

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
September 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 5:35 pm by President S. Dow. In attendance were Trustees J. LeBlanc, C. Dwyer, S. Dow, R. Reyburn, M. Walker, J. Gates, Superintendent Jeremy Belfield, School Business Manager and Deputy Clerk Cindy Daley. Trustee Whitney entered the meeting at 6:04 pm.
- B. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by President Dow at 5:35 pm.
- C. Opening Remarks

II. Approval of Minutes

- A. Regular Minutes - August 13, 2020

Motion: Carried **1st:** Trustee Reyburn **2nd:** Trustee Dwyer
Vote: Yes: 5 **No:** 0 **Abstain:** J. Gates **Absent:** Trustee Whitney

III. District Presentations

- A. Recognition - Brennan Thrall- Superintendent Belfield and the board thanked alumni Brennan Thrall (class of 2019) for his assistance with providing summer activities for students that were included with summer meal distribution. Activities included crossword puzzles and information on how to stay safe during the pandemic. These activities were delivered daily with meals, keeping the students engaged and thinking. Brennan is studying public health at SUNY ESF and plans to pursue a career in the medical field.
- B. Recognition - Summer Workers- Superintendent Belfield and the board recognized and thanked all of our staff who prepared for the start of school. LaFayette administrators, clerical personnel, custodial, summer cleaning staff, mechanics, technology personnel, food service workers and instructional staff spent a significant amount of time preparing for a challenging year. The cleaning and clerical staff returned in the month of June. They went above and beyond to get the extra tasks done while working around construction workers. There were also instructional staff who helped out with meal delivery. The board is grateful to our dedicated

staff members for their continued commitment to our students and our school community.

- C. Legend of Learning - Patricia Sandusky- Superintendent Belfield and the board recognized Pat Sandusky as our Legend of Learning for the month of September 2020. Pat has served as the Network Administrator for LaFayette CSD since 2017. During the past year, Pat has been involved in several projects to upgrade our network infrastructure which included the core switch replacement, upgrades to switches in IT closets, the installation of new interactive touchscreens in every classroom, along with many other technology improvements. Thank you Pat for all that you do to support our students and staff with our technology needs!
- D. Capital Project Update- Ed, Chris Gray, Catherine Wolf and Lauren, representatives from Ashley McGraw Architects presented a proposed \$8,442,450 capital project that will address improvements at Grimshaw Elementary, LaFayette Jr/Sr High School, and LaFayette Big Picture School. The project will include necessary items from the building condition survey along with improvements to Science, Technology, and Engineering (STEM) Programs. Major highlights include a planned renovation of the library media center at Grimshaw, necessary improvements to technology and robotics classrooms at LaFayette High School. The project also prioritizes improvements to air flow, air filtration, and certain instructional spaces within the building will be targeted for the addition of air conditioning. Chris Gray spoke on the schedule...There is about 7 months associated with the developing the project design. It's projected that work will take place the summer of 2022 and 2023. Mr. Belfield spoke on transferring capital amongst funds and ...There is 8.4 million dollars in old school building debt that will be retiring and coming off the books and we are matching up this new project with that old debt that is retiring that way we can have a zero tax impact project for LaFayette to consider for voting. So no tax increase with a number of great improvements to our facilities. Tom Carter from Turner Construction updated the board on the current security project and final close out of the 2017 capital project. Contractors are waiting on the delivery of a few remaining items and will be completing items from the punch list during second shift hours. 2018 Security Project there are 44 punch list items remaining. Doors and hardware are expected to be delivered next week. New cafeteria security wall is installed. The existing terrazzo flooring at Grimshaw was refinished. The handicap sidewalk and fencing was tied in with the playground. Mr. Kesler also updated the board on the completion of the new roof at the Onondaga Nation School over the 1996 addition. The roof is complete. Most of the equipment has been moved out.....waiting on a dumpster to be picked up. Mr. Belfield asked what's

the warranty on the roof.....The warranty for the roof is a twenty or thirty year warranty. We will know which it is when Carlile comes out next week to check the roof.

IV. Old Business

- A. Student Safety- Superintendent Belfield updated the board on the recent training that was conducted with all staff on our emergency response plan. All staff participated in an online training. Principals will be communicating some changes to our emergency drills as part of the additional safety precautions that we are taking due to COVID. Staff members have expressed their thanks and appreciation for the new classroom doors (Grimshaw elementary), upgraded classroom locks, and new window shades as part of the recent security themed capital project. The Jr. Sr. High school shades are on order. Administrators have appreciated the upgrades to the security camera system and the new campus notification system. Thank you to the board and our school community for their continued support of our efforts to keep everyone safe.
- B. Online Safety- Technology Coordinator Sean Zehner conducted a training on information security on September 2, 2020. The focus of the training was on new requirements to protect student privacy relative to Education Law 2-D. Sean has done an excellent job of making sure that vendors have accepted the district's privacy policy and supplemental agreement to protect student and staff information. Staff members continue to reach out to Sean with questions about existing software or new software to make sure that the district has the proper agreements in place. Thank you to Mr. Zehner and our staff members for all that they are doing to protect student and staff information.

V. Communications

- A. Board Member Updates
A LaFayette alumni's relative is struggling with COVID-19 in Huston please keep her in your prayers.

VI. New Business

A.

VII. Superintendent Report

- A. Superintendent Belfield welcomed and congratulated prospective new hires (pending board approval): Lindsey Stupp (AIS Literacy) experience in STARS, Megan Henderson (LTS Science Teacher) .
- B. Superintendent Belfield updated the board on the reopening of schools for the 2020-2021 school year. Students in grades 1, 3, 5, 7, 9, and 11 attended in person classes on September 8th and received training on new procedures relative to COVID. Students in the remaining grade levels attended on September 9th and all students began classes (both in person and online) on September 10th. The Onondaga Nation School, which is only holding digital classes, began connecting with students on

September 9th. Our students and staff members have done an excellent job of completing the health screening survey, connecting with teachers online, and observing safety precautions for in-person learning (wearing face coverings, observing social distancing, and observing hygiene procedures). We have experienced a few bumps in the road with connecting with our digital learners. Tomorrow morning Superintendent Belfield and Administrative Intern Trisha Fogarty will be making a few home visits to distribute electronic devices and hotspots. Superintendent Belfield thanked the students, staff, and family members for their continued support with our reopening efforts. Superintendent Belfield emphasized that in person learning will continue to be a success so long as everyone does their part by staying home when they are sick, wearing a face covering, staying six feet apart, and washing their hands often. Superintendent Belfield thanked parents and students for their cooperation, support and patience while we reopened schools for both in person and digital instruction during this challenging time. Mr. Belfield mentioned a couple of things to keep on your radar... there was updated guidance on August 26th. We received conflicting information from our local health department and State Health and Ed. department however it has been clarified that if a student has COVID symptoms the student must receive a negative test in order to return to school.

- C. Superintendent Belfield updated the board on the new COVID 19 reporting dashboard through the New York State Department of Health. Each day, principals are reporting the number of staff and students participating for in person instruction and the number of students and staff participating via remote instruction. We are also reporting on the number of positive COVID cases each day. Thankfully, we have reported zero positive COVID cases from students or staff during this first week. Superintendent Belfield has also been in conversation with Onondaga County and we have volunteered to conduct saliva pool COVID diagnostic testing. All COVID diagnostic testing will be conducted with parent consent.
- D. Superintendent Belfield recently met with the Onondaga Nation Council of Chiefs, Clan Mothers and Faith Keepers. The Onondaga Nation decided that the Onondaga Nation School will operate on a remote basis for the first ten weeks of school to prevent the spread of COVID-19. Superintendent Belfield complimented Principal Gonyea and the school staff for shifting gears quickly to a fully remote model. Students and families are battling through connectivity issues and we are working on distributing hotspots to families faced with a lack of internet access. Staff members at ONS will work from home in accordance with the wishes of the Onondaga Nation.
- E. Superintendent Belfield updated the board on the status of fall athletics. Governor Cuomo has authorized certain low risk sports to compete:

soccer, cross country. High risk fall sports are allowed to practice but not compete. Yesterday, the New York State Public High School Athletic Association moved certain high risk fall sports (volleyball, football, and cheerleading) to the spring season and adjusted season schedules. Section III is in the process of surveying districts regarding fall sport participation. Superintendent Belfield responded to the survey indicating LaFayette CSD would participate in fall athletics with appropriate safety precautions. We will be working with our league and Section III to make sure that we have consistent safety expectations for both home and visiting teams. This will mean mask wearing for student athletes, increased sanitization, and limited attendance and safety precautions for spectators. As these safety guidelines are finalized, Superintendent Belfield will keep the board apprised. Athletic Coordinator Jerry Kelly will work with coaches and student athletes to train and implement safety precautions.

- F. Superintendent Belfield thanked our generous donors for assisting with PPE and cleaning supplies as part of our reopening: Armoured One, the Somerlot Family. Superintendent Belfield thanked the Stroup family for their donation of a musical instrument and their continued support of the performing arts.
- G. Superintendent Belfield updated the board on plans to work with an educational consultant to conduct an enrollment survey. The district last conducted an enrollment study in 2008. The results of the enrollment study will help to inform section numbers and space allocation for student programs.

VIII. Content Agenda

- A. Approval of Board Action Items
 - 1. CSE, CPSE and 504 Recommendations
 - 2. Corrected Food Service Agreement
 - 3. Donations
 - 4. Disposals
 - 5. McKinney Vento Appointment
 - 6. Budget Transfer Over \$10,000
 - 7. Debt Reserve Fund Resolution
 - 8. 2020-2021 STAR Reimbursement Applications
 - 9. Enrollment/Demographic Study
 - 10. Transportation Request

- B. Approval of Personnel
 - 1. Instructional Appointment

2. Substitute Appointment
3. Instructional Leave of Absence
4. Non-Instructional Leave of Absence
5. 2020-2021 Continuing Substitute List - Instructional

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

- IX. Board Non-Action Items
- A. Strategic Plan Update
 - B. Student Enrollment update

- X. Calendar Review
- A. Upcoming Events
 1. Gaps meeting September 14, 2020
 2. Deer has long tail (Moon) September 17, 2020
 3. Curriculum Night @ GS 6:00 pm
 4. GS Walkathon 9/23/2020

- 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 employee medical issues at 6:40 PM.

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

- B. Reconvene into Open Session at 8:29 PM.

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

- XIII. Adjournment
- A. Adjourn the Meeting at 8:30 pm.

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

Respectfully Submitted,
Paula Hibbert