



Tuesday, September 24, 2019
Work Session Meeting
MS/HS Media Center, 7:00 PM

1. Reception - 6:30 p.m. MS/HS Media Center

1.01 Reception

A reception was hosted by the PTSA for the tenured and new staff in the MS/HS Library.

2. Call to Order

3. Regular Meeting Opening 7:03 p.m.

3.01 Pledge of Allegiance

3.02 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..

3.03 Acceptance of the Agenda

Mr. Rosenberg moved, and Ms. Baron seconded, that the Board accept the September 24th Agenda.

Vote: 7 - ayes - 0 nays

3.04 Approval of Minutes

Ms. Lucasey moved, and Mr. Schwartz seconded, that the Board approve the minutes of the August 21, 2019 meeting.

Vote: 6 - ayes - 0 nays – 1 abstention – Tracy Baron

4. 2019-2020 School Year

4.01 New Tenure Staff

Dr. Brady welcomed everyone and remarked how this is the favorite Board meeting of the year. It is a wonderful testament to our District to have all our newly tenured and new teachers meet the Board of Education and have their colleagues here to support them.

Each school principal introduced their respective tenured and new staff.

Each tenured teacher was introduced with a description of their experience, their classroom performance and contribution to our schools and/or their unique qualifications.

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Dr. Falino, High School Principal, introduced the following:

Michelle Haggerty	Math
Maria Petruolo	Foreign Language

Ms. Mussolini, Middle School Principal, introduced the following:

Kelly Doelz	Special Education
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Ms. Julia Drake, Springhurst School Principal, introduced the following:

Melinda Canary	Special Education
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4.02 Introduction of New Staff

Dr. Brady and the principals of each school introduced their respective new staff.

District	Jean Gismervik Amber Klebanoff
High School	Jillian Pallone Radene Mitchell Danielle Mueller
Middle School	Justin Deming Lauren Kohn Julissa Marciano Leslie Marx
Springhurst	Marissa Coulehan Christina Del Pilar Meredith Jandovitz

At 7:24 pm, Mr. Rosenberg moved, and Ms. Kennedy seconded, that the Board that a break to allow anyone to leave the meeting if they did not want to stay for the entire meeting.

Vote: 7 - ayes - 0 nays

At 7:28 pm, Ms. Stringer moved, and Ms. Baron seconded, that the Board resume the meeting.

Vote: 7 - ayes - 0 nays

5. Announcements

5.01 Special Bond Vote

On June 11, 2019, the Dobbs Ferry Board of Education voted to construct improvements to District buildings and/or sites.

Voting will take place on Tuesday, October 22, 2019, during the hours of 7:00 AM and 9:00 PM in the HS Gymnasium for all qualified voters.

5.02 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 Thursday, October 10, 2019 between 3:30 PM and 7:30 PM in the HS

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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 October 22, 2019.

5.03 Absentee Ballot Applications

Any registered community resident who has a valid reason for being unable to vote in person may pick up an Application for an Absentee Ballot in the District Office or download an application from the District website under the BOE tab.

All applications must be mailed to the District Clerk no later than October 15, 2019, or delivered in person no later than 5:00 PM on October 22, 2019.

Additional Announcements

- PTSA Pumpkin Fair – 10/26 – 10:00am – 4:00pm – Springhurst
- SPRING will begin their annual coat drive – 9/26 – 10/18 – drop off boxes will be available in each school and at the CNS at 343 Broadway.
- WPSBA will be holding a session on Promoting Mental for All -Thursday, October 10 7:00 – 8:00pm at the Foster Farm, Brewster - 100 NY 312

6. Superintendent's Report

Dr. Brady began her report by requesting a Moment of Silence in memory of Mr. DePaulo's life which was sadly taken last Friday night by an automobile accident. He was a lifetime resident of Dobbs Ferry and a great fan of football.

The last BTS Night will be at Springhurst for grades (3-5) tomorrow night (Wednesday) at 7 p.m.

Thank you to all who attended the HS, MS, and Springhurst (K-2) BTS Nights

The BOE has a table at all BTS Nights to provide information and answer questions related to the Capital Project Bond Vote on 10/22.

There will be a Community Forum at the MS/HS on Wednesday, October 2 at 7 p.m. in the MS/HS Library with our architects from Tetra Tech, the BOE and administration.

The BOE will have a table at the Ferry Festa on Saturday, October 5 from 1 to 8 p.m. across from Village Hall with information and to answer questions.

There will be a Community Forum at Springhurst on Tuesday, October 8 at 8:40 a.m. in the cafeteria with our architects from Tetra Tech, the BOE, and administration.

The Bond Vote is scheduled for Tuesday, October 22. The PTSA and Dobbs Ferry Schools Foundation are working with the superintendent to publicize the vote.

Update on SEL:

The District will be conducting a survey of all students in grades 3 - 12 using the Panorama SEL survey. Parents will be notified this week and students will take the 15-minute survey in classes next week. The Panorama survey is one of the most highly regarded surveys in the country and has been developed by CASEL (Center of Academic, Social and Emotional Learning) aligned to the 5 core competencies for SEL (self-awareness, self-management, social awareness, relationship skills and responsible decision-making). Once we receive the data, we plan to have the building-level compact committees engage with the data so that there is a focus based on the data from the students in each school that can be used by the compact committees to develop some focus for the year.

In addition, the District will be looking at the data to ascertain areas of concern or strengths that are common across all schools (if in fact, this exists). We are already working on the redesign of the MS and HS schedules

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which is a big component of this work from a District perspective. The schedule is also a main area identified by Challenge Success which we have studied and plan to apply for the 2020-2021 school year. Their applications are closed for the current year but the work that we are doing for this year will position us well for our work with them since much of what we are doing is aligned to their program.

It might also be a good idea for the District/BOE to read Denise Pope's book *Overchallenged and Underprepared* as one of our Work Session topics this year in preparation for our work with Challenge Success.

Books Chats:

We have 95 staff reading the Trevor Noah book - *Born a Crime*. I have 8 books chats scheduled between next week and mid-December.

7. Citizen's Comments

7.01 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.

8. Committee Reports

Student Activities & Athletics - 9/11

NYS Annual letter outlining that no dates for scheduled state tournaments etc. will be rescheduled for SATs, PSATs etc.

New Clubs: Middle School American Sign Language Club Proposal

Varsity Softball Spring Break: A trip that is proposed for every other year. In the past, the girls have fundraised about \$10,000 for the full team and each girl contributes about \$600 each for the trip. This would be the third year that the girls go on the trip.

Fall Sports Update:

JV Girls Soccer (11-12 girls) these numbers are consistent with the rest of Westchester.

Modified Volleyball - we have 28 girls signed up to play.

Ski Update: we will continue with our current merger.

Finance - 9/17

1. Tax Certiorari & Related Legal Items Discussion can't be discussed in public.
2. 2018-19 Budget Status
Expenses are over budget by approximately \$260,000 due to unanticipated expenses. Both the auditor and our attorney concur that this should be addressed by BOE resolution on 9/24. The combined effect of the revenue shortfall and budget overage will result in a \$700,000 reduction in unassigned fund balance. This will leave our fund balance at approximately 2.1% of the subsequent years budget (the limit is 4%).

9. Board Actions

9.01 Dobbs Ferry Schools Foundation Grant

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

Julia Drake & Ray Cavallo to attend the Educate for Equity Conference - \$790 (\$395 each)

9/24/19

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Douglas DiStefano to attend the Froebel USA Conference - \$400

The Board thanked the Foundation for their continued generous support.

Vote: 7 - ayes - 0 nays

9.02 Settlement Agreement

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

"BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education does hereby approve the Settlement and Release Agreement in regard to Student No. 10045; 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: 6 - ayes - 1 nay – Ms. Lucasey

9.03 Budget Increase

Ms. Stringer moved, and Mr. Rosenberg seconded, that the Board increase the 2018-19 budget to pay for the cost of unanticipated expenses that consist of ordinary contingent expenses:

Budget Account	Description	Decrease	Increase
A 1620-161-08-0000	OPERATIONS OT/BLDG CHK		-41,082.84
A 1621-200-08-0000	MAINTENANCE-EQUIPMENT	2,062.13	
A 1621-401-08-0000	MAINT PROJECTS	10,615.42	
A 2110-120-01-1050	TCH REG-K SALARY		-9,920.33
A 2110-120-02-6100	TCH REG-PHYS ED SALARY		-9,300.77
A 2110-130-02-5300	TCH REG-MUSIC SALARY		-6,920.27
A 2110-130-03-4400	TCH REG-SCIENCE SALARY		-20,584.55
A 2110-130-03-6100	TCH REG-PHYS ED SALARY		-9,300.78
A 2110-140-01-0000	TCH REG-PER DIEM SUBS -SH		-19,340.00
A 2110-140-02-0000	TCH REG-PER DIEM SUBS -MS		-9,987.42
A 2110-140-03-3000	TCH REG-PERMANENT		-8,815.00
A 2110-153-02-0000	TCH REG-OVRLD/EXTR PER-MS		-6,207.61
A 2110-154-03-0000	TCH REG-AFTSCH/SAT ACD-HS		-16,051.48
A 2110-160-01-8122	AIDES/MONITORS		-7,094.62
A 2110-200-02-2000	TCH REG-EQUIPMENT-MS	200.94	
A 2250-150-00-8110	DIRECTOR OF SPECIAL ED		-5,501.12
A 2250-150-02-6300	SPEC ED-SAL-SPCH & LNG		-9,599.15
A 2250-150-02-7230	SPEC ED-SAL-RESOURC RM		-12,303.98
A 2250-465-00-7200	SPEC ED-RELATED SRVCS	13,282.79	
A 2250-470-03-0000	SPEC ED-TUITION - 9-12	3,777.10	
A 2630-220-00-5500	COMPUTER HARDWARE DST	10,528.71	
A 2630-220-01-5500	COMPUTER HARDWARE SPR	681.48	
A 2630-220-02-5500	COMPUTER HARDWARE MS	776.15	
A 2630-220-03-5500	COMPUTER HARDWARE HS	769.68	
A 2630-220-06-5500	COMPUTER HARDWARE SPEC ED	2,155.98	
A 2850-150-01-7850	COCURRIC-SPR-STIPENDS		-22,036.51
A 2850-150-03-7850	COCURRIC-HS-STIPENDS	13,778.51	
A 5540-436-09-0000	CONTR TRANS-IN DISTRICT	2,990.65	
A 9010-810-00-0000	EMPLOYEE RETIREMENT	3,964.86	
A 9030-830-00-0000	SOCIAL SECURITY	269.61	
A 9040-840-00-0000	WORKERS' COMP	623.64	

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A 9060-860-00-0000	MEDICAL INS-PREMIUMS	3,975.13	
A 9060-861-00-0000	MEDICAL INS-WAIVER PMTS		-33,114.62
A 9060-862-00-0000	MEDICAL - MEDICARE PMTS		-70,874.51
A 9901-950-00-0000	TRANSFER TO SPEC AID FD		-14,049.04
A 917.00	UNASSIGNED FUND BALANCE	261,631.82	

Vote: 7 - ayes - 0 nays

9.04 Settlement of a Tax Certiorari Proceeding

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

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of the Dobbs Ferry Union Free School District, hereby authorize its attorneys, Shaw Perelson, May & Lambert, LLP to execute a Consent Judgment in a tax certiorari proceeding captioned 99 Main Street Corp. v. Town of Greenburgh and Dobbs Ferry Union Free School District;

And it is Further Resolved, that the Board authorize the refund of taxes as required by the terms of the Consent Judgment.

Vote: 7 - ayes - 0 nays

9.05 October 22, 2019 Special Bond Vote Board of Registry and Election Inspector

Ms. Kennedy moved, and Ms. Baron seconded, that the Board appoint the Board of Registry and Election Inspectors for the October 10 and October 22, 2019 Special Bond Vote.

Vote: 7 - ayes - 0 nays

9.06 October 22, 2019 Special Bond Vote Vendors

Mr. Rosenberg moved, and Ms. Stringer seconded, that the Board approve the following authorized vendors in connection with the October 22, 2019 Special Bond Vote:

Westchester Board of Elections

- Four voting machines; three 3 privacy booths
- Poll Books
- Poll Lists - Active and Permanently Disabled

Ron's Trucking

- Delivery and return of voting machines and privacy booths to the Board of Elections

Phoenix Graphics

- Ballot Printing and shipping

Alperson Party Rentals

- 12 Stanchions & 8 ropes

Vote: 7 - ayes - 0 nays

10. Acknowledgements

10.01 Warrants

The Board acknowledged receipt of the following warrant:
Warrant No.12 Multi.

11. Citizen's Comments

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11.01 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.

12. Old Business

None.

13. New Business

13.01 2019 Proposed Bylaw Amendments and Resolutions

- The Board will vote on the Amendments and Resolutions at the October 15th meeting.
- Tracy Baron will cast the Board's vote at the convention.

The Policy Committee will review all resolutions and amendments and inform the Board of their recommendations, prior to the Oct. 15th meeting.

14. Upcoming Meetings

14.01 Calendar

Thursday, September 26, 2019 - 5:00 PM – Board Room

- Board Retreat

Tuesday, October 15, 2019 - 7:00 PM - MS/HS Media Center

- Public Hearing - District-Wide Safety & Emergency Management Plan
- Independent Auditor Report

Tuesday, October 29, 2019 - 7:00 PM - MS/HS Media Center

- Work Session

15. Executive Session

At 7:58 PM, Ms. Baron moved, and Ms. Stringer seconded, that the Board recess into Executive Session for the following purposes: *to discuss the contract of the Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum and Instruction, the contracts of the DFAA and the DFUT, the employment history of a particular employee, and strategy regarding potential litigation.*

Vote: 7 - ayes - 0 nays

The Board will return to the Public Session in the Board Room.

Ms. Baron moved, and Mr. Schwartz seconded, to appoint Ms. Kennedy as Clerk Pro Tem.

Vote: 7 - ayes - 0 nays

At 9:17 PM, Ms. Stringer moved, and Ms. Johnson seconded, to move back to the Public Meeting.

Vote: 7 ayes - 0 nays

15. Adjournment

At 9:17 PM, Ms. Baron moved, and Ms. Lucasey seconded, that the Board adjourn the meeting.

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Vote: 7 - ayes - 0 nays

17. Approved Minutes

17.01 Approved Minutes – August 21, 2019 Meeting

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Loretha Saluzko".

District Clerk