

LaFayette Central School District  
Board of Education - Regular Meeting  
Location: The Big Picture Commons  
Address: 3122 US Route 11  
LaFayette, NY 13084  
Date: April 21, 2025

I. Opening

A. Call to Order - The 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 J. Gates, S. Stanton, A. Moore, A. Roe-Ryan, M. LaCava, Superintendent Jeremy Belfield, School Business Official and Deputy Clerk Laurie Holtsbery. Trustee Podsiedlik was not present.

1. Guests in attendance - Dr. Matt Cook
2. Virtual Guests - Jennifer Blossey, Colleen Cameron, Ashley Kolbeck, James McKenna

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

C. Opening Remarks - President Reyburn opened the meeting by thanking everyone online and in-person for attending. He also reviewed meeting conducts and gave directions to the restrooms.

The agenda was amended adding the Modified Girls Softball Combining contract to the consent agenda, and the Resolution to appoint Dr. Cook for the Superintendent's search will be discussed in an executive session prior to approval.

<b>Motion:</b> Carried	<b>1st:</b> Trustee LaCava	<b>2nd:</b> Trustee Gates
<b>Vote: Yes:</b> 6	<b>No:</b> 0	<b>Abstain:</b> 0
		<b>Absent:</b> 1

II. Approval of Minutes - March 26, 2025

A. Regular Minutes - Trustee Moore was not present for the March 26th meeting

<b>Motion:</b> Carried	<b>1st:</b> Trustee Roe-Ryan	<b>2nd:</b> Trustee LaCava
<b>Vote: Yes:</b> 6	<b>No:</b> 0	<b>Abstain:</b> 0
		<b>Absent:</b> 1

### III. District Presentation

- A. Legend of Learning April 2025 - Timothy Baker (Tim) - Social Studies Teacher and History Teacher. The student who nominated Tim shared the following: Mr. Baker is a great support to me. Recently, I was struggling to prepare for a test and Mr. Baker provided me with one-on-one tutoring. Mr. Baker is always accessible and ready to assist. Thank you Mr. Baker for always being there for students!
- Another individual who nominated Tim shared: A few years back, Tim resurrected the Optimist Club Awards for students that display a positive attitude and showed a commitment to bettering themselves. Tim encourages teachers to recognize students for their commitments to being their best. During one award presentation, several students mentioned how touched they were to be recognized and appreciated for perseverance, determination, and grit. Tim's efforts made a profound impact on the lives of students and helped build relationships between teachers and students. Mr. Belfield thanked Mr. Baker for his continued commitment to excellence!
- B. Superintendent Search - Matt Cook, OCM BOCES - Dr. Cook addressed the Board about assisting with the search for a new Superintendent, the different options available, the timeline and how the search process is normally done. The service is free if the Board chooses BOCES to assist with the search which takes about three to four months.

Trustee LaCava asked - What is the reasonable expectation of a closed search that it will stay confidential.

Dr. Cook responded that it all depends on how serious the Board takes confidentiality. No one outside his office will know the candidates.

Trustee Roe-Ryan commented on the search and the Onondaga Nation Ceremonies.

- C. OCM BOCES Administrative and Capital Budget Vote
1. Vote for BOCES Candidates
  2. Resolution for OCM BOCES Budget

One vote was casted for each BOCES Candidate. The resolution was approved.

<b>Motion:</b> Carried	<b>1st:</b> Trustee LaCava	<b>2nd:</b> Trustee Stanton
<b>Vote: Yes:</b> 6	<b>No:</b> 0	<b>Abstain:</b> 0 <b>Absent:</b> 1

### IV. Policy Discussion

- A. LaFayette Board of Education Policy Review

1. First Reading for Policy 7110, 7120, 7121, 7122, 7130

<b>Motion:</b> Carried	<b>1st:</b> Trustee Roe-Ryan	<b>2nd:</b> Trustee LaCava
<b>Vote: Yes:</b> 6	<b>No:</b> 0	<b>Abstain:</b> 0 <b>Absent:</b> 1

V. Communications

- A. Student Board Member Updates - Ms. Kiera Reed. Ms. Reed shared all the activities that took place during Day of Giving.

Trustee Roe-Ryan asked who came up with the topics.

Ms. Reed responded that Source of Strength came up with the topics

Ms. Reed asked students about the Governor's cell phone policy. Overall, students had mixed opinions about it. Ms. Reed also asked students about their plans for spring break. Multiple responses were shared. Ms. Reed spoke on the Seal of Biliteracy what it is and how it is achieved.

Trustee Moore asked about the students' response to the Governor's cell phone policy. Ms. Reed believes it was a 50/50 pros and cons.

Trustee Roe-Ryan asked if the students were aware of the Governor's cell phone policy and if it was explained to them.

Ms. Reed responded that students were aware of the policy - the teachers explained it.

Ms. Reed thanked the Board for listening.

- B. Board Member Updates - Mr. Reyburn talked about upcoming events for board members. He also shared information from the last OCM BOCES meeting which was in Cortlandville at the CTE building. The presentation last year was from an area of the CTE program - Lime Hollow students in the Environmental Science program presented maple sugaring. This year's presentation was from SkillsUSA - It is an opportunity for students to be in a smaller group and attend competitions. The main competition is in Morrisville for our area. Mr. Reyburn talked about the students' projects and achievements.

Trustee Roe-Ryan asked if teachers knew about SkillsUSA and the opportunities for students.

Mr. Reyburn responded there was a professional development at the Everson Museum for our Teacher and it was an amazing event. He hopes the teachers knew about it, because they are trying to do a lot of things to make sure people have resources they need or want.

Mr. Belfield referred to Frontline with all the catalogues of offerings for teachers.

Trustee Roe-Ryan talked about participating in Career Day. It was a different set up than in the past. It was set up as a passport system with receiving a number of stamps in your passport at tables to explore other different career tables within the event. It helped students break out of their comfort zone. Trustee Roe-Ryan thought it was a great event.

Trustee Moore also participated in Career Day and thought the experience was like that of a job fair. It was well done.

- VI. Superintendent Report - Superintendent Belfield thanked Paula Hibbert for submitting all the documentation so our district can be recognized by Utica Nationals for a safety award and receive a \$500 check. Mr. Belfield talked about recruiting for the next Student Board Member and thanked Ms. Reed for taking on this responsibility in her busy schedule. Ms. Reed was also inducted into the National Technical Honor Society along with other students; LaFayette was well represented through OCM BOCES at this event. Congratulations to the students. Mr. Belfield talked about ELA testing and the issues involved. NYS was very responsive and provided information from the vendor. Math and science testing are still ahead and Mr. Belfield hopes the issues have been resolved. Thanks to students and staff for dealing with those frustrating moments. Plans to replace the phone system over the summer were shared. Results of lead testing were also shared.

Trustee LaCava asked if all the findings were at Grimshaw.  
Mr. Belfield responded - there is one at the high school.

Mr. Belfield talked about his resignation and offered to assist, where possible, with the search for his replacement.

Trustee LaCava and Trustee Roe-Ryan thanked Superintendent Belfield for all he has done for the District.

Trustee LaCava thanked Ms. Petranchuk for constructively navigating the school, adjusting the schedule, through the issues of ELA testing.

Ms. Cameron thanked Mr. Belfield for all he has done for the District.

VII. Consent Agenda

A. Approval of Board Action Items

1. CSE, CPSE, 504 Recommendations
2. Treasurer's Report - March 2025
3. Budget Transfers - March 2025
4. Transportation Requests School Year 25-26
5. Tuition - Syracuse Academy of Science
6. Syracuse City School District - Health and Welfare
7. Election Inspectors / Technician - School District Budget Vote
8. Combining Contract - Onondaga CSD - Modified Girls Softball
9. ~~Resolution - Superintendent Search - Dr. Cook~~
10. AIA Agreement w/ Ashley McGraw for the 2025-2026 Capital Project
11. Resolution 2025-2026 COP - Architect Contract - AMG
12. SEQRA Capital Outlay 25-26
13. MOU Onondaga County - School Bus Photo Violation Monitoring Program

Item #9 was moved to executive session.

<b>Motion:</b> Carried	<b>1st:</b> Trustee Gates	<b>2nd:</b> Trustee LaCava
<b>Vote: Yes:</b> 6	<b>No:</b> 0	<b>Abstain:</b> 0
		<b>Absent:</b> 1

B. Approval of Personnel

1. Resignation
2. Substitute Recommendations
3. Non-Instructional Recommendations
4. Interscholastic Recommendations

<b>Motion:</b> Carried	<b>1st:</b> Trustee LaCava	<b>2nd:</b> Trustee Gates
<b>Vote: Yes:</b> 6	<b>No:</b> 0	<b>Abstain:</b> 0
		<b>Absent:</b> 1

VIII. Financials - FYI

- A. Warrants and Claims March 2025
- B. Financials March 2025
- C. Cash Flow March 2025

Ms. Holtsbery spoke - We are waiting for the State budget. We should be in good shape. The brochure and the postcard are in the works.

Mr. Belfield asked if the budget newsletter will go out before the budget hearing? It was a request from a constituent from last year.

Ms. Holtsbery responded - she needs to look at the calendar which has the order of events. The budget newsletter goes to print tomorrow and will be available on the website along with the detailed budget. Ms. Holtsbery shared the collaboration of the newsletter. There was conversation about past newsletters and candidates biographies.

IX. Calendar Review

A. Upcoming Events

- Co-Curricular Club meets during the week. Please see the District Calendar for specific club meeting dates.
- April 22nd - 10 Grade OCC Advantage Field Trip 8:45am - 12:15pm
- April 22nd - ONS Spring Dinner 11:00am - 1:00pm
- April 28th - School Bus Drill
- May 2nd - End of Jr. Sr. High Marking Period 5
- May 3rd - SAT Exams
- May 5th - GAPS Meeting 6:00 pm
- May 7th BOE Meeting @ the BP Commons 5:30pm- Budget Hearing

X. Public Comments

- A. Public Communications to the Board - Ms. Cameron thanked Ms. LaCava for her work. Ms. Cameron believes her daughter is fortunate to have been involved in the water testing experiment at Grimshaw. Her daughter still talks about how cool that lesson was.

XI. Proposed Executive Session - Subject to Board Approval

- A. Enter into the Executive Session for the purpose of discussing employment history of particular persons, collective negotiation with the Business Official, Superintendent's Secretary, and District Treasurer at 6:45 pm.

**Motion:** Carried      **1st:** Trustee Roe-Ryan      **2nd:** Trustee LaCava  
**Vote: Yes:** 6      **No:** 0      **Abstain:** 0      **Absent:** 1

- B. Reconvene into Open Session at 8:33 pm

**Motion:** Carried      **1st:** Trustee Moore      **2nd:** Trustee Gates  
**Vote: Yes:** 6      **No:** 0      **Abstain:** 0      **Absent:** 1

Item VII. A. 9. Resolution - Superintendent Search - Dr. Cook - was approved. The idea of an open search was also discussed.

**Motion:** Carried      **1st:** Trustee Roe-Ryan      **2nd:** Trustee LaCava  
**Vote: Yes:** 6      **No:** 0      **Abstain:** 0      **Absent:** 1

XII. Adjournment

- A. Adjourn the meeting at 8:35 pm

**Motion:** Carried      **1st:** Trustee Roe-Ryan      **2nd:** Trustee LaCava  
**Vote: Yes:** 6      **No:** 0      **Abstain:** 0      **Absent:** 1

Respectfully Submitted,  
Paula Hibbert