



APPROVED MINUTES

Tuesday, September 30, 2025
Regular Meeting
7:00 p.m.
MS/HS Library Presentation Room

1. Call to Order - Regular Meeting

B. Bass called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m.

2. Meeting Opening

2.01 Pledge of Allegiance

B. Bass requested a motion to appoint K. Slentz as clerk pro tem.

D. Wood moved and P. Sullivan-Nunes seconded, that the board appoint K. Slentz as clerk pro tem.

Vote: 7 ayes, 0 nays

2.02 Roll Call

Brooke Bass, President; Penny Sullivan-Nunes, Vice President; Darren Wood; Pavithra Nagarajan; Rebecca Hershberg; Mindy Walker; Sudha Reddy; Kenneth Slentz, Superintendent; Lisa Raymond, Assistant Director of Finance, Facilities and Operations; Darrell Stinchcomb, Assistant Superintendent of Curriculum, Instruction, and Equity; Ken Slentz, Superintendent and clerk pro tem.

2.03 Approval of Minutes

B. Bass requested a motion to approve the minutes of the September 16, 2025 meeting.

S. Reddy moved and R. Hershberg seconded, that the board approve the September 16, 2025 minutes.

Vote: 6 ayes, 0 nays, 1 abstention (P. Sullivan-Nunes)

2.04 Acceptance of the Agenda

B. Bass requested a motion to accept the September 30, 2025 agenda.

D. Wood moved and P. Nagarajan seconded, that the board accept the September 16, 2025 agenda.

Vote: 7 ayes, 0 nays



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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, 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.

4. Correspondence

4.01 Board Correspondence

The board acknowledged correspondence regarding artificial Intelligence.

5. Announcements

The superintendent encouraged the community to attend one of the many sports competitions that are taking place in the fall season. Each of our teams is having success thus far in the season.

6. Board Committee Reports

6.01 Committee Reports

P. Nagarajan reported the following information and updates from the September 16, 2025 curriculum, instruction, and equity committee meeting:

D. Stinchcomb provided an overview on the following topics:

- Student performance data from state assessments. Administrators will provide a full report to the board at the October 14 meeting.
- Establishing a Curriculum Advisory Council as required by Policy 4200. A steering committee is in place and the larger council will be in place shortly.
- The DEI plan will be revised this year with the help of the districtwide task force.
- D. Stinchcomb and Springhurst staff met with NYSED's Office of Early Learning to discuss the steps necessary to establish a universal pre-kindergarten program for the 2026-27 school year.
- The district is developing an *Eagles Academy* for summer 2026 that will include academic support and enrichment opportunities for our students.



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Committee minutes are posted on the district website.

7. Board Actions

K. Slentz requested that action item 7.01 be revised to reflect that the resignation of Denise Shillue be tabled until further notice.

B. Bass requested a motion to accept the revised item.

S. Reddy moved and R. Hershberg seconded, that the board accept the revised item.

Vote: 7 ayes, 0 nays

7.01 Personnel - Professional/Certificated Staff

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of the Dobbs Ferry Union Free School District, hereby move to approve the Professional Personnel recommendations.

1. Resignation - TABLED

(a) Denise Shillue, probationary K-12 Teaching Assistant
Location: Dobbs Ferry School District (Springhurst)
Effective: October 20, 2025

2. Temporary, Seasonal or Annual Appointment

(a) Donna Zaicek, temporary (leave replacement) Special Education Teacher
Location: Dobbs Ferry Middle School
Effective: approximately October 1, 2025 and for up to 12 weeks
Compensation: MA, Step 3 (\$73,502) prorated.
Certification: K-12 Special Education
Note: Replaces C. Grenier

(b) Emilia Ducic, Per Diem Substitute Teacher
Location: Dobbs Ferry Middle School
Effective: October 1, 2025 - June 25, 2026
Compensation: \$125.00 per day, \$62.50 per half day

3. Special Class Assignment

(a) F. Coelho
Location: Dobbs Ferry High School
Compensation: \$600 per annum

4. Overages

(a) J. Cox
Location: Dobbs Ferry Middle School
(i) one additional 6th grade PE class every other day, effective August 27, 2025- June 26, 2026.



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Compensation: \$6,556.36 per annum

(ii) one additional health class every other day, effective January 24, 2026 - June 26, 2026 (3rd and 4th quarters)

Compensation: \$3,278.03 per annum

(b) S. Gonzalez (CORRECTION)

Location: Dobbs Ferry Middle School

(i) one additional French class every day, effective August 27, 2025 - November 7, 2025 (1st quarter)

Compensation: \$3,278.03

(c) M. Piparo (CORRECTION)

Location: Dobbs Ferry Middle School

(i) one additional Italian class every day, effective November 8, 2025 - January 23, 2026 (2nd quarter)

Compensation: \$3,278.03

(d) D. Huyter (CORRECTION)

Location: Dobbs Ferry Middle School

(i) one additional Spanish class every day, effective January 24, 2026 - June 26, 2026 (3rd and 4th quarters)

Compensation: \$6,556.36

5. Spanish Translation

(a) C. Centeno

(b) M. Guerrero

Location: Dobbs Ferry School District

Compensation: \$50.00 per hour.

6. Leave of Absence

(a) Elizabeth DePonto, Occupational Therapist

Location: Springhurst Elementary School

Effective: approximately January 23, 2026, and for up to 12 weeks

Note: FMLA

7. Home Tutors

Location: Dobbs Ferry High School

Effective: August 27, 2025 - June 26, 2026

Compensation: \$75.00 per hour during school hours, provided that a minimum of \$75.00 is received; \$65.00 per hour after school hours, per hour.

S. Stern

A. Jones

A. Burt

R. Davis

K. Morales

S. Mills

C. Mach

N. Ferro

D. Kahl

K. Ravo

K. Evans

J. McCrane

J. Swart

T. Falconetti



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J. Henry A. Bell
D. Castellano

B. Bass requested a motion to approve the professional/certificated staff actions.

M. Walker moved and P. Sullivan-Nunes seconded, to approve the professional/certificated staff actions.

Vote: 7 ayes, 0 nays

7.02 Approval of Revised Districtwide Safety Plan

BE IT RESOLVED, that having satisfied the public hearing and 30-day public posting requirement, the Board of Education of the Dobbs Ferry Union Free School District hereby moves to adopt the districtwide Safety Plan for the 2025-26 school year.

B. Bass requested a motion to approve the revised districtwide safety plan.

D. Wood moved and P. Sullivan-Nunes seconded, to approve the revised districtwide safety plan.

B. Bass thanked the community member who sent in a comment on the plan and the revision process.

Vote: 7 ayes, 0 nays

7.03 CSE/CPSE Recommendations

WHEREAS the Committee on Special Education and Committee on Pre-School Special Education had issued to the board by written confidential report dated September 22, 2025 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 authorizes and directs the administration to immediately arrange for the special programs and services as set forth in said report dated September 22, 2025.

B. Bass requested a motion to approve the CSE/CPSE recommendations.

P. Nagarajan moved and D. Wood seconded, to approve the CSE/CPSE recommendations.

Vote: 7 ayes, 0 nays



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7.04 Village Green Condominium v. Town of Greenburgh & Dobbs Ferry UFSD - Refund Payment

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 Village Green Condominium as consented to at the May 6, 2025 Board meeting:

Revenue Account to Increase	Amount	Expenditure Account to Increase	Amount
A5997.864 Appropriate Reserve for Tax Certiorari	\$71,492.70	A1930-434-99-8002 Tax Certiorari	\$71,492.70

B. Bass requested a motion to approve the refund payment.

D. Wood moved and S. Reddy seconded, to approve the refund payment.

Vote: 7 ayes, 0 nays

7.05 Contract for Special Education Services

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of the Dobbs Ferry Union Free School District, hereby move to approve the attached Contract for Special Education Services between the Pleasantville Union Free School District and the Dobbs Ferry Union Free School District for the 2025-26 school year, and authorizes the Superintendent or the Assistant Superintendent for Finance, Facilities, and Operations to sign for the district.

B. Bass requested a motion to approve the contract for special education services.

M. Walker moved and D. Wood seconded, to approve the contract for special education services.

Vote: 7 ayes, 0 nays

7.06 Consultant Service Agreement

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of the Dobbs Ferry Union Free School District, hereby move to approve the attached Consultant Service Agreement between the Caryl Oris, MD and the Dobbs Ferry Union Free School District for the 2025-26 school year, and authorizes the Superintendent or the Assistant Superintendent for Finance, Facilities, and Operations to sign for the district.

B. Bass requested a motion to approve the consultant service agreement.

P. Sullivan-Nunes moved and R. Hershberg seconded, to approve the consultant service agreement.

Vote: 7 ayes, 0 nays



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7.07 Acceptance of Foundation Grant

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of the Dobbs Ferry Union Free School District, hereby move to accept the following curriculum grant from the Dobbs Ferry Schools Foundation in an amount not to exceed \$8,750.

Name of Grant	Teacher(s)/Staff	School	Amount
Happy Hearts Yoga	Emily Mandel	Springhurst	\$8,750

B. Bass requested a motion to approve the donation.

P. Nagarajan moved and R. Hershberg seconded, to approve the donation with thanks to the Dobbs Ferry Schools Foundation.

Vote: 7 ayes, 0 nays

7.08 Approval of Transportation Contracts - Ardsley UFSD

WHEREAS, Dobbs Ferry Union Free School District entered into transportation contracts with Ardsley Union Free School District in June 2025 for summer special education transportation from July 1 2025 through August 31, 2025, and other student transportation from September 1, 2025 through June 30, 2026.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education hereby authorizes the Board President to execute such Agreement on behalf of the Dobbs Ferry Union Free District with Ardsley Union Free School District as presented to the Board at this meeting. A copy of such agreements shall be incorporated by reference within the minutes of this meeting.

B. Bass requested a motion to approve the transportation contracts.

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

Vote: 7 ayes, 0 nays

7.09 School Lunch Fund Budget Proposal

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of the Dobbs Ferry Union Free School District, hereby, move to adopt the School Lunch Budget for the 2025-26 School Year.

2025-2026 Revenue \$754,150
2025-2026 Expenditures \$754,150

B. Bass requested a motion to approve the school lunch fund budget.

R. Hershberg moved and M. Walker seconded, to approve the school lunch fund budget.

Vote: 7 ayes, 0 nays

8. Citizens' Comments

8.01 Notice



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None.

9. Old Business

The board discussed the delegate for this year's NYSSBA resolution session. Members should contact B. Bass or P. Sullivan-Nunes before October 9, 2025 if interested.

10. New Business

None.

11. Upcoming Meetings

11.01 Calendar

Tuesday, October 14, 2025 - 7:00 p.m. - MS/HS Library Presentation Room

- Regular Meeting

Tuesday, October 28, 2025 - 7:00 p.m. - MS/HS Library

- Regular Meeting

12. Acknowledgements

12.01 Warrants

The board acknowledged the following warrant:

#0031 - Multi

12.02 Fund Balance Allocation

The board acknowledged the final allocation of 2024-25 end-of-year balances in accordance with the June 24, 2025 resolution.

13. Adjournment

B. Bass requested a motion to adjourn the September 30, 2025 meeting.



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D. Wood moved and R. Hershberg seconded, to adjourn the meeting at 7:20 p.m.

Vote: 7 ayes, 0 nays

Ken Slentz
District Clerk Pro Tem