

MINUTES



Thursday, November 19, 2015 Work Session MS/HS Library, 7:00 PM

1. Call to Order

2. Meeting Opening - 7:11 p.m.

Mr. Goldman called the meeting to order.

In attendance, Mr. Michael Goldman, Board President; Mr. Louis Schwartz, Board Vice President; Ms. Tracy Baron; Mr. Robert Reiser; Mr. Jonathan Greengrass; Ms. Jean Lucasey; Ms. Shannon Johnson; Dr. Lisa Brady, Superintendent; Mr. Douglas Berry, Assistant Superintendent of Curriculum and Instruction and Ms. Loretta Tularzko, District Clerk.

Ms. Sylvia Fassler-Wallach, Assistant Superintendent of Finance, Facilities and Operations, was not in attendance.

2.01 Pledge of Allegiance

2.02 Acceptance of the Agenda

Mr. Reiser moved, and Ms. Johnson seconded, that the Board accept the November 19th Agenda.

Vote: 6 ayes - 0 nays

3. Board Actions

3.01 Dobbs Ferry Schools Foundation Grants

Mr. Reiser moved, and Ms. Baron seconded, that the Board the following fall 2015 grants from the Dobbs Ferry Schools Foundation:

Grant Title	Teacher Submitting Proposal	Amount granted
4th Grade Document Cameras	Holly Mair & 4th Grade Team Teachers	\$1,077.00
Buddy Bench	Tricia Zarro, Elizabeth Pinkava	\$778.49
Planting a Rainbow	Tricia Zarro, Elizabeth Pinkava, Amy Chiossi, Jessie Cooper	\$2,320.00
Tape Cassette Players/Headphones for ELL Lending Library	Judy Sanseverino, Eileen Berasi, Concetta Viggiani (ELL Team)	\$869.30

MINUTES

Runaway Art: interpreting Colonial Slave Ads	Katia Marques	\$1,650.00
Media Journalism & IB Film	Scott Patrillo, Connor Cohn, Andrew Fischbeck, Tom Falconetti	\$7,515.00
Fitnessgram	Andrew Klaich	\$1,211.00
Read and Write Google Software Application	Linda Flanagan	\$2,675.00
International Congress of Mathematics (ICME)	Joshua Rosen	\$440.00
RobotsLab Training for NAO Robot	Annette Gonzalez	\$3,750.00
Kindness Library	Lisa Doty DASA Committee	\$2,000.00
Drum Line	Paul Huneke	\$5,000.00
	TOTAL	\$29,286

Ms. Louise Pegg, Dobbs Ferry Schools Foundation, explained the grants that were funded.

The annual fund raiser will be held this year on May 20th at the Dobbs Ferry Waterfront.

The Board thanked the Foundation for these much appreciated grants and for all their support.

Vote: 6 ayes - 0 nays

4. Committee Reports

Please visit our District website under the BOE – Committees Tab for complete committee meeting minutes

4.01 Committee Reports

Facilities Committee
Finance Committee
Curriculum Committee
Student Activities & Athletics Committee

- Facilities Committee
 - David Robertin gave an update on all the facilities work completed in the District since the beginning of school
 - Solar panels in the District – the roof has to have an expected 20 year life, therefore, they cannot be installed in the District
 - Solar panels on the slate room is not recommended
 - They are, however, on the horizon
 - Looking into LED lighting – possibility of grant money
 - The Board requested an update on the timing of the SED approval of the Capital Projects
 - Dr. Brady informed the Board that Russ Davis shared that KG&D was notified by the SED that they will follow through on some of the recommendations made by KG&D to handle the backlog of submittals - likelihood that our project start date may begin this summer

Mr. Schwartz arrived at 7:22 PM.

- Finance Committee
 - Received a preliminary Five Year Budget Plan report

MINUTES

- Anticipated small tax base increase due to commercial development
- HRCE program progress
- Assumptions for the 2016-17 Budget – Board suggested a change in budgeted TRS from 12% to 11.75%
- Internal Auditor is budgeted for this year – schools with 1500 or less students do not require an audit, however, the Committee feels we should continue to do so every two or three years – Board will get a list of recommended topics to choose from for auditing
- The Five Year Budget Plan is not a public document since there are some confidential items
- Curriculum Committee
 - Discussed Foreign Language program. No State Assessments or Regents data to assess progress. Use of FLACS exams.
 - Disparity of student experiences between languages
 - FLES
 - More students in Grades 6 not choosing Spanish
 - May be a confidence Builder
 - Program has strong cultural focus
 - Grades 2 & 3 - speech & listening
 - Grades 4 & 5 Writing & Reading
 - Is there state score data?
 - Mr. Berry will research
 - State Tests - Opt Out numbers
 - How did the students that opted out score last year?
 - Committee would like to see the associated demographic data
 - Student Feedback as part of teacher reflection on teaching
 - OC21 Update
 - College Credit possibility
- Student Activities & Athletics Committee
 - Boys Modified Basketball grades 7 & 8
 - Last year 26 students vs. 53 this year
 - Problem - practice time, gym, coaches
 - Cuts not the District's philosophy for modified sports
 - What can we do to avoid cuts?
 - Budgeted for 2 girls/boys teams
 - Not many options for this age bracket
 - Lady Eagles – doing outreach so the phrase “Lady Eagles” will not be used internally; Dr. Brady will speak to the Enterprise
 - Ray Rivera doing a great job with volleyball
 - No students took advantage of competing at the Masters School games
 - Surrounding districts are not looking to add a Boys Volleyball teams

Ms. Tularzko left the meeting at 7:44 PM.

5. Reports to the Board

Please view the entire meeting on TV DFTV - Channel 75 & 47 for full details or visit the website for the video of the presentation

5.01 Strategic Plan Update

The Board, Administrators and Community members formed two groups to review the progress achieved to date on the strategic plan goals and to identify the areas for future focus.

6. Old Business

None.

7. New Business

None

MINUTES

8.0 Upcoming Meetings

8.01 Calendar

Thursday, December 3, 2015 – 7:00 PM – MS/HS Library

Thursday, December 17, 2015 – 7:00 PM – MS/HS Library

- Work Session
 - Emotional Intelligence

Executive Session

At 9:05 AM, Mr. Reiser moved, and Mr. Greengrass seconded, to convene to Executive Session for the following purpose: to discuss the employment history of specific personnel.

Vote: 7 ayes - 0 nays

Mr. Greengrass moved, and Ms. Johnson seconded, to appoint Mr. Schwartz as Clerk Pro Tem.

Vote: 7 ayes - 0 nays

Mr. Greengrass moved, and Ms. Baron seconded, to move back to the Regular Meeting.

Vote: 7 ayes - 0 nays

9. Adjournment

At 9.31 PM, Ms. Johnson moved, and Ms. Baron seconded, to adjourn the meeting.

Vote: 7 ayes - 0 nays



District Clerk