

MINUTES



Thursday, September 10, 2015 Business Board Meeting MS/HS Library, 7:00 PM

1. Reception - 6:30 PM MS/HS Library

1.01 Reception

A reception was hosted by the PTSA for the Tenure Candidates and New Staff in the MS/HS Library.

2. Call to Order

3. Meeting Opening - 7:12 p.m.

Mr. Schwartz called the meeting to order.

In attendance, Mr. Louis Schwartz, Board Vice President; Ms. Tracy Baron; Mr. Robert Reiser; Mr. Jonathan Greengrass; Ms. Jean Lucasey; Ms. Shannon Johnson; Dr. Lisa Brady, Superintendent; Ms. Sylvia Fassler-Wallach, Assistant Superintendent of Finance, Facilities and Operations; Mr. Douglas Berry, Assistant Superintendent of Curriculum and Instruction and Ms. Loretta Tularzko, District Clerk.

Mr. Michael Goldman, Board President was not in attendance.

3.01 Pledge of Allegiance

3.02 Acceptance of the Agenda

Mr. Reiser moved, and Ms. Baron seconded, that the Board accept the September 10th Agenda.

Vote: 6 ayes - 0 nays

3.03 Approval of Minutes

Ms. Johnson moved, and Mr. Greengrass seconded, that the Board approve the minutes of the August 27, 2015 meeting.

Vote: 6 ayes - 0 nays

The audience enjoyed a viewing of the new “We are Dobbs” video.

4. 2015-2016 School Year

4.01 New Tenure Staff

Mr. Schwartz thanked the PTSA for hosting the reception. He said that the Annual Tenure and New Staff Introductions are one of the highlights of the school year.

Dr. Brady explained the tenure process and then each candidate was introduced.

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Dr. Lisa Brady, Superintendent, introduced:

Erin M. Vredenburgh	Director Special Education
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Mr. John Falino, High School Principal, introduced:

Kelly M. Rancier	
Candace L. Reim	High School Assistant Principal

Ms. Julia Drake, Springhurst School Principal, introduced:

Holly A Mair
Kenya L. Paterra
Elizabeth Pinkava

Ms. Erin Vredenburgh, Director of Special Education, introduced:

Kerry C. Lavelle

4.02 Introduction of New Staff

Mr. Falino, Ms. Drake and Mr. Klaich introduced each new staff member reporting to them.

The Board, Administration and audience welcomed the new staff.

New Teachers

Nathan Brewster
Erica Curran
Cara Joan D. DeLeon
Maria Milio
William Palmer
Catherine O'Rourke
Mary Keshishian

4.03 Opening Day Reports

Ms. Julia Drake, Springhurst Principal; Mr. Patrick Mussolini, Middle School Principal; and Mr. John Falino, High School Principal reported on the first day of the 2015-2016 school year.

All three schools had a great opening day. Each principal gave a quick account of new programs for the year and thanked all the people involved in helping achieve a successful opening – clerical staff, facilities staff, technology and the teachers.

The enrollment on the first day of school is as follows:

Springhurst 688 which includes 44 new students
Middle School 344 which includes 17 new students
High School 449 which includes 15 more 9th grade students

5. Announcements

PTSA

- October 24 – Pumpkin Fair – volunteers are needed
- September 26 – Catalyst Bootcamp for the SATs
- October 17-18 – Catalyst Bootcamp for the new SATs-PSATs

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- KICS – many classes are sold out but some still have openings available. A PTSA K-12 will be sent out on September 20th with specifics.

6. Superintendent's Report

6.01 Athletics & Test Dates

Mr. Klaich updated the community regarding the memo from SWBOCES on “Section I – Sectionals, Regionals & Finals. S.A.T. Test Dates, Missed Class Time and Special Events”.

7. Correspondence

None.

8. Citizen's Comments

8.01 Notice

Members of the community may comment on any matter related to district business. Any group or organization wishing to address the Board must identify a single spokesperson. Presentations should be as brief as possible and no speaker will be permitted to speak for longer than 3 minutes. It is expected that speakers will conduct themselves in a civil manner and will be ruled out of order for any statement that constitutes a direct threat against officers, employees or students of the school district, or that is obscene. Questions or comments concerning matters that are not on the agenda will be taken under consideration and referred to the Superintendent for appropriate action.

A parent of three private school students expressed her dismay regarding being denied bus transportation for her two children.

The Superintendent and Assistant Superintendent of Finance, Facilities and Operations will further address the matter.

9. Committee Reports

Please visit our District website under the BOE – Committees Tab for complete committee meeting minutes

- School Community Relations Committee
 - The PTSA will send an email blast and there will be an advertorial in the Enterprise to find interested parents/community members
 - Discussed the consistency of the use of our brand materials
- Special Education Subcommittee
 - Discussed the scope of work for the possible Special Education Audit Consultant – Linda Schluter
 - Discussed the Mid-Westchester Special Education Consortium
 - Reviewed the number of Special Education students in the District
- Wellness Committee
 - The PTSA will send an email blast and there will be an advertorial in the Enterprise to find interested parents/community members
 - Discussed the need for student members on the committee
 - Discussed the possibility of a District Health Fair
 - The Village of Dobbs Ferry has received a Federal Healthy Communities Grant - \$125,000 each year for the next 5 years
- Personnel Committee
 - The Committee conducted an Executive Session for purpose of discussing the proposed personnel recommendations on the agenda
 - The tenure process will be reviewed
 - The Committee will stay apprised of contract negotiations with the DFUT

10. Board Actions

10.01 Special Education Audit - Programs and Continuum of Services

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Ms. Johnson moved, and Ms. Lucasey seconded, that the Board approve Linda Schluter, MSED Educational Consultant to conduct a Special Education Audit: Programs and Continuum of Services as follows:
Internal Audit

To examine the programmatic continuum of services K-12 in the special education department to maximize effective and responsible programs for students with disabilities with the intent to build capacity with existing personnel and resources to the maximum levels possible including:

1. Review and analysis of current continuum of services K-12
2. Analysis of programs and services data; In district and out of district students
3. Meetings with key leaders and focus groups for input and collaboration
4. Provide written recommendations for improving effectiveness and efficiency.

Vote: 6 ayes - 0 nays

10.02 Budget Transfer - Special Education

Mr. Greengrass moved, and Ms. Johnson seconded, that the Board approve the following budget transfer to pay for a special education consultant:

Account to Decrease	Amount	Account to Increase	Amount
A2250.490.00.7200	\$18,750.00	A2250.406.00.7200	\$18,750.00
Special Ed. - BOCES		Special Ed. - Contractual	
Total	\$18,750.00	Total	\$18,750.00

Vote: 6 ayes - 0 nays

10.03 Policy - First Reading

Mr. Greengrass moved, and Ms. Johnson seconded, that the Board forego a second reading of policy 6245 - Reserves.

Vote: 6 ayes - 0 nays

Mr. Reiser moved, and Ms. Baron seconded, that the Board adopt the amended policy 6245 - Reserves.

Vote: 6 ayes - 0 nays

10.04 CSE/CPSE

Mr. Reiser moved, and Ms. Baron seconded, that the Board authorize and direct the following:

WHEREAS the Committee on Special Education and Committee on Pre-School Special Education had issued to the Board by written confidential report dated September 2, 2015 its IEP recommendations for the students who are identified therein; and

WHEREAS the Board is responsible for arranging for appropriate special programs and services to students with IEPs, as recommended by said committee;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education of the Dobbs Ferry Union Free School District hereby authorize and direct the administration to immediately arrange for the special programs and services as set forth in said report dated September 2, 2015.

Vote: 6 ayes - 0 nays

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10.05 Personnel

Mr. Reiser moved, and Mr. Greengrass seconded, that the Board approve the administrative, civil service and staff personnel recommendations.

Vote: 6 - ayes - 0 nays

10.06 Warrants

The Board acknowledged receipt of the following warrants:
Multi Warrant No. 7. Warrant No. 9 was excluded in the attachments, therefore, it will be added to the October 8, 2015 agenda.

11. Old Business

None.

12. New Business

12.01 BOE Representatives

The Board selected the following Board representatives:

Westchester/Putnam School Boards Association – Ms. Baron
WPSBA Legislative Action Committee - Mr. Goldman

Ms. Lucasey will be the District's voting delegate and Ms. Baron will be the alternate at the 2015 NYSSBA Convention to cast the Board's vote in support of or against the 2015 NYSSBA proposed bylaw amendments and resolutions. The Board will vote on the bylaw amendments and resolutions at the October 8, 2015 Board Meeting.

12.01 School Supplies

The Board discussed the following:

- Increasing costs of yearly school supplies and what can possibly be done to try to keep the cost down
 - Using more and more technology should lower costs not increase them
 - Better coordination at the building levels
 - Dr. Brady will discuss the issue with the Administrators

13. Upcoming Meetings

13.01 Calendar

Thursday, September 24, 2015 - 7:00 PM - MS/HS Library – Work Session

- Audit Report
- Technology Plan
- APPR Update
- BOE Goals

The Board requested a draft Audit report prior to the meeting and an update on additional dollars assigned to Springhurst.

Board members should come to the meeting with goal suggestions at both Board level and District level.

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Thursday, October 8, 2015 - 7:00 PM - MS/HS Library – Business Meeting

14. Adjournment

At 9.11 PM, Mr. Greengrass moved, and Ms. Baron seconded, to adjourn the meeting.

Vote: 6 ayes - 0 nays

15. Approved Minutes

15.01 Approved Minutes – July 22, 2015



District Clerk