



APPROVED MINUTES

**Tuesday, April 16, 2024
Business Meeting
7:00 PM
MS/HS Library**

1. Call to Order

Ms. Lucasey called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

Ms. Lucasey requested a motion that the Board recess to executive session for the following purposes: to discuss collective bargaining negotiations and the employment history of particular probationary pedagogical employees.

Ms. Stringer moved and Ms. Bass seconded, that the Board recess to executive session.

Vote: 6 ayes, 0 nays

Ms. Hershberg joined the meeting at 6:31 p.m.

Ms. Lucasey requested a motion to appoint Mr. Slentz to serve as clerk pro tem for the executive session.

Mr. Wood moved and Ms. Sullivan-Nunes seconded, that the Board appoint Mr. Slentz as clerk pro tem for the executive session.

Vote: 7 ayes, 0 nays

2. Executive Session

The Board entered executive session at 6:32 p.m.

Ms. Lucasey requested a motion that the Board move back to public session.

Ms. Nagarajan moved and Ms. Stringer seconded, that the Board return to public session at 7:05 p.m.

Vote: 7 ayes, 0 nays

3. Resume Public Meeting

Ms. Lucasey resumed the public meeting at 7:12 p.m.



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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. Elizabeth Saperstein, District Clerk.

3.03 Acceptance of the Agenda

Ms. Sullivan-Nunes moved and Ms. Hershberg seconded, that the Board accept the April 16, 2024 Agenda.

Vote: 7 ayes, 0 nays

3.04 Approval of Minutes

Mr. Wood moved and Ms. Stringer seconded, that the Board approve the minutes of the April 2, 2024 meeting.

Vote: 7 ayes, 0 nays

Ms. Sullivan-Nunes moved and Ms. Bass seconded, that the Board approve the minutes of the April 9, 2024 meeting.

Vote: 6 ayes, 0 nays, 1 abstention - Ms.Nagarajan was absent on 4/9/24

4. BOE Correspondence

4.01 BOE Correspondence

The Board received correspondence on the following topics: (1) district calendar, (2) student concern and (3) parent concern.

5. Citizen Comments

5.01 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



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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.

6. Announcements

Mr. Slentz thanked the community for coming out in support of our students and staff for the production of Fiddler on the Roof.

6.01 Personal Voter Registration

Ms. Lucasey read the announcement:

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 13, 2024 between 3:30 pm and 7:30 pm in the High School 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 21, 2024.

6.02 Absentee and Early Mail Voting

Ms. Lucasey read the announcement:

Absentee and Early Mail Ballot Applications may be requested by emailing the District Clerk at districtclerk@dfsd.org or in writing to 505 Broadway, Dobbs Ferry, NY 10522. Absentee and early mail ballots will be available April 26, 2024. Completed absentee and early mail ballots must be received in the District office in person or via U.S. Mail no later than 5:00 PM on May 21, 2024.

6.03 Board Member Terms of Office

Ms. Lucasey read the announcement:

Two terms of office of the Dobbs Ferry Board of Education will be expiring on June 30, 2024: Two seats for 3-year terms, July 1, 2024-June 30, 2027.

- Ms. Brooke Bass
- Ms. Penny Sullivan-Nunes

Forms for petitions to run for a seat on the Board of Education are available in the District Office. Petitions must be submitted by the close of business on Monday, April 22, 2024. Twenty five (25) signatures of qualified voters in the district are required.

7. Board Reports

7.01 2024-2025 Budget Development Update

Mr. Slentz provided an update on the 2024-2025 budget. The board postponed adoption of the budget previously scheduled for tonight's meeting pending approval of the New York State budget.



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Mr. Slentz reviewed the means by which the budget gap has been closed while keeping the programmatic component in place, including the implementation of the new reading program, maintaining our mental-health staff and providing evidence-based training.

Mr. Slentz stated that the final Administrative, Capital, Program and Revenue budgets will be presented at the next Board meeting on April 24, 2024, for adoption.

The 2024-2025 Budget Framework is posted on the District website.

8. Board Committee Reports

8.01 Committee Reports

Ms. Stringer reported on the Policy Committee's April 3, 2024 meeting:

- The Board was updated on the implementation of the District's Workplace Violence Prevention Program.
- Based on comments from a first reading, the committee made additional revisions to Policy 5410 (Head Lice - Pediculosis) to be discussed later in the meeting
- Policy 5695 (Students and Personal Electronic Devices) and Policy 5280 (Interscholastic Athletics) were updated and will be presented later in the meeting.

Minutes from the Committee meetings are posted on the District website.

As a quorum was present at the Finance Committee Meeting of April 9, 2024, it was a special meeting of the Board; the minutes are posted to the district website.

9. Board Actions

Ms. Lucasey requested a motion to combine the following items into a consent agenda for approval: Items **9.01, 9.02, 9.03, 9.06, 9.07, 9.08, and 9.10**.

Mr. Wood moved and Ms. Hershberg seconded, to combine the items in a consent agenda.

Vote: 7 ayes, 0 nays

Ms. Lucasey requested a motion to approve all of the items in the consent agenda.

Ms. Stringer moved and Ms. Bass seconded, to approve the items on consent.

Vote: 7 ayes, 0 nays

Consent Items:

9.01 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 Professional staff personnel recommendations.



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9.02 CSE/CPSE Recommendations

WHEREAS the Committee on Special Education and Committee on Preschool Special Education had issued to the Board by written confidential report dated April 11, 2024, 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 April 11, 2024.

9.03 Budget Increase - Tax Certiorari

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of the Dobbs Ferry Union Free School District, hereby move to approve the following budget increase to enable the District to pay a tax certiorari refund to Bethel Holdings LLC/JJHS LLC as consented to at the August 22, 2023 Board meeting:

Revenue Account to Increase	Amount	Expenditure Account to Increase	Amount
A5997.864 Appropriate Reserve for Tax Certiorari	\$67,774.14	A1930-434-99-8002 Tax Certiorari	\$67,774.14

9.06 Budget Transfer - Special Education Tuition

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 move funds from regular special education tuitions to BOCES special education tuitions:

Account	Decrease	Increase
A 2250-470-02-0000 Spec Ed-Tuition 6-8	\$50,000	
A 2250-470-03-0000 Spec Ed-Tuition 9-12	\$300,000	



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A 2250-490-01-7200 Spec Ed BOCES K-5		\$50,000
A 2250-490-02-7200 Spec Ed BOCES 6-8		\$300,000

9.07 PNWBOCES Cooperative Bidding 2024-25

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of the Dobbs Ferry Union Free School District, hereby move to agree that the District participate with other school districts of the Putnam Northern Westchester Board of Cooperative Educational Services in cooperative bidding for 2024-2025.

9.08 SW BOCES Cooperative Bidding 2024-25

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of the Dobbs Ferry Union Free School District, hereby move to agree that the District participate with other school districts of the Southern Westchester Board of Cooperative Educational Services in cooperative bidding for 2024-2025 as per the attached list.

9.10 Board of Registry & Election Inspectors

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of the Dobbs Ferry Union Free School District, hereby move to appoint the Board of Registry and Election Inspectors listed on the attached document for the May 13, 2024 Personal Voter Registration and May 21, 2024 Annual Election and Budget Vote.

9.04 Tax Certiorari Settlement (72-75 Main Street LLC)

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education approves the settlement of a tax certiorari proceeding as set forth in Consent Order & Judgment captioned 72-75 Main Street LLC v. Town of Greenburgh

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

Ms. Nagarajan moved and Mr. Wood seconded, to approve the settlement.

Vote: 7 ayes, 0 nays

9.05 Tax Certiorari Settlement (701 Monroe Boulevard LLC/127 Main Street Properties LLC)

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education approves the settlement of a tax certiorari proceeding as set forth in Consent Order & Judgment captioned 701 Monroe Boulevard LLC/127



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Main Street Properties LLC v. Town of Greenburgh

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

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

Vote: 7 ayes, 0 nays

9.09 Service Bids 2024-25

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of the Dobbs Ferry Union Free School District, hereby move to accept the following bids to the vendors as noted. It will be contingent on the ability of the School District to use cooperative purchasing networks and piggybacking for such services if the cost of the services is lower than the rates noted.

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

Vote: 7 ayes, 0 nays

9.11 Southern Westchester BOCES Trustee Election and Administrative Budget Vote

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of the Dobbs Ferry Union Free School District hereby move to consider a resolution with respect to approval of one Trustee for Southern Westchester Board of Cooperative Educational Services - John Filiberti for the time period of July 1, 2024 through June 30, 2027.

AND IT IS FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board will move to consider a resolution with respect to approval of the 2024-2025 Estimated Administrative Budget of \$13,211,295 for the Southern Westchester Board of Cooperative Educational Services.

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

Ms. Lucasey reminded the Board that Dr. Clamser explained at the Board's April 2, 2024, meeting how the BOCES election and budget vote work and that the Board has had the opportunity to review all supporting materials in the meantime.

Vote: 7 ayes, 0 nays

9.12 Policy Revision - First Reading

The Board conducted a first reading on the following policies:

1. Policy 4327: Homebound Instruction. The policy pertains to students who due to temporary or chronic illness or injury are unable to attend school in the usual setting and the minimum number of hours of instruction a student on homebound instruction will receive.
2. Policy 5280: Interscholastic Athletics. The policy pertains to student athletics, placement, injuries, and course credits.
3. Policy 5410: Students – Head Lice (Pediculosis). The policy pertains to the management of head lice.



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4. Policy 5695: Students and Personal Electronic Devices. This policy pertains to the permitted uses of personal electronic devices in the classroom setting.

10. Acknowledgements

10.01 Warrants

The Board acknowledged receipt of Warrant No. 46 - Multi.

10.02 Treasurer's Report

The Board acknowledged receipt of the March 2024 Treasurer's Report.

11. Citizen Comments

11.01 Notice

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None.

12. Old Business

None.

13. New Business

There will be a special meeting of the Board on April 24, 2024, to adopt the budget.

14. Upcoming Meetings

14.01 Calendar

Wednesday, April 24, 2024 - 7:00 PM - MS/HS Library

- Special Meeting - Budget Adoption

Tuesday, May 7, 2024 - 7:00 PM - Board Room

- Business Meeting (Public Hearing on Budget)

Wednesday, May 22, 2024 - 9:00 AM - Board Room



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- Certification of Board Election and Budget Vote

Tuesday, May 28, 2024 - 7:00 PM - MS/HS Library

- Business Meeting

15. Adjournment

Ms. Sullivan-Nunes moved and Ms. Stringer seconded, to adjourn the meeting at 8:09 pm.

Vote: 7 ayes, 0 nays

Elizabeth Saperstein
District Clerk