

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
August 17, 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, S. Stanton, J. Gates, A. Roe-Ryan, A. Moore, Superintendent Jeremy Belfield, School Business Manager and Deputy Clerk Laurie Holtsbery.

1. Guests in attendance - Brett Keane, Kensington Keane, Jim Kesler, Heather Storrier-Castleman, Sean Griffin, Robert Pontbriand, Ava Spicer, Kendall Neuser, Shelly Neuser, Amanda Evans, Marissa Evans, Adrian Shute, Betty Lyons, Tadodaho Sid Hill, Jerry Kelly, James Mckenna, Cassandra Miner

2. Virtual Guests - Lindsay Byrnes, Jennifer Blossey, Jennie Mahar, Lisa Chapman, Dan Cameron, Ashley Kolbeck, Brittany Gale, Ellie McElhannon, Mackenzie McElhannon, Karen Ocque, Isabella Shenandoah-Kurtz, Lisa Shanandoah-Kurtz, Madison Simmons

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

C. Opening Remarks - President Reyburn reviewed the board meeting protocol.

II. Approval of Minutes -

A. Reorganizational Minutes - July 6, 2022 - Accepted as is.

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

B. Regular Meeting Minutes - July 6, 2022

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

C. Special Meeting Minutes - July 26, 2022

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

III. District Presentation

A. Construction Update -July 2022- Superintendent Belfield introduced members of the construction team who provided an update on construction to date on the December 2020 voter approved project. Robert Pontbriand and Jessica Nguyen gave the construction update. Ms. Nguyen spoke on the progress of the project. Mr. Pontbriand gave an update of the accomplishments at the high school and at Grimshaw elementary and shared what's scheduled ahead. Work is progressing at a steady pace in preparation for the start of the school year. Construction will move to one shift starting September 1st when staff return to school. The renovation of the high school auditorium lobby and Grimshaw library will continue during the second shift throughout the fall and winter months. The project has been impacted by supply chain issues and challenges in the labor market. Our limited crew of contractors are working at a steady pace to complete required work for occupancy as we return to school in September. Jim Kesler shared that the capital project outlay got SED approval. Due to the unexpected high cost of outsourcing the bidding, the District along with the architects and engineers will possibly handle the bidding process. Mr. Kesler gave an update on the Onondaga Nation school. The informacast for the security project has been submitted. There is nothing new on the facilities studies. Mr. Belfield shared information from a conversation with Principal Gonyea on the cost of the playground at the Onondaga Nation School.

B. District Comprehensive Improvement Plan (DCIP) - Superintendent Belfield provided an overview of the District Comprehensive Improvement plan goals for the 2022-2023 school year. The district will focus on the following areas:

- a. We will strengthen our ability to provide a cohesive, relevant curriculum by implementing a new ELA Curriculum for Grades K-8 (EL Education). This is year two of implementation. We will strengthen our ability to provide a cohesive, relevant curriculum by implementing and monitoring adjustments to our current Math curricula.

Mr. Belfield talked about last school year's math audit. It is very complimentary across the district. This school year 6th Grade students will use the E-Math program to help transition into Jr. Sr. high school. Mr. Belfield thanked Jen Lockwood in the Math department for her active role.

- b. We will strengthen our ability to address the needs of all students; including their voices in the use of surveys.
- c. We will strengthen our capacity to support students' social-emotional and mental health needs by partnering with outside agencies.

Mr. Belfield, Ms. Osborn and Mr. Ryan visited the steel recycling plant Nucor, in Auburn. Trustee Moore works at Nucor. In regards to building opportunities for students; There are opportunities for students right out of high school at Nucor.

There is a strong elementary program for teaching children social and emotional needs called second step. This will be the second year of implementation district wide. At the Big Picture and at the high school, DBT step A will be implemented. It's geared to adolescent kids. Support staff is in place to address and support the needs of all students. The district has had the benefit with the great partners at Onondaga County

with the Promise Zone Specialist made available to our schools. SUNY Upstate Medical University partners with the district for a school-based mental health clinic (pending NYSDOH approval). Counseling appointments will be accessible in the district. Upstate has hired a Clinician. In the approval process, Upstate license had to be amended to provide care with-in schools. An Access Liaisons will be joining the district working with the counseling staff and social workers to connect families with care.

Trustee Dwyer asked about the funding for these supports.

Mr. Belfield responded that the Access Liaison is county funded. The Promise Zone Specialist is a joint partnership between the district and the county. The district is invoiced each year by the county. The Federal Grant funds will be used for this purpose.

The Onondaga Nation School and Lafayette Jr/Sr High School have also received state approval for their school comprehensive education plans. Their goals relate to the DCIP. One of the areas the high school will continue to focus on is making sure that we have consistent and very clear grading practices. The Onondaga Nation school will continue to focus on an all-round cultural environment for indigenous students. These two schools have been identified by the New York State Education Department as Comprehensive Support and Improvement Schools based on results from the 2017-18 school year. New York State paused the accountability system during the pandemic and is in the process of restarting the accountability process using the 2022 academic and attendance results. Superintendent Belfield expressed his thanks to the members of the district comprehensive improvement team and the teams from the High School and the Onondaga Nation School for providing their input and ideas for continuous improvement at our schools.

- C. LCSD Professional Learning Response to Intervention Special Education and Guidance Plan- Superintendent Belfield provided updates to the board on the district's special education plan. LaFayette will continue to focus on promoting inclusive education and providing the support, here in LaFayette, necessary to meet the needs of all students. The school guidance and counseling plan provides a framework for educating students on the importance of planning for future careers and supporting students who may be experiencing challenges that impact their overall success (attendance, social/emotional or mental health concerns). The plan is to train our staff in a strong collaborative culture of professional learning. Superintendent Belfield thanked the board for their ongoing support in adding mental health support for students and families through the recent addition of social workers and support made available from Onondaga County including a Promise Zone Specialist, Access Liaison, and a school-based mental health clinic (pending NYSDOH approval). Superintendent Belfield also provided an overview of the MTTS/AIS/RTI plan. The focus is to provide solid instructions for our students to reach their benchmarks for success. Also for those students who do not experience success; how do we support them? Still in the works in the PLC is how do we challenge students who have already met their benchmark?

D. Resolution to Confirm Tax Rolls and Authorize Tax Levy- Superintendent Belfield thanked School Business Official Laurie Holtsbery for compiling the required information for issuing our school tax warrant. Thanks to the increase in home sales in our school district and the board's commitment to fiscal responsibility, LaFayette will continue to have one of the lowest school tax rates in Onondaga County. Home values are up which means the tax rate is going down. Superintendent Belfield thanked the LaFayette voters for their overwhelming support of our school district spending plan. We are grateful to have these financial resources available to support great opportunities for our students. Mr. Belfield commended Laurie Holtsbery, Peter Mahunik and Klm Reppi for their hard work with the tax levy calculations.

Trustee Dwyer shared that the equalization rate is now 75% which has dropped from last year and that the rate being lower will affect tax rate.

1. Roll Call - Tax Rolls and Authorize Tax Levy - District Clerk, Paula Hibbert conducted the roll call - All board members approved.

IV. Proposed Executive Session - Subject to Board Approval

A. Enter into the Executive Session for the purpose of discussing prospective employment and employment history at 6:06 pm.

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

B. Reconvene into Open Session at 6:50 pm

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

V. Communications

A. Board Member Updates - None

VI. Policy Discussion

A. LaFayette Board of Education Policy Review

1. First Reading for Policy 5661- Wellness

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

VII. Consent Agenda

A. Approval of Board Action Items

1. Approval of CSE/CPSE/504 Recommendation
2. Onondaga Community College Now MOU
3. Surplus Items
4. District SAVES Plan
5. Gift to the Onondaga Nation School
6. Truxton Monthly Tuition - July 2022 - June 2023
7. Change Order B&C CO-GC-003
8. Agreement with Champions Martial Arts Inc D/B/A Champions GR8 KIDZ Afterschool and Day Camps

Trustee Dwyer asked the cost of the Afterschool program.

Mr. Belfield responded, \$1 to sign up and \$77 per week per student.

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

B. Approval of Personnel Items

1. Resignation
2. Instructional Appointment
3. Substitute Appointment
4. Non-Instructional Appointment
5. Annual Appointment
6. Administrative Appointment
7. Summer Appointments and Corrections

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

Superintendent Belfield welcomed Nicole Petranchuk as the next Principal at Grimshaw Elementary. Nicole is coming from East Syracuse Minoa School District. Ms. Petranchuk is a stand-out candidate, has a great personality and has a passion for kids. Her love of education is what brought her to the board tonight and we are glad to have her as part of our team.

8. Coach Appointment -

The three Girls Lacrosse appointments are tabled until the next BOE meeting on September 14, 2022.

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

The Modified Boys Soccer Coach was approved.

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

9. PLC Facilitators 2022-2023

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

VIII. Calendar Review

A. Upcoming Events

1. August 31st - BOE Retreat/Special Meeting 5:30 pm Location TBD

IX. Public Comments

A. Public Communications to the Board -

The three Girls Lacrosse Coach appointments were tabled until September 14, 2022, due to questions and concerns from the LaFayette community. LaFayette Girls and the Onondaga Nation Central School District Girls Lacrosse players are teammates. The LaFayette, Tully and Fabius Pompey team would be merged, eliminating a LaFayette coach who represents her nations. If merged, the name of the team would be Southern Hills Girls Lacrosse. The following community members spoke on the matter: Heather Sorrier-Castleman of LaFayette Booster Club, Kensington Keane (student), Amanda Evans, Shelly Neuser(OCSD), Adrian Shute, Jerry Kelly, Brett Keane, Marissa Evans.

There were various concerns from the community if the merge was to occur.

Athletic Director James McKenna spoke on why the merge is necessary. Tully will be left without a team if the merger does not occur. Tully has assisted the district in the past when there weren't enough LaFayette girls for a team.

X. Proposed Executive Session - Subject to Board Approval

- A. Enter into the Executive Session for the purpose of discussing litigation and personnel at 7:28 pm.

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

- B. Reconvene into Open Session at 8:42 pm

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

XI. Adjournment

- A. Adjourn the meeting at 8:42 pm

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

Respectfully Submitted,
Paula Hibbert