The following Murphy Students led the Board and audience in the Pledge of Allegiance: Jacob LaBar, Tyler Kopka, Aaron Hudspeth, Henry Kalisz, Nathan Bergstrom, Esmeralda Sanchez and Madison Porritt.

Assistant Superintendent Mark Ratjer introduced Matt Miller, the new Director of Finance, to the Board of Education. Board members welcomed Matt to Lapeer Community Schools. Matt will begin his new position on December 14.

Murphy Elementary Principal Jeff Stanton explained that Murphy has four Robotics teams. He introduced one of the Robotics teams and their leaders to the Board. The Robotics students presented their robot and explained how they built it and are competing with it.

Mr. Stanton and Learning Coach Amy Duncan presented information on Murphy’s technology focus throughout the school including the four robotics teams. Learning Coaches are providing training for teachers with a focus on differentiated classrooms. Murphy is providing students with many leadership opportunities through student council, the LINKS program, bus/lunch buddies, and Murphy Live.

Mrs. Duncan explained they are working to bring parents, students and staff together by having everyone read the same book. All staff (including secretaries, paraprofessionals, cooks, custodian and bus drivers) will receive a copy of the same book. The title of the book is not being divulged at this time. Students will be given hints to the title of the book and an assembly will be held when they are ready to launch the program.

Board members thanked the students, Mr. Stanton and Mrs. Duncan for their presentation.

The Board approved an Overnight Trip Request for LHS Band to travel to Covenant Hills on July 31 through August 5, 2016.

New Board member Bradly Haggadone thanked the Board for the vote of confidence by appointing him to complete the term vacated by Jonathan Nugent and stated he is honored to be working with them.

Vice President Gary Oyster welcomed Brad to the Board and reminded everyone there are now three Lapeer Community School Alumni as sitting Board members.

Superintendent Matt Wandrie updated the Board on the baseball/softball complex which is slated be opened in the spring. The good weather this fall has allowed the contractors to much of the work.

Mr. Wandrie thanked Mr. Stanton and Mrs. Duncan for their report and encouraged Board members to visit buildings and observe how teaching is done in our District.

Mr. Wandrie said discussion is taking place regarding security in our buildings and the gravity of the decisions that need to be made to protect our students. He and the Board will work to find a solution that our parents and community will support by including them along the way. There are a variety of opinions on this topic and he will be helping the Board determine what is best for our community.