


Dobbs Ferry is a community that values and supports a rich and rigorous education which includes excellent opportunities for learning inside and outside of the classroom. As the first district in Westchester County to offer the challenging and prestigious International Baccalaureate (IB) Diploma program, and most recently the IB Middle Years Program (MYP), students are focused on building critical knowledge and developing life-long skills they will need to be successful in college and careers in the global economy. Dobbs Ferry Schools are an investment in your child’s future. Here are the “Top 10” things you should know about the Dobbs Ferry School District:

1. **Public School at its Best:** Approximately 1,500 students attend Dobbs Ferry High School (9-12), Dobbs Ferry Middle School (6-8) and Springhurst Elementary School (K-5). The District provides a dynamic and challenging curriculum for ALL its students emphasizing strong reading, knowledge building, critical thinking and problem-solving skills.
2. **International Baccalaureate (IB) Program:** A two-year college preparatory course of study for 11th and 12th graders recognized world-wide for its demanding academic requirements and in-depth study of subject content. One-third of graduating seniors receive the full IB Diploma and all High School students take at least three IB courses. The District obtained official authorization in 2016 to offer IB MYP in grades 6-10.
3. **Global Awareness:** Dobbs Ferry is increasingly diverse in our community and schools which provides our students with unique opportunities to learn about new cultures, different perspectives and traditions.
4. **97% College-Bound:** DFHS graduates attend the most selective private and public colleges and universities in the country including the Ivy League, “Little Ivies,” Big Ten and State University of New York (SUNY) schools. The graduation completion data/rate for our students is consistently very strong.
5. **Strong STEM:** DFHS Science Research Program boasts Intel Science Talent Search semifinalists, Siemens Competition in Math, Science & Technology national finalist, Intel International Science and Engineering Fair (ISEF) participants, multiple WESEF winners and Genius Olympiad

- International finalists. State-of-the-art science labs support all the science disciplines. Students (K-8) use the Illustrative Math Program which is a problem-based, standards-aligned curriculum whereby students employ and discuss different strategies to attack and solve problems, as they build a strong conceptual understanding of mathematics.
6. **Engaging Edutech:** The District uses various educational technology that best supports teaching and learning in our classrooms. Each app and platform used meets the criteria for approval under NYS Education Law that ensures student personally identifiable information is protected.
 7. **Team Spirit:** Approximately 50% of High School and Middle School students participate on over 45 interscholastic athletic teams from football, basketball, volleyball, soccer and lacrosse to cheer, track & field, tennis and swimming. A supervised in-school fitness center is available to all students and staff during and after school. Off the field, each school “fields” Destination ImagiNation teams that qualify regularly for the Global Finals, the largest creative problem-solving competition in the world.
 8. **Clubs For Everyone:** The High School offers more than 35 unique clubs for students to join. The Middle School hosts 20 extra-curricular clubs and Springhurst has an active student government and ecology club, among others. All students at the Elementary School are active in caring for the Outdoor Garden /Classroom and are involved in the COMPOST KIDS recycling programs.
 9. **Cultural Arts:** Students participate in music, theater and the arts including yearly musicals and dramas, artist-in residency programs, choral recitals, band/string orchestra concerts and art exhibitions. Springhurst’s renowned 5th grade Harmonaires Chorus has sung at Yankee Stadium and made recordings with professional pop vocalists over the years.
 10. **Parents Welcome!** Parents play a pivotal role in supporting the Dobbs Ferry Schools and are partners in the education process. Thank you to the Board of Education, PTSA, DF Schools Foundation, Trailguides, SPRING Community Partners, Booster Clubs and many other volunteers. The Dobbs Ferry schools’ values are reflected in its vision statement **“Independent Thinkers Prepared to Change the World.”** 

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