

LaFayette Central School District
Board of Education - Regular Meeting
Location: The Big Picture Commons
Address: 3122 US Route 11
LaFayette, NY 13084
January 22, 2025

I. Opening

A. Call to Order - The Board of Education meeting for the Lafayette Central School district was called to order at 5:31pm by President Reyburn. In attendance were Trustee J. Gates, S. Stanton, M. LaCava, L. Podsiedlik, Superintendent Jeremy Belfield, School Business Official and Deputy Clerk Laurie Holtsbery. Trustee Moore and Trustee Roe Ryan were not present.

1. Guests in attendance - Ron Cooper, Christine Finch, Brian Wells, Kristeen Cool, Brandon Reppi, Kelly Drapikowski, Amanda Johnson, Sean Zehner
2. Virtual Guests - Kristin Angello, James McKenna, Mary Jo Nicholson, Jason P. Ryan, Megan Zehner

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

C. Opening Remarks - President Reyburn welcomed everyone, gave a reminder of meeting conducts and gave directions to the restrooms.

II. Approval of Minutes -

A. Regular Minutes December 11, 2024

Motion: Carried	1st: Trustee LaCava	2nd: Trustee Podsiedlik
Vote: Yes: 5	No: 0	Abstain: 0
		Absent: 2

B. Retreat / Special Meeting Minutes December 19, 2024

Motion: Carried	1st: Trustee LaCava	2nd: Trustee Gates
Vote: Yes: 5	No: 0	Abstain: 0
		Absent: 2

III. District Presentation

A. Legend of Learning January 2025 - Laura Mongello - Ms. Mongello is the most senior bus driver with 37 years of service to the District. Laura is a great team leader. She maintains a positive attitude, loves her job and the kids as her own. Laura makes the Transportation Department an exciting place to work.

B. Teen Institute Presentation - Ms. Cool, Ms. Drapikowski, and Amanda Johnson talked about Teen Institute. Ms. Cool, the Student Councilor started the presentation. The LaFayette Teen Institute is part of the Greater Teen Institute that runs through the Prevention Network. A conference was held in Penn Yan, NY. Amanda Johnson was one of three students who attended the conference. The students had to turn in their

cell phones at the event, leaving them with no contact with home. The students participated with other students from other regions and made new friends. Amanda Johnson talked about her experience with TI which taught her quite a bit about herself and took her out of her comfort zone. She received the Paul Noyd award and hopes students will continue to attend future conferences. Mr. Belfield thanked Ms. Cool, Ms. Drapikowski and Ms. Johnson for representing the District.

C. Supervisors' Update

1. Facilities/Grounds - Ronald Cooper - Mr. Cooper about his first upcoming capital project. Lead testing samples were done last week. Prior lead testing was done in 2020. There were five sources outside the new NYS criteria. Mr. Cooper gave an update on the generator at Grimshaw and also an update on working with National Grid. Mr. Cooper is working on an inventory management plan to keep track of what is already on hand that was stock piled during COVID. Inventory is tracked on ML Platform and will be updated monthly to cut-back on purchasing. The department is getting ready to roll-out another program for which Mr. Cooper had his first training today. The program maps out all the facilities and lays out all the assets with serial numbers and part numbers that all staff can utilize. It has been a great year for the Facilities department. Staff has been great. Mr. Cooper thanked the Board and Superintendent Belfield.
2. Food Service - Robert Kennedy will present at the February 12th meeting.
3. Technology - Brandon Reppi, Brian Wells, Sean Zehner - Mr. Wells gave the first update. Job tickets have been pretty challenging. The District lost support of the help desk software. The department is working on switch upgrades. Mr. Wells shared what has been implemented. He talked about Mimecast, about working with Lyncourt, and completing backdoor securities. Brandon Reppi continued the update. The District is switching to the Master Library tickets system which keeps the ticket system similar. Hopefully by next week it should all be switched over and running. Mr. Zehner talked about the switch upgrade and the downtime involved with implementation. Mr. Belfield thanked the department for the update. There was a conversation about the security system, how it filters and blocks emails from getting to students and staff.
4. Transportation - Christine Finch - Ms. Finch talked about driver shortage and working with the Athletic Department combining bus runs, and working with and helping other districts. Ms. Finch talked about the aging buses and the amazing work the mechanics do to keep them running. The current bus vendor is having supply issues. The buses scheduled for delivery last year were delivered in November 2024. One of the recently delivered buses had to be returned for repair. One of the three buses ordered for this year is scheduled for delivery on February 7th and the other two scheduled

for delivery in April of 2025. Ms. Finch updated the Board on actions taken to find a new bus vendor. She is hopeful for new buses in July from NY Bus. Ms. Finch talked about the electric bus mandate and lobbying at the State level on electrical mandates. Ms. Finch thanked the Board.

D. Budget Environment Update 2025-2026

1. [Roll Call Vote - Transportation Proposition](#)

Ms. Holtsbery gave the Budget Environment update which included a series of events through next school year such as the Community meeting, workshops and the Budget Vote on May 20, 2025. Ms. Holtsbery talked about the title grants and how the rate changes. She talked about the Governor's Executive Budget involving a 2% increase for foundation aid and the history of what is actually received in foundation aid compared to the Governor's Executive Budget. Ms. Holtbery is working with Quest Star III at BOCES to determine if figures changed and why they changed. There has been an increase in special education needs due to students coming in. Ms. Holtsbery shared how teachers are paid and why they are paid from different funds. She talked about getting new buses. A new suburban vehicle is needed due to an increase in internships.

The roll call vote was conducted by President Reyburn. All board members present were in favor of the proposition.

IV. Communications

- A. Student Board Member Updates - Kiera Reed - Ms. Reed's update included the senior field to the ice rink on December 20th, Sources of Strength, and a new campaign - What lights up your life. The new campaign will be Generosity. There will be a day of giving that will coincide with career day in April. Ms. Reed talked about Robotics Club which started with four members and doubled in size after three years. The group participates in fun competitions. They learn coding and problem solving skills. Ms. Reed also talked about the band and chorus field trip to Everson Museum which took place during the Festival of Trees and Lights. Ms. Reed shared students' responses about the school budget. Study-hall was a large part of Ms. Reed's report.

Mr. Belfield asked Ms. Reid about the number of study-halls she has. Ms. Reid has one study hall due to having internships, Mr. Belfield talked about the importance of having internships and a job as seniors and being ready for the next step. Ms. Reid talked about students not participating in internships and what is available

Mr. Belfield responded stating that it is definitely an issue for small schools. The region is working together on different ways to share resources. Grants are not really available. Unfortunately what is being heard over time is State resource increase is very small.

Ms. Reid asked about the plan for the track.

Mr. Belfield explained that it is different from the school budget. It is a capital project that was voted on in October of 2024 to use state building aid funds that are available. Mr. Belfield explained what capital project funds can be used for projects like the school track and what it would cost. Mr. Belfield shared what will be done to renovate the track and the surrounding area.

Mr. Reyburn and Mr. Belfield along with Ms. Reed talked about the regionalization conversation and sharing resources.

Trustee Podsiedlik asked why more students do not do internships.

Ms. Reed is not sure why. She believes it's due to the lack of interest in the internships offered.

Mr. Reyburn talked about a few internships that are offered in the district.

Mr. Belfield commented on Ms. Reed's presentation.

- B. Board Member Updates - Mr. Reyburn shared information about the annual audit at BOCES. The audit looks at different areas that the government is concerned about. For example, grant money. At BOCES they also talked about mileage going up, about the Blue Ribbon Commitment and about New York State Municipal Energy for Sourcing which is a form of regionalization.

V. Policy Discussion

A. LaFayette Board of Education Policy Review

1. Second Reading for Policy 6214, 6215, 62116, 6217, 6218, 6220

Motion: Carried	1st: Trustee LaCava	2nd: Trustee Gates
Vote: Yes: 5	No: 0	Abstain: 0
		Absent: 2

2. First Reading for Policy 6310, 6320, 6410, 6411, 6420, 6430, 6450

Motion: Carried	1st: Trustee Podsiedlik	2nd: Trustee Stanton
Vote: Yes: 5	No: 0	Abstain: 0
		Absent: 2

VI. Superintendent Report

- A. Superintendent Belfield congratulated the teachers and students who were involved in the Jr. Sr. High Winter Concerts and also the ONS Winter Concert. He thanked Dr. Viel of OCM BOCES and Mr. McCoy for presenting at the Board retreat. There was a STEAM School presentation at the High School. One student at the High School and one homeschool student applied. The STEAM has hired their first CTE Teacher. The building will open this fall for the first 250 students. There was a regionalization convening meeting at the monthly Superintendents meeting. There will be an opportunity to have a larger convening meeting. Dr. Matt Cook, the BOCES Superintendent, is looking to work with Derrick Dorsey from CNYSBA. Mr. Belfield thanked the Mechanics for preparing the buses this morning, which was very cold. Two snow days have been used so far. Mr. Belfield talked about his fun work week last week in Norfolk, Virginia at the United States Naval Base at Little Creek. He had the chance to jump into the submarine learning facility. Eight

Superintendents went to Norfolk. They also went to the Naval Telecommunications Center. Mr. Belfield was impressed with what happens behind the scenes to keep the country safe. From there they went on the Helicopter C-combat Squadron Seven, The Bulldogs, and saw all the amazing work in a Sierra Helicopter. Next was on to the USS McFaul, a guided missile destroyer named after Navy Seal Chief Petty Officer Donald McFaul. Mr. Belfield also went to BUD/S and SWCC which is a very special Navy Seal training center. Mr. Belfield was impressed with the powerful conversations about failing forward - learning from failure and just being a good human being. Mr. Belfield shared additional experiences from his fun work week in Norfolk, Virginia. He is grateful that the Board allowed him to go on this incredible trip and work from Norfolk. Mr. Ryan was in charge while Mr. Belfield was away. He did a great job. Looking ahead, Saturday, February 8th, 9:00 am at OCM BOCES in Liverpool is the Legislative Breakfast.

VII. Consent Agenda

A. Approval of Board Action Items

1. CSE, CPSE, 504 Recommendations
2. Budget Transfers - December 2024
3. Treasurer's Report - December 2024
4. 2023-2024 Single Audit Report & Extra Classroom Audit Report and Corrective Action Plan
5. Extra Classroom Account for Art Entrepreneurship
6. [Risk Operations center Data Privacy Agreement](#)

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

7. [CIP Proposal - Energy and Environmental Testing](#)
8. [Post Referendum contract for Construction Management Services - Turner Construction](#)
9. [FF 870-LaFayette CS 2024 CIP\(\\$17.2m\) Ref 10.30.24 AIA Doc G802 - Agreement](#)

B. Approval of Personnel Items

1. Resignations
2. Leave of Absence
3. Instructional Recommendations
4. Substitute Recommendations
5. Co-Curricular Club Recommendations
6. Interscholastic Recommendations

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

VIII. Financials - FYI - Ms. Holtsbery talked about the policy on quarterly reports.

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

IX. Calendar Review

A. Upcoming Events - Mr. Reyburn shared the Upcoming Events

➤ Co-Curricular Club meets during the week 2:45 pm - 3:15 pm - Refer to the District Calendar for specific club meeting dates.

❖ Co-Curricular Club meets during the week - Refer to the District Calendar for specific club meeting dates and time.

- Jan. 23rd - GS Family Fun Night 5:00 pm - 8:00 pm
- Jan, 24th - End of HS Marking Period 3
- Half Day for Students - Department Business
- Jan. 29th - Asian Lunar new Year - No School
- Jan. 31st - HS Marking Period 3 report card mailed
- Feb. 5th - Community Budget meeting at the Big Picture Commons 5:00 pm
- Feb. 12th - BOE Meeting at The Big Picture Commons 5:30 pm

X. Public Comments

A. Public Communications to the Board - None

XI. Proposed Executive Session - Subject to Board Approval

A. Enter into the Executive Session for the purpose of discussing litigation, personnel and student issues at 7:02 pm.

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

B. Reconvene into Open Session at 8:44 pm

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

XII. Adjournment

A. Adjourn the meeting at 8:44 pm

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

Respectfully Submitted,
Paula Hibbert