Dobbs Ferry School District
Independent Thinkers Change Worlds

APPROVED MINUTES

Tuesday, June 9, 2026
7:00 p.m. Regular Meeting
MS/HS Library Presentation Room

1. Call to Order - Regular Meeting

B. Bass called the regular meeting to order at 7:10 pm.

2. Meeting Opening

2.01 Pledge of Allegiance

2.02 Roll Call

Brooke Bass, President; Penny Sullivan-Nunes, Vice President; Darren Wood; Pavithra Nagarajan; Rebecca Hershberg; Mindy Walker; Sudha Reddy; Ashely Wu, student ex officio; Kenneth Slentz, Superintendent; and Elizabeth Saperstein, District Clerk.

D. Stinchcomb was absent.
L. Raymond was absent
Y. Klein (student ex officio) was absent.

2.03 Acceptance of the Agenda

B. Bass requested a motion to accept the June 9, 2026, agenda.

D. Wood moved and R. Hershberg seconded, that the board accept the June 9, 2026, agenda.

Vote: 7 ayes, 0 nays

2.04 Approval of Minutes

B. Bass requested a motion to approve the minutes of the May 12, 2026, meeting.

S. Reddy moved and M. Walker seconded, that the board approve the May 26, 2026, minutes.

Vote: 6 ayes, 0 nays, 1 abstention (D. Wood)

3. Citizen Comments

3.01 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.

4. Correspondence

4.01 Board Correspondence

The board acknowledged correspondence regarding the following topics:

1. AI Policy
2. High School Field Issue

5. Announcements

K. Slentz acknowledged music teacher G. DeFalco and the high school octet chorus singing group. They received a Level VI Gold with Distinction award at the annual NYSSMA festival.

K. Slentz acknowledged the girls varsity softball team. They will compete in the state semi-finals against Babylon at 4:00 pm on Friday, June 12 in Binghamton, NY unless the game is postponed due to thunder and lightning which is forecast in the area. Slentz also acknowledged head coach K. Reznicek who has earned the distinction of Section One coach of the year.

K. Slentz acknowledged student athlete Chris Doherty who qualified for the state track meet in the 800 hundred meter race. All of the district's spring sports teams qualified as scholar-athlete teams. However, because two teams from the fall season did not qualify, the district will not receive the School of Distinction award this year.

K. Slentz announced that the Fourth Grade Concert is Weds., June 10 at 6:30 p.m. at Springhurst.

R. Hershberg announced on behalf of the PTSA that it will hold its final meeting on June 17 at which time members will be asked to review and vote on proposed budget changes.

B. Bass announced that R. Hershberg will not return to the board in the next school year therefore another member of the board will need to replace her as PTSA liaison.

B. Bass announced that the annual Moonball kickball tournament is Saturday, June 13 at the Dobbs Ferry waterfront from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

6. Board Reports

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6.01 Board Committee Reports

Student ex officio A. Wu reported the following information and updates from the legislative branch of the student government:

- The group held its final meeting of the year and spent time reflecting on progress and outcomes;
- The group received approval to have a showcase near the auditorium displaying student awards in music and theater;
- The group voted in new student ex officio members Henry Brewer, an incoming senior, and Cleo Reisinger, an incoming junior; and
- Several juniors, including Yael (current ex officio), are attending the Genius Olympiad International Science competition.

D. Wood reported the following information and updates from the May 28, 2026, policy committee meeting:

- Upon review of requests for information regarding the accessibility of artificial intelligence in our schools, the committee will postpone the second reading of the policy;
- Discussion of a recent NYSED notice received by the district citing it for disproportionality in special education classification of students in the Hispanic subgroup;
- The committee completed its initial review of the Code of Conduct; the goal is to review the changes with the board over the summer and post the policy for public comment and adopt in August; and
- Discussion of policies to be reviewed at the present meeting and policy deferred to a future meeting (Medicaid compliance).

D. Wood also announced that depending upon the comments received the board would do a presentation on the AI policy before the first public comment period.

B. Bass reported the following information and updates from the May 26, 2026, audit committee meeting:

- Both external auditors (PKF O'Connor Davies) and internal auditors (Bonadio Group) met with the board. Alan Kassay of PKF announced his retirement and introduced his replacement, Jeff Shaver. They reviewed the timeline for the upcoming audit;
- The internal auditors presented their findings and reported on the extra-classroom activity fund, which needs improvement. B. Bass added that L. Raymond put systems in place to address findings; and
- The committee discussed what the district would like the auditors to focus on in the upcoming year and selected technology controls and IT penetration.

Committee minutes are posted on the district website.

7. Board Actions

7.01 Personnel - Professional/Certificated Staff

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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 professional personnel recommendations.

B. Bass acknowledged the retirement of kindergarten teacher Patricia Zarro and the resignation of K-8 Math Specialist Josh Rosen, and thanked them for their service to our students.

B. Bass and K. Slentz acknowledged Nancy Tavarez, new elementary educational technology specialist, who was in attendance for her appointment. She replaces Jessica Bauer.

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

R. Hershberg moved and M. Walker seconded, to approve the professional personnel actions.

Vote: 7 ayes, 0 nays

1. Resignation

(a) Patricia Zarro, Elementary Classroom Teacher
Location: Springhurst Elementary School
Effective: for the purpose of retirement, effective June 30, 2026

(b) Joshua Rosen, K-8 Math Specialist
Location: Dobbs Ferry School District
Effective: August 1, 2026

2. Leave of Absence

(a) C. Hart, Special Education Teacher
Location: Springhurst Elementary School
Effective: June 8, 2026, and for up to 12 weeks
note: FMLA

(b) M. Murray, Elementary Classroom Teacher
Location: Springhurst Elementary School
Effective: August 31, 2026, and for up to 12 weeks
note: FMLA

2. Probationary Appointment

(a) Nancy Tavarez, K-12 Educational Technology Specialist
Location: Springhurst Elementary School
Probationary Start Date: August 31, 2026
Duration of Probationary Period: August 31, 2026 - August 30, 2029
Tenure Area: Educational Technology Specialist
Compensation: MA +30, Step 9 ($101,469)

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Certification: K-12 Educational Technology Specialist; Bilingual Education Education; Childhood Education 1-6

3. Position Change

(a) M. Zoller, temporary (leave replacement) Special Education Teacher
Location: Springhurst Elementary School
Effective: June 8, 2026 - June 26, 2026
Compensation: MA, Step 1 ($67,291) prorated
Note: M. Zoller currently serves as temporary (leave replacement) K-12 Teaching Assistant in the Special Class. She replaces C. Hart for the remainder of the school year.

4. Co-Curricular Advisor

(a) J. McCrane, Theater Arts Showcase Technical Director (.5)
Location: Dobbs Ferry Middle School
Effective: 2025-2026 school year
Compensation: $463.24

5. Temporary, Seasonal and Part-Time Appointment

(a) Aden Greengrass, Per Diem Substitute Teacher
Location: Dobbs Ferry Middle and High School(s)
Effective: June 10, 2026 - June 26, 2026
Compensation: $125.00 per day, $62.50 per half day

(b) Steven Gates, Musical Accompanist
Location: Springhurst Elementary School
Effective: May/June 2026 (4th and 5th Grade Concerts)
Compensation: $125.00 per service, not to exceed six (6) services per production

6. Extended School Year (ESY) Program Staff

Effective: July 6, 2025 - August 14, 2026
Location: Dobbs Ferry MS/HS
(a) J. Broccoli, up to 165 hours @ 20% of daily rate, per hour
(b) N. Ferro, up to 63 hours @ 20% of daily rate, per hour
(c) L. Cosgrove, up to 63 hours @ 20% of hourly rate, per hour
(d) J. Hurt, up to 80 hours @ hourly rate, per hour
(e) C. Reda, up to 150 hours @ hourly rate, per hour plus $4.00 per hour for toileting duties
(f) J. Auguste-Brice, up to 150 hours @ hourly rate, per hour
(g) A. Vaccaro, up to 75 hours @ hourly rate, per hour
(h) E. Thomas, up to 42 hours @ hourly rate, per hour

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Location: Springhurst
(i) A. Chiossi, up to 165 hours @ 20% of daily rate, per hour
(j) J. Kaminski, up to 165 hours @ 20% of daily rate, per hour
(k) J. Turenchalk, up to 90 hours @ 20% of daily rate, per hour
(l) V. Garofalo, up to 30 hours @ 20% of daily rate, per hour
(m) M. Cusato, up to 150 hours @ hourly rate, per hour plus $4.00 per hour for toileting duties
(n) K. Cuniffee, up to 150 hours @ hourly rate, per hour plus $4.00 per hour for toileting duties
(o) D. Campisi, up to 150 hours @ hourly rate, per hour plus $4.00 per hour for toileting duties
(p) M. Albuateen, up to 75 hours @ hourly rate, per hour plus $4.00 per hour for toileting duties
(q) A. Friedman, up to 50 hours @ hourly rate, per hour
(r) L. Easton, up to 50 hours @ hourly rate, per hour
(s) J. Shin, up to 75 hours @ hourly rate, per hour
(t) R. Glynn, up to 50 hours @ hourly rate, per hour
(u) S. Sellitti, up to 27 hours (outdoor garden) @ $75.00 per hour.
(v) G. Kruze, up to 80 hours @ 20% of daily rate, per hour
(w) Substitute Teachers (as needed), up to 20 hours each, @ 20% of daily rate, per hour:
D. Castellano, J. Turenchalk, M. Pagano, V. Garofalo
(x) Substitute Teaching Assistants (as needed), up to 25 hours each @ hourly rate, per hour:
N. Murphy, C. Savino

7. Summer Work - CSE/CPSE Meetings

Effective: July 1, 2026 - August 30, 2026, as needed
Location: Dobbs Ferry School District
Compensation: Hourly rate, per hour

(a) H. Mair
(b) E. Pinkava
(c) N. Griffin
(d) A. Chiossi
(e) T. Galati
(f) C. Moccia
(g) K. LaPorte
(h) A. Ortega
(i) K. Shine
(j) N. Delvecchio-Molina
(k) K. Ravo
(l) M. Pagano
(m) S. Mills
(n) D. Castellano
(o) L. Serrone
(p) J. Pirragalia (Coulehan)

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7.02 Approval of Tax Warrant

BE IT RESOLVED, that the board of education of the Dobbs Ferry Union Free School District, hereby move to approve the Tax Warrant Notification for the 2026-2027 school year to the Town of Greenburgh in the amount of $47,451,668.

B. Bass requested a motion to approve the tax warrant.

P. Sullivan-Nunes moved and M. Walker seconded, to approve the tax warrant.

Vote: 7 ayes, 0 nays

7.03 CSE/CPSE Recommendations

WHEREAS the Committee on Special Education and Committee on Pre-School Special Education had issued to the board by written confidential report dated June 3, 2026, 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 June 3, 2026.

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

R. Hershberg moved and P. Nagarajan seconded, to approve the CSE/CPSE recommendations.

Vote: 7 ayes, 0 nays

7.04 Internal Auditors Risk Assessment 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 Risk Assessment Report of June 30, 2026 performed by The Bonadio Group;

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 auditor’s findings and recommendations.

B. Bass requested a motion to approve the internal auditor’s risk assessment report and corrective action plan.

S. Reddy moved and M. Walker seconded, to approve the report and corrective action plan.

Vote: 7 ayes, 0 nays

7.05 Policy Revision - First Reading

In accordance with the requirements of policy 2410, the board of education will conduct a first reading of the following policies; because of the timelines associated with policy 2210 related to the July reorganization meeting, the board will waive the second reading of the policy and approve.

B. Bass requested a motion to approve policy 2210.

R. Hersberg moved and M. Walker seconded, to approve policy 2210.

Vote: 7 ayes, 0 nays.

The board resumed its presentation of the first reading of the remainder of the policies up for first reading.

P. Sullivan-Nunes reviewed revisions to Policy 5420: Student Health Services. Key revisions included application of revised NYSED and NYSDOH rules; clarification of language, application of editing conventions and a cross-reference to form 1925-E.

D. Wood reviewed revisions to Policy 5430: Response to Student Injury and Emergency Care. Revisions include clarification of language and application of editing conventions.

D. Wood reviewed revisions to Policy 6240: Investments. Revisions include clarification of language and application of editing conventions.

7.06 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 1740: Relationship with Non-Public Schools
Policy 1925: Interpreters for Hearing-Impaired Parents
Policy 4200: Curriculum Management
Policy 4235: Academic Intervention Services
Policy 7500: Naming of Facilities
Regulation 7500-R: Recognition of Distinguished Individuals

B. Bass requested a motion to approve the policies presented for second reading.

S. Reddy moved and D. Wood seconded, to approve the policies.

Vote: 7 ayes, 0 nays

7.07. Acceptance of Dobbs Ferry PTSA Grant

B. Bass requested a motion to table this item to the next meeting due to a change in the amount of the grant and supporting paperwork.

D. Wood moved and P. Nagarajan seconded, to table the item.

Vote: 7 ayes, 0 nays

7.08 Appointment of Architect and Engineering Firm to Conduct the 2026 Building Condition Survey

WHEREAS, the New York State Education Department (NYSED) requires public school districts to conduct a Building Condition Survey (BCS) for all occupied school buildings once every five years, pursuant to New York State Education Law § 409-d and § 3602(6-e) and the Commissioner's Regulations; and

WHEREAS, the NYSED has assigned the Dobbs Ferry Union Free School District to the 2026 calendar-year group for completion and submission of its mandatory Building Condition Survey; and

WHEREAS, the district is required to engage a team including at least one licensed architect or engineer to perform visual inspections and prepare a comprehensive report on the physical, mechanical, and electrical condition of all district buildings; and

WHEREAS, the district has solicited proposals for professional architectural and engineering services to facilitate the completion of the 2026 Building Condition Survey; and

WHEREAS, the board of education and district administrators have reviewed the qualifications of LAN Associates and has determined that they possess the necessary expertise and professional licensure to perform these services in accordance with NYSED standards;
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the board of education of the Dobbs Ferry Union Free School District hereby appoints LAN Associates as the architect and engineering firm of record for the purpose of conducting the 2026 Building Condition Survey; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the superintendent is authorized to execute a professional services agreement with LAN Associates, subject to the review and approval of the board's legal counsel; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the president of the board of education and the superintendent are authorized to take all necessary administrative steps to ensure the final report is signed, sealed, and submitted to the Commissioner of Education by the required statutory deadline.

B. Bass requested a motion to approve the resolution.

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

Vote: 7 ayes, 0 nays

7.09 Approval of Welfare Benefit Plan

RESOLVED, that the form of Welfare Benefit Plan, effective July 01, 2026, presented to this meeting (and a copy of which is attached hereto) is hereby approved and adopted, and that the proper agents of the employer are hereby authorized and directed to execute and deliver to the plan administrator of said plan one or more counterparts of the plan;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the plan administrator will be instructed to take such actions that the plan administrator deems necessary and proper in order to implement the plan, and to set up adequate accounting and administrative procedures for the provision of benefits under the plan.

AND, BE IT RESOLVED, that the proper agents of the employer will act as soon as possible to notify the employees of the employer of the adoption of the plan and to deliver to each employee a copy of the Summary Plan Description of the Plan, which Summary Plan Description is attached hereto and is hereby approved.

The undersigned further certifies that attached hereto as exhibits, are true copies of Dobbs Ferry Union Free School District's Benefit Plan Document and Summary Plan Description approved and adopted at this meeting.

B. Bass requested a motion to approve the resolution.

D. Wood moved and P. Nagarajan seconded, to approve the resolution.

Vote: 7 ayes, 0 nays

7.10 Disposition of Library Materials

BE IT RESOLVED, that the board of education of the Dobbs Ferry Union Free School District, hereby move to approve the disposal of the library materials on the attached list that are currently part of the Springhurst library collection.

B. Bass requested a motion to approve the disposition of library materials.

R. Hershberg moved and D. Wood seconded, to approve the disposition of library materials.

Vote: 7 ayes, 0 nays

7.11 Budget Increase - Tax Certiorari (Oceana Partners II LLC)

BE IT RESOLVED, that the board of education of the Dobbs Ferry Union Free School District, hereby move to approve the following budget increase to enable the district to pay a tax certiorari refund to Oceana Partners II LLC as consented to at the January 13, 2026, board meeting:

Revenue Account	Amount	Expenditure Account	Amount
A5997.864	$23,726.76	A1930.434.99.8002	$23,726.76

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

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

Vote: 7 ayes, 0 nays

7.12 Budget Increase - Tax Certiorari (Dobbs Ferry Apartment Court, Inc.)

BE IT RESOLVED, that the board of education of the Dobbs Ferry Union Free School District, hereby move to approve the following budget increase to enable the district to pay a tax certiorari refund to Dobbs Ferry Apartment Court, Inc. as consented to at the May 6, 2026 Board meeting:

Revenue Account	Amount	Expenditure Account	Amount
A5997.864	$41,984.26	A1930.434.99.8002	$41,984.26

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

P. Nagarjan moved and R. Hershberg seconded, to approve the budget increase.

Vote: 7 ayes, 0 nays

7.13 Instructional Services Agreement - Hawthorne Cedar Knolls 2026-27

BE IT RESOLVED, that the board of education of the Dobbs Ferry Union Free School District hereby approves an instructional service agreement with the Hawthorne Cedar Knolls Union Free School District for the 2026-2027 school year.

B. Bass requested a motion to approve the agreement.

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

Vote: 7 ayes, 0 nays

7.14 Instructional Services Agreement - Greenburgh-Graham UFSD 2026-27

BE IT RESOLVED, that the board of education of the Dobbs Ferry Union Free School District hereby approves an instructional service agreement with the Greenburgh-Graham Union Free School District for the 2026-2027 school year.

B. Bass requested a motion to approve the agreement.

S. Reddy moved and P. Nagaragan seconded, to approve the agreement.

Vote: 7 ayes, 0 nays

8. Citizens' Comments

8.01 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.

9. Old Business

P. Sullivan-Nues reminded the board to act on the school choice tax credit issue.

10. New Business

B. Bass discussed the annual process for board succession for board officers for the upcoming school year and asked her fellow board members to reach out with any interest in serving as an officer. Nominations for president and vice-president will be entertained and voted upon at the reorganization meeting.

11. Upcoming Meetings

11.01 Calendar

Tuesday, June 23, 2026 - 7:00 p.m. - MS/HS Library Presentation Room

- Regular Meeting

12. Acknowledgements

12.01 Warrant

The board acknowledged the following warrant:

No. 0054 - Multi

13. Adjournment

B. Bass requested a motion to adjourn the June 9, 2026, meeting.

R. Hershberg moved and P. Nagarajan seconded, to adjourn the meeting at 7:46 pm.

Vote: 7 ayes, 0 nays

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APPROVED MINUTES

Elizabeth Saperstein
District Clerk