

**LaFayette Central School District
Board of Education - Regular Meeting
Location: The Big Picture Commons
3122 US Route 11 North
LaFayette, New York 13084
May 28, 2020**

I. Opening

- A. Call to Order The regular Board of Education meeting for the LaFayette Central School District was called to order by Vice President Whitney at 5:31 pm. In attendance were Trustees J. Gates, J. LeBlanc, M. Walker, R. Reyburn, C. Dwyer, and M. Whitney, Superintendent Jeremy Belfield, School Business Manager Cindy Daley (virtually) , District Clerk Paula Hibbert.
- B. Pledge of Allegiance was led by Vice President Whitney at 5:31 PM.
- C. Opening Remarks - Vice President Whitney welcomed everyone and moved to a motion to approve the minutes of May 14, 2020

II. Approval of Minutes

- A. Regular Minutes - May 14, 2020

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

III. District Presentations

- A. Tenure Presentation - Kaitlin Maloff, School Psychologist at Grimshaw Elementary School, and Brittany Cole, Instrumental Music at LaFayette High School, presented highlights from their probationary experience. Mr. Belfield mentioned that this was one of his favorite nights of the year where we get to celebrate the awesome work of the folks that have completed their probationary period.

A1. Tenure Roll Call Vote

- a. Kaitlin Maloff

Vote: Yes: 6 No: 0 Abstain: 0 Absent: S. Dow

- b. Brittany Cole

Vote: Yes: 6 No: 0 Abstain: 0 Absent: S. Dow

- B. Budget Hearing 2020-2021 Budget Vote- School Business Manager Cindy Daley presented the 2020-2021 School District Budget for the June 9, 2020 school district budget vote. The vote is taking place via absentee ballot per the Governor’s executive order issued earlier this month. Households with a registered voter are being mailed absentee ballots and voters can request additional absentee ballots by contacting District Clerk Paula Hibbert at 315-677-9728 or phibbert@lafayetteschools.org . The proposed spending plan maintains all current district programs and keeps class sizes low. The proposed tax levy increase requires a simple majority approval of the voters. Due to the uncertainty of state aid for

2020-2021 due to the economic impact of the recent pandemic, the district is taking a cautious approach by not filling certain vacant positions. Mr. Belfield voiced his appreciation of the board working the school budget and that Cindy has done an outstanding job with gathering information from school administrators and holding community meetings. He continued by saying that even in this time of the pandemic and school aid cuts Cindy has been very diligent about sharpening her pencil and identifying areas for efficiency. Mr. Belfield stated the counting of the ballot will be live streamed in the main conference room of the Jr. Sr. High School on June 9, 2020 shortly after 5:00 pm

IV. Communications

A. Board Member Updates

V. New Business

VI. Superintendent's Report

A. Superintendent Belfield updated the board on the plan to honor the class of 2020. Due to the recent pandemic, the district [submitted a plan](#) to host graduation on the football field based on previous guidance given by Onondaga County. Unfortunately, the district learned yesterday that the health department would not approve this proposed plan. Previously we were informed that during phase three of the reopening that the district would be able to host a large, in-person, gathering. Unfortunately, this information was not correct. The county has shared three options that will automatically be approved for graduation ceremonies: drive-thru, individual ceremony at home, and an individual ceremony at school. Superintendent Belfield distributed a [copy of the guidelines](#) which include requirements to plan for social distancing and additional precautions to prevent the spread of the coronavirus. Mr. Ryan will be meeting with the senior class to discuss the options available for graduation and we will communicate the option selected by the seniors to parents and the community shortly. We have adjusted dates for graduation and moving up ceremonies based on the proposed end of the school year:

- ONS Graduation June 12th (Drive-In/Parade) Time TBD
- 6th Grade GS Graduation - Monday June 15th 6:00 PM (Drive-Thru/Parade to the HS)
- Kindergarten Graduation - Tuesday June 16th 9:00 AM (Drive-Thru)
- Big Picture Graduation - Wednesday June 17th 6:00 PM
- High School Graduation - Thursday June 18th 6:00 PM

B. Superintendent Belfield shared that the school calendar for 2019-2020 is part of the consent agenda for tonight's meeting. Spring break was cancelled by Governor Cuomo due to the recent pandemic which will adjust the end of the academic year by one week. The last official day for students will be June 18th. The week of June 15th will be reserved for a few final exams and spent celebrating milestones from this past year and helping students to plan summer learning activities and reading lists. The last day for staff will be June 19th. Following board approval, Superintendent Belfield will communicate these changes to the school community along with details regarding graduation and moving up ceremonies.

C. Superintendent Belfield shared that LaFayette High School hosted a mobile testing site for COVID-19 on May 27, 2020. County emergency management and the health department did an outstanding job organizing the event. Thank you to Onondaga County Emergency Management, Onondaga County Health Department, local representative David Knapp, NYS DOT, Syracuse

City Parks, and Nascentia Health for providing this service to our community. Superintendent Belfield also thanked LaFayette Maintenance Worker John Russell, Head Custodian Dave Friedman, and Custodial Worker Bill Burlingham for assisting with the event.

- D. Superintendent Belfield shared that the district will be forming a Reopen LaFayette CSD Task Force to include staff members, parents, and students. The meeting will take place on Wednesday June 3rd at 3:30 PM via Google Meets. Anyone who is interested in participating should contact the superintendent. Agenda items for the first meeting include: 1) Review of CDC guidance 2) Review of considerations for social distancing on school buses, common areas, and classrooms 3) Survey for parents regarding school scheduling options in the fall.

VII. Consent Agenda

A. Approval of Board Action Items

1. Approval of Change Orders for 2017 Capital Project (under \$20,000)
2. CSE, CPSE, and 504 Recommendation
3. Treasurer's Report
4. Surplus Equipment for Disposal
5. Budget Transfers - April 2020
6. Budget Transfers over \$10,000
7. Amendment to 2020-2021 School Calendar
8. MOA Retirement Incentive
9. Transportation Request
10. Donation of Inflatable Screen
11. Agreement Between LaFayette CSD and Tully CSD
12. Banadio & Co., LLP - CPA Audit Understanding
13. Amendment to the Professional Services Agreement

B. Approval of Personnel Items

1. Non-Instructional Resignation
2. Instructional Resignation
3. Non-Instructional Appointment
4. Summer Appointments
5. Appointment of Election Poll Workers
6. Resolution to rescind Spring 2020 Coaching Appointments

Motion: 1st: J. Gates 2nd: R. Reyburn
Vote: Yes: 6 No: 0 Abstain: Absent: S. Dow

VIII. Board Non-Action Items

- A. Strategic Plan Update - Superintendent Belfield shared that our District Comprehensive Improvement Plan Team met yesterday to review progress on our 2019-2020 goals. Due to the school shut down, many of our academic goals tied to specific assessments will not be able to be measured (ex: NYS 3-8 testing results, etc.). The district is working on adjusting goals based on areas of current need such as meeting the social and emotional learning needs of students and providing additional academic support to students. Our DCIP team will meet again in July to refine our goals and action plans. Our administrators are also planning summer work sessions during the month of July to further refine action plans.

- IX. Financials - School Business Manager Cindy Daley reported on the financial status of the district. As of April 30, 2019, our current expenses are trending at 62% of budget as compared to 64% at the same time last year. Encumbrances are higher at 21% of budget at this time as compared to 19% last year at this time. These encumbrances will be reviewed prior to year end to clear off unneeded encumbrances, so this number will come down. Revenues received through April 30 represent 76% of the budgeted revenue. This compares to 73% received at the same time last year. I anticipate we will receive slightly more than what is budgeted in revenues, but the revenue budget was trimmed down for 2019-20, so there won't be as much fund balance to play with as last year. We ended up with a good amount of fund balance last year as compared to a significantly lower amount estimated for this year. Fund balance is important to ensure we have enough savings and/or reserves for unexpected future expenses. We are very close to closing on the bond for our \$5.4 million project. Additionally, we are now working on planning our RAN borrowing to get us through to tax season. We are being conservative due to the state's fiscal situation.
 - A. Warrants and Claims - April 2020
 - B. Financials - April 2020
 - C. Cash Flow - April 2020

Mark: We have the following upcoming events:

- X. Calendar
 - A. Upcoming Events
 1. Tuesday June 9, 2020 at 5:00 PM - Absentee Ballots for School District Budget Vote and Board of Election due to the district office.
 2. Tuesday June 9, 2020 at 5:30 PM Board of Education Meeting- Big Picture Commons

- XI. Public Comments
 - A. Public Communications to the Board

- XII. Proposed Executive Session
 - A. Enter into the Executive Session for the purpose of reviewing personnel matters at 6:56 pm.

Motion: 1st: J. LaBlanc 2nd: J. Gates
Vote: Yes: 6 No: 0 Abstain: Absent: S. Dow

- B. Reconvene into Open Session at 8:50 pm.

Motion: 1st: S. Reyburn 2nd: C. Dwyer
Vote: Yes: 6 No: 0 Abstain: Absent: S. Dow

- XIII. Adjournment
 - A. Adjourn the Meeting at 8:50 pm.

Motion: 1st: S. Reyburn 2nd: J. Gates
Vote: Yes: 6 No: 0 Abstain: Absent: S. Dow

Respectfully Submitted,
 Paula Hibbert