

**LA FAYETTE CENTRAL SCHOOL  
LaFayette, New York 13084**

**BOARD OF EDUCATION**

**Regular Board Meeting  
April 24, 2014 Minutes**

I. Call to Order

The Regular Meeting of the LaFayette Board of Education was held on Thursday, April 24, 2014, at the District Office Conference Room. President Scofield called the meeting to order at approximately 5:30 p.m. Present were: Trustees Akl, Dodge, Keefe, and LaCava. Also in attendance were Superintendent Tigh and School Business Official Nesbitt. Excused were: Trustee Whitney, Trustee Sofranko, Board Clerk Munnell and Onondaga Nation Representative Jacques. Others in attendance were: Administrators Greg Bump, Laura Lavine and Diane Ellsworth; Mark Johnson, Amy Johnson, Don Dodge, John and Doreen Verzosa.

II. Pledge of Allegiance – President Scofield led the participants in the Pledge of Allegiance.

III. Opening Remarks – President Scofield mentioned School Business Official Nesbitt would be the Clerk for the meeting as Board Clerk Munnell was excused and there would be two additional resolutions on the agenda. He also mentioned there would be an Executive Session at the beginning of the meeting to discuss Part f. of Policy 1730 to review personnel contractual issues.

IV. Executive Session - On the recommendation of President Scofield, a motion was made by Trustee Dodge, seconded by Trustee LaCava to enter into Executive Session at 5:32 p.m.

Motion carried: Yes – 5      No – 0      Absent – 2 (Trustee Sofranko, Trustee Whitney)

A motion to come out of Executive Session by Trustee LaCava and seconded by Trustee Dodge at approximately 5:48 p.m.

Motion carried: Yes - 5      No – 0      Absent – 2 (Trustee Sofranko, Trustee Whitney)

V. Approval of Minutes

A. Regular Minutes – April 10, 2014

Motion by Trustee LaCava, Seconded by Trustee Dodge

Motion carried: Yes – 5      No – 0      Absent – 2 (Trustee Sofranko, Trustee Whitney)

VI. District Presentations and Reports

A. Presentation – School Business Official Nesbitt presented the proposed 2014-15 school budget. The proposed budget includes a .70% budget increase, a 1.98% tax levy increase which is under the tax levy limit of 2.49%. Superintendent Tigh mentioned that if property owners have STAR on their property in the District they would be eligible for the property tax freeze rebate in the Fall. It was mentioned that the budget included a reduction of one administrative position through attrition, two teacher positions one of which is a reduction through attrition and one is a change in placement to another school building, three and one half teacher assistant positions of which the half-time position would be a layoff. There will also be a reduction of two part-time cafeteria workers, which would not impact the general fund budget, as it is part of the cafeteria fund budget.

B. Oral Communications

1. Community Connections: Superintendent Tigh highlighted 2 students, Nicholas Grzymala who is graduating from Clarkson University and Brandon Galloway who is graduating from Morrisville State College. Both of whom were highlighted in the Neighbors East section of The Post Standard newspaper.

VII. Old Business

- A. Trustee LaCava stated that the School and Safety report is being drafted and will be available soon.

VIII. New Business –

- A. Smartwatt Program at Onondaga Nation School – School Business Official Nesbitt discussed a proposal from the Smartwatt Program for retrofitting new and more efficient lights at the Onondaga Nation School. The program is anticipated to save \$538 per month and the payback period would be 21 months. It has been successful in other schools in the district and there will be a resolution on the next agenda for the project to take place this summer.
- B. Superintendent Tigh announced his resignation for purposes of retirement. He stated that LaFayette is a wonderful community and he is lucky to have become close to so many people in the community.

On the recommendation of President Scofield to approve the resignation of Superintendent Peter Tigh for the purposes of retirement effective June 30, 2014 with regrets, many thanks and appreciation, a motion made by Trustee LaCava, seconded by Trustee Akl:

Motion carried: Yes – 5      No – 0      Absent – 2 (Trustee Sofranko, Trustee Whitney)

- C. Appointment of Interim Superintendent and Acceptance of Employment Agreement

On the recommendation of President Scofield to approve the following resolution:

**WHEREAS**, Superintendent Peter Tigh has notified the Board of his determination to retire from the District effective June 30, 2014 and has tendered his resignation for such purpose to this Board of Education, and

**WHEREAS**, the Board is desirous of appointing a qualified person to serve as Interim Superintendent during the period commencing on or about July 1, 2014 for a period not to exceed December 31, 2014 to oversee and direct District operations and its educational programs, and

**WHEREAS**, the Board of Education after due consideration, has determined that Ms. Laura Lavine possesses the qualifications to undertake such duties and responsibilities on behalf of the District, and

**WHEREAS**, Ms. Lavine is desirous of accepting this appointment.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Board of Education hereby appoints Ms. Laura Lavine to the position of Interim Superintendent of Schools effective on or about July 1, 2014, and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Board of Education hereby accepts and adopts an Employment Agreement between Ms. Lavine and the Board of Education of the LaFayette Central School District, which provides for a salary of Fifteen Thousand Dollars (\$15,000.00) and other terms and conditions of employment of Ms. Lavine as the Interim Superintendent of Schools for the term effective on or about July 1, 2014 through December 31, 2014, unless further extended or sooner terminated as provided therein and, the Agreement further provides, in the sole discretion of the Board of Education and upon conditions noted therein, that Ms. Lavine may be appointed, by separate Resolution of the Board at a public meeting, to the position of full time Superintendent of Schools for an additional term of three and one half years at an annual salary not to exceed Thirty Thousand Dollars (\$30,000.00) with other benefits and terms and conditions of employment as specified in such Employment Agreement; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Board of Education hereby authorizes the President of the Board, or the Vice President in his absence, upon execution by Ms. Lavine, to execute said Agreement on behalf of the District and to file same with the District Clerk.

**Dated:** April 24, 2014

**MOTION MADE BY** Trustee Akl **SECONDED BY** Trustee Dodge

**Yes** 5 **No** 0 **Absent** 2 (Trustee Sofranko, Trustee Whitney)

IX. Superintendent's Report

On the recommendation of Superintendent Tigh to approve Items A 1-10, a motion made by Trustee LaCava, seconded by Trustee Dodge:

A. Board Action Items - Consent

1. Approval of Treasurer's Report – March 2014
2. Approval of Budget Transfers – April 24, 2014
3. Approve 2014-2015 District Budget
4. Approve 2014-2015 BOCES Final Service Request
5. Approve Clerks and Tellers for Annual Budget Vote
6. Approve to Close Unused Bank Account
7. Approve Lead Evaluators for 2013-2014 & 2014-2015 School Years
8. Approve Principal Evaluators for 2013-2014 & 2014-2015 School Years
9. Approve Resolution – JUUL Agreement
10. CSE Recommendations

Motion carried: Yes – 5 No – 0 Absent – (Trustee Sofranko, Trustee Whitney)

B. Personnel

C. Board Non-Action Items

D. Communications

1. Thank You Letter to D. Alexander
2. Congratulations to D. Amidon and M. Picciotti

E. Calendar Review

It was communicated that the next Board Meeting with Budget Hearing is scheduled for Thursday, May 8, 2014 at 5:30 p.m. at the Jr/Sr High School LGI. The Annual Budget Vote is to be held on Tuesday, May 20 from 1:00-9:00 p.m. at the Jr./Sr. High School Main Office Lobby. It was also mentioned that there is a Junior High Concert on May 13<sup>th</sup>, Grandparents' Day at Grimshaw on May 16<sup>th</sup>, Senior High Concert on May 20<sup>th</sup>, Grimshaw Concert on May 28<sup>th</sup>, Senior High Awards on June 11<sup>th</sup> and Junior High Awards on June 12<sup>th</sup>.

X. Financial Reports – FYI – As of March 2014

- A. Budget Status
- B. Cash Flow
- C. Claims Auditor's Report
- D. Warrants – 5H, 15F, 16R, 25A

XI. Closing Remarks

Oral Communications – Doreen Verzosa discussed flying military flags and graduation attire.

XII. Adjournment

A motion to adjourn by Trustee LaCava and seconded by Trustee Dodge at approximately 6:26 p.m.

Motion carried: Yes - 5 No – 0 Absent – 2 (Trustee Sofranko, Trustee Whitney)

Respectfully submitted,

Tiffany Nesbitt, Board Clerk Pro-Tem