



## **MINUTES**

**Tuesday, October 8, 2024**  
**Regular Meeting**  
**7:00 PM**  
**MS/HS Library Presentation Room**

**1. Call to Order**

B. Bass called the meeting to order at 7:01 pm.

**2. Meeting Opening**

**2.01 Pledge of Allegiance**

**2.02 Roll Call**

Brooke Bass, President; Penny Sullivan-Nunes, Vice President; Jean Lucasey; Shannon Stringer; Darren Wood; Pavithra Nagarajan; Rebecca Hershberg; Kenneth Slentz, Superintendent; Ron Clamser, Jr., Assistant Superintendent of Finance, Facilities, and Operations; Darrell Stinchcomb, Assistant Superintendent of Curriculum, Instruction, and Equity; Elizabeth Saperstein, District Clerk.

**2.03 Acceptance of the Agenda**

P. Nagarajan moved and D. Wood seconded, that the Board accept the October 8, 2024 Agenda.

Vote: 7 ayes, 0 nays

**2.04 Approval of Minutes**

D. Wood moved and S. Stringer seconded, that the Board approve the minutes of the September 24, 2024 meeting.

Vote: 7 ayes, 0 nays

**3. School Board Appreciation Week - October 14 - October 18, 2024**

K. Slentz thanked the Board of Education for its leadership and service to the children and families of our community and District and for its dedication to teaching and learning.

Frank Ferri and Jen Hickey, President and Vice President of the Dobbs Ferry United Teachers, acknowledged the Board of Education and announced donations to the Dobbs Ferry Schools Foundation, Spring, and the PTSA in its honor.



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Carrie Winkler, Co-Chair of the Dobbs Ferry Schools Foundation thanked the Board for its service.

Christina Galluzzo, Vice President of the PTSA, thanked the Board for its service.

B. Bass thanked everyone for the acknowledgements, donations, and gifts (book, blanket, certificates, and chocolate).

### 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 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 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

None.

### 6. Announcements

K. Slentz announced that this is Homecoming week and there will be many various activities on campus. The football game will be held at Gould Park on Thursday night.

K. Slentz announced that this past Sunday (Oct. 6) was National Coaches Day and thanked Andrew Klaich and our coaches for their fine work with our student athletes.

In honor of National Principals Month, which runs throughout October each year, Mr. Slentz thanked John Falino, Patrick Mussolini, and Tashia Brown for their hard work and contributions to the success of our schools and students.

R. Hershberg, the new board liaison for the PTSA, announced the following:

- There is a new website: [www.dobbsptsa.org](http://www.dobbsptsa.org)
- Springhurst's annual soup day is on Thursday, October 17 from 10:15- 1:30pm.
- The annual Pumpkin Fair on Saturday, October 26 from 10:00AM - 2PM. Volunteers are needed for that event and may sign up by sending an email to [dobbsferrypts@gmail.com](mailto:dobbsferrypts@gmail.com)

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### **7. Superintendent Report**

#### **7.01 Graduation Measures and Regionalization Update**

K. Slentz presented information from the New York State Department of Education's Blue Ribbon Commission on Graduation Measures Initiative. The work of the commission is to make recommendations regarding New York's graduation requirements. The report is the result of regional meetings across the state between the Board of Regents and the SED to gather input from parents, educators, and other stakeholders, and the study by a Blue Ribbon Commission. The four priority areas of the Blue Ribbon Commission study include:

- Multiple pathways leading to one diploma
- Review of assessment flexibility
- Understanding meaningful life-ready credentials
- Culturally responsive curriculum, instruction and assessment.

Implementation plans are scheduled to be released at the November 2024 Board of Regents meeting.

K. Slentz presented a new initiative from SED called Regionalization, which is related to the Graduation Measures Initiative. New York State is facing significant challenges within and across communities in preparing all students for college, career, and civic readiness. To address this, districts are being asked to review practices such as shared staff, advanced coursework, shared student support services, regional industry partners and extracurricular activities. Timeline: November 1, 2024 for a development plan and every 10 years thereafter.

*The Graduation Measures and Regionalization Presentation is posted on the District website.*

### **8. Board Reports**

#### **8.01 23-24 Student Performance Data Presentation**

D. Stinchcomb presented information on student performance data on ELA and science assessment results prepared by the District-wide data team. The goal of the team is to present student performance data at a level that teachers and administrators can use to help better serve our students.

Joshua Rosen, K-8 Math Specialist, reported on Math Assessment results.

Amber Klebanoff reported on Regents exam results, IB diploma and program information, and chronic absenteeism.

B. Bass remarked on the progress the data team is making.

*The presentation is available on the District website.*

### **9. Board Committee Reports**

P. Sullivan-Nunes reported on the October 1, 2024 meeting of the Board of Education Policy Committee.



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The committee discussed the 37 proposed NYSSBA Resolutions and corresponding WPSBA evaluation and identified specific resolutions for review by the full committee and board.

J. Lucasey reported on the October 2, 2024 meeting of the Board of Education Policy Committee.

- Policies to be presented for second reading and adoption at the October 8, 2024 board meeting (1120: School District Records and 4730: Diploma Credential Options for Students with Disabilities)
- Update regarding Title IX-based policy revision
- Review of Draft Policy 1010 (School District Response to Geopolitical Events) for first reading at the October 8, 2024 Board meeting

*Committee minutes are posted on the District website.*

### **10. Board Actions**

#### **10.01 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.

R. Hershberg moved and S. Stringer seconded, to approve the personnel recommendations.

Vote: 7 ayes, 0 nays

##### **1. Per Diem Substitute Teachers**

(a) Kevin Messum, Per Diem Substitute Teacher

Location: Dobbs Ferry Middle School

Effective: Retroactive to September 25, 2024 - June 26, 2025

Compensation: \$125.00 per day, \$62.50 half day

Note: K. Messum is also Assistant Girls Varsity Soccer coach for the Fall 2024 season.

(b) Luke Mullens, Per Diem Substitute Teacher

Location: Dobbs Ferry Middle School

Effective: October 9, 2024 - June 26, 2025

Compensation: \$125.00 per day, \$62.50 half day

Pending Fingerprint Clearance

(c) Michael Ciccone, Per Diem Substitute Teacher

Location: Springhurst Elementary School

Effective: October 9, 2024 - June 26, 2025

Compensation: \$125.00 per day, \$62.50 half day

Pending Fingerprint Clearance

##### **2. Winter 2024-25 Coaches**

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S. Patrillo	Boys Varsity Basketball	Cat B Step 3 incl. 20% longevity	\$8,489.11
C. Cipriano	Boys JV Basketball	Cat C Step 3	\$6,308.08
K. Grisanti	Girls Varsity Basketball	Cat B Step 3	\$7,074.26
KC Gilson	Girls JV Basketball	Cat C Step 3	\$6,308.08
E. Bartell	Modified Girls Basketball	Cat E Step 3 incl. 20% longevity	\$6,086.94
S. Pecora-Belarge	Modified Girls Basketball	Cat E Step 1	\$4,077.96
J. Lindsay	Modified Boys Basketball	Cat E Step 3 incl. 20% longevity	\$6,086.94
E. Feller	Modified Boys Basketball	Cat E Step 3 incl. 20% longevity	\$6,086.94
JP Kaminski	Varsity Winter Track	Cat B Step 3 incl. 15% longevity	\$8,135.40
V. Garofalo	Varsity Winter Track – Asst.	Cat E Step 3 incl. 10% longevity	\$6,394.38
M. Meagh	Bowling (.5)	Cat E Step 3	\$2,536.23
R. Davis	Bowling (.5)	Cat E Step 1	\$2,039.00
K. Reznicek	Volunteer (Girls V. Basketball)	N/A	
T. Cullen	Volunteer (Boys V & JV Basketball)	N/A	

### Coaches for Merged Teams



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D. DiFalco	Ski (with Ardsley)	At No Additional Compensation
M. Esteves	Wrestling (with Ardsley)	At No Additional Compensation
I. Noach / E. Backos	Boys Swim (with Ardsley)	At No Additional Compensation
K. Hagen / M. Kenny	Hockey (with Ardsley et al)	At No Additional Compensation

### **3. Co-Curricular Activities Advisors - Dobbs Ferry High School**

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AcaFellas	Georgia DeFalco	Cat D Step 3 (\$1,133.10)
Assistant Director/Choreographer	Bret Fox	Cat A Step 2 (\$3,153.79)
Chamber Music	Adrianne Fuller	Cat D Step 1 (\$926.47)
Chorus (Octet)	Georgia DeFalco	Cat A Step 3 (\$3,842.41) incl. 10% longevity
Orchestra	Adrianne Fuller	Cat A Step 3 (\$4,191.72) incl. 20% longevity
Pit Band Director	Paul Huneke	Cat D Step 3 (1,133.10)
Play Director	Georgia DeFalco	Cat A Step 3 (\$3,842.41) incl. 20% longevity
Scenic Designer	Jeff Gonzalez	Cat B Step 3 (\$2,780.66)
Technical Director (HS Musical) (.5)	Tsha Gregory	Cat B Step 3 (1,598.85) incl 15% longevity
Technical Director (Theater Arts Showcase)	Tsha Gregory	Cat D Step 3 (\$1,133.10)
Theater Arts Club	Georgia DeFalco	Cat D Step 2 (\$1,029.79)
Theater Arts Showcase Assistant Director	James Carney	Cat D Step 1 (\$926.47)
Theater Arts Showcase Director	Brandon Sealy	Cat D Step 2 (\$1,029.79)
Theater Stage Crew	James Carney	Cat D Step 1 (\$926.47)
Thespian Honor Society	Georgia DeFalco	Cat D Step 2 (\$1,029.79)
Tri-M Honor Society	Paul Huneke	Cat D Step 2 (\$1,029.79)
Vocal Arrangements	David Hertzberg	\$1,500.00
Book Club	Tom Falconetti	Cat D Step 3 (\$1,133.10)

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Chess Club	Serena Buschi	Cat D Step 2 (\$1,029.79)
Creative Writing Club	Andrew Fischbeck	Cat D Step 3 (\$1,133.10)
Destination Imagination	Justine Henry	Cat B Step 3 (\$2,948.72) incl. 10% longevity
Dungeons & Dragons Club	Noah Appleton	Cat D Step 1 (\$926.47)
Digital Eagle (Newspaper)	Sarah Marino	Cat D Step 1 (\$926.47)
Ecology Club (.5)	Janna Walerski	Cat D Step 3 (\$566.55)
Ecology Club (.5)	Kelley Evans	Cat D Step 3 (\$566.55)
French Club	Michele Ivine	Cat D Step 3 (\$1,133.10)
FUNDraising Club	Rebecca Wing	Cat D Step 3 (\$1,246.41) incl. 10% longevity
GSA (Gender and Sexuality Alliance)	Serena Buschi	Cat D Step 2 (\$1,029.79)
Gender Equality Club	Maria Addona	Cat D Step 3 (\$1,133.10)
Hands-In DFHS (Service)	Mary Alice Fahy	Cat D Step 3 (\$1,133.10)
History Bowl	Ryan Davis	Cat D Step 3 (\$1,133.10)
International Club	Sarah Joy Consiglio	Cat D Step 3 (\$1,133.10)
Kindness Club (HFH)	Alison Cheung	Cat D Step 2 (\$1,029.79)
Model UN	Eileen Cunningham	Cat D Step 2 (\$1,029.79)
Mindfulness Club	Kelly Ravo	Cat D Step 3 (\$1,133.10)
Music Appreciation Club	Tom Falconetti	Cat D Step 3 (\$1,133.10)
National Honor Society (NHS)	Jim Cottingham	Cat C Step 3 (\$2439.10) incl. 20% longevity



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Peer Tutoring	Katie Morales	Cat A Step 2 (\$3,153.79)
Poetry Club ("Slam")	Christina FitzMorris	Cat D Step 1 (\$926.47)
Racial & Social Justice	Ellen Elsen	Cat D Step 3 (\$1,133.10)
Student Accounts	Denise Cunningham	Cat C Step 3 (\$2,032.56)
Student Government Activities Branch	Maria Addona	Cat A Step 3 (\$4,017.06) incl. 15% longevity
Student Government Legislative Branch	Mike Meagh	Cat B Step 3 (\$3,058.73) incl. 10% longevity
STEM	Dana Molloy	Cat D Step 3 (\$1,133.10)
Television: Past & Present	Andrew Fischbeck	Cat D Step 3 (\$1,133.10)
World Language Honor Society	Michele Irvine	Cat D Step 2 (\$1,133.10)
Yearbook Club (.5)	Amanda Newhouse	Cat A Step 3 (\$1,746.55)
Yearbook Club (.5)	Mallory Cairo	Cat A Step 3 (\$1,746.55)
Youth 2 Youth	Juliana Caputo	No Compensation

#### 4. Before/After-School Homework Help Center Supervisors

Location: Dobbs Ferry Middle School

Effective: September 3, 2024 - June 26, 2025

Hours: 7:40-8:10AM and/or 3:25-4:55PM

Compensation: \$48.11 per hour

A. Algieri	S. Hacker	R. Wolosky
N. Appleton	M. Hanley	T. Wood
T. Brooks	J. Hickey	C. Yeske
L. Colon	L. Marx	
D. Cunningham	J. McCrane	
E. Felix	M. Piparo	
E. Feller	D. Randone	
M. Gretczko	N. Tobey	
S. Gonzalez	B. Tyler	



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### **5. Mentor**

Cristina Moccia, for Robyn La Guardia  
Location: Springhurst Elementary School  
Effective: October 25, 2024 through June 26, 2025  
Compensation: \$1,966.91 per annum

### **6. Resignation**

Eileen Loveless, probationary K-12 Teaching Assistant, Dobbs Ferry School District  
Effective: September 27, 2024

Patrick Boynes, Permanent Substitute, Dobbs Ferry High School  
Effective: October 16, 2024

### **7. Probationary Appointment**

Jennifer Prisco, Special Education Teacher, Springhurst Elementary School  
Duration of Probationary Period: October 21, 2024 - October 20, 2027  
Tenure Area: Special Education  
Per Annum Salary: MA, Step 11 (\$95,542) prorated  
Certification: Students with Disabilities Grades 1-6; Students with Disabilities Birth - Grade 2;  
Childhood Education Grades 1-6; Early Childhood Education (Birth - Grade 2)  
New Position

### **8. Coordinator/Team Leader**

Megan Lois  
New York State Seal of Biliteracy Coordinator  
Location: Dobbs Ferry High School  
Effective: 2024-2025 School Year  
Compensation: \$2,342.26 per annum

## **10.02 Personnel - Civil Service Staff**

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of the Dobbs Ferry Union Free School District moves to approve the Civil Service personnel action.:

S. Stringer moved and D. Wood seconded, to approve the civil service personnel recommendations.

Vote: 7 ayes, 0 nays

### **1. Stipend - Board of Education Meeting Taping/Editing**

Terance Huyter, Director of Technology  
Location: District



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Effective: September 1, 2024 - June 30, 2025

Compensation: \$5,000.00

### 10.03 Independent Auditors Report and Corrective Action Plan

This item was tabled for a future meeting.

R. Hershberg moved and D. Wood seconded, to table the report and corrective action plan.

Vote: 7 ayes, 0 nays

### 10.04 Internal Auditors Report and Corrective Action Plan

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of the Dobbs Ferry Union Free School District hereby move to accept the Internal Auditors Report on Extraclassroom Activity Funds, performed by Nugent and Haeusslet, P.C.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of the Dobbs Ferry Union Free School District hereby move to accept the District's Corrective Action Plan to the Internal Auditors findings and recommendations.

S. Stringer moved and D. Wood seconded, to approve the report and corrective action plan.

Vote: 7 ayes, 0 nays

### 10.05 2024-25 Mid-Westchester Special Education Consortium Agreement

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of the Dobbs Ferry Union Free School District, hereby move to approve the 2024-25 Mid-Westchester Special Education Consortium Agreement and authorize the Superintendent to sign for the District.

P. Sullivan-Nunes moved and D. Wood seconded, to approve the agreement.

Vote: 6 ayes, 1 nay (J. Lucasey)

### 10.06 Foundation Grant

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of the Dobbs Ferry Union Free School District, hereby move to accept the following grant from the Dobbs Ferry Schools Foundation in the amount of \$1,950:

Name of Grant	Teacher(s)/Staff	School	Amount
Cornhole Curriculum	Vincent Garofalo	Springhurst	\$1,950

J. Lucasey moved and P. Sullivan-Nunes seconded, to accept the grant.

Vote: 7 ayes, 0 nays



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### **10.07 Policy Revisions - First Reading**

The Board conducted a first reading of the following policies:

1. Policy 1010: Responding to Political or Geopolitical Events. The district does not issue public statements on local, state, national or international political or geopolitical events.
2. Policy 5500: Student Records (required policy). Revisions were made to conform better with FERPA, EdLaw 2d, IDEA, PPRA, and COPPA.
3. Policy 5550: Student Privacy (required policy). The required legal language was reviewed and clarified.

These policies will be presented for second reading at the November 12, 2024 meeting.

### **10.08 Policy Revisions - Second Reading**

The Board conducted a second reading and adoption of the following policies:

1. Policy 1120: School District Records
2. Policy 4773: Credential Options for Students with Disabilities

D. Wood moved and P. Nagarajan seconded, to adopt the policies.

Vote: 7 ayes, 0 nays

*These policies will be available on the District website.*

### **10.09 NYSSBA Proposed Resolutions**

S. Stringer moved and D. Wood seconded, the appointment of P. Sullivan-Nunes as Voting Delegate and authorizing her to exercise discretion on the Board's behalf at the annual NYSSBA Business Meeting.

Vote 7 ayes, 0 nays

## **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**



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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**

### **13. New Business**

### **14. Upcoming Meetings**

#### **14.01 Calendar**

- Tuesday, October 22, 2024 - 7:00 p.m. - MS/HS Library Business Meeting
- Tuesday, November 12, 2024 - 7:00 p.m. - MS/HS Library Business Meeting

### **15. Acknowledgements**

#### **15.01 Warrants**

The Board acknowledged the following warrants:

1. Warrant No. 0014 Multi
2. Warrant No. 0015 Multi

### **16. Adjournment**

J. Lucasey moved and D. Wood seconded, to adjourn the meeting at 8:42 pm.

Vote: 7 ayes, 0 nays

Elizabeth Saperstein  
District Clerk