

News Release

Dobbs Ferry School District Welcomes New Director of Facilities

Dobbs Ferry, N.Y. November 10, 2014—The Dobbs Ferry School District has hired **James Frees as its new Director of Facilities**, effective November 3rd. Mr. Frees has over 23 years of experience in property and facility management. He replaces Dennis Rankin, who had held the position for over five years and left to take a similar post closer to home.

“Jim comes to us with a great deal of experience in facilities and capital projects and we are excited to have him join our team,” said Dobbs Ferry School District Assistant Superintendent of Finance, Facilities and Operations, Sylvia Fassler-Wallach. “We believe that Jim is a great addition to the staff, especially as we prepare for the upcoming capital projects rollout.”

For the past nine years, Mr. Frees had been the Assistant Director of Operations and Maintenance at Orange-Ulster BOCES in Goshen, New York. In this position, he reorganized and supervised a 52-person staff including engineering, maintenance and custodial personnel. He was also responsible for completing capital projects which included converting a former hospital into a regional education center, in addition to overseeing daily projects such as code compliance modifications, lighting upgrades and remodeling. During his tenure at BOCES, Mr. Frees developed a comprehensive capital plan and maintenance program.

Prior to BOCES, Mr. Frees was a Senior Project Manager for IVI International in White Plains which offers construction and environmental consulting services, and before that, he was Director of Facilities at the Windward School also in White Plains. He previously served as a Project Manager in Property Management for Metropolitan Life Insurance Company’s real estate portfolio nationwide. In this capacity, he advised property managers and regional directors on technical and operational issues regarding commercial, retail and residential property types. Mr. Frees also spent five years as Superintendent of Facilities at Pius XII Youth and Family Services on the Chester Campus of Sugar Loaf Union Free School in Warwick, New York. As the department head, he was responsible for budget, business administration and facility management.

“I am very excited to begin a new journey with Dobbs Ferry,” Mr. Frees said. “I am looking forward to working with the administrators, faculty and maintenance and custodial staff as we continue to maintain and modernize our school buildings, ensuring that our students will have a clean, safe and healthy learning environment now and well into the future.”

A graduate of Fairleigh Dickinson University with a B.S. in Management Science, Mr. Frees began his career with URS Consultants in New Jersey as an Engineer working on hydrology and storm water management projects. He currently resides in Harriman, New York.

For more information, please contact:

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