The last 4th grade at LRES. The following year the 4th grade moved here to the middle school.

The end of the year brings many celebrations to our schools. One of the first that usually happens in May is our 5th grade graduating from the DARE program taught by our School Resource Officer, Officer Sue Frotton. As we move into June we welcome our incoming 4th graders (current 3rd graders) as they come up to the middle school for the day. They meet their teacher, spend some time in their new homeroom, have lunch and recess followed by a tour of the school when they learn about all the different Unified Arts classes they will have.





While the 3rd graders are visiting for the day the 5th grade has their end of the year field day. They have a day full of fun filled activities with some classroom based competitions for bragging rights. Over the course of the last couple of weeks of school each grade has their own field day. We have a special promotion assembly where we share awards and recognize those who have passed all their middle school classes and are moving on to high school. Following the promotion assembly our very own Parent Core Group sponsors a cookout for the outgoing class and their teachers organize an afternoon of fun filled of activities,

Many of our teachers plan their own classroom celebrations with the students that they have had all year in their respective homerooms. The students and staff work really hard to create a real sense of community so it is always bittersweet to say goodbye at the end of the year as each homeroom moves on to the next grade and all new adventures.



A longstanding tradition is to recognize members of our staff who have been with us for a number of years. We celebrate their longevity with us by awarding 5, 10, 15, 20, 25, 30, 35, and yes, even 40 year pins. Pictured here is John Fulton, our PE teacher who retired with 42 years of teaching experience in Raymond! The end of the year also brings us to say a huge thank you and well wishes to the members of our staff that will not be returning for the new school year.

Each year IHGMS has a special last day of school send off for our students. We have all the students exit the front door of the school with the staff lining both sides of the sidewalk. Each staff member has a bubble device and the students leave through a shower of bubbles and then the staff waves to all the students as the buses drive off for the summer!

We wish everyone a wonderful and safe summer!

Bob Bickford,
IHGMS Principal



RHS End of Year Celebrations

As the 2022-2023 school year concludes we have much to look back upon and celebrate.

We began the school year welcoming a brand new class of Rams, "Class of 2026", who have made their mark on Ram Nation. This month, we began the bittersweet process of saying goodbye to the unforgettable class of 2023.

May 31st was our first official celebration for our seniors as the Seacoast School of Technology recognized our second year completers. It was a wonderful celebration and our students demonstrated they are poised for the next steps which include the military, post-secondary schools, apprenticeships and well paying jobs! Congratulations!

June 2nd the Classes of 2022 and 2023 danced the night away at the Ashworth Prom. It was emotional to think of October's Homecoming "Dance Out" which started our journey to the beautiful and joyous evening at the Ashworth.

The week of graduation is packed with practices, photos, yearbook distribution, a trip to Yawkey Way, the Green to Green March, Senior Class Night and a trip to Six Flags. On June 9th we will gather together to laugh, cry and above all else send them on their way with love after their graduation.

Sharon Wilson,
RHS Principal

Celebrating Our Year at LRES



We have had a great year at Lamprey River Elementary School, as our theme for the year says it all- staff have been "Setting the Stage for Success". We have a lot to celebrate this year, specifically in the area of academics! With the implementation of two reading pilots and the use of the i-Ready program for assessments and individual student learning paths, our school-wide data shows that 71% of our students are working at grade level or above in the area of

reading. This is a huge improvement from the beginning of the year, where our data told us that only 21% of our students were starting the school year reading at grade level or above. We are so proud of our students for their dedication to their learning and we are proud of our entire staff for setting student learning goals and working collaboratively to meet those goals.

Here at LRES, we have had a lot of fun celebrating student learning at our All School Meetings. This is a monthly tradition where the entire student body and staff meet in our cafe to participate in a school-wide greeting, whole school reciting of the pledge, celebrate birthdays, and then showcase student learning with a slideshow consisting of a variety of student learning pictures. We all look forward to this celebration of community and learning each month!



We recently came together as a school community to honor our soldiers and Veterans at our annual Memorial Day Ceremony. This is a time where our school community, including families and other local community members have the opportunity to honor our fallen soldiers while listening to our students sing beautiful patriotic songs.

The students and staff are looking forward to the end of another great school year. We celebrate our kindergarten students as they complete their first year at LRES, while at the same time celebrating our third graders as they complete their Lamprey River Elementary School experience and start a new learning journey at the middle school.

Opportunities to bring the school community together to celebrate our successes and acknowledge the hard work we all do each day are integral to what we are all about at LRES. Thank you to our families and the Raymond community for your continued support in all that we do. Lamprey River Elementary School is a great place to learn and grow. It has been an honor to have been the principal at LRES. I wish you all a wonderful summer.



Laura Yacek,
LRES Principal

Behavioral Health Resources

As we close out the year, students say goodbye to their teachers and some say goodbye to their schools, embarking on their next chapter. This is cause for celebration, while also an opportunity to provide a listening ear and space for all of the other feelings our students may be experiencing. With any transitions, we can feel a whole host of things: excitement, eagerness, sadness, loss, anxiety. You may be excited and proud of your student, and they may be sad and worried.

Here are some resources for you as a family member to support your child through these big changes:

- [Helping your Child Cope with School Transitions](#)
- [10 Major Life Changes That Cause Children to Misbehave](#)
- [Dealing with Change in your Child's Life](#)
- [For Children, Life Changes can be Overwhelming](#)

Here are some resources to support you in preparing for a new school year over the summer:

- [Helping Young Children and Parents Transition Back to School](#)
- [How to Help your Child Transition Successfully Back to School](#)

This summer, our behavioral health staff at each school is not working consistently, but don't hesitate to reach out to s.horrigan@sau33.com in their absence if you have more immediate concerns. Also, as always, the following community resources are available to you:

- [Raymond Coalition for Youth](#) (603) 895-7061
- [Seacoast Mental Health Center](#) (603) 772-2710
- If you have immediate and/or urgent concerns about your child, please contact NH Rapid Response Access Point by phone, text or chat: 833-710-6477 or [NH988.com](https://www.nh988.com) for 24/7 Behavioral Health Crisis Support.

Have a wonderful summer.

Samantha Horrigan
Director of Health and Wellness

Student Services Summer Programs

Celebrations of learning are more than a display of student work, they require students to reflect on and articulate what they have learned, how they learned, questions they answered, research they conducted, and areas of strength and struggles. Please take a moment to reflect on all these celebrations with your children.

While it might seem like a small feat to many, I am excited to say that we are fully staffed for ESY and able to also offer Title I summer tutoring. I understand many families have been frustrated over the course of the year, and rightfully so, that their child has been directly impacted by the lack of staffing

within our schools this past year. While staffing continues to be an area of concern, I would like to celebrate that all students participating in ESY services should have access to all the support they need. We even have a district nurse available to us for the entirety of the summer programming.

I would also like to take a moment to celebrate all of our educators that support our students with and without disabilities. Without their support, your children would not be making the progress that they have been making. Sadly, in today's society, there is a 30% decrease in enrollments at educational school programs which has a direct impact on staffing. Let's not lose sight of the great work we are able to do with the amazing staff we have!

If your child is not attending in ESY programming, Title I summer programming, or summer school, please have a relaxing summer break and we look forward to seeing everyone in the Fall. To those participating in some form of summer programming, we will see everyone again in a couple weeks and hope you are able to enjoy some long restful weekends!

Jodi Gutterman,
Executive Director of Student Support Services

