

LaFayette Central School District
Board of Education - Regular Meeting
Location: The Big Picture Commons Area
3122 US Route 11 North
LaFayette, New York 13084
February 7, 2019

I. Opening

- A. Call to Order The regular Board of Education meeting for the LaFayette Central School District was called to order at 5:28 pm by Vice President M. Whitney. In attendance were Trustees J. Gates, J. LeBlanc, G. Oelkers, R. Reyburn, C. Dwyer, Superintendent Jeremy Belfield, Interim Assistant Superintendent for Business Paul Milograno, District Clerk Vanessa Tryon, Sean Humphrey, Brandon Leet, Joshua Tillinghast, RJ Shaver, Susan Osborn, Jason Ryan, Jim Kesler, Ally Erickson, Thomas Long, Adrian Shute, Emma Shute, Crystal Morel, Laurinda Ludwig, Thomas Long, Matt Meyer, Kristin Angello, Tanner Clemens, Cash Homer, and 47 wrestlers from grades K-6th Grade, parents and coaches from Wrestling team.

II. Approval of Minutes

- A. Regular Minutes - January 24, 2019

Motion:Carried 1st:G. Oelkers 2nd:C. Dwyer
Vote: Yes:6 No:0 Abstain:0 Absent:1 (S. Dow)

III. District Presentations

- A. Public Hearing - Use of Reserves Fund - Presentation and Roll Call - Superintendent Belfield gave presentation to show the past use of the repair reserve, the current reserve balance, and the planned use of the reserve to purchase new equipment for the music program, wellness center, wrestling room, and physical education program. Several student wrestlers and youth wrestling coaches addressed the board to express their support for new wrestling mats in the wrestling room.
1. **Roll Call: S. Dow - Absent; G. Oelkers - Aye; C. Dwyer - Aye; J. Gates - Aye; J. LeBlanc - Aye; S.R. Reyburn - Aye; M. Whitney - Aye.**
- B. Robotics - Kristin Angello and several students from the robotics class presented to the board. This is the second year with robotics class. The program has expanded to an advanced robotics course with seven students. Ms. Angello and Thomas Long showed a video of a recent robotics contest and explained how building the robots can transition into engineering careers.
- C. Strategic Plan Update - Jason Ryan and Susan Osborn provided a joint update on the efforts at LaFayette Jr./Sr. High and Big Picture School to address strategic plan goals. The update included recent student performance data, attendance data, and graduation data. Both schools are excited to welcome the OCC Advantage program. Both schools welcomed the Lancer Branch, which is a student run bank branch through the School Employees of CNY Credit Union. Mr. Ryan and Ms. Osborn thanked the staff for their continued efforts on behalf of our students.
- D. Budget Presentation - Administration and Capital - Superintendent Belfield gave an update on our 2019-2020 Administration and Capital portion of the next school year budget.
- E. Capital Project Update - Jim Kesler, Clerk of the Works, updated the board on the status of the capital project approved by the voters in May 2017. The project was recently approved for construction by the New York State Education Department and the district has advertised the project for bid. The scope of work will provide improvements and address items from the building condition survey for Grimshaw, Big Picture, and the High School. Mr. Kesler also

updated the board on the proposed capital outlay project to address flooring needs at the the high school. The district has also been in touch with the New York State Education Department regarding facility needs at the Onondaga Nation School. The district hopes that the roof at ONS (1996 portion) will be replaced this summer.

- F. Legend of Learning - February 2019 - Superintendent Belfield announced our February 2019 Legend of Learning is Jessica Giordano, who could not be here tonight. Jessica will be recognized at the March 14, 2019 meeting.

IV. Old Business

- A. Student Safety - Superintendent Belfield gave update on student safety - As of February 7th, the district has used five emergency closing days and we have six emergency closing days built into our calendar.
- B. Online Safety & Security - The district hosted a table top activity today with CNYRIC and Grey Castle to test the district's incident response plan. Recently, the district installed software for scanning network connected devices for any security vulnerabilities.

V. Communications

- A. Board Member Updates

VI. New Business

VII. Superintendent's Report

- A. The Lancer Branch at LaFayette High School opened for business on February 5, 2019 at 11:00 AM. Thank you to our representatives from School Employees of CNY Credit Union who created this opportunity to have a student run bank branch in the main office. The bank branch is open for students and staff on Tuesdays and Thursdays during the lunch periods.
- B. At the March 14th board meeting, we will recognize our 8th-12th grade students who competed in the CNY Scholastic Art Competition.
- C. LaFayette Jr. High 8th grade students were selected to take the National Assessment of Education Progress. Testing will take place during the month of February.
- D. The district received positive news from the New York State Education Department on parent satisfaction with special education services at LaFayette. 96.7% of parents surveyed provided positive feedback. Survey questions asked parents about their experience during the committee on special education process, support from teachers and administrators, providing progress reports on student goals for individualized education plans, along with other items. Thank you to the parents who participated in the survey and thank you to our teachers, Dr. Ocque, and our building administrators for all of their work to support our students.
- E. The New York State Office of Comptroller designated LaFayette CSD as a district susceptible to fiscal stress. The purpose of this designation relates to the short-term borrowing that the district engages in to operate the Onondaga Nation School. Since the district had to borrow additional funds last school year due to delays with the issuance of new contracts. Contracts to operate ONS ended on June 30, 2016 and we were without a contract and related payments until July 2018. Because of the additional short-term borrowing due to this lag in payments, the district's fiscal stress score increased. With new contracts in place and payments flowing to the district, we anticipate that this designation will be removed by this time next school year.
- F. Consent Agenda
- G. Approval of Board Action Items
 - 1. LaFayette Central School Board of Education Policy Review - Second Reading for policies 7410, 7420, 7421, 7450, and 7460 and Resolution to waive third reading
 - 2. CSE, CPSE, and 504 Recommendations
 - 3. Capital Project Bond Resolution
 - 4. 2019-2020 Bus Proposition resolution

5. Combined Contract - Football - Fabius-Pompey and Tully
6. BOCES - Comprehensive Alcohol-Drug Abuse Prevention and Education Program Agreement
7. Budget Transfers - February 7, 2019

H. Approval of Personnel Items

1. Resignation
2. Non-Instructional Appointment 2018-2019
3. Instructional Appointment 2018-2019
4. Leave of Absence 2018-2019
5. Substitute Appointment 2018-2019

***Revision to Policy 7450 - all proposals for student fundraisers have to be submitted to HS principal by May 15th - recommended to remove that deadline. Prior authorization by Principal is sufficient. Possibly a district calendar to share to make sure fundraisers are not overlapping.

Motion: 1st:R.S. Reyburn 2nd:J. Gates
Vote: Yes:6 No:0 Abstain:0 Absent:1 (S. Dow)

VIII. Board Non-Action Items

A. Strategic Plan Update - The district has been labeled as a targeted district due to the accountability status of two schools as comprehensive support and improvement (CSI) schools. The Jr High and the Onondaga Nation School were identified as CSI schools due to low academic performance on the 3-8 Math and ELA exam and attendance concerns at ONS. The February Green Sheet provides a written notification to our school community regarding the accountability status of our schools. Our administrators are working to satisfy the requirements for improvement plans. There is some grant funding available to assist our improvement efforts and we are in the process of identifying uses for the grant funds that will assist the district with increasing student proficiency. We will have a full update for the board next month on the accountability status and we will be reaching out to students, staff, parents, and community members for input on school improvement plans. One issue that continues to come up regarding our accountability status is the high test refusal or opt-out rate with our students. While we have seen recent improvements in state test participation, all of our schools significantly lag behind in meeting the required minimum participation rate. While we respect the decision of student's parents to have their child participate in or not participate in state exams, it does leave room to question if the district is capturing enough information about student performance to make sure that students are meeting the learning standards. During a recent conversation at the ONS Board of Education, one of the board members commented on the accountability status of ONS and wondered if we would see improved academic performance if students took state exams or took a comparable locally developed exam. We brought this idea back to our administrative team and we feel that it might help our teachers and school leaders to have a better understanding of student performance relative to the standards if we had an alternate, locally developed, assessment for students who refused to take the state exam. This would mean that on the day that state exams are given that all students would take a test. Students would take either the state exam or they would take a locally developed assessment. Both tests would be aligned to the learning standards. Only the state assessment would count towards the accountability status of the school, but this alternate assessment would provide some additional information on how all students, especially those who refuse to take the state assessment, are performing relative to the standards.

IX. Calendar

A. Upcoming Events

1. 2/13/19 - 100 day of school
2. 2/18/19 through 2/22/19 - Winter Recess
3. 2/25/19 - Fox in Socks - Wear your crazy socks @ Grimshaw
4. 2/26/19 - The Lorax - Wear your orange @ Grimshaw
5. 2/27/19 - The Sleep Book - Wear your favorite PJs @ Grimshaw
6. 2/28/19 - The Cat in the Hat - Wear a hat to celebrate @ Grimshaw
7. 3/1/19 - Happy Birthday Dr. Seuss - Wear red and white @ Grimshaw
8. 3/4/19 - GAPS Meeting at 6:30pm
9. 3/7/19 - Grimshaw Open house
10. 3/8/19 - Half day - BP/GS/HS
11. 3/8/19 - Jr./Sr. Musical Production @ 7:00 pm
12. 3/9/19 - Jr./Sr. Musical Production @ 7:00 pm
13. 3/14/19 - BOE Meeting @ 5:30 pm in Big Picture Commons

X. Closing Remarks

A. Public Communications to the Board

1. Adrian Shute -father in district of a 10th and 7th grader - suggestion for district administration - return the honor roll and high honor roll student list into the green sheets.

XI. Proposed Executive Session

- A. Enter into Executive Session for the purpose of discussing the employment history of a particular individual and contract negotiations at 7:26 pm.

Motion:Carried 1st:R.S. Reyburn 2nd: C. Dwyer
Vote: Yes:6 No:0 Abstain:0 Absent:1 (S. Dow)

B. Reconvene into Open Session at 8:59 pm.

Motion: Carried 1st:C. Dwyer 2nd: J. Gates
Vote: Yes:6 No:0 Abstain: Absent:1 (S. Dow)

XII. Adjournment

- A. Adjourn the Meeting at 9:00 pm.

Motion: Carried 1st:J. LeBlanc 2nd: G. Oelkers
Vote: Yes:6 No:0 Abstain: Absent:1 (S. Dow)

Respectfully Submitted,
 Vanessa Tryon