



Saturday, March 14, 2020
Public Budget and Business Meeting
MS/HS Media Center, 9:00 AM

1. Call to Order

2. Public Budget and Business Meeting Opening 9:08 a.m.

2.01 Pledge of Allegiance

2.02 Roll Call

Ms. Shannon Johnson, President; Ms. Rita Kennedy, Vice President; Ms. Jean Lucasey; Ms. Tracy Baron; Mr. Louis Schwartz; Ms. Shannon Stringer; Mr. Matthew Rosenberg; Dr. Lisa Brady, Superintendent; Mr. Douglas Berry, Assistant Superintendent of Curriculum and Instruction; Mr. Ron Clamser, Jr., Assistant Superintendent of Finance, Facilities and Operations; and Ms. Loretta Tularzko, District Clerk.

2.03 Acceptance of the Agenda

Ms. Stringer moved, and Ms. Lucasey seconded, that the Board accept the March 14th Agenda.

Vote: 7 - ayes - 0 nays

2.04 Approval of Minutes

Ms. Baron moved, and Ms. Kennedy seconded, that the Board approve the minutes of the February 4 and 25, 2020 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 **Wednesday, April 1, 2020**, 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 Requests may be withdrawn if a school is not selected, but **may not** be considered if submitted after the deadline).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, 2020:

- Ms. Tracy Baron and Mr. Matt Rosenberg

MINUTES

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 20, 2020**. Twenty-five signatures of qualified voters in the district are required.

For more information on becoming a School Board Member please follow the link to the New York State School Board Association's "The School Board Member Experience" bit.ly/schoolboardexp.

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 11, 2020**, 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 19, 2020.

4. Citizen's Comments

4.01 Notice

Members of the community may comment on any matter related to the meeting's approved agenda. The Board President may request a brief description of the topic the speaker plans to address. 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.

5. Proposed 2020-2021 Budget Presentations

5.01 Budget Presentations

Dr. Brady welcomed everyone thanks to the Board and the Administrators for being here today.

Mr. Clamser thanked Dr. Brady for her leadership she has been a source of strength. Also, thank you and the Administrators for their work and support in creating the budget being presented.

The topics presented included:

- Presentation Schedule
- 2020-21 Proposed Expenditures
- Key Financial Considerations
- Program Goals
- 2021-21 Budget Highlights
- District Enrollment

Department Presentations

Springhurst Elementary - Julia Drake, Principal

- Budget Priorities
- Enrollment
- Average Class Size
- Non-Personnel Budget
- Enrichment & Cultural Arts
- Extra-Curricular Activities

Middle School - Patrick Mussolini, Principal

- Budget Priorities
- Enrollment
- Average Class Size

MINUTES

- Non-Personnel Budget
- Co-Curricular Activities

High School - Dr. John Falino, Principal

- Budget Priorities
- Enrollment
- Average Class Size
- Non-Personnel Budget
- Co-Curricular Activities

Special Education - Ms. Jean Gismervik, Director

- Driving Forces in Developing a SE Budget
- Enrollment
- Non-Payroll Budget

Athletics & Nursing Services - Andrew Klaich, Director

- Budget Priorities
- Non-Personnel Athletics Budget
- Varsity Sports Coach Stipends & Student Participation
- Jr. Varsity Coach Stipends & Student Participation
- Modified Coach Stipends & Student Participation
- Merger Sports with Ardsley & Student Participation
- Nursing/Health Services (Non-Personnel)

Dr. Brady thanked all of the Administrators for attending today's meeting and is grateful to Doug Berry and Ron Clamser for all their help with the Budget preparation and the last few weeks dealing with COVID-19 along with the Board and everyone for reaching out with their concern to see if there was anything they could do to help during the past week.

Dr. Brady also thanked Liz Hausman, Loretta, DFUT, CSEA Custodial Unions, Terance and the Technology staff, Dave and the custodians for all their work and cooperation

Ms. Johnson thanked the custodial staff for keeping our schools clean and safe.

10:08 AM – Break – 10:20 AM

Department Presentations (continued)

Technology - Mr. Terance Huyter, Director

- Non-Personnel Budget
- Technology Projects

Operations & Maintenance - Dave Robertin, Director

- Non-Personnel Budget
- Purchased Service Examples

Curriculum & Professional Development - Douglas Berry, Assistant Superintendent, Curriculum & Instruction

- Curriculum & Professional Development Highlights
- Curriculum & Professional Development Non-Personnel Budget

Transportation, Central Administration & Personnel - Ron Clamser, Jr., Assistant Superintendent of Finance & Facilities

- Number of Students Transported
- Non-Personnel Budget

- Central Administration Non-Personnel Budget
- Debt Service & Interfund Transfers
- Salaries & Benefits
- Salary & Benefits Represent 78% of the Budget

MINUTES

- Summary of 2020-21 Proposed Expenditures
- Estimated Sources of Revenue
- Tax Cap Calculation
- Projected Tax Rate Calculation
- Budget Summary
- Historical Trend
- 2020-2021 Budget Preparation Calendar

Comments/questions:

- All the presenters thanked the Board, Dr. Brady, Doug Berry, Ron Clamser, the Administration and the Finance Committee for their support in building this budget.
- Mr. Clamser explained that with the Finance Committee we were successful in mitigating the budget cap mentioned on 2/4 due to the inflated projected state aid revenue that didn't materialize.
- This year's Kindergarten class size is larger than before and will more than likely continue as evidenced in the demographic report presented last year.
- Enrollments are from the Basic Educational Data System - BEDS numbers of October 1.
- Space as Springhurst – we are waiting to see the actual numbers for next year – short term we should be able to accommodate – long term – we will work with the architect for possible solutions
- Middle School enrollment has increased
 - Thank you to the PTSA and the Foundation for their support in our co-curricular activities
- High School teachers have been flexible in class reassignments
 - IB testing costs have increased due to more students taking IB classes
- Special Education – this is the first year for an 8:1:1 class in the HS
 - Decrease due to 5 graduations with diplomas or credentials
 - Slight decrease in out of district tuition
 - Increase in BOCES services
 - A discrepancy in Special Education and BOCES Services on slide 3 will be corrected.
- Athletics
 - Raising the chaperone stipend has been a great catalyst in securing chaperones – it is now aligned with other districts
 - Girls tennis is growing – not exactly sure why
 - Mr. Klaich thanked Ardsley for merging our athletes with our boys and girls swimming and skiing teams - Coaches have been great – several teams made the sectionals, regionals and states
 - Given the possibility of health issues in the fall are we prepared to increase health services if necessitated? - Budget tight but we will find a way to cover – maybe omitting some other program – aid might be available from the government
- Technology
 - Thanked the technology staff – Ray Rivera, Diane Newell, Kevin Ridley and SH support staff through BOCES
 - Along with Mike Nemeth, Security, and Dave Robertin worked on the new phone system
 - Phase 1- infrastructure and backbone
 - New phone system will integrate with Security – cameras, visitor management and door system
 - Can initiate security alerts, to all buildings and txt & email emergency responders rather than individual initiating
 - Phase II – Smart Schools Bond – move to virtual servers; Windows 10 upgrade
- Operations & Maintenance
 - Regular maintenance is still being conducted
 - Cut back on non-crucial projects – classroom upgrades, etc.
 - Custodians are doing a great job
 - Spoken to the Architects about options to expand Springhurst
- Curriculum & Professional Development
 - Veteran 22 years and 17 years as an Administrator and has never witnessed what has taken place the last few weeks and applauded Dr. Brady's calm leadership
 - Ron has done a fantastic job on the budget with all the challenges we had and are encountering
 - Constant battle to keep up with professional development that the SED requires
 - Thanked Amber Klebanoff for all her work with staff, students, etc.
 - Our District has and is consistently growing, evolving and on the move

MINUTES

- Thanked the Board for all the years of their support
- Transportation, Central Administration & Personnel
 - Special Education transportation is hard to project
 - Royal Coach has increased because they now have a 4 hour minimum
 - HR costs increased due to the online recruiting application – thanks to Elizabeth Saperstein for working on this platform
 - Now that we have over 1,500 students we will need an internal audit via an RFP
 - New firm will need to perform a Risk Assessment
 - Business Office staff training
 - Administrators', DFUT, CSEA and Custodial contracts are all up this year

5.02 2020-2021 Budget Report

6. Correspondence

6.01 Correspondence

The Board acknowledged receipt of the following:

- Invitation to SWBOCES Annual meeting on April 1, 2020

7. Board Actions

7.01 Dobbs Ferry School Foundation Grant

Ms. Baron moved, and Mr. Rosenberg seconded, that the Board accept the following grants from the Dobbs Ferry Schools Foundation:

Name of Grant	Type of Grant	Teacher(s)	School	Amount
Breakout EDU subscription	Curriculum	Jessica Bauer	Springhurst	\$ 100.00
Board games for MS lunch	Curriculum	Patrick Mussolini & Nycole Toby	MS	\$ 250.00
Broadway Teacher's Workshop	Professional Development	Georgia DeFalco	MS/HS	\$ 1,074.00
Bow Helpers for 3rd-grade Orchestra	Curriculum	David Hertzberg	Springhurst	\$ 1,333.17
First Grade Sculptures and Art Program	Curriculum	Lisa Mayfield & Elizabeth Pinkava	Springhurst	\$ 3,000.00
Ready to Roll with Dash, Dot, and Cue Robots	Curriculum	Jessica Bauer	Springhurst	\$ 2,725.00
Forest Fridays - Eastern Region Association of Forest and Nature Schools	Professional Development	Doug DiStefano	Springhurst	\$ 875.00
Total				\$ 9,357.17

The Board thanked the Foundation for their continued generosity.

The annual Gala has been canceled. The online auction will still be open for fund raising, please be generous as always.

Vote: 7 - ayes - 0 nays

7.02 Settlement Agreement

Mr. Schwartz moved, and Ms. Stringer seconded, that the Board approve the following resolution:

MINUTES

"**BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Board of Education does hereby approve the Settlement and Release Agreement regarding Student No. 10009-5; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board of Education does hereby authorize the Superintendent of Schools to execute such Settlement and Release Agreement on behalf of the District".

Vote: 7 - ayes - 0 nays

7.03 Purchases of Goods and Services

Mr. Rosenberg moved, and Ms. Baron seconded, that the Board approve the following resolution:

Whereas, on March 7, 2020, the Governor of New York State has declared a state of emergency due to the outbreak of novel Coronavirus (COVID-19); and

Whereas, in the interest of the health and safety of those in our schools and the school community, the purchase of necessary supplies and services to combat the spread of COVID-19 is required, as the virus' spread is imminent;

Now, therefore, be it resolved, that the Board of Education of the Dobbs Ferry School District hereby authorizes or ratifies the actions of the Superintendent of Schools or his/her administrative designee to make purchases of goods and services necessary to maintain heightened sanitary conditions in our schools and facilities, and/or to mitigate against the spread of the COVID-19 virus, thereby dispensing with bid law requirements and purchasing procedures that would otherwise be applicable under General Municipal Law §103 and §104-b, based upon these emergency circumstances.

Vote: 7 - ayes - 0 nays

7.04 Participation in SWBOCES Bids

Ms. Lucasey moved, and Mr. Schwartz seconded, that the Board agrees that the District participate with other school districts of the Southern Westchester Board of Cooperative Educational Services in their cooperative bidding service as per the attached list.

Vote: 7 - ayes - 0 nays

7.05 Budget Transfer

Mr. Schwartz moved, and Ms. Kennedy seconded, that the Board approve the following budget transfer to reduce out-of-district busing and increase bus monitors/attendants:

Account	Decrease	Increase
A 5540-435-09-7200 Contr Trans-Out of District	\$30,000	
A 5540-401-09-9000 Contr Trans-Attendants		\$30,000

Vote: 7 - ayes - 0 nays

7.06 Partial Tax Exemption For Qualified Persons Aged 65 or Older and For Qualified Persons With Disabilities and Limited Income

Mr. Schwartz moved, and Ms. Baron seconded, that the Board approve the following resolution:

RESOLVED, that real property owned by one or more persons, each of whom is 65 years of age or over, or who qualify as persons with disabilities and limited income as defined by Section 459-c of the Real Property Tax Law, shall be exempt from taxation by the Board of Education of the Dobbs Ferry UFSD of the town of Greenburgh in Westchester County, State of New York, to the extent of 50% of the assessed valuation thereof, subject to the provisions and limitation contained in Sections 467 and 459 of the Real Property Tax Law of the State of New York; provided however, that the property is vested in either spouse, the combined income of both spouses for the

MINUTES

income tax year immediately preceding the date of making the application for exemption is \$37,399.99 or less. This exemption would be in effect from July 1, 2020 through June 30, 2021.

<u>Annual Income</u>	<u>Percentage of Assessed Value Exempt from Taxation</u>
Up to and including \$29,000.00	50%
\$29,000.01 to \$29,999.99	45%
\$30,000.00 to \$30,999.99	40%
\$31,000.00 to \$31,999.99	35%
\$32,000.00 to \$32,899.99	30%
\$32,900.00 to \$33,799.99	25%
\$33,800.00 to \$34,699.99	20%
\$34,700.00 to \$35,599.99	15%
\$35,600.00 to \$36,499.99	10%
\$36,500.00 to \$37,399.99	5%
\$37,400.00 or more	Not Eligible

Mr. Clamser explained that the Board approves this each year and that the amounts did not change from last year.

Vote: 7 - ayes - 0 nays

7.07 CSE/CPSE

Ms. Lucasey moved, and Ms. Stringer seconded, that the Board authorize and direct 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, 2020 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, 2020.

Vote: 7 - ayes - 0 nays

7.08 Personnel Recommendations

Mr. Rosenberg moved, and Mr. Schwartz seconded, that the Board approve the civil service and staff personnel recommendations.

Vote: 7 - ayes - 0 nays

7.09 Policy Revision - Second Reading

The Board conducted a second reading of the following policies:

Mr. Rosenberg moved, and Ms. Lucasey seconded, that the Board adopt the following policy:

- 8121.1 - Opioid Overdose Prevention

Vote: 7 - ayes - 0 nays

Mr. Rosenberg moved, and Ms. Baron seconded, that the Board adopt the following policy:

- 8130.1 - Extreme Risk Protection Orders (The "Red Flag Law")

MINUTES

Vote: 7 - ayes - 0 nays

8. Acknowledgements

8.01 Treasurer's Report

The Board acknowledged receipt of the Treasurer's Reports for January and February 2020.

8.02 Warrants

The Board acknowledged receipt of the following warrant:
Warrant No. 38 & 42 Multi.

9. Citizen's Comments

9.01 Notice

Members of the community may comment on any matter related to district business. The Board President may request a brief description of the topic the speaker plans to address. 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.

10. Upcoming Meetings

10.01 Calendar

Tuesday, March 24, 2020 – 7:00 PM – MS/HS Library

- Special Ed Update
- MS Update
- Veteran's Tax Exemption

Tuesday, April 21, 2020 – 7:00 PM – MS/HS Library

- Finalization of 2020-2021 Budget and Budget Adoption
- SWBOCES Vote
- Revenue Forecast
- HS Update

Tuesday, May 5, 2020 – 7:00 PM - MS/HS Library

- Public Hearing - 2010-2021 Budget

11. Adjournment

At 11:37 AM, Ms. Lucasey moved, and Ms. Baron seconded, that the Board adjourn the meeting.

Vote: 7 - ayes - 0 nays

12. Approved Minutes

12.01 Approved Minutes – January 21, 2020