



**Tuesday, April 26, 2022**  
**Business Board Meeting**  
**7:00 PM**

**1. Call to Order**

**2. Opening of the Meeting – 7:02 PM**

**2.01 Pledge of Allegiance**

**2.02 Roll Call**

Ms. Tracy Baron, President; Ms. Shannon Stringer, Vice President; Ms. Jean Lucasey; Mr. Massimo Bufalini; Ms. Penny Sullivan-Nunes; Ms. Brooke Bass; Dr. Lisa Brady, Superintendent; Mr. Ron Clamser, Jr., Assistant Superintendent of Finance, Facilities and Operations; Dr. Darrell Stinchcomb, Assistant Superintendent of Curriculum, Instruction and Equity; and Ms. Loretta Tularzko, District Clerk.

Ms. Rita Kennedy was not in attendance.

**2.03 Acceptance of the Agenda**

Ms. Lucasey moved, and Mr. Bufalini seconded, that the Board accept the April 26th Agenda.

Vote: 6 - ayes - 0 nays

**3. Citizens 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 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.

Mr. Tim Cunningham introduced himself as a candidate running for a Trustee Seat on the Board of Education.

**4. Announcements**

Dobbs Ferry Schools Foundation Gala will be held at the Waterfront on May 20<sup>th</sup> with a rain date on May 21<sup>st</sup>. For more information, please go to the website <https://www.dfsfoundation.org>.

**4.01 Board Member Terms of Office**

Three terms of office of the Dobbs Ferry Board of Education will be expiring on June 30, 2022:

## MINUTES

Three seats for three (3) year terms, July 1, 2022-June 30, 2025

- Ms. Rita Kennedy, Ms. Jean Lucasey, and Ms. Shannon Stringer

The following candidates will be on the May 17, 2022 ballot for the School Board next year:

Jean Lucasey  
Jacqueline Huffman  
Darren Wood  
Shannon Stringer  
Antonio Treglia  
Tim Cunningham

### 4.02 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 9, 2022, 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 17, 2022.*

### 4.03 Absentee Ballot Information

The Governor extended the potential for contracting the COVID-19 virus as an illness as a legitimate reason for receiving an absentee ballot. It means that if someone checks the "illness or disability" box on the absentee ballot application, fear of having COVID-19 is included within that category.

Absentee Ballot Applications may be requested in writing or by email:

District Clerk  
Superintendent's Office  
Dobbs Ferry High School  
505 Broadway  
Dobbs Ferry, New York 10522  
[tularzkol@dfsd.org](mailto:tularzkol@dfsd.org)

Upon receiving a timely application for an absentee ballot, the District Clerk will send it to the voter via US mail or email. Completed applications must be received by the District Clerk no more than thirty (30) days and at least seven (7) days before the election if the ballot is to be mailed to the voter, or the day before the election if the ballot is to be emailed or picked up personally by the voter or the voter's authorized agent set forth in the application at the District Clerk's Office.

Completed absentee ballots must be received in person or US mail no later than 5:00 PM, prevailing time, on May 17, 2022.

Voter Qualifications:

- Must be a citizen of the United States.
- Must be 18 years of age or older.
- Must have been a resident of the school district for a period of 30 days or more prior to May 17, 2022.

## 5. Superintendent's Report

Schools are closed on Tuesday, May 3rd in observance of Eid-al-Fitr

District Tri-States Visit next week May 4-5. We have 17 members of the visiting team from schools in NY, NJ and CT. The focus of the visit is our DEI work related to Welcoming and Affirming Environment. Thank you to Darrell and Amber as well as the principals, APs and teachers who are participating in the visit and have provided artifacts and classroom visitation invitations.

May is First Responders Month - we will celebrate the month with flags in all three buildings, a visiting day at Springhurst with a breakfast sponsored by the PTSA and local Dobbs Ferry First Responders doing morning announcements in all three schools. We are also working on additional activities with the HS Activities Branch.

## MINUTES

### Dobbs Ferry High School

1. U.S. News Ranking: I am pleased to share that we once again did exceptionally well on the *U.S. News and World Report* high school rankings that were released this morning. DFHS was ranked 43 (up 9 spots) out of 1,325 in NYS, and 380 (up 96 spots) out of 17,843 high schools ranked nationally. The six indicators used to determine the rankings as per *U.S. News* were as follows:
  - College readiness (30%): Based on the proportions of 12th grade students who took and earned a qualifying score on AP and/or IB exams.
  - State Assessment Proficiency (20%)
  - State Assessment Performance (20%)
  - Underserved Student Performance (10%)
  - College Curriculum Breadth (10%)
  - Graduation Rate (10%)
2. IB CAS Fundraiser: Sarah Grosso and our students are currently leading a fundraiser to provide access to clean water for millions throughout the world. It is a true example of putting the IB Learner Profile into action with internationally-minded service.
3. District Chorus Festival: Congratulations to Georgia DeFalco and Springhurst's Nathaniel Wardlaw for leading our first district chorus festival yesterday at the high school! The Springhurst Harmonaires, Middle School Flight & Glee singing groups, and High School Octet, AcaFellas, and Chorus all participated. The groups worked on pieces with guest conductor LaFredrick Coaxner, Julliard graduate and director of music at the Abyssinian Baptist Church in Harlem. The festivities included an in-school concert and culminated in a finale with all 125 participants singing "Let the River Run" conducted by Lafredrick Coaxner. The PTSA generously donated the T-shirts in what will surely become an annual event.
4. DFHS Blood Drive: Congratulations to Rebecca Wing and her team on leading yet another successful blood drive last week! In total, we had 68 life-saving donations for a total of 204 lives that our blood drive will be able to help throughout the community and in our area hospitals. Thank you to everyone who donated.
5. DFHS - South Korea Partnership: The DFHS leadership team met with the team from Daegu High School of International Studies (DHI) which is located in South Korea (approximately three hours from Seoul) a few weeks back. The connection was made by former DFHS principal Keith Yi who now works for the IBO as the Dual Language Diploma Program Project Coordinator for South Korea. He was joined by a team from DHI and Dr. Falino was joined on the call by Marion Halberg (current IB DP Coordinator), Michelle Haggerty (future IB DP Coordinator), and Mary Alice Fahy (future IB DP CAS Coordinator). After initial introductions, the schools talked about some exciting possibilities for connecting our students and school with a possible focus on service. We are very much looking forward to the possibilities of what a partnership of this nature can look like for our students and school.

### Springhurst

- Julia Drake was selected as this year's recipient for Manhattanville's Distinguished Dissertation Research Award. The Distinguished Dissertation Research Award is "given to a graduate of the doctoral program who is recognized by the faculty as producing the highest overall quality dissertation among nominees in a given year. Her dissertation on perceptions of female superintendent's. She received feedback from over 425 female superintendents in the country.

### Middle School

- Wellness Day is scheduled for May 13th with lots of interesting and fun activities for the students designed to focus on mental health, wellness, and self-care. A huge thank you to the MS mental health team for all of their hard work on this initiative.

## 6. Correspondence

### 6.01 BOE Correspondence

The Board acknowledged the following:

1. Email concerning the spring break dates

## 7. Committee Reports

# MINUTES

## 7.01 Committee Reports

Facilities - 4/26

- Update on the softball field – the field will be turned to the District on May 10, so the girls can play the first game there.
- Some of the outstanding issues have been fixed
  - The piece of concrete that was coming out too much from the dugout
  - The clay moisture is good
  - The sod was deemed to be satisfactory for play
- The Board Members asked Tetra Tech to make sure that we receive some written assurances that the field was in good shape, and our warranty would be in full effect.
- A change order was submitted to the softball field project to include a pathway through the wooded area from Children's Village to Springhurst. All signs indicate that it's a go and should be done in about two weeks.

Is it a paved path?

- Yes, an asphalt path, with a fence and a gate that can be locked.
- Capital Project phase 2
  - There's about \$4 million available after the main projects are completed that can be used on various other things.
  - There is a slideshow with the minutes that you can view to see several things being considered.
  - We have to work on the scope and the budget that needs to be reviewed by the NYSED and approved.
  - Anticipated construction will not happen until probably summer of 2024.
- Pest management at Springhurst
  - We had a termite situation on one of the walls by the garden. It has been eradicated, there are no termites, but we still have termite stations as a prevention measure. They are interfering with the work in the outdoor classroom, and the staff asked us to move the traps. Dave Robertin will speak to pest management and see if we can use fewer traps.

Question regarding the Capital Projects?

- Will the entire Board have the opportunity to review the plans?
  - Before we decide on what exactly will be done of course it will go back to the committee and full Board.

*To view the entire meeting visit our website under the News and Views tab and click on TV Programming/Video*

## 8. Board Actions

### 8.01 Sports Mergers

At 9:47 PM, Mr. Bufalini moved, and Ms. Sullivan-Nunes seconded, to approve the following team mergers:

Varsity Girls Swim: Merged with Ardsley - fall 2022 season

Varsity Boys Swim: Merged with Ardsley, Edgemont, Hastings, Irvington - winter 22/23 season

Varsity Boys Hockey: Merged with Irvington, Leffel, Ardsley, Ossining, Sleepy Hollow - winter 22/23 season

Vote: 6 - ayes - 0 nays

### 8.02 Policy Revision - First Reading

The Board conducted a first reading of the following policy. It will be moved to a second reading at the next Board Meeting.

- 1260 - School District Officer and Employee Code of Ethics

## 9. Acknowledgements

# MINUTES

## 9.01 Warrant

The Board acknowledged the following warrant:  
Warrant No. 54 Multi.

## 10. Citizens Comments

### 10.01 Notice

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None.

## 11. Old Business

None.

## 12. New Business

The Board asked when the Claims Auditor should meet with the Board again. The District Clerk will check her records and let the Board know when it last met with Denise Connell.

As we get closer to May 18, we need to see if we have a quorum to accept the budget/trustee results.

Send ideas for a work session to Tracy.

## 13. Upcoming Meetings

### 13.01 Calendar

Tuesday, April 26, 2022 - 7:00 PM - MS/HS Library

Tuesday, May 10, 2022 - 7:00 PM - MS/HS Library

- Public Hearing - Budget

## 14. Executive Session

### 14.01 Executive Session

At 7:33 PM, Ms. Lucasey moved, and Ms. Bass seconded, that the Board recesses into Executive Session for the following purposes: *to discuss the employment history of a particular non-pedagogical employee and the employment history of particular candidates for appointment to the position of superintendent of schools.*

The Board would not be returning to public session to take any action(s).

Vote: 6 - ayes - 0 nays

Ms. Kennedy joined the meeting at 8:05 PM.

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At 8:19 PM, Mr. Bufalini moved, and Ms. Lucasey seconded, to appoint Ms. Stringer as Clerk Pro Tem.

Vote: 7 ayes - 0 nays

At 9:13 PM, Ms. Lucasey moved, and Ms. Bass seconded, to move back to the Public Meeting.

Vote: 7 ayes - 0 nays

### 15. Adjournment

At 9:14 PM, Ms. Sullivan-Nunes moved, and Mr. Bufalini seconded, that the Board adjourn the meeting.

Vote: 7 - ayes - 0 nays



### 16. Approved Minutes

#### 16.01 March 8, 18, 21, and 22, 2022

Loretta Tularzko  
District Clerk