

# MINUTES



**Tuesday, March 19, 2019  
Regular Board Meeting  
MS/HS Media Center, 7:00 PM**

## **1. Call to Order**

## **2. Meeting Opening 7:09 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. Reiser moved, and Ms. Baron seconded, that the Board accept the March 19th Agenda.

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 Requests may be withdrawn if a school is not selected, but **may not** be considered if submitted after the deadline).*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

*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 are available in the District Office. Petitions to run as a candidate for the School Board next year must be submitted by the close of*

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*business 5:00 PM 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

WPSBA

Annual Education Law Workshop on March 22, 2019 - 8:00 am - 12:00 pm - WPSBA Offices - 450 Mamaroneck Ave., 3rd Floor, Harrison - (park in upper back lot and take middle ramp to SW BOCES entrance on 3rd floor).

Prospective School Board Member Workshop - April 11, 2019 - 7:00 pm—9:15 pm -Pleasantville HS Library - 60 Romer Ave, Pleasantville

The PTSA is still collecting books for the Used Book Fair until March 25<sup>th</sup>. They are also in need of reusable bags and cardboard boxes.

Ms. Johnson attended the Education Policy Fellowship Program in Washington, DC last week. They conducted a congressional simulations, visited Think Tanks, attended breakout sessions – one on how to attract a diverse teaching staff and one with Rosco Jones - lessons from the Civil Rights Movement and Freedom Schools.

Mr. Schwartz, Ms. Kennedy and Ms. Lucasey announced that they will be seeking re-election to the Board of Education in May.

### 4. Superintendent's Report

District

No School - Friday, March 22.

Standardized Testing Letter - being sent electronically to parents on Thursday

Wellness Committee Update

Wellness Fair - May 15<sup>th</sup> for MS students from 8 - 11 am

New Cafeteria Website:

Kathy Weinborg has been working very closely with Aramark and is anticipating the launch of an informational webpage in the upcoming weeks. This webpage would include all nutritional content and ingredients of the food served throughout the cafeteria. As soon as the webpage is finalized, a K-12 blast will be sent out to inform the community. The interactive website will show all ingredients included in the food as well as all nutritional information. The website also shares USDA information, seasonal tips and expert advice from dieticians.

Rebecca Wing has invited Live on NY to the District. They will be speaking to the students and providing education on what organ donation is <https://www.liveonny.org/>

The Blood Drive will be taking place on April 4<sup>th</sup> in the Middle School gymnasium. The blood drive is open to eligible students as well as the community. Additional information will be blasted out as the event gets closer.

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### Youth Services Update:

Dobbs Ferry students created a public service announcement that encourages dialogue with parents addressing Juuling/Vaping. Prevention Education is currently occurring in 7th grade health class with Kelly Foster.

HRCE Classes Registration currently underway. There are various classes such as, Yoga, Ballroom Dancing, Stained Glass Making, Watercolor, Italian, Retirement Planning, Tango, Knitting and Zumba.

### High School

Destination Imagination. Congratulations to the DF Destination Imagination team on finishing second overall yesterday and first in the Instant Challenge. The team will move on to the state competition in Binghamton.

Congratulations to Jed Katzenstein who is one of the WESEF International Finalists. This is the Grand Prize at WESEF. He won an all-expense paid trip the International Science and Engineering Fair in Arizona. There he will compete in the most prestigious science fair in the world. Please congratulate Jed, and all our amazing researchers, on all their hard work and accomplishments..

Shout out to our WESEF Award Winners.

1st Place - Jamie Kramer and Jed Katzenstein

2nd Place - Zachar Hankewycz, Shirin Dadina, and Abigail Bayer-Mertens Human

4th Place - Jolie McDonnell and Andrew Schwabe

Intel Excellence in Computer Science Award - Zachar Hankewycz

Critica Behavioral Science Award - Isabel Long

Society for In Vitro Biology Award - Miraj Pithadia

International Feast is this Wednesday.

Dr. Falino is in Seattle for IB training on "student well-being and leadership." He will join the SEL Team.

DFHS faculty had two sessions with Jennifer Monness on meditation and mindfulness.

Model UN. At the annual WESTMUNC Model UN conference, hosted by Hastings High School, Dobbs Ferry students worked to solve real UN issues while representing various countries. Freshmen Adam Galland and Felix Danishmend, representing Malaysia in SOCHUM took home the Best Delegate Award. Congrats to all for their hard work and dedication.

### Middle School

Congratulations to the two DFMS Destination Imagination teams and their coaches, Ellen Flaks, Felicia Palumbo and Matt Stern on their Regional Tournament in Ossining Saturday.

The MS was well represented in the 10th annual District Orchestra Concert. All the students performed beautifully and the auditorium was full of proud family and friends. Big thanks to Adrienne Fuller and David Hertzberg

This Thursday the 8th graders will participate in the DFMS Career Day. Some of the careers being represented are: Hospitality, Performing Arts, TV/Broadcast News, and Law/Gov't.

### Springhurst

On Monday 3/11, 3rd grade students began their second Mindfulness Unit (taking place during Physical Education Class). Jennifer Monness is leading the sessions thanks to the support of the Dobbs Ferry School Foundation this time around. Additionally, the students all enjoyed the opportunity to use brand new yoga mats this time purchased through the DFSF grant that Julia Drake authored earlier this year to support this work.

Community involvement: Sgt. Kamke has been leading Safety Talks in Kindergarten. Dr. Hough came to speak to our kindergarten students last week as well.

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On Monday 3/18, Springhurst hosted a FLES Collegial Circle. For the past two years, Kenya Paterra has been participating in a FLES Collegial Circle at BOCES which includes many FLES teachers from Westchester and Rockland counties. This group meets to discuss best practices, curriculum, and to share ideas about assessments, student-centered activities, and many other topics. For their visit to Springhurst, the group of 20 observed Kenya Paterra and a visiting teacher conduct FLES lessons in different grades and then met to discuss and debrief.

### Coming Up:

Parent-Teacher Conferences, are tomorrow Wednesday March 20th from 12:00-3:00 & 5:00-8:00 as well as Wednesday March 27th from 12:00-3:00

PTSA Used Book Fair- Gym, 9:00-8:00 (March 28-30)

Springhurst International Feast for students - M-16, 8:30-2:00 (During student regular lunch times March 28)

### Athletics:

At the end of each sports season, the New York State Public High School Athletic Association honors those students/teams that excel within the classroom. The following varsity teams have been recognized by the NYSPHSAA as Scholar-Athlete teams at Dobbs Ferry High School. The scholar-athlete team is defined as 75% of the team receiving a 90% GPA or higher:

Girls Basketball

Girls Winter Track and Field

Boys Winter Track and Field

Ski

Congratulations to our student-athletes for their hard work in achieving this prestigious award.

### Winter Athletic Highlights:

Girls basketball went 17-6 and made it to the semi finals at the County Center

Boys Basketball wo the League, Section (Gold Ball), Regional Finalist

Boys Indoor Track won All Section

The following individuals made it to the state meet for their respective sports:

Olivia Deakins: Ski

Cole Gingham and Jelani Williams: Indoor Track

Sam Andrews: Swim

## 5. Committee Reports

### 5.01 Committee Reports

#### Curriculum & Instruction – 2/27

- The Committee met to review the 2018 NY grade 3-8 ELA and Math results as well as the Middle School Regents results
- Once the data has been studied and put into a presentable format, Mr. Berry will update the Board with the results.

#### School & Community Relations - 2/28

- Capital Projects Communication Timeline
  - March 26 Facilities Committee Meeting
  - April 23 Public Presentation - Community Input/Feedback (MS/HS Campus)
  - May 2 Public Presentation - Community Input/Feedback (Springhurst)
  - May 28 Final Project Presentation
  - June 11 BOE Vote
- Advertorials - we can increase the number of these
- Spanish Translation Requirement - There is a new federal law which applies to Westchester County due to the number of Latino community members which requires that all budget and election information and materials be available in Spanish. Lisa met with Marion Halberg and will

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work with Judy Sanseverino (Springhurst ELL teacher) to identify parent resources. Copies of the budget newsletter translated into Spanish will be made available at the Food Pantry, Cabrini Immigrant Services, local churches, the library and other places where the community can access this information.

## Special Ed - 3/12

- The Committee reviewed the CSE/CPSE recommendations and questions were asked and clarified.
- The Committee reviewed the Special Education numbers and the numbers for 504 Plans.
- Erin updated the committee on the special class ratio progression for the classes.
  - Springhurst: 6-1-2 (6 students, 1 teacher, 2 Teaching Assistants)
  - Middle School: 8-1-3 (8 students, 1 teacher, 3 Teaching Assistants)
  - High School: 12-1-4 (12 students, 1 teacher, 4 Teaching Assistants)

## 6. Correspondence

## 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 Tri-State Consortium Revisit

Dr. Lisa Brady thanked Mr. Berry for his coordination and leadership in this endeavor. Mr. Berry explained the Tri-States Consortium process from the beginning until this revisit.

Presentation included discussion on the following:

- What is the Tri-State Consortium?
- Becoming a member of Tri-State
- A Sampling of Local Consortium Districts
- Consortium Visit – Technology Integration
- District Technology Committee
- Provide Additional Integration Support
- Development of K-12 Skills and Concepts Framework
- Communicating what we do/partnering with the Community
- Other Related Actions
- Identified Next Steps
- Tri-State Consultancy Debrief
  - Next Steps/Suggestions/Questions/Thoughts
- Next Tri-State Visit
  - March 2020
  - Focus TBD – Supporting Civic Engagement
  - Need to develop essential questions

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## 9. Board Actions

### 9.01 Settlement of a Tax Certiorari Proceeding

Mr. Schwartz moved, and Ms. Johnson seconded, that the Board authorize its attorneys, Shaw Perelson, May & Lambert, LLP to execute a Consent Judgment in a tax certiorari proceeding captioned Beacon Hill Estates Cooperative, Inc. v. Town of Greenburgh and Dobbs Ferry Union Free School District.

**AND IT IS FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Board authorize the refund of taxes as required by the terms of the Consent Judgment.

Vote: 6 - ayes - 0 nays

Mr. Reiser moved, and Ms. Kennedy seconded, that the Board approve Items 9.02, 9.03, 9.04 and 9.05 as a consent agenda.

Vote: 6 - ayes - 0 nays

Ms. Baron moved, and Mr. Schwartz seconded, that the Board approve 9.02, 9.03, 9.04 and 9.05.

Vote: 6 - ayes - 0 nays

### 9.02 Settlement of a Tax Certiorari Proceeding

The Board authorized its attorneys, Shaw Perelson, May & Lambert, LLP to execute a Consent Judgment in a tax certiorari proceeding captioned Vahid Noshirvani, ET AL. v. Town of Greenburgh and Dobbs Ferry Union Free School District.

**AND IT IS FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Board authorized the refund of taxes as required by the terms of the Consent Judgment.

### 9.03 Budget Transfer

The Board approved the following budget transfer to cover BOCES shared payroll service:

Account	Decrease	Increase
A 1310-160-00-8110 Business Office	\$35,000	
A 1310-490-00-0000 Bus Office BOCES Services		\$35,000

### 9.04 Budget Transfer

The Board approved the following budget transfer to reconcile BOCES special education tuitions:

Account	Decrease	Increase
A 2250-490-03-7200 Spec Ed-BOCES 9-12	\$80,000	
A 2250-490-01-7200 Spec Ed-BOCES K-5		\$80,000

Vote: 6 - ayes - 0 nays

### 9.05 CSE/CPSE Recommendations

The Board authorized and directed the following:

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WHEREAS the Committee on Special Education and Committee on Pre-School Special Education had issued to the Board by written confidential report dated March 11, 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 March 11, 2019.

## 9.06 Personnel Resolution

Mr. Reiser moved, and Ms. Baron seconded, that the Board rescind the suspension of Employee No. 030119.

Vote: 6 - ayes - 0 nays

## 9.07 Personnel

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

Vote: 6 - ayes - 0 nays

## 10. Acknowledgements

### 10.01 Warrant

The Board acknowledged receipt of the following warrant:  
Warrant No. 47 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 will send their suggested details for the Student Agency and Alternative Pathways remaining Work Session topics.

## 13. New Business

### 13.01 SWBOCES 2019 Voting Material for voting on April 23, 2019

The Board will review the material prior to their vote on April 23, 2019.

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## 14. Upcoming Meetings

### 14.01 Calendar

#### Tuesday, April 9, 2019 – 7:00 PM – MS/HS Library

- Finalization of 2019-2020 Budget and Budget Adoption
- Revenue Forecast

#### Tuesday, April 23, 2019 –7:00 PM - MS/HS Library

- SWBOCES Vote
- Capital Project Plan Presentation

There will be a Facilities Committee meeting on March 26 which is open to the Public to have further discussions on the Capital Plan proposal. Prospective Candidates are encouraged to attend since they may be sworn in prior to the Board adopting the proposed Capital Project. The Architect will attend the April 23 Board meeting.

## 15. Executive Session

### 15.01 Executive Session

At 8:20 PM, Ms. Kennedy moved, and Ms. Baron seconded, that the Board recess into Executive Session for the following purpose: *to discuss the employment history of specific personnel*. It is not anticipated that the Board will return to public session to take any action(s).

Vote: 6 - ayes - 0 nays

Mr. Reiser moved, and Ms. Baron seconded, to appoint Ms. Johnson as Clerk Pro Tem.

Vote: 6 ayes - 0 nays

At 8:32 PM, Mr. Schwartz moved, and Ms. Kennedy seconded, to move back to the Public Meeting.

Vote: 6 ayes - 0 nays

## 15. Adjournment

At 8:32 PM, Ms. Baron moved, and Ms. Kennedy seconded, that the Board adjourn the meeting.

Vote: 6 - ayes - 0 nays

## 16 Approved Minutes

### 16.01 Approved Minutes – February 5 and 27, 2019



Loretta Tularzko  
District Clerk