

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  
2/25/2021

I. Opening

A. Call to Order - the regular Board of Education meeting for the Lafayette Central School district was called to order at 5:30 pm by President Reyburn. In attendance were President Reyburn, Vice President Whitney, Trustee J. LeBlanc,, M. Walker, J. Gates, A. Roe, Superintendent Jeremy Belfield, School Business Manager and Deputy Clerk Cindy Daley.

1. Guests in attendance: Jason Ryan
2. Virtual Guests: Jen Blosssey, Karen Ocque, Matt Dodge, Simone Gonyea, Emily Hayes, Trisha Fogarty and Colleen Cameron.

B. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by President Reyburn at 5:30 pm.

C. Opening Remarks - President Reyburn welcomed everyone.

II. Approval of Minutes -

- A. Regular Minutes - February 11, 2021
1. Amendments - No amendments

III. District Presentation

- A. Enrollment Study - Dr. Paul Seversky presented a detailed report of enrollment histories and projections for the district.
- B. Program and BOCES Presentation - School Business Manager Cindy Daley reviewed highlights of the proposed Program and BOCES portions of the proposed 2021-2022 school district budget. The budget maintains compliance with property tax cap, preserves opportunities for students in STEM, fine and performing arts, and maximizes shared purchasing power through BOCES. The district is also identifying several opportunities for efficiencies by not replacing certain vacant positions and consolidating positions. The district will recruit for a shared Earth Science/Biology teacher, and a Athletic Director/Assistant Principal at the High School. Also, the Onondaga Nation School will replace a vacant elementary position and special education teacher.
- C. Recognition for Operation Northern Comfort - Tully Rotary Club- The board recognized and thanked the Tully Rotary Club for their donation of desks to digital learners at the Onondaga Nation School. Operation Northern Comfort has built and delivered over 500+ desks to digital learners throughout Central New York.

D. External Auditor's Interviews- The board reviewed proposals and pricing from three different external auditors in response to a recent request for proposals: The EFPR Group, The Bonadio Group and Mengel, Metzger, Barr & Co. (merged with Raymond F. Wager CPA). The district is required to review auditing services at least every five years.

IV. Communications

A. Board Member Updates - There were no updates.

V. New Business - No new business.

VI. Superintendent Report

A. Superintendent Belfield reviewed recent efforts to fundraise for the Onondaga Community College Foundation. The OCC Foundation provides scholarship opportunities and funds the OCC Advantage Program. The OCC Advantage Program provides a college readiness program and free tuition for enrolled LaFayette students.

B. Superintendent Belfield along with Principals Jason Ryan and Jennifer Blossey recently attended the LETRS (Language Essentials for Teachers of Reading and Spelling) overview training for school administrators. Several LaFayette staff members have participated in LETRS training and/or have become certified turnkey trainers. Our goal is to make sure that our staff members are well prepared to teach students how to be competent readers.

C. Superintendent Belfield has organized several group meetings with area superintendents and elected officials: NYS Senators Rachel May, Peter Oberacker, John Mannion, and Assemblymember John Lemondes. Our goal is to advocate for adequate and equitable school funding. Area superintendents also met with NYS Senator Shelley Mayer, chair of the Senate Education Committee to advocate for the needs of students in Central New York and express concern about the school aid proposal put forward by Governor Cuomo. Superintendent Belfield also participated in the Fiscal Overview presented by the New York State Council of School Superintendents in preparation for virtual lobby days on March 8th and 9th.

D. Superintendent Belfield highlighted the excellent work of our student athletes and coaches with following all of the new safety protocols. Several community members and family members from near and far have enjoyed watching basketball games that are being live streamed on our YouTube and Facebook pages.

E. Superintendent Belfield shared that the United States Department of Education announced that students in grades 3-8 will need to participate in federal testing requirements. As additional information becomes available regarding testing at the elementary, middle and high school levels, Superintendent Belfield will keep the board and community informed.

- F. Superintendent Belfield thanked our construction team, community members and staff members for their continued involvement in the design meetings for the new capital project. The design will likely be finished later this spring and submitted to the New York State Education Department for review and approval.
- G. Superintendent Belfield also noted the recent 100 days of school celebration at Grimshaw Elementary. Superintendent Belfield congratulated LaFayette CSD students and staff for a job well done throughout this challenging school year.
- H. Superintendent Belfield thanked our partners at Onondaga County and New York State for prioritizing school staff for the COVID vaccine. A recent survey showed that 94 school employees are fully vaccinated, many have received their first dose of the vaccine, and several more have appointments for the vaccine.

VII. Policy Discussion

A. First Reading

- 1. Policy 5633- Gender Neutral Single Occupancy Restroom
- 2. Policy 3420- Non-Discrimination and Anti-Harassment in the District

B. Second Reading with a motion to waive the third reading

- 1. Policy 3150 - School Volunteers
- 2. Policy 3160 - Charter Schools
- 3. Policy 3230 - Public Complaints
- 4. Policy 3271 - Soliciting of Charitable Donations
- 5. Policy 3272 - Advertising in School
- 6. Policy 5530 - Petty Cash Funds and Cash in School Buildings

**Motion:**                      **1st:** J. Gates                      **2nd:** J. LeBlanc  
**Vote: Yes:** 6                      **No:** 0                      **Abstain:**                      **Absent:** C. Dwyer

VIII. Consent Agenda

A. Approval of Board Action Items

- 1. CSE, CPSE and 504 Recommendations
- 2. Treasurer's Report - January 2021
- 3. Budget Transfers - January 2021
- 4. Resolution - Appointment of Ashley McGraw Associates
- 5. Resolution - SEQQRA

**Motion:** Passed                      **1st:** J. LeBlanc                      **2nd:** J. Gates  
**Vote: Yes:** 6                      **No:** 0                      **Abstain:**                      **Absent:** C. Dwyer

IX. Financials - FYI

School Business Manager Cindy Daley reported that cash has been coming in from the state now. We are beginning to see funds that were withheld be released.

- A. Warrants and Claims - January 2021
- B. Financials - January 2021
- C. Cash Flow - January 2021

X. Calendar Review

A. Upcoming Events

- Early Dismissal for PLCs every Monday - 1:45 GS/ONS; 2:00 HS/BP
  - 1. March 1st - 5th - Dr. Seuss Week at Grimshaw
  - 2. March 1st - Early Dismissal
  - 3. March 8th - Early Dismissal
  - 4. March 9th - Jr. High Spring Concert
  - 5. March 11th - Sr. High Spring Concert
  - 6. March 11th - BOE Meeting at the Jr. Sr. High Auditorium 5:30 pm

XI. Public Comments

A. Public Communications to the Board -

XII. Proposed Executive Session - Subject to Board Approval

A. Enter into the Executive Session for the purpose of discussing pending litigation and employment history at 7:37 pm.

**Motion:** Passed      **1st:** M. Walker      **2nd:** J. LeBlanc  
**Vote: Yes:** 6      **No:** 0      **Abstain:**      **Absent:** C. Dwyer

B. Reconvene into Open Session at 8:39 pm.

**Motion:** Passed      **1st:** J. Gates      **2nd:** J. LeBlanc  
**Vote: Yes:** 6      **No:** 0      **Abstain:**      **Absent:** C. Dwyer

XIII. Adjournment

A. Adjourn the meeting at 8:40 pm.

**Motion:** Passed      **1st:** J. LeBlanc      **2nd:** A. Roe  
**Vote: Yes:** 6      **No:** 0      **Abstain:**      **Absent:** C. Dwyer

Respectfully Submitted,  
Cindy Daley