



**Wednesday, October 5, 2016  
Work Session Meeting  
MS/HS Library, 7:00 PM**

**1. Call to Order**

**2. Regular Meeting Opening 7:01 p.m.**

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

Ms. Baron welcomed everyone to the meeting.

**2.01 Pledge of Allegiance**

**2.02 Acceptance of the Agenda**

Ms. Johnson moved, and Mr. Greengrass seconded, that the Board move to accept the October 5<sup>th</sup> Agenda.

Vote: 6 - ayes - 0 nays

Mr. Reiser arrived at 7:10

**3. Work Session Topic**

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

**3.01 Demographic Study**

Dr. Brady introduced Richard S. Grip, Ed.D. from Statistical Forecasting, LLC.

Dr. Grip gave a brief introduction of his background and the company's work with other Districts in Westchester and the NYC school district.

Highlights of the study included:

- Purpose of the study
- Dobbs Ferry Demographic Profile
- Dobbs Ferry School boundaries
- Historical Enrollment
  - From BEDS data
- Non-public school enrollment
- Enrollment projection method
  - Cohort Survival Method
  - Kindergarten Replacement
- Historical Births
- Age Pyramid
- District Enrollment by race, sex and economically disadvantaged
- New Housing in Dobbs Ferry

## MINUTES

- Homes Built and Sold
- Student Yields
  - Single family homes, multi-family homes and apartments
- Enrollment Projections

Several residents/parents voiced their concerns and asked for clarification on a few items such as multi-family homes / apartments and the number of children living in them; nursing home residents; taxes; large class sizes; need for a full day co-taught teacher; accuracy of data; etc.

Ms. Baron left the meeting at 8:20pm.

### 4. Committee Reports

#### 4.01 BOE Committees

School & Community Relations - 9/21

- District received an award from the New York School Public Relations Association (NYSPRA) for the We Are Dobbs and the Kindergarten videos.
- New website is looking great if anyone has comments please send them to the website coordinator
- District Dialogues and TV programming
  - Opioid Dialogue on website
  - Upcoming topics – Branding, MYP Eye on the Classroom, STEM Eye on the Classroom
  - Dr. Brady will be holding Parent Book Chats to engage parents in conversations as pre-work for the strategic plan work

Curriculum & Instruction - 9/28

- Update of “new” ELA and Math Standards
  - NYSED has released a draft of new pk-12 ELA and Math Standards for public comment
  - The new standards will replace the Common Core Standards
  - Changes to 60% of ELA standards
  - Changes to 55% of Math standards
  - Standards identify what students should be able to know and do at each grade level
  - Goals include greater clarity and adjusting expectations across grade levels
  - Aiming for implementation during ‘18-’19 school year
- Update on MYP Authorization
  - Authorization Visit - October 19, 20 and 21 – 3 people will be visiting from the IB team
  - They will review documents, classroom visitations, interviews with students, teachers, parents, administration
  - BOE interview 10/19 8:30-9:15
- 15-16 Assessment Data Presentation
  - Mr. Berry will present an overview of 3-8 assessment data at November 1st BOE Meeting
  - Draft of presentation to be shared with Curriculum and Instruction Committee 10/26
- Tri-State Consortium Visit
  - Early March with a focus on technology integration
  - Develop Essential Questions
  - Documents/Classroom Visits/Interviews
  - Feedback and benchmarking for growth
  - Supports the development of technology plan/strategic plan
- Initiatives for 16-17
  - MYP
  - Ongoing Curriculum Development Work

## MINUTES

- All teachers have received some training -25 have completed full Level One training -approx. 40 remaining
- Co-Teaching (K-12)
  - Profession Development for co-teaching teams
  - Administrative Focus - PD in summer during admin retreat and ongoing
  - Developing common language and understanding
- Block Scheduling (MS/HS)
  - Admin team is continuing to investigate this option
  - Teams from both MS and HS making site visits to schools with successful block scheduling models to explore instructional implications and impacts on learning
  - Possibly a Hastings-on-Hudson visit
- Scheduling (Springhurst)
  - Springhurst is continuing its work with scheduling consultant exploring options to rethink Springhurst scheduling
- Project Based Learning (Springhurst)
  - Expansion in use of project based learning
  - Professional Development time scheduled throughout year to support teachers
  - All grades will have at least one "project based" learning experience during the year
- Student Feedback (MS)
  - Middle school admin and teacher leaders are studying information they collected from students regarding their experience in classrooms as part of their "Culture and Climate" survey
  - Focusing on factors impacting student engagement and implications for classroom instruction
- Adolescent Learning Needs (MS)
  - Shared text experience "The Power of the Adolescent Brain"
- Approaches to Learning/21st Century Survival Skills (HS)
  - The high school is continuing its focus on 21st century "survival" skills
- Digital Citizenship (HS)
  - The social studies department created a formal curriculum for students in grades 9-12 around digital citizenship. In addition to being infused into social studies classes, the concepts will be supported across the disciplines and throughout the building.
- Possible Topics for Future Discussion
  - Physical Education 6-12
  - Athletic Option
  - Homework

### Student Activities/Athletics - 9/28

- Discussed a memo addressing SAT/ACT/PSAT Dates
  - Sectional/State athletic events will not be changed to accommodate tests.
  - The dates for state and sectional events are given 7 years in advance and it is impossible to accommodate every student's testing needs.
- Change in APP process: (Playing Up)
  - The Tanner guidelines have been lowered from the previous year. Dobbs Ferry still uses the Tanner score as a requirement in the "playing up" process adopted by the BOE and the suggested guidelines from the State of NY.

## MINUTES

- Overnight Athletic Trips:
  - The Superintendent and Board of Education must approve all overnight travel. The board should be made aware of all planned trips approximately 6 months in advance to allow for appropriate fundraising.
- Athletic Interscholastic Handbook
  - Draft was shared with committee for review and feedback
- Online Registration
  - This is an online program used for registering students for athletics. The athletic department will be launching online registration beginning this winter.
  -
- Club cheerleading middle school update:
  - Club cheerleading will be starting in October. Currently 13 girls are registered.
- Club cross country middle school club:
  - Students have shown interest in a cross country club
- Creation of new teams/merger teams:
  - SAC will continue to explore available opportunities for our student athletes. The opportunities for these mergers can be limited and depend on the sport.
- Parent request for additional support at games
  - This is a challenge and can it be resolved with a roster of parent volunteers that will need to go through the vetting process.
- Old Business
  - Map our sports offerings back to our Mission - critical thinking, collaboration, independent thinking, leadership, IB Learner Profile. Development of athletic mission and vision that is aligned with the District Vision and Mission.

### 5. Board Actions

#### 5.01 Dobbs Ferry Schools Foundation Donation

Mr. Reiser moved, and Mr. Greengrass seconded, that the Board accept a Dobbs Ferry Schools Foundation donation in the amount of \$250.00 for the Springhurst composting program.

The Board thanked the Foundation for their donation and their continuous support.

Vote: 6 - ayes - 0 nays

#### 5.02 Personnel

Ms. Kennedy moved, and Mr. Reiser seconded, that the Board approve the staff personnel recommendation.

Vote: 6 - ayes - 0 nays

### 6. Citizen's Comments

***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***

## MINUTES

*comments concerning matters that are not on the agenda will be taken under consideration and referred to the Superintendent for appropriate action.*

### 7. Correspondence

#### 7.01 Correspondence

The Board acknowledged receipt of two eMails from a parent regarding state testing and testing sites.

### 8. Citizen's Comments

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### Announcements

- PTSA will hold the Annual Pumpkin Fair on October 22
- On October 29 – the PTSA and the Women's Club of Dobbs Ferry will hold a Haunted House at the Women's Club on Clinton Ave from 4 pm – 8:30 pm
- Both events are in need of Student Volunteers – Community Service will be applied
- SPRING is holding the Annual Coat Drive – boxes are in all school buildings – gently worn children's and adult's coats accepted

### 9. Upcoming Meetings

#### 9.01 Calendar

##### Tuesday, October 18, 2016 – 7:00 PM – MS/HS Library

- Audit Committee – 6:15 PM – Board Room
- Auditor's Report

##### Sunday, October 23, 2016 – 9:00 AM – Board Room - HS

- Board Retreat

### 10. Adjournment

At 8:49 PM, Mr. Greengrass moved, and Mr. Schwartz seconded, that the Board adjourn the meeting.

Vote: 6 ayes - 0 nays



District Clerk