

APPROVED MINUTES



**Tuesday, November 14, 2023,
Business Meeting
7:00 PM**

1. Call to Order

Ms. Lucasey called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m.

2. Opening of the Meeting

2.01 Pledge of Allegiance

2.02 Roll Call

Ms. Jean Lucasey, President; Ms. Shannon Stringer; Ms. Penny Sullivan-Nunes; Mr. Darren Wood; Ms. Pavithra Nagarajan; Ms. Rebecca Hershberg; Mr. Kenneth Slentz, Superintendent; Dr. Darrell Stinchcomb, Assistant Superintendent of Curriculum, Instruction, and Equity; Ms. Elizabeth Saperstein, District Clerk.

Ms. Brooke Bass and Dr. Ron Clamser were absent.

2.03 Acceptance of the Agenda

Ms. Stringer moved and Mr. Wood seconded, that the Board accept the November 14, 2023 Agenda.

Vote: 6 ayes, 0 nays

2.04 Approval of Minutes

Ms. Nagarajan moved and Ms. Sullivan-Nunes seconded, that the Board approve the minutes of the October 24, 2023 meeting.

Vote: 6 ayes, 0 nays

3. BOE Correspondence

3.01 The Board received correspondence regarding the Middle School Halloween Extravaganza and concerns regarding a crosswalk.

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

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consideration and referred to the Superintendent for appropriate action.

None.

5. Announcements

Mr. Slentz reported that the Middle School fall musical, "Newsies," is happening on Friday, November 17, 2023 and Saturday, November 18, 2023.

Mr. Slentz also reported that the Dobbs Ferry Youth Services Coalition "Open Gym Night" on November 9th was a success and that more of these events are planned. The DF Youth Services Coalition will hold two meetings in each month of November and December, and are looking for volunteers for the annual Holiday Hustle 5K event in December.

6. Committee Reports

Policy

Ms. Stringer reported on the Committee's November 1, 2023 meeting, which included:

- Three of the policies discussed at their meeting would be presented for a first reading at tonight's meeting.
- Draft Policy 0102 would be discussed once all required policies have been reviewed.

Ms. Stringer indicated that the Committee has a worksheet of all policies that need to be reviewed, which ones are required, and that the Committee is making good progress.

Minutes from the committee meeting are posted on the District website.

School and Community Relations

Ms. Hershberg reported on the Committee's November 2, 2023 meeting, which included:

- Discussion on how the District is tracking community engagement via data collected from the school district's various media channels, such as Facebook posts and live-streamed events.
- Ms. Hershberg noted that Mr. Slentz encouraged members to view a recent webinar and handbook from the New York State School Board Association entitled, "Today's Communication Challenges."
- The upcoming "State of the District" event on December 6th will be in-person and live-streamed. A recording of the forum will be posted to the District website for viewing.

Minutes from the committee meeting are posted on the District website.

Finance

Ms. Stringer reported on the Committee's November 8, 2023 meeting, which included:

- Discussion about cost areas the District will focus on in the next budget year.
- The committee will discuss budget goals for the 2024-25 school year and present these at its next meeting on December 12, 2023.

Minutes from the committee meeting are posted on the District website.

7. Board Reports

7.01 Special Education Program Updates

Ms. Lucasey reported that the presentation on Special Education Programs is postponed and will be rescheduled for a future meeting.

8. Board Actions

8.01 Policy Revisions - First Reading

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

1. 4321 - Programs and Services for Students with Disabilities
2. 4321.7 - Districtwide and Statewide Assessments of Students with Disabilities
3. 4772 - Graduation Ceremonies

Ms. Lucasey noted that the update to policy 4321 pertains to the application of a court ruling affecting school districts in New York State that requires districts to provide special education services to students with disabilities until their 22nd birthday.

Ms. Lucasey noted that the updates to policy 4321.7 incorporated language that was left out of the initial policy.

Ms. Lucasey noted that the updates to policy 4772 pertain to the district's obligations to provide special education services to students with disabilities as described above and that participation in graduation ceremonies may be denied if a student violates the District Code of Conduct.

These policies will be presented for a Second Reading at the December 19, 2023 meeting.

8.02 Instructional Service Agreement

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of the Dobbs Ferry Union Free School District, hereby move to approve the attached Instructional Service Agreement between the Croton-Harmon Union Free School District and the Dobbs Ferry Union Free School District for the 2023-24 school year, and authorize the Assistant Superintendent for Finance, Facilities and Operations to sign for the District.

Ms. Sullivan-Nunes moved and Ms. Nagaragan seconded, to approve the resolution. Ms. Hershberg recused herself from the vote.

Vote: 5 ayes, 0 nays

8.03 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.

Mr. Wood moved and Ms. Hershberg seconded, to approve the resolutions.

Mr. Slentz highlighted the achievement of permanent employment status of two custodians and the hiring of a new band teacher at Springhurst.

Vote: 6 ayes, 0 nays

8.04 Donation

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of the Dobbs Ferry Union Free School District, hereby move to accept the following donated items from Dobbs Ferry Youth Little League:

- ZivPlay Batting Mat with Home Plate Batter's Box
- ZivPlay Softball Pitching Mat

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

The Board thanked the Little League for its donation.

Vote: 6 ayes, 0 nays

8.05 Foundation Grant

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BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of the Dobbs Ferry Union Free School District, hereby move to accept a grant in the amount of \$1,329.54 from the Dobbs Ferry Schools Foundation for Counseling Curriculum in grades 6-8.

Mr. Wood moved and Ms. Stringer seconded, to approve the resolution.

The Board thanked the Foundation for its generosity.

Vote: 6 ayes, 0 nays

8.06 Designation and Authorization

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of the Dobbs Ferry Union Free School District, hereby move that Jenny Kaicher be authorized as pre-school student residency designee as part of the registration process at no additional compensation.

Ms. Stringer moved and Mr. Wood seconded, to approve the resolution.

Vote: 6 ayes, 0 nays

8.07 Budget Transfer - Tuition Settlement

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of the Dobbs Ferry Union Free School District, hereby move to approve the following budget transfer to cover the cost of a tuition settlement approved by the BOE on 9/12/23.

Account	Decrease	Increase
A 2250-470-03-0000 Spec Ed-Tuition 9-12	\$60,000	
A 2250-470-01-0000 Spec Ed-Tuition K-5		\$60,000

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

Vote: 6 ayes, 0 nays

8.08 Budget Transfer - Payroll Code Alignments

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of the Dobbs Ferry Union Free School District, hereby move to approve the following budget transfers to cover payroll code alignments.

Account	Decrease	Increase
A2020-150-01-8100 Building Principal		11,549.81
A2020-151-01-8100 Asst. Building Principal	12,604.00	
A2110-120-01-1050 Tch Reg-K Salary	140,041.00	
A2110-120-01-1100 Tch Reg 1st Gr Salary	179,483.00	
A2110-120-01-1200 Tch Reg 2nd Gr Salary		63,596.00
A2110-120-01-1300 Tch Reg 3rd Gr Salary		97,252.13
A2110-120-01-1400 Tch Reg 4th Gr Salary		185,424.00
A2110-120-01-1500 Tch Reg 5th Gr Salary		2,374.00
A2110-130-03-4400 Tch Reg Science Salary	22,543.67	
A2250-150-02-7200 Spec Ed-Salary Spec Ed	22,379.59	
A2250-150-02-7230 Spec Ed-Sal Resource Rm		16,855.32
A2250-150-03-7200 Spec Ed Salary HS	53,237.59	
A2250-153-00-0000 Special Ed Overages		53,237.59
	430,288.85	430,288.85

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

Mr. Slentz explained that the transfer would allow administration to align the current staff with the appropriate salary codes.

Vote: 6 ayes, 0 nays

8.09 Settlement of a Tax Certiorari Proceeding

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education authorizes its attorneys, Shaw, Perelson, May & Lambert, LLP to execute a Consent Judgment in a tax certiorari proceeding captioned Muhammed Faraz Khan NKA Faraz Ayaz Khan and Alla Khan v. Town of Greenburgh and Dobbs Ferry Union Free School District;

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

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

Vote: 6 ayes, 0 nays

9. Acknowledgement

9.01 The Board acknowledged the following warrants:

- Warrant No. 13 Multi.
- Warrant No. 15 Multi.

10. Citizen Comments

10.01 Notice

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None.

11. Old Business

None.

12. New Business

None.

13. Upcoming Meetings

13.01 Calendar

- Tuesday, November 28, 2023 - 7:00 PM - MS/HS Library Business Meeting
- Tuesday, December 19, 2023 - 7:00 PM - MS/HS Library

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Business Meeting

14. Adjournment

Ms. Nagaragan moved, and Ms. Stringer seconded, that the Board adjourn the meeting at 7:37 pm.

Vote: 6 ayes, 0 nays

Elizabeth Saperstein
District Clerk