

## **I. Opening**

A. Call to Order - Time: 5:33pm

In attendance: President Matt Dodge, Vice President Mark Johnson, Trustees LaCava, D. Dodge, Keefe, Administrators Jen Blosssey, Diane Ellsworth, Susan Osborn, James Chupaila, and Karen Ocque. Also in attendance were Superintendent Lavine, School Business Official Tiffany Turner, District Clerk Kasey McHale, Lucy Mackey, Jerry Kelly, Matt Priest, Sean Griffin, Chris Gray, Gretchen Gretskey and Adrien Shute. Absent: Trustee Whitney - arrived at 5:48pm

B. Pledge of Allegiance - Led by Matt Dodge

C. Opening Remarks - Introduction by Superintendent Lavine of Lucy Mackey who is a long term substitute for Kelly Kubeja at the High School. She was appointed last board meeting. Lucy was Kelly's spanish teacher, retired from Moravia. President Dodge thanked everyone for coming this evening, welcome to everyone, including present staff members and hoped the opening of school went well. There will be an executive session at the end of the meeting.

## **II. Executive Session**

A. Enter into Executive Session

B. Reconvene into Open Session

## **III. Approval of Minutes**

A. Regular Minutes - August 13, 2015

1st: TS 2nd: MJ

Motion: Yes - 5 No - 0 Abstain - 1 (LaCava)

B. Regular Minutes - August 27, 2015

1st: ML 2nd: TS

Motion: Yes - 4 No - 0 Abstain - 2 (Keefe, M. Dodge)

## **IV. District Presentations and Reports**

A. Presentations

1. Project Challenge Summary-Matt Priest gave a presentation explaining Project Challenge and the benefits of having the program, including K-12 and Higher Ed faculty working side-by-side, LaFayette and Tully districts working together along with SUNY Cortland with students in grades 4-8 with a focus on project-based learning. The program was a three-week summer program including transportation for all participating students and a provided lunch for all participating students. 105 students - low 60's from LCSD and 30's were Tully CSD. Staff participation from Grimshaw, ONS and High School. This is the third year of this program. Throughout the program the students spent time at ONS learning many aspects of the culture, Tully HS (the home site) and SUNY Cortland.

B. Oral Communications

1. Capital Project Update - Sean Griffin and Chris Gray presented an update of the Capital Project. Original summary knew that there would be projects still in work once school started into October, and Mr. Gray wanted to regroup on that fact. President Dodge indicated that when the Board took a tour of the project and the buildings they were given the impression all was on schedule and the only things that may be not in place come the start of school would be some display cases, however when the students came there was a lot more unfinished. Mr. Gray responded that while 3 weeks ago they were in place but in that period of time things occur and complications come up, and that while they have prime contracts

that he deals with to get information on when things will be completed and the status of certain items, under those prime contacts there is many sub-prime contractors and in the line of communication sometimes bad information can make it's way up. Trustee Whitney indicated that while they understand things can come up, he feels that there was not great communication in the status of the project and wonders about consequences of missing deadlines of the Project. Mr. Gray reiterated how he and the contractors met with Jim Kesler daily, and other administration. Trustee LaCava also stated the concern about deadlines not being met and school beginning with little things that become the big things not be completed. He requested this project be completed as soon as possible. Mr. Gray answered that there is no consequences set up in this circumstance when dealing with outside companies (ex. gym floors) who said they were coming and didn't without delaying further and involving counsel and money. This project has come in under budget and the amount that has been accomplished is worth noting. There has been a few challenges. Extra \$470,000 - BP toilet rooms being torn out, both art rooms, sitework and paving enhancements at HS and GS, and roofing additions, about 95% of the district roofs are updated and under warranty, wire-clock system throughout the district, new windows in GS gym and painting the HS gym, and fiber cables, as well as security cameras are highlights. ML asked about the list still to do and how hard it is to get those accomplished, and D. Dodge asked about the BP bathroom price. Mr. Gray explained the labor plus product. Mr. Griffin went through list of projects still to finish for the High School and Grimshaw, and expected dates when parts should be in and when items should be completed. Mr. Gray did state that there is little things beyond this list that they also will be completing but these listed items are the big end dates to be noted. The music suite should be available to use this coming Wednesday, 9/17. Trustee LaCava asked about adding in the cosmetic little items to the HS main entrances to help perception to the community, to which Mr. Gray said that glass should be delivered 9/11 to replace the sheetrock currently in place and door glass should be in the shop tomorrow, some back splash should be in tomorrow and the BP window is in and can be completed. The green panels for the GS entrance came from Europe and got flagged in customs in New Jersey which caused a delay but are being put in now.

## **V. Old Business**

## **VI. New Business**

**VII. Superintendent's Report** - Superintendent Lavine asked, based on strategic plan and communication between board and administration, how the board would like to be contacted, they agreed daily updates, good and bad, would be appreciated. Trustee Whitney commented that the communication regarding the gym floor was helpful in understanding the situation, even if it's bad news. Mr. Gray said going through the presented list as things as we complete them will be how we get through this. Horseshoe found in the paving project, showed how far the project has come and the history of our area. Shared an email from Jay Czyz and Becky Pethybridge thanking Jim Kesler and Sean Griffin for cleaning up the music area allowing them to use the space. World Box Lacrosse event is starting 9/18 with teams coming from around the world coming to our area. ONS is going to a few games as a school to be involved. Thanks to Matt Priest for the Project Challenge update. The grant was given for 3 years with possibility for extension but haven't heard about that, so as soon as we know, she will share with the board. Boilers at ONS are done, and are working. Thanks to all for getting schools up and running. Presented a routing book from Ron Cooper that is given to all of our drivers that contains all bus passes, morning routes, afternoon routes, IEP notes, allergies for students, etc. Has gotten positive feedback from the drivers, and is accessible to sub drivers. Thanks to Ron for starting this for the school. Trustee D. Dodge asked if HIPPA law allowed bus drivers to have allergy information, which they are. There was a minor accident involving a bus, no injuries, two PK students were on board and parents were contacted, small bus 22 passenger. Co-curricular report draft done, looking for board feedback.

## **VIII. Consent Agenda**

### **A. Approval of Board Action Items**

1. Surplus of Floor Mixer
2. Treasurer's Reports July 2015

### 3. Approve 504, CSE, CPSE Recommendations

1st: ML 2nd: MJ -Trustee LaCava asked about value of old mixer, Mrs. Turner said they will be seeking the value possibly from a potential buyer from an ad in the paper and bids.

Motion: Yes - 7 No - 0 Abstain - 0

#### B. Approval of Personnel Items

1. Approve Instructional Appointment 2015-2016
2. Approve Non-Instructional Appointment 2015-2016
3. Approve Substitute Appointment Amendment 2015-2016
4. Unpaid Personal Time Off Request 2015-2016

1st: TS 2nd: ML

Motion: Yes - 7 No - 0 Abstain - 0

President Dodge wished good luck to Mrs. Brunner as she has to leave the country for family business.

## IX. Board Non-Action Items

A. Strategic Plan Update - Superintendent Lavine explained that the strategic plan will appear on every board agenda to get periodic updates on goals. She had a meeting with Bill O'Leary regarding graduation status and course offerings for college credits from OCC, SUPA and TCCC, and surveying students to find their interests. He will be creating an online survey for current students and alumni and online virtual courses. Trustee Whitney asked about software development updates, and Trustee Scofield expressed his feelings to focus on jobs available to students as they leave LCSD to make a living that are associated with computers. Trustee LaCava agreed in a focus on jobs made for 21st century lifestyles and Trustee Scofield suggested looking into programs at other schools to see what programs we could offer. Superintendent Lavine expressed an interest and continuing to pursue virtual courses, and finding out what colleges and universities are looking for and what employers are looking for and keeping our course offerings under those priorities. President Dodge suggested having our community members involved in this career presenting a seminar or fair to keep ideas accessible and Vice President Johnson stated his vision of hiring a teacher to be around to teach these specific programs. President Dodge mentioned the student leadership goal, and asked Jerry Kelly if an informal meeting could happen with team leaders to get board leadership ideas to students and the student ideas to the board. Trustee Whitney asked about Teen Institute and how it is such a valuable program but few students participate. Jerry Kelly explained that there is a lot of options for kids, a lot activities and sports and kids have to prioritize between clubs and missing sports practices that kids have a lot of choices. There was a discussion about student leaders, how we as a school and community can build more leaders and keep kids involved. Superintendent Lavine asked about how BP and Principal Osborn finds internship leaders for their program, which Ms. Osborn responded there are state and national level organizations set up to organize student leaders and people that organize events to send students to so they can grow as leaders. Superintendent Lavine asked to continue this discussion at the Administrator meeting and invited Jerry Kelly to join.

## X. Communications

A. Student Drug Use - Superintendent Lavine said that student drug use is a topic that is constantly on the minds and discussed among administrators and board members, and a rumor she has heard is that there is a drug problem at LCSD and that we sweep it under the rug. She said it is not swept under the rug, but there is a need for evidence of drug use. She did some research on national averages and found that tenn drug use is in a decline with the exception of heroin and synthetic marijuana, but there are families where not only the students use drugs but some parents do as well, and what is the role of the school and administration beyond education. In public, marijuana use is becoming more accepted and it makes it difficult to explain

to children the dangers of drug use when society does not take it seriously. Superintendent Lavine stated again how drug use and suspected drug use of the students is not swept under the rug, it is a topic of discussion and is addressed when a suspicion is brought to anyone's attention. President Dodge asked community member if she has anything to add to the discussion, which she said that her daughter does not want to ride the bus as it is "full of drug use" and certain students "get away" with using drugs. Her daughter does not feel that a situation last year was addressed as much as it could be, her faith in administration is weakened and she doesn't feel the adults will protect the innocent. President Dodge stated his students feel drug use prevalent but not sure how to solve the problem. Vice President Johnson indicated he wanted better addressing of suspicion and needing to do a better job on the preliminary side of suspicion. Jerry Kelly stated he is also hearing there is a heroin problem, but we're not sure where it originates or comes from, not just BP students it's a district as a whole, how can we question and how can we prove someone is under the influence. Board members asked about speakers coming in to speak to the students, ER employees who deal with the situations on a daily basis. Principal Chupaila stated how children learn what they live and student drug use is an uphill battle, one we shouldn't walk away from, but an uphill battle. So many students feel they are invincible and it "won't happen to them". Jerry Kelly suggested focusing on starting young, go to our elementary schools and building leaders there. Community member asked to focus on leadership and giving outlets to other kids who need something to fill time besides drugs. Trustee Scofield suggested focusing these efforts on the youth, K-5th grade, when students are impressionable before society takes control. Superintendent Lavine said that we will follow up with this topic with administrators, Jerry Kelly, for anyone that is interested.

#### **XI. Calendar Review**

- A. Upcoming Events

#### **XII. Financial Reports-FYI**

- A. Budget Status - July 2015
- B. Claims Auditor Report and Warrants - July 2015
- C. Cash Flow - July 2015

#### **XIII. Closing Remarks**

- A. Public Communications to the Board - Trustee Whitney wanted to give credit to administrators, staff and students for adapting through the hot week.

#### **XIV. Executive Session**

- A. Enter into Executive Session - 7:50 pm, discussion of a student with administration

1st: TS 2nd: MJ

Motion: Yes - 7 No - 0 Abstain - 0

- B. Reconvene into Open Session

1st: mike lacava 2nd: Tom

Motion: Yes - 6 No - 0 Absent - (1) D.Dodge

Time: 9:50 p.m.

#### **XV. Adjournment**

- A. Adjourn the Meeting

1st: Mark Johnson

2nd: Tom Scofield

Motion: Yes - 6

No - 0 Absent - 1 (D. Dodge)

Time: 9:51 p.m.