

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 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 5:31 pm by President Reyburn. In attendance were Trustee J. LeBlanc, C. Dwyer, M. Walker, M. Whitney, J. Gates, A. Roe, Superintendent Jeremy Belfield, School Business Manager and Deputy Clerk Cindy Daley. Trustee Walker entered at 5:32.

1. Guests in Attendance - Karen Ocque, Simone Gonyea, Winonah McCoy, Trisha Fogarty, Rusty Haas
2. Virtual Guests - Dawn Pulverenti, Maura Daly, Adam Schaefer, Damon Derbyshire, Nicole Cawley, Elizabeth Murray, Morgan Bice, Secomah Benedict, Jennifer Blossey, Austin Doolittle, Riley White, Jason P. Ryan, Joanne Powless

B. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by President Reyburn at 5:31 pm

C. Opening Remarks - President Reyburn reminded the audience how to address the Board.

II. Approval of Minutes -

- A. Regular Minutes March 11, 2021
1. Amendments - No Amendments

III. District Presentation

- A. ONS Mid-Year Update - Simone Gonyea, Principal at the Onondaga Nation School, presented a mid-year update on progress at ONS on School Improvement goals. Principal Gonyea spoke on incentives to improve attendance, an upcoming trip to the zoo and an upcoming talent show. She thanked Cindy Daley for coordinating hot spots for ONS students.
- B. ELA Presentation - Karen Ocque, Director of Instruction and Pupil Services updated the board on the work of the ELA committee. The committee has identified priority standards, unpacked the standards, created learning targets, participated in professional development related to the science of reading and researched reading programs aligned to the science of reading. The administration and ELA committee is recommending that the district adopt Expeditionary Learning as the core

reading program for the district in grades Kindergarten through Eighth grade. Dr. Ocque thanked the 27 members representatives of all grade levels and departments for all their efforts. Dr. Ocque's presentation slides can be found [here](#).

- C. Budget Adoption- Cindy Daley, School Business Manager provided an overview of the 2021-2022 school district budget. The budget provides for all of the same great student programs, supports the visual and performing arts, supports athletic programs, and maintains compliance with the property tax cap requiring a simple majority approval from the voters. Cindy Daley went on to say that we are behind in Foundation Aid. Business Manager Daley covered numerous areas to consider in adopting the Budget. The presentation is available [here](#).
- D. Tax Property Report Card- School Business Manager Cindy Daley shared the Property Tax Report Card which will be filed with New York State once adopted by the board. The Property Tax Report Card details the proposed budget, tax levy, and reserve balances for the school district.

IV. Old Business

- A. Student Safety - Superintendent Belfield updated the board on the recent release of updated safety guidelines from the Centers for Disease Control for returning students to in person learning. The guidelines provide greater flexibility for schools to increase classroom capacity by reducing social distancing requirements from six feet to three feet based when communities are seeing lower COVID transmission rates. New York State health officials are reviewing the guidance and we anticipate that changes will be coming soon to the New York State Department of Health guidance. Currently we have 85% of our students back inside of classrooms at Grimshaw Elementary, LaFayette Big Picture School, and LaFayette Jr/Sr High School. We will continue to work with the Onondaga Nation Council of Chiefs, Clan Mothers, and Faith Keepers regarding a safe return to in school learning, when the community is ready.
- B. Online Safety & Security - On Monday, teachers, administrators, supervisors and clerical employees participated in an online security training focused on email and password security. The district is using a training program called InfoSec IQ to provide awareness training on login credentials, passwords, and safe email practices. The program also tests employees through email phishing campaigns to see if employees are implementing these practices. Superintendent Belfield thanked the staff and our technology coordinator, Sean Zehner, for their continued efforts to keep information stored on our network safe and secure.

V. Communications

- A. Board Member Updates - No Member updates

VI. New Business - No New Business

VII. Superintendent Report

- A. Superintendent Belfield updated the board on the design of the capital improvement project approved by the voters in December 2020. Our architects and engineers have completed design meetings with staff members and stakeholder groups. The team is in the process of completing the initial scaled design and there will be an opportunity for stakeholders to review initial designs on April 8th from 1:00 PM -3:00 PM. After receiving feedback on initial designs, the architects and engineers will complete the detailed design in preparation for submission to the New York State Education Department in the summer.
- B. Superintendent Belfield updated the board on the proposed Capital Outlay Project which is included in the proposed 2021-2022 school district budget. This \$100,000 project is eligible for building aid and the scope of this year's proposed project is targeted at upgrading classroom lightning in certain high school classrooms. Previous renovation projections have included LED lightning upgrades in renovated classrooms/wings. This proposed capital outlay project will target classroom lighting improvements in the D wing of the high school along with bringing lighting controls up to new energy codes.
- C. Superintendent Belfield updated the board on the recently approved American Rescue Plan allocations for LaFayette CSD from the federal government. Senator Schumer's office shared that allocations for LaFayette are \$762,000. The district is reviewing allowable uses for the funding. One major priority for use of funds will be to offset learning loss. The funding allocations are based on the Title 1A formula allocations which are related to poverty rates and census information for the community served by the school district.
- D. Superintendent Belfield attended the community presentation for the Onondaga Nation School with Dr. Tonnemah. Dr. Tonnemah spoke with parents about having sovereign moments and being in control of our physiological response when we are under stress. When parents model how to stay in control, it models for their children how they can handle stressful situations.
- E. Superintendent Belfield presented to our Big Picture students earlier today. Big Picture has been hosting a series of guest speakers to explore students to potential career paths. Superintendent Belfield shared his path and experience as an educator and school superintendent. Superintendent Belfield thanked Trustee Ryan for presenting recently to the students on her work as a scientist.

VIII. Policy Discussion

- A. No Policy Updates

IX. Consent Agenda

A. Approval of Board Action Items

1. CSE, CPSE and 504 Recommendations
2. Treasurer's Report - February 2021
3. Budget Transfers - February 2021
4. WG Contract for Health and Welfare Services
5. Surplus Equipment
6. Approval of Grad Hours
7. Calendar-Student, Staff - HS, BP, GS 2021-2022

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

8. Approval of Construction Management 2020 - Capital Project
9. Resolution - Budget Adoption, Bus and Reserve Propositions

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

10. SEQRA for DASNY Grant
11. DASNY Letter
12. Administrative Disclosure
13. AMA Contract
14. Emergency Resolution for the 1981 Bus Lift
15. Resolution to adopt pandemic plan
16. ADA-PEP Contract
17. Resolution to Adopt an ELA Program for Reading

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

Trustee Whitney spoke on the Emergency Resolution for the bus lift. He stated that \$49,000 is a lot of money, however it is needed and the full cost of such a lift is \$400,000, so it is well worth it.

B. Approval of Personnel Items

1. Coach Appointment
2. Substitute Appointment
3. Employment Agreement Resource Officer
4. Non-Instructional Leave of Absence

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

Trustee Whitney thanked Chrystal Morel and Winonah McCoy for continuing their education and gave congrats on their grad hours.

- X. Financials - FYI
 - A. Warrants and Claims - February
 - B. Financials - February 2021
 - C. Cash Flow - February 2021

- XI. Calendar Review
 - A. Upcoming Events

- Early Dismissal for PLCs every Monday - 1:45 GS/ONS; 2:00 HS/BP
 - 1. March 26th - GS, HS & BP report cards are mailed
- HS Rock Fest
 - 2. March 29th - April 2nd - Spring Break (All Students)
 - 3. April 5th - Early Dismissal
 - 4. April 7th - Jr. High National Honor Society Induction
 - 5. April 12th - Early Dismissal
 - 6. April 16th - Jr. High Musical
 - 7. April 17th - HS Musical
 - 8. April 19th - Early Dismissal
- BOE Meeting at the Jr. Sr. High Auditorium 5:30pm
 - 9. April 19-23 - NYS ELA Testing Grades 3-8 GS, ONS, Jr. High

- XII. Public Comments

- A. Public Communications to the Board - No public comments

- XIII. Proposed Executive Session - Subject to Board Approval

- A. Enter into the Executive Session for the purpose of discussing: PILOT negotiations with a solar company and to discuss the medical and employment history of particular individuals at 6:45 pm.

Motion: Carried **1st:** Trustee Gate **2nd:** Trustee Whitney
Vote: Yes: 7 **No: 0** **Abstain: 0** **Absent: 0**

- B. Reconvene into Open Session at 9:29 pm

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

- XIV. Adjournment

- A. Adjourn the meeting at 9:30 pm

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

Respectfully Submitted,
Paula Hibbert