

LaFayette Central School District
Board of Education - Regular Meeting
Location: The Big Picture Commons
Address: 3122 US Route 11 N.
LaFayette, NY 13084
[February 14, 2024](#)

I. Opening

A. Call to Order - The Board of Education meeting for the Lafayette Central School district was called to order at 4:32 pm by Vice President Gates. In attendance were A. Moore, A. Roe-Ryan, L. Podsiedlik, Superintendent Jeremy Belfield, School Business Official and Deputy Clerk Laurie Holtsbery. President Reyburn, Trustee LaCava and Trustee Stanton were not in attendance.

1. Guests in attendance - Rick Stout, Carole Dwyer, Chris Gray
2. Virtual Guests - Elizabeth Murray

B. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Vice President Gates at 5:32 pm

C. Opening Remarks - Vice President Gates welcomed everyone.

II. Approval of Minutes -

A. Regular Minutes January 17, 2024

Trustee Moore was not present for the January 17th meeting.

Approval of the minutes of January 17th was agreed upon to be moved to the March 13th meeting due to the absence of a quorum.

Motion: Carried **1st:** Trustee Podsiedlik **2nd:** Trustee Roe-Ryan
Vote: Yes: 4 **No:** 0 **Abstain:** 0 **Absent:** 3

B. Special Meeting Minutes January 31, 2024

Motion: Carried **1st:** Trustee Roe-Ryan **2nd:** Trustee Moore
Vote: Yes: 4 **No:** 0 **Abstain:** 0 **Absent:** 3

III. District Presentation

- A. Legend of Learning - February 2024 - Elizabeth Murray - Superintendent Belfield spoke on Ms. Murray's dedication and care for her students.

The individual who nominated Elizabeth shared the following:

Elizabeth is one of the pillars of our school. She engages her first graders, everyday, with a quiet smile, a gentle hand, and effectively targeted lessons. Elizabeth's empathy provides her students with a safe, and supportive learning environment. She continually strives to meet each child/s individual needs while simultaneously creating a classroom where kids are happy, enthusiastically engaged and critically analyzing their own learning. Elizabeth's students love being with her. From the first minutes in the cafeteria in the morning, to the call for the end of the day, Elizabeth's students are learning their basic skills and about themselves. Walk into, or even by her classroom, and you will see happy children learning. Ms. Murray walks in every morning with two hands full of "extra stuff" and an open heart for children.

Outside of the classroom Elizabeth is a tireless advocate for her colleagues. She is a reliable committee member. She helps ONS to positively move forwards with academic and social emotional curriculum. Elizabeth is a mentor and a positive role model for all of her peers.

Mr. Belfield thanked Ms. Murray for continued commitment to excellence!

- B. [Budget Update](#) - Program, Administrative, Capital Expenditures - Ms. Holtsbery gave an overview of the 2024-2025 school year budget - The Budget Goals, Executive Budget Proposal, Tax Levy Cap Calculation, Preliminary Administrative Budget, Preliminary Capital Budget and Capital Outlay Project, Bus Proposition, Preliminary Program Budget and the Preliminary Benefits Budget. Superintendent Belfield spoke, in detail, on the 2024-2025 school year projects and proposals.

Trustee Moore asked about the positions created due to the CARES act.

Ms. Holtsbery - There was a Social Worker, a Psychologist and an Instructional support.

Trustee Moore asked about the reallocation of BOCES costs.

Ms. Holtsbery will get back to Trustee Moore.

Trustee Moore asked about the bus cost reimbursement and where in the budget does the District see the reimbursement.

Ms. Holtsbery made reference to the Governor's executive budget proposal - The transportation aid will fluctuate based on what is spent.

Trustee Moore asked about the purchase of buses and the return percentage and the method used for purchase - is it separate from the overall budget.

Ms. Holtsbery explained in detail the process of purchasing a bus using a bond.

Trustee Moore asked about the method used to determine the need for a bus.

Mr. Belfield answered that it starts with the buses being inspected by DOT and failing. Trustee Moore asked about the number of buses being purchased and the number of buses that failed DOT inspections.

Mr. Belfield answered that one bus failed inspection - the District would normally buy two buses - It is part of the normal fleet replacement.

Trustee Moore asked about spending for the studies for the electric buses.

Mr. Belfield answered that the District qualifies for a free NYSEERDA fleet study. The facilities study would be part of a capital project.

1. Transportation Proposition Resolution

a. Transportation Proposition Roll Call Vote

Motion: Carried **1st:** Trustee Podsjedlik **2nd:** Trustee Roe-Ryan
Vote: Yes: 3 **No:** 1 **Abstain:** 0 **Absent:** 3

IV. Policy Discussion

A. LaFayette Board of Education Policy Review

1. Second Reading for Policy 5630, 5632, 5633, 5640, 5650, 5660, 5661

Motion: Carried **1st:** Trustee Podsjedlik **2nd:** Trustee Moore
Vote: Yes: 4 **No:** 0 **Abstain:** 0 **Absent:** 3

2. First Reading for Policy 5670, 5671, 5672, 5673, 5674, 5675, 5676

Motion: Carried **1st:** Trustee Moore **2nd:** Trustee Roe-Ryan
Vote: Yes: 4 **No:** 0 **Abstain:** 0 **Absent:** 3

V. Superintendent's Report - Superintendent Belfield gave an update on the improvements at the high school and at Grimshaw. There have been some issues with the hot water tank.

Chris Gray of Turner Construction was introduced. Mr. Gray updated the Board on the temporary fix of the hot water tank and the plan ahead for a solution.

Superintendent Belfield shared information on the cost of the solution being covered under warranty. Insurance coverage will also be explored. Costs that would not be covered by warranty or insurance, the District would look to access funds from the capital project. The District could also declare the need as an emergency due to health and safety concerns which will possibly allow access to state building aid.

Trustee Roe-Ryan asked about having a soft water tank.

Mr. Gray - The last system had a soft water tank.

Trustee Moore asked about UV as a water disinfectant.

Mr. Gray is not sure about UV as disinfectants. Chlorine is used as a disinfectant.

Superintendent Belfield shared that a UV system was previously explored and was found to be cost prohibitive.

Trustee Moore asked about the cost of the new system.

Mr. Gray - Approximately \$15,000. The engineers are currently working on the design for the right solution.

Mr. Belfield continued with project updates at the Nation School. Improvements at Grimshaw and the high school will be a part of the next capital project. Building aid and other reserve funds will be available. The needs at the high school include plumbing, updates and repairs to the stadium and the indoor athletic facility; including the locker rooms. Other repairs also at the high school include HVAC systems, IT systems and the fire alarm system. At Grimshaw, the District is looking at replacing the playground at the back, upgrading the kindergarten wing and the fire alarm system. Mr. Belfield spoke on the Governor's budget, and strategies to fulfill the District's obligations. Mr. Belfield also spoke about the STEAM school located in the city of Syracuse. The school will be the first regional high school in CNY. Mr. Belfield also spoke on the search for a permanent Principal for the Onondaga Nation School.

Trustee Roe-Ryan asked about the cost of the STEAM school to parents.

Mr. Belfield - There will be no cost. Transportation will be provided.

VI. Communications

A. Board Member Updates -

1. CNYSBA Electric Bus Presentation
2. 200 Year Celebration - Town of LaFayette Time Capsule - Superintendent Belfield shared information and ideas for the Town of LaFayette Time Capsule
3. BOCES Board Member Nominations - Mr. Belfield shared information in regards to upcoming available seats at BOCES. The Board nominated Trustee Reyburn for membership to the OCM BOCES Board of Education term of office July 01, 2024 - June 30, 2027.

Motion: Carried **1st:** Trustee Roe-Ryan **2nd:** Trustee Podsiedlik
Vote: Yes: 4 **No:** 0 **Abstain:** 0 **Absent:** 3

VII. Consent Agenda

A. Approval of Board Action Items

1. CSE, CPSE, 504 Recommendations
2. Budget Transfers - January 2024
3. Treasurer's Report - January 2024
4. Architect Referendum Services Contract - Ashley McGraw
 - a. Resolution for Adopting the AIA Pre-Referendum Agreement
5. Wide Area Network Agreement OCM BOCES 7/1//24 - 6/30/27
6. Updated Corrective Action Plans - Regular Audit and Extra Classroom Audit

Item number four was voted on separately.

The votes for items 1-3 and 5-6.

Motion: Carried	1st: Trustee Roe-Ryan	2nd: Trustee Podsiedlik	
Vote: Yes: 4	No: 0	Abstain: 0	Absent: 3

The votes for item number 4.

Motion: Carried	1st: Trustee Roe-Ryan	2nd: Trustee Podsiedlik	
Vote: Yes: 4	No: 0	Abstain: 0	Absent: 3

B. Approval of Personnel Items

1. Non-Instructional Recommendation

Motion: Carried	1st: Trustee Podsiedlik	2nd: Trustee Moore	
Vote: Yes: 4	No: 0	Abstain: 0	Absent: 3

VIII. Financials - FYI

- A. Warrants and Claims - January 2024
- B. Financials - January 2024
- C. Cash Flow - January 2024

Ms. Holtsbery gave an update on the business office.

Mr. Belfield shared information on incoming funds from NYSED.

IX. 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. Feb. 16th - Deadline for Winter Poetry Contest
 2. Feb. 19th-23rd - Winter Recess
 3. Mar. 4th-8th - Dr. Seuss Week at Grimshaw
 4. Mar. 8th - High School Musical 7:00 pm
 5. Mar. 9th - SAT Exam
 - High School Musical 7:00 pm
 6. Mar.11th-June 7th- Window for NY State Alternate Assessment Test
 7. Mar. 13th - BOE Meeting at the Big Picture Commons @ 5:30 pm

X. Public Comments

A. Public Communications to the Board

Carole Dwyer, a previous member of the LaFayette BOE, asked about the District having a wrestling room.

Mr. Belfield will see what can be done in the next capital project. To renovate the space is pretty pricey.

XI. Proposed Executive Session - Subject to Board Approval

- A. Enter into the executive session for the purpose of discussing the employment and medical history of a particular person, and litigation at 7:06 pm.

Motion: Carried **1st:** Trustee Roe-Ryan **2nd:** Trustee Podsiedlik
Vote: Yes: 4 **No:** 0 **Abstain:** 0 **Absent:** 3

- B. Reconvene into Open Session at 8:45 pm

Motion: Carried **1st:** Trustee Podsiedlik **2nd:** Trustee Moore
Vote: Yes: 4 **No:** 0 **Abstain:** 0 **Absent:** 3

XII. Adjournment

- A. Adjourn the meeting at 8:45 pm

Motion: Carried **1st:** Trustee Moore **2nd:** Trustee Roe-Ryan
Vote: Yes: 4 **No:** 0 **Abstain:** 0 **Absent:** 3

Respectfully Submitted,
 Paula Hibbert