

LaFayette Central School District
Board of Education - Regular Meeting
Location: The Big Picture Commons
Address: 3122 US Route 11 North
LaFayette, NY 13084
December 13, 2023

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, L. Podseidlik, Superintendent Jeremy Belfield, School Business Official and Deputy Clerk Laurie Holtsbery.

1. Guests in attendance - Jim Kesler, Jessica Nguyen, Chris Gray, Dale Shinneman, Gregg Shinneman, James McKenna
2. Virtual Guests - No virtual attendance

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

C. Opening Remarks - President Reyburn thanked everyone for attending. Meeting conducts were reviewed.

II. Approval of Minutes

A. Regular Minutes [November 15, 2023](#) - Trustee Gates and Trustee Stanton were not present for the November meeting.

Motion: Carried **1st:** Trustee LaCava **2nd:** Trustee Roe-Ryan
Vote: Yes: 5 **No:** 0 **Abstain:** 2 **Absent:** 0

III. District Presentation

A. Legend of Learning December 2023 - Superintendent Belfield congratulates Ms. Jessica Nguyen from Turner Construction who was selected as the December 2023 Legend of Learning. Jessica is an Engineer with Turner Construction. The individual who nominated Jessica shared the following:

Jessica arrived in LaFayette as part of our construction management team in 2022 after successfully completing a capital project with the Whitesboro Central School District. Jessica assisted the construction and design team with coordination of bid award, construction schedule, coordination with contractors, managing the budget, and a variety of other related tasks. Jessica updated the Board of Education on a monthly basis and demonstrated exceptional leadership skills in her ability to coordinate a successful capital project that led to several facility improvements which included the renovation of libraries, the addition of air conditioning in second floor classrooms, the renovation of the technology suite at

the high school, roof replacement for the auxiliary gymnasium, masonry repointing, parking lot repaving and sealing, and several improvements to critical infrastructure. Jessica also presented to students at Grimshaw Elementary and LaFayette Jr/Sr High School to highlight careers in the construction industry.

Superintendent Belfield thanked Ms. Nguyen for her continued commitment to excellence.

- B. [Construction Update](#) - Jessica Nguyen of Turner Construction gave the construction update. The update included accomplishments and updates at Grimshaw and the Jr. Sr. High school. Also included were highlights of the milestone schedule, an overview of the current project cost, the engineering status and areas of focus and issues. Jim Kesler thanked Jessica for keeping him grounded throughout the project. She always had a solution. Mr. Kesler gave an update on the Onondaga Nation School Fire Alarm project. Hopefully the project will be completed by December 22nd. The security project has started and bids have been awarded. Mr. Kesler is communicating with the State to see what work can be done at this time. The Onondaga Nation leaders will be meeting with State representatives on the 18th of December.
- C. [Athletics Update](#) - James McKenna, Director of Athletics, gave an update. Women's soccer combined with OCS. Men's soccer also combined with OCS. Both teams were recognized by NYS as scholar athletes. Girls and boys cross country teams were also recognized as scholar athletes for NYS. Varsity football won the championship for the C2D2 league. The team will be going back to tier one in the fall. Varsity volleyball won the section three class C championship. Volleyball season is over and the players have moved to varsity basketball. In golf, three players qualify for sectionals. Mr. Belfield shared information from the recent Superintendent's meeting in regards to neighboring schools participating in Volleyball and the disadvantages of having a winter team. There was a discussion about students playing dual sports. Mr. McKenna gave a shout-out to Kensington Keane for signing with Niagara University. There was a Friday night light scan which was tied into homecoming. It was an outstanding event. The lights came from the local community. There will be postings going out for coaches in the near future.
- D. [Zero \(0\) Emission Bus EPA Grant](#) - Superintendent Belfield gave an overview of the Zero Emission Bus EPA Grant for the consideration of grant application. Some of the highlights were NYS law for zero emission school buses, the steps to comply with the law and what the EPA bus grant application provides. All school buses in New York State have to be zero emissions by 2035. To comply, LaFayette has been working with National Grid on power supply. An upgrade to the transformer on the

Grimshaw property is required. A study is being done to select the appropriate transformer to supply the fleet of buses. The transportation department is working with NYSERDA to figure out which agent contracted through NYSERDA would be best suited to do the study. The District will be working with BOCES to hire a consultant, to look at ways for efficiency to address this mandate. Capital work and emergency projects will be needed to upgrade the transformer which will include modifications to the bus garage due to the length of the electric buses. Applying for this grant shows that steps are being taken to comply with the law. Drivers will need training. Figuring out the charging program will be part of the training. This grant can provide up to \$345,000 to assist with replacing one 2012 diesel bus and provide one level two charger, a transformer and necessary charging equipment for an electric bus. There was a discussion on all that's involved in acquiring a diesel bus including waiting to purchase and taking time to evaluate the current studies. Ms. Holtsbery shared information from a recent business meeting. The grant funds are available now and if all schools apply at the same time it may delay the process of releasing funding. Trustee Moore referred to the EPA worksheet and questioned the size of the transformer required for charging and shared information on his research. Trustee LaCava shared information on land for sale.

IV. Policy Discussion

A. LaFayette Board of Education Policy Review

1. Second Reading for Policy 5510, 5511, 5512, 5520, 5530, 5540

Motion: Carried	1st: Trustee Podsiedlik	2nd: Trustee LaCava
Vote: Yes: 7	No: 0	Abstain: 0
		Absent: 0

2. First Reading for Policy 5550, 5560, 5570, 5571, 5572, 5620

Trustee Moore questioned policy 5570 - Extraclassroom activity funds report changed from monthly to quarterly reports.

Ms. Holtsbery responded, reporting will be more feasible for the Extraclassroom Treasurer and to also monitor the activities. The activities are monitored frequently and the Board receives the quarterly reports.

Motion: Carried	1st: Trustee LaCava	2nd: Trustee Podsiedlik
Vote: Yes: 7	No: 0	Abstain: 0
		Absent: 0

V. Consent Agenda

A. Approval of Board Action Items

1. CSE, CPSE, 504 Recommendations
2. Affidavit of Tax Collector November 2023

3. Ridley CO-EC-009 HS RM138 EF-6 Electrical
4. K & J AD-PC-001 HS Sewage Pump Replacement
5. K & J CO-PC-005 HS Water Heater Replacement
6. K & J CO-PC-006 GE CD Piping, DCW Relocation
7. K & J CO-PC-007 HS WH Piping Mods
8. K & J CP-PC-008 HS Changes
9. B & C CO-GC-016 GE Sill, T&M, Ceiling Patch
10. B & C CO-GC-017 HS
11. B & C CO-GC-018 Bonds, RM138 Roof, Roof CREDIT
12. C & S CO-MC-009 HS DC-1 Mods, Addt'l Crane Pick
13. C & S CO-MC-010 HS Changes Final
14. C & S CO-MC-011 GE Changes Final
15. CO-GC-019 HS Changes Final
16. 2024 CIP construction Management Services - Turner
Pre-Referendum Contract - Ref Oct 2024 \$16.5M
- ~~17. Zero (0) Emission Bus Rebate Program Application~~
18. Syracuse Academy of Science Charter School - Tuition for School
Year 2023-2024

Trustee Moore motioned to vote on item #17 separately. Trustee LaCava second the motion.

Motion: Carried **1st:** Trustee LaCava **2nd:** Trustee Roe-Ryan
Vote: Yes: 7 **No:** 0 **Abstain:** 0 **Absent:** 0

17. Zero (0) Emission Bus Rebate Program Application

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

B. Approval of Personnel Items

1. Resignation
2. Annual Recommendation
3. Substitute Recommendation
4. Co-Curricular Club Recommendation

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

VI. Communications

- A. Board Member Updates - President Reyburn spoke on "The Portrait of a Graduate" which is a picture of the hope for future graduates. A piece of what's involved is not measurable and some students do not fit into the box portrayed in the portrait. Superintendent Belfield shared his views and

knowledge on graduates and their attributes after graduation. Board members shared knowledge and scenarios of graduates, and views on “The Portrait of a Graduate”.

VII. Superintendent Report

- A. Superintendent Belfield highlighted events since the last Board meeting. Thanks to the students and staff at the Onondaga Nation School for another successful Harvest Dinner. There was a COVID vaccine clinic hosted by Wegmans. Mr. Belfield shared a slide, previously viewed by students, on the responsibilities and role of a Board member and a Student Board member. If approved by the voters, the first Student Board member would be a senior from the class of 2025, who would be comfortable in the role of serving on the Board. The candidate would be approved by the building Principal, Superintendent and the Board. A draft application is next in the works. The Board further discussed the role of a Student Board member. Thanks to Jody Gates and Jen McDonald the District won a design award for the American Institute of Architects CNY Chapter for the Grimshaw Elementary Library. The District also received the People’s Choice Award. The District is working with Onondaga Community College to provide additional courses for a pathway to the new associates degree in Electromechanical Engineering for students. The course placement on the high school schedule is in the works and a potential instructor has been identified. Tom Porter visited the Onondaga Nation School. Mr. Belfield visited the Rural Schools Winter Two Day Conference. If anyone missed the Grimshaw musical, [there is a recording available](#). Last week team members from each school attended the Threat Assessment Training at the Oncenter provided by Onondaga County. There was the ground breaking ceremony of the Syracuse STEAM School last week. Jodi Manning, who got the school started, will be presenting to the School Board and the Onondaga Nation Leaders. The first class will start in the fall of 2025.

VIII. Calendar Review

A. Upcoming Events

- Early Dismissal for PLCs every Monday - 1:45 GS/ONS; 2:00 HS/BP
 - Co-Curricular Club meets during the week 2:45 pm - 3:15 pm - Refer to the [District calendar](#) for specific club meeting dates.
1. Dec. 14th - Jr. Sr. High Ban/Chorus Winter Concert 7:00 pm
(Dec. 20th Snow Date)
 2. Dec. 15th - BP at Morrisville 8:45 am - 1:45 pm
- Report Cards mailed for Marking Period 2

3. Dec. 19th - ONS Winter Concert
4. Dec. 20th - Grades $\frac{7}{8}$ Senate Meeting 11:00 - 11:30 am
- BOE Retreat - Location TBD
5. Dec. 21st - TI Baking 2:45 pm - 5:15 pm
- Senior Field Trip to Caz Bowl 9:45 am - 2:00 pm
6. Dec. 22nd - New YEA
7. Dec. 22nd - Jan 1st - Holiday Recess - No School
8. Jan. 2nd - School Reopens
9. Jan. 3rd - BOE Special meeting 4:30 at the DO
10. Jan. 10th - Grades $\frac{7}{8}$ Battle of the Books 11:00 - 11:30 am
- Grades $\frac{7}{8}$ Senate Meeting 11:00 - 11:30 am
11. Jan. 13th - Robotics Competition @ W. Genesee 6:30 am - 3 pm
12. Jan. 15th - Martin Luther King Day - No School
13. Jan. 16th - 8th Grade NYS ELA Simultation 10:15 am - 11 am
14. Jan. 17th - BOE Meeting - Big Picture Commons @ 5:30 pm

IX. Public Comments

- A. Public Communications to the Board - Dale Shinneman shared her view on the student academic progress and referred to public data. Mr. Belfield explained how the public data is acquired. Gregg Shinneman questioned the hiring of new mechanics for the electronic buses. Mr. Belfield responded that the current mechanics will be retrained.

X. Proposed Executive Session - Subject to Board Approval

- A. Enter into the Executive Session for the purpose of discussing Clerical and Non-Instructional unit negotiations, employment history of a particular person or corporation and propose pending and current litigation, index 40862-2021 at 7:30 pm.

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

B. Reconvene into Open Session at 9:04 pm

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

XI. Adjournment

A. Adjourn the meeting at 9:04 pm

Motion: Carried **1st:** Trustee Roe-Ryan **2nd:** Trustee Stanton
Vote: Yes: 7 **No:** 0 **Abstain:** 0 **Absent:** 0

Respectfully Submitted,

Paula Hibbert

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