



MINUTES

Tuesday, February 13, 2018 Regular Board Meeting MS/HS Library Media Center, 7:00 PM

1. Call to Order

2. Meeting Opening 7:00 p.m.

2.01 Pledge of Allegiance

2.02 Roll Call

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; Mr. Douglas Berry, Assistant Superintendent of Curriculum and Instruction; Mr. Ron Clamsen, Jr., Assistant Superintendent of Finance, Facilities and Operations; and Ms. Loretta Tularzko, District Clerk.

2.03 Acceptance of the Agenda

Mr. Reiser moved, and Ms. Johnson seconded, that the Board accept the February 13th Agenda.

Vote: 7 - ayes - 0 nays

2.04 Approval of Minutes

Ms. Baron moved, and Mr. Greengrass seconded, that the Board approve the minutes of the January 9, 2018 meeting.

Vote: 7 - ayes - 0 nays

Ms. Kennedy moved, and Ms. Johnson seconded, that the Board approve the minutes of the January 23, 2018 meeting.

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

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 **Sunday, April 1, 2018**, 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 Requests may be withdrawn if a school is not selected, but **may not be considered if submitted after the deadline).*

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3.02 Board Member Terms of Office

Two terms of office of the Dobbs Ferry Board of Education will be expiring on June 30, 2018:

- *Mr. Jonathan Greengrass and Ms. Shannon Johnson*

*Forms for petitions to run for a seat on the Board of Education will be available in the District Office beginning **Tuesday, February 27, 2018**. Petitions to run as a candidate for the School Board next year must be submitted by the close of business on **Monday, April 16, 2018**. 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 7, 2018** 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 15, 2018.*

4. Superintendent's Report

HS Legislative Branch Update:

Dr. Brady introduced Soo Yon Byeon, Branch President and Nisha Mathur, Vice President who gave a brief description of how the Legislative Branch conducts business.

They will be attending future Board meetings to present an update on their latest issues/concerns. They also shared their thoughts on "Senior Awards".

Schools will be closed for Winter Break - February 19-23

High School Theater Arts Production:

Rosencrantz's Nightmare About Never Seeing the Internet - Thursday, February 15th at 7 p.m.

Open Gym Night - Friday, February 16th (DFYS coalition)

District-Wide Faculty Meeting - February 14th facilitated by Student Assistance Corporation as professional learning for staff about Current Drug Trends. The survey results will be shared with the Wellness Committee at the February meeting and with the BOE at the March 27th BOE Meeting.

DASA Committee - met on February 5th to update the committee on DASA activities in the three schools. All three schools are designated as No Place for Hate Schools.

Traffic Safety - We are working to take the necessary steps to request a School Zone in front of the HS. We have been contacted by Rob Baron on behalf of the PTSA Safe Routes Committee to become involved with the process.

1. Our school district, and any other schools bordering a state road, should write letters to the Village mayor requesting a school zone on Route 9.
2. Then Village needs to send to NYS-DOT a resolution asking for a school speed zone and what type (e.g. M-F school days 7:00AM to 6:00PM), with an accompanying letter describing all the children using the road and provide any other supporting data. In this case, the Village would attach the letters from the other schools along Route 9.

District Dialogue – Dr. Brady interviewed Elizabeth Hobson - new Director of the Dobbs Ferry Library.

Rivertown Diversity Recruitment Fair - April 18

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The consortium met this morning to develop a plan for the first Rivertown Diversity Recruitment Fair which will be held from 5 to 7 p.m. in the Dobbs Ferry Library Media Center. The consortium of Rivertown districts are working with the recommendations made from the Nemnet Workshop in December. They will be sending a letter from the four superintendents to the colleges on the list of Minority Serving Institutions and many professional organizations and resources inviting their students and constituents to the recruitment fair. All four districts will have staff at the fair to meet potential applicants. The districts will also place a combined ad in the New York Times in March.

Follow Up to Awards Work Session

Middle School:

- MS awards will no longer be included at Stepping Up. At least for the time being, we will continue with the awards but they will be scheduled for a morning in June for the 40 students who receive awards and their families.

Senior Awards Night

- The program will be streamlined and will be no longer than 2 hours.
- A letter will be sent to the people and organizations presenting awards. Each organization has the opportunity to provide a 200 word description of their organization and their awards for inclusion in a printed program. Presenters will be given two minutes of time to present their award.
- A program will be designed and distributed the evening of the awards.
- Lisa is happy to meet with any individual or organization requiring more information and/or assistance.
- IB Diploma students will not be recognized at Awards Night since they will be recognized at graduation.

Athletic/Music/Theater Awards

- Will be retained as part of the Senior Awards Night

Academic Awards (HS)

- Lisa has met with the Legislative Branch students who made the following recommendation:
 - To keep the end of the year awards but eliminate the ceremony portion of the program in the morning in June.
 - Soo Yon Byeon and Nisha Mathur expressed that school awards are considered a plus on college applications in certain instances, so it is important to still have them.

5. Committee Reports

5.01 Committee Reports

Curriculum & Instruction - 1/24

- Springhurst after School Math Academy – beginning 2/28
 - Julia Drake and Josh Rosen updated the committee on plans for the launching of the Springhurst
 - BOE allocated funds for the program at 10/24 meeting
 - The majority of the approximately 40 students do not currently receive any support during the school day
 - Groups will meet twice per week for 5 weeks
 - Each session will be 60 minutes
 - Grades 1-5
- Update on Leveled Literacy Intervention Program
 - Michelle Kaczmarek reported out that the number of books that students are reading has increased a lot since the implementation of the program. Kids are looking forward to reading and they are excited about the books. They have a formula that they use when discussing the books.
 - There has been some really incredible growth for the students.

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- School Calendar
 - A draft of the 2018-2019 School Calendar was shared.

Personnel - 2/6

- The Committee reviewed the Personnel Recommendations and committee questions were addressed.
- The February 27th BOE Meeting will be an Executive Session to review Tenure Candidates and new teachers.

Special Education - 2/6

- Reviewed CSE and CPSE recommendations and current numbers.
- Annual Reviews beginning in February.
- The Committee reviewed the SE Annual Report and suggested an additional slide of successes.
- In addition to the traditional information that is shared, the Committee discussed augmenting the BOE Report to include and show the many educational pathways and opportunities available for our students. Erin will work on this with Doug.
- Building Bridges is wrapping up for this year. Grade 6 is doing a unit on Executive Functioning. We are going to be piloting a program with students in Grade 8 related to emotional issues with a focus on Mindfulness.
- There will be a Work Session on Special Education on May 1st. The Committee will be working on the content of this learning opportunity.
- The committee reviewed the Regulation for the Policy Use of Time Out Rooms. Erin will check with Gary and to make sure that the Policy and Regulation are aligned.

Facilities - 2/6

- All capital projects will be done on time
- Auditorium Audit Update
 - Stage Rigging will be completed by completed by an outside firmy.
 - Balcony Seats - will be installed February 23 over the break and with the ceiling resurfacing.
- Active Learning Furniture - the District is approaching this with a combination of "trial" in some classrooms and exploring what is available and what is working in other schools and Districts.
- The Cell Tower may be installed at Springhurst since it cannot be enclosed in the HS bell tower.
- Springhurst phone issue was caused by rerouting the trunk calls from SH to the HS and back to SH and an T1 issue.

Finance - 2/6

- 2018-19 Budget Development Update
 - The Committee reviewed and provided feedback on the presentation of the Proposed Budget for 2018-2019.
 - The emphasis of the proposed budget is on the instructional program, social and emotional health and wellness and maintains all existing programs. The proposed budget is below the tax cap.

6. Correspondence

6.01 Letter

The Board acknowledged a letter regarding athletics.

7. Citizen's Comments

7.01 Notice

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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.

None.

*Please view the entire live streaming of the meeting on our website,
TV DFTV - Channel 77 & 47 for full details or visit the website for the video of the meeting*

8. Reports to the Board

8.01 Superintendent's Proposed Budget - 2018-2019

Dr. Lisa Brady, Superintendent, and Mr. Ron Clamser, Jr., Assistant Superintendent of Finance, Facilities and Operations, presented the proposed 2018-2019 Budget.

- Program Goals in the 2018-2019 Budget
- Key Financial Assumptions in the 2018-2019 Budget
- Tax Levy Cap
- 2018-2019 Tax Levy Cap Calculation
- Estimated Sources of Revenue
- Projected Expenditures
- Salary and Benefits – Represent 78% of the Budget
- Projected Tax Calculation
- Proposed 2018-2019 Budget Statistics
- Changes Over the Years
- 2018-2019 Budget Preparation Calendar
- Budget Presentations Schedule – Saturday, March 10, 2018

Comments

- Mr. Clamser publicly thanked Ms. Fassler-Wallach for preparing the initial budget before she left for her new position
- Middle School will increase from five sections of core classes to six
- A social worker will be added for additional social and emotional support for students K-12
- An additional nurse will be added to provide assistance to the two current nurses
- No union contracts are outstanding
- Tax Levy Cap is here to stay
- Mr. Clamser explained the Tax Cap calculation and the Projected Tax calculation

8.02 Special Education Update

Dr. Erin Vredenburg, Director of Special Education, updated the Board on our Special Education program. She thanked the Board, Administrators, teachers, her clerical support from Ms. Frasca, Ms. Donofrio and Ms. Flanagan for their support.

- Acronyms
- Tonight's Area of Focus
 - Annual update on numbers
 - Snapshots of Success
- Special Educations Totals (in District)
 - 183 all three schools
- Out of District Placements
 - 12 all three schools

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- Number of Special Education Students (in/Out of District) compared to total enrollment
 - 207 – 1484 (13.9%)
- 504 Accommodation Plans
 - 118 all three schools
- CPSE to CSE
- Snapshots of Success

Comments:

- Percentages our special education students with IEPs as compared to other Districts is hard to calculate but Dr. Vredenburg will investigate
- The 8-1-3 classes are very doing very well. The students are responding very positively.

9. Board Actions

9.01 2018-2019 District Calendar

Ms. Kennedy moved, and Mr. Schwartz seconded, that the Board adopt the 2018-2019 District Calendar.

It will be posted to the web tomorrow.

Vote: 7 - ayes - 0 nays

9.02 Supplemental Memorandum of Agreement - CSEA

Ms. Kennedy moved, and Ms. Baron seconded, that the Board approve of the following:

BE IT RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education hereby approves the terms of a Supplemental Memorandum of Agreement dated February 5, 2018, between the District and CSEA, Local 1000, AFSCME, AFL-CIO, Dobbs Ferry UFSD Clerical, Teacher Aide/Teaching Assistants Unit, Westchester County Local 860, Unit #8210-02, as presented to the Board at this meeting, a copy of which Supplemental Memorandum of Agreement shall be incorporated by reference within the minutes of this meeting.

Vote: 7 - ayes - 0 nays

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

Mr. Greengrass moved, and Ms. Johnson seconded, that the Board approve the following resolution:

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, 2018 through June 30, 2019.

<u>Annual Income</u>	<u>Percentage of Assessed Value Exempt from Taxation</u>
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%

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\$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: 7 - ayes - 0 nays

9.04 Participation in SWBOCES Bids

Mr. Schwartz moved, and Ms. Johnson seconded, that the Board agree that the District participate with other school districts of the Southern Westchester Board of Cooperative Educational Services in joint bidding for the remaining school year as per the attached list, as amended.

Vote: 7 - ayes - 0 nays

9.05 CSE/CPSE

Mr. Schwartz moved, and Mr. Greengrass seconded, that the Board 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 January 26, 2018 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 January 26, 2018.

Vote: 7 - ayes - 0 nays

9.06 Personnel

Ms. Baron moved, and Mr. Reiser seconded, that the Board approve the Civil Service and staff personnel recommendations.

Vote: 7 - ayes - 0 nays

9.07 Policy Revision - First Reading

The Board conducted a first reading of the following policies:

- 6240 - Investments
- 6700 - Purchasing
- 9700 - Staff Development

All three policies will move to second reading at an upcoming meeting.

10. Acknowledgements

10.01

The Board acknowledged receipt of the Treasurer's Report for November and December 2017.

10.02 Warrants

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The Board acknowledged receipt of the following warrants:
Warrant No. 29, 31 and 33 Multi.

11. Citizen's Comments

11.01 Notice

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The PTSA will be hosting another Soup Night on March 16th from 6:30pm to 9:00pm simultaneously during one night of the Used Book Sale being held on March 15, 16, & 17. Collections will be taken until March 13th. Fifteen restaurants will participate in the Soup Night.

Five members of the PTSA traveled to Albany to the NYS Legislature.

12. Old Business

None.

13. New Business

The 2018-2019 Board of Education reorganizational meeting will be held on Monday, July 2nd at 7:00 PM.

14. Upcoming Meetings

14.01 Calendar

Tuesday, February 27, 2018 - 7:00 PM - Board Room

- Executive Session - Tenure Candidate Discussions - Principals

Saturday, March 10, 2018 - 9:00 AM - Commons

- Proposed Budget Presentations

Tuesday, March 27, 2018 - 7:00 PM – Commons

- 2017 Prevention Needs Assessment Survey

15. Adjournment

At 9:30 PM, Mr. Schwartz moved, and Ms. Baron seconded, that the Board adjourn the meeting.

Vote: 7 - ayes - 0 nays



Loretta Tularzko
District Clerk