APPROVED MINUTES

Tuesday, October 13, 2026
7:00 pm
Regular Meeting - MS/HS Library Presentation Room

1.0 Call to Order - Regular Meeting

B. Bass called the regular meeting to order at 7:02 pm.

2.0 Meeting Opening

2.01 Pledge of Allegiance

2.02 Roll Call

Brooke Bass, President; Penny Sullivan-Nunes, Vice-President; Darren Wood; Pavithra Nagarajan; Mindy Walker; Sudha Reddy; Disan Davis; Ken Slentz, Superintendent; Lisa Raymond, Assistant Superintendent of Finance, Facilities and Operations; Cleo Reisinger, student ex officio member; Henry Brewer, student ex officio member; Elizabeth Saperstein, District Clerk.

2.03 Acceptance of the Agenda

B. Bass requested a motion to accept the October 13, 2026 agenda.

D. Wood moved and P. Nagarajan seconded, to accept the October 13, 2026 agenda.

Vote: 7 ayes, 0 nays

2.04 Approval of Minutes

B. Bass requested a motion to approve the minutes of the September 29, 2026 meeting.

D. Wood moved and P. Sullivan-Nunes seconded, to approve the minutes of the September 29, 2026 meeting.

Vote: 6 ayes, 0 nays, 1 abstention (P. Nagarajan)

3.0 School Board Appreciation Week: October 12 - 16, 2026

3.01 The Dobbs Ferry Union Free School District Board of Education was formally acknowledged for its dedication and service to the district:

Dobbs Ferry School District
Independent Thinkers Change Worlds

APPROVED MINUTES

4.0 Citizens 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

5.01 BOE Correspondence

The board acknowledged correspondence on the following topics:

1. PINE
2. Technology concerns

6. Announcements

Superintendent K. Slentz made the following announcements:

Reminder to parents that October 21, 2026 is a half-day for students.

The annual pumpkin fair and chili contest at Springhurst is Saturday, October 17, 2026.

Both ex officio student board members were selected for the high school student legislative group.

Principals Falino, Mussolini, and Brown were acknowledged for their service to the district as part of National Principals Month.

7. Board Committee Reports

7.01 Board Committee Reports

B. Bass reported the following information and updates from the September 29, 2026 district audit committee meeting:

- The committee received an opinion from Jeffrey Shaver and Samantha Nardo from PFK O'Connor Davies on the district's annual external audit, including a review of the corrective action plan; and
- District funds have been accurately accounted for, a clean report was issued, and L. Raymond addressed some recommendations in the corrective action plan letter.

S. Reddy reported the following information from the September 30, 2026 student activities and athletics committee meeting:

- Discussion of an ad hoc athletic placement process committee;
- Discussion on additional focus areas for the year, including ways to help families transition from modified to jv/varsity sports;
- Received information on fall sports participation - 35% of students in grades 7-12 are participating in fall sports and 42% in grades 9-12;
- Discussion of an alternative site for baseball during the Gould Park construction; and
- Discussion of options for submission of alternative transportation forms (no policy change required).

P. Sullivan-Nunes reported the following information from the October 7, 2026 policy committee meeting:

- The committee determined that it would not participate in the annual NYSSBA resolution review process this year;
- Review of the initial draft of the instructional technology Q&A;
- Review of the NY Inspires initiative and impact on policy changes;
- Discussion of policies to be presented for first and second readings at the October 13, 2026 board meeting.

8. Superintendent Report

8.01 Proposed District Goals

The superintendent provided the board with an update on the proposed district goals for the 2026-2027 school year, including: achieving level 4 attendance rate (95%) for at least 90% of students in each school; improving academic outcomes for all students by measuring student growth percentiles; achieving a retention rate of 95% of personnel in all areas of operations; and increasing satisfaction with family engagement with school activities.

The presentation is posted to the district website.

9. Board Actions

APPROVED MINUTES

9.01 Creation of Compost Kids Coordinator Position

Whereas, the Dobbs Ferry Union Free School District has identified a need to support Springhurst Elementary School's recycling, composting and environmental stewardship initiatives; and

Whereas, the creation of this role will directly support project-based student learning experiences; therefore

Be it resolved, that upon the recommendation of the superintendent of schools, the board of education hereby creates the compost kids coordinator position at Springhurst Elementary School in accordance with the job description contained herein, effective August 31, 2026; and

Resolved, that the compost kids coordinator compensation be established in the amount of $4,684.52 per annum.

B. Bass requested a motion to approve the creation of the compost kids coordinator position.

C. Reisinger noted that the high school legislative branch is working on implementing a similar program for the middle and high schools.

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

Vote: 7 ayes, 0 nays

9.02 Creation of Eagles Academy Coordinator Position

Whereas, the Dobbs Ferry Union Free School District has identified a need to facilitate and oversee the literacy-based Eagles Academy summer programs, Learning to Fly (kindergarten) and Flying Higher (K-5);

Whereas, the creation of this role will directly support NYSED learning standards; therefore

Be it resolved, that upon the recommendation of the superintendent of schools, the board of education hereby creates the Eagles Academy Coordinator position at Springhurst Elementary School in accordance with the job description contained herein, effective October 14, 2026; and Resolved, that the Eagles Academy Coordinator compensation be established in the amount of $3,000.00 per annum.

B. Bass requested a motion to approve the creation of the Eagles Academy Coordinator position.

D. Davis moved and S. Reddy seconded, to approve the position.

Vote: 7 ayes, 0 nays

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9.03 Personnel - Professional/Certificated Staff

Be it resolved that the board of education of the Dobbs Ferry Union Free School District hereby moves to approve the professional personnel recommendations.

1. Probationary Appointment

(a) Gianna Paone, UPK Teaching Assistant
Location: Springhurst Elementary School
Effective: October 22, 2026
Duration of Probationary Period: October 22, 2026 - October 21, 2030
Tenure Area: Teaching Assistant
Certification: Teaching Assistant, Initial
Compensation: Teaching Assistant, Step 2 ($30,309) prorated.
Note: new position

2. Temporary, Seasonal and Part-Time Appointment

(a) C. Savino, Per Diem Substitute Teacher
Location: Dobbs Ferry High School
Effective: October 1, 2026 - June 25, 2026 as needed
Compensation: $125.00 per day, $62.50 per half day

(b) D. Scaperotta, temporary (leave replacement) Elementary Classroom Teacher
Location: Springhurst Elementary School
Effective: November 16, 2026 - March 15, 2027
Compensation: MA, Step 1 ($68,973) prorated
note: replaces J. Campbell

(c) W. Osuna, temporary (leave replacement) Teaching Assistant
Location: Springhurst Elementary School
Effective: October 14, 2026 - December 31, 2026
Compensation: Teaching Assistant, Step 4 ($36,517) prorated
note: replaces T. Roberts, who is completing her student teaching

3. Extension of Probationary Period

(a) J. Duran, Mathematics Teacher
Location: Dobbs Ferry Middle School
Effective: January 26, 2029
note: extended due to unpaid childcare leave for which she receives no credit towards her probationary term

4. Leave of Absence - Extension

(a) J. Walerski, Mathematics Teacher
Location: Dobbs Ferry High School
Effective: approximately March 8, 2027 - June 30, 2027

5. Overages

Location: Dobbs Ferry High School
Effective: approximately November 30, 2026 - June 30, 2027
Compensation: $13,112.72 per annum, prorated and/or adjusted

(a) D. Kahl: one additional Algebra I lab, every other day (.1);
(b) M. Grzan: one additional Algebra I lab, every other day (.1);
(c) J. Swart: one additional Content lab, every other day (.1);
(d) K. Morales: one additional class (IB Math Applications), every other day (.1);
(e) S. Mills: one additional class (Geometry non-regents) every day (.2);
(f) C. Mach: one additional class (IB Math Applications) every day (.2);
(g) C. Mach: one additional class (Geometry Regents) every other day (.1)
note: coverage for Walerski leave

6. ELA Academy Coordinator

(a) K. Ryan
Location: Springhurst Elementary School
Effective: October 14, 2026 - December 31, 2026
Compensation: $1,171.14 per annum

7. ELA Academy Instructors

Location: Springhurst Elementary School
Effective: November 16, 2026 - December 21, 2026 (Mondays and Thursdays)
Compensation: 20% of daily rate, per hour - up to 16 sessions

(a) S. Thompson
(b) T. Galati
(c) S. Sullivan
(d) H. Mair
(e) D. Summerville-Nelson (substitute)
(f) J. Straub (substitute)

8. Co-Curricular Advisors - Springhurst

Effective: 2026-2027 School Year

(a) P. Kelly, Math Olympiads (Grade 5): Cat C, Step 2
(b) S. Sullivan, Math Olympiads (Grade 4) Cat C, Step 2
(c) C. Rhyner, Harmonnaires (Grade 5): Cat A, Step 3
(d) C. Rhyner, Harmonnaires (Grade 4): Cat A, Step 3
(e) D. Hertzberg, Orchestra: Cat A, Step 3
(f) L. Serrone, Bracelet Making: Cat D, Step 2
(g) L. Metrano, Springhurst Times: Cat B, Step 3
(h) T. Barghen-Hewlett, Intro to Social Justice (.5): Cat D, Step 2
(i) M. Yang-Kaczmarek, Intro to Social Justice (.5): Cat D, Step 3
(j) S. Sellitti, Jr. Green Team: Cat D, Step 3
(k) J. Prisco, Student Government: Cat A, Step 1

9. Co-Curricular Advisors - Middle School

Effective: 2026-2027 School Year

(a) B. Sealy, Artistic Director MS Musical (.5): Cat A, Step 3
(b) B. Sealy, Choreographer MS Musical (.5): Cat A, Step 3
(c) T. Rodriguez, Musical Director MS Musical (.5) Cat A, Step 3
(d) N. Delvecchio-Molina, Asst. Director/Producer MS Musical (.5) Cat A, Step 3
(c) A. Dagmar, Rehearsal Accompanist MS Musical: $750.00
(d) Rosamund Hencinski, Rehearsal Accompanist MS Musical: $750.00
(e) A. Dagmar, Pit Band Director: Category D, Step 3
(f) J. Carney, Technical Director MS Musical (.5): Cat B, Step 3
(g) J. Gonzalez, Set Designer MS Musical: Cat B, Step 3

10. Resignation of Co-Curricular Advisor - High School

(a) M. Petruolo, 10th Grade Class Advisor
Effective: September 30, 2026
note: Ms. Petruolo will receive a prorated amount of the annual stipend.

11. Appointment of Co-Curricular Advisor - High School

(a) K. Reznicek, 10th Grade Class Advisor - Appointment
Effective: October 1, 2026, and for the remainder of the 2026-2027 school year.
Compensation: Cat D, Step 1, prorated

12. Special Class Assignment

(a) F. Coelho, Teaching Assistant
Location: Dobbs Ferry High School
Compensation: $600.00 per annum, adjusted

(b) A. Hanft, Teaching Assistant

Location: Springhurst Elementary School
Compensation: $600.00 per annum

Note: As set forth in the CSEA Clerical, Teacher Aide/Teaching Assistant CBA Article V (7). To the extent that these assignments to the special class take place during part of the year, this extra compensation will be either prorated or discontinued.

13. Toileting

(a) Arta Hanft, Teaching Assistant
Location: Springhurst Elementary School
Compensation: $4.00 per hour, for each day worked, as set forth in the CSEA Clerical, Teacher Aide/Teaching Assistant CBA Article V (5). To the extent that the assumption of toileting (diapering) duties take place during part of the year, this extra compensation will be either prorated or discontinued.

14. Payroll Lane Change

(a) J. Swart
Location: Dobbs Ferry High School
MA +60 to MA +75, effective February 1, 2027

15. Mentors

(a) L. Cosgrove for K. Piccolino (temporary school social worker)
Location: Dobbs Ferry High School
Effective: August 31, 2026 - January 31, 2027
Compensation: $1,966.91 prorated

(b) D. Green for I. Gross (school psychologist)
Location: Springhurst Elementary School
Effective: August 31, 2026 - June 30, 2027
Compensation: $1,966.91

16. Compost Kids Coordinator

(a) S. Sellitti
Location: Springhurst Elementary School
Effective: 2026-2027 school year
Compensation: $4,684.52 per annum

17. Eagles Academy Coordinator

(a) K. Walker
Location: Springhurst Elementary School

Effective: October 14, 2026 - August 31, 2027
Compensation: $3,000.00

B. Bass requested a motion to approve the professional/certificated personnel recommendations.

P. Nagarajan moved and D. Wood seconded, to approve the professional/certificated personnel recommendations.

Vote: 7 ayes, 0 nays

9.04 Personnel - Civil Service

Be it resolved that the board of education of the Dobbs Ferry Union Free School District hereby moves to approve the civil service recommendations.

1. Resignation

(a) Phil Biancardi, Custodial Worker
Location: Springhurst Elementary School
Effective: October 16, 2026

B. Bass requested a motion to approve the professional/certificated personnel recommendations.

P. Sullivan-Nunes moved and M. Walker seconded, to approve the professional/certificated personnel recommendations.

Vote: 7 ayes, 0 nays

9.05 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 October 7, 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 October 7, 2026.

B. Bass noted that the CSE/CPSE recommendations have been reviewed by the special education committee and that there is an addendum item as the CSE committee found a placement for a student and can start as soon as possible.

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

D. Wood moved and P. Nagarajan seconded, to approve the CSE/CPSE recommendations.

Vote: 7 ayes, 0 nays

9.06 Independent Auditor's Report and Corrective Action Plan

Be it resolved, that the board of education hereby moves to accept the independent auditor's report performed by PKF O'Connor Davies, LLP for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2026;

And it is further resolved that the board hereby moves to accept the district's Corrective Action Plan to the independent auditors' findings and recommendations.

B. Bass requested a motion to approve the independent auditor's report and corrective action plan.

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

Vote: 7 ayes, 0 nays

The independent auditor's report and corrective action plan are posted to the district website.

9.07 Policy Revision - First Reading

In accordance with Policy 2410, the board conducted a first reading of the following policies:
1. 4321.6: Availability of Alternative Format Instructional Materials for Students with Disabilities
2. 4321.10: Programs and Services for Parentally-Placed Nonpublic School Students with Disabilities
3. 4321.11: Public Report on Revisions to District Policies, Practices, and Procedures Upon a Finding of Significant Disproportionality
4. 5500: Student Records
5. 8413: Transportation for Nonpublic School Students (new policy)

P. Sullivan-Nunes gave an overview of the proposed revisions to policies 4321.6, 4321.10, 4321.11 and 5550, including the application of editing conventions, clarification of language, updated links to cross-referenced policies, application of NYSSBA recommendations, and updated education law references that do not apply to union free school districts.

P. Sullivan-Nunes reviewed new policy 8413 - Transportation for Nonpublic School Students. This is a new policy that formalizes the district's existing practices for providing transportation to resident students attending nonpublic schools. The policy outlines transportation eligibility, mileage limitations, application deadlines, procedures for reviewing late requests and the use of centralized pickup points.

The proposed revisions to the policies are posted to the district website.

9.08 Policy Revision: Second Reading

Be it resolved that, having satisfied the requirements of Policy 2410, the board of education hereby approves the following policies:
1. Policy 4850: Animals in the Schools
2. Policy 6741: Contracting for Professional Services
3. Policy 9140.1: Staff Complaints and Grievances
4. Policy 9320: Drug-Free Workplace

B. Bass requested a motion to approve the policies.

M. Walker moved and D. Davis seconded, to approve the policies.

Vote: 7 ayes, 0 nays

9.09 Approval of Vendor Contract - Andersen Center for Autism

Be it resolved that the board of education of the Dobbs Ferry School District hereby approves an agreement with the Andersen Center for Autism of Staatsburg, New York, for the 2026-2027 school year to provide community-based learning transition services to students on behalf of the Dobbs Ferry Union Free School District.

B. Bass requested a motion to approve the vendor contract.

P. Nagarajan moved and S. Reddy seconded, to approve the vendor contract.

Vote: 7 ayes, 0 nays

9.10 Instructional Services Agreement - Pleasantville UFSD

Be it resolved that the board of education of the Dobbs Ferry School District does hereby approve an instructional services agreement with the Pleasantville Union Free School District for the 2026-2027 school year.

B. Bass requested a motion to approve the instructional services agreement.

D. Davis moved and M. Walker seconded, to approve the instructional services agreement.

Vote: 7 ayes, 0 nays

9.11 Contractor Services Agreement - Isa Marrs

Be it resolved that the board of education of the Dobbs Ferry School District does hereby approve a services contract with Isa Marrs Speech Language Pathology, PC of Briarcliff Manor, New York, for the 2026-2027 school year.

B. Bass requested a motion to approve the services agreement.

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

Vote: 7 ayes, 0 nays

9.12 Budget Transfer - Truck Replacement

Be it resolved that the board of education of the Dobbs Ferry Union Free School District hereby approves the following 2026–27 budget transfer to move available funds from the various equipment codes to facilities for a new truck to replace a truck placed out of service.

	Debit	Credit
A1621-200-08-0000	$38,818	
A1310-200-00-0000		$5,000
A2110-200-04-0000		$25,000
A2630-220-00-5500		$8,818

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

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

Vote: 7 ayes, 0 nays

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9.13 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 moves to approve the following budget increase to enable the district to pay a tax certiorari refund to the Dobbs Ferry Apartment Court, Inc. for lot 4A as consented to at the May 6, 2026 board meeting:

Revenue Account	Amount	Expenditure Account	Amount
A5597-864	$7,900.10	A1930.434.99.8002	$7,900.10

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

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

B. Bass noted that tax certioraris are handled by district counsel, who participates in the negotiations.

Vote: 7 ayes, 0 nays

9.14 Budget Increase - School Lunch Fund (Cafeteria Freezer)

Be it resolved that the board of education of the Dobbs Ferry Union Free School District hereby moves to approve the following school lunch fund budget increase to enable the district to pay for a freezer for the cafeteria in the amount of $15,000.

Revenue Account	Amount	Expenditure Account	Amount
C5999.000	$15,000.00	C2860.200.0000	$15,000.00

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

D. Davis moved and D. Wood seconded, to approve the budget increase.

Vote: 7 ayes, 0 nays

9.15 Disposition of District Property

Be it resolved that the board of education of the Dobbs Ferry Union Free School District hereby moves to approve the disposal of the following items in accordance with district policy 6900:

1. 2013 Ford Truck
2. Electric Air Compressor
3. Baldwin Grand Piano

B. Bass requested a motion to approve the resolution.

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

Vote: 7 ayes, 0 nays

10. Citizen Comments

10.01 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 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.

A parent member of the community offered feedback on the superintendent's technology presentation from the previous board meeting that included a request for more specificity on the selection, implementation, and subsequent evaluation of various software used by the district for instructional purposes.

11. Old Business

None

12. New Business

None

13. Upcoming Meetings

13.01 Calendar

Tuesday, October 27, 2026 - 7:00 p.m. - MS/HS Library
- Regular Meeting

Tuesday, November 10, 2026 - 7:00 p.m. - MS/HS Library
- Regular Meeting

14. Acknowledgements

APPROVED MINUTES

14.01 Warrants

The board acknowledged the following warrants:

#0012 - Multi
#0014 - Multi
#0017 - Multi

14.02 Treasurer's Reports

The board acknowledged the treasurer's reports for the months of July, August, and September 2026.

15. Adjournment

B. Bass requested a motion to adjourn the October 13, 2026 meeting at 8:05 pm.

D. Wood moved and M. Walker seconded, to adjourn the October 13, 2026 meeting.

Vote: 7 ayes, 0 nays