

**LA FAYETTE CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
BOARD OF EDUCATION – REGULAR MEETING
October 15, 2015**

- I. Opening
- A. Call to Order - The Regular Meeting of the LaFayette Board of Education was held on Thursday, October 15, 2015 at the Onondaga Nation School Library. President Matt Dodge called the meeting to order at approximately 5:30 pm. Present were Trustees D. Dodge, Keefe, Whitney, Scofield, Superintendent Laura Lavine, School Business Official Tiffany Turner, District Clerk Kasey McHale, and Administrators James Chupaila, and Diane Ellsworth. Also in attendance were Diane Pratt, David Amidon, Jerry Kelly, Ann Courtwright, Maura Daly and Wendy Gonyea. Absent were Vice President Johnson and Trustee LaCava.
- B. Pledge of Allegiance – N/A
- C. Opening Remarks – President Dodge announced there would be a tour of the school at the end of the meeting, and recommended the Board move to enter into Executive Session at the end of the meeting for the purpose of discussing contract negotiations.
- II. Approval of Minutes
- A. Regular Minutes – October 8, 2015
A motion was made to approve the minutes by Trustee Keefe, seconded by Trustee D. Dodge.
Vote: Yes – 3 No – 0 Abstain – 2 (Scofield, M. Dodge) Absent – 2 (Johnson, LaCava)
- III. District Presentations and Reports
- A. Presentations - None
- B. Oral Communications – Board Member Updates: President Dodge announced this year’s Apple Fest was a success, with many community members in attendance.
- IV. Old Business – None
- V. New Business – None
- VI. Superintendent’s Report – Superintendent Lavine described a Family Workshop led by Karen Ocque, for parents and guardians who want to learn more about Common Core testing, and gave an update on the most recent APPR system meeting between the Administration where they discussed different scoring indicators. Administration also discussed Professional Development among their staff. Beginning on Monday, October 19th, we will be implementing a ‘herringbone’ bus pattern at the High School for the time of drop-off in the morning and dismissal in the afternoon, which means the loop will not be accessible to cars during that time. Principal Chupaila will be sending out a School Messenger to all families informing them of this change, and it will be posted on the website and Facebook page. Ms. Lavine shared an email from a LaFayette Optimist parent who was pleased with student involvement at the Apple Fest, and also shared information from a Capital Project meeting where Administration and the contractors discussed the current status of what is or isn’t working in the buildings and changes that are being made. Ms. Lavine also discussed Superintendent’s Conference Day on Friday, October 9th, where she held a Professional Development session with the Teaching Assistant staff. The TA staff members were all involved and appreciative of the topics being discussed. Ms. Lavine attended a monthly Superintendent meeting at BOCES, which included updates from the new Commissioner of Education. The Commissioner is looking for feedback from districts of things they would like her to address, and she will be meeting with Superintedents, Board of Education members, Administrators, Teachers and parents at a meeting in Auburn on Thursday, October 22nd. Ms. Lavine also shared an agenda created by Mackenzie McElhannon for the Onondaga Nation School 6th, 7th and 8th graders who

are interested in taking a trip to New York City in June. The Onondaga Nation School tries to do a trip for their 6th, 7th and 8th grade classes every three years, and the last trip to Washington D. C. was a big success.

VII. Consent Agenda

A. Approval of Board Action Items

1. 2016-2017 School Budget Calendar
2. Health and Welfare Services – Syracuse City School District
3. Health and Welfare Services – Auburn City School District
4. 504, CSE and CPSE Recommendations
5. Treasurer's Reports – September 2015

A motion to approve the Board Action Items was made by Trustee Keefe, and seconded by Trustee Scofield.

Vote: Yes – 5 No – 0 Abstain – 0 Absent – 2 (Johnson, LaCava)

B. Approval of Personnel Items

1. Annual Appointment 2015-2016
2. Non-Instructional Appointments 2015-2016
3. Interscholastic Appointments 2015-2016

A motion to approve the Personnel Items was made by Trustee Keefe, and seconded by Trustee D. Dodge.

Vote: Yes – 5 No – 0 Abstain – 0 Absent – 2 (Johnson, LaCava)

Jerry Kelly addressed the Board and discussed the posting and advertising of the winter and spring coaching positions, and his feelings towards hiring coaches outside of the District and within the District. He stated his pride in the coaching staff at LaFayette School District and the personal involvement of a coaching staff in the well-being of the students is important to him.

Vice President Johnson arrived at 5:47 pm.

VIII. Board Non-Action Items

- A. Strategic Plan Update – Superintendent Lavine described a conversation from a recent Administrators meeting regarding course offerings at the High School with the LTA. Principal Chupaila described a course to possibly be offered and taught by the current Family and Consumer Science teacher, Mallory Chapentier. Mrs. Chapentier has taught the course Enterprise America before, and has expressed interest in bringing it to LaFayette. It is a course supported by WCNY where students study business elements and then go to WCNY where a “town” is set up for the students to run, make business decisions and work together simulate a successful community. This course, intended for the 7th and 8th grade level, is a project-based learning experience that involves social studies, English and math while being based in Family and Consumer Science. Principal Chupaila also informed the Board of an information night to be held in January for families of students in grades 7 through 11 so they can hear about the process of scheduling and different course offerings, and there is a plan for a similar meeting in May for current 6th graders and their families to plan for the move to 7th grade. Principal Chupaila also discussed how a course schedule is built, the cost of new courses and curriculum development. Superintendent Lavine discussed steps toward Student Leadership, including discussion regarding the senior lounge. Students have expressed interest in the senior lounge, but have been more interested in a senior privilege pass, which would allow a senior in good academic and discipline standing more freedom in the halls. The response to the Principal's Council has also been positive from the students and they suggested meeting every 5 weeks to continue communication and discussing ideas. One idea that was discussed was a plan to elect student officers in the spring, as opposed to the fall of a new school year, so that student leaders

and class advisors would have the summer to prepare for events and fundraisers. This would allow each class (with the exception of 7th grade) is ready to go right at the beginning of the year.

IX. Communications

- A. Public Communications to the Board – None

X. Calendar Review

- A. Upcoming Events – Board Members will be attending a meeting with the new Commissioner of Education on 10/22, Half Day/11:30 am Dismissal for Grimshaw and Onondaga Nation School on 10/29 and 10/30.

XI. Financial Reports – FYI

- A. Claims Auditor Report and Warrants – September 2015
B. Cash Flow – September 2015
C. Budget Status – September 2015

XII. Closing Remarks – President Dodge announced there would be a tour of the Onondaga Nation School, and proposed a motion be made to enter into Executive Session afterwards to enter into a discussion with LTA executive council and discuss specific discipline of a student.

XIII. Executive Session

- A. Enter into Executive Session

A motion was made to enter into Executive Session by Trustee Scofield, and seconded by Vice President Johnson at approximately 6:15 pm.

Vote: Yes – 6 No – 0 Abstain – 0 Absent – 1 (LaCava)

- B. Reconvene into Open Session

A motion was made to reconvene into Open Session by Trustee Scofield, and seconded by Trustee Keefe at approximately 8:57 pm.

Vote: Yes – 6 No – 0 Abstain – 0 Absent – 1 (LaCava)

XIV. Adjournment

- A. Adjourn the Meeting

A motion was made to adjourn the meeting by Trustee Scofield, and seconded by Vice President Johnson at approximately 8:58 pm.

Vote: Yes – 6 No – 0 Abstain – 0 Absent – 1 (LaCava)

Respectfully Submitted,
Kasey McHale
District Clerk