

# MINUTES



## Thursday, January 7, 2016 Business Board Meeting MS/HS Library, 7:00 PM

### 1. Call to Order

### 2. Meeting Opening - 7:02 p.m.

Mr. Schwartz called the meeting to order.

In attendance, Mr. Louis Schwartz, Vice President; Ms. Tracy Baron; Mr. Robert Reiser; Mr. Jonathan Greengrass; Ms. Jean Lucasey; Ms. Shannon Johnson; Dr. Lisa Brady, Superintendent; Ms. Sylvia Fassler-Wallach, Assistant Superintendent of Finance, Facilities and Operations; Mr. Douglas Berry, Assistant Superintendent of Curriculum and Instruction and Ms. Loretta Tularzko, District Clerk.

Mr. Michael Goldman, Board President was not in attendance.

### 2.01 Pledge of Allegiance

### 2.02 Acceptance of the Agenda

Mr. Greengrass moved, and Mr. Reiser seconded, that the Board accept the January 7th Agenda.

Vote: 6 ayes - 0 nays

### 2.03 Approval of Minutes

The approval of the minutes for the December 3, 2015 meeting was tabled until the next business meeting when a quorum of attendees for that meeting will be present.

Mr. Reiser moved, and Ms. Baron seconded, that the Board approve the minutes of the December 17, 2015 meeting.

Vote: 5 ayes - 0 nays – 1 abstention – Mr. Greengrass

Ms. Baron moved, and Ms. Johnson seconded, that the Board approve the minutes of the December 22, 2015 meeting.

Vote: 4 ayes - 0 nays – 2 abstentions – Mr. Schwartz and Ms. Lucasey

### 3. Announcements

None.

### 4. Superintendent's Report

- Affordable Care Act Requirements
  - An overview will follow during the Finance Committee report
  - Please see the presentation in BoardDocs for details

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- Congratulations to Nikolas Greenwald on winning semifinalist in the Intel Science Talent Search competition
- Wellness Committee met last week
  - Primary focus was a discussion of the current Wellness Policy, that consists of many embedded regulations, and whether there is a need for separate regulations
  - Kathy Weinborg will research to see where /how nutritional/caloric content of the food served in cafeteria can be obtained by the buyer, i.e., POS/website link to Aramark
- Wellness Fair Committee met this afternoon
  - The original date for the fair will be changed to allow for preparation and scheduling
  - We have 30 resources to hold breakout sessions
  - A speaker has been identified
  - Thank you to the Dobbs Ferry Youth Council for their financial support
- Reminder – All schools will be closed Monday, January 18 for Martin Luther King
- Middle School
  - Tomorrow the Middle School will hold a Building Bridges session for the first time – topic will be Autism presented by Ms. Vredenburgh
  - The focus for the 6<sup>th</sup> grade Career Day hasn't been determined yet
  - A MS team along with Dr. Brady are working on the creation of a cross content rubric for Critical Thinking with Ms. Giselle Martin-Kniep
    - This rubric will map to our District goals
- High School
  - The date for the IB Information Night is incorrect in the PTSA calendar. The correct date is February 4<sup>th</sup> at 6:30pm in the Commons
  - February 9<sup>th</sup> – Grade 8 pigtzZcParent Chat
  - Scheduling pre-registration will be available on line in Feb/Mar
  - Study guide will be available in Feb
  - Mid-terms will be held during the week of January 25<sup>th</sup> – schedules will be available on the website under the Spotlight section
  - Alumni Day was held in December
    - 30 alumni attended
    - Two colleges gave a full year of college credits for IB courses
    - Alumni felt they were very prepared for college including a student attending Harvard
  - An AP Computer Science course will be available next year for grades 9-12
    - Designed from a K-12 perspective
    - Basic course – fundamentals
    - High level course – will include programming
- Springhurst
  - January 15<sup>th</sup> - 4<sup>th</sup> grade Colonial Day
  - January 15<sup>th</sup> - 3<sup>rd</sup> grade Google Reality
  - January 21<sup>st</sup> – 22<sup>nd</sup> – 23<sup>rd</sup> - Grades K – 2 – 1 Compost Kids
  - January 25<sup>th</sup> - Science Workshop
  - January 28<sup>th</sup> - 4<sup>th</sup> & 5<sup>th</sup> grade winter concert
  - January 29<sup>th</sup> –Family Math Night with Mr. Rosen and the Math teachers

### 5.01 BOE Committees

SE Subcommittee  
Personnel  
Facilities  
Finance

- Special Education Subcommittee – Overview
  - Linda Schluter will hold another meeting for parents of students with IEP's and 504's on January 14 at 7:00 PM
  - Linda Schluter will present her preliminary Special Education recommendations to the Board at the January 21<sup>st</sup> Work Session
  - The Board would like Linda Schulter to explain her definition of inclusion
- Personnel Committee - Overview
  - Reviewed items for tonight's agenda
  - Received an update on the DFUT negotiations

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- The February 25<sup>th</sup> Board Meeting will be an Executive Session only for the Board to discuss the tenure candidates and the probationary teachers
- Facilities Committee
  - The likelihood of the capital project work beginning in the summer of 2016 is very slim at this point. The SED had a change in staff (again) and project review continues to move very slowly. The committee discussed concerns regarding the escalation of costs due to the delay which will impact the scope of what can be done in the project, especially with alternates to the project.
  - The committee discussed finishes for the Library/Innovation Lab space:
    - KG&D will take the feedback from the committee and come back with some new possible color schematics.
- Finance Committee
  - Affordable Care Act Compliance
    - Many Districts hired consultants to manage this, however, this is not necessary for our District due to the low number of part-time employees in our District and the level of oversight of this information in the Business Office.
    - Thank you to the Business Office and Ms. Gibbs
    - Our health insurance carrier SWSCHP is well informed of the regulations
  - The Committee reviewed the Budget Status Report for presentation at tonight's meeting
  - School Supplies
    - The increased cost burden on parents and whether this cost could be reduced for parents was discussed. Dr. Brady contacted the other River Town schools and learned that the requests made by our grade-level teachers were not unusual. She has also asked principals to be more attuned to the school supply requests.

### 6. Correspondence

The Board acknowledged an email regarding the live streaming of the Board meetings.

### 7. Citizen's Comments

#### 7.01 Notice

***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.

### 8. Reports to the Board

#### 8.01 Special Education Update

Ms. Erin Vredenburgh, Director of Special Education, presented an update on Special Education.

- Acronyms
- Tonight's Area of Focus
- Special Education Totals (In District)
- K-12 Special Education (In District)
- Out of District Placements
- Number of Special Education Students (In and Out of District) compared to Total Enrollment
- All Students by Disability
- 504 Accommodation Plans
- CPSE to CSE

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- Referrals
- Things to Know
- Questions

Comments/Questions:

- Other Health Impairment category includes such disabilities as ADHD, Dyslexia
- 504 Plan – is for a general education students that need an accommodation or modification
- No student would need both an IEP and a 504 Plan
- Tomorrow the MS will hold a Building Bridges session on Autism presented by Ms. Vredenburg
  - Thank you to the PTSA for their support
  - Thank you to the 7<sup>th</sup> grade team and students
- The Board has requested to receive Ms. Schulter's preliminary recommendations prior to the formal presentation on 1/21

## 8.02 Budget Status Report

Ms. Sylvia Fassler-Wallach, Assistant Superintendent of Finance, Facilities and Operations, reported on the 2015-2016 Budget Status.

- Projected Revenues Compared to Budgeted Revenues at December 31, 2015
- Projected Expenditures Less than Budgeted Expenditures at December 31, 2015
- Projected Change in Fund Balance
- Additional Proposed Expenditures Not Budgeted in 2015-2016
- Reserve Funds Balances
- Recommended Fund Balance Options

Comments/Questions:

- Ms. Fassler-Wallach will give an update on the Homestead Tax Option at a future meeting
- Schools supplies
  - Will the use of more technology cut down on supply costs?
  - The Board requested a grid of parent costs for school supplies, out of pocket cost for trips and other miscellaneous costs by grade

## 9. Board Actions

### 9.01 Budget Transfer

Ms. Lucasey moved, and Ms. Baron seconded, that the Board approve the following budget transfer to transfer funds to pay for outplacements:

Accounts to Decrease	Amount	Account to Increase	Amount
A2250.490.00.7200	\$200,000.00	A2250.470.00.0000	\$200,000.00
Special Education - BOCES		Special Education - Tuition	
Total	\$200,000.00	Total	\$200,000.00

Vote: 6 - ayes - 0 nays

### 9.02 8th Grade Washington, DC Trip

Mr. Greengrass moved, and Ms. Johnson seconded, that the Board approve the 8th Grade field trip to Washington, DC - June 1 to June 3, 2016.

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Going forward, Board approval of the 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Washington, DC trip will be added to the reorganization meeting in July.

Vote: 6 - ayes - 0 nays

### **9.03 CSE/CPSE**

Ms. Lucasey moved, and Mr. Greengrass seconded, that the Board authorize and direct 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 December 21, 2015 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 December 21, 2015.

Vote: 6 ayes - 0 nays

### **9.04 Personnel**

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

Vote: 6 - ayes - 0 nays

### **9.05 Policy Revisions**

The Board conducted a second reading of policy 1230 – Public Participation at Board Meetings.

Mr. Reiser moved, and Ms. Johnson seconded, that the Board adopt the policy as amended:

Vote: 6 - ayes - 0 nays

## **10. Acknowledgements**

### **10.01 Treasurer's Report**

The Board acknowledged receipt of the Treasurer's Report for November, 2015.

### **10.02 Warrants**

The Board acknowledged receipt of the following warrants:  
Warrant No. 24 and 28 Multi and 27 Medicare.

## **11. Old Business**

Extracurricular activities and T-Periods will be reviewed by the Student Athletics and Activities Committee. Their next meeting will be held on January 20th.

January 21<sup>st</sup> – Linda Schluter – Preliminary Special Education Recommendations

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### 12. New Business

None.

### 13. Upcoming Meetings

#### 13.01 Calendar

##### Thursday, January 21, 2016 – 7:00 PM – MS/HS Library

- Work Session –Preliminary Special Education Recommendations - Linda Schluter

##### Thursday, February 4, 2016 - 7:00 PM – MS/HS Library

- Proposed 2016-2017 Budget Presentation
- The Finance Committee will review the proposed budget at their next meeting scheduled for January 28th.

### 14. Adjournment

At 8.37 PM, Mr. Reiser moved, and Ms. Lucasey seconded, to adjourn the meeting.

Vote: 6 ayes - 0 nays

### 15. Approved Minutes

#### 15.01 Approved Minutes – November 5 and November 19, 2015



District Clerk