



**APPROVED MINUTES**  
**Tuesday, May 28, 2024 Business**  
**Meeting**  
**7:00 PM**  
**MS/HS Library**

**1. Call to Order**

Ms. Lucasey called the meeting to order at 6:34 p.m.

Ms. Lucasey requested a motion to appoint Brooke Bass to serve as clerk pro tem for the executive session.

Darren Wood moved and Rebecca Hershberg seconded, that the Board appoint Ms. Bass as clerk pro tem for the executive session.

Vote: 5 ayes, 0 nays

Ms. Lucasey requested a motion that the Board recess to executive session to discuss the Superintendent's contract.

Shannon Stringer moved and Mr. Wood seconded, that the Board recess to executive session.

Vote: 5 ayes, 0 nays

**2. Executive Session**

The Board entered executive session at 6:34 p.m.

Ms. Lucasey requested a motion that the Board move back to public session.

Ms. Stringer moved and Ms. Hershberg seconded, that the Board return to public session at 6:55 p.m.

Vote: 5 ayes, 0 nays

**3. Resume Public Meeting**

Ms. Lucasey resumed the public meeting at 7:00 p.m.

**3.01 Pledge of Allegiance**

**3.02 Roll Call**



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Ms. Jean Lucasey, President; Ms. Brooke Bass, Vice President; Ms. Shannon Stringer; Mr. Darren Wood; Ms. Rebecca Hershberg; 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; Ms. Elizabeth Saperstein, District Clerk.

Ms. Penny Sullivan-Nunes and Ms. Pavithra Nagarajan were absent.

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

Ms. Stringer moved and Ms. Hershberg seconded, that the Board accept the May 28, 2024 Agenda.

Vote: 5 ayes, 0 nays

### **3.04 Approval of Minutes**

Ms. Bass moved and Ms. Stringer seconded, that the Board approve the minutes of the May 7, 2024 meeting.

Vote: 5 ayes, 0 nays

## **4. BOE Correspondence**

### **4.01 BOE Correspondence**

The Board received correspondence on the following topics:

1. Parent Concern
2. Invitation to a Community Event
3. Invitation to Springhurst Stepping Up Ceremony
4. Slate of Candidates for Board Election
5. Absentee Ballot
6. Invitation to Memorial Day Service

## **5. Citizen Comments**

### **5.01 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**



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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.

### **6. Announcements**

Ms. Lucasey announced that the Dobbs Ferry Youth Services Coalition is sponsoring a free Narcan training on May 29, 2024 at 5:30 pm. The training is free and open to the public and will take place at 60 Palisade Street in Dobbs Ferry (Embassy Club).

Mr. Slentz announced that the Dobbs Ferry High School will be named a School of Distinction by the New York State Public High School Athletic Association because a high percentage of our student athletes maintain a GPA of 90% or above.

Mr. Slentz announced several upcoming events:

- National Honor Society (HS) and World Language Honor Society on Friday, May 31st at 9:00 a.m. in the HS auditorium
- National Junior Honor Society (MS) on Thursday, June 6th at 9:00 a.m. in the HS auditorium
- Thespian Society and Tri-M Music Society hold induction ceremonies on June 12th
- 4th and 5th grade concerts on May 29 and June 12th
- Stepping Up ceremony on Friday, June 21st at 8:00 a.m. at Springhurst

Details on all events are posted on the District website.

Ms. Lucasey thanked the District Facilities Director Denis Brazil and custodial worker Oscar Estrada for their help in making it possible to relocate the Memorial Day ceremony indoors on account of the weather.

### **7. Board Reports**

#### **7.01 2023-2024 District Goals Update**

Mr. Slentz provided an update on the progress of the District's 2023-2024 goals. Most goals have been met or are close to being met. The goal for the establishment of a wellness framework and for providing non-instructional staff are ongoing and will continue to be addressed in the 2024-25 school year.

Mr. Slentz will provide a comprehensive year-end update on the goals at the June 25 meeting.

### **8. Board Committee Reports**

#### **8.01 Committee Reports**

Ms. Stringer reported on the Finance Committee's May 7, 2024 meeting. The committee:

- Discussed budget development procedure and ways to improve that process
- Reviewed fund balance and reserves financing for Phase II Capital Project
- Discussed the process of collective bargaining and RFP for security services



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Ms. Stringer reported on the Policy Committee's May 15, 2024 meeting. The committee:

- Reviewed four policies, which are up for first reading later tonight
- Discussed the list of policies to be reviewed at the next committee meeting (annual review)

Ms. Lucasey reported on the Special Education Committee's May 17, 2024 meeting. The committee:

- Received updates on status of preschool referrals and impact of current student program needs
- Discussed countywide challenges in providing related services
- Discussed the connection between MTSS and the Special Education referral process
- Reviewed the status on draft of a handbook for parents of students with disabilities
- Discussed the continued need for the CSE/CPSE chairperson position

Ms. Bass reported on the Curriculum, Instruction, and Equity Committee's May 9, 2024 meeting.

The committee heard a presentation by K-8 Literacy Coordinator Michelle Yang-Kaczmarek on the reading pilot program (21 teachers participated in two programs, Bookworms and Wit and Wisdom).

Minutes from the committee meetings are posted on the District website.

### 9. Board Actions

Ms. Lucasey requested a motion to combine the following items into a consent agenda:

#### 9.04 CSE/CPSE Recommendations

WHEREAS the Committee on Special Education and Committee on Pre-School Special Education had issued to the Board by written confidential reports dated May 22, 2024, 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 reports dated May 22, 2024.

#### 9.05 Quad Transportation Service Agreement

**BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Board of Education of the Dobbs Ferry Union Free School District, hereby moves to approve a Quad Management Transportation Services Agreement between the Quad Villages (Ardsley, Dobbs Ferry, Hastings and Irvington) to a one (1) year municipal cooperation agreement, commencing on July 1, 2024 and terminating on June 30, 2025, for the purposes of providing the administration and management of transportation services to resident pupils attending schools within each of the Quad school districts or non-public schools.

#### 9.12 Budget Transfer - Maintenance

**BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Board of Education of the Dobbs Ferry Union Free School District,



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hereby move to approve the following budget transfer for year end maintenance projects:

Account	Decrease	Increase
A 9903-900-00-0000 Transfer to Capital	\$56,650	
A 1621-401-08-0000 Maint Projects		\$56,650

#### 9.13 Budget Transfer - Payroll Codes

**BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Board of Education of the Dobbs Ferry Union Free School District, hereby move to approve the following budget transfers to reconcile payroll codes:

Account	Decrease	Increase
2070-156-04-0000 Staff Dev Curric Dev		15,707.23
2110-120-01-1200 Tch-Reg 2nd Gr Salary		22,308.41
2110-120-01-1300 Tch Reg 3rd Gr Salary		11,239.17
2110-120-01-1500 Tch Reg 5th Gr Salary		28,937.17
2110-120-01-5300 Tch Reg Music Salary	11,768.51	
2110-120-01-7000 Tch Reg Eng Lang Learner		16,665.16
2110-120-01-7300 Tch Reg Reading Salary	32,890.98	
2110-120-01-7400 Tch Reg Math Enrichment	31,632.00	
2110-120-03-0000 9-12 Coordinators/Leader		10,488.36
2110-130-02-7307 Tch Reg Reading AIS Sal	33,040.98	
2110-130-03-4400 Tch Reg Science Sal	40,838.43	
2110-130-03-4500 Tch Reg Foreign Lang	26,499.60	
2110-140-01-0000 Sub Teaching - SH		22,281.25
2110-140-01-1000 Perm Sub - SH	52,796.43	
2110-140-02-0000 Sub Teaching - MS		42,037.50
2110-140-02-2000 Perm Sub - MS	51,125.00	
2110-153-03-0000 Reg Tch Ovrl'd - HS		39,200.83
2110-156-01-8121 TA Class Coverage - SH		15,934.90
2110-160-01-8122 Aides/Monitor	19,796.21	
2110-160-03-8122 Aides/Monitors		24,992.00
2250-150-01-7200 Spec Ed Teaching - SH		86,203.84
2250-150-01-7230 Spec Ed Resource Rm - SH	33,235.70	
2250-150-03-7200 Spec Ed Teaching - HS	39,539.93	

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2250-151-00-7200 Spec Ed Summer Eval		18,927.71
2250-155-01-8122 Teacher Aide - SH	35,296.80	
2250-160-01-8122 Spec Ed Teacher Aide - SH		35,458.00
2610-150-01-4600 Library Salaries - SH		8,079.04
2855-151-07-7900 Athletics Chaperone		10,000.00
	408,460.57	408,460.57

Mr. Wood moved and Ms. Bass seconded, to combine the above items into a consent agenda.

Vote: 5 ayes, 0 nays

Ms. Lucasey requested a motion to approve the items placed on the consent agenda.

Ms. Hershberg moved and Mr. Wood, seconded to approve the items on the consent agenda.

Vote: 5 ayes, 0 nays

#### **9.01 Personnel**

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 staff personnel recommendations.

Ms. Bass moved and Ms. Stringer seconded, to accept the personnel recommendations.

Vote: 5 ayes, 0 nays

Mr. Slentz highlighted the recommendations for granting tenure to Dr. Darrell Stinchcomb and hiring Ms. Rudelina Murray as the new assistant principal for Springhurst.

#### **9.02 Abolishment of Position - Pedagogical**

The board, for reasons of economy and efficiency, has determined that it is appropriate to abolish certain pedagogical positions in the District;

BE IT RESOLVED, that the board hereby abolishes one (1) elementary classroom teaching position.

Ms. Bass moved and Ms. Stringer seconded, to abolish the position.

Vote: 5 ayes, 0 nays

#### **9.03 Abolishment of Positions - Non-Pedagogical**

The board, for reasons of economy and efficiency, has determined that it is appropriate to abolish certain non-pedagogical positions in the District;



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BE IT RESOLVED, that the board hereby abolishes the following positions:

- One (1) Security Aide
- One (1) Sr. Payroll Clerk
- One (1) Office Assistant (Automated Systems)
- One (1) Public Relations Assistant
- One (1) Cable TV Station Program Director

Mr. Wood moved and Ms. Hershberg seconded, to abolish the positions.

Vote: 5 ayes, 0 nays

**9.06 Student Out-of-District and Summer Transportation (Piggybacking)**

*This item is tabled for the June 11, 2024 meeting pending receipt of contract.*

**9.07 Student Athletic and Field Trip Transportation (Piggybacking)**

*This item is tabled for the June 11, 2024 meeting pending receipt of contract*

**9.08 Policy Revision - First Reading**

The Board conducted a first reading of the following policies:

1. 1400: Public Complaints. This policy concerns complaints about the school district not addressed in other school policies. Those policies are cross-referenced.
2. 1420: Complaints About Curricula or Instructional Materials. The policy sets forth the process for community complaints about specific instructional materials.
3. 8130: School Safety Plans and Teams. The policy sets forth the safety teams and plans in place to deal with violence prevention, crisis intervention and emergency response and management.
4. 8131: Pandemic Planning. The policy sets forth the district's implementation of contagious disease outbreak-prevention procedures.

**9.09 Policy Revision - Second Reading**

BE IT RESOLVED, that having satisfied the procedural requirements of policy 2410, the following policies are hereby adopted:

1. 9260: Conditional Appointment - Student Safety
2. 4810: Teaching About Controversial Issues including cross-references to Policy 1420 and Policy 4200.

Ms. Hershberg moved and Mr. Wood seconded, to adopt the policies as amended.

Vote: 5 ayes, 0 nay

**9.10 Request for Defense and Indemnification**

BE IT RESOLVED, the Board of Education hereby grants Employee # 052824 a legal defense and indemnification pursuant to New York State Education Law 3023 and/or 3811 in the matter of A.T. and M.T. individually and on behalf of their minor child, case index No. 61737.



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Ms. Bass moved and Ms. Stringer seconded, to grant the employee indemnification.

Vote: 5 ayes, 0 nay

### **9.11 Award of Contract for Security Officer Services**

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of the Dobbs Ferry Union Free School District hereby move to accept the proposal from Arrow Security for security officer services for the 2024-25 school year with the option to extend annually through the 2028-29 school year, and authorizes the Assistant Superintendent for Finance, Facilities, and Operations to sign for the District.

Ms. Bass moved and Ms. Hershberg seconded, to accept the proposal for security services.

Vote: 5 ayes, 0 nay

## **10. Acknowledgements**

### **10.01 Warrants**

The Board acknowledged receipt of Warrant No. 50 and 52 - Multi.

### **10.02 Treasurer's Report**

The Board acknowledges receipt of the April 2024 treasurer's report.

## **11. Citizen Comments**

### **11.01 Notice**

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None.

## **12. Old Business**

Ms. Lucasey announced that the 2024-2025 Board of Education meeting dates are in draft form and can be revised; the annual reorganization meeting will take place Tuesday, July 9, 2024 at 6:00pm.





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### **13. New Business**

Ms. Lucasey announced that board members should receive an email from SuperEval regarding board and superintendent evaluations.

### **14. Upcoming Meetings**

#### **14.01 Calendar**

Tuesday, June 11, 2024 - 7:00 PM - MS/HS Library

- Business Meeting

Tuesday, June 25, 2024 - 7:00 PM - MS/HS Library

- Business Meeting

### **15. Adjournment**

Ms. Bass moved and Ms. Stringer seconded, to adjourn the meeting at 8:05 pm.

Vote: 5 ayes, 0 nays

Elizabeth Saperstein  
District Clerk