



Meeting Minutes

Lafayette School Board
Lafayette Regional School
January 12, 2023
5:30pm

Attendees

- Board
 - Christi Gignac, Chair
 - Megan Detamore, Vice Chair
 - Amy Mullins
 - Gail Clark
 - Nicole MacKay
- LAF
 - Gordie Johnk, Principal
- SAU
 - Kate Segal, Superintendent
 - Toni Butterfield, Business Manager
- Public
 - None
- Clerk
 - Heather Golding

I. Call to Order

- Meeting called to order at 5:33pm by Chair Christi Gignac.

II. Announcements, Good News & the LPTO Report (Amy Mullins)

III. Approval of the Minutes

Motion by Megan Detamore to approve 12/8/2022 minutes; seconded by Amy Mullins. All in favor; Motion passes.

IV. Public Input

Any citizen wishing to speak before the Board must sign in with the administrative assistant prior to the opening of the meeting. The visitor will identify themselves with their name and address and speak for no longer than five (5) minutes. See Board Policy BEDH.

1. Chris Dube (Franconia Energy Commission)
 - o Chris attended the meeting for the purpose of asking the Board about the process for submitting a proposal to potentially bring a solar energy system to Lafayette Regional School. After asking a few clarifying questions, the Board advised that he should draft a proposal for review that contains detailed information about the project such as the timeline, budget, information regarding similar projects at other schools and the outcomes, etc. Gordie agreed to serve as Chris's contact in the event he has questions or needs additional information from the Board to draft the proposal.

V. New Business

- A. Moderator and Two Board seats up for re-election (1 Franconia and 1 Easton)
 - o Jim Walker will serve as Moderator for the Annual Meeting.
 - o 2 Board Seats are up for re-election, one from Franconia and one from Easton.

VI. Continuing Business

- A. Review of ESSER Grants Funds (Toni Butterfield)
 - o Toni reported that the LAF ESSR Grants are in excellent shape.
 - o ESSR 2 will be used for the bleachers project and part of the flooring project.
 - o ESSR 3 will be used for part of flooring project, the roofing project, and Speech costs.
- B. Review of Federal Grants Funds
 - o Detailed figures will be provided at the next meeting.
- C. Discuss Tuition Rates for 2023-2024
 - o Lisbon is going up 1%.
 - o All the schools in the SAU are matching the 1% increase, and Toni offered her opinion that it would be reasonable for LAF to do so.

Motion by Amy Mullins to match the 1% tuition increase; seconded by Megan Detamore. All in favor; Motion passes.

- D. Warrant Article – Building & Grounds Maintenance Expendable Trust Fund (“B&G Trust”)
 - o Last year \$45,000 was put into the B&G Trust.
 - o The Board discussed what amount to recommend this year. After considering various potential expenses – including the 26 year old septic leech field – the Board determined \$70,000 would be advisable this year.
 - o The Board also discussed that the Warrant Articles will be sent to counsel for review.

Motion by Amy Mullin to put \$70,000 into the B&G Trust; seconded by Gail Clark. All in favor; Motion passes.

E. Annual Meeting

1. The Annual Meeting will take place on Thursday, March 9th at LAF at 7:30 pm. Doors will open to start voting at 7pm.
2. The LAF School Board meeting take place the same day, starting at 5:30 pm
3. On February 9th, the Budget Hearing will take place at 5:30pm with the School Board meeting to follow.

F. Principal Search

1. Search Committee Update

- The Search Committee met on Monday. There are 3 applicants to date.
- The Board discussed and agreed on additional places to advertise (newspapers, university career services offices, etc.)
- The Search Committee sought guidance from the Board on whether they may extend the application deadline in an effort to increase the applicant pool.

Motion Amy Mulling to authorize the Search Committee search to extend the application deadline; seconded by Megan Detamore. All in favor; Motion passes.

- The brochure and related information will be revised to reflect the extended date, as needed.
- Contingencies will be discussed at the next meeting.

VII. Standing Reports

A. Principal

1. Principal's Report (Gordie Johnk)

a) Medical Update:

- (1) In December, approximately 12-15 kids were out sick for last 2 weeks of the month and many sick kids were present in school.
- (2) Only 4 kids were out to sick date in January.
- (3) Covid update: Covid is still present, but the flu is more common, and the common cold is omnipresent.

b) December Update:

- (1) LPTO put on the Recycle Sale (for \$.25 children can buy a gift and have it nicely wrapped). 6th graders help set it up and take it down. It was a very special event. The \$125 earned gets donated to a charity the kids vote for. It

teaches the lesson that it feels good to give as well as receive.

- (2) The Winter concert was a success, complete with a snow globe photo opportunity using a snow globe the kids made in art class.
- (3) Report cards went home at the end of the first trimester.
- (4) The flooring company will start putting the flooring down in the gym on February 20. Gordie is taking the lead on tearing down the bleachers and recycling everything that can be used in the outdoor classroom.
- (5) New bleachers arrive April 10. Chairs will be used in the interim.
- (6) Multipurpose Room: The school received a grant for \$25k for a multimedia system for multipurpose room, complete with a wireless speaker system.
- (7) Gordie thanked the B&G Committee that did the design ascetics for the Multipurpose Room, as well as Toni and Dawn who helped with the grants.

B. Superintendent (Kate Segal)

1. Monthly Report
 - a) The SAU is in the middle of budget season.
2. Individual Board Member Self-Evaluation Worksheet
 - a) Kate introduced a private self-evaluation worksheet that sets forth Board members' responsibilities and allows members think about their duties, performance, and how they may want to improve.
 - b) It can be provided to new members.

C. Business Manager (Toni Butterfield)

1. Surplus/Deficit Report
 - a) Toni provided and discussed the Revenue/Expense YTD Budget Statement, including Expenditure Report by Function
 - b) She reported that LAF is ahead of where the Board thought LAF would be at this point in terms of available fund balances.
 - c) Toni explained that LAF can decide if it wants to put the food services out to bid this year. LAF is not required to do so, but would be required to do so next year because the contract will be up then.
 - d) The Board discussed that there has been good feedback on the school food this year.
2. Budget
 - Toni provided and discussed the LAF School District Budget Summary.

- She noted it is now slightly lower after removing \$10k from the busing budget.
- She also noted that the increased burden on the taxpayer is minimal (just over 3%).

3. Warrant Articles

- \$3.16Million is the amount to be put into the Warrant Article, along with \$70k for the B&G Fund.
- Gordie noted the figures have been well thought out and are respectable numbers.

4. The Board decided not to provide a Board of Education Report to the yellow Annual Report for LRS. The Board noted that it appreciates Kate Segal leaving it to the Board's discretion.

5. Bus Transportation Bid

- Daniel Walker and Ben Jellisen of Notchview Transport attended the meeting to present their bid for the LAF bus contract.
- They provided an overview of their new company and their bid, noting the rate of price increases over the years depending upon the length of the contract and also their bid's escalating Fuel Overage price.
- They have a fleet of 6 buses and 10 rostered drivers. They've done field trips and the ski programs so far when WW Berry was unavailable.
- Amy asked how many buses the proposal is for. They stated that, for LAF, they would determine the number of buses needed after discussions with the administration based on the students who sign up and where they live
- Continuation of the discussion regarding the busing contract was tabled for the Non-Public Session.

VIII. Committee Reports

A. Executive Board

1. The Executive Board met on Tuesday, Jan. 3rd.

IX. Policy Handbook

- A. BBB – Public Comment & Participation at Board Meetings – First and Second Readings (revised to reflect RSA recently passed that requires HS Boards to have a student)

- B. BEDH – School Board Elections – First and Second Readings (revised substantially to reflect RSA that requires no less than 30 minutes for public comments, with restrictions Board is allowed to make)
- C. JLCB – Immunization of Students – First and Second Readings (revised to remove notarization of religious exemption)

Motion by Gail Clark to approve first and second readings of all policies with suggested changes; seconded by Amy Mullins. All in favor; Motion passes.

X. School Staffing Notifications & Approvals

- None.

XI. Non Public Session as per RSA 91A:3, I, II

- The Board went into nonpublic session at 7:51pm by rollcall vote.
- The Board discussed the quality and reliability of the current busing company, as well as the bid/presentation by Notchview Transport.
- The Board came out of nonpublic session by rollcall vote at 8:13pm

XII. Bus Transportation Bid (cont.)

- The Board discussed the pros and cons of the different proposed contract lengths offered by Notchview, and also that Notchview would need to agree to the stipulation that all LAF students get to/home from school in no more than 45 minutes each way.

Motion by Amy Mullins to accept Notchview's bid for 3 years with the stipulation that each student must be transported to and home from school in no more than 45 minutes each way; seconded by Gail Clark. All in favor; motion passes.

XIII. Adjournment

Motion by Nicole MacKay to adjourn; seconded by Amy Mullins. All in favor; the meeting was adjourned at 8:19pm.

Next Meeting: February 9, 2023