

LaFayette Central School District
Board of Education - Regular Meeting
Location: LaFayette Jr/Sr High School - Auditorium
3122 US Route 11 North
LaFayette, New York 13084
December 10, 2020

I. Opening

A. Call to Order The regular Board of Education meeting for the LaFayette Central School District was called to order at 5:37 pm by President Dow. In attendance were Trustees S. Dow, J. LeBlanc, C. Dwyer, M. Walker, M. Whitney, J. Gates, Superintendent Jeremy Belfield, School Business Manager and Deputy Clerk Cindy Daley also S. Reyburn virtually.

1. Guests in attendance: Dawn Pulverenti, Amy Roe, Simone Gonyea, Janelle Zachary, Kristin Angello, Trisha Fogarty, Kelly Davidson, Caroline Davidson, Isabella Kremers, Marquise Williams, Makayla Williams, Melissa Williams, Mark Williams
2. Virtual Guests: Erin Virnoche, Winonah McCoy, Mackenzie McElhannon, Austin Doolittle, Adam Schaefer, Julien Lamson, Karen Ocque, Jessica Giordano, Ashley Kolbeck, Teresa Balaguer, Isabella Shenandoah-Kurtz, Kylee-Renee Hemlock, Tierra Bucktooth, Jason Ryan, Devyn Kawalek, Kayleigh Olrich, Greg Scott,

B. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by S. Dow at 5:37 pm.

C. Opening Remarks- President Dow motioned to amend the agenda to include her, Stephanie Dow's resignation as President of the Board, effective Thursday December 11, 2020 at 11:59 pm. Mr. Belfield presented President Dow with a plaque of recognition for her years of service as a BOE member and president.

II. Approval of Minutes -

A. Regular Minutes - November 12, 2020

Motion: Carried	1st: M. Walker	2nd: C. Dwyer
Vote: Yes: 6	No: 0	Abstain: J. Gates
		Absent:

III. District Presentation

A. Legend of Learning - Mackenzie McElhannon - December 2020- The board recognized Ms. Mackenzie McElhannon as the Legend of Learning for December 2020. The individual who nominated MacKenzie shared the

following: I could talk for days about Mackenzie. She is by far one of the best all around teachers I know. Her actual skills in the classroom are remarkable. She instructs in a way that not only helps kids understand concepts, but she makes learning fun! Her knowledge of best practices is amazing, and her delivery is inspiring. More importantly, Mackenzie constantly goes out of her way for EVERYONE! Whether it be students or staff, as well as anyone who walks in off the street, Mackenzie reaches out to support and assist in any way she can. She is the absolute perfect example of "going above and beyond", embracing challenges in stride. Mackenzie is a great example for the children and adults in our community. Our district is so extremely fortunate to have Ms. M!!

- B. Recognition - Excellence in STEM- I have three teams competing this year in Category II. Team leaders for each of the three teams are Isabella Kremers, Harlie Walker, and distance learner Lucas Aldrich. These students and their families have worked hard to join this virtual competition. I am sure you will join us and wish these students success tomorrow! They are representing our school well and have had some challenges to pull this off, but in the end the bridges are there and we will see how they perform against our region's finest competitors and future engineers. The board recognized : Isabella Kremer, Harlie Walker, Lucas Aldrich, Caroline Davidson, for Excellence in STEM education during the recent Build Em Bust Em Bridges Virtual event sponsored by the Museum of Science and Technology. Mary Jo Nicholson spoke on the three teams excellent performance.
- C. Mask Bands - Marquise Williams, LaFayette Jr/Sr High School student presented a special project on mask bands. Marquise created several prototypes to provide relief from face covering straps that put strain on the ears. He produced this mask with the help of his teachers Mary Jo Nicholson and Kristin Angello. Marquise narrated a video demonstration of the process of making the mask bands.

IV. Old Business

- A. Student Safety - Superintendent Belfield shared that the New York State Education Department has clarified and updated the number of drills that need to be conducted each school year. At one point this year, the state was requiring districts to complete one evacuation drill each month per the New York State Building code. Recently, the New York State Education Department issued a memo clarifying that districts do not have to conduct one drill per month. Rather, districts must perform drills twelve times per year. Eight drills must be performed between September 1 and December 31. Eight drills must be evacuation drills and four of the total number of drills must be lockdown drills. Given this updated guidance, we will be conducting some additional drills next week to make sure that we are in compliance with the December 31st deadline.

B. Online Safety & Security - Superintendent Belfield updated the board on district efforts to maximize e-Rate funding to upgrade district hardware. E-Rate funding provides federal aid to schools to upgrade network infrastructure hardware. In the past the district has used e-Rate funding to upgrade the core network switch and upgrade other network infrastructure. For the next round of e-Rate funding, our technology team identified the need to upgrade wireless access points and wireless access controllers. The district has also been in conversations with CNYRIC regarding improved internet connection and bandwidth. CNYRIC will be performing a bid for wide area network access in the near future to assist districts in obtaining the best price and value for internet access. Next week, the district will be meeting with CNYRIC to discuss available vendors and pricing information for network penetration testing. Superintendent Belfield congratulated Pam Mazzaferro, Director of the Central New York Regional Information Center, on her pending retirement in January. Superintendent Belfield, along with other administrators throughout the region, will be assisting Dr. Matthew Cook, District Superintendent for BOCES, with the search for Ms. Mazzaferro's replacement.

V. Communications

A. Board Member Updates - Jody Gates spoke on Stephanie Dow's resignation - Stephanie is a good friend and leader.

VI. New Business

A. CNYSBA Liaison Report - Talking Points- Superintendent Belfield shared recent updates from the Central New York School Boards Association. CNYSBA is assisting districts with career exploration around CNY. Local employers are featuring videos and webinars with employees where students can interview current experts in the field on their career of choice. Dr. Rick Timbs from the State-wide School Finance Consortium recently presented an update on school funding. A recording of the webinar is available on the CNYSBA website and the SSFC website.

VII. Superintendent Report

A. Superintendent Belfield recognized President Dow for her service as a board member. Since President Dow's election in 2015, the district has increased college course offerings, increased graduation rates and academic achievement rates, improved district finances, adopted responsible budgets that meet the needs of our school community, supported student participation in athletics/fine arts/performing arts, adopted a tenure attainment rubric to support retention of staff members who support excellence, reviewed and updated the board policy book, supported the development of a board member handbook, attended student events and celebrations, and supported the work of teachers,

staff, and administrators. Superintendent Belfield expressed his regret regarding President Dow's departure and hopes that she enjoys the chance to move closer to loved ones.

- B. Superintendent Belfield recognized John Gizzi who is retiring as an administrator with the district. John has served as assistant principal, principal at the Onondaga Nation School, and in an administrative position supporting school improvement efforts. Superintendent Belfield expressed his heartfelt gratitude to Mr. Gizzi for his service to our school community.
- C. Superintendent Belfield updated the board on the recent Reopen LaFayette committee meeting that occurred last night. The committee discussed the recent rise in COVID cases in our surrounding community
- D. NYSCOSS Legislative Advocacy - Digital Equity
- E. 9 COVID cases this week

VIII. Policy Discussion

- A. First Reading - Policy 5670 - Records Management
- B. First Reading - Policy 5220 - District Investments
- C. First Reading - Police 1330 - Appointment and Designation by Board

Motion: Carried **1st:** J. Gates **2nd:** J. LeBlanc
Vote: Yes: 7 **No:** 0 **Abstain:** 0 **Absent:** 0

IX. Consent Agenda

- A. Approval of Board Action Items
 - 1. CSE, CPSE and 504 Recommendations
 - 2. Comprehensive ELL Education Plan Update
 - 3. Change Orders 2018 Capital Project
 - 4. Bus Bond Resolution
 - 5. Budget Transfers - December 10, 2020
 - 6. Tax Affidavit - Fabius, LaFayette, Onondaga and Tully
 - 7. Treasurer's Report
 - 8. Surplus Vehicles
 - 9. Worker for Capital Project Vote

- B. Approval of Personnel Items
 - 1. Administrative Resignation
 - 2. Instructional Resignation
 - 3. Instructional Leave of Absence
 - 4. Instructional Appointment
 - 5. Administrative Appointment
 - 6. Substitute Appointment
 - 7. Winter Athletics Recommendation
 - 8. Resignation of Board Member

Motion: Carried **1st:** R. Reyburn **2nd:** C. Dwyer
Vote: Yes: 7 **No:** 0 **Abstain:** 0 **Absent:** 0

Mr. Belfield brought attention to Winonah McCoy's appointed position as an Administrative Intern at the Jr. Sr. High School effective January.

X. Board Non-Action Items

A. Strategic Plan Update-

1. Mentoring Program for Attendance- Administrative Interns Trisha Fogarty and Dawn Pulverenti updated the board on a new mentoring program to encourage student attendance. Staff members were recently trained and will be matched with mentors. The program is looking to help build positive relationships with students to encourage regular school attendance.
2. Comprehensive ELL Education Plan Update- Superintendent Belfield updated the board on the Comprehensive ELL Education plan. Though we currently do not have any ELL students, we must keep a Comprehensive ELL Education Plan on file. The plan addresses the following areas: Philosophy and Programs for ELL Subpopulation, ELL Identification and Placement Practices, Parent Information on Programs, ELL's Annual Measurement and Progress, ELL Access to Curricular and Extracurricular Services, ELL Access to All Support Services, Former ELL Services, Professional Development on ELLS.

XI. Financials - FYI

School Business Manager Daley reported on the financial condition of the District. We continue to maintain healthy spending habits. Our expenses and encumbrances are down 18% through October 31 compared to the same period last year. This allows us to prepare more easily for potential aid reductions that may take place in this fiscal year. Administrators are cognizant of the state's fiscal situation and how we may be impacted. They gave their staff early deadlines for spending which made for less spending overall and makes fund balance projections an easier task. Kudos to them and their efforts in keeping expenses as manageable as possible.

Additionally, we are amending policies to allow for investing in NYLAF and NYCLASS. This requires first and second readings followed by a resolution. It should be possible to begin maximizing our interest by the end of January.

- A. Warrants and Claims - October 2020
- B. Financials - October 2020
- C. Cash Flow - October 2020

XII. Calendar Review

- A. Upcoming Events

* Early dismissal for PLCs every Monday - 1:45 GS/ONS; 2:00 HS/BP

1. December 11th - Senior Class Breakfast - during 1st period
2. December 14th - Monday - Early Dismissal
3. December 17th - Rescue Mission Stock Drive Pick-up at Grimshaw
4. December 21st - Monday - Early Dismissal
5. December 22nd - New Yea - ONS
6. December 23rd thru
January 1, 2021 - Holiday Recess
7. January 4th - Monday - Early Dismissal
8. January 11th - Monday - Early Dismissal
Report cards are sent out
9. January 13th - Disgó•nah / Disgo:nah (Longer nights shorter days)
10. January 14th - BOE Meeting 5:30 pm at the Jr. Sr. High Auditorium

XIII. Public Comments

A. Public Communications to the Board -

XIV. Proposed Executive Session - Subject to Board Approval

A. Enter into the Executive Session for the purpose of discussing pending litigation and the employment history of particular individuals at 6:28 PM.

Motion: Carried **1st:** R. Reyburn **2nd:** J. Gates
Vote: Yes: 7 **No:** 0 **Abstain:** 0 **Absent:** 0

B. Reconvene into Open Session at 8:33 PM

Motion: Carried **1st:** J. Gates **2nd:** R. Reyburn
Vote: Yes: 7 **No:** 0 **Abstain:** 0 **Absent:** 0

The floor was opened for nominations for the office of President of the Board of Education. Mark Whitney nominated R. Reyburn.

Motion: Carried **1st:** C. Dwyer **2nd:** M. Whitney
Vote: Yes: 6 **No:** 0 **Abstain:** N/A **Absent:** 0

R. Reyburn accepts his nomination to President of the Board.

A motion was made to close the nomination from the floor.

Motion : Carried **1st:** J. LeBlanc **2nd:** C. Dwyer
Vote: Yes: 7 **No:** 0 **Abstain:** 0 **Absent:** 0

The Administration of Oath of Office to President Reyburn was performed at 8:41pm.

XV. Adjournment

A. Adjourn the Meeting at 8:45 PM.

Motion: Carried **1st:** J. LeBlanc **2nd:** C. Dwyer
Vote: Yes: 7 **No:** 0 **Abstain:** 0 **Absent:** 0

Respectfully Submitted,
Paula Hibbert