

## APPROVED MINUTES



### **Tuesday, September 26, 2023 Business Meeting Following Staff Recognition Reception**

#### **1. Video Conferencing**

Ms. Stringer participated via videoconference.

#### **2. Call to Order**

Ms. Lucasey called the meeting to order at 7:22 p.m.

#### **3. Opening of the Meeting**

##### **3.01 Pledge of Allegiance**

##### **3.02 Roll Call**

Ms. Jean Lucasey, President; Ms. Brooke Bass, Vice President; Ms. Shannon Stringer; Ms. Penny Sullivan-Nunes; Mr. Darren Wood; Ms. Pavithra Nagarajan; Ms. Rebecca Hershberg; Mr. Kenneth Slentz, Superintendent; Dr. Ron Clamser, Jr., Assistant Superintendent of Finance, Facilities and Operations; Dr. Darrell Stinchcomb, Assistant Superintendent of Curriculum, Instruction, and Equity; Ms. Jessily Gonzalez, District Clerk.

##### **3.03 Acceptance of the Agenda**

Mr. Wood moved and Ms. Hershberg seconded, that the Board accept the September 26, 2023 Agenda.

Vote: 7ayes, 0 nays

##### **3.04 Approval of Minutes**

Ms. Sullivan-Nunes moved and Ms. Nagarajan seconded, that the Board approve the minutes of the September 12, 2023 meeting.

Vote: 7 ayes, 0 nays

#### **4. Citizen's Comments**

##### **4.01 Notice**

**The Board of Education values input from the entire Dobbs Ferry School District community. Although we do not engage in dialogue with the public at our Board of Ed business meetings, we are listening. Members of our school district community may comment on *any matter related to the meeting's approved agenda*. If you wish to address the board, please sign in with the District Clerk. Any group or organization wishing to address the Board must identify a single spokesperson. Please state your name for the record and keep your remarks to 3 minutes or less. 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.

## 5. Announcements

Mr. Sullivan-Nunes announced that the Dobbs Ferry Youth Services Coalition's next meeting will be held on Thursday, October 5, 2023 at 6:00 p.m. via Zoom. The Coalition is seeking volunteers to assist in their work.

## 6. Correspondence

### 6.01 BOE Correspondence

The Board received correspondence regarding transportation concerns.

## 7. Board Committee Reports

### 7.01 Committee Reports

**Policy:** Ms. Stringer reported on the Committee's recent review of several policies including student gender expression, disclosure of wrongful conduct, certain policies that were determined not to apply to Dobbs Ferry, and the internal audit function, which is on tonight's agenda for a first reading.

**Curriculum and Instruction:** Ms. Nagarajan reported on the Committee's first meeting of the year where the following topics were discussed:

- MTSS handbook and processes
- Implementation of Illustrative Mathematics
- K-5 Literacy Changes
- 6-8 Literacy Focus
- Special Education Classroom Curriculum
- 504 Transition Progress

The Committee also discussed the Community of Readers Project plan and proposed next steps.

## 8. Board Actions

### 8.01 CPSE/CSE Recommendations

**WHEREAS** the Committee on Special Education and Committee on Pre-School Special Education had issued to the Board by written confidential report dated September 21, 2023, 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 September 21, 2023.

Ms. Bass moved and Ms. Nagarajan seconded, to approve the resolution.

Vote: 7 ayes, 0 nays

### 8.02 Superintendent Conference Attendance Request

**BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Board of Education hereby approves the attendance of the Superintendent at the following conferences:

1. The Reading League, October 1-4, 2023, Syracuse NY

2. NYS Right to Read Capital District Forum, December 1, Albany, NY

Ms. Stringer moved and Ms. Nagarajan seconded, to approve the resolution.

Mr. Slentz explained the purpose of each conference related to the District's work on literacy and reading.

Vote: 7 ayes, 0 nays

### **8.03 Creation of New Instructional Position**

**BE IT RESOLVED**, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education hereby creates the part-time position of Instructional Support Services - Behavior Intervention Coach, effective October 1, 2023.

Ms. Sullivan-Nunes moved and Mr. Wood seconded, to approve the resolution.

Vote: 7 ayes, 0 nays

### **8.04 Acknowledgement of Permanent Status**

**BE IT RESOLVED**, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education hereby acknowledges that Denis Brazil, Director of Facilities II, has completed his mandatory probationary period of a maximum of 52 weeks therefore granting him Permanent Status in the title Director of Facilities II, effective July 11, 2023.

Ms. Hershberg moved and Ms. Stringer seconded, to approve the resolution.

Vote: 7 ayes, 0 nays

### **8.05 Personnel**

**BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Board of Education of the Dobbs Ferry Union Free School District, hereby move to approve the Civil Service and staff personnel recommendations.

Ms. Bass moved and Ms. Stringer seconded, to approve the resolution.

Vote: 7 ayes, 0 nays

### **8.06 Policy Revision - First Reading**

The Board conducted a first reading and engaged in discussion of the following policy:

- Policy 6680 - Internal Audit Function

Ms. Lucasey noted that the only change was a cross reference to NYS Commissioner's Regulation 170.12(b).

## **9 Acknowledgements**

### **9.01 Warrants**

The Board acknowledged warrant No. 11 Multi.

## **10. Citizen Comments**

### **10.01 Notice**

**The Board of Education values input from the entire Dobbs Ferry School District community. Although we do not engage in dialogue with the public at our Board of Ed business meetings, we are listening. Members of our school district community may**

comment on *any matter related to district business*. If you wish to address the board, please sign in with the District Clerk. Any group or organization wishing to address the Board must identify a single spokesperson. Please state your name for the record and keep your remarks to 3 minutes or less. 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.

#### **11. Old Business**

None.

#### **12. New Business**

Ms. Lucasey notified Board members that they would be receiving an email requesting that they sign up for various Board tasks throughout the year.

#### **13. Upcoming Meetings**

##### **13.01 Calendar**

- Tuesday, October 10, 2023 - 7:00 PM - MS/HS  
Library Business Meeting
- Tuesday, October 24, 2023 - 7:00 PM - MS/HS  
Library Business Meeting

#### **14. Adjournment**

Ms. Bass moved, and Ms. Ms. Stringer seconded, that the Board adjourn the meeting at 7:44 p.m.

Vote: 7 ayes, 0 nays

Jessily Gonzalez  
District Clerk