

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
March 11, 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 Reburn. In attendance were Trustee R. Reyburn, J. LeBlanc, C. Dwyer, M. Walker, M. Whitney, J. Gates, A. Roe, Superintendent Jeremy Belfield, School Business Manager and Deputy Clerk Cindy Daley.

1. Guests in attendance - Bill McConnell, J. Blossey, S. Osborn, J. Ryan, K. Ocque, D. Pulverenti, J. Ortlieb, R. Ortlieb
2. Virtual Guests - J. Czyz, A. Kolbeck, W. McCoy, M. Dodge, T. Miller,

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

C. Opening Remarks - President Reyburn gave instructions on addressing the Board.

II. Approval of Minutes -

A. Regular Minutes - February 25, 2021

1. Amendments - No Amendments

III. District Presentation

A. Legend of Learning March 2021 - Jay Czyz - The board honored Mr. Jay Czyz, Choral Music Director at LaFayette Jr/Sr High School as the Legend of Learning for March 2021. Mr. Czyz was recognized by a community member who shared the following, "Mr.Czyz always goes above and beyond for his students. He meets them at All County tryouts, NYSSMA, comes early for vocal ensemble, stays late for musical rehearsals, etc. He is truly present for our students. He is also responsive to parents. Mr. Czyz provides an atmosphere in which students thrive. He is a genuinely caring individual, and one whom I feel is deserving of this recognition."

B. Bill McConnell - The board welcomed Mr. William McConnell, recently appointed Town of LaFayette Supervisor. Mr. McConnell shared his ideas for collaborating between the town and the school district. His ideas included opportunities for the LaFayette community students ages 16 - 21. Currently there is a Corcoran High school student who receives credit for internships. Similar reward for LaFayette students will be decided by the Board. Mr. McConnel also shared information on four solar energy projects in town.

- C. Mid-Year Report for District, GS, HS and BP- Principals Jennifer Blossey, Jason Ryan and Susan Osborn presented their mid-year report for Grimshaw Elementary, LaFayette Jr/Sr High School, and LaFayette Big Picture School. Principals celebrated areas of student growth and discussed areas of challenge throughout the current school year. Dr. Karen Ocque presented a report on English Language Arts.
- D. Budget Presentation - Revenue Budget- School Business Manager Cindy Daley presented the revenue budget for the 2021-2022 school year. The projected tax increase is within the levy limit requiring a simple majority approval of the voters. The budget provides for all of the same student programs that are in place this year for next school year.

IV. Old Business

- A. Student Safety - Superintendent Belfield updated the board on the recently released guidance from Onondaga County allowing schools to increase opportunities for in person instruction. Superintendent Belfield thanked the building principals and administrative interns for all of their assistance to accommodate student requests to return to classrooms. Onondaga County cited NYS Department of Health guidelines that allow districts to space students apart three feet instead of six feet so long as there is a barrier in between students. Staff members still have to maintain six feet of separation from students. The district has a supply of plastic barriers on hand for a few classrooms where students are closer than six feet or in classes where face coverings cannot be used (e.g. speech therapy). The district is grateful for all of the support from families who are able to transport their students; however, bus capacities are starting to increase. Dr. Gupta, Onondaga County Health Commissioner, has verbally advised districts that individuals from households should be seated together; however, once all seats have been loaded by household, the last few riders could be seated with individuals from other households for the last 15 minutes of the bus run.
- B. Online Safety & Security - Superintendent Belfield updated the board on the plan to perform an updated risk assessment on our district network. The goal of this updated risk assessment will be to identify alignment to the National Institute of Standards and Technology, identify areas of strength, and identify any potential gaps for information security. The Central New York Regional Information Center has secured a contract with a local vendor and the district is working with CNYRIC to finalize the statement of work and pricing. The vendor is working on an additional quote for network penetration testing. Superintendent Belfield thanked Trustee Whitney for his assistance with analyzing the proposal. Also, on the consent agenda tonight is the approval of the wide area network agreement with the Central New York Regional Information Center. The new WAN agreement provides redundancy with our connection to internet access without any additional cost increase for internet service.

V. Communications

- A. Board Member Updates -
 - 1. Newly Elected Board Members Training - CNYSSBA- The Central New York School Board Association shared the following "Save the Date" for new board member training.

VI. New Business

- A. Resolution to Nominate Mr. Reyburn for the OCM BOCES Board. The vote was 6 - 0 in favor of Mr. Reyburns nomination.

VII. Superintendent Report

- A. Update on 3-8 Testing and Regents Exam Testing- The United States Department of Education announced recently that federal testing requirements would still apply in 2021 and 2022 under the Every Students Succeed Act. USDOE clarified that only students attending in person instruction will be required to take federally required exams in grades 3-8. The justification for keeping the exams in place is to help measure learning loss in light of the impact to learning models during the current pandemic. The New York State Education Department announced last week that the state intends to apply for a waiver requesting that these exams not be administered. The department is collecting data on the types of assessment practices being used in school districts to show that districts have been assessing student academic needs throughout the pandemic. Additionally, NYSED announced that it will propose a series of regulatory amendments at the March Board of Regents meeting so Regents Exams would not be required to meet graduation requirements and to cancel any Regents Exams that are not required by USDOE. If USDOE does not approve the assessment waiver requested by NYSED, only the following Regents exams will be administered in June 2021: Algebra I, English Language Arts, Living Environment, and Physical Setting/Earth Science. Regardless of the outcome of NYSED's waiver request, the following Regents exams will be canceled in June 2021 since these exams are not federally mandated: Algebra II, Geometry, Physical Setting/Chemistry, Physical Setting/Chemistry, Global History & Geography, United States History & Government. Additionally, NYSED will propose to cancel all Regents exams in August 2021.
- B. Superintendent Belfield shared the draft 2021-2022 calendar. In October 2020, NYS passed a law recognizing Juneteenth (June 19th) as a state holiday. In June 2020, Juneteenth falls on a Saturday so there is no weekday observance. In June 2021, the holiday falls on a Sunday which means that there will be a weekday observance on Monday June 20, 2022. We have received guidance that this should be a day off from school to recognize the new holiday. Superintendent Belfield thanked the District Planning Committee for providing input on the school calendar. After the board approves this calendar, Superintendent Belfield will reach out to the Onondaga Nation School calendar committee to establish the school calendar for ONS.
- C. NYSCOSS Virtual Advocacy Day- Superintendent Belfield attended the New York State Council of School Superintendents Virtual Advocacy Day on Monday March 8 and Tuesday March 9. Sessions provided an overview of advocacy topics for school funding and school related issues being discussed during the current legislative session.
- D. Thank you LaFayette Sports Boosters and Megan Simmons for live streaming our games. Youtube will be used during volleyball season.

VIII. Policy Discussion

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

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

Motion: **1st:** Trustee Dwyer **2nd:** Trustee Gates
Vote: Yes: 7 **No:** 0 **Abstain:** 0 **Absent:** 0

IX. Consent Agenda

A. Approval of Board Action Items

1. 2021 Summer Hours MOU
2. CSE, CPSE and 504 Recommendations
3. Resolution to Approve the Wide area Network Agreement with OCM BOCES
4. Resolution to appoint the new External Auditor
5. MOU between LCSD and LTA - 2020-2021 Athletic/Coaching Stipends
6. DASNY and SEQRA Certification

B. Approval of Personnel Items

1. Winter Coach Resignation
2. Substitute Appointment
3. Winter and Fall II Coaches per MOU
4. Resolution for District Business Manager - Contract

Motion: **1st:** Trustee LeBlanc **2nd:** Trustee Dwyer
Vote: Yes: 7 **No:** 0 **Abstain:** 0 **Absent:** 0

X. Board Non-Action Items

- A. Strategic Plan Update- Superintendent Belfield thanked the principals for presenting their mid-year reports on efforts to improve student engagement/attendance, improve academic performance, and address the social/emotional/mental health needs of students. The district will host a professional development day on Monday March

XI. Calendar Review

A. Upcoming Events

- Early Dismissal for PLCs every Monday - 1:45 GS/ONS; 2:00 HS/BP
 1. March 13th - Ganä•hdóha•' / Ganähdoha´ Buds in the tree
 2. March 15th - No School - Superintendent's Conference Day (All Schools)
 3. March 16th - Modified Sports Covid Testing
 4. March 18th - Varsity Sports Covid Testing
 5. March 19th - GS & HS - Marking period ends
 6. March 22nd - (Monday) Early Dismissal
 7. March 25th - BOE Meeting at the Jr. Sr. High Auditorium 5:30 pm

XII. Public Comments

A. Public Communications to the Board -

XIII. Proposed Executive Session - Subject to Board Approval

A. Enter into the Executive Session for the purpose of discussing personnel issues and meet with the attorney at 7:40 pm.

Motion: **1st:** Trustee Walker **2nd:** Trustee LeBlanc
Vote: Yes: 7 **No:** 0 **Abstain:** 0 **Absent:** 0

B. Reconvene into Open Session at 9:15 pm

Motion: **1st:** Trustee Gates **2nd:** Trustee Roe
Vote: Yes: 7 **No:** 0 **Abstain:** 0 **Absent:** 0

XIV. Adjournment

A. Adjourn the meeting at 9:16 pm

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

Respectfully Submitted,
Paula Hibbert