



APPROVED MINUTES

**Monday, July 28, 2025
Special Meeting
6:00 p.m.
MS/HS Library Presentation Room**

1. Call to Order - Special Meeting

B. Bass called the meeting to order at 6:06 p.m.

2. Meeting Opening

2.01 Pledge of Allegiance

2.02 Roll Call

Brooke Bass, President; Penny Sullivan-Nunes, Vice President; Darren Wood; Pavithra Nagarajan; Mindy Walker; Sudha Reddy; Kenneth Slentz, Superintendent; Lisa Raymond, Assistant Director of Finance, Facilities and Operations; Darrel Stinchcomb, Assistant Superintendent of Curriculum, Instruction and Equity; Elizabeth Saperstein, District Clerk

D. Wood participation via videoconference

R. Hershberg was absent.

2.03 Acceptance of the Agenda

B. Bass requested a motion to accept the July 28, 2025 agenda.

P. Nagarajan moved and P. Sullivan-Nunes seconded, that the board accept the July 28, 2025 agenda.

Vote: 6 ayes, 0 nays

3. Citizen Comments

3.01 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 education 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,

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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.

4. Correspondence

4.01 Board Correspondence

None.

5. Announcements

6. Board Reports - Annual Policy Requirements

6.01 Required Reports from Administration

K. Slentz reviewed an annual report requiring compliance in accordance with district policy: School Safety and Educational Climate Report (formerly called VADIR - Violence and Disruptive Incident Report). This report requires a building-by-building report of incidents. K. Slentz reported that there were zero superintendent hearings in the 2024-2025 school year, down from 12 in his first year. The report was filed with the State Department of Education on July 15, 2025.

7. Board Committee Reports

7.01 Committee Reports

D. Wood reported the following information and updates from the July 16, 2025 meeting of the Policy Committee:

- Discussion of structure of policy committee for the 2025-2026 school year and whether it would expand membership to include community members; at this time, the committee reported that it will continue with active board members.
- The committee reviewed all the public comments submitted during the comment period regarding Policy 5695: Students and Personal Electronic Devices. The committee made no changes to the policy, but determined it would develop an FAQ ("Frequently Asked Questions") to respond to some of the questions and concerns raised in the public comments. K. Slentz noted that many of the concerns/comments would be addressed in the policy regulations that are being developed. The committee also discussed use of funds in the amount of \$7,347 received from SED and how that money will be used by the district, including the purchase of locks for student lockers.
- The committee reviewed two other policies that will be presented for second reading and adoption at the July 28, 2025 meeting including Policy 0111: Sexual Harassment Grievances Under Title IX and Policy 2160: School District Officer and Employee Code of Ethics.

Committee minutes are posted on the district website.

8. Board Actions



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8.01 Personnel - Professional/Certificated Staff

BE IT RESOLVED, that the board of education of the Dobbs Ferry Union Free School District moves to approve the professional/certificated personnel actions.

B. Bass requested a motion to approve the professional personnel actions.

P. Sullivan-Nunes moved and P. Nagarajan seconded, to approve the professional personnel actions.

Vote: 6 ayes, 0 nays

1. Resignation

(a) Allyson Moone, temporary (leave replacement) Math Teacher

Location: Dobbs Ferry Middle School

Effective: July 15, 2025

Note: A. Moone was replacing A. Malfesi through October 2025.

2. Temporary Appointment

(a) William Chimento, temporary (leave replacement) ELA Teacher

Location: Dobbs Ferry Middle School

Effective: August 27, 2025 - January 31, 2026, or upon the return of M. Gretczko, whichever is sooner.

Compensation: \$82,823 per annum, prorated

3. Appointment Correction - Longevity

(a) Joe Cox, Varsity Football Coach

Location: Dobbs Ferry High School

Compensation: Cat A, Step 3 - including 10% longevity (\$8,021.79)

4. Summer 2025 Staff Development

(a) Randy Gannecilli

Location: Springhurst Elementary School

Bookworms Leveling Up - 1st Grade

(b) D. Rivera

(c) C. Grenier

(d) L. Alfonzetti

(e) C. Ducic

(f) E. Feller

(g) N. Delvecchio-Molina

(h) J. Rosenblum

Location: Dobbs Ferry Middle Schools

DIBELS training



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Compensation: 80% of 1/200th of annual salary, with a maximum of \$273.19 and a minimum of \$207.62 per day. Teachers working a portion of the day will receive a prorated amount.

5. Leave of Absence

(a) S. Consiglio, ENL Teacher

Location: Dobbs Ferry MS/HS

Effective: August 27, 2025 - January 31, 2026

Note: unpaid child care

8.02 Personnel - Civil Service Staff

BE IT RESOLVED, that the board of education of the Dobbs Ferry Union Free School District moves to approve the civil service personnel actions.

B. Bass requested a motion to approve the civil service personnel actions.

S. Reddy moved and P. Sullivan-Nunes seconded, to approve the civil service personnel actions.

Vote: 6 ayes, 0 nays

1. Probationary Appointment

(a) Alyssa Sperlongano, Office Assistant (Automated Systems)

Location: Dobbs Ferry School District (Springhurst)

Effective: August 4, 2025

Duration of Probationary Period: August 4, 2025 - August 3, 2026

Status: Probationary/Permanent - 12-month

Salary: \$42,620 per annum, prorated based on start date

Note: A. Sperlongano replaces A. Bharat, who resigned.

2. Summer 2025 Work

(a) Sarah LeBuhn, up to 10 days

Location: Masters School

Effective: July 10, 2025 - August 26, 2025

Compensation: Daily rate, per day

8.03 Establish Salaries - DFAA

BE IT RESOLVED that the board of education of the Dobbs Ferry Union Free School District does hereby establish the 2025-26 salaries for the DFAA employees as follows:

G. Bastone	\$159,135
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T. Brown	\$224,911
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J. Falino	\$226,889
J. Gevargis-Mizimakoski	\$167,188
S. Grosso	\$164,440
S. Kaplan	\$196,267
A. Klaich	\$174,454
A. Klebanoff	\$163,909
P. Mussolini	\$230,891
A. Pecunia	\$181,688

B. Bass requested a motion to approve the DFAA salaries.

M. Walker moved and D. Wood seconded, to approve the DFAA salaries.

Vote: 6 ayes, 0 nays

8.04 Establish Salaries - Management/Confidential

BE IT RESOLVED that the board of education of the Dobbs Ferry Union Free School District does hereby establish the 2025-26 salaries for the management/confidential employees as follows:

D. Brazil	\$131,128
T. Deruvo	\$60,101
T. Deruvo	\$5,000 - stipend / faculty manager
J. Gibbs	\$115,028
J. Gibbs	\$10,000 - stipend / payroll supervisor
T. Huyter	\$147,948
J. Kaicher	\$68,649
R. Rivera	\$90,977
E. Saperstein	\$137,917



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K. Silvestri \$77,507

B. Bass requested a motion to approve the salaries.

P. Sullivan-Nunes moved and P. Nagarjan seconded, to approve the management/confidential salaries.

Vote: 6 ayes, 0 nays

8.05 Policy Revision - Second Reading

BE IT RESOLVED, that having satisfied the requirements of policy 2410, the board of education hereby approves the following policies:

1. Policy 5695: Students and Personal Electronic Devices
2. Policy 0111: Sexual Harassment Grievances Under Title IX
3. Policy 2160: School District Officer and Employee Code of Ethics

B. Bass acknowledged the following points with respect to policy 5695:

- This policy was created after months of meetings and discussions. It was reviewed for first reading at our last meeting and was subsequently opened up to public comment. These public comments were then reviewed by the policy committee. There were many differing opinions regarding storage options, and we believe this policy as written is the best way to go at this moment in time. We are prepared to evaluate and pivot as needed.
- The community questions and feedback are being used to develop an FAQ that will be available shortly. The regulations will also be ready and available before the start of school.
- We are choosing lockers as the storage solution for our policy because we have them already, they are largely unused in the high school, and this ensures that students aren't tempted to use a device that is physically near them during class.
- We did NOT select pouches because they are expensive, require maintenance, kids can figure out how to get around them, and we prefer the phones not be physically on the kids. We can't compare our decision to other districts because each district has varying sets of circumstances that need to be considered (e.g. one local district who chose pouches because they don't have lockers.)
- There will be a learning curve for everyone and may take some time to get acclimated. We expect that there will be students who don't comply, but we are confident the administration will be able to handle this effectively.
- For parents who are concerned about their child's separation issues from personal electronic devices, they should reach out to their child's school counselor for support.

B. Bass requested a motion to adopt the policies.



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P. Nagarajan moved and D. Wood seconded, to approve the resolution.

Vote: 6 ayes, 0 nays

8.06 Approval of School Physician Agreement

BE IT RESOLVED, that the board of education of the Dobbs Ferry Union Free School District, hereby move to approve the School Physician Agreement attached herein for the 2025-26 school year.

B. Bass requested a motion to approve the agreement.

P. Sullivan-Nunes moved and M. Walker seconded, to approve the agreement.

Vote: 6 ayes, 0 nays

8.07 Approval of Internal Claims Auditor Agreement

BE IT RESOLVED, that the board of education of the Dobbs Ferry Union Free School District, hereby move to approve the Claims Auditor Agreement attached herein for the 2025-26 school year.

B. Bass noted that Denise Connell will make a presentation to the board during the 2025-26 school year.

B. Bass requested a motion to approve the agreement.

P. Nagarajan moved and P. Sullivan-Nunes seconded, to approve the agreement.

Vote: 6 ayes, 0 nays

8.08 Approval of Proposal from Educational & Management Services, Inc.

BE IT RESOLVED that the board hereby accepts a proposal from Educational & Management Services, Inc., to provide services related to special education billing;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the superintendent of schools is hereby authorized to sign this Consultant Agreement on the district's behalf.

B. Bass requested a motion to approve the proposal and authorize the superintendent to sign.

P. Sullivan-Nunes moved and D. Wood seconded, to approve the proposal.

Vote: 6 ayes, 0 nays

8.09 Approval of Facilities Bid Renewals



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BE IT RESOLVED, that the board of education of the Dobbs Ferry Union Free School District, hereby move to approve the bids on the attached list for the 2025-26 school year.

B. Bass requested a motion to approve the bids on the attached list.

P. Nagarajan moved and P. Sullivan-Nunes seconded, to approve the bids.

Vote: 6 ayes, 0 nays

8.10 Budget Transfer - Bond Anticipation Note

BE IT RESOLVED, that the board of education of the Dobbs Ferry Union Free School District, hereby move to approve the following 2025-26 budget transfer to transfer interest budgeted from bond interest to bond anticipation note interest account:

Account	Increase	Decrease
A9731.700 - Bond Anticipation Note Interest	\$67,708.33	
A9711.700 - Bond Note Interest		\$67,708.33

B. Bass requested a motion to approve the budget transfer.

M. Walker moved and S. Reddy seconded, to approve the resolution.

Vote: 6 ayes, 0 nays

8.11 Budget Transfer - Imagine Learning

BE IT RESOLVED, that the board of education of the Dobbs Ferry Union Free School District, hereby move to approve the following 2025-26 budget transfer to reallocate funds budgeted under BOCES to textbooks and software for the Imagine Learning program.

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Account	Increase	Decrease
A2630.460.00.5500	\$22,000.00	
A2110.480.01.1000	\$23,000.00	
A2110.480.02.2000	\$15,000.00	
A2110.490.00.0000		\$60,000.00

B. Bass requested a motion to approve the budget transfer.

S. Reddy moved and P. Nagarajan seconded, to approve the budget transfer.

Vote: 6 ayes, 0 nays

9. Citizens Comments

9.01 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 education 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.

10. Old Business

B. Bass announced that committee assignments would be forthcoming.

11. New Business

None.



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12. Acknowledgements

None.

13. Upcoming Meetings

13.01 Calendar

Tuesday, August 26, 2025 - 7:00 p.m. - MS/HS Library Presentation Room

- Regular Meeting

Tuesday, September 16, 2025 - 7:00 p.m. - MS/HS Library Presentation Room

- Regular Meeting

14. Adjournment

B. Bass requested a motion to adjourn the July 28, 2025 meeting.

P. Sullivan-Nunes moved and P. Nagarajan seconded, to adjourn the meeting at 6:44 p.m.

Vote: 6 ayes, 0 nays

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Elizabeth Saperstein
District Clerk