

**LaFayette Central School District
Board of Education - Regular Meeting
Location: The High School Auditorium
5955 US Route 20**

LaFayette, New York 13084

July 2, 2020

I. Opening

A. Call to Order. The Regular Board of Education meeting for the LaFayette Central School District was called to order at 5:40 pm by President Stephanie Dow. In attendance were Trustees S. Dow, J. LeBlanc, R. Reyburn, C. Dwyer and M. Whitney, Superintendent Jeremy Belfield, School Business Manager Cindy Daley, District Clerk Paula Hibbert, Jim Kesler, Chris Gray, Tom Carter.

II. Approval of Minutes

A. Regular Minutes - June 16, 2020

Motion: Carried **1st:** J. LeBlanc **2nd:** J. Gates

Vote: Yes: 4 **No:** 0 **Abstain:** M. Whitney & R. Reyburn **Absent:** M. Walker

III. District Presentations

- A. Capital Project - Edward McGraw and Scott Perry from Ashley McGraw and Chris Gray and Tom Carter from Turner Construction updated the board on a proposed \$8.6M Capital Project for consideration by LaFayette voters. Areas of focus include improvements to STEM programming through the renovation of the current technology classrooms at the high school. This enhanced space will provide larger work areas for student projects. At Grimshaw Elementary, the library media center and technology classroom will be targeted areas for improvement. The district is also looking to address items listed on the building condition survey and visual inspection which includes upgrading air ventilation systems. The district is also researching the feasibility of air conditioning certain areas within the school focusing on larger rooms such as the gymnasium and the cafeteria at Grimshaw Elementary, the high school gymnasium, Big Picture Common Room, and the second floor classrooms at both buildings. Trustee LeBlanc believes research is needed to see where funds should go for trades in school.
- B. Public Hearing - Emergency Response Plan- Superintendent Belfield updated the board on the emergency response plan for the 2020-2021 school year. The plan was reviewed by our district health and safety committee and is available for public comment until August 3, 2020. The plan can be found on the website. The final plan will be placed on the August 13, 2020 Board of Education agenda for approval by the board. The approved plan must be in place by September 1, 2020, and staff members must be trained by September 15th on the plan. The district will submit the plan to the New York State Education Department, local law enforcement agencies and emergency responders.
- C. Public Hearing - Employment Agreement of Resource Officers - Superintendent Belfield shared information regarding the proposed employment agreement with the school guards for LaFayette Central School District and welcomed questions or comments from the public. Public not in attendance may submit comments in writing to the district office. Superintendent Belfield thanked Sgt. Chris O'Hara, ONS Guard Percy Shenandoah, and the deputies from the Onondaga County Sheriff's department for all of their efforts to keep students safe.

IV. Old Business

- A. Online Safety and Security- Superintendent Belfield updated the board on the recent upgrade to network switches. Representatives from CNYRIC and the LaFayette Technology Department have made upgrades to the physical hardware to make sure that there is sufficient network capacity for district connected devices. The district also received news on upgrades made to the software inventory tool available through CNYRIC. This software inventory tool will assist our district staff members and families with identifying available software and web-based services that house personally identifiable information. The software inventory tool will also allow users to view the vendor compliance agreement to protect personally identifiable information. The district has also been reaching out to CNYRIC to solicit available vendors for network penetration testing.
- B. Student Safety- Superintendent Belfield updated the board on the security themed capital project which is providing security enhancements at Grimshaw Elementary, Big Picture, and LaFayette Jr/Sr High School. New classroom doors and locks are being installed at Grimshaw Elementary. Contractors are also installing the new campus notification system. Superintendent Belfield invited the board to tour construction at Grimshaw Elementary at 4:30 PM on August 13th and 5:00 PM at the High School on August 13th prior to the board meeting.

V. Communications

- A. Board Member Updates

VI. New Business

VII. Superintendent's Report

- A. Superintendent Belfield thanked district residents for approving the 2020-2021 operating budget, vehicle proposition, and capital reserve proposition. Superintendent Belfield congratulated Trustees Dwyer, Gates, and LeBlanc on their reelection to the board of education and thanked them for their continued service to our school community. Superintendent Belfield thanked School Business Manager Cindy Daley, District Clerk Paula Hibbert, district clerical staff members, and the Onondaga County Board of Elections for all of their support with the annual district budget vote.
- B. Superintendent Belfield congratulated the class of 2020. Graduation ceremonies were held on Friday June 26th for LaFayette High School and Saturday June 27th for LaFayette Big Picture School. The weather was perfect on Friday for graduation and we were able to have a wonderful ceremony to celebrate the accomplishments of our students. Students received their diploma and were recognized for any scholarships they received. Unfortunately, the weather did not cooperate on Saturday and Big Picture 401s and staff members had to improvise. Students and their families were able to come inside for their graduation speech one family at a time. The ceremony was broadcast to families through an FM radio station and through our district Facebook page. Superintendent Belfield thanked Principals Jason Ryan and Susan Osborn for all of their efforts to honor the class of 2020. Superintendent Belfield also thanked the LaFayette Athletic Booster Club and local fire departments and community members for showing support for the class of 2020 during the senior parade on Wednesday June 24th.
- C. Superintendent Belfield participated in the New York State Education Department Reopening Task Force on Wednesday June 17th. NYSED heard from parents, teachers, administrators, and school community members on ways that we can reopen schools safely in the midst of the

current pandemic. Superintendent Belfield participated in the Transportation, Facilities and Nutrition sub-committee. NYSED will be presenting guidance materials for reopening schools at the July 13th Board of Regents meeting. Our own local Reopen LaFayette CSD task force will meet on July 13th to review the guidance from the state. The local task force will tentatively meet on Wednesday July 22nd at 3:30 PM and Wednesday July 29th at 3:30 PM to finalize our reopening plans to make sure that we can educate students in a healthy and safe school environment that minimizes the risk for transmitting infectious diseases. Our goal is to finalize guidance in July, and put the plan in front of our school administrators, teachers, and school staff during the month of August so we can plan accordingly. Trustee Reyburn is concerned about the possibility of filters and blue lights being needed at entrances for reopening and how it will affect the budget. He also questioned the plan for the Library Media. Other schools will be visited to get ideas.

- D. Superintendent Belfield, Mr. Cooper, Ms. Sandusky, Mr. Kesler, and Mr. Zehner conducted a walk-through with a representative from CDW. CDW will be installing new Promethean panels in each classroom. The district's previous interactive whiteboards were ten years old and were no longer functioning properly. CDW plans to complete the installation during the month of July to allow time for teachers to participate in professional development on how to use this new technology prior to the start of school.
- E. Superintendent Belfield updated the board on the capital outlay project for the 2020-2021 school year at LaFayette High School. The district will be removing carpet from first floor classrooms, the computer lab, and guidance offices and installing floor tiles. The wrestling room will also have floor tiles installed as well. The flooring contractor will have the work completed during the month of July.
- F. Superintendent Belfield thanked our summer cleaning and grounds crews. Our school grounds are receiving some extra attention. Summer worker Patrick Prince and maintenance staff member Tony Vadala made improvements to the landscaping around the sign at Gordy Ohstrom field and received positive feedback from the lacrosse association. Many areas of our school buildings are receiving a fresh coat of paint and summer cleaning crews are working ahead of schedule to prepare buildings for the fall.
- G. Superintendent Belfield presented options for the July 30th board retreat and options for presentations. LaFayette administrators and representatives from the teachers' association will be invited to attend. The board discussed potential topics for the retreat.
- H. Superintendent Belfield stated that several other school districts are planning to allow members of the public to attend in person at board meetings starting in August. With limits to gathering sizes increasing as New York state reopens, many districts are looking to allow for in-person public participation at board meetings. The board discussed and decided to allow for in-person public attendance starting at the August 13th board meeting.

VIII. Consent Agenda

A. Approval of Board Action Items

1. Employment Agreement - Administrator Intern Agreements
2. MOA Between LCSD and LAA
3. Resolution Specifying Active administrative Tenure Areas
4. Resolution to Abolish Account Clerk II Position
5. CSE, CPSE and 504 Recommendation
6. Treasurer's Reports - May 2020
7. Pre-referendum Agreement - Turner Construction
8. Health and Welfare Contract - East Syracuse Minoa

9. NYSPHSAA Section III Combine contract LCSD & SCSD Ice Hockey
10. Approval of Change Orders
11. Budget Transfers

B. Approval of Personnel Items

1. Non-Instructional Resignation
2. Administrative Appointment
3. Employment Agreement - Resource Officers
4. Interscholastic Appointment
5. PLC Facilitators 2020-2021
6. Instructional Appointment
7. Co-Curricular Appointment

Motion: Carried **1st:** R. Reyburn **2nd:** J. Gates
Vote: Yes: 6 **No:** 0 **Abstain:** 0 **Absent:** M. Walker

IX. Board Non-Action Items

A. Strategic Plan Update -

1. Superintendent Belfield updated the board on the progress of our district comprehensive and school improvement plans. The plans will be submitted to the New York State Education Department at the end of July and a formal board presentation will be given in August with official plan adoption by the board. The district and schools will continue to focus on improving academic outcomes, improving student attendance, and addressing the social, emotional and mental health needs of our students. Our administrators recently participated in a virtual conference with Proving Ground at Harvard University to plan our attendance intervention. The district is looking to pair chronically absent students with mentors to provide support and encouragement to students who are struggling with regular school attendance.

X. Financials - FYI - School Business Manager Cindy Daley gave an update on the following:

A. Claims Auditor Reports and Warrants May 2020

B. Financials - May 2020

- C. Cash Flow - May 2020 - The district paid off a Revenue Anticipation Note (RAN) for funding the operation of the Onondaga Nation School of \$5 million in June and took out a new RAN for a lesser amount of \$3.5 million. Additionally, the district will be funding the capital project with a Bond Anticipation Note (BAN) in July. Ms. Daley shared that the district is looking at banking relationships. Currently, the district uses two banks: Chase (for operating funds) and M&T for savings. Ms. Daley and Ms. Hayes recently met with both banks recently and discussed our need for interest earnings. M&T has now changed our major account to an interest bearing account now that interest rates have been increasing. We will be taking a closer look at our cash flow over the summer and looking at the best options for earning maximum earnings over a short time period.

XI. Proposed Executive Session

- A. Enter into the Executive Session for the purpose of discussing the medical and employment history of particular individuals at 6:58 pm.

Motion: Carried **1st:** R. Reburn **2nd:** J. Gates
Vote: Yes: 6 **No:** 0 **Abstain:** 0 **Absent:** M. Walker

- B. Reconvene into Open Session at 7:56 pm.

Motion: Carried **1st:** J. Gates **2nd:** M. Whitney
Vote: Yes: 6 **No:** 0 **Abstain:** 0 **Absent:** M. Walker

XII. Calendar Review

A. Upcoming Events

- a. Reopen LaFayette CSD - Monday July 13th 3:30-4:30 PM via Google Meet
- b. Reopen LaFayette CSD - Wednesday July 22nd 3:30 PM via Google Meet
- c. Board Retreat with Administrators and LaFayette Teachers' Association - Thursday July 30, 2020 at 5:30 PM - High School Auditorium
- d. Board Meeting Thursday August 13, 2020 5:30 PM LaFayette High School Auditorium

XIII. Adjournment

- A. Adjourn the Meeting at 7:57 pm.

Motion: Carried **1st:** J. LeBlanc **2nd:** S. Dow
Vote: Yes: 6 **No:** 0 **Abstain:** 0 **Absent:** M. Walker

XIV. Public Comments

- A. Public Communications to the Board

Respectfully Submitted,
Paula Hibbert