

**LA FAYETTE CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT  
BOARD OF EDUCATION – REGULAR MEETING  
JANUARY 28, 2016**

I. Opening

- A. Call to Order - The Regular Meeting for the LaFayette Board of Education was held on Thursday January 28, 2016 and President Matthew Dodge called the meeting to order at approximately 5:02 pm. In attendance were Trustees D. Dodge, Keefe and Scofield, Superintendent Lavine, School Business Official Turner, District Clerk McHale, Carlos Ferrer, Joe Scott, Rick Dillon, Jim Kesler and Administrator Susan Osborn. President Dodge asked for a motion to enter into Executive Session for discussion with the Clerical Union.

**Motion: 1st: Trustee Scofield 2nd: Trustee Keefe**

**Vote: Yes: 4 No: 0 Abstain: 0 Absent: 3 (Johnson, LaCava, Whitney)**

At 5:28 pm, President Dodge asked for a motion to reconvene into Open Session.

**Motion: 1st: Trustee Scofield 2nd: Trustee D. Dodge**

**Vote: Yes: 4 No: 0 Abstain: 0 Absent: 3 (Johnson, LaCava, Whitney)**

Students from the Big Picture school led the Board members on a tour of Big Picture. Additionally in attendance for the Regular Meeting were Administrator Jennifer Blossey, Tom LaRose, Jerry Kelly, Gary Oelkers, Ryan Agedal, Mike Agedal, Kim Agedal, Ann Schaefer, Sean Griffin, Erin Oristian, Christine Cromley, Gretchen Gretskey, Charmaine Booth, Caleb Gretskey, Jane Schaefer, Dave Knapp, Patty Conover, and Mary Conover.

- B. Pledge of Allegiance - led by President Dodge
- C. Opening Remarks - President Dodge requested a moment of silence for the loss of a valued LaFayette community member Ted Amidon, and then wished a welcome to everyone present. He also announced he would be requesting a motion to enter into Executive Session at the end of the meeting to discuss contract negotiations.

II. Approval of Minutes

- A. Regular Minutes - January 14, 2016 - table until the next meeting
- B. Regular Minutes - December 17, 2015 - table until the next meeting

III. District Presentations and Reports

A. Presentations and Recognition

1. Ryan Agedal Recognition - Mr. Jerry Kelly introduced Ryan, and explained that besides being the recipient of the Zebra Scholastic Scholarship award, Ryan was also a Time Warner Athlete of the Week, a great student and leader in the District among his peers. Mr. Kelly expressed his pride in having coached Ryan and been a witness to his growth and accomplishments. Ryan thanked Mr. Kelly for helping him and believing in him over the years. Ryan was given a certificate of honor from the Board of Education.
2. Athletic Hall of Fame - Mr. Dave Knapp thanked the Board for their leadership and explained that having an Athletic Hall of Fame was an idea of his and Mr. Lavern Doctor's. It was originally thought to be a Lacrosse Hall of Fame since the sport is such an important part of the history of the District. Mr. Knapp and Mr. Doctor talked to a few other people in the community including Trustee Scofield and Superintendent Lavine, and it was decided the project should be an overall sports/athletics hall of fame since the District has had such outstanding athletes in all different sports. A committee was formed and they have had several meetings. They have put together a structure including an Executive Committee, and established a goal of announcing the first introductory class at the 1000th lacrosse game, before Sectionals begin. The Committee has borrowed a lot of ideas from other schools that have similar programs, and Mr. Knapp explained

there would be a nomination process once more details were developed. They plan to recognize individual athletes, teams, coaches and contributors to LaFayette athletics. In terms of a location for the Hall of Fame, the Committee is looking at the hallway outside the gym towards the northern doors, and are looking at styles of plaques and other presentation details. Trustee Scofield added that there has been a lot of momentum behind this project, and the biggest problem they are facing is there are so many people that deserve to be recognized.

3. Carlos Ferrer, Joe Scott, Rick Dillon: Technology Security - President Dodge requested postponing this presentation until later in the meeting, once Trustee Whitney arrived, and suggestion moving to Item IV A.

At 6:00 pm. Mr. Scott gave a presentation regarding security and options offered and that the District subscribes to through CNYRIC. Mr. Ferrer explained Google security established within the District, including who has access for the District Account and the building administrators for staff help. Trustee Whitney asked for more information on security in Google Docs and the sharing of information within the District in Google. Mr. Ferrer said that right now access is open in the District, but restrictions can be put in place for sharing so it can only be done within the District's domain. The only element that has been locked down is the social networking Google+. Mr. Scott stated that controls can be implemented if the District needs it.

4. Budget Presentation: State Budget & Community Budget Meetings - School Business Official Tiffany Turner presented information regarding the District being susceptible to fiscal stress and responded to the article being posted on syracuse.com regarding the situation. She explained that our District is unique with two other schools in the state and the way that the comptroller calculates fiscal stress does not formulate with our unique situation. The comptroller will not change the calculations in regards to the District's situation, so the District will continue to be prepared to explain the situation, and work towards getting off the list. Mrs. Turner also presented information regarding the results of the community budget meetings and the Governor's Budget Proposal and Tax Levy. Suggestions and ideas from the community budget meetings and emails from community members was given, and intended to lead discussion for the Board members. Mrs. Turner also indicated that suggestions from Administration had been coming to her, just not included in this presentation, and one of those suggestions was a late bus run (5:30 pm) for academic and athletic purposes.
- B. Oral Communications-Board Member Updates - Trustee Keefe read in the Neighbors East about District students that made All County Chorus and wished them congratulations.

#### IV. Old Business

- A. Capital Project Update: Sean Griffin, Jim Kesler - Mr. Kesler and Mr. Griffin handed a punchlist out to each Board member of remaining projects for all buildings. Mr. Griffin shared that work is continuing in the auditorium at the High School and the goal is to be complete at the beginning of April. Trustee Scofield thanked Mr. Griffin and his crew for all of their work.

Trustee Whitney arrived at 5:58 pm.

#### V. New Business

##### A. Food Service

1. Payment for Meals - Superintendent Lavine explained that this topic came from a Trustee who questioned a sign in the High School cafeteria that said that students in 9th-12th grade that owed a balance may not charge meals. Mr. Rob Kennedy discussed this with Superintendent Lavine, and explained that this is not a policy, but a rule that has been in place for years. While he could not be present for this meeting, he also explained that no students go hungry. If they can't afford a hot

meal, students are given a peanut butter and jelly sandwich, fruit and milk. Federal Food Guidelines say that there cannot be a negative balance for food services, so the District cannot cover any open balances from students that charge and do not pay the balance. Ms. Lavine suggested the Board have a discussion on how students are fed, what to do for students who cannot pay and how they would like to handle this situation. She also explained this specific topic is a national discussion, brought about by a “sandwich of shame”, cheese sandwich photograph that was posted on social media in another state. President Dodge inquired about the numbers of students who buy a hot lunch compared to bringing a lunch, and Superintendent Lavine said she would get information from Mr. Kennedy. Mrs. Gretsky explained that calls are made to the home when a student owes a balance, and that students feel embarrassed when they are told they owe money in front of their peers. Mrs. Cromley also commented that children don’t often know they are at a negative balance until they are told “no” to a hot lunch and are embarrassed. She indicated that school lunch can be paid online, but there is a fee to use a credit card, and that could be a reason some parents are late in their payments.

#### VI. Superintendent’s Report

- A. LaFayette Outreach Inc. Letter Re: Food Donation - Superintendent Lavine expressed her thanks to Susan Osborn for hosting the Board meeting, and shared the Board is positive about this location and are hoping to have future meetings at the common area. She also expressed thanks to Big Picture students for coming and giving a tour to the Board Trustees. Ms. Lavine shared that she attended a great winter concert at ONS, and congratulated all participants. Ms. Lavine stated that she and several administrators attended a county drug forum, which was very educational and they are hoping to get some presenters to come to the District. Data meetings are currently being held within the District, January 27th at ONS and January 28th at Grimshaw. Ms. Lavine congratulated Mrs. Blossey and her staff for their data discussions, which were observed and will be videotaped and used as an example in the future. The Principal Search Committee had their first meeting which served as an orientation, and the District has received approximately 22 applications. There will be a paper screening on January 30th for all on the committee who can attend and the goal will be to choose 6 candidates to come in for interviews. The first safety and security meeting was held, with great representation from the entire community, and all went away with assignments to return with. Trustee Scofield agreed that participation was strong with the committee members, and expressed that a priority is door security/access to buildings. Ms. Lavine concluded by thanking Big Picture seniors who had lunch with her recently, and expressed her excitement to continue luncheons with seniors at the High School in the Spring.

#### VII. Consent Agenda

- A. Approval of Board Action Items
1. Book Donation at Onondaga Nation School
  2. Board Policy #6110: Code of Ethics for Board Members and All Personnel - 1st Reading
  3. Universal Pre-Kindergarten Services Agreement
  4. 504, CSE and CPSE Recommendations
  5. January 2016 Budget Transfers
  6. Treasurer’s Reports December 2015
  7. Additional Parent Members Recommendations 2015-2016

**Motion:            1st: Trustee Scofield            2nd: Trustee Keefe**

Trustee Whitney inquired about Item A. 2., specifically the policy of not accepting gifts of \$75 or more, etc. and wondered if wording should be put in to explain what the definition of a gift would be. Mrs. Turner

explained that old language was crossed out and the new language is suggestion from BOCES but old language can be kept including descriptions and or other items. Ms. Lavine said that when in doubt, the District would contact the school attorney. Trustee Scofield discussed professional development in the same situation, and agreed extra language may be needed. Trustee Whitney also wanted to make sure further discussion would happen at future readings before it becomes an official policy.

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

B. Approval of Personnel Items

1. Interim Administration Appointment 2015-2016
2. Resignation 2015-2016

**Motion: 1st: Trustee Scofield 2nd: Trustee Keefe**

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

President Dodge thanked Kasey McHale for her service, and stated the Board is sorry to see her go but wishes her well in her new District.

VIII. Board Non-Action Items

- A. Strategic Plan Update - Ms. Lavine reiterated the Data Team meetings that are currently happening, and those visitors that observed all the meetings. She also reported that four students at the High School are signed up for online courses, and that Janna Keefe has had meetings with those students already and they have already started their courses. She also indicated that there are two students at Big Picture looking to sign up for online courses as well, and that she feels this is a strong start for a new course program.

IX. Communications - none

X. Calendar Review

- A. Upcoming Events - next board meeting 2/11/2016

XI. Financial Reports-FYI

- A. Potential Change Orders - FYI
- B. Claims Auditor and Warrant Reports: December 2015 FYI
- C. Financials: December 2015 FYI
- D. Cash Flow: December 2015 FYI

XII. Closing Remarks

- A. Public Communications to the Board - none

XIII. Proposed Executive Session

- A. Enter into Executive Session for the purpose of contract negotiations at 7:26 pm.

**Motion: 1st: Trustee Scofield 2nd: Trustee Keefe**

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

- B. Reconvene into Open Session at 8:25 pm.

**Motion: 1st: Trustee Keefe 2nd: Trustee Scofield**

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

XIV. Adjournment

A. Adjourn the Meeting at 8:26 pm.

**Motion: 1st:Trustee Keefe 2nd: Trustee D. Dodge**

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

Respectfully Submitted,

Kasey McHale

District Clerk