



**Thursday, June 4, 2015
Business Board Meeting
MS/HS Library, 7:00 PM**

1. Call to Order

2. Executive Session - 6:22 PM

2.01 Executive Session

Mr. Goldman moved, and Ms. Lucasey seconded, to appoint Mr. Reiser as Clerk Pro Tem.

Vote: 6 ayes - 0 nays

Ms. Lucasey moved, and Mr. Goldman seconded, to convene to Executive Session for the following purpose: to discuss the employment history of specific personnel and pending litigation.

Vote: 6 ayes - 0 nays

Mr. Greengrass moved, and Mr. Goldman seconded, to move to the Regular Meeting.

Vote: 6 ayes - 0 nays

3. Meeting Opening 7:22 p.m.

Ms. Baron called the meeting to order.

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

3.01 Pledge of Allegiance

3.02 Acceptance of the Agenda

Ms. Black moved, and Mr. Greengrass seconded, that the Board accept the June 4th Agenda.

Vote: 6 ayes - 0 nays

4. Announcements

Middle School Theater is performing a Murder Mystery 6/5 at 7:00 PM

PTSA

- PTSA year-end dinner will be held on June 16th at 7:30 PM in the Cedar Street Grille - \$26.
- PTSA is recruiting new members – please contact the PTSA if you are interested

MINUTES

5. Superintendent's Report

- Science Research Symposium was held on June 2nd
 - Incredible work done by our students
 - Very well attended
 - It was a nice send off for of Dr. Callahan who is leaving for a supervisory position at the Pelham Schools
- Senior Awards was held last night
 - Students received many scholarships and awards
 - It was well attended by the community
- HS Academy Awards will be held on 6/9 at 7:30 am auditorium
- Poetry Café will be held on June 9th in the Commons at 5:00 PM
- Senior Prom will be held on 6/18, buses leave the school around 5:00 – 5:30 PM
- The new Waterfront dedication will be held on Saturday, June 13 at 12 noon
 - The Harmoniares will perform
- Graduation will be held on Saturday, 6/20 at 6:30 PM at the Waterfront
 - Expect a large audience
- MS Stepping Up – 6/24 at 6:00 PM
- Springhurst Stepping up – 6/25 at 9:00 AM in the HS Auditorium

Mr. Berry updated the Board on the Middle Years Program Consultant who spent three days here last week to see where we are in the process towards authorization

- She met with teachers and administrators
- She feels we are right on target and are where we should be at this stage of the process
- The District should apply for authorization next spring
- She had very positive remarks

The District hosted the Tri-State Consortium and received positive feedback regarding where we are right now in the Middle School towards performance based assessment and project based learning

6. Correspondence

6.01 Correspondence

The Board acknowledged six items of correspondence concerning class size at Springhurst next year.

7. Citizen's Comments

7.01 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.

Comments

- A parent of a second grader thanked Ms. Drake for her response in regards to questions posed by the upcoming 3rd grade parents and is looking forward to hearing from Dr. Brady regarding the remaining questions
- Parents will continue to check in during the summer as to the actual number of third grades and what number will dictate a tipping point

MINUTES

8.0 Reports to the Board

8.01 Springhurst Report Cards

Ms. Julia Drake, Springhurst Principal, Ms. Lisa Giannico-Doty, Springhurst Assistant Principal, Ms. Michelle Kaczmarek and Mr. Josh Rosen provided information on the new Springhurst Report Cards.

- The Beginning
 - To align with Common Core State Standards
- Our First Steps
- Thank you
- Report Card Committee Work
- Report Card Grading Scale
- Trial Runs
- Consistency Work
- Plan for “Roll-Out”
- 1st Grade Excerpt
- 4th Grade Excerpt
- A look at the New Report Card

Comments/Questions:

- This project involved over a year’s worth of time
- Three trials were conducted
- This process gave the team a better understanding of the Common Core Standards
- Thank you to Diane Newell for all her work on the project and to the teachers who volunteered their time
- By not using an outside vendor, we will be able to warehouse the data
- A critical part of the report card will be a comment section
- The scores reflect a higher bar
- More 1’s and 2’s are expected in the 1st semester since they are based on year-long goals
- The data received will be invaluable for the Middle School teachers when the Springhurst students move up
- The Board acknowledged that they were really impressed with the product
- There will be many avenues of communications to parents

8.02 Springhurst after-school enrichment program

PTSA Co-Presidents Shannon Johnson and Mary McNamara presented an abbreviated version of the Springhurst after-school enrichment program proposal.

- Why offer an after-school academic enrichment program at Springhurst?
 - Committee Goals
- Primary Concerns/Barriers to Entry
 - Research Conducted
- Models Identified
 - PTSA Model
 - External Vendor
 - Hybrid PTSA/HRCE
 - Village Recreation Department
- External Vendor - Curiositas (NFP arm of Curious on Hudson)
 - Program Details
 - Curisoiatas Responsibilities
- PTSA Responsibilities
- Program Pros
- Other Consideration: Why STEAM?
- How this Partnership will benefit Dobbs Ferry

MINUTES

Comments/Questions:

- This project evolved from constant demand from teachers and parents for after school programs
- The PTSA researched several models
 - They chose Curisoitas who is known in the community
- Cost will be \$20 per class
- Using volunteers would cause a lack of continuity
- Classes would be throughout the week
- Springhurst teachers will be considered to design and teach classes
- Attendees will be on a first come first serve
- 10-12 students per class
- Available space will drive curriculum
- Out of Dobbs Ferry students will be considered but not at the launch
- The program will start small and grow

9. Board Actions

Mr. Black moved, and Mr. Goldman seconded, that the Board move 9.09 Personnel up to this point in the meeting.

Vote: 6 - ayes - 0 nays

9.09 Personnel

Mr. Greengrass moved, and Mr. Goldman seconded, that the Board approve the Civil Service and staff personnel recommendations.

Dr. Brady introduced Mr. Andrew Klaich, new Director of Health, Physical Education and Athletics. She explained the hiring committee's process and Mr. Klaich's credentials.

The Board welcomed Mr. Andrew Klaich and wished both Ms. Hartnett and Ms. Cifone the best of luck in their retirement. They will both be missed.

Vote: 6 - ayes - 0 nays

9. Board Actions

Mr. Goldman moved, and Mr. Greengrass seconded, that the Board approve Items 9.01, 9.03, 9.04, 9.05, 9.06, and 9.07, as a consent agenda.

Vote: 6 - ayes - 0 nays

Mr. Greengrass moved, and Ms. Lucasey seconded, that the Board approve items 9.01, 9.03, 9.04, 9.05, 9.06, and 9.07.

Vote: 6 - ayes - 0 nays

9.01 Tax Warrant Notification

The Board approved the Tax Warrant Notification for the 2015-2016 School Year to the Town of Greenburgh in the amount of \$36,028,198 calculated as follows:

Total Appropriation: \$41,933,227
Non-Property Tax Revenue: \$5,905,029
Total Tax Warrant to be collected: \$36,028,198

MINUTES

9.03 Bid Rescindment

The Board rescinded the award of Bid #1516-03, Concrete Construction and Repair Services, to Ben Cozzi, Inc., per the contractor's request, and to award the Bid to the next lowest responsible bidder, Con-Tech Construction Technology, Inc.

9.04 Bid Award

The Board awarded the bids, for the 2015-2016 school year to the following vendors:

Bid #1516-05	Extermination/Pest Control	Western Pest Services
Bid #1516-06	Glass Repair/Replacement	No Bids
Bid #1516-07	Appliance Repair	No Bids
Bid #1516-08	Fire Alarm System Testing & Inspection	Open Systems Metro
Bid #1516-09	Fire Alarm System Service, Maintenance & Repair	Open Systems Metro
Bid #1516-10	Boiler & Closed Loop Hot Water Treatment	Aqua-Vize
Bid #1516-01A	Window Reconstruction/Repair Services	Commercial Window Repair Solutions

9.05 Budget Transfer

The Board approved the following budget transfer to transfer funds to pay for the repair of the High School Windows and other projects:

Account to Decrease	Amount	Account to Increase	Amount
A2110.490.00.0000	\$30,000.00	A1621.401.08.0000	\$125,000.00
Tch Reg - BOCES - Gen Ed		Computer Tech Supplies	
A1950.405.00.0000	\$45,000.00		
Dual Residency			
A1420.400.00.8800	\$20,000.00		
Legal Counsel - Retainer			
A2250.465.00.7200	\$30,000.00		
Spec Ed - Related Svs			
Total	\$125,000.00	Total	\$125,000.00

9.06 Budget Transfer

The Board approved the following budget transfers to transfer funds to pay for out-of-district transportation for the remainder of the school year:

Account to Decrease	Amount	Account to Increase	Amount
A5540.436.09.0000	\$ 20,000.00	A5540.435.09.7200	\$ 20,000.00
In-District Transportation		Out of District Transportation	

MINUTES

Total	\$20,000.00	Total	\$20,000.00
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9.07 Disposition of Books

The Board approved the disposal of the math books on the attached list from Springhurst Elementary School classrooms.

9.02 Education Investment Tax Credit Legislation

Mr. Goldman moved, and Mr. Greengrass seconded, that the Board adopt the following Education Investment Tax Credit Legislation resolution:

Whereas, according to the New York State constitution, public education is the responsibility of state government, and the direct or indirect use of public funds to support non-public education involving a religious institution is strictly prohibited.

Whereas, public education is the cornerstone of democracy, the state has an obligation to invest in its public school system and ensure that every public school has the tools to provide an appropriate education for every child.

Whereas, New York State continues to underfund its public school districts, particularly districts serving students in poverty. The funding mandated by the NYS Court of Appeals in the Campaign for Fiscal Equity (CFE) lawsuit is still \$4 billion in deficit, while the Gap Elimination Adjustment (GEA) monies are still \$400 million in arrears.

Whereas, this legislation would reduce state resources by \$150 million in the first year alone, state resources for education should be directed to public school districts, not diverted to non-public and parochial schools. Furthermore, the allocation of these dollars would be at the discretion of the donor receiving the tax credit, with broad leeway under the provisions of the bill.

Whereas, non-public schools can choose the children they serve, public school districts must educate every child, and must address the needs of students with a broad range of physical, emotional and mental abilities and disabilities, regardless of race, religion, color, sexual orientation, poverty level, or English proficiency.

Whereas, this legislation is being promoted on the premise that it will help low income families, it would provide a 75% tax credit for up to \$1 million per taxpayer, but would only provide up to \$500 in tax credit for tuition expenses for a family with an annual income under \$60,000.

Therefore, the Dobbs Ferry Union Free School District hereby resolves that New York State's first obligation must be to use its resources to support and strengthen public education for the benefit of all its children, and further resolves to underscore its opposition to any education investment tax credit legislation, including the Governor's Program Bill, known as the Education Scholarship and Program Tax Credit/Parental Choice in Education Act.

Vote: 6 - ayes - 0 nays

9.08 CSE/CPSE

Mr. Goldman moved, and Ms. Black seconded, that the Board authorized and directed 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 May 28, 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;

MINUTES

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 May 28, 2015.

After some discussion and questions regarding change in the minutes of services due to the new schedule and when I.E.P.'s were being sent to parents:

Mr. Goldman moved, and Mr. Reiser seconded, that the Board withdraw the motion until they receive further clarification.

Vote: 6 ayes - 0 nays

9.10 Warrants

The Board acknowledged receipt of the following warrant:
Multi Warrant No. 51.

10. Committee Reports

Committees will report at the next meeting.

11. Old Business

12. New Business

12.01 2015-2016 Board Meeting Schedule

The Board decided on the following summer dates:

July 22, 2015 – Board Meeting – 9:00 AM
July 22, 2015 – Board Retreat – 10:00 AM

Tracy Baron reminded the Board members to complete the Board Self Evaluation in Survey Monkey.

The Board discussed how the process works for choosing next year's Board Leadership at the July 1st Reorganizational Meeting.

13. Upcoming Meetings

13.01 Calendar

Thursday, June 18, 2015 - 7:00 PM - MS/HS Library

Wednesday, July 1, 2015 - 8:00 AM - MS/HS Library

- Reorganizational Meeting

14. Adjournment

At 9:35 PM, Ms. Black moved, and Mr. Goldman seconded, to adjourn the meeting.

Vote: 6 ayes - 0 nays

15. Approved Minutes

MINUTES

15.01 Approved Minutes – May 7, 2015

Loretta Salazar

District Clerk