



**Tuesday, September 26, 2017
Regular Board Meeting
MS/HS Media Center, 7:00 PM**

1. Reception - 6:30 PM MS/HS Media Center

1.01 Reception

A reception was hosted by the PTSA for the tenured and new staff in the MS/HS Library.

2. Call to Order

3. Meeting Opening 7:24 p.m.

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.

3.01 Pledge of Allegiance

3.02 Acceptance of the Agenda

Mr. Reiser moved, and Ms. Kennedy seconded, that the Board accept the September 26th Agenda.

Vote: 7 - ayes - 0 nays

3.03 Approval of Minutes

Ms. Baron moved, and Ms. Johnson seconded, that the Board approve the minutes of the September 12, 2017 meeting.

Vote: 7 - ayes - 0 nays

4. 2017-2018 School Year

4.01 New Tenured Staff

4.02 Introduction of New Staff

4.03 Opening Day Reports

Ms. Lucasey thanked the PTSA for the lovely reception.

Dr. Brady welcomed everyone and asked the principals of each school to come up and introduce their respective tenured and new staff.

Each staff member was introduced with a description of their qualifications and/or experience or their classroom performance and contribution to our schools.

Mr. John Falino, High School Principal, introduced the following newly tenured staff and new High School staff:

Connor Cohn	Social Studies 7-12
William Palmer	School Counselor - K-12

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Stephanie Mills
Jessica Swart

Mr. Patrick Mussolini, Middle School Principal, introduced the following newly tenured staff:

Jill Rosenblum	English 7-12
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There were no new hires in the Middle School.

Ms. Julia Drake, Springhurst School Principal, introduced the following newly tenured staff and new Springhurst staff:

Eileen Berasi	English as a Second Language
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Springhurst

Nathan Brewster
Victoria Coren
Allison Fabrizio
Lisa Micek

Special Education

Lauren Bookin
Emily Mandel

The three schools had smooth openings.

- HS had a large turnout for Back to School Night
 - Very few schedule changes were needed – thanks to Ms. Reim and the counselors
 - There are 460 students with the 11th grade being the largest at 128
- The MS had several summer programs running during July/August
 - This school year is well underway
 - 98 6th graders transitioned into the MS
 - There are 344 students with the largest grade be the 7th at 128
 - The 7th grade is going to the Sharp Reservation on Thursday for team building collaboration using outdoor skills
- Springhurst has 670 students this year – 131 5th graders
 - The school transitioned to a 6 day schedule
 - Back to School Night – 9/28 at 6:30 PM

All three principals thanked Ms. Fassler-Wallach, Dave Robertin and the facilities team for all their work in getting the schools ready for opening day. They also thanked their Assistant Principals for their help and support in the preparation of a new school year.

The Board, Administration and audience welcomed the new staff.

10. Board Actions

10.01 Dobbs Ferry Schools Foundation Donation

Mr. Schwartz moved, and Ms. Baron seconded, that the Board accept a donation from the Dobbs Ferry Schools Foundation in the amount of \$50,000 to be used for Middle Years Program (MYP) related professional development.

10.02 Personnel

Ms. Pegg presented the check and expressed how happy the Foundation is to contribute to the students' educational enrichment. This donation was achieved through the proceeds from the Gala.

The Board and Dr. Brady expressed their thanks for the donation and the partnership they share.

Vote: 7 - ayes - 0 nays

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Mr. Reiser moved, and Mr. Greengrass seconded, to take a five minute break to allow those in the audience to leave if they chose to do so.

Vote: 7 - ayes - 0 nays

5. Announcements

PTSA

- Pumpkin Fair will be held on October 21st
 - The PTSA is looking for volunteers to shadow this year's pumpkin fair chairs to be able to take over for next year.
- The PTSA and Women's Club will again host a Haunted House on October 28th and 29th.
- Flower Power is currently running now through Sunday. All proceeds go to the Springhurst Compost Kids Program.
- The PTSA will begin their Spirit Wear campaign again this year.
- PTSA needs more members.

6. Superintendent's Report

School Calendar:

- We still have concerns with the SED because it is still unclear about the 2017-2018 school calendar. In order to be "on the safe side" we will change the ½ day before lunch on October 25th and the ½ day on January 31st before lunch to regular 2 p.m. dismissal time.

Safety & Security Meeting on September 19th:

- Thank you to Betsy Gelardi for all of her service as the Chief of Police in Dobbs Ferry. She has been a true friend and partner to the District over many years. We do not have a name of her replacement.
- We met to discuss the feedback from our drills from last year as well as the feedback from the Safety & Security Audit conducted by Dave Connors in the spring. Dave will be joining us on October 10th. We discussed concerns about traffic safety in and around the MS/HS campus.
- There are two crossing guards stationed in front of the school
 - Students cross in between the crossing guards
 - Parents disrespectful and ignoring the guards
- Parents must remind students to wear helmets when biking
- Parents need to follow the posted signs on campus such as No Left Turn and Idling
- Justin Kamke working with Lisa Doty and Anne Pecunia on a safety program for students
- Future advertorials will contain a safety series
- A letter will be sent to any community groups or recreation leagues using our facilities
- A list of participant dense activities will be sent to the DFPD

NYSRA Award - congratulations to Liz and Kevin and the SCR Committee

- We received the highest award, Award of Excellence, in the Strategic Campaign category for our Share Your Thoughts campaign! You have to have at least three or more coordinated marketing pieces which included our advertorial, FB posts, video, website, and K12s, etc.
- Our second win was an Award of Merit for Springhurst Salad Day in the Video category which ran about two minutes. Truly a DFSD team effort and very gratifying to be recognized by other communications' colleagues across the country.

Parent Digital Citizenship Night will be held on October 16th at 7 p.m. Library Media Center.

7. Correspondence

None.

7.01 Emails

The Board acknowledged two emails regarding a Cross Country issue.

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8. Citizen's Comments

8.01 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.

The Rivertown Parents Association will present the following:

- October 12th – 7:00 PM to 8:30 PM – Angst Movie – Raising Awareness around Anxiety – parents and students in 6th to 12th grade
- October 19th – 7:30 PM to 9:00 PM – ‘What’s the Deal with Teens and Time Management’ for parents of students from 5th – 12th grade

9. Committee Reports

9.01 BOE Committees

Student Athletics & Activities - 9/19

Andrew Klaich updated the committee on:

- Sports teams overnight trips
- He will create a template for all overnight trips
- How will funding be handled to ensure all students can attend if they desire
 - Overnight trips: The Varsity softball team would like to once again travel to Florida over the spring break. Information will be provided for the October 10th BOE Meeting with a resolution on the agenda seeking BOE approval for the trip.

Tennis at Springhurst -PE teachers would like to collaborate with USTA to bring in a tennis pro from Hudson Valley Tennis to co teach an elementary unit.

High Schools Clubs - These are new clubs that have been proposed for the 2017-2018 school year. Lisa shared the information on each of the clubs with the committee and supports all of the clubs moving forward. One club is still working on seeking an advisor. The administration recommends and approves clubs; however, the Board can veto a club.

Volunteers - How many do we have as volunteer coaches? Are they fingerprinted?

All volunteer coaches have been fingerprinted. We currently have 4 volunteer coaches within the district.

There was a discussion regarding the timing of club meetings.

10.02 Personnel

Mr. Reiser moved, and Ms. Johnson seconded, that the Board approve the civil service and staff personnel recommendations.

Ms. Fassler-Wallach and Dr. Brady explained the recommendations.

Vote: 7 - ayes - 0 nays

11. Acknowledgements

None.

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12. Citizen's Comments

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13. Old Business

- The rescheduling of the Finance and Facilities Committee meeting to October 17 at 6:30 PM and 7:00 PM respectively. All are welcome to attend.
- The addition of wind screens to the tennis courts.

14. New Business

None.

15. Upcoming Meetings

15.01 Calendar

Tuesday, October 10, 2017 - 7:00 PM - MS/HS Library

Tuesday, October 24, 2017 - 7:00 PM - MS/HS Library

- Work Session – Rethinking Homework

16. Adjournment

At 8:22 PM, Ms. Baron moved, and Mr. Schwartz seconded, that the Board adjourn the meeting.

Vote: 7 - ayes - 0 nays

17. Approved Minutes

17.01 Approved Minutes - August 22, 2017



District Clerk