

MINUTES



**Tuesday, March 21, 2023
Business Meeting
7:00 PM**

1. Videoconferencing Notice

Ms. Stringer participated via videoconference.

2. Call to Order

Ms. Lucasey called the meeting to order at 7:04 PM.

3. Meeting Opening

3.01 Pledge of Allegiance

3.02 Roll Call

Ms. Jean Lucasey, President; Ms. Brooke Bass, Vice President; Ms. Tracy Baron; Mr. Massimo Bufalini; Ms. Shannon Stringer; Ms. Penny Sullivan-Nunes; Mr. Darren Wood; 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; and Ms. Loretta Tularzko, Acting District Clerk

3.03 Acceptance of the Agenda

Mr. Wood moved and Ms. Sullivan-Nunes seconded, to accept the March 21, 2023 agenda.

Vote: 7 ayes, 0 nays

3.04 Approval of Minutes

Mr. Bufalini moved and Ms. Bass seconded, to approve the minutes of March 7, 2023.

Vote: 7 ayes, 0 nays

Mr. Wood moved and Mr. Bufalini seconded, to approve the minutes of March 13, 2023.

Vote: 6 ayes, 0 nays, 1 abstention by Ms. Baron

4. Citizen's Comments

4.01 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

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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

5. Correspondence

5.01 Correspondence for March 21, 2023

The Board received correspondence about substitute teacher rate of pay.

6. Announcements

Ms. Baron discussed the Narcan training course provided by the Dobbs Ferry Community Youth Services Coalition and encouraged members and the community to take the training.

Ms. Lucasey announced that the District would be hosting a luncheon for the Dobbs Ferry senior citizens with a preview of Chicago: Teen Edition musical revue on March 23rd.

Mr. Slentz announced that the performances of Chicago: Teen Edition would be held on Friday, March 24 at 7:00 p.m. and on Saturday, March 25 at 1:00 p.m. and 7:00 p.m.

6.01 **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 Saturday, April 1, 2023, 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).

6.02 **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 8, 2023 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 16, 2023.

6.03 **Board Member Terms of Office:** Two terms of office of the Dobbs Ferry Board of Education will be expiring on June 30, 2023:

Two seats for two three (3)-year terms, July 1, 2023-June 30, 2026
Ms. Tracy Baron, and Mr. Massimo Bufalini

Ms. Baron and Mr. Bufalini stated that they did not intend to run for a next term.

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 17, 2023. Twenty-five (25) signatures of qualified voters in the district are required.

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7. Committee Reports

7.01 Facilities

Ms. Bass updated the Board on the Committee's discussions which included:

- The current status of Phase 1 of the capital project and the close out processes that were underway.
- Planning for Phase 2 of the capital project including the estimated funding.
- The current status of the custodial and landscaping contracts and how they are being managed.
- The status of the emergency communications initiative at Springhurst elementary.

8. Reports to the Board

8.01 Revised Budget Framework

Dr. Clamser and Mr. Slentz presented the 2023-2024 Budget Development Framework Board, which included:

to the

- A revised expenditure plan based on the cost of maintaining all current programs and personnel.
- A revised revenue budget with various tax levy scenarios and the associated impact on tax rate and school programming.
- An overview of the tax cap calculation and the impact of the significant increase in the tax base in the District.
- A recommendation that the Board take advantage of the tax base growth and adopt a budget at the tax cap of 5.02%, which would allow administration to address student, program, and facilities needs that have been identified.
- Next steps include a recommended budget on April 11, 2023.

The framework presentation, attached to the agenda and incorporated into these minutes by reference, is posted on the District's Budget Information page for review.

Ms. Lucasey thanked Board members for the amount of time, study, and work that they have invested into the budget process to this point.

9. Superintendent Report

9.01 Implementation Updates

Dr. Stinchcomb and Ms. Yang-Kaczmarek presented an update on the work being done in the district to implement the Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Plan. They noted that the work was becoming embedded in each of the schools and that professional development was ongoing..

Mr. Slentz provided an overview of Student Support Services to the Board and noted how our student needs have grown due in part to the pandemic. We currently have increased post-pandemic needs for supports and staff training.

10. Board Actions

10.01 Personnel

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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 Personnel recommendations.

Ms. Baron moved and Ms. Bass seconded, to approve the resolution.

Mr. Slentz highlighted the appointment of the senior office assistant for the high school.

Vote: 7 ayes, 0 nays

10.02 Acceptance of Donation

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of the Dobbs Ferry Union Free School District, hereby move to accept a donation of a weight rack for the fitness center from Bobby Albert, Dobbs Ferry Crossfit.

Mr. Bufalini moved and Ms. Bass seconded, to approve the resolution.

Vote: 7 ayes, 0 nays

The Board thanked Bobby Albert for the thoughtful donation.

10.03 Acceptance of Donation

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of the Dobbs Ferry Union Free School District, hereby move to accept the following grant in the amount of \$1,800 from the Dobbs Ferry Schools Foundation:

Name of Grant	Type	Teacher(s)/Staff	School	Amount
Nature Station Visit	Field Trip/Curriculum	Meredith Jandovitz	Springhurst	\$1,800

Ms. Sullivan-Nunes moved and Ms. Bass seconded, to approve the resolution.

Vote: 7 ayes, 0 nays

The Board thanked the Education Foundation for their continued support of our students and staff.

10.04 Budget Transfer

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of the Dobbs Ferry Union Free School District, hereby move to approve the following budget transfer from Transfer to Capital Fund to Fuel Oil to cover the increase in fuel oil prices:

Account	Decrease	Increase
A 9903-900-00-0000 Transfer to Capital Fund	\$40,000	
A 1620-421-08-1000 Operations Fuel Oil SH		\$40,000

Mr. Wood moved and Ms. Baron seconded, to approve the resolution.

Vote: 7 ayes, 0 nays

10.05 Change Order

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of the Dobbs Ferry Union Free School District, hereby move to approve the following change order:

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Project #	Change Order #	Contractor	Amount	Description
660403-03-0001019	RC-MHS-2-01	Niko K Construction Corp	\$78,055.90	Credit for unused contingency allowance.

Ms. Stringer moved and Mr. Bufalini seconded, to approve the resolution.

Vote: 7 ayes, 0 nays

10.06 Settlement Agreement

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education does hereby approve the Settlement and Release Agreement in regard to Student No. 11; 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

11. Citizens Comments

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 district business. 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.

12. Old Business:

Ms. Lucasey stated that a Letter to the Editor had been sent to the *Rivertown Enterprise* encouraging community residents to advocate for universal free school meals by writing letters to the Governor. Each of the NYS Assembly and Senate "one house bills" included funding for this and there have been numerous regional advocacy efforts including a recent press conference in Ossining where school and community leaders asked the Governor to act on this initiative.

13. New Business

No new business.

14. Upcoming Meetings

Calendar

Tuesday, April 11, 2023 - 7:00 PM - MS/HS Library

Business Meeting

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Tuesday, April 18, 2023 - 7:00 PM - MS/HS Library

Business Meeting

15. Acknowledgements

The Board acknowledged the receipt of Warrant No. 43 Multi.

16. Adjournment

Ms. Bass moved and Ms. Stringer seconded, to adjourn the meeting at 8:45 PM. ,

Vote: 7 ayes, 0 nays

On behalf of the Board,

Ken Slentz
Superintendent