

LA FAYETTE CENTRAL SCHOOL
LaFayette, New York 13084

BOARD OF EDUCATION

Regular Board Meeting
October 23, 2014 Minutes

1) Opening

A. Call to Order

The Regular Meeting of the LaFayette Board of Education was held on Thursday, October 23, 2014, at the Jr./Sr. High School-LGI. President Dodge called the meeting to order at approximately 5:30 p.m. Present were: Trustees LaCava, D. Dodge, Scofield, Whitney and Johnson. Also in attendance were Superintendent Lavine, School Business Official Turner, Board Clerk Munnell and Onondaga Nation Representative Jacques. Others in attendance were: Administrators Greg Bump, Jennifer Blossey, Susan Osborn, and Diane Ellsworth; Josh Seitz, Danica Kaltaler, Jessa Albro, Karen Ocque, Ann Schaefer, Gary Oelkers, Mitchel Dadey, Adrian Shute, Caleb Gretskey, Tina Poplawski, and Kelly Kubeja

Trustee Keefe was excused for the meeting.

B. Pledge of Allegiance

Students that were present led the audience in the Pledge of Allegiance.

C. Opening Remarks

Superintendent Lavine recognized the members of the Board of Education for the Annual Board Appreciation Week. Mrs. Kubeja along with members of the Jr./Sr. High School Student Council gave the Board members "Thank You" cards for their service. Ms. Jacques and Ms. Ellsworth displayed a banner that children from the Onondaga Nation School made for the Trustees. Mrs. Blossey handed out "Thank You" cards that the Grimshaw School Student Council members made for the Board of Education. To end the observance, Ms. Lavine gave each of the Board members certificates showing the District's appreciation of their valuable contribution.

2) Executive Session

On the recommendation of President Dodge, a motion to discuss the medical, financial, credit or employment history of any particular person or corporation, or matters leading to the appointment, employment, promotion, demotion, discipline, suspension, dismissal or removal of any particular person or corporation was made by Trustee Scofield, seconded by Trustee Johnson to enter into Executive Session at 5:37 p.m.

Motion carried: Yes – 6 No – 0 Absent – 1 (Keefe)

A motion to come out of Executive Session by Trustee Scofield and seconded by Trustee Johnson at approximately 5:44 p.m.

Motion carried: Yes - 6 No – 0 Absent – 1 (Keefe)

Reconvened into Open Session at 5:45 p.m.

3) Approval of Minutes

Regular Minutes – October 9, 2014

Motion by Trustee LaCava, Seconded by Trustee Scofield

Motion carried: Yes – 6 No –0 Absent – 1 (Keefe)

4) District Presentation and Reports

- A. Presentation – Board Appreciation – see notes above
- B. Results of Survey and Unveiling New Website – Superintendent Lavine reported on the continuing progress being made in improving communication throughout the District, specifically about the plans for a new website and an “app” for the District. She introduced Danica Kaltaler, Public Information Specialist, and Joshua Seitz, Webmaster from OCM-BOCES. Danica relayed the results of the Google survey that was offered on the website. She was pleased with the number of responses. There were 140 responses which was more than any other district she has worked with. She presented a Powerpoint breakdown of the results. She also gave the Board handouts with the outcomes.

Danica showed the Board members a draft of the new website design resulting from the survey responses. The Board was very receptive and excited about the new proposed website. It will be several weeks before the website would be up and running.

Josh and Danica talked about the free mobile “App” being created. Users can download it into their Androids or iPhones. The District will be able to push notifications and expect that it will be a great public relations resource.

- C. Oral Communications

5) Old Business

- A. BOCES Printing Cost Savings Report
Superintendent Lavine gave the Board a quick update on the status of printing and sending the monthly newsletter. According to an invoice sent from BOCES, we could have a cost savings of approximately \$17,000 per year.
- B. Spanish Trip – Z. Romeu
President Dodge requested the Board to keep Mrs. Romeu’s petition of the Spanish trip in mind for discussion.

6) New Business

None

7) Superintendent Report

- A. Superintendent Updates Board
Superintendent Lavine formally introduced Karen Ocque to the Board. Ms. Ocque is our new Director of Instruction and Pupil Services. Her official start date is Monday, November 10, but she has already started working with us by voluntarily using vacation days from her current position. Welcome, Karen. Ms. Lavine was recently a judge at the Jr./Sr. High School for a Brownie Bake-Off. Entrants were both staff and students. Mrs. Pethybridge was the winner. Ms. Lavine asked a student what they got out of it. One student replied, “Now I know how to make brownies on my own and I don’t have to ask my mother to do it for me.” It was a wonderful example of how students learn self-reliance through our teaching.
Ms. Lavine recently attended a parent group (PASS-Parent Advocate for Student Success) meeting. She thanked the parents for their work and for including her in their discussions. LaFayette asked and was selected to participate in the “YouthTruth Survey” which is designed to allow student to communicate how they feel about school and provide a vehicle for their voices to be heard. When the results come in, Ms. Lavine will share with the Board.

An update on the Capital Project: Mrs. Turner reported that we are pleased to have received a prompt reply from the State Education Department. They approved the first round of submittals and have made their recommendations to the architects. The architects will make the changes and submit for a second round of comments. The District is on schedule to send out bids by the holidays.

On a sad note, Mr. Robert Risavi's mother passed away recently. Mr. Risavi is a school counselor at the Grimshaw School. Our condolences go to Mr. Risavi and his family.

A recent update on our enrollment shows that enrollment is up 1.5% from 2013-2014. Although small, it is nevertheless a positive change from the recent years of declining enrollment.

On the recommendation of Superintendent Lavine to approve items 8 B – M, a motion was made by Trustee LaCava, seconded by Trustee Scofield:

8) Consent Agenda – Board Action Items

- A. Approval of Board Action Items
- B. Approve Treasurer's Report – September 2014
- C. Approve Budget Transfers as of October 15, 2014
- D. Approve Maternity Leave Request – Administrative
- E. Approve Leave of Absence – Non-Instructional
- F. Award Snow Plow Bid – 2014-2015
- G. Approve Grad Hours – Contractual
- H. Donation of Snare Drum
- I. Approve CSE/CPSE/504 Chairperson
- J. Approve Resolution Authorizing Participation in Cooperative Energy Purchasing Service for Natural Gas
- K. Approve Resolution Authorizing Participation in Cooperative Energy Purchasing Service for Electricity
- L. Approve CSE/CPSE Recommendations
- M. Approval of Agreement as Discussed in Executive Session

Motion carried: Yes – 6 No – 0 Absent – 1 (Keefe)

On the recommendation of Superintendent Lavine to approve items 9 B, a motion was made by Trustee LaCava, seconded by Trustee Johnson:

9) Consent Agenda – Personnel Items

- A. Approval of Personnel Items
- B. Appointment – Substitute #4 2014-2015

Motion carried: Yes – 6 No – 0 Absent – 1 (Keefe)

10) Board Non-Action Items

11) Communications

12) Calendar Review

- A. Upcoming Events
President Dodge announced upcoming dates. On October 25 Girls' Volleyball playoff game at Phoenix and Boys' Football Sectional game at Hannibal; October 30-Board members attending mandatory Child Abuse Training at Baldwinsville; November 3-GAPS meetings; November 4-Election Day; November 11 Veteran's Day-No Schools; November 12 Feast and Photo Night at Jr./Sr. HS;

13) Financial Reports

- A. Cash Flow – September 2014
- B. Budget Status – September 2014
- C. Claims Auditor Report – September 2014
- D. Warrants – September 2014

Mrs. Turner said the District is still receiving taxes and will be through the end of the month. On the next agenda, there will be a report for the uncollected taxes. Revenues are doing well.

14) Closing Remarks

- A. Public Communications to the Board
Principal Ellsworth invited the Board to the ONS Annual Harvest Dinner on Tuesday, November 25. Ms. Jacques updated the Board on a date change for the Arts and Crafts Festival from November 22 to December 13 at the Nation Arena. Principal Blossy said the Annual Optimist Halloween Party is Friday, October 24 at the Grimshaw School and on Thursday, October 30 and Friday, October 31 are half-day Parent Conference Days for both the Grimshaw and Onondaga Nation Schools.

15) Executive Session

On the recommendation of President Dodge, a motion to discuss the medical, financial, credit or employment history of any particular person or corporation, or matters leading to the appointment, employment, promotion, demotion, discipline, suspension, dismissal or removal of any particular person or corporation was made by Trustee Scofield, seconded by Trustee LaCava to enter into Executive Session at 6:30 p.m.

Motion carried: Yes – 6 No – 0 Absent – 1 (Keefe)

A motion to come out of Executive Session by Trustee Scofield and seconded by Trustee LaCava at approximately 7:42 p.m.

Motion carried: Yes - 6 No – 0 Absent – 1 (Keefe)

Reconvene into Open Session at 7:42. p.m.

16) Adjournment

- A. Adjourn the meeting

A motion to adjourn the meeting by Trustee Whitney and seconded by Trustee LaCava at approximately 7:43 p.m.

Motion carried: Yes - 6 No – 0 Absent – 1 (Keefe)

Respectfully submitted,

Sarah Munnell, Board Clerk