

**Thursday, November 19, 2015**  
**LaFayette Central School Board of Education Regular Meeting**

**Location: LaFayette Jr/Sr High School Library**

**I. Opening**

A. Call to Order-Present President Dodge (called to order at 5:32), VP Johnson, Trustees Scofield, Keefe, LaCava, D. Dodge, M. Whitney; K. Ocque, J. Chupaila, D. Ellsworth, J. Blosssey, J. Jackowski, K. Morel, R. Rogers, A. Rogers, T. Turner, L. Lavine, K. McHale, T. LaRose, E. Oristian, T. Miller, K. Hart

B. Pledge of Allegiance- led by President Dodge

C. Opening Remarks and Board of Education Recognition - President Dodge thanked all for coming to the meeting. Superintendent Lavine opened the meeting by acknowledging Board of Education Trustees on behalf of all students, staff and community. Handmade bookmarks from Grimshaw students, certificates of appreciation given to all members, and in their honor each library in the district has been given a gift (GS and ONS are getting a Kindle Fire, and HS is getting an 8GB MP3 player)

**II. Approval of Minutes**

A. Regular Minutes - October 15, 2015

Motion: 1st: MJ 2nd: TS

Vote: Yes: 6 No: 0 Abstain: (1 ML) Absent: 0

**III. District Presentations and Reports**

A. Presentations - None

B. Oral Communications-Board Member Updates - T. Scofield gave each Board member a flyer regarding Project Lead the Way, and elementary and middle school programs that have been developed within the program. Trustee Whitney inquired about google security, also gave update from the drug awareness program that was held at the Jr/Sr HS on (date). He stated it gave good information to those in attendance and he took information away from it that was helpful. Trustee D. Dodge also was in attendance and remarked that he was shocked at some of the information that was presented. Trustee Whitney also stated that because LaFayette is next to the Highway you can hear that LaFayette has a big drug problem, but it's not necessarily the District, but the area because of the location.

**IV. Old Business**

A. Update on Senior Lounge and Senior Privileges - Mr. Chupaila discussed that students have identified the horseshoe area in the foyer in front of the auditorium for a senior lounge, a senior lounge pass will also be in effect, that eligible seniors will have to have on them at all times to use the lounge. Also, those that had no discipline issues and were academically eligible would have the right to a late arrival/early dismissal. Mr. Chupaila wanted to express to the Board that in regards to the early dismissal he is not comfortable. Senior Privilege pass would allow students to go to areas of the building when they had free time in their schedule (library, lounge, etc). Before anything goes into effect he wanted Board feedback. M. LaCava agreed with not being ok with early dismissal and an acceptable GPA would be around 75-80%. President Dodge asked how many seniors would qualify for a late arrival, J. Chupaila said he could get that info at a later time. K. Morel stated he had a first period study hall with many seniors, but he wasn't sure how many of those would be academically eligible for the privilege. President Dodge would rather see a pass than an early dismissal/late arrival to allow for more seniors to access privileges if they are eligible. M. Whitney requested parents be informed on the privileges, and J. Chupaila stated that would be part of the launch where parents would be made aware if a student was eligible. Also, for senior athletes, they would not suffer a penalty for arriving late to school if they are eligible (athletic code of conduct). President Dodge looked for Board feedback on average for class grades that would allow a student to have privileges (looked around 80%). President Dodge expressed concerns about late arrival and attendance. Collectively okay with privilege pass to move throughout the day if their schedule allows, not okay with late arrival/early dismissal.

Mike lacava moved to not allow early dismissal or late arrival but rather allow privilege to move around the building during non-academic periods for those seniors who qualify with 80 average for each class for the privilege and Mark Johnson seconded.

Vote: Yes: 6 No: 1(MW) Abstain: 0

## **V. New Business**

A. Football Program - Tully reached out to join our football program, early discussions have been taking place. Tully would also be discussing with their Board. Tim Miller has been involved in discussions. Discussion regarding concussions and controversy in the media regarding students and football. Tully has lights at their field. T. Miller: 10/26 modified football went to play Tully and discussed the concept of joining programs with the idea being Tully has shrinking class sizes and football has been impacted tremendously. Fabius/LaFayette football merge happened in 2007. 2:1 LaFayette to Fabius players in the program currently, but still small numbers. Tully is in danger of losing their program in a few years. M. LaCava asked if Fabius would still be a part of the program, T. Miller - yes, the program would at this time incorporate Tully to it, and look at it again in a year and see if it is something that can be sustained. For Modified (7-8th grade). Concern about presenting to the public, what would the team be called, what would their colors be, but those in discussions now don't want to concern about that right now but get logistics of program going first but acknowledge that it is an concern. For now would only be modified but will look again in year if there was a need for a JV merge. Varsity will remain separate. M. LaCava commended T. Miller and J. Chupaila for being proactive in this. M. Whitney is concerned about playing time or cuts to the team. T. Miller stated that he does not foresee cuts at this point in time. M. Johnson expressed his support for cuts to encourage kids to work and grow. T. Miller responded his concern about losing kids in that situation that want to participate. Would not change our section standings, stay in Class C competition. Host school takes 20% of adjoining schools. T. Miller stated we do not have to do this, but it makes the most sense to do it now, before there is no football team. M. Whitney asked for more opinion from T. Miller regarding students who participate in multiple activities and participate in sports and the effects cuts could have on that. Making the team doesn't mean you get playing time, but there is a lot of benefits to being on a team. M. LaCava - marginal players may make the team but then have to work hard to get a starting spot. Discussion about the importance of extracurricular activities for student success. T. Miller-we're better with football. Next step?-LaCava. Keep up discussions and come back to the Board with more details. J. Chupaila-big question for each school is do they value the sport? Players are not aware of it. A Rogers (current player) thinks it would be great to have more players on the team, allowing for everyone to have a break during games and not play both offense and defense, opening up for injury. L. Lavine asked if spreading out the program allows for more time to learn more about the sport and about safety. J. Chupaila said yes. President Dodge: saving the program vs. building the program; connections between players in both schools are stronger today than years ago. T. Miller: a JV team is still a question, not a certainty. Right now it's just a matter of modified. President Dodge asked about kids returning the program later in HS after participating and leaving after modified.

**VI. Superintendent's Report** - Upstate Cancer Center Foundation given a certificate to Jerry Kelly and the team for support towards cancer care and donation towards GS student. Again, thanks to BOE for their efforts, all they do is appreciated. Athletic Hall of Fame discussion is underway, there will be a meeting monday night at 6:30 p.m. Thank Karen Ocque for offering evening sessions for parents/guardians and after school session PD for teachers. Try to do a better job of publicizing evening workshops for parents and guardians to increase attendance. Looking at online courses through BOCES, meeting is happening on Monday and moving forward. Hour of Code, which Big Picture held an activity for last school year, will be happening again this year. Grimshaw librarian is leading an activity, and at the Onondaga Nation School Elizabeth Murray will be leading an Hour of Code activity. Another series of interviews for High School special education position happening tomorrow. Re-routing of buses seems to be working well after a little readjustment. Meetings are continuing regarding SchoolTool (student information system) upgrade. 120 chromebooks arrived, being distributed among the buildings. Monday evening Smart Schools Bond Act presentation for the public. Administrators participated in a group observation last year, this year will be observing Mel Saba at Grimshaw, to have a standard of observation among the administration. Grimshaw had a lockdown drill, went very well. Equipment has arrived to create ID badges for all employees., looking at different images to design a LaFayette badge. These badges are not smart cards, just ID badges. Lancer letters are ordered, should be going in soon. Suggest choral room as a new location for BOE meetings. New lights outside High School in the loop. ONS Harvest Dinner 11/24. Drug panel presentation, thanks to all who organized it and participated in it. Modest turn out but really well done, a lot to learn, and discussed possibly doing another presentation in the spring around prom/party

season. Thanked the Council of Chiefs for funding some students and two employees to go to the AISES conference. 21st Century Grant, last official year. Waiting to hear if we can roll over to the next year or follow a formal process to re-apply. This is allowing an afterschool program at ONS, tutoring after school at HS, etc. LaFayette was recognized at a PLTW Conference for 20th year participating in Project Lead the Way. Attended a meeting with Regent Anthony Botar, discussed the district's "susceptible to fiscal stress" designation by the Office of State Comptroller. M. Whitney asked if this group of chromebooks would be enough for all classrooms to have one for everyone, the answer is not yet. Smart Schools Bond Act plan is to have 1 to 1 technology available for our students.

## **VII. Consent Agenda**

### A. Approval of Board Action Items

1. Budget Transfers November 19, 2015
2. Potential Change Order's List
3. 504, CSE and CPSE Recommendations
4. Treasurer's Reports - October 2015
5. Approve Uncollected Taxes
6. Settlement of Tuition Claim
7. Cazenovia Tuition Agreement
8. 1:1 Teaching Assistant Position

Motion: 1st: ML 2nd: MJ

Vote: Yes: 7 No: 0 Abstain: 0 Absent: 0

### B. Approval of Personnel Items

1. Salary for Graduate Hours
2. Instructional Appointment 2015-2016
3. Non-Instructional Appointment 2015-2016
4. Substitute Appointments 2015-2016
5. Annual Appointment 2015-2016
6. Co-Curricular Appointment 2015-2016
7. Maternity Leave Request
8. Resignation Requests
9. Time Off Without Pay Request

Motion: 1st: ML 2nd: TS

Vote: Yes: 7 No: 0 Abstain: 0 Absent: 0

## **VIII. Board Non-Action Items**

A. Strategic Plan Update - Superintendent Lavine held a meeting regarding online courses, as mentioned earlier. Recognition to Kristeen Cool in leadership for the Teen Institute, took students to the retreat. There are continued conversations regarding literacy in the buildings and also introducing math questions. Need to get do a little bit of tweaking due to online privacy.

## **IX. Communications**

### **X. Calendar Review**

A. Upcoming Events - see dates on calendar later to report

## **XI. Financial Reports-FYI**

A. Potential Change Orders List

B. Cash Flow - October 2015

C. Claims Auditor Report and Warrants - October 2015

D. Financials- October 2015- FYI

## **XII. Closing Remarks**

A. Public Communications to the Board

K. Morel thanked the board for the board allowing a boys soccer team this school year. The general consensus has been that they do not want to leave and play somewhere else. Would like it if the program expanded. Right now we only have the modified team. Next year 10th graders would like to play on a team here at LaFayette. A year ago we did not have a team and one of the 7th graders last year did his goals project on starting a soccer team at LaFayette. We had 19 kids come out and 18 ended up staying with the team. Hopes that the numbers did not impact football, but it didn't sound like that when Tim was talking about the football team. T. LaCava mentioned he felt it is exciting to see the football team with Tully so that we could sustain both soccer and football. T. M. Dodge discussed team numbers for other soccer levels. If you grow and do the JV next year with the anticipation of Varsity in the future you could see the growth to a JV with 9, 10 & 11th graders. Superintendent Lavine thanked Kevin for his coaching of the team.

Diane Ellsworth invited the board to come to the harvest dinner at the Onondaga Nation School on Tuesday and the first serving is at 11:45 a.m.

Reid Jackowski and Isaac played previous soccer at faith heritage. Soccer was fun and coach morel is a great coach. Would like to keep the soccer program going. A lot more players may join next year because they did so well this year. Students Thank you for allowing us to have a program this school year.

## **XIII. Executive Session**

A. Enter into Executive Session for discussion discipline of student and contract negotiations to include a student and a family member.

Motion: 1st: Mark Johnson 2nd: Michael LaCava

Vote: Yes: 7 No: 0 Abstain: 0 Absent:0

Time in: 7:20 p.m.

Student and parent left the meeting at 7:50 p.m.

B. Reconvene into Open Session

Motion: 1st: TS 2nd: JK

Vote: Yes: 7 No: 0 Abstain: Absent:

10:23 p.m.

## **IX. Adjournment**

A. Adjourn the Meeting

Motion: 1st: JK 2nd: TS

Vote: Yes: 7 No: 0 Abstain:

10:24 p.m.