



**Tuesday, October 15, 2019
Business Meeting
MS/HS Media Center, 7:00 PM**

1. Call to Order

2. Regular Meeting Opening 7:02 p.m.

2.01 Pledge of Allegiance

2.02 Roll Call

Ms. Shannon Johnson, President; Ms. Rita Kennedy, Vice President; Ms. Jean Lucasey; Ms. Tracy Baron; Mr. Louis Schwartz; Ms. Shannon Stringer; Mr. Matthew Rosenberg; 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. Baron moved, and Ms. Lucasey seconded, that the Board accept the October 15th Agenda.

Vote: 6 - ayes - 0 nays

2.04 Approval of Minutes

Ms. Lucasey moved, and Ms. Kennedy seconded, that the Board approve the minutes of the September 24, 2019 meeting.

Vote: 6 - ayes - 0 nays

3. Announcements

3.01 Special Bond Vote

On June 11, 2019, the Dobbs Ferry Board of Education voted to construct improvements to District buildings and/or sites.

Voting will take place on Tuesday, October 22, 2019, during the hours of 7:00 AM and 9:00 PM in the HS Gymnasium for all qualified voters.

Mr. Rosenberg arrived at 7:05 PM.

3.02 Absentee Ballot Applications

Any registered community resident who has a valid reason for being unable to vote in person may pick up an Application for an Absentee Ballot in the District Office or download an application from the District website under the BOE tab.

All applications must be delivered in person no later than 5:00 PM on October 22, 2019.

MINUTES

WPSBA

- Tracy Baron and Jean Lucasey attended the Promoting Mental Health for All session on October 10th.
 - Discussion on what schools are doing for Student Mental Health
 - DBT Therapy
- November 4th is the Joint Superintendent/Board Member Dinner at the Doubletree Hotel highlighting digital citizenship and creating a community that engages with each other respectfully online.
 - Speakers - The International Society for Technology in Education's David Benoit and NYS Senator Shelley Mayer, Chair of the Committee on Education
 - Please register through Loretta Tularzko

PTSA

- Walgrove Citizens Association – Will hold a Children's Walk to Slow Down Traffic prior to the PTSA - Pumpkin Fair – 10/26 – 10:00am – 4:00pm – Springhurst
- PTSA Showcase – 10/22 - 7pm-9pm @MS/HS Commons

DFSF

- DFSFS Social - October 24th 7:30 – 8:30pm at HudCo

SPRING

- SPRING coat drive will end on 10/18 – drop off boxes are available in each school and at the Community Nursery School at 343 Broadway.
- Clothing can be donated at any time – contact SPRING Community Partners for details

4. Superintendent's Report

District

The BOE Work Session on October 29th will be on Career & Technical Education. We will send a K-12 this week with a number of resources for parents and community members. Lisa met with the Legislative Branch today and explained the Work Session and invited them to attend and to tell their peers. Lisa is also planning to send an email to all students Grades 6-12.

Student Substance Risk Survey

We will be administering the Youth Based Services Prevention Needs Assessment Survey as we do every other year. This will be sometime in November and is being coordinated by Andrew with the MS and HS. We survey students in grades 6-12. Results will be shared with the BOE at a BOE meeting in the late winter when results are back from Dobbs Ferry Youth Services.

Demographic Study

Richard Grip is actively working on this. We hope to have something in the next month or so.

Walk to School Wednesday - tomorrow at Springhurst. Lisa meeting Bob McLoughlin at 8 a.m. to walk if anyone wants to join us. This will be a monthly activity sponsored by the PTSA Safe Routes Committee.

Bond Vote - next Tuesday from 7 a.m. to 9 p.m. in the HS Gym. Thank you to the PTSA and Dobbs Ferry Schools Foundation for their support.

Staff Wellness Fair is scheduled for this Wednesday from 12:30 to 3:30. Andrew has done a fabulous job coordinating this opportunity. We have worked with a company called Wellness123 who will be providing allergy testing, vein blood flow testing, vision and hearing screening, many workshops including topics such as sleep, orthopedic problems, ask a pediatrician. There will be yoga, meditation labs, pick-up basketball, circuit training and other activities. This is our first staff wellness fair and we will see how things go with an eye to expanding this to the community in the future.

Springhurst

STEAM started up again on 9/17 for 4th & 5th grade students as an optional recess alternative. Students are engaged in digital photography this cycle and have already begun adding to a beautiful Springhurst gallery.

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Throughout the month of September, Principal Drake pushed into K, 1, 2 classrooms to read Jabari Jumps by Gaia Cornwall. Grades 3-5 will be next.

Professional Learning Groups continue to go well with the second session occurring on 10/2/19.

PBIS launch - Monday 10/7 marked Blue Shirt Day and the relaunch of our PBIS Program. Students and families are also participating in a school/home connection by completing positive messages and returning them to school where they will be hung in our main lobby for all to see/read. Also, later this month parents/guardians will be invited to a PBIS information session to be held in November.

On 10/22, Springhurst will begin its annual "cram a van" project with an assembly (for this we gather collection of new pajamas and books for children in need)

On 10/23 Westchester County Legislator, MaryJane Shimsky will be coming to Springhurst to help lead the Swearing In Ceremony for the Springhurst Student Government.

Cool 4th grade bulletin board that is outside Ms. Mair's room supporting student Social Emotional Wellbeing: "Give What You Can/Take What You Need" with compliments and words of encouragement written/posted by students for others to take if needed.

Tennis Pros from the Tennis Club of Hastings sponsored by the USTA have been working with our 1st, 2nd (on Wednesdays), 3rd, and 5th grade students in the morning PE classes

Some nice anecdotes re: 5th gr.: Some of the students sent Birthday Cards to a 100 year old Veteran just to make him happy. Also we have 121 Leaders in 5th grade. All of the classes are quiet and respectful in the halls to show the "younger" kids what the hallways should look like.

Athletics

Wednesday, October 16

Boys Varsity Soccer at home vs. Ardsley at 4:30 p.m.

Friday - October 18th

Varsity Boys Soccer at home vs. Briarcliff Manor at 4 p.m.

Modified Volleyball at home vs. Irvington at 4:45 p.m.

Saturday, October 19th

Football - Homecoming Gould at 1:30 PM vs. Valhalla. Senior Recognition Ceremony begins promptly at 12:30.

Varsity Cross Country Invitational Meet in Wappingers

Winter Sports Start Dates

Varsity and JV - November 12

Modified - November 25th

Dobbs Ferry Foundation News

Dobbs Ferry Schools Foundation is hosting a Meet & Greet at Hudson Social on Thursday, October 24th from 7:30 to 9:30 p.m. I will be saying a few words about the District and Foundation partnership.

Foundation Grants Process - Changes and new opportunities

The 2019-2020 Teacher Tool Kit features the new online submission link and process. It is important to note that grants for less than \$2000 can be submitted year-round on a rolling basis. Grants in excess of \$2000 must be submitted no later than May 1st for the 2019-2020 school year.

Middle/High School

Thought-Exchange Survey to all MS/HS teachers regarding their thoughts and questions on the proposed MS/HS school schedule. It closes this Friday. So far, we have 61 participants - 101 thoughts - and 953 stars.

MINUTES

5. Correspondence

None.

6. Public Hearing

6.01 District-Wide Safety & Emergency Management Plan

The Board of Education of the Dobbs Ferry Union Free School District held a Public Hearing on the District-Wide Safety & Emergency Management Plan which was posted to the District website for 30 days.

Dr. Brady received one email.

No community attendees.

7. Citizen's Comments

7.01 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.

8. Committee Reports

Student Activities & Athletics - 10/2

Assistant Coaches for Varsity sports:

We have added assistant coaches to teams where the varsity team goes out alone to games. Other schools similar to ours, where numbers are large, these schools provide an assistant coach. Currently, neither our basketball team nor our volleyball team has an assistant coach. In basketball and volleyball, our JV and varsity teams play back-to-back games that are scheduled together so there are always two coaches present.

Fall and Winter Sports:

- We have additional night games at Gould and Springhurst for football and soccer, respectively.
- Nets are needed at Springhurst behind the goalposts.
- There may not be a winter basketball tournament because of the two-week break and other schools do not want to commit to the tournament due to student and staff vacation.
- A student who wants to bowl so Andrew has reached out to Irvington to see if our student can bowl with their team.

School & Community Relations - 9/26

Main item of discussion was the October 22 Bond Vote Communication

PTSA

Banner to be located on the fence at Gould Park

50 Lawn signs throughout Dobbs Ferry

PTSA will run a membership drive and activities in the Commons on the night of the vote

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Lisa spoke at October 7th General Membership Meeting

Foundation

Lisa met with Monica Schulman and Kathy Ficalora to discuss the Foundation's help and support of the vote. They will use their listserv to remind their parents to vote.

District

Banner will be displayed at Cedar and Main beginning October 14th

Lisa will make automated reminder phone calls on Monday evening and late Tuesday afternoon. These will be followed with a reminder text message from the District.

E-Newsletter going out today

Video - Kevin and Liz are working on the video with the kids which will be posted and shared beginning October 15th.

Advertorial about Community Forums this week in the Enterprise

Finance - 10/4/19

- Special meeting which focused on which monthly reports the Finance Committee would like to receive to keep them better informed
- Both Ron and Jackie will be attending Treasurer training to keep improving our work in that area
- Special Ed Reporting – Ron is meeting weekly with Lisa, Jean G. and Doug to better project current and future tuition expenses
- Unassigned Fund Balance – how do we plan to restore the fund balance back to 4%?
- Formal Internal Audit Function - With enrollments in the 2019-20 school year going above the 1,500 threshold, will we be required to have an internal audit function this year? After talking with David Shaw and Alan Kassay, it appears that the District would be required to have one next year if the enrollments for this school year remain above 1,500.

Curriculum & Instruction – 10/8

- PYP Study Committee Update
 - Since January of 2019, a representative body made up of members that included teachers, administrators and parents have been reviewing the history of IB Program (DP and MYP) in Dobbs Ferry
 - Explored IB profile attributes and various IB resources
 - Participated in site visits to see PYP programs in action
 - The committee does not feel it as at a decision point yet - still at a very preliminary stage
 - IB Theme things a little more – not a full blown PYP program
 - Discussed grade 5 to grade 6 transition issues
 - Are there things we can do to be more closely aligned with IB at the MS/HS that would suffice?
 - What impact would transitioning to PYP have on existing initiatives and changes in progress

Personnel – 10/8

- The Committee reviewed the personnel recommendations.
- Lisa, Doug and Ron had a preliminary meeting with Marcia Heffler and Frank Ferri (Lead Negotiator) regarding negotiations with the DFUT. The group will begin to meet monthly in December.

Special Ed - 10/8

- The Committee reviewed the CPSE/CSE recommendations on tonight's agenda. Questions were asked and clarified.
- The Committee discussed an upcoming settlement agreement
- The Committee asked to receive quarterly reports on numbers of IEP/504 students with data points similar to reports it has received in past years
- Jean Gismervik updated the committee on the HS Life Skills Program
 - Kit Casey is working with the team on work-based learning programs in other schools.
 - The students are creating some non-food based Halloween items in conjunction with the PTSA. School-based enterprises can be seasonal and the team is looking at ways to grow this.
 - Jean G is also looking for an opportunity for a co-curricular club that might be appropriate for both the Life Skills students and general education students.

MINUTES

9. Board Actions

9.01 Adoption of the District-Wide Safety & Emergency Management Plan

Ms. Stringer moved, and Ms. Baron seconded, that the Board adopt the District-Wide School Safety & Emergency Management Plan which has been posted to the District website for 30 days.

Vote: 7 ayes - 0 nays

9.02 Dobbs Ferry Schools Foundation Grants

Mr. Schwartz moved, and Ms. Kennedy seconded, that the Board accept the following grant from the Dobbs Ferry Schools Foundation:

High School - Michelle Haggerty - Rocketbook Everlast - \$775

Vote: 7 ayes - 0 nays

9.03 Annual Audit Report

Ms. Lucasey moved, and Mr. Rosenberg seconded, that the Board accept the Independent Auditors Report, performed by PFK O'Connor Davies, LLP, for the 2018-19 school year.

The Audit Committee met on

Vote: 7 ayes - 0 nays

9.04 Deputy District Treasurer Appointment

Mr. Rosenberg moved, and Ms. Kennedy seconded, to appoint Mr. Ron Clamser as Deputy District Treasurer at no additional compensation.

Vote: 7 ayes - 0 nays

9.05 Appointment Change - Poll Worker

Ms. Lucasey moved, and Ms. Baron seconded, to rescind the appointment of Mrs. Monica Macchi, 101 Beacon Hill Drive, Apt. D13, Dobbs Ferry, NY, and appoint Mrs. Marilu Farrington, 89 Ashford Avenue, Dobbs Ferry, NY for the Special Bond Vote on October 22, 2019.

Vote: 7 ayes - 0 nays

9.06 Budget Transfer

Mr. Rosenberg moved, and Ms. Stringer seconded, to approve the following budget transfers to cover Instructional Technology Support originally budgeted under BOCES:

Account	Decrease	Increase
A 2630-490-00-5500 Computer Tech BOCES	\$124,994	
A 2630-150-01-5500 Computer Tech Salary		\$62,497
A 2630-150-02-5500 Computer Tech Salary		\$62,497

Vote: 7 ayes - 0 nays

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9.07 Girls Varsity Softball Team spring break trip to Orlando

Ms. Lucasey moved, and Ms. Stringer to approve, the Girls Varsity Softball Team spring break trip to Orlando as follows:

The Varsity Softball team is looking to travel to Orlando, Florida for Disney High School Spring Training. April 9 -13 (4 nights, 5 Days)

See link below for all information related to the camp.

<https://www.espnwwos.com/events/competitive-sports/disney-high-school-spring-training/>

\$1,686.70 per person (12 players + 3 coaches = 15 total people)

Students will be fundraising to help offset expenses.

Vote: 7 - ayes - 0 nays

9.08 CSE/CPSE

Ms. Baron moved, and Ms. Kennedy seconded, to approve 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 October 7, 2019 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 October 7, 2019.

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

9.09 Personnel

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

Dr. Brady congratulated Ms. Kin Thornton on her upcoming retirement at the end of January, 2020.

Vote: 7 - ayes - 0 nays

9.10 Policy Revision - First Reading

The Board conducted a first reading of the following policies:

- 5420 - Student Health Services
- 6645 - Capital Assets Accounting

5420 will move to second reading at the next Board meeting.

6645 will be brought back after clarification for another first reading at the next Board meeting.

9.11 NYSSBA Proposed Bylaw Amendments & Resolutions

Mr. Schwartz moved, and Ms. Stringer seconded, the Board resolves to authorize Ms. Baron to cast the Boards vote as discussed in during the discussion and to amend the resolutions if required.

MINUTES

The Board agreed with all the recommendations in support of and the not recommended resolutions with the exception of: #15 – regarding parent advocates at Committee on Spec Ed meetings.

The Board thanked the Policy Committee for their extensive review of the resolutions and to Tracy Baron for representing the Board at the voting session.

Vote: 7 - ayes - 0 nays

10. Acknowledgements

10.01 Warrants

The Board acknowledged receipt of the following warrant:
Warrant No. 15 Multi.

11. Citizen's Comments

11.01 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.

12. Old Business

The Board has requested to meet with our Internal Claims Auditor in the next month or so.

13. New Business

- Ms. Kennedy, Ms. Baron, Ms. Lucasey and Mr. Rosenberg will be available for the October 23rd Board meeting to certify the Bond Vote results at 9:00 AM in the Board Room.

Ms. Baron highlighted a few topics of the Challenge Success session that took place in Boston

- It was an impressive event that consists of 3 – 4 day training sessions
 - Health & High Performance
 - Parents, students teachers and administrators participate as teams
 - Student anxiety
 - Lockdown the ability for parents to access student portals for maybe 2 days
 - Mid-terms and finals should be proctored by the students teachers not teachers that are unfamiliar

Dr. Brady and Mr. Berry believe attending a session would be a good fit for the Dobbs Ferry District

- Dobbs Ferry is well along the way

14. Upcoming Meetings

14.01 Calendar

- Wednesday, October 23, 2019 - 9:00 AM - Board Room
 - Certification of Bond Vote Results
- Tuesday, October 29, 2019 - 7:00 PM - MS/HS Media Center
 - Work Session – Career & Technical Education

MINUTES

15. Adjournment

At 8:38 PM, Ms. Lucasey moved, and Mr. Rosenberg seconded, that the Board adjourn the meeting.

Vote: 7 - ayes - 0 nays

16. Approved Minutes

16.01 Approved Minutes – September 10, 2019 Meeting

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Loretha Salazar".

District Clerk