

September, 2025

Dear Dobbs Ferry Community,

Welcome to the 2025–26 school year! Whether you are joining us for the first time or are a returning parent/guardian, we look forward to making this year the best yet for you and your children. Our district is fortunate to have the strong support of our community, which allows us to provide an ever-expanding range of opportunities for our students in the classroom, on the stage, on the court, and throughout the community. These experiences are enriched by our shared commitment to creating a warm, safe, and welcoming environment for teaching and learning. This environment is made possible through strong partnerships with families, community members, first responders, and partner organizations. Literally and metaphorically, *this is our village*.

As we begin the year, we renew our commitment to the success of every student who walks through our doors. Daily attendance, a safe school environment, and minimizing disruptions to learning are essential to that success. To this end, we have installed new security vestibules at the middle and high schools, modeled after Springhurst Elementary, to enhance safety. (See our [Facilities Improvements page](#) for more information.) We are also continuing our work on reducing chronic absenteeism with our districtwide goal of 95% of students attending school at least 95% of the year. In addition, our [new cell phone policy](#) that aligns with NYS law will help reduce distractions. We ask for your partnership in supporting your children with this transition so we can continue to strengthen our teaching and learning environment.

Thank you for your ongoing partnership, your dedication to our shared mission, and your unwavering support of our schools. It is through this collective effort that our students truly thrive, and that Dobbs Ferry remains a place where excellence in education is our past, our present, and our future.

I wish you a happy, healthy, and restful end to the summer. I look forward to seeing you at the many events we will host this fall and to celebrating our students' accomplishments together.

Be well,

Ken Slentz  
Superintendent of Schools  
Dobbs Ferry Union Free School District