

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 16, 2022

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 Trustee C. Dwyer, M. Walker, S. Stanton, J. Gates, Amy Roe-Ryan, Superintendent Jeremy Belfield, School Business Manager and Deputy Clerk Cindy Daley. Trustee LeBlanc was not present.

1. Guests in attendance - I. Kremers, D. Kremers, R. Shute, E. Shute, Ava. Shute, M. Shute, T. Redmore, C. Redmore, N. Redmore, Adrian Shute, Amalie Shute, S. Osborn, J. Blossey, H. Castleman, L. Oppedisano, R. Ramsden, K. Tillinghast, H. Carr, D. Robinson, J. Lewis, A. Cooper, E. McClary, M. McClary, K. McClary, T. LaRose, K. Meaney, J. McKenna

2. Virtual Guests - M. Enigk, K. Ocque

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

C. Opening Remarks - Trustee Reyburn thanked everyone for attending. He continued with the protocol on addressing the Board and gave directions to the restrooms.

II. Approval of Minutes -

- A. Special Meeting Minutes - February 7, 2022
- B. Regular Meeting Minutes - February 16, 2022
- C. Special Meeting Minutes - March 2, 2022

All minutes were accepted by the Board's assent.

III. District Presentation

A. Legend of Learning -The board congratulated Ms. Heather Vadala, Custodial Worker and Shift Supervisor at LaFayette Jr/Sr High School, as the Legend of Learning for March 2022. Heather was nominated by a staff member who shared the following: Heather goes above and beyond for our students and staff at the high school. Heather takes great pride in providing clean classrooms for students, and making sure that everyone has a school that sparkles each morning. Heather makes sure that sporting events, school events, meetings, and evening activities are set up and have everything that they need while using our high school facility. Thank you Heather for doing an exceptional job to provide a clean, healthy school for our students and staff! Heather was appreciative of the recognition. She could not have done it without her crew.

- B. [Scholastic Awards](#)- The board recognized the 2022 Scholastic Art Award Recipients. Ms. Heidi Carr and Ms. Danielle Robinson showcased the work of our accomplished artists and the board presented a certificate of recognition to each student. Students' artwork was displayed at Onondaga Community College. The artwork is currently displayed at the high school and is also on the facebook page. Ms. Carr and Ms. Robinson thanked the Board for recognizing the students.
- C. [2022 NYS AHPERD CNZ](#) Elementary Teacher of the year- The board recognized Ms. Karyn Meaney as the New York State Association of Health, Physical Education, Recreation, and Dance Central North Zone Elementary Teacher of the Year. Karyn has gone above and beyond in her role as a PLC Facilitator for our Physical Education, Health and FACS teachers. Karyn puts the fun in physical education for our elementary students and we are grateful to have her as part of our team. Mr. LaRose, Mrs. Blossey, Mr. Ryan and Mr Belfield spoke on Karyn's achievements and performance. Mrs. Meaney shared her speech which she prepared for receiving the Elementary Teacher of the Year Award. Mrs. Meaney thanked the Board for their recognition.
- D. Mid-Year Report for Grimshaw, HS, and BP - J. Blossey, JP Ryan, S. Osborn- Superintendent Belfield introduced the building principals who provided an update on school improvement efforts at each of the schools.

Mrs. Blossey, principal of Grimshaw, gave her update and shared her report [slides](#).

Trustee Dwyer requested Grimshaw's past years progress data for comparison.

Mrs. Osborn, Principal of the Big Picture, provided her [update](#) with some assistance from Leonard Oppedisano.

Mr. Ryan, Principal of the High School, gave an in depth mid-year [report](#).

- E. [Athletics Update](#) - Winter Sports - Mr. McKenna provided the board with an update on winter athletics.
- F. [Budget Presentation](#) - Revenue Budget- School Business Official Peter Mahunik provided the board with a projected revenue budget for the 2022-2023 school year.

IV. Communications

- A. Board Member Updates - The Board acknowledged and thanked Superintendent Belfield for his leadership and bringing the District through the COVID 19 pandemic the past two years.

Mr. Belfield reflected on the past two years. He thanked the Board for his acknowledgement and gave credit to the board members, staff, the children and the community.

Trustee Reyburn shared conversations from the last BOCES meeting. BOCES have been doing some research and RFP. BOCES plan is to save \$2.4 million on utilities using solar and wind and other conventional methods. Another thing being worked on is reimbursement of salaries for CTEs and for BOCES teachers. BOCES is looking out for the best interest of their other constituent schools.

V. New Business - No new business

VI. Superintendent Report

- A. Superintendent Belfield spoke about March being music in our school month. There was a great musical on Friday - Freaky Friday. Mr Belfield congratulated the performers, the pit band, the stage crew, and the director. They will be invited at the next meeting to celebrate their accomplishments.
- B. Superintendent Belfield updated the board on the district's ongoing efforts regarding information security. The district is working with a vendor through the Central New York Regional Information Center to complete an updated risk assessment and conduct penetration testing. The work will happen this spring. Mr. Zehner and Ms. Sandusky continue to perform routine vulnerability scans to make sure that all important software patches are performed on systems connected to our network. Information security continues to be a priority at LaFayette.
- C. Security and Door Project at the Onondaga Nation School - Superintendent Belfield updated the board on the planned capital work at the Onondaga Nation School scheduled for this summer. Disappointing news about the security project at the Onondaga Nation School which was the replacement of the exterior doors security cameras. We had a bid that went out during the month of February. It came in just over \$500,000. Wicks law in New York state any single contract over \$500,000 has to be broken up into multiple prime contracts. So unfortunately the project has to be rebid. Rebidding in the middle of March will delay construction possibly into next summer. Similar situation with the roof five years ago. Mr. Belfield will meet with leaders of the Nation and explain the disappointment. OGS is working on a bid for the replacement of the fire alarm system. Mr. Kesler and Superintendent Belfield participated in a phone call with the fire alarm consultant, OGS, and NYSED to plan out the construction for the fall and winter months during second shift and school breaks. The bids will go out within the next three to four weeks and awarded sometime later this spring. Construction will probably start in the fall and winter months and should be completed sometime in February or March of 2023.
- D. Superintendent Belfield thanked the Neighbors of the Onondaga Nation for their continued support with advocacy efforts for a full renovation project at the Onondaga Nation School. Unfortunately the one house budget that was released did not include the full \$20M for renovations. They felt that the justifications that were provided were not warranted or justified. The good news is Governor Hochul included \$6.1M in her executive budget proposal to address the following issues at the Onondaga Nation School - 1) Slate roof replacement 2) Classroom HVAC and air conditioning upgrades 3) Window and window shade replacements

- 4) New fire shutters in the cultural center. The district is seeking a full renovation and classroom addition to meet the growing program needs and better support the students at ONS.
- E. Superintendent Belfield updated the board on the capital project work planned for the next two summers at Grimshaw, Big Picture, and the High School. The board awarded bids in February 2022 for the voter approved capital project that will target replacement of classroom HVAC systems on the second floor, Big Picture, main gymnasiums and the music wing. The project will also feature a full renovation of the Grimshaw library, High School Technology suite, and several items from our last building condition survey. So far, our team has conducted an initial budget review, answered RFIs, and worked through the awarding of contracts with prime contractors. Contractors are ordering equipment and supplies once submittals are approved, and working through various scheduling meetings. Superintendent Belfield expressed his gratitude to the board and the community for their ongoing support with the facility needs in our schools.
- F. My Brother's Keeper Community Challenge - Superintendent Belfield shared that LaFayette MBK Coordinator Meagan Smith will present at the April 18th Board of Education Meeting on the My Brother's Keeper Community Challenge which is designed to encourage schools and community groups to join forces to help support young people of color to aspire towards success in school and beyond. We have two students, Arrow Booth and Brett Bucktooth, who are candidates to become MBK Fellows. In order to earn this prestigious award, students need to have the support of an MBK Community which has accepted the challenge of My Brother's Keeper, and commit to local action by supporting the priorities of the New York State MBK program. LaFayette MBK Fellow Candidate Arrow Booth has identified the MBK priority of using differentiated approaches based on need and culture to support his fellow students and community. We look forward to hearing more from Arrow, Brett, and Meagan on April 18th.
- G. COVID Updates - Superintendent Belfield thanked Wegmans Pharmacy for hosting a Vaccine Clinic on March 1st at Grimshaw Elementary. 21 individuals received the COVID vaccine. The majority of the participants received either their second dose or a booster. For the handful of individuals who received their first dose, Wegmans scheduled the second dose at one of the local pharmacies. On March 2nd, Governor Kathy Hochul announced significant changes to COVID related mask requirements in schools. Effective March 2nd, school staff members can no longer require students to wear masks inside of school buildings or on buses. Masks are now optional for students and staff. Students and staff members are grateful to have the choice to either wear or not wear a mask. Thankfully, COVID cases in the surrounding community have dramatically decreased and we have experienced a corresponding decrease in reported COVID cases among our students and staff. Since our last board meeting, the district has reported 17 new cases for a total of 354 COVID cases this school year. The district distributed rapid test kits to students and families prior to February break with only a few of those 17 new cases being reported from home test kits. The district will continue to

make test kits available to students and staff. Our amazing school nurses continue to perform weekly COVID surveillance testing at our schools on Tuesdays. We encourage everyone to stay home when they are sick and to get tested for COVID when symptoms occur. The district continues to follow the precautions laid out by the Onondaga Nation leaders at the Onondaga Nation school. Principal Gonyea and Superintendent Belfield continue to meet weekly with the Nation Health Clinic and Onondaga Nation leaders to review safety protocols. So far, Onondaga Nation leaders have relaxed movement restrictions within the building which now allows all students to travel to special area classrooms. ONS students are now eating breakfast and lunch in the cafeteria with four feet of social distancing (relaxed from six feet). Onondaga Nation leaders will continue to monitor cases at the other schools and consider relaxing other restrictions, such as mask wearing requirements, in the near future.

- H. New York State Council of School Superintendents Winter Institute- Superintendent Belfield attended the NYSCOSS Winter Institute in Albany last week. The sessions focused on legislative advocacy (state and federal), boosting teacher morale, innovation in education, and celebrating our New York State Superintendent of the Year - Dr. Donna DeSiato from East Syracuse Minoa CSD. It was great to network with colleagues and share ideas with districts from across the state. Big issues on the legislative front; electric vehicles. The senate would like to move up the timeline to 2027 to when we can start purchasing zero emission buses which will require charging stations which is another added cost to the district. The assembly has taken a more measured approach to no emission vehicles and would like to study the issue and find out what the real cost is before moving forward.
- I. E-Sports - Superintendent Belfield thanked BP Advisor Walt Nowey and our technology team to help implement E-Sports for LaFayette students. BP and STEP have hosted a video game after school club for a few years and BP alumni Sean Humphrey was hoping that someday this club would grow into an official ESports team. We are on the cusp of having this team up, running, and ready to compete.
- J. Student Representatives for Town of LaFayette Conservation Commission - Superintendent Belfield thanked ECOS Advisor Dave Amidon for nominating Isabella Shenandoah-Kurtz and Payton Kremers to serve on the LaFayette Advisory Conservation Commission. The commission focuses on special projects such as studies, surveys, inventories of natural and man-made features to support the Town's adherence to local laws. The commission focuses on conservation efforts, provides input on the Town's comprehensive plan, and participates in Town approved community projects.

K. Superintendent Belfield shared that the District Planning Committee will meet this week to review the draft 2022-2023 school calendar. The committee hopes to finalize the calendar for approval at the next board meeting. Superintendent Belfield shared a draft set of Board Meeting Dates for 2022-2023. Regular meeting dates will continue on Wednesdays and Superintendent Belfield requested special meetings at various intervals to allow for the approval of CSE/CPSE/504 committee recommendations.

VII. Policy Discussion

A. LaFayette Board of Education Policy Review

1. First Reading for Policy 3220 - Approved

Motion: Carried **1st:** Trustee Roe **2nd:** Dwyer
Vote: Yes: 6 **No:** 0 **Abstain:** 0 **Absent:** Trustee LeBlanc

The second reading for policy 3220 will be on the March 30th agenda with a third reading waiver.

VIII. Consent Agenda

A. Approval of Board Action Items

1. CSE, CPSE, and 504 Recommendations
2. Approval of ADAPEP Agreement - Calendar Year 2022
3. Treasurer's Report - January 2022
4. Budget Transfers
5. 2020-2021 Single Audit Report & Extra-classroom Audit Report
6. Health and Welfare Contract and Invoice - West Genesee / Bishop Ludden
7. Summer Hours MOAs
8. Non-Marketable Surplus
9. Combining contracts - Boys Modified Lacrosse

Trustee Stanton questioned the Health and Welfare Contract with West Genesee. Mr. Mahunik answered.

Motion: Carried **1st:** Trustee Roe **2nd:** Dwyer
Vote: Yes: 6 **No:** 0 **Abstain:** 0 **Absent:** Trustee LeBlanc

B. Approval of Personnel Items

1. Resignation
2. Substitute Appointment
3. Non-Instructional Appointment
4. Clerical Appointment
5. Annual Appointment
6. Spring Coach Recommendations

Motion: Carried **1st:** Trustee Roe **2nd:** Trustee Stanton
Vote: Yes: 6 **No:** 0 **Abstain:** 0 **Absent:** Trustee LeBlanc

- IX. Financials - FYI
- A. Warrant and Claims - January 2022
 - B. Financials - January 2022
 - C. Cash Flow - January 2022
- X. Board Non-Action Items
- A. Strategic Plan Update- DCIP committee met in Albany on Monday and reviewed some of the supports that are in place for our students to address social and emotional learning and mental health supports. We need to continue with our goals to listen to our students and our staff. Some great work is also being continued on the curriculum side with the Math audit. Jennifer Lockwood, who was accepted in the Inspiring Leaders Institute at OCM BOCES, is excited to make her special project for that class, working with the math review process and our committee. Jen will be presenting to the administrative team next week. Staff Development Day March 21, 2022. There will be a full day of opportunities.
- XI. Calendar Review
- A. Upcoming Events
 - Early Dismissal for PLCs every Monday - 1:45 GS/ONS; 2:00 HS/BP
 1. March 18th - 2nd Marking Period Ends - GS
 2. March 21, 2022 - No School for Students - Staff Development Day
 3. NYS ELA Testing Grades 3-8 March 29 - April 1
 4. March 30th - BOE Meeting at the Big Picture Commons at 5:30 pm
- XII. Public Comments
- A. Public Communications to the Board - No public communication
- XIII. Proposed Executive Session - Subject to Board Approval
- A. Enter into the Executive Session for the purpose of discussing employment, legal issues and contracts at 8:00 pm.

Motion: Carried **1st:** Trustee Walker **2nd:** Trustee Dwyer
Vote: Yes: 6 **No:** 0 **Abstain:** 0 **Absent:** Trustee LeBlanc
 - B. Reconvene into Open Session at 9:35 pm

Motion: Carried **1st:** Trustee Dwyer **2nd:** Trustee Gates
Vote: Yes: 6 **No:** 0 **Abstain:** 0 **Absent:** Trustee LeBlanc
- XIV. Adjournment
- A. Adjourn the meeting at 9:35 pm

Motion: Carried **1st:** Trustee Walker **2nd:** Trustee Dwyer
Vote: Yes: 6 **No:** 0 **Abstain:** 0 **Absent:** Trustee LeBlanc

Respectfully Submitted,
Paula Hibbert