

**LA FAYETTE CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT  
BOARD OF EDUCATION – REGULAR MEETING  
November 19, 2015**

**I. Opening**

- A. Call to Order - The meeting of the LaFayette Central School District Board of Education was called to order by President Matthew Dodge at approximately 5:32 pm. In attendance were Vice President Mark Johnson, Trustees Tom Scofield, James Keefe, Mike LaCava, Don Dodge, Mark Whitney, and Superintendent Laura Lavine, School Business Official Tiffany Turner and District Clerk Kasey McHale. Also in attendance were Administrators Jim Chupaila, Diane Ellsworth, Jen Blossey and Karen Ocque, as well as Jen Jackowski, Kevin Morel, Colin Morel, Rebecca Rogers, Alex Rogers, Tom LaRose, Erin Oristian, Tim Miller and Karen Hart.
- B. Pledge of Allegiance - Led by President Dodge.
- C. Opening Remarks - President Dodge welcomed all to the meeting, thanked everyone for coming. Superintendent Lavine acknowledged the entire Board of Education on behalf of all students, staff and community members, and thanked them for their time and commitment to the LaFayette District. Ms. Lavine presented each Board member with a handmade bookmark from Grimshaw Elementary students, a certificate of appreciation, and announced that in honor of the Board members each library within our District has been given a gift of their choice (Grimshaw Elementary and Onondaga Nation School chose a Kindle Fire, and the High School chose an 8GB MP3 player).

**II. Approval of Minutes**

- A. Regular Minutes - October 15, 2015

A motion to approve the minutes from October 15, 2015 was made by Vice President Johnson,  
seconded by Trustee Scofield.

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

**III. District Presentations and Reports**

- A. Presentations and Recognition - None
- B. Oral Communications-Board Member Updates - Trustee Scofield shared information with other Board members regarding a seminar he attended about Project Lead the Way and new elementary and middle school programs that have been developed within the program. Trustee Whitney inquired about an update on Google security information, and also updated the Board about the drug awareness program that was held at the Jr/Sr High School.

**IV. Old Business**

- A. Update on Senior Lounge and Senior Privileges - Principal Chupaila updated the Board on discussions he has been having with current seniors about a designated area for a Senior Lounge. The new area will be the “horseshoe area” in the foyer in front of the auditorium, and a pass for the lounge will also be in effect for seniors to have on them at all times as long as they are eligible. Mr. Chupaila also indicated that there was discussion regarding a senior privilege where eligible seniors would have the right to arrive late or dismiss early if their schedule allowed. After discussion, that idea was dismissed. It was agreed that a Grade Point Average for eligible seniors to be allowed a pass for the senior lounge/free pass would be a minimum of 80% in all classes, not overall.

A motion was made to allow a Senior Privilege Pass for eligible seniors with a minimum of 80% in each of their classes during non-academic periods and not allowing an early dismissal/late arrival privilege was made by Trustee LaCava, and seconded by Vice President Johnson.

Vote: Yes - 6                  No - 1 (Whitney)                  Abstain - 0                  Absent - 0

## V. New Business

A. Football Program - Superintendent Lavine shared that Tully Central School District has reached out to LaFayette Central School District to join our football program, and early discussions regarding this have been taking place. Tully School District is discussing this possibility with their Board tonight, so all would be open to discussion between Board and Administration. Mr. Miller has been a part of the discussion and updated the Board with his opinion on a possible merger. He explained that Fabius would still be a part of the program, and that any changes would be reviewed in a year to see what worked or didn't work in terms of the addition. He also stated that this would be just at the modified football level at this time. It was agreed that this should be a continuing discussion between the Athletic Department, Administration and the Board as more details become available.

VI. Superintendent's Report - Superintendent Lavine shared news that Upstate Cancer Center Foundation has given a certificate to Jerry Kelly and his team for their support towards cancer care and the donation towards the Grimshaw student. Ms. Lavine also discussed the recent meetings regarding the Athletic Hall of Fame. She thanked the Board of Education for all of their time and efforts, and thanked Karen Ocque for offering evening workshops for parents and guardians and after-school professional development for staff. The evening workshops for parents and guardians are a work in progress, and the hope is to increase publicity for them to increase attendance as they continue. Discussions are continuing regarding online courses through BOCES, as well as training for the SchoolTool transition from our current Student Information System. Ms. Lavine shared information regarding the Hour of Code Big Picture program, and this year Grimshaw and Onondaga Nation School will be participating as well. The re-routing of the buses has been adjusted and any issues seem to be worked out; it is working well for students and staff. Ms. Lavine shared that 120 chromebooks have arrived and are being distributed amongst the buildings, our administration are participating in a group observation again this year and will be observing Mrs. Saba at Grimshaw, and that the lockdown drill at Grimshaw went very well. Equipment has arrived to create ID badges for all employees, and discussions are happening about the design so that names and pictures are clearly visible. Superintendent Lavine suggested to the Board that the new choral room at the High School might be a good place to hold meetings in the future, and asked all trustees to take a look at it on their way out of the building. She then expressed her thanks to the Council of Chiefs for funding a group of students and two staff members of the Onondaga Nation School to go to the AISES Conference, and reported that there will be a presentation regarding this conference for the Board at a future meeting. Ms. Lavine discussed the 21st Century Grant, what we have used this grant for within our District, and how we are waiting to hear if we can roll over to the next year or what formal process we would have to follow, as this is our last official year. She also shared that she attended a meeting with Regent Anthony Botar to discuss the District's "susceptible to fiscal stress" designation by the Office of the State Comptroller, and would keep the Board informed as information became available. Trustee Whitney inquired about the chromebooks and asked if this recent delivery would be enough for all classrooms to have one. School Business Official Turner responded that at this time it is not enough for all classrooms, but that the Smart Schools Bond Act plan has always been to have one-to-one technology available for all students. This will be discussed at the public hearing regarding the Smart Schools Bond Act to be held on Monday, November 23rd.

## VII. Consent Agenda

### A. Approval of Board Action Items

1. Budget Transfers - November 19, 2015
2. Potential Change Order's List
3. 504, CSE and CPSE Recommendations
4. Treasurer's Reports - October 2015
5. Approve Uncollected Taxes
6. Settlement of Tuition Claim

7. Cazenovia Tuition Agreement
8. 1:1 TEaching Assistant Position

A motion was made to approve the Consent Agenda Board Action Items VII. A. 1-8 by Trustee LaCava and seconded by Vice President Johnson.

Vote: Yes - 7          No - 0          Abstain - 0          Absent - 0

#### B. Approval of Personnel Items

1. Salary for Graduate Hours
2. Instructional Appointment 2015-2016
3. Non-Instructional Appointment 2015-2016
4. Substitute Appointments 2015-2016
5. Annual Appointment 2015-2016
6. co-Curricular Appointment 2015-2016
7. Maternity Leave Request
8. Resignation Requests
9. Time Off Without Pay Requests

A motion was made to approve the Consent Agenda Personnel Items VII. B. 1-9 by Trustee LaCava and seconded by Trustee Scofield.

Vote: Yes - 7          No - 0          Abstain - 0          Absent - 0

#### VIII. Board Non-Action Items

- A. Strategic Plan Update - Superintendent Lavine shared with the Board that, as was mentioned earlier, a meeting was held regarding online courses, and recognized Kristeen Cool in her leadership with the Teen Institute program. Members of Teen Institute attended the annual workshop and learned great student leadership skills. Ms. Lavine also shared that there are continued conversations regarding literacy in the buildings and introducing math questions.

#### IX. Communications - None

#### X. Calendar Review

- A. Upcoming Events - Onondaga Nation School Harvest Dinner on 11/24

#### XI. Financial Reports-FYI

- A. Potential Change Order's List
- B. Cash Flow - October 2015
- C. Claims Auditor Report and Warrants - October 2015
- D. Financials - October 2015 - FYI

#### XII. Closing Remarks

- A. Public Communications to the Board - Kevin Morel thanked the Board for allowing a boy's soccer team this year, and stated that the general consensus is that the team does not want to leave to play somewhere else, they would also like if the program could expand as right now there is only a modified team. For the next school year, students in 10th grade would like the opportunity to play on a LaFayette team. Mr. Morel shared that a year ago a 7th grade student did a project on starting a

soccer team at LaFayette, which led to 19 students coming out and 18 students staying with the team. Mr. Morel hopes that these numbers did not impact the football team's numbers, but in discussion with Mr. Miller, it didn't seem to be the case. Trustee LaCava mentioned that involving Tully in our football program could allow us to sustain both soccer and football easier, and President Dodge discussed team numbers for other soccer levels. Superintendent Lavine thanked Mr. Morel for coaching the team. Principal Ellsworth invited all Board members to attend the Harvest Dinner at the Onondaga Nation School on November 24th, and stated the first serving is at 11:45 am.

### XIII. Executive Session

#### A. Enter into Executive Session

A motion to enter into Executive Session for the purpose of discussing the discipline of Student R., including the student and a family member, and discussing contract negotiations was made by Vice President Johnson, and seconded by Trustee LaCava at approximately 7:20 pm.

Vote: Yes - 7      No - 0      Abstain - 0      Absent - 0

The student and family member left the meeting at approximately 7:50 pm.

#### B. Reconvene into Open Session

A motion to reconvene into open session was made by Trustee Scofield, and seconded by Trustee Keefe at approximately 10:23 pm.

Vote: Yes - 7      No - 0      Abstain - 0      Absent - 0

### XIV. Adjournment

#### A. Adjourn the Meeting

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Trustee Keefe, and seconded by Trustee Scofield at approximately 10:24 pm.

Vote: Yes - 7      No - 0      Abstain - 0      Absent - 0

Respectfully Submitted,

Kasey McHale, District Clerk