



MINUTES

Tuesday, January 26, 2021 Virtual Board Meeting Google Meet - Virtual Meeting, 7:00 PM

1. Call to Order

2. Opening of the Meeting – 7:01 PM

Louis Schwartz called the meeting to order.

2.01 Pledge of Allegiance

2.02 Roll Call

Mr. Louis Schwartz, President; Ms. Rita Kennedy, Vice President; Ms. Shannon Johnson; Ms. Jean Lucasey; Ms. Tracy Baron; Ms. Shannon Stringer; Mr. Massimo Bufalini, 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. Lucasey moved, and Ms. Stringer seconded, that the Board accept the January 26th Agenda.

Vote: 7 - ayes - 0 nays

2.04 Approval of Minutes

Ms. Baron moved, and Mr. Bufalini seconded, that the Board approve the minutes of the January 12, 2021 meeting.

Vote: 7 - ayes - 0 nays

3. Citizens Comments

3.01 Anyone wishing to make comments during the two Citizen's Comment portions of the meeting can do so by emailing their comments to boemeetingcomment@DFSD.org. Please include your name and address.

3.02 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.

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4. Correspondence

4.01 BOE Correspondence

The Board acknowledged receipt of the following:

- Three emails regarding the implementation of the Out for Safe Schools Program
- A letter posing a question about eligibility for Board Candidacy

5. Board Action

5.01 Notice of Intention to Seek Review

Ms. Lucasey moved, and Ms. Stringer seconded, that the Board authorize the following:

"**BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Board of Education of the Dobbs Ferry Union Free School District does hereby authorize its law firm, Shaw, Perelson, May & Lambert, LLP, to file all such documents and papers as are necessary to effectuate an appeal to the Office of State Review from the Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law and Order of the Impartial Hearing Officer in the matter of Student No. 01132021."

Vote: 7 - ayes - 0 nays

6. Acknowledgements

6.01 Treasurer's Report

The Board will acknowledge receipt of the Treasurer's Reports for November and December 2020.

6.02 Warrants

The Board acknowledged receipt of the following warrant:
Warrant No. 30 Multi.

7. Work Session Topic

7.01 Exploring Bias

To prepare for the discussion, attendees were asked to use the following definition in their discussions:

- Use [Kirwan Institute definition](#).
- To read and unpack the article, "Only White People" by Topher Sanders.
 - What was noteworthy in reading this account?
 - Is the little girl biased?
 - How is this an example of impact over intent?

Then the group were placed into breakout rooms to allow for participants to engage with one another discussing the article using the about questions.

The entire group came back together and gave a brief description of the breakout room discussions.

Then the group watched two clips and was asked to think about the following questions:

[Peanut Butter, Jelly and Racism](#) (2 min.)
[Check Our Bias to Wreck Our Bias](#) (3 min.)

- What did you notice watching these clips?
- What brought you tension?
- Where do you witness the impact of bias?

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- Is it possible to be bias-free?

Once again, the group came back together and gave a brief description of the breakout room discussions.

Dr. Brady stated that she was proud of all in attendance and that these work sessions not also give us a chance to interact with each other and obviously interact with all of you in a place where we can really be vulnerable, and honest in these challenging conversations.

So on behalf of the board, and all of us, Dr. Brady thanked everyone for being here tonight. We will be back in March with another work session.

8. Citizens Comments

8.01 Anyone wishing to make comments during the two Citizen's Comment portions of the meeting can do so by emailing their comments to boemeetingcomment@DFSD.org. Please include your name and address.

8.02 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.

New Business

Jean Lucasey, on behalf of the Policy Sub Committee, will send an email to Dr. Brady and Mr. Schwartz about something they have been thinking about that would potentially relate to our equity work sessions, by way of the policy committee

9. Upcoming Meetings

9.01 Calendar

Tuesday, February 9, 2021 - 7:00 PM - TBD

- Veterans Tax Exemption Report
- Budget Presentations

Tuesday, February 23, 2021 - 7:00 PM - TBD

- Executive Session Only - Tenure Candidate & Probationary Staff Discussions

10. Adjournment

At 8:26 PM, Ms. Baron moved, and Ms. Stringer seconded, that the Board adjourn the meeting.

Vote: 7 - ayes - 0 nays

11. Approved Minutes

11.01 Approved Minutes - December 15, 2020



Loretta Tularzko
District Clerk

1/26/21