



## MINUTES

### Tuesday, December 15, 2020 Virtual Board Meeting Google Meet - Virtual Meeting, 7:00 PM

#### 1. Call to Order

#### 2. Opening of the Meeting – 7:04 PM

Louis Schwartz called the meeting to order.

##### 2.01 Pledge of Allegiance

##### 2.02 Roll Call

Mr. Louis Schwartz, President; Ms. Rita Kennedy, Vice President; Ms. Shannon Johnson; Ms. Jean Lucasey; Ms. Tracy Baron; Ms. Shannon Stringer; Mr. Massimo Bufalini, Dr. Lisa Brady, Superintendent; Mr. Douglas Berry, Assistant Superintendent of Curriculum and Instruction ; Mr. Ron Clamser, Jr., Assistant Superintendent of Finance, Facilities and Operations; and Ms. Loretta Tularzko, District Clerk.

##### 2.03 Acceptance of the Agenda

Ms. Johnson moved, and Ms. Stringer seconded, that the Board accept the December 15th Agenda.

Vote: 6 - ayes - 0 nays

Jean Lucasey was on line again at 7:09 PM.

##### 2.04 Approval of Minutes

Mr. Bufalini moved, and Ms. Kennedy seconded, that the Board approve the minutes of the November 10, November 17, and December 1, 2020 meetings.

Vote: 7 - ayes - 0 nays

#### 3. Citizens Comments

**3.01** Anyone wishing to make comments during the two Citizen's Comment portions of the meeting can do so by emailing their comments to [boemeetingcomment@DFSD.org](mailto:boemeetingcomment@DFSD.org). Please include your name and address.

##### 3.02 Notice

*Members of the community may comment on any matter related to the meeting's approved agenda. The Board President may request a brief description of the topic the speaker plans to address. 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.

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## 4. Correspondence

### 4.01 BOE Correspondence

The Board acknowledged receipt of the following:

- One email regarding gratitude for keeping the schools open
- One email regarding "Our Streets Dobbs Ferry"
- One email regarding the PTSA's "Dobbs Stories" Project

## 5. Work Session Topic

### 5.01 Race and Equity

Dr. Brady led the Work Session and thanked, Terance, Kevin, Doug and Amber for their work on arranging the technological details of the meeting.

Dr. Brady explained that our program is based on the following:

"RACE is a socially constructed system of categorizing humans largely based on observable physical features (phenotypes) such as skin color and ancestry. There is no scientific basis for or discernible distinction between racial categories. The ideology of race has become embedded in our identities, institutions, and culture and is used as a basis for discrimination and domination." ([NYS ED CR-SE Framework](#), 2019).

Next, Dr. Brady reminded everyone to frame their discussions using Four Agreements of Courageous Conversations created by Glen Singleton.

- Stay engaged.
- Experience discomfort.
- Speak your truth.
- Expect and accept non-closure.

The meeting included watching the New York Times short films:

- [A conversation with white people on race](#)
- [A conversation with Asian people on race](#)
- [A conversation with Black women on race](#)
- [A conversation with Latinos on race](#)

After the watching the first two films, the attendees were placed into breakout rooms to allow for participants to engage with one another discussing the guiding questions:

1. What did you notice about how folks spoke about race?
2. What did you hear in their voices and see in their body language about their comfort and facility navigating issues of identity?

The entire group came back together and gave a brief description of the breakout room discussions.

The attendees watched the next two films, and repeated the process above.

Once again, the group came back together and gave a brief description of the breakout room discussions.

Dr. Brady thanked everyone for attending tonight's work session and noted that our work sessions are designed as a learning experience for all participants and an opportunity to explore challenging conversations together as a school community. The District Race Matters Committee will be meeting tomorrow.

Mr. Schwartz thanked everyone for their time tonight and the committee tomorrow.

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### 6. Citizens Comments

**6.01** Anyone wishing to make comments during the two Citizen's Comment portions of the meeting can do so by emailing their comments to boemeetingcomment@DFSD.org. Please include your name and address.

### 6.02 Notice

*Members of the community may comment on any matter related to district business. The Board President may request a brief description of the topic the speaker plans to address. 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.

### 7. Upcoming Meetings

#### 7.01 Calendar

Tuesday, January 12, 2021 - 7:00 PM

Tuesday, January 26, 2021 - 5:45 PM

- Board Retreat

Tuesday, January 26, 2021 - 7:00 PM

- Work Session - Bias

### 8. Executive Session

**8.01 It is anticipated that the Board will act upon the following resolution to convene into an Executive Session.**

At 8:34 PM, Ms. Lucasey moved, and Ms. Baron seconded, that the Board convene into Executive Session for the following purposes: to discuss an Employee Medical Leave Request, CSEA contracts for the Clerical/TA Unit and Custodial/Security Personnel, *Summons from a former student and ongoing litigation - The Landing on the Water at Dobbs Ferry Condominium v. Town of Greenburgh.*

It is not anticipated that the Board will return to public session to take any action(s).

Ms. Lucasey moved, and Ms. Stringer seconded, to appoint Ms. Kennedy as Clerk Pro Tem.

Vote: 7 ayes - 0 nays

At 10:06 PM Ms. Baron moved, and Ms. Lucasey seconded, to move back to the Public Meeting.

Vote: 7 ayes - 0 nays

### 9. Adjournment

At 8:46 PM, Ms. Lucasey moved, and Mr. Bufalini seconded, that the Board adjourn the meeting.

Vote: 7 - ayes - 0 nays



Loretta Tularzko  
District Clerk