



Tuesday, January 4, 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. Rita Kennedy; 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.

2.03 Acceptance of the Agenda

Ms. Kennedy moved, and Mr. Bufalini seconded, that the Board accept the January 4th Agenda.

Vote: 7 - ayes - 0 nays

2.04 Approval of Minutes

Ms. Lucasey moved, and Ms. Bass seconded, that the Board approve the minutes of the November 23, 2021 meeting.

Vote: 7 - ayes - 0 nays

Ms. Sullivan-Nunes moved, and Ms. Stringer seconded, that the Board approve the minutes of the December 7, 2021 meeting.

Vote: 6 - ayes - 0 nays – Abstention – Mr. Bufalini

Ms. Bass moved, and Ms. Lucasey seconded, that the Board approve the minutes of the December 16, 2021 meeting.

Vote: 7 - 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

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.

One community member asked the District about costs associated with participation in the Rivertowns merged hockey team.

4. Announcements

None.

5. Superintendent's Report

- Holiday Concerts are being postponed temporarily. We met this morning to discuss our options which include in-person concerts later in the Winter or early March or a virtual solution using Livestream or recordings.
- Transportation Concerns - The bus driver shortage is being further impacted by driver's out sick with COVID. Right now, routes are being covered because Yonkers is on remote and some of the private schools are also remote. There could be some real challenges with busing in the next few weeks.
- Test-To-Stay – Dr. Brady will be visiting Irvington with Andrew Klaich on Thursday to observe the process and the set up. We have 1000 test kits that were picked up yesterday. We are working on getting nurses to facilitate the TTS program as well as figuring out logistics.
- Surveillance Testing - tomorrow we will be testing all students and staff enrolled in the program.
 - 426 Springhurst
 - 224 High School
 - 181 Middle School
- We maybe increasing the number of individuals tested each week from 20% to 30% at the end of January or February.
- Staff Book Chat - tomorrow we have 20 staff members who will meet virtually to discuss Have You Seen Luis Velez? Another book chat is scheduled for January 26th and we have 30 staff members signed up.

6. Correspondence

6.01 BOE Correspondence

The Board acknowledged the following:

1. A letter from the MTA regarding embankment erosion
2. Thank you for the 12/21 BOE work session
3. Two retirement notifications
4. Dobbs Ferry School Reopening: Omicron Surge

7. Committee Reports

7.01 Committee Reports

School & Community Relations - 12/9

The Committee discussed the following:

- Digital Equity Survey Update
 - We had a good response and are in good shape for the first "pull" by SED.
- Family Communication Survey
 - The committee reviewed a survey that Liz forwarded from her NYSPRA colleague in Peekskill.
 - Lisa is working to revise it to reflect some of our Dobbs Ferry resources and goals. We would like to get this survey out by the end of January if possible.
- DEI Student Voice Video

MINUTES

- Kevin is going to begin to work on this with the BIPOC students and social justice club students as a way to get started. The goal is to have this completed by the spring.
- Student Communication
 - Lisa and Darryl met with two students Ava Solis and Sophia Zamora Morales for lunch to discuss the student communication section of the DEI plan.

Student Activities & Athletics - 12/13

- The Committee discussed ice hockey costs currently paid by students participating on the merged team. Committee agreed that Dobbs hockey players would have to pay their costs for the season as previously promised. The committee will look at how other districts handle merged teams and associated costs.

Finance - 12/14

- Ron Clamser gave an update on the following:
 - Revenue - sales tax revenue is down slightly but not out of bounds for our budget.
 - Expense - update where we look at percentages of different expense categories across several years to make sure we're not out of line from previous years.
 - Utilities are a little up this year because it has been cold.
 - Ron shared some early budget development numbers. The details are available in the minutes.

Curriculum & Instruction - 12/15

- We had an update on professional development with BOCES and looking into more opportunities for professional development
 - Many staff members have been signing up for these opportunities.
- The incoming kindergarten cohort at Springhurst would need more instructional support than previous kindergartens. Area nursery schools are reporting lots of developmental delays as a result of COVID.
- Darrell has been visiting the Special Education classrooms. The Special Ed staff requires more support.
- Center Lane will be providing LGBTQ Professional Development to all staff.

Special Ed - 12/21

- The Committee received the CSE and CPSE recommendations. Questions were answered.
- The Committee also discussed the possible settlement agreements that are on the agenda tonight to be discussed in Executive Session.

Personnel - 12/22

- The Committee reviewed the personnel recommendations that are on tonight's meeting agenda and several retirements on the agenda for approval tonight.

Superintendent's Search Committee

- The Committee contacted our school attorney who drafted several questions for our interview of search firms.
- The district notified the public and the Committee met virtually in Executive Session.
- The Committee edited the draft questions from the attorney and from Board Members and shared these questions with the Board in BoardDocs as a reminder.
- The Board met to finalize the questions during a special meeting on December 16 and interviewed the three firms.
- The Board appointed the firm of Hazard Young and Attea Associates at our December 21 meeting.
- The Board has a planning meeting scheduled with them for January 6th.

MINUTES

- The Board will ask Debbie Raizes whether this committee should continue at the January 6th meeting.

8. Report to the Board

8.01 BOE - COVID Update and Information



Vaccination	Springhurst	Number	Percentage	Middle	Number	Percentage	High	Number	Percentage
Students		63	11%		86	24%		180	40%
Staff		117	95%		61	97%		79	94%
COVID CASES (year totals)	Springhurst Year Total			MS Year Total			HS Year Total		
Students		42			34			32	
Staff		7			6			15	
Quarantine (year totals)	Springhurst			Middle			High		
Students		14			0			14	
Staff		0			0			1	
Surveillance testing	Springhurst	Number	Percentage	Middle	Number	Percentage	High	Number	Percentage
Students		430	61%		125	35%		173	38%
Staff		90	73%		30	47%		30	35%

Dr. Brady explained all the cases by school.

The Board thanked Dr. Brady and asked to pass their thanks to Andrew because he's just been incredible.

9. Board Actions

9.01 Dobbs Ferry Schools Foundation Grant

Mr. Bufalini moved, and Ms. Kennedy seconded, that the Board accept the following grant from the Dobbs Ferry Schools Foundation:

WWII Virtual Field Trip - 8th Grade	Curriculum Grant	Nycole Tobey	\$1,000
-------------------------------------	------------------	--------------	---------

Vote: 7 - ayes - 0 nays

The Board thanked the Foundation for their continued generous support.

9.02 NYSSBA Area 10 Director

Ms. Lucasey moved, and Ms. Kennedy that the Board cast their one vote for the position of NYSSBA Area 10 Director for Frank Hariton, Ardsley.

Vote: 7 - ayes - 0 nays

9.03 Change Order

Ms. Kennedy moved, and Ms. Bass seconded approve the following change order:

Project #	Change Order #	Contractor	Amount	Description
660403-03-0001019	EC-MHS-4-01	Naber Electric Corp	\$28,790.04	Replace existing HVAC control panel

MINUTES

Vote: 7 - ayes - 0 nays

9.04 Change Orders

Ms. Kennedy moved, and Ms. Bass seconded approve the following change orders:

Project #	Change Order #	Contractor	Amount	Description
660403-03-0001019	EC-MHS-4-02	Naber Electric Corp	\$4,034.66	Remove old electrical devices
660403-03-0001019	EC-MHS-4-03	Naber Electric Corp	\$4,128.50	Install electric to chiller penthouse
660403-03-0001019	EC-MHS-4-04	Naber Electric Corp	\$10,889.17	Wire and conduit for new transformer
660403-03-0001019	EC-MHS-4-05	Naber Electric Corp	\$1,957.68	Install new light fixtures
660403-03-0001019	EC-MHS-4-06	Naber Electric Corp	\$4,850.99	Install new electric panel
660403-03-0001019	EC-MHS-4-07	Naber Electric Corp	\$18,726.99	Install temporary theater controls
660403-03-0001019	EC-MHS-4-08	Naber Electric Corp	\$1,530.36	Provide power to new projector

Vote: 7 - ayes - 0 nays

8.03 CSE/CPSE Recommendations

Ms. Lucasey moved, and Ms. Sullivan-Nunes 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 December 17, 2021, 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 December 17, 2021.

Vote: 7 - ayes - 0 nays

8.04 Personnel

Mr. Bufalini moved, and Ms. Lucasey seconded, that the Board approve the civil service and staff personnel recommendations.

Vote: 6 - ayes - 0 nays – 1 abstention – Ms. Kennedy

The Board thanked all the retirees for their many years of dedication.

8.05 Policy Revision - Second Reading

Ms. Kennedy moved, and Ms. Bass seconded, that the Board adopt the following policies:

- 2342 - Agenda Preparation & Dissemination
- 8110 - School Building Safety
- 8112 - Health & Safety Committee
- 8220 - Buildings & Grounds Maintenance & Inspection

Vote: 7 - ayes - 0 nays

8.06 Policy Revision - First Reading

MINUTES

The Board conducted a first reading of the following policies:

- 0101 - Gender Neutral Single-Occupancy Bathrooms
- 0115 - Student Harassment & Bullying Prevention & Intervention
- 8505 - "Charging" School Meals and Prohibition Against Shaming

The Committee explained the reason for the revisions.

The policies will be moved to Second Reading at the next Business Meeting.

Ms. Lucasey thanked the committee for doing the extra work they are doing that we haven't done in previous years.

9. Acknowledgements

9.01 Warrant

The Board acknowledged the following warrants:

Warrant No. 31, 33, 34 (Medicare) Multi.

11. Citizens Comments

11.01 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 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.

One community member voiced his opinion as follows: Wants more advance time for public review of the Board meeting agendas. Wants more transparency in policy development. Wants more professional development in Math, English, etc., less for DEI. Disagrees with using consultants for professional development. Wants community input for Superintendent search.

12. Old Business

None.

13. New Business

None.

14. Upcoming Meetings

14.01 Calendar

Tuesday, January 6, 2022 - 7:30 PM

- Virtual Executive Session

Tuesday, January 18, 2022 - 7:00 PM

- Work Session

MINUTES

Tuesday, February 1, 2022 - 7:00 PM - MS/HS Library

15. Executive Session

15.01 It is anticipated that the Board will act upon the following resolution to convene an Executive Session:

At 8:27 PM, Ms. Lucasey moved, and Ms. Kennedy seconded, that the Board recesses into Executive Session for the following purposes: *to discuss the ongoing litigation - The Landing on the Water at Dobbs Ferry Condominium v. Town of Greenburgh, the proposed special-education Settlement and Release Agreements for students #6 and #10, and the employment history of particular pedagogical and non-pedagogical employees.*

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

Vote: 7 - ayes - 0 nays

At 8:51 PM, Ms. Kennedy moved, and Ms. Lucasey seconded, to appoint Ms. Stringer as Clerk Pro Tem.

Vote: 7 ayes - 0 nays

At 10:47 PM, Ms. Kennedy moved, and Mr. Bufalini seconded, to move back to the Public Meeting.

Vote: 7 ayes - 0 nays

15. Adjournment

At 10:48 PM, Ms. Lucasey moved, and Ms. Bass seconded, that the Board adjourn the meeting.

Vote: 7 - ayes - 0 nays



Loretta Tularzko
District Clerk