



MINUTES

Tuesday, October 14, 2025

Proposed Executive Session and Regular Meeting

6:30 p.m. Executive Session - Board Room

7:00 p.m. Regular Meeting - MS/HS Library Presentation Room

1. Video Conferencing Notice

1.01 Videoconferencing Notice

R. Hershberg participated via videoconference.

2. Proposed Executive Session.

B. Bass called the meeting to order at 6:31pm.

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

D. Wood moved and M. Walker seconded, that the board appoint K. Slentz as clerk pro tem.

Vote: 5 ayes, 0 nays (P. Nagarjan absent and P. Sullivan-Nunes arrived late)

B. Bass requested a motion for the board to enter executive session for the purpose of discussing the employment history of a particular pedagogical employee; the status of a proposed settlement agreement for student 103025; and the status of current litigation.

S. Reddy moved and R. Hershberg seconded, that the board enter executive session at 6:31 p.m.

Vote: 5 ayes, 0 nays

P. Sullivan-Nunes joined the meeting.

B. Bass requested a motion that the board exit the executive session.

D. Wood moved and M. Walker seconded, that the board exit the executive session at 7:01 p.m.

Vote: 6 ayes, 0 nays

3. Call to Order - Regular Meeting

B. Bass called the regular meeting to order at 7:09 p.m.

4. Meeting Opening



DRAFT MINUTES

4.01 Pledge of Allegiance

4.02 Roll Call

Brooke Bass, President; Penny Sullivan-Nunes, Vice President; Darren Wood; Rebecca Hershberg; Mindy Walker; Sudha Reddy; Kenneth Slentz, Superintendent; Lisa Raymond, Assistant Director of Finance, Facilities and Operations; Darrell Stinchcomb, Assistant Superintendent of Curriculum, Instruction, and Equity; Ken Slentz, Superintendent, and Elizabeth Saperstein, District Clerk.

4.03 Acceptance of the Agenda

B. Bass requested a motion to accept the October 14, 2025 agenda.

S. Reddy moved and R. Hershberg seconded, that the board accept the October 14, 2025 agenda.

Vote: 6 ayes, 0 nays

4.04 Approval of Minutes

B. Bass requested a motion to approve the minutes of the September 30, 2025 meeting.

M. Walker moved and D. Wood seconded, that the board approve the September 30, 2025 minutes.

Vote: 6 ayes, 0 nays

5. School Board Appreciation Week - October 13 - 17, 2025

The board of education of the Dobbs Ferry Union Free School District was acknowledged by K. Slentz for their dedication and service to the district.

6. Citizen Comments

6.01 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



DRAFT MINUTES

appropriate action.

None

7. Correspondence

7.01 Board Correspondence

The board acknowledged correspondence regarding transportation.

8. Announcements

K. Slentz announced that there was much activity on campus this past week and weekend, including Mac Field Day and Homecoming.

R. Hershberg announced, on behalf of the PTSA, that volunteers are still needed for the Pumpkin Fair. Interested persons may sign up directly via the PTSA website or by sending an email to dobbsferrypta@gmail.com. The PTSA website is <https://www.dobbsferrypta.org>.

9. Superintendent Report

9.01 Proposed 2025-26 District Goals

K. Slentz reviewed the 2025-2026 district goals. He highlighted the new student attendance accountability measures and staff retention goals.

The presentation is posted to the district website.

10. Board Reports

10.01 2024-25 Student Performance Data Presentation

Darrell Stinchcomb, Amber Klebanoff, Tashia Brown, Patrick Mussolini, Shari Kaplan, Josh Rosen and Michelle Yank-Kaczmarek presented student testing scores in Math and ELA across grades 3-8. This was based on the data released by the state over the summer. The presentation showed a snapshot of the proficiency levels and the progression of the cohorts.

John Falino provided an overview of the IB exam scores.

The presentation is posted to the district website.

11. Board Committee Reports

11.01 Board Committee Reports

S. Reddy reported the following information and updates from the September 30, 2025 audit committee meeting:

- The committee met with external auditor Alan Kassay, partner, PFK O'Connor Davies



DRAFT MINUTES

who gave the board an overview of the findings of the 2024-25 external audit; and

- A. Kassay reviewed points from the financial statements and issued a "clean" audit for the district, and offered suggestions on improving the extraclassroom activities fund.

D. Wood reported the following highlights from the October 8, 2025 policy committee meeting:

- The committee reviewed feedback from the board on the revisions to Policy 5300: Code of Conduct that will be up for a second reading later in the meeting;
- The committee reviewed proposed resolutions from NYSSBA and will share them with the full board; and
- The committee discussed a range of policies that would be reviewed in the year ahead.

P Sullivan-Nunes reported the following information and updates from the October 9, 2025 special education committee meeting:

- The committee received an overview on programming for students with disabilities from S. Kaplan and S. Grosso, including referrals, placements and tuition students;
- Also from S. Kaplan and S. Grosso, the board received an update on testing scores for students with IEPs; and
- The board received an update from K. Slentz on a proposed settlement agreement.

Committee minutes are posted on the district website.

R. Hershberg left the meeting after the board committee reports.

12. Board Actions

12.01 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.

S. Reddy moved and M. Walker seconded, to approve the professional personnel actions.

Vote: 5 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.

1. Resignation/Retirement

a. Dawn Watson, Elementary Classroom Teacher
Location: Springhurst Elementary School
Effective: November 21, 2025 (close of business)

2. Temporary, Seasonal or Annual Appointment



DRAFT MINUTES

a. Kristen Allen, Per Diem Substitute Teacher
Location: Springhurst Elementary School
Effective: October 15, 2025 - June 26, 2026
Compensation: \$125.00 per day, \$62.50 per half day

b. Nicole Charnizon, Per Diem Substitute Teacher
Location: Springhurst Elementary School
Effective: October 15, 2025 - June 26, 2026
Compensation: \$125.00 per day, \$62.50 per half day

c. Kaleigh Silverstein, Per Diem Substitute Teacher
Location: Springhurst Elementary School
Effective: October 15, 2025 - June 26, 2026
Compensation: \$125.00 per day, \$62.50 per half day

d. Laura Gikas, Per Diem Substitute Teacher
Location: Springhurst Elementary School
Effective: October 15, 2025 - June 26, 2026
Compensation: \$125.00 per day, \$62.50 per half day

3. Rescindment of Appointment - Toileting

a. Tonya Brooks, K-12 Teaching Assistant
Location: Dobbs Ferry Middle School
Effective: September 2, 2025
Note: T. Brooks will not perform toileting duties.

12.02 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 actions.

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

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

Vote: 5 ayes, 0 nays

1. Probationary Appointment

(a) JayIn Dawley, Teacher Aide
Location: Dobbs Ferry School District
Effective: October 15, 2025
Duration of Probationary Period: October 15, 2025 - December 14, 2026



DRAFT MINUTES

Status: Probationary/Permanent (10-month)

Salary: Teacher Aide, Step 6 (\$32,116) prorated

2. Termination of Probationary Appointment

(a) Maryann Ferrara, part-time School Monitor

Location: Springhurst Elementary School

Effective: October 24, 2025

12.03 CSE/CPSE Recommendations and Proposed Stipulation Agreement

WHEREAS the Committee on Special Education and Committee on Pre-School Special Education had issued to the board by written confidential report dated October 8, 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 authorizes and directs the administration to immediately arrange for the special programs and services as set forth in said report dated October 8, 2025.

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

M. Walker moved and D. Wood seconded, to approve the CSE/CPSE recommendations.

Vote: 5 ayes, 0 nays

12.04 Policy Revision - Second Reading

BE IT RESOLVED, that having satisfied the requirements of policy 2410, the board of education hereby approves the following policies:

Policy 5300: Code of Conduct.

B. Bass requested a motion to adopt the policy.

P. Sullivan-Nunes moved and S. Reddy seconded, to adopt the policy.

Vote: 5 ayes, 0 nays

Adopted policies are posted to the district website.



DRAFT MINUTES

12.05 Independent Auditor's Report

BE IT RESOLVED, that the board of education of the Dobbs Ferry Union Free School District hereby move to accept the Independent Auditors Report, performed by PKF O'Connor Davies, LLP, for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2025.

B. Bass requested a motion to accept the independent auditor's report.

D. Wood moved and S. Reddy seconded, to accept the independent auditor's report.

Vote: 5 ayes, 0 nays

12.06 Internal Auditing Services

BE IT RESOLVED, that the board of education of the Dobbs Ferry Union Free School District hereby move to accept the proposal from Bonadio Group for Internal Auditing Services, and authorizes the interim assistant superintendent for finance, facilities, and operations to sign for the district.

B. Bass requested a motion to accept the proposal.

M. Walker moved and D. Wood seconded, to accept the proposal.

Vote: 5 ayes, 0 nays

12.07 District Goals for 2025-2026.

BE IT RESOLVED that the board hereby adopts the 2025-2026 district goals and directs the superintendent to provide periodic updates on progress toward meeting the goals.

B. Bass requested a motion to adopt the district goals.

S. Reddy moved and M. Walker seconded, to approve the district goals.

Vote: 5 ayes, 0 nays

12.08 Budget Transfer - Salary Codes

BE IT RESOLVED, that the board of education of the Dobbs Ferry Union Free School District, hereby move to approve the following 2025-26 budget transfer to reallocate funds from library assistant to curriculum and instruction office assistant.

	Increase	Decrease
A2020-160-01-8120	\$33,435.63	



DRAFT MINUTES

A2610-160-01-4600		\$33,453.63
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BE IT RESOLVED, that the board of education of the Dobbs Ferry Union Free School District, hereby move to approve the following 2025-26 budget transfer to reallocate funds - lane changes, overages, and salary adjustments.

	Increase	Decrease
A2110-130-03-3000	\$85,245.91	
A2610-150-01-4600	\$41,401.00	
A2820-150-00-6500	\$30,654.95	
A2825-150-00-6550	\$6,513.65	
A2110-150-04-0000		\$122,414.51
A2110-120-01-1000		\$41,401.00

B. Bass requested a motion to approve the budget transfer.

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

Vote: 5 ayes, 0 nays

12.09 Budget Transfer

BE IT RESOLVED, that the board of education of the Dobbs Ferry Union Free School District, hereby move to approve the following 2025-26 budget transfer to transfer interest budgeted from bond interest to assessments of school property account.

	Increase	Decrease
A1950.400	\$43,000.00	
A9711.700		\$43,000.00

B. Bass requested a motion to approve the budget transfer.

S. Reddy moved and M. Walker seconded, to approve the budget transfer.

Vote: 5 ayes, 0 nays

12.10 Employee Engagement Consulting Agreement Renewal

WHEREAS, at the July 9, 2025, reorganization meeting, the board of education designated the U.S. Employee Benefits Services Group (EBSG) as the employee benefits consultant; and



DRAFT MINUTES

WHEREAS the EBSG has provided consultation services in the prior year that met the expectations of administration and the requirements of the employment agreement;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the board of education approve the consulting agreement renewal for the 2025-26 school year.

B. Bass requested a motion to approve the consulting agreement renewal.

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

Vote: 5 ayes, 0 nays

12.11 Special Education Services Contract 2025-26

BE IT RESOLVED, that the board of education of the Dobbs Ferry Union Free School District, hereby move to approve the attached contract for special education services between the Rye City School District and the Dobbs Ferry Union Free School District for the 2025-26 school year, and authorizes the assistant superintendent for finance, facilities, and operations to sign for the district.

B. Bass requested a motion to approve the special education services contract.

M. Walker moved and D. Wood seconded, to approve the special education services contract.

Vote: 5 ayes, 0 nays

12.12 NYSSBA Proposed Resolutions

The board will cast votes in support of or against the 2025 NYSSBA proposed resolutions presented in the attached documents and appoints Penny Sullivan-Nunes to serve as our voting delegate at NYSSBA's Annual Business Meeting and to exercise her discretion to modify the board's position if needed.

B. Bass requested a motion to vote in support of P. Sullivan-Nunes to serve as voting delegate at NYSSBA's annual business meeting.

S. Reddy moved and M. Walker seconded, to vote in support of the aforementioned motion.

B. Bass noted that this is P. Sullivan-Nunes's 3rd year serving as voting delegate.

Vote: 5 ayes, 0 nays

12.13 Approval of Proposed Tax Certiorari



DRAFT MINUTES

RESOLVED, that the board of education authorizes its attorneys, Shaw, Perelson, May & Lambert, LLP to execute a consent judgment in a tax certiorari proceeding captioned 552 Corp. v. Town of Greenburgh & Dobbs Ferry UFSD;

AND IT IS FURTHER RESOLVED, that the board authorizes the refund of taxes as required by the terms of the consent judgment.

B. Bass requested a motion to approve the resolution.

D. Wood moved and M. Walker seconded, to approve the resolution.

Vote: 5 ayes, 0 nays

13. Citizens' Comments

13.01 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

14. Old Business

None

15. New Business

None

16. Upcoming Meetings

16.01 Calendar

Tuesday, October 28, 2025 - 7:00 p.m. - MS/HS Library Presentation Room

- Regular Meeting

Tuesday, November 18, 2025 - 7:00 p.m. - MS/HS Library Presentation Room

- Regular Meeting



DRAFT MINUTES

17. Acknowledgements

17.01 Warrants

The board acknowledged the following warrant:

#0015 - Multi

18. Adjournment

B. Bass requested a motion to adjourn the October 14, 2025 meeting.

S. Reddy moved and D. Wood seconded, to adjourn the meeting at 8:40 p.m.

Vote: 5 ayes, 0 nays

Elizabeth Saperstein
District Clerk