

MINUTES



Thursday, October 16, 2014 Business Board Meeting MS/HS Library, 7:00 PM

1. Audit Committee - 6:30 PM

1.01 External Auditor

Domenick Consolo from O'Connor Davies, LLP, met with the Audit Committee to review the Annual Audit Report for the 2013-2014 school year.

2. Call to Order

Ms. Baron called the meeting to order.

In attendance, Ms. Tracy Baron, Board President; Mr. Robert Reiser, Board Vice President; Mr. Michael Goldman; Ms. Jean Lucasey; 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. Jonathan Greengrass; Mr. Louis Schwartz; and Ms. Lynne Black were not in attendance.

3. Regular Meeting Opening 7:14 p.m.

3.01 Pledge of Allegiance

3.02 Acceptance of the Agenda

Mr. Goldman moved, and Mr. Reiser seconded, that the Board accept the October 16th Agenda.

Vote: 4 ayes - 0 nays

3.03 Approval of Minutes

Mr. Goldman moved, and Ms. Lucasey seconded, that the Board table the minutes of the October 2, 2014 due to insufficient members to vote as a quorum.

Vote: 4 ayes - 0 nays

4. School Board Recognition

4.01 School Board Recognition

The Dobbs Ferry School Board was acknowledged for their dedication and service to the District.

Dr. Lisa Brady and Ms. Marcia Heffler, President of the DFUT acknowledged the Board for their dedication and service to the students and the community. Dr. Brady thanked the Board for their countless hours and the

MINUTES

tremendous service they provide the District and that she appreciates having a wonderful Board to work which is critical to her job.

Ms. Heffler thanked the Board and the administration on behalf of the faculty for a collaborative and supportive working environment.

Ms. Baron thanked the District, on behalf of the entire Board, for their appreciation.

5. External Auditor Presentation

5.01 External Auditor Presentation

Domenick Consolo from O'Connor Davies, LLP, presented the results of the Annual Audit Report for the 2013-2014 school year.

- He explained the facts and figures in the report, given to the Audit Committee earlier in the evening, relating to the financials, actuals, variances of the budget and concluded by stating the district's excellent financial position as of 6/30/14.

6. Announcements

The PTSA Pumpkin Fair will be held on October 25th at Springhurst volunteers are still needed.

The SPRING Community Partners is holding a coat drive for children and adults through October 21st. Drop off boxes are available in all schools and at the Community Nursery School at 343 Broadway.

Talented musicians from all three Dobbs Ferry schools will be staging a Musical Revue on Tuesday, October 21 at 6:30 PM in the High School auditorium.

Performers will include the Springhurst Harmonaires, students in the High School IB Music program and Vocal Octet, the cast of the Middle School Musical – Once on this Island and talented soloists and ensembles comprised of students from the Middle School and High School music programs.

6.01 Special Bond Referendum Vote

On June 19, 2014, the Dobbs Ferry Board of Education voted unanimously to authorize a facility and field improvement bond referendum.

Voting will take place on Tuesday, October 21, 2014 during the hours of **7:00 AM and 9:00 PM** in the HS Gymnasium for all qualified voters.

6.02 Absentee Ballot Application

Any registered community resident who has a valid reason for being unable to vote in person must pick up an Application for an Absentee Ballot in the District Office by October 20, 2014 between the hours of 8:00 am and 3:30 PM.

All ballots must be delivered in person no later than 5:00 PM on October 21, 2014.

7. Superintendent's Report

7.01 Superintendent's Report for October 16, 2014

Mr. Berry and Dr. Brady presented a summary of the Lower Hudson Council of School Superintendents APPR Analysis.

- The Study
- Findings

MINUTES

- Research identified flaws in the current APPR system
 - Districts are making the best out of a bad system
- The growth scores reported on teachers who give state exams cannot be compared to growth scores reported on teachers who receive locally developed growth scores
- The state's design of the HEDl ratings causes a disproportionate number of teachers to score in the upper range on the "observational" 60 point range
- Conclusions

8. Correspondence

None.

9. Citizen's Comments

9.01 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.

None.

10. Reports to the Board

None.

11. Board Actions

11.01 External Auditor's Report

Ms. Lucasey moved, and Mr. Goldman seconded, that the Board accept the Independent Auditor's Report, performed by O'Connor, Davies, LLP, for the 2013-14 school year.

Vote: 4 - ayes - 0 nays

11.02 New York State School Boards Association Annual Business Meeting

Mr. Goldman moved, and Mr. Reiser seconded, that the Board authorize Tracy Baron, Board President, and Jean Lucasey, as the alternate, to cast votes on behalf of the Board of Education at the New York State School Boards Association Annual Business meeting held on Monday, October 27, 2014.

Vote: 4 - ayes - 0 nays

11.03 Election Inspector Revision

Mr. Goldman moved, and Mr. Reiser seconded, that the Board rescind an appointment of an Election Inspector and appoint a part-time Election Inspector to full time for the October 21, 2014 Bond Vote.

Vote: 4 - ayes - 0 nays

11.04 Personnel

MINUTES

Mr. Reiser moved, and Ms. Lucasey seconded, that the Board approve the Civil Service and Staff Personnel recommendations.

Vote: 4 - ayes - 0 nays

11.05 Warrants

The Board acknowledged receipt of Warrant No. 15 Multi.

12. Committee Reports

Curriculum Committee

13. Old Business

Final Community Bond Forum was held last night with more people in attendance than the last session.

- Ms. Baron and the Board thanked Ms. Fassler-Wallach and Dr. Brady for all their work in compiling all the information and attending all the sessions
- Some community members were against certain parts of the projects
- District tried to communicate information to educate the voters with accurate information
- Going forward need to figure out how to:
 - Get the community members more involved in committees
 - How to communicate with the community in advance of projects to avoid miscommunication

14. New Business

- The Board would like a presentation on the process the Guidance Department has in place to counsel students relating to the IB Program and their selection of IB courses
- The Board would like information on the Veterans' Tax Exemption calculations adopted by the other Districts in Westchester

14.01 Board Liaisons

Board liaison appointments will be as follows:

Parent/Teacher/Student Association	Jean Lucasey
Westchester/Putnam School Boards Association	Tracy Baron
WPSBA Legislative Action Committee Representative	Tracy Baron
BOCES	Mike Goldman/Robert Reiser

15. Upcoming Meetings

15.01 Calendar

Tuesday, October 21, 2014 – 7:00 AM - 9:00 PM – HS Gym

- Bond Vote
- Special Board Meeting - Board Accepts the Bond Vote Results - 9:15 PM HS Gym

Thursday, November 6, 2014 – 7:00 PM – MS/HS Library

- School Counseling Proposals

Thursday, November 20, 2014 – 7:00 PM – MS/HS Library

MINUTES

- Work Session
 - Discussion of the book entitled - Mindset: The New Psychology of Success by Carol S. Dweck, Ph.D.

16. Adjournment

At 8:57 Ms. Lucasey moved, and Mr. Goldman seconded, to adjourn the meeting.

Vote: 4 ayes - 0 nays

18. Approved Minutes

18.01 Approved Minutes - August 28, September 4 and September 18, 2014

IF INTERESTED IN REVIEWING BACK UP MATERIALS PERTAINING TO ANY ITEMS ON THIS AGENDA, ONCE APPROVED BY THE BOARD OF EDUCATION PLEASE CONTACT LORETTA TULARZKO AT 693-1506.



District Clerk