



**Tuesday, November 14, 2017
Regular Board Meeting
MS/HS Library Media Center, 7:00 PM**

1. Call to Order

2. Meeting Opening 7:00 p.m.

2.01 Pledge of Allegiance

2.02 Roll Call

Ms. Jean Lucasey, President; Mr. Jonathan Greengrass, Vice President; Ms. Tracy Baron; Mr. Robert Reiser; Mr. Louis Schwartz; Ms. Shannon Johnson; Ms. Rita Kennedy; 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.

2.03 Acceptance of the Agenda

Mr. Reiser moved, and Ms. Johnson seconded, that the Board accept the November 14th Agenda.

Vote: 7 - ayes - 0 nays

2.04 Approval of Minutes

Ms. Baron moved, and Ms. Kennedy seconded, that the Board approve the minutes of the October 24, 2017 meeting.

Vote: 6 - ayes - 0 nays – 1 abstention – Mr. Reiser

Ms. Kennedy moved, and Ms. Baron seconded, that the Board approve the minutes of the October 30, 2017 meeting.

Vote: 7 - ayes - 0 nays

3. Announcements

It is not too late to become a PTSA member. They are 30 members away from being in good standing with the NYS PTSA. If interested, please visit their website.

Annual Spring Square Dance will be held on December 1, 2017.

The Westchester Putnam School Boards Association

- WPSBA sent a letter to LoHud regarding the proposed federal tax changes to SALT (State and Local Taxes) and mortgage deductibility would significantly affect our region, and constrain school district revenues for years to come. This issue underscores the New York metro area's high cost of living as compared to other parts of New York State and the nation, and the reality of how public schools are funded in our area and how it will affect public schools.

4. Superintendent's Report

Senior Citizen Thanksgiving Luncheon will be held on Thursday 11/16 at 11:30 a.m.

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Thanksgiving Break

Early Dismissal before lunch for students on Wednesday 11/22

Schools Closed 11/23 and 11/24

On November 6th we hosted an author talk with Amy Ellis Nutt, author of *Becoming Nicole*. About 40 staff and guests attended and had an engaging and enlightening discussion with the author and with each other. The author talk is available on the website under the News and Views tab.

NEMNET Workshop (National Employment Minority Network) - Tuesday, December 5th from 9 a.m. to 12 noon the District is sponsoring a workshop - *Overcoming Obstacles to Recruiting Faculty and Staff of Color* for administrators from Dobbs Ferry, Ardsley, Hastings, Irvington, Greenburgh 11 and some others invited by the NEMNET organization. Goals of the workshop include learning how to implement best practices and proven minority recruitment strategies and learning how and where to access information and resources that will assist organizations in meeting their diversity goals.

This is related to our commitment to recruiting, hiring and retaining a diverse staff and is aligned with goals as included in our upcoming strategic plan.

High School

- National Merit Scholars! We are proud to share that DFHS has 5 students in the Class of 2018 who are being recognized this year by the National Merit Scholarship Corporation (NMSC) for their performance on the last year's PSAT. The winners are as follows:
 - Semi Finalists: Rebecca Cadenhead
 - Commended: SooYun Byeon, Crystal Gao, Scott Newman, Sean Prendi
- DFHS Blood Drive - The DFHS Fall Blood Drive is this Thursday, November 16th from 9:00am - 7:30pm in the Middle School Gym. Please come out and support this important effort.
- High School Parent Teacher Conferences on Wednesday, November 15th from 4:30 to 8:30 p.m.
- One America Appeal - Students of DFHS raised over \$3,000 for hurricane relief through the non-partisan "One America Appeal." This fundraiser was built into MAC Day as a component that is in-line with IB CAS.
- Congratulations to DFHS sophomore Nico Checa on winning the "triple crown" at the Susan Polgar World Open Championship (SPFWO)! In doing so, he won three championship trophies a \$50,000 scholarship, and a \$1,000 perfect score cash bonus!
- Congratulations to junior Abigail Bayer-Mertens Human, on being one of the first students in Westchester County to win the Acorda Scientific Excellence Award.
- 10 students from the DFHS Youth to Youth Club and The Dobbs Ferry Youth Services Coalition attended The Project WORTHY Youth Leadership Summit along with DFHS School Social Worker, Danielle Pecora and Student Assistance Counselor, Justine Roberto. At The Summit students and educators met with health professionals and civic and elected officials, including Westchester County Executive Robert P. Astorino, to discuss how the opioid crisis affects them and what practical steps can be taken to fight back. Students engaged in important conversations with other local students about the underlying causes of opioid and heroin addiction, including mental health challenges, prescription medications and even sports injuries.

Springhurst

- Springhurst Parent Teacher Conferences on Thursday 11/16 from 5 to 8 p.m.
- STEAM
 - Moving "full steam" ahead with new S.T.E.A.M. workshops (offered to 4th graders as an alternate recess opportunity). Due to an overwhelming response for, "Anaglyph Technology/3D Compositions and 3D Glasses," two more workshops were scheduled giving most of the fourth grade an opportunity to enjoy this first activity. A second workshop, "Faux Fossils" will complete on Wednesday. As before, due to a large number of responses an extra workshop group was added.
 - Students are already expressing excitement about the third workshop, "Paper Circuits." In this workshop participants will learn how to turn a simple electrical circuit into a greeting card that lights up! In all of these workshops (many additional planned for the months ahead) students enjoy bringing home works of art that incorporate a deeper

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understanding of science, technology, engineering, art and math through hands on, experiential learning.

Pleasantville School Visit

- On Wednesday November 8th Springhurst hosted a team from Pleasantville Elementary School and Middle School to explore the 6 day schedule and learn more about how the departmentalizing works in 5th grade. A team of Springhurst teachers and staff met with the Pleasantville team to answer questions, and hosted the visitors in classrooms so they can see interdisciplinary lessons in action.

The Math Mondays are here!

- So far Springhurst has led Kindergarten, 1st and 2nd grade sessions for parents. Josh Rosen and a teacher from each grade facilitate the sessions (K-Zarro, 1st - Mayfield, 2nd - Ryan). Sessions are followed by an email blast to the grade parents w/a copy of the presentation and the website is updated. The Second Grade session had over 20 parents in attendance!
- Grade 4 Math Monday is this upcoming Monday 11/20 at 8:45AM

Pajama Program

- On Monday 11/13 Springhurst "stuffed [the Pajama Program] bus" full of 278 pairs of new pajamas and 300 books that students/families donated to those in need! The families/students, Springhurst staff and DASA Committee, and the DFPTSA were active participants in this initiative.

Building Bridges

- Kicks off this Friday - 5th graders will be meeting some friends with Tourette Syndrome

Food Drive

- Kindergarten & First Grade donated 8 full boxes of food to the Dobbs Ferry Food Pantry.

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Middle School

- Musical - Disney's High School Musical Jr.
 - Friday 11/17 at 7 p.m.
 - Saturday 11/18 at 1 p.m. and 7 p.m.
- The 7th Grade Recycling Challenge video is available on the website under News & Views. A meeting for parents, students and the community was held on Thursday, November 9th and sponsored by the PTSA Wellness Committee.

Athletics

- Congratulations to the following teams for being awarded League Champs!
 - Girls Varsity Volleyball
 - Boys Soccer
 - Girls Cross Country
- Boys and Girls Cross Country finished in second place in all of Section 1
- Football finished in 2nd place in Class C Section 1
- Congratulations to Gabriella Torres for qualifying for the state meet in Girls Swimming
- Congratulations to Phoebe Ward, Alia Moustafa, Eva DeMarco and Jed Katzenstein for qualifying for the state meet in Cross Country
- Congratulations to Alia Moustafa for qualifying for the Federation in girls cross country
- Dobbs Ferry hosted the first annual Rivertowns Soccer Tournament on September 16th at the Springhurst Soccer field. This Soccer tournament was played by both boys and girls Varsity teams from Dobbs Ferry, Hastings, Ardsley and Irvington.
- Our physical education teachers attended 3 different NYS Association for Health, PE and Recreation and Dance Conferences. These conferences addressed ways to integrate technology into the curriculum as well as innovative team building strategies.

The Board members each said goodbye to Sylvia with warm remembrances, acknowledging her helpfulness, her tremendous knowledge and capability, along with sincere thankfulness for all she has done for them, the District and the community. She will be truly missed.

5. Committee Reports

5.01 Committee Reports

Curriculum & Instruction -10/25

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High School Regents Results

- The Committee reviewed 16 -17 High School overall regents exam results as well as results for CSE and Free and Reduced Lunch subgroups. (These results are currently embargoed and cannot be released or discussed publicly.)
- 5 Required Regents Exams for graduation:
 - English
 - Global Studies
 - US History
 - Living Environment
 - Algebra 1
- About 50% of graduates earn an "advanced regents diploma" - passing 3 exams beyond what is required.
- Statewide - Geometry results were low.

Science Progression

- The district is beginning to engage in preliminary discussion regarding current science offerings and options for progression through the science program going forward. Science department staff will be meeting over the next few months to begin this work. The Committee will receive updates on this as it moves forward.

Shadowing Students

- The committee discussed an action research initiative at the HS where teacher leaders and Candace are shadowing students throughout a school day to get a better sense of the student experience.

Special Education - 11/7

Out of District Placements Update

- A student that has been placed out of district will be returning to the district as of Monday
- An additional student currently attending an IDT program will be transitioning to an out of district placement (day program).

CPSE/CSE Recommendations

- The Committee reviewed the recommendations and asked clarifying questions.

CSE/504 Numbers

- The Committee reviewed the latest numbers with regard to classified and 504 students.

Budget Transfer on 11/14

- Required to support placement in a residential treatment program. Committee recommending Executive Session prior to voting on this.

Special Class in High School

- District beginning to make plans for our current 8:1:3 MS students who are moving to the HS next year. Class will probably be a Life Skills program with a 12:1:4/6:1:2 ratio. Will be included in the budget. Erin is working on program design.

Basketball Buddies

- Coach Bartell is organizing Varsity Girls Basketball team to partner with 8-1-3 students in MS 2 Saturday mornings a month. Should start in December.

6. Correspondence

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.

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

8. Reports to the Board

8.01 Strategic Plan Update

Dr. Lisa Brady, Superintendent, and Mr. Douglas Berry, Assistant Superintendent of Curriculum and Instruction, presented a Strategic Plan update that included the process used by Committee.

- Strategic Plan Committee
- Revisiting our old Strategic Plan: Areas of Success
- Revisiting our old Strategic Plan: Areas of Continued Opportunity
- Thought Exchange Results *Opportunities*
- Long Range Strategic Plan – 2018 -2022
- Notes from Strategic Planning Meetings
 - Instruction
 - Curriculum
 - High Performance Workplace
 - Local & Global Partnerships
 - Health & Wellness/The Whole Child
- Next Steps

Highlights:

- The former plan was used to allow the new committee members to have an understanding
- Technology and Facilities are no longer stand-alone components since they are embedded in all other components throughout the plan
- The Wellness Policy component was discussed as to whether or not it is needed in the plan
- Health & Wellness/The Whole Child component – would include drug education in the building goals
- Components should be up to the Educators
- The Administration will work to develop draft goals based on meeting notes
- Draft goals will be finalized by Admin team
- Finalized plan will be shared with the BOE
- Final goals will be operationalized at building level
- Buildings select areas of focus/goals for focus during the 18-19 school year

9. Board Actions

9.01 Dobbs Ferry Schools Foundation

Mr. Reiser moved, and Mr. Schwartz seconded, that the Board accept the following grants from the Dobbs Ferry Schools Foundation:

Middle School	Language & Literature AND Writing for the Real World	\$2,500.00
Springhurst	Bouncy Bands for Desk	\$1,816.43
	Vinyl Stickers	\$1,500.00
		Total \$5,816.43

Dr. Brady and the Board thanked the Foundation for the grants.

Vote: 7 - ayes - 0 nays

9.02 Capital Projects Change Orders

Mr. Reiser moved, and Ms. Johnson seconded, that the Board approve the following change orders and authorize the Board President to sign them:

Project Number	Contractor	Change Order Number	Amount	Description
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660403-03-004017	MDS HVAC-R, Inc.	MC-03	\$124,705.53	Steel fabrication and installation
660403-03-004017	MDS HVAC-R, Inc.	MC-04	\$ 92,977.25	Corridor ceilings
660403-03-004017	MDS HVAC-R, Inc.	MC-05	\$ 5,701.30	Spline ceiling changes

Ms. Fassler-Wallach explained that we are right at the budget limit.

Vote: 7 - ayes - 0 nays

10. Executive Session

10.01 Executive Session

At 8:35 PM, Mr. Reiser moved, and Ms. Kennedy seconded, that the Board move into Executive Session for the following purpose: to discuss the education records of a student relating to the next item on the agenda.

Mr. Reiser moved, and Ms. Kennedy seconded, to appoint Mr. Greengrass as Clerk Pro Tem.

Vote: 7 ayes - 0 nays

At 8:45 PM, Ms. Lucasey moved, and Mr. Schwartz seconded, to move back to the Public Meeting.

Vote: 7 - ayes - 0 nays

11. Board Actions Continued

11.01 Budget Transfer

Mr. Schwartz moved, and Ms. Kennedy seconded, that the Board approve the following budget transfer to transfer funds to pay for an outplacement for the remainder of the year:

Account to Decrease	Amount	Account to Increase	Amount
A2250.470.01.0000	\$ 75,000.00	A2250.470.03.0000	\$175,000.00
Special Ed - Tuition - K-5		Special Ed - Tuition - 9-12	
A2250.490.03.7200			
Special Ed - BOCES 9-12	\$100,000.00		
Total	\$175,000.00	Total	\$175,000.00

Vote: 7 - ayes - 0 nays

11.02 Budget Transfer

Ms. Baron moved, and Mr. Reiser seconded, that the Board approve the following budget transfer to transfer funds to pay the energy costs out of the correct codes:

Account to Decrease	Amount	Account to Increase	Amount
A1620.425.08.3000	\$70,000.00	A1620.421.08.1000	\$20,000.00

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Electricity - MS/HS		Operations - Fuel Oil Spr	
		A1620.421.08.3000	\$10,000.00
		Operations - Fuel Oil MS/HS	
		A1620.424.08.3000	\$40,000.00
		Operations - Gas MS/HS	
Total	\$70,000.00	Total	\$70,000.00

Vote: 7 - ayes - 0 nays

11.03 Policy Revision - Second Reading

The Board conducted a second reading and Ms. Kennedy moved, and Mr. Greengrass seconded, that the Board adopt the following policies:

- o 1230 - Public Participation at Board Meetings
- o 1530 - Smoking & Other Tobacco Use on School Premises

Vote: 7 - ayes - 0 nays

Dr. Brady will check with David Shaw on conducting a Public Hearing for the change to policy 1530 and the Code of Conduct.

Vote: 7 - ayes - 0 nays

11.04 CSE/CPSE

Ms. Johnson moved, and Mr. Reiser seconded that the Board authorize and direct 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 November 3, 2017 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;

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 November 3, 2017.

Vote: 7 - ayes - 0 nays

11.05 Personnel

Mr. Reiser moved, and Ms. Kennedy seconded that the Board the Civil Service and staff personnel recommendations.

The Personnel Committee did not review, however, Dr. Brady reviewed the resolutions with Leadership.

Vote: 7 - ayes - 0 nays

12. Acknowledgements

12.01 Treasurer's Report

The Board acknowledged receipt of the Treasurer's Report for September 2017.

12.02 Warrants

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The Board acknowledged receipt of the following warrants:
Warrant No. 16 and 18 Multi.

13. Citizen's Comments

13.01 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.

14. Old Business

15. New Business

16. Upcoming Meetings

16.01 Calendar

Tuesday, November 28, 2017 – 7:00 PM – MS/HS Library

- Work Session - School Awards

Tuesday, December 5, 2016 - 7:00 PM - MS/HS Library

- Business Meeting

17. Executive Session

17.01 Executive Session

At 8:55 PM, Mr. Schwartz moved, and Ms. Johnson seconded, that the Board move into Executive Session for the following purposes: *to discuss pending litigation R.F. v. Village of Dobbs Ferry and Dobbs Ferry Board of Education, and the employment histories of a high-school teacher and two confidential employees, and legal advice from the school attorney.*

Vote: 7 - ayes - 0 nays

Ms. Kennedy moved, and Ms. Baron seconded, to appoint Mr. Greengrass as Clerk Pro Tem.

Vote: 7 ayes - 0 nays

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

Vote: 7 ayes - 0 nays

18. Adjournment

At 10:14 PM, Ms. Lucasey moved, and Ms. Johnson seconded, that the Board adjourn the meeting.

Vote: 7 - ayes - 0 nays

19. Approved Minutes

19.01 Approved Minutes – October 10, 2017



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District Clerk