

MINUTES



**Tuesday, February 5, 2019
Regular Board Meeting
MS/HS Media Center, 7:00 PM**

1. Call to Order

2. Meeting Opening 7:02 p.m.

2.01 Pledge of Allegiance

2.02 Roll Call

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

Mr. Schwartz moved, and Ms. Baron seconded, that the Board accept the February 5th Agenda.

Vote: 6 - ayes - 0 nays

2.04 Approval of Minutes

Ms. Kennedy moved, and Ms. Johnson seconded, that the Board approve the minutes of the January 22, 2019 meeting.

Vote: 6 - ayes - 0 nays

3. Announcements

3.01 Private School Transportation Requests

Parents who are considering sending a child to a private school next year are advised that transportation requests must be submitted by **Monday, April 1, 2019**, in order to be included in the district's request for transportation next year. Requests for forms should be made to the Transportation Director at 914-295-5544. A written request must be submitted for each child and for each school being considered. The School Board has established a firm policy of not considering requests submitted after the deadline.*

(Parents should note that a separate request must be submitted for each school being considered. Requests may be withdrawn if a school is not selected, but **may not be considered if submitted after the deadline).*

3.02 Board Member Terms of Office

Three terms of office of the Dobbs Ferry Board of Education will be expiring on June 30, 2019:

- *Ms. Jean Lucasey, Mr. Louis Schwartz and Ms. Rita Kennedy*

MINUTES

One term of office of the Dobbs Ferry Board of Education for two years ending on June 30, 2021:*

- *Vacancy - Mr. Jonathan Greengrass*

**The Candidate with the fourth highest number of votes will fill the unexpired vacancy*

*Forms for petitions to run for a seat on the Board of Education will be available in the District Office beginning **Tuesday, February 26, 2019**. Petitions to run as a candidate for the School Board next year must be submitted by the close of business on **Monday, April 22, 2019**. Twenty-five signatures of qualified voters in the district are required.*

3.03 Personal Voter Registration

*Any community resident not registered with the Westchester County Board of Elections may do so during Personal Registration which will take place on **Monday, May 13, 2019**, between **3:30 PM and 7:30 PM** in the HS Gymnasium Foyer. Voter Qualifications: (1) Must be a citizen of the United States; (2) Must be 18 years of age or older; (3) Must have been a resident of the school district for a period of 30 days or more prior to May 21, 2019.*

Announcements

PTSA

- The used book fair will be held during the last weekend of March. Boxes for donated books will be available in all three schools.

WPSBA

- 2/28/19 - 7:00 PM - 9:00 PM WPSBA/Superintendent Forum with NY State Legislators
 - Purchase Elementary School, 2995 Purchase St., Purchase, NY 10577

4. Superintendent's Report

District

PYP Study Group - Mr. Berry explained the group was a cross section of 22 participants (teachers, parents and administrators). During the next several months, the group will explore the program to see if it warrants going forward with a recommendation to the Board in the fall. Mr. Berry stressed that this is only an examination and discussion about the program. Lou Marchesano spent two days with the group at Springhurst. The first day he spent observing and speaking to students and teachers. The rest of the time the committee was learning more about the program, which seemed overwhelming at first but by the end of the two days it seemed a little more manageable. The committee will continue to explore the program's offerings and will take part in site visits to other schools to observe how their PYP is working.

Winter Break - February 18-22

NYSED released 2018 graduation data. DFHS 4 year Graduation rate was 98.2%. This is higher than the graduation rates of our neighbors and is significant given the differences in the demographics of the student populations we serve.

The Dress Code revision was shared with Legislative Branch at the HS and will come back to the BOE via the Policy Committee this month. We took feedback shared during the November Work Session to make revisions to the existing dress codes and have standardized the dress code across the schools.

Graduation - parents of seniors were surveyed last month and a majority of families were in favor of keeping the graduation time at 6:30 p.m. as been our past practice. Lisa spoke with the Legislative Branch students about this today. Dr. Falino will be communicating with parents about this tomorrow.

MINUTES

Middle School

Lou Marchesano - While Lou was in the district he spent a day in the MS working with groups of teachers on refining their MYP aligned assessments and ended the day with a full faculty meeting focused on conceptual based learning.

Two DFMS Destination Imagination teams participated in Destination Imagination Instant Challenge Fiesta. These Instant Challenges require incredible team building, creativity, problem-solving, presentation skills, etc. Both teams received great feedback from the judges.

Our 2nd annual 6th grade Science Symposium is scheduled for Friday, 2/15 during periods 2-4. This is the culmination of our interdisciplinary MYP unit.

High School

The 2019-20 Course of Study Guide will be made public this week! Registration for classes will begin after February break!

IB Diploma Recognition! Our full IB Diploma candidates in both the junior and senior class came together earlier this week to share their experiences in Creativity, Activity, and Service (CAS) and Extended Essay (EE). We are also pleased to share that the Class of 2019 has 36 full IB Diploma candidates, an all-time high for DFHS! Congratulations to all!

DFHS Competes in History Bowl! Members of the Dobbs Ferry History Bowl team competed in the Lower Hudson Valley History Bee and Bowl this past weekend at White Plains High School. This regional tournament was especially competitive, attracting teams from schools such as Hunter College HS, Great Neck South, Irvington, Dalton, and Greens Farms Academy, many of whom roster students who are nationally ranked. Our four Dobbs students— Brice Bakker, Ben Fried, Adam Galland, and Max Schneider (all freshmen or sophomores) — displayed both their impressive knowledge of history and competitive spirit through five rounds of regulation play. Great job! #DFHSIB20

Service Learning at DFHS! Our teachers spent time during the half Wednesday working in grade level teams to plan service learning experiences for our students during the second semester

Springhurst

Heading into the month of February Springhurst will be focusing on Random Acts of Kindness. We will also be hosting a character education assembly in conjunction with the DFPD - Omegaman!

Springhurst and the PTSA Diversity Committee are co-sponsoring what is sure to be an incredible assembly: Alvin Ailey Dance Troupe performs on Feb 8th!

5. Committee Reports

5.01 Committee Reports

Student Athletics & Activities - 1/29

- Interact is a Rotary International's service club for young people ages 12 to 18. The local Rivertowns Rotary has met with Lisa about the possibility of partnering with the school district to develop a Dobbs Ferry MS/HS club. Lisa has worked with Interact in the past. Its mission is strictly local and global service so it maps well to our IB program. The District will determine if there is student and faculty interest and if so, develop a regular club proposal for consideration by the BOE.

MINUTES

- Softball Field Maintenance - The district will be moving forward with infield maintenance for the Springhurst softball field. This maintenance is needed to update our current field for our softball teams as well as the youth little league teams.
- We are currently in the process of collecting applications for the head football coaching position. We will be screening applicants and interviewing in mid-February and hopefully will have a candidate in place by early spring.
- Both the varsity boys and girls basketball teams are having outstanding seasons. The topic of whether or not to attend the County Center is currently being discussed amongst the section. Currently, the higher seed has the choice whether they would like to attend if they are hosting a semi-final game. Dobbs Ferry feels our gym is more than capable of handling big crowds and we could host a semifinal game in our gym. We will continue to evaluate what the options are and see what the rest of the Section teams are planning on.
- To receive athletic option, a student must be participating on a Varsity interscholastic team. During their PE time, they must report to academic study or a teacher during their T period. Questions arise from time to time about participating in a sport outside of the school (ex. gymnastics) and can that sports count for athletic option.
- The school will be putting up a temporary fence at Gould park between the baseball field and the pool construction. This will allow the school to have baseball practices and games at Gould Park during the pool and house renovations.

Special Ed - 1/30

- The Committee reviewed the CSE/CPSE recommendations and questions were asked and clarified.

Personnel - 1/30

- The Committee reviewed the Personnel Recommendations on the agenda.
- We are hopeful that we will have a Special Ed Secretary.

Finance - 2/1

- The Committee reviewed tonight's presentation.

6. Correspondence

- The Board acknowledged an Invitation from the PTSA.

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.

The meeting can also be viewed on TV DFTV - Channel 77 & 47 or visit the website for the video of the meeting

8. Reports to the Board

8.01 Superintendent's Proposed Budget - 2019-2020

Dr. Lisa Brady, Superintendent, and Mr. Ron Clamser, Jr., Assistant Superintendent of Finance, Facilities and Operations, presented the proposed 2019-2020 Budget.

2/5/19

MINUTES

Highlights:

- Program Goals
- Key Financial Assumptions
- Tax Levy Cap
- Tax Cap Calculation
- Projected Revenues
- Projected Expenditures
- Salary and Benefits
- Budget Summary
- Historical Trend
- 2019-2020 Budget Preparation Calendar

Discussion:

- The Finance Committee reviewed tonight's presentation on 2/1
- The tax cap calculation was explained
- State Aid numbers are due between 4/1 and the middle of April
- Interest revenues are up from last year
- Salary and Benefit expenditures are contractual
- There has been an increase in assessed value revenues
- The tax levy rate is below the tax levy cap and has been historically since 2012-2013

9. Board Actions

Mr. Reiser moved, and Ms. Baron seconded, that the Board approve Items 9.03, 9.05 and 9.06 as a consent agenda.

Vote: 6 - ayes - 0 nays

Mr. Schwartz moved, and Ms. Kennedy seconded, that the Board approve 9.03, 9.05 and 9.06.

Vote: 6 - ayes - 0 nays

9.03 Budget Transfers

The Board approved the following budget transfers to cover the cost of various maintenance repairs and projects:

Account	Decrease	Increase
A 1620-403-08-9002 Operations Cont Clean	\$52,000	
A 1621-401-08-0000 Maint Projects		\$15,000
A 1621-407-08-0000 Maint-Repairs HVAC		\$37,000

9.05 CSE/CPSE Recommendations

The Board authorized and directed 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 January 28, 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;

MINUTES

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 January 28, 2019.

9.06 Personnel

The Board approved the Civil Service and staff personnel recommendations.

9.01 2019-2020 District Calendar

Mr. Reiser moved, and Ms. Johnson seconded, that the Board adopt the 2019-2020 District Calendar.

Vote: 6 - ayes - 0 nays

9.02 Memorial Humor Fund

Ms. Baron moved, and Mr. Reiser seconded, that the Board create the Bradley and Katherine C. Bolke Memorial Humor Fund.

Dr. Brady explained that Mr. Bolke passed away last month and that it was his wish that the fund continue.

Vote: 6 - ayes - 0 nays

9.04 Partial Tax Exemption For Qualified Persons Aged 65 or Older and For Qualified Persons With Disabilities and Limited Income

Mr. Reiser moved, and Ms. Johnson seconded, that the Board approve the following resolution, however, the language will be amended once the requested changes husband and wife to spouse(s) are reviewed by the District's attorney for being statutorily accurate:

RESOLVED, that real property owned by one or more persons, each of whom is 65 years of age or over, or who qualify as persons with disabilities and limited income as defined by Section 459-c of the Real Property Tax Law, shall be exempt from taxation by the Board of Education of the Dobbs Ferry UFSD of the town of Greenburgh in Westchester County, State of New York, to the extent of 50% of the assessed valuation thereof, subject to the provisions and limitation contained in Sections 467 and 459 of the Real Property Tax Law of the State of New York; provided however, that the property is vested in either the husband or the wife, the combined income of the husband and wife for the income tax year immediately preceding the date of making the application for exemption is \$37,399.99 or less. This exemption would be in effect from July 1, 2019 through June 30, 2020.

Annual Income	Percentage of Assessed Value Exempt from Taxation
Up to and including \$29,000.00	50%
\$29,000.01 to \$29,999.99	45%
\$30,000.00 to \$30,999.99	40%
\$31,000.00 to \$31,999.99	35%
\$32,000.00 to \$32,899.99	30%
\$32,900.00 to \$33,799.99	25%
\$33,800.00 to \$34,699.99	20%
\$34,700.00 to \$35,599.99	15%
\$35,600.00 to \$36,499.99	10%
\$36,500.00 to \$37,399.99	5%
\$37,400.00 or more	Not Eligible

Vote: 6 - ayes - 0 nays

MINUTES

9.07 Policy Revision - First Reading

The Board conducted a first reading of the following policy agreed to move it to second reading:

- 4600 - Counseling & Guidance Program

10. Acknowledgements

10.01 Treasurer's Report

The Board acknowledges receipt of the Treasurer's Reports for November and December 2018.

10.01 Warrants

The Board acknowledged receipt of the following warrants:
Warrant No. 38 and 40 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 discussed the shortage of seating and audio issues at the graduation ceremony last year.

13. New Business

14. Upcoming Meetings

14.01 Calendar

Tuesday, February 26, 2019 - 7:00 PM - Board Room

- Executive Session Only - Tenure Candidates & Probationary Teachers.

Saturday, March 9, 2019 - 9:00 AM - Commons

- 2019-2020 Budget Presentations

Tuesday, March 19, 2019 - 7:00 PM - Commons

15. Adjournment

At 8:15 PM, Ms. Kennedy moved, and Ms. Baron seconded, that the Board adjourn the meeting.

Vote: 6 - ayes - 0 nays

16 Approved Minutes

16.01 Approved Minutes – January 8, 2019

MINUTES



Loretta Tularzko
District Clerk