



**Tuesday, March 21, 2017
Regular Board Meeting
Commons, 7:00 PM**

1. Call to Order

2. Regular Meeting Opening 7:05 p.m.

Ms. Tracy Baron, President; Ms. Jean Lucasey, Vice President; Mr. Robert Reiser; Mr. Jonathan Greengrass; Mr. Louis Schwartz; Ms. Shannon Johnson; Ms. Rita Kennedy; Dr. Lisa Brady, Superintendent; Mr. Douglas Berry, Assistant Superintendent of Curriculum and Instruction and Ms. Loretta Tularzko, District Clerk.

Ms. Sylvia Fassler-Wallach, Assistant Superintendent of Finance, Facilities and Operations was not in attendance.

2.01 Pledge of Allegiance

2.02 Acceptance of the Agenda

Mr. Reiser moved, and Mr. Greengrass seconded, that the Board accept the March 21st Agenda.

Vote: 7 - ayes - 0 nays

2.03 Approval of Minutes

Mr. Reiser moved, and Ms. Kennedy seconded, that the Board approve the minutes of the February 7 and 28, 2017 meetings.

Vote: 7 - 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 **Saturday, April 1, 2017**, 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 Requests may be withdrawn if a school is not selected, but **may not be considered if submitted after the deadline).*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

Two terms of office of the Dobbs Ferry Board of Education will be expiring on June 30, 2017:

- *Ms. Tracy Baron and Mr. Robert Reiser*

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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 business on **Monday, April 17, 2017**. Twenty-five signatures of qualified voters in the district are required.

Ms. Baron and Mr. Reiser both announced that they will be seeking re-election on the Board.

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 8, 2017** 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 16, 2017.

4. Superintendent's Report

Dr. Brady wanted to publicly thank the Board, administrators, staff and community members for their extra kind support following the death of her father last week.

5. Committee Reports

5.01 Committee Reports

Facilities/Finance - 3/16

The committees discussed the following:

- Carpet and furniture for the library
- We will complete the library ceiling this summer
- At the inception of the current capital projects, it was anticipated that the District would use BANs for the first four years and then issue bonds for permanent financing. As the market has changed and is expected to continue to change, it is in the best interest of the District to secure permanent financing in July 2017 and lock in interest rates. This will increase the annual payments above the current year's payments for three years. As the District committed to not increasing the annual payments, the increased payments will be offset by using reserves for the 2018-2019, 2019-2020 and 2020-2021 fiscal years.
- There was a discussion about facilities use fees. The District has not charged any organizations for field use since mainly only Dobbs Ferry organizations have been using its fields. Rentals of the gymnasiums, auditorium and classrooms are rented at the rates stated on the Regulation Covering the Use of the School Facilities.
- AYSO will not be charged for this year. The committee will consider appropriate charges for next year.

6. Correspondence

The Board acknowledged correspondence regarding personnel.

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.

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8. Reports to the Board

Please view the entire meeting on TV DFTV - Channel 75 & 47 for full details or visit the website for the video of the presentations. Business Board meetings are also live-streamed during the meeting.

8.01 Counseling Services Report

Ms. Erin Vredenburg, Director of Special Education and Ms. Candace Reim, High School, Assistant Principal, updated the Board on the District's counseling services.

- Areas of focus for tonight's update
- Who are the members of the counseling and mental health team?
- What is the role of the Middle School Counselor?
- What is the role of the High School Counselor?
- What is the role of the Student Assistance Counselor (SAC)?
- What is the role of the school social worker at Springhurst?
- What is the role of the school social worker at DFMS and DFHS?
- What is the role of the school psychologist at Springhurst?
- What is the role of the school psychologist at DFMS and DFHS?
- What do I do if I'M concerned about my child's social/emotional needs?
- Next Steps?

Questions/Comments

- How do students get their support:
 - MS Counselors
 - Team meeting, student, parents and teacher can contact the counselors with any issue
 - Counselors have an open environment
- HS Counselors responsibilities:
 - Balancing a healthy lifestyle
 - College planning
 - Course scheduling
- Counselors are the first line of defense
- Senior Internship programs are generally not lead by counselors
 - They are involved indirectly
- Metrics to match students with their appropriate instructional rigor
 - Teachers make recommendations
 - Counselors use transcripts and areas of interest
 - Various information is available on the parent portal
- Are students being stretched?
 - Pushed back add/drop period
 - How the master schedule is built
 - Decrease in changes
- Metrics to measure success of the counseling program
 - Contact time with students
 - Timeline of communication
 - College applications filed
 - Allowing to process earlier in the year
- Counseling services touch every student and parent
 - If a student isn't doing well the counselors will know it
 - Students have a private school experience with our counseling services
- Different families need different level of counseling
- Balancing of case loads
 - Siblings are generally with the same counselors
 - Additional counselor greatly helps balancing the college piece with all other needs
- Student Assistance Counselor works with MS/HS students
 - Has small groups and individual meetings
 - She is confidential and falls under the HIPPA regulations
 - She is also a licensed social worker
 - Her being in the counseling suite has allowed students to seek her out
- Social Workers work with Springhurst and MS/HS students

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- They work with staff on intervention plans
- They work with many families for various issues
- Provide crisis intervention and risk management
- Therapy in school is school based therapy but sometimes they are asked to perform some clinical therapy
- Community liaison
- School Psychologist
 - Supports social and emotional wellness
 - Student with behavioral issues need parental permission to perform an assessment
 - Works with parents, students, staff and outside agencies
 - Is a Child Study Team member
- Needs for counselors, etc., do not decrease in the MS/HS
 - Needs are different
 - Various criteria are used to decide whether students need a counselor, social worker, etc.
 - Families also have varied issues
 - There are outside agencies that provide support and very difficult to get support in a timely fashion from government agencies
 - Outside agencies are very over crowded
- Best point of contact
 - Springhurst – classroom teacher can reach out
 - MS/HS – school counselor

9. Board Actions

Mr. Greengrass moved, and Ms. Johnson seconded, that the Board approve Items 9.01, 9.02, 9.03, 9.04, and 9.05 as a consent agenda.

Vote: 7 - ayes - 0 nays

Mr. Reiser moved, and Mr. Schwartz seconded, that the Board approve 9.01, 9.02, 9.03, 9.04, and 9.05

Vote: 7 - ayes - 0 nays

9.01 Board of Registry and Election Inspectors

The Board appointed the Board of Registry and Election Inspectors for the May 8, 2017 and May 16, 2017 Personal Registration and Annual Election and Budget Vote.

9.02 Settlement of a Tax Certiorari Proceeding

The Board authorized the following resolution:

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of the Dobbs Ferry Union Free School District, hereby authorize its attorneys, Shaw, Perelson, May its attorneys, & Lambert, LLP to execute a Consent Judgment in a tax certiorari proceeding captioned Agron Matoshi v. Town of Greenburgh;

AND IT IS FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board authorize the refund of taxes as required by the terms of the Consent Judgment totaling a refund of \$9,495.45.

9.03 Budget Transfer - Legal Fees

The Board approved the following budget transfer to transfer funds to pay legal fees through the end of the fiscal year:

Accounts to Decrease	Amount	Account to Increase	Amount
A5540.436.09.0000	\$ 25,000.00	A1420.400.00.8801	\$100,000.00
Contract Trans. - In-District		Legal - Capital Projects	

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A2250.150.01.7200	\$ 75,000.00		
Special Ed. - Salaries			
Total	\$100,000.00	Total	\$100,000.00

9.04 CSE/CPSE

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 March 9, 2017 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 9, 2017.

9.05 Personnel

The Board approved the Civil Service and staff personnel recommendations.

9.06 Policy Revision - Second Reading

Mr. Schwartz moved, and Ms. Johnson seconded, that the Board adopt the following policy:

- 8130 - School Safety Plans and Teams

Vote: 7 ayes - 0 nays

9.07 Trip to Spain - 2017-2018

Student Athletic & Activities – 3-21

- The committee review the information for the possible Senior trip to Spain next year
 - The price point is the price
 - Two tour companies were contacted
 - A trip to another country such as, Mexico or Cuba wouldn't make the cost significantly less
 - The trip is more than Washington, DC or Philadelphia but it is a trip to Europe and is longer in duration
 - There are approximately 28 students interested
 - 25 parents attended the interest meeting
 - The trip can be made with as little as 5 students
 - Aligned with the IB Mission

Mr. Reiser moved, and Ms. Kennedy seconded, that the Board approve the 2017-2018 Trip to Spain.

Vote: 7 ayes - 0 nays

10. Citizen's Comments

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10.01 Notice

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None.

11. Old Business

None.

12. New Business

None.

13. Upcoming Meetings

13.01 Calendar

Tuesday, April 4, 2017 – 7:00 PM – MS/HS Library

- Revenue Forecast
- Proposed 2017-2018 Budget Review

Tuesday, April 18, 2017 - 7:00 PM - MS/HS Library

- Finalization of 2017-2018 Budget
- Budget Adoption

Tuesday, April 25, 2017 – 8:00 AM – Board Room

- SWBOCES Vote

Executive Session - 8:37 PM

Ms. Kennedy moved, and Mr. Reiser seconded, that the Board convene to Executive Session for the following purpose: To discuss the employment history of a particular person.

Vote: 7 ayes - 0 nays

Mr. Schwartz moved, and Mr. Reiser seconded, to appoint Ms. Lucasey as Clerk Pro Tem.

Vote: 7 ayes - 0 nays

At 9:06 PM, Ms. Johnson moved, and Mr. Reiser seconded, to move back to the Regular Meeting.

Vote: 7 ayes - 0 nays

14. Adjournment

At 9:06 PM, Mr. Schwartz moved, and Ms. Kennedy seconded, that the Board adjourn the meeting.

Vote: 7 - ayes - 0 nays



District Clerk