



## **DRAFT MINUTES**

**Tuesday, June 17, 2025**

**Regular Meeting**

**7:00 p.m.**

**MS/HS Library Presentation Room**

### **1. Call to Order - Proposed Executive Session**

B. Bass called the meeting to order at 6:17 p.m.

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

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

Vote: 6 ayes, 0 nays

B. Bass requested a motion for the board to enter execution session for the purpose of discussing pending litigation and a proposed settlement agreement, and the superintendent's evaluation.

J. Lucasey moved and D. Wood seconded, that the board enter executive session.

Vote: 6 ayes, 0 nays

B. Bass requested a motion that the board exit the executive session at 7:07 p.m..

J. Lucasey moved and R. Hershberg seconded, that the board exit the executive session.

Vote: 6 ayes, 0 nays

### **2. Regular Meeting**

B. Bass called the regular meeting to order at 7:21 p.m.

### **3. Meeting Opening**

#### **3.01 Pledge of Allegiance**

#### **3.02 Roll Call**

Brooke Bass, President; Penny Sullivan-Nunes, Vice President; Jean Lucasey; Shannon Stringer; Darren Wood; Rebecca Hershberg; Kenneth Slentz, Superintendent; Darrel Stinchcomb, Assistant Superintendent of Curriculum, Instruction and Equity; Elizabeth Saperstein, District Clerk

P. Nagarajan was absent.



## **DRAFT MINUTES**

### **3.03 Acceptance of the Agenda**

B. Bass requested a motion to accept the June 17, 2025 agenda.

J. Lucasey moved and S. Stringer seconded, that the board accept the June 17, 2025 agenda.

Vote: 6 ayes, 0 nays

### **3.04 Approval of Minutes**

B. Bass requested a motion to approve the minutes of the May 27, 2025 regular meeting.

D. Wood moved and R. Hershberg seconded, that the board approve the minutes of the May 27, 2025 regular meeting.

Vote: 6 ayes, 0 nays

## **4. Citizen 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 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

## **5. Correspondence**

### **5.01 Board Correspondence**

None

## **6. Announcements**

None

## **7. Board Committee Reports**

## **DRAFT MINUTES**

### **7.01 Committee Reports**

S. Stringer reported the following information and updates from the June 4, 2025 meeting of the Policy Committee:

- The majority of the committee meeting was dedicated to discussion on policy 5695 (personal internet-enabled device policy) which must be adopted by the board no later than August 1, 2025. The discussion included whether devices would be allowed (internet-enabled or not); storage options, if allowed; options for communication between parents and children; how much detail should be included in the policy versus regulation; consideration of options for student discipline and student support; and timing for presenting the policy to the board and the community.
- Discussion of policy 5695 is scheduled for a first reading at the June 24, 2025 special meeting.

P. Sullivan-Nunes reported the following information and updates from the June 10, 2025 meeting of the Curriculum and Instruction Committee:

- The committee received an update from the district data team from Amber Klebanoff and Sarah Grosso, including: processes and protocols used for the review of assessment data housed in the district's Link-It system; STAR assessment data and associated student growth measures; reports that can be used to see proficiency levels and growth measures; and options for training administrators on how to use and understand the data in order to use it to intervene and support students as necessary.
- The committee received copies of and an update on the district professional learning plan, MTSS plan, and 504 plan. Approval of the professional learning plan is scheduled to be adopted by the board tonight and a presentation on the K-5 and 6-8 literacy plan, K-8 math implementation, and 9-12 IB participation is scheduled for the June 24, 2025 special meeting.

B. Bass reported the following information and updates from the June 12, 2025 meeting of the Facilities Committee:

- Update on capital outlay project (window replacements at Springhurst);
- Update on athletic fields and impact of the unavailability of Gould Park next spring and possibly longer, due to the drainage project;
- Update on boiler repair, other preventative maintenance and a three-to-five year plan for improvement projects.

J. Lucasey reported the following information and updates from the June 13, 2025 meeting of the Special Education Committee:

- Review of special education updates and recommendations;
- Review of proposed settlement agreement for privately-placed student;
- Update on student placement (in-district and out-of-district);
- Review of plans for additional communication with and training of district staff regarding the referral process for students;
- Current status of our students who are alternately assessed. The Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) limits the percentage of a district's students in this category to 1%. The district is currently alternately assessing 1.02% of its students.



## **DRAFT MINUTES**

- Review of the structure of recommendations and reports to the board and improvements thereof.

*Committee minutes are posted on the district website.*

### **8. Superintendent Report**

#### **8.01 2024-25 District Goals Update**

The superintendent reported on the end-year status of the district goals and the underlying work including:

- Targeted and evidence-based teacher training in support of our goals for teaching and learning. The district allocates approximately \$280,000 in funds annually for professional learning;
- Data we collect on the performance of our students across a variety of domains and what that data informs us about student learning and how to develop instructional plans accordingly.

The superintendent reviewed goals one through six: reducing chronic absenteeism, retention of qualified personnel; family engagement, improved instruction through interpretation of meaningful data and assessments, support for subgroups (students with disabilities, English language learners, economically disadvantaged); the district professional learning plan.

The superintendent informed the board on the timeframe for development and sharing of the 2025-2026 district goals.

*The district goals presentation is posted to the district website.*

### **9. Board Actions**

#### **9.01 Personnel - Professional/Certificated Staff**

BE IT RESOLVED, that the board of education of the Dobbs Ferry Union Free School District moves to approve the professional/certificated personnel actions.

B. Bass requested a motion to approve the professional personnel actions.

J. Lucasey moved and S. Stringer seconded, to approve the professional personnel actions.

Vote: 6 ayes, 0 nays

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



## **DRAFT MINUTES**

### 1. Teaching Assistant Tenure

Name: Noreen Murphy  
Tenure Area: K-12 Teaching Assistant  
Start Date of Probationary Period: 9/1/2021  
Date of Tenure Appointment: 9/1/2025  
Certification: Teaching Assistant Level II

Name: Mark Leggiero  
Tenure Area: K-12 Teaching Assistant  
Start Date of Probationary Period: 9/1/2021  
Date of Tenure Appointment: 9/1/2025  
Certification: Teaching Assistant Level I (renewal)

Name: Ewa Edibe  
Tenure Area: K-12 Teaching Assistant  
Start Date of Probationary Period: 9/1/2021  
Date of Tenure Appointment: 9/1/2025  
Certification: Teaching Assistant Level III

Name: Gregg Cammerata  
Tenure Area: K-12 Teaching Assistant  
Start Date of Probationary Period: 10/22/2021  
Date of Tenure Appointment: 10/22/2025  
Certification: Teaching Assistant Level II

Name: Christine Reda  
Tenure Area: K-12 Teaching Assistant  
Start Date of Probationary Period: 11/10/2021  
Date of Tenure Appointment: 11/10/2025  
Certification: Teaching Assistant Level I (renewal)

### 2. Probationary Appointments

#### (a) Nico Ferro, Special Education Teacher

Location: Dobbs Ferry High School

Effective: August 27, 2025

Duration of Probationary Period: August 27, 2025 - August 26, 2029

Tenure Area: Special Education

Certification: 7-12 Social Studies; 7-12 Students with Disabilities (anticipated August 2025)

Compensation: MA, Step 2 (\$70,397) per annum

#### (b) Michelle Guerrero, ENL Teacher

Location: Springhurst Elementary School

Effective: August 27, 2025



### **DRAFT MINUTES**

Duration of Probationary Period: August 27, 2025 - August 26, 2029

Tenure Area: English as a Second Language

Certification: Childhood Education 1-6; Early Childhood Education Birth - Grade 2; English to Speakers of Other Languages

Compensation: MA, Step 3 (\$73,502) per annum

(c) Amy Friedman, K-12 Teaching Assistant (Primary Project)

Location: Springhurst Elementary School

Effective: August 27, 2025

Duration of Probationary Period: August 27, 2025 - August 26, 2029

Tenure Area: K-12 Teaching Assistant

Certification: Level I

Compensation: Teaching Assistant, Step 4 (\$35,626) per annum

### 3. Annual Appointments

(a) Neil Abbatiello, Part-Time Math Teacher (FTE .8)

Location: Dobbs Ferry High School

Effective: August 27, 2025 - June 30, 2026

Compensation: \$106,640.00 per annum

Note: reappointment

(b) Patrick Boynes, Permanent Substitute

(c) Ben Birrittella, Permanent Substitute

(d) James Carney, Permanent Substitute

Location: Dobbs Ferry High School

Effective: August 27, 2025 - June 30, 2026

Compensation: \$25,900 per annum

Note: reappointments

(e) Marissa Segarra, Permanent Substitute

(f) Brandon Sealey, Permanent Substitute

Location: Dobbs Ferry Middle School

Effective: August 27, 2025 - June 30, 2026

Compensation: \$25,900 per annum

Note: reappointments

(g) Mackenzie Zoller, Permanent Substitute

Location: Springhurst Elementary School

Effective: August 27, 2025 - June 30, 2026

Compensation: \$25,900 per annum

Note: reappointment

(h) Sara Sellitti, Outdoor Garden and Recycling Coordinator

Location: Springhurst Elementary School



## **DRAFT MINUTES**

Effective: July 1, 2025 - June 30, 2026

Compensation: \$7,135.00 per annum

Note: reappointment

(i) Frank Cifali, Part-Time Music Teacher (FTE.4)

Location: Springhurst Elementary School

Effective: August 27, 2025 - June 30, 2026

Compensation: \$51,360 per annum

Note: reappointment

### **4. Appointment Change**

(a) M. Meagh, Assistant Boys Lacrosse Coach

Location: Dobbs Ferry High School

Effective: 2025 Spring Season

Additional Compensation: \$581.30

Note: added longevity differential

### **5. Special Class Assignment**

(a) R. Glynn, K-12 Teaching Assistant

Location: Springhurst Elementary School

Effective: September 3, 2024 - June 26, 2025

Compensation: \$600.00 per annum as set forth in the CSEA Clerical, Teaching Assistant/Teacher Aide contract

### **6. Co-Curricular Advisors - 2024-2025 School Year**

(a) K. Morales, Grade 9 Class Advisor - Category D, Step 1 (\$926.47) per annum

(b) A. Burtt, Grade 10 Class Advisor - Category D, Step 2 (\$1,029.79) per annum

(c) M. Ciccone, Grade 11, Class Advisor - Category C, Step 2 (\$1,839.30) per annum

(d) J. Cox, Grade 12 Class Advisor - Category C, Step 3 (\$2,032.56) per annum

Location: Dobbs Ferry High School

Effective: September 3, 2024 - June 26, 2025

### **7. Team Leaders/Coordinators/Mentor - 2024-2025 School Year**

(a) M. Gretczko, 8th Grade Community Project Coordinator - \$1,171.13 per annum

(b) N. Tobey, 8th Grade Community Project Coordinator - \$1,171.13 per annum

(c) S. Hacker, Mentor (for M. Jaros) - \$1,196.91 per annum

Location: Dobbs Ferry Middle School

Effective: September 3, 2024 - June 26, 2025

**DRAFT MINUTES**

8. Rescindment of Appointment - 2025 Summer ESY Program

(a) L. Kondstadt, K-12 Teaching Assistant

Location: Springhurst Elementary School

(b) A. Crug, Special Education Teacher

Location: Dobbs Ferry Middle School

9. Extended School Year (ESY) Program Staff

(a) S. Adamson-Redd, up to 10 hours, @ hourly rate, per hour

Location: Dobbs Ferry MS/HS

Effective: August 5, 6, and 7, 2025

10. 2025 Summer Hours - CSE/CPSE/504 Meetings

(a) T. Zarro

Location: Springhurst Elementary School

Effective: July 1, 2025 - August 26, 2025

Compensation: Hourly rate, per hour

11. Leave of Absence

(a) KC Gilson, Special Education Teacher

Location: Springhurst Elementary School

Effective: June 23, 2025 - January 31, 2026

Note: unpaid childcare leave of absence

12. Resignation

(a) Kenya Suncar, Foreign Language Teacher

Location: Springhurst Elementary School

Effective: August 1, 2025

13. Regents Review

(a) J. Swart, Algebra I - up to 4.5 hours

Location: Dobbs Ferry Middle School

Effective: May 7, 2025 - June 26, 2025

Compensation: 20% of daily rate, per hour

**9.02 Personnel - Civil Service Staff**





## **DRAFT MINUTES**

B. Bass requested a motion to approve the civil service personnel actions:

R. Hershberg moved and P. Sullivan-Nunes seconded, to approve the civil service personnel actions.

Vote: 6 ayes, 0 nays

BE IT RESOLVED, that the board of education of the Dobbs Ferry Union Free School District, hereby move to approve the civil service personnel recommendations.

### **1. Temporary Appointment**

(a) Nancy Broccoli, Per Diem Clerical Substitute

Location: Springhurst Elementary School

Effective: June 27, 2025 - August 26, 2025

Compensation: Hourly rate, per hour (Teacher Aide)

### **9.03 Employment Agreement Employee No. 061725**

BE IT RESOLVED, that the board president is authorized to sign an agreement extending the probationary term of Employee Number 061725, a probationary administrative employee, for a twelve-month period, through June 30, 2026, as recommended by the superintendent of schools.

B. Bass requested a motion to approve the resolution.

D. Wood moved and S. Stringer seconded, to approve the resolution.

Vote: 6 ayes, 0 nays

### **9.04 CSE/CPSE Recommendations**

WHEREAS the Committee on Special Education and Committee on Preschool Special Education had issued to the board by written confidential report dated June 12, 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 authorize and direct the administration to immediately arrange for the special programs and services as set forth in said report dated June 12, 2025.

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



### **DRAFT MINUTES**

P. Sullivan-Nunes moved and D. Wood seconded, to approve the CSE/CPSE recommendations.

Vote: 6 ayes, 0 nays

#### **9.05 Architect for Capital Outlay Project**

BE IT RESOLVED, that the board of education of the Dobbs Ferry Union Free School District hereby move to accept the proposal and rate sheet from Tetra Tech Architects & Engineers for a proposed capital outlay project, and authorizes the interim assistant superintendent for finance, facilities, and operations to sign for the district.

B. Bass requested a motion to approve the Tetra Tech proposal and rate sheet.

D. Wood moved and R. Hershberg seconded, to approve the Tetra Tech proposal and rate sheet.

Vote: 6 ayes, 0 nays

#### **9.06 State Environmental Quality Review Act Determination - 2025-26 Capital Outlay Project**

WHEREAS, the board of education of the Dobbs Ferry Union Free School District ("Board") is considering to undertake a capital outlay project consisting of upgrades and improvements to the district's security systems, that include the replacement of existing access control fixtures, associated wire, general construction and finish work, and hazardous material abatement work, if necessary ("the Project"); and

WHEREAS, the board wishes to fully comply with its obligations under the State Environmental Quality Review Act ("SEQRA") and the regulations thereunder with respect to the Project; and

WHEREAS, the board has carefully considered the nature and scope of the proposed Project; and WHEREAS, upon review of the foregoing, the board makes the following determinations:

1. The proposed Project involves certain renovations, upgrades, repairs, and replacements to the district's existing buildings and grounds.
2. The board hereby declares the district as the Lead Agency for purposes of the State Environmental Quality Review Act (SEQRA) and regulations associated with the proposed action.
3. The proposed Project represents maintenance or repair involving no substantial changes in an existing structure or facility within the meaning of 6 NYCRR § 617.5(c)(1); and/or the replacement, rehabilitation or reconstruction of a structure or facility, in kind, within the meaning of 6 NYCRR § 617.5(c)(2); and/or a routine activity of an educational institution, including expansion of existing facilities by less than 10,000 square feet of gross floor area, within the meaning of 6 NYCRR § 617.5(c)(10).
4. The proposed Project will in no case have a significant adverse impact on the environment based on the criteria contained in 6 NYCRR § 617.7(c) and is not otherwise a Type I action as defined by 6 NYCRR § 617.4.
5. The proposed Project is a Type II action within the meaning of 6 NYCRR 617.5 and, therefore, is not subject to review under SEQRA and the regulations thereunder.



### **DRAFT MINUTES**

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the board finds and concludes that the proposed Project is a Type II action within the meaning of 6 NYCRR 617.5 and, therefore, is not subject to review under SEQRA and the regulations thereunder.

B. Bass requested a motion to approve the resolution.

D. Wood moved and J. Lucasey seconded, to approve the resolution.

Vote: 6 ayes, 0 nays

#### **9.07 Approval of 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.

*The Districtwide Safety plan is posted to the district website.*

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

S. Stringer moved and D. Wood seconded, to approve the districtwide safety plan.

Vote: 6 ayes, 0 nays

#### **9.08 Approval of 2025-2026 Professional Learning Plan**

**BE IT RESOLVED**, that the board of education hereby approves the 2025-26 district professional learning plan.

B. Bass requested a motion to approve the professional learning plan.

J. Lucasey moved and P. Sullivan-Nunes seconded, to approve the professional learning plan.

Vote: 6 ayes, 0 nays

#### **9.09 Disposal of Textbooks**

WHEREAS, the interim assistant superintendent for finance, facilities and operations has declared the following textbooks as obsolete:

Title: Higher Level Biology for IB

ISBN student textbooks - 9781447959014

110 student textbooks

Title: Leer y Charlar by Abby Kanter and Wendy Carroll

ISBN: 978-1-56765-810-1

## **DRAFT MINUTES**

(25 textbooks)

Title: Workbook in Spanish THREE YEARS by Nassi, Bernstein and Nuzzi

ISBN:978-0-87720-509-8

(30 workbooks)

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the board of education of the Dobbs Ferry School District, hereby move to approve the disposal of said textbooks in accordance with policy 6900.

B. Bass requested a motion to approve the disposal of the textbooks.

D. Wood moved and J. Lucasey seconded, to approve the disposal of the textbooks.

Vote: 6 ayes, 0 nays

### **10. Citizens Comments**

#### **10.01 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 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

### **11. Old Business**

None

### **12. New Business**

None

### **13. Acknowledgments**

#### **13.01 Treasurer's Report - May**

The board acknowledged receipt of the May 2025 treasurer's report.

#### **13.02 Warrants**



## **DRAFT MINUTES**

The board acknowledged the following warrants: Warrant No. 0057 - Multi.

### **14. Upcoming Meetings**

#### **14.01 Calendar**

Tuesday, June 24, 2025 - 7:00 p.m. - MS/HS Library

- Special Meeting

Wednesday, July 9, 2025 - 7:00 p.m. - Board Room

- Reorganizational Meeting

### **15. Adjournment**

Before requesting a motion to adjourn the June 17, 2025 meeting, B. Bass and K. Slentz acknowledged the upcoming departures of Shannon Stringer and Jean Lucasey from the board, and thanked them both for their years of superlative service to the board, particularly in the areas of finance and special education. They will be missed.

B. Bass requested a motion to adjourn the June 17, 2025 meeting.

J. Lucasey moved and S. Stringer seconded, to adjourn the meeting at 8:01 p.m.

Vote: 6 ayes, 0 nays

Elizabeth Saperstein  
District Clerk