

# RAYMOND SCHOOL DISTRICT

Raymond, New Hampshire



## GREEN GAZETTE NEWSLETTER

November 2021

### From the Superintendent

“Don’t forget a person’s greatest emotional need is to feel appreciated.”  
-H. Jackson Brown, Jr

I would like to take this moment to thank the parents and guardians of Raymond for their support as we continue to move forward this year. I recognize as a school district we might forget the impact the last few years have had on parents and guardians. You have endured schools being closed, remote and hybrid learning, and this year a full return to the classroom. Our full return to the classroom brought new challenges for you as we attempt to balance the educational needs of your children with the health needs of students and staff. Again, I appreciate your efforts in working with us through the process.

I now have to ask you to make another adjustment to your schedules as we move forward with a ‘Booster Day’ for Friday November 19th. We have planned a scheduled early release for that day which will provide an opportunity for our staff to receive their booster shot. RHS will dismiss students at 11:00 am, followed by IHGMS at 11:30, and LRES at 12:00. School day schedules have been adjusted, I’ve worked with our transportation company to secure buses, and lunch/brunch will be served at IHGMS and LRES. For more information please contact your child’s school.

As you know we are also expanding COVID testing in the district. The testing programs and “Booster Day” are further attempts by the district to keep our students, staff, and buildings healthy and open. You have been faced with many difficult decisions as parents and guardians during the last two years and testing is just another one. If you need more information contact the nurse at your child’s school.

Once again, I would like to thank you for your continued support and your ability to work with us.

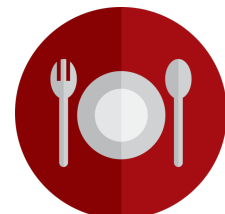
Dave

### Student Meals on the November 19th Half Day

The upcoming early release day on Friday, November 19<sup>th</sup> creates a change in our meals for the day. They will still, of course, be free to students!

~On that day only, there will be no breakfast served at LRES or IHGMS, but rather BRUNCH for early LUNCH will be served in the cafeterias on the schedule published by each school.

~At RHS meals will run as they do on a Midterm or Finals day. The New Wave Deli will be open for breakfast as usual and throughout the morning, with the meal turning over to



lunch availability as of 10:30. Sandwiches and salads must be pre-ordered in the morning if desired. The hot dog meal as posted will still be served on the main side as of 10:30 "To-Go" packaging will be used at both stations for ease of grab and go meals!

Please feel free to contact either Nutrition Service Director [Judy DiNatale](#) or the Nutrition Service Manager in your school if you have any questions.

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## Surveillance and Rapid COVID-19 Testing in Schools - Consent Forms



Raymond School District has partnered with ConvenientMD Urgent Care to provide COVID-19 testing within the district. We are offering two distinct testing programs; surveillance testing as well as rapid testing staff and students who become symptomatic during the school day. Each testing option will require a consent form signed by a parent/guardian or the individual being tested if over 18 years of age. Those interested in participating in both programs will need separate consent for each. Testing will be provided at no cost to staff and students.

### Surveillance Testing:

- Surveillance testing is designed to detect asymptomatic cases of COVID 19. It is an additional layer of protection within our district to mitigate the spread of COVID 19 within our school buildings. Participants will be tested on a routine basis (at minimum monthly). The frequency and testing dates will be communicated out by each school building. Please see the [ConvenientMD SASS Flyer](#) to learn more.

### Rapid Testing:

- Testing is available to staff and students specifically if they become symptomatic while they are in the building. **Staff and students should not be sent to school in order to receive testing.** If the test is negative and symptoms are mild as determined by the nurse, the individual may be allowed to remain in the building. **Staff and students may be excluded from school even if they have a negative COVID test at the discretion of the school nurse.**

Both testing programs are nasal swabs and not nasopharyngeal (meaning, that swabs are gently inserted approximately ¾'s of an inch into the nose). No testing will be administered to any individual without a signed consent form. Please reach out to your school nurse should you have any additional questions.

Individuals interested in participating in the Surveillance Testing can complete the consent form **electronically** by clicking [here](#)

Individuals interested in participating in the Rapid Testing can access the consent form [here](#) to **print and sign**. Please let your school nurse know if you want a consent form sent home.

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## Upcoming Dates for Budget and Voting Season

As we enter our budget and voting season, in preparation for voting in March 2022, our School Board and Administration have been working on a proposed 2022-2023 School District Budget. Some upcoming dates to remember:

On Tuesday, November 16th, the School District will be presenting its Capital Improvements Plan to the Town's CIP Committee. This is scheduled for 7:00 PM at Raymond High School.

The School District will be presenting the 2022-2023 proposed School District Budget to the Town's Budget Committee on November 30th. That meeting begins at 6:30 PM at Raymond High School.



Please check our [Voter Information Page](#), where we will be posting backup provided for public meetings and any changes or additions to meeting dates, as we move through the next few months to our vote in March 2022. Thank you!

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## Red Ribbon Week at RHS



Dear Raymond High School Community,

During the last week in October we celebrate Red Ribbon Week (RRW) with the help of the Raymond Coalition for Youth. RRW began after the kidnapping, torture, & murder of DEA agent Enrique Camarena in 1985. RRW is an alcohol, tobacco, & drug and violence prevention awareness campaign. Our mental health professionals and RCFY did a wonderful job promoting Red Ribbon Week. The following were the themes for the week:

Monday - 10/25: "Help others make good choices" Find a friend and dress up as twins! Tuesday - 10/26: "Stand together against drugs!" Wear one of your RCYF Red Ribbon shirts!

Wednesday - 10/27: "I support healthy decisions!" Wear your Sports gear today!

Thursday - 10/28: "I am chasing my dreams and staying drug free! - PJ day!

Friday - 10/29: "Character Matters" - Dress up as your favorite character from a movie!

We work with RCYF to sponsor many activities that bring awareness to these important issues. We are lucky to have RCYF as a partner and an active part of Ram Nation.

Steve Woodward, RHS Principal

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## IHGMS Moving Back Towards "Normal"

All of us here at IHGMS are so happy to have all of our students and staff back in school on a daily basis. It's wonderful to see all the smiling faces every morning coming into school. Although things at school are not back to "normal" yet, or if we will ever be back to what normal was before March, 2020, we are attempting to get as close to it as we can, given our current pandemic environment.



Masks are not currently required, but recommended, in doors and we know that can change on a temporary basis. We are following modified social distancing guidelines, at least modified from where we were 6 months ago. We are expecting everyone to stay 3' apart wherever and whenever possible. We continue to promote frequent hand washing, proper cough and sneeze etiquette, regularly disinfecting high touch areas, disinfecting classrooms in the evening, etc.

But school is more "normal" than it has been in over a year and half. Our students are back being able to work in small groups in their classrooms, they are carving pumpkins, wearing costumes and going on grade level field trips. Our students can socialize with their friends at lunch as they can



Bob Bickford, IHGMS Principal

## A group of approximately 15 children and two adults are posing in front of a red fire truck. The truck has "EMERGENCY SERVICE" and "FIRE LINE" written on its side. The children are dressed in various costumes, including a Star Wars character, a superhero, and a princess. The scene is outdoors on a paved area with trees in the background.



Monthly calendar of college and trades representatives visit during RAM time. Opportunities in November for students to learn about various



programs and schools are attached. Parents/Guardians are welcome to attend as well.

### **ELOs (Extended Learning Opportunities):**

Some of the experiential learning opportunities students are exploring are in the fields of Cosmetology, Welding, Education, Sea Cadets (Military), Automotive, Leadership, Animal Sciences, Human Services, Music and Cinematography.

### **Workforce to Learn Grant Funded Program:**

This year, RHS will be collaborating with Palmer and Sicard Inc. Construction and Jewell Instruments. The work based learning with Jewell Instruments is an opportunity for a student to learn the skills of a Calibration Tester. This would be of interest to a student who likes to take apart and rebuild appliances or electronics.

- Learn hands-on workforce skills while you earn school credit and a small stipend.
- The Workforce to Learn Development grant will provide transportation (if needed), supplies needed for the job and a scholarship to a trade or college program upon successful completion.
- Potential for full time employment once you graduate.
- The program will take place during the second semester on either a Tuesday or Wednesday.

For questions regarding any of the programs, contact ELO Coordinator Holly Londo, [h.londo@sau33.com](mailto:h.londo@sau33.com)



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### **New Bench, Thanks to After School Program Recycling**



LEAP has unveiled the new bench on the LRES playground! Last year, our after school program participated in a recycling program to earn a free TREX bench for our school. We had 6 months to collect 500lbs. of soft plastic recyclable materials and accomplished this goal in about 2 and a half months. We are excited to finally have our reward out on the playground for all to enjoy!

Session 2 of LEAP activities will be starting later this month. Our websites will be updated with current offerings soon. If you have any interest in signing up for LEAP at LRES or IHGMS, contact Pat Arsenault at [p.arsenault@sau33.com](mailto:p.arsenault@sau33.com).

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### **From Reach High Scholars - It's College Application Season!**

No matter where you are in your college search and application process, there is still time to develop your list and complete applications. Early Decision and Early Action deadlines are approaching quickly, and RHSP highly encourages members to apply to a few schools in the early rounds. Remember, Early Decision is a binding application so you can only do one while Early Action is simply an early application, and you can do several. Set up appointments with us and your school counselor to make sure everything is ready to submit on time. Also, don't forget about the financial aid process. You don't want to miss a FAFSA or CSS Profile deadline! Check the college websites for up-to-date information, along with the RHSP website ([www.reachhighscholars.org](http://www.reachhighscholars.org)), which is a tremendous resource for students and families.

Continue to research colleges and get to know one another:....[click here](#) to read more!

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### **Fall Athletics**

The Fall season is winding down and we are so pleased that our students got to compete! Both middle school soccer teams finished their season in the top 6 of their division and earned a trip to the Tri County Tournament. At the high school, the cross country team finished up their season with the NHIAA State Championship meet over the weekend. The volleyball teams had a full week of games ending with their senior celebration and a Dig Pink Night. The football team had an exciting win on Homecoming Weekend and both boys and girls soccer teams earned a trip to the NHIAA Division III State Tournament. Congratulations to all!



## From Raymond Coalition for Youth

Congratulations to our #RCFY Youth Action students who presented at our 8th Annual Prevention Summit. They did a simply amazing job highlighting what is important to them to a room full of adults. They are concerned about their peers' mental health and understanding that youth have had a hard year too. You can see their entire presentation on our [RCFY Youtube page](#). Pictures are available on our [RCFY Facebook page](#) too. We are all very proud of them for doing a great job.



Governor Chris Sununu also visited to designate the Town of Raymond and Deb Intonti as a Recovery Friendly Workplace, providing access and resources for substance misuse prevention, treatment and recovery. Our Youth Action members also got an opportunity to get a picture with the Governor while he was there.

To learn more about the Raymond Coalition For Youth you can sign up for our newsletter, [info@rcfy.org](mailto:info@rcfy.org) or check us out at [www.rcfy.org](http://www.rcfy.org) or on social media #RCFY. Youth Action meetings are at the high school on Tuesdays at 2:15 and at the middle school on Wednesday, 2:45. Contact [pbaker@rcfy.org](mailto:pbaker@rcfy.org).

## Upcoming Events

*Events are subject to change. Please check our Events Calendars at [www.sau33.com](http://www.sau33.com).*

### **School Board Meeting re: Budget**

Monday, November 1, 6:00 PM, RHS Room 109

### **School Board Meeting Site Visit**

Wednesday, November 3, 5:30 PM

### **Regular School Board Meeting**

Wednesday, November 3, 6:00 P, RHS Media Center

### **IHGMS Principal's Coffee Hour**

Thursday, November 4, 9:00 AM

### **Superintendent Search Committee Meeting**

Tuesday, November 9, 3:00 PM, IHGMS Room 192

**School Closed - Veteran's Day**

Thursday, November 11

**LRES Principal's Coffee Hour**

Friday, November 12, 10:00 AM

**RHS Principal's Coffee Hour**

Monday, November 15, 10:00 AM

**Presentation of District CIP to Town CIP Committee**

Tuesday, November 16, 7:00 PM, RHS Media Center

**Regular School Board Meeting**

Wednesday, November 17, 6:00 PM, RHS Media Center

**Half Day for Students**

Friday, November 19

**School Closed - Thanksgiving Break**

November 24 - 26

**Presentation of District 2022-23 Proposed Budget to Town Budget Committee**

Tuesday, November 30, 6:30 PM, RHS Media Center



Visit our website