

MORRIS CENTRAL SCHOOL BOARD OF EDUCATION

Date of Meeting: March 21, 2024

Kind of Meeting: Regular

Board Members Present: Mary Dugan, Russell Tilley, Emily Boss, Wendy Moore

Board Member Absent: Teresa DeLaurentiis

Others Present: Jamie Maistros, Superintendent; Jenna Turner, Dean of Students; Staff Members Marjie Bourgeois, Bill Whitaker; Students Rachel Hill, Sean Dill, Reed Wolfe, Kaylee Kolka, Ethan Herring; Community Member Cindy Scott, Maggie Brenner, Tom Washbon, Justine Triolo; Rick Borchardt, Dan Demer, Upstate

The meeting was called to order by President Mary Dugan at 6:30 p.m.

The minutes of the regular meeting of February 15, 2024 and the special meeting of February 28, 2024 were approved as presented on the motion of Russell Tilley, seconded by Emily Boss, and carried 4-0.

Correspondence: A 96-year-old gentleman sent the school a postcard of the school from 1920. Mary Dugan said he would be sent some MCS gear. The Otsego County Fair notified the school that they would not be using the school as an emergency place during the summer because of the construction.

Public Comment: Maggie Brenner told the Board that the stream repair is schedule for mid-August. They are almost ready to break ground for the walking trail. They are not able to use gravel on the walking trail. Ms. Brenner told the Board that there is a group trying to get another bank in the former Community Bank building. Art on the Trail will be June 8 and 9. Ms. Brenner said she would send the information for the Visionary Scholar soon.

William Whitaker talked to the Board about the old bus garage. Mr. Whitaker said the Tired Iron of Butternut Valley, Inc. would be interested in using the old bus garage to store their tractors, do restorations on the tractors and have monthly meetings, if the school is not going to use the garage. The club no longer has a place to store the tractors. The club has done fundraisers for St. Jude, this year they are doing fundraisers for the Shriners.

Marjorie Bourgeois talked to the Board about the second grade science curriculum. Mrs. Briguglio was unable to attend the meeting. They use a hands on program for science. The students work in small groups. In one lesson the students had to build a tower with only index cards, paper clips, and scissors. The tower had to be six inches and be able to hold a book.

Rick Borchardt and Dan Demer from Upstate Security Consultants talked to the Board about having a School Resource Officer at Morris Central School. They wear regular clothes and are armed. They check the doors, monitor the hallways, do presentations for classes, check ID, etc. They are all retired law enforcement with 20 or more years of experience. They receive continuous training through workshops and online training. They must requalify twice a year for firearms. They normally report to the Principal. The estimated cost is \$65,000 per year.

Superintendent's Reports:

Jamie Maistros gave the Board a Capital Project update. During spring break they will be doing roofing, work on the electronic sign, the grease trap in the kitchen, the old front steps, and the field entrance for the new bus garage.

Jamie Maistros talked to the Board about the fiscal budget for the 2024-2025 school year. The budget is up \$572,612 over last year. We will be using \$345,000 in reserves to reduce the tax levy. Our tax cap is

1.74% and Mrs. Maistros is suggesting we go out with a tax increase of 1.74%. The Board did not have any objections.

Principal's Reports: (April Vunk was out of town, the reports were given by Jenna Turner.)

Jenna Turner talked to the Board about the Superintendent's Conference Day. 4-12 grade science teachers attended training on the Watershed and Gizmos. PK-12 teachers attended training on the new literacy briefs mandated from the state. ELA and AIS teachers in PK-8 analyzed either STAR or State Test data. Some of the teachers engaged in discussion on the Seal and Civic Readiness, a streamlined path to graduation approved by the Commission. They discussed how we can develop that as an option for our students. There was a Crockpot Lunch Competition and a Wellness Hour where the faculty and staff could participate in Yoga at the Gatehouse, a nature walk led by Maggie Brenner and Tom Washbon, or arts and crafts.

Jenna Turner talked to the Board about scheduling for next year. The elementary committee will meet sometime in April. April Vunk and Kelly Catella are already working on the secondary master schedule.

Jenna Turner talked to the Board about the elementary classroom assignments. The elementary classroom assignments have been developed for the 2024-2025 school year. Any teachers who will be changing grade levels have been notified. Classroom moves are to be determined.

Jenna Turner talked to the Board about the 3-8 state testing. State testing starts on April 10. Grades 3, 4, 6, and 7 will be taking paper tests, grades 5 and 8 will take computer based tests.

Jenna Turner talked to the Board about upcoming events. March 22 is Morning Program. Modified spring sports starts on March 25. Third quarter ends on April 12. The Egg Fest is on April 13.

Be It Resolved upon recommendation of the Superintendent, that the Board of Education of the Morris Central School District approve the following

The following business items 1 through 11 were approved as presented on the motion of Wendy Moore, seconded by Emily Boss, and carried 4-0:

1. Approval of Claim Auditor's Reports for Warrants # 95, 96, 100, 101, and 102, as presented.
2. Approval of the Treasurer's Report for the month of February 2024, as presented.
3. Approval of the Central Treasurer's Report for the month of February 2024, as presented.
4. **Be It Resolved** that the Board of Education of the Morris Central School District approves the merger of the Morris Central School's Modified Softball team with the Edmeston Central School's Modified Softball team for the 2024 season.
5. **Be It Resolved** that the Board of Education of the Morris Central School District accepts the bid from Upstate Companies, LLC for the Capital Outlay Project in the amount of \$84,000. BCA has added \$3,200 for Construction Contingency and \$12,800 for Projected Incidental Costs for a total of \$100,000.
6. **Be It Resolved** that the Board of Education of the Morris Central School District approves the Bus Bond Resolution as follows:

BOND RESOLUTION DATED MARCH 21, 2024 OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION OF THE MORRIS CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT AUTHORIZING GENERAL OBLIGATION BONDS TO FINANCE THE ACQUISITION OF SCHOOL BUSES, AUTHORIZING BOND ANTICIPATION NOTES IN CONTEMPLATION THEREOF, THE LEVY OF TAXES IN ANNUAL INSTALLMENTS IN PAYMENT THEREOF, THE EXPENDITURE OF SUCH SUMS FOR SUCH PURPOSE, AND DETERMINING OTHER MATTERS IN CONNECTION THEREWITH, as attached. (See Attachment #1)

7. **Be It Resolved** that the Board of Education of the Morris Central School District does not wish to retain the following equipment or components, as they are obsolete, no longer functional or operational, and declares the following equipment and components as surplus in accordance with Board Policy #5250 and will be disposed of accordingly:

Surplus the following athletic uniforms:

Softball Tops – 15
Softball and Baseball Pants – 38
Soccer Tops – 25 Blue and 25 White
Soccer Shorts – 15
Soccer Warm-up Pants – 8
Softball Shorts – 12
Softball Tanks – 14

8. **Be It Resolved** that the Board of Education of the Morris Central School District approves the Certified Bus Vote held on March 12, 2024. The results are as follows:

Yes: 44 No: 4 Total: 48

9. **Be It Resolved** that the Board of Education of the Morris Central School District approves the Election Officials for the Bus Vote held on March 12, 2024 as follows:

Carol Tyson, Marillyn Boggs, Barbara and Michael Virgil, Lucy Holcombe, Elaine Frederick:
Chief Election Officials Norma Boyd and Lois Jones

10. **Be It Resolved** that the Board of Education of the Morris Central School District approves the contract with Laurens Central School for the services of School Psychologist Kelly Gardner starting on April 8 through June 30, 2024. The cost for 2024-2025 will approximately be \$42,000. April through June 2024 will be prorated. Ms. Gardner remains an employee of Laurens Central School and will be providing services for Morris Central School and Edmeston Central School.

11. **Be It Resolved** that the Board of Education of the Morris Central School District approves the agreement between Morris Central School and Gilbertsville-Mt. Upton Central School to share an Occupational Therapist for the 2024-2025 school year. Gilbertsville-Mt. Upton Central School is employing the Occupational Therapist. Morris Central School will utilize this provider at a level of 0.40 FTE and pay Gilbertsville-Mt. Upton Central School 25% of the costs associated with employing this provider. The cost shall include both salary and benefits. Morris Central School will be billed quarterly.

The following personnel items 1 through 5 were approved as presented on the motion of Russell Tilley, seconded by Wendy Moore, and carried 4-0:

1. Approval of Michael D'Amico as an unpaid assistant coach for the track teams for the 2024 season.
2. Approval of Taryn Ostroff as an unpaid volunteer for the track teams for the 2024 season. Volunteers are never allowed to be alone with the athletes.
3. Approval of John Banks, Sr. as a substitute cleaner for the 2023-2024 school year.
4. Approval of McKenzie Rhone as a coach for the modified track team for the 2024 season. Ms. Rhone's stipend is \$1,342. She was given credit for one year's experience.
5. Approval of Cheryl Lord as an unpaid volunteer for the modified softball team for the 2024 season. Volunteers are never allowed to be alone with the athletes.

Public Comment: Mary Dugan congratulated cast and crew for the great job they did with the Musical. The Pop Concert was great also.

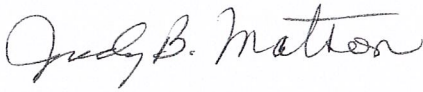
The Board went into executive session at 7:49 p.m. to discuss personnel Issues and CSE on the motion of Russell Tilley, seconded by Emily Boss, and carried 4-0.

The Board came out of executive session at 8:45 p.m. on the motion of Emily Boss, seconded by Wendy Moore, and carried 4-0.

On the motion of Emily Boss, seconded by Russell Tilley, and carried 4-0: the IEP's of the specified CSE students' plans #3342 and 3331 were approved as presented. Students' Individual Education Plans (IEP) was viewed online, in executive session, on an as needed basis.

The Board adjourned at 8:47 p.m. without further discussion on the motion of Emily Boss, seconded by Wendy Moore, and carried 4-0.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Judy B. Matson".

Judy B. Matson
District Clerk

EXTRACT OF MINUTES OF MEETING OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION OF THE
MORRIS CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT ADOPTING BOND RESOLUTION

At a regular meeting of the Board of Education of the Morris Central School District, New York, held at the District Offices in Morris, New York, on the 21st day of March, 2024:

PRESENT: Mary Dugan, Russell Tilley, Emily Boss, Wendy Moore

ABSENT: Teresa DeLaurentiis

Wendy Moore presented the following resolution and duly moved that it be adopted and was seconded by Emily Boss:

BOND RESOLUTION DATED MARCH 21, 2024 OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION OF THE MORRIS CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT AUTHORIZING GENERAL OBLIGATION BONDS TO FINANCE THE ACQUISITION OF SCHOOL BUSES, AUTHORIZING BOND ANTICIPATION NOTES IN CONTEMPLATION THEREOF, THE LEVY OF TAXES IN ANNUAL INSTALLMENTS IN PAYMENT THEREOF, THE EXPENDITURE OF SUCH SUMS FOR SUCH PURPOSE, AND DETERMINING OTHER MATTERS IN CONNECTION THEREWITH.

WHEREAS, the qualified voters of the Morris Central School District, New York, at a special meeting of such voters duly held on March 12, 2024, duly approved a proposition authorizing the levy of taxes to be collected in installments, in the manner provided by the Education Law, for the class of objects or purposes hereinafter described; now therefore

BE IT RESOLVED BY THIS BOARD OF EDUCATION AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. The Morris Central School District has undertaken or shall undertake certain capital expenditures, as more particularly described in Section 3 hereof.

Section 2. The Morris Central School District is hereby authorized to issue its General Obligation Serial Bonds in the aggregate principal amount of not to exceed \$307,556, pursuant to the Local Finance Law of New York, in order to finance the class of objects or purposes described herein.

Section 3. The class of objects or purposes to be financed pursuant to this resolution (hereinafter referred to as "purpose") is the acquisition of school buses, to include one (1) 65-passenger diesel school bus, one (1) 19-passenger gas school bus and one (1) Chevrolet Traverse, all at an estimated maximum aggregate cost of \$307,556.

Section 4. It is hereby determined and declared that (a) the maximum aggregate cost of said purpose, as estimated by the Board of Education, is \$307,556, and such amount is hereby appropriated therefor, (b) the Morris Central School District plans to finance the cost of said purpose entirely from funds raised by the issuance of said Bonds and the Bond Anticipation Notes hereinafter referred to, and (c) no money has heretofore been authorized to be applied to the payment of the cost of said purpose.

Section 5. It is hereby determined that the purpose is one of the class of objects or purposes described in Subdivision 29 of Paragraph a of Section 11.00 of the Local Finance Law, and that the period of probable usefulness of said purpose is five (5) years.

Section 6. The Morris Central School District is hereby authorized to issue its Bond Anticipation Notes in the aggregate principal amount of not to exceed \$307,556, and is hereby authorized to issue renewals thereof, pursuant to the Local Finance Law of New York in order to finance the purpose in anticipation of the issuance of the above described Bonds.

Section 7. It is hereby determined and declared that (a) there are presently no outstanding Bond Anticipation Notes issued in anticipating of the sale of said Bonds, (b) the Bond Anticipation Notes authorized hereby are not issued in anticipation for Bonds for an assessable improvement.

Section 8. It is hereby determined and declared that the Morris Central School District reasonably expects to reimburse the general fund, or such other fund utilized, not to exceed the maximum amount authorized herein, from the proceeds of the obligations authorized hereby for expenditures, if any, from such fund that may be made for the purpose prior to the date of issuance of such obligations. This is a declaration of official intent under Treasury Regulation §1.150-2.

Section 9. The faith and credit of the Morris Central School District, New York, are hereby irrevocably pledged for the payment of the principal of and interest on such Bonds and Bond Anticipation Notes as the same respectively become due and payable. And annual appropriation shall be made in each year sufficient to pay the principal of and interest on such obligations becoming due and payable in such year. There shall annually be levied on all taxable real property of said School District, a tax sufficient to

pay the principal of and interest on such obligations as the same become due and payable.

Section 10. The power to further authorize the issuance of said Bonds and Bond Anticipation Notes and to prescribe the terms, form and contents of said Bonds and Bond Anticipation Notes, subject to the provisions of this resolution and the Local Finance Law of New York, including without limitation, the consolidation with other issues, the determination to issue Bonds with substantially level or declining annual debt service, whether to authorize the receipt of bids in an electronic format, and to sell and deliver said Bonds and Bond Anticipation Notes, is hereby delegated to the President of the Board of Education or to the Vice President of the Board in the event of the absence or unavailability of the President. The President of the Board of Education and the District Clerk are hereby authorized to sign by manual or facsimile signature any Bonds and Bond Anticipation Notes issued pursuant to this resolution, and are hereby authorized to affix to such Bonds and Bond Anticipation Notes the corporate seal of the School District and to attest the same.

Section 11. This resolution, or a summary hereof, shall be published in full by the District Clerk of the School District together with a notice in substantially the form prescribed by Section 81.00 of said Local Finance Law, and such publication shall be in each official newspaper of the School District. The validity of said Bonds and Bond Anticipation Notes may be contested only if such obligations are authorized for an object or purpose for which said School District is not authorized to expend money, or the provisions of law which should be complied with, and an action, suit or proceeding contesting such validity, is commenced within twenty (20) days after the date of such publication; or if said obligations are authorized in violation of the provisions of the Constitution.

Section 12. This resolution shall take effect immediately upon its adoption.

Duly put to a vote as follows:

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LEGAL NOTICE PURSUANT TO
LOCAL FINANCE LAW SECTION 81.00

The bond resolution, a summary of which is published herewith, was adopted on March 21, 2024, and the validity of the obligations authorized by such bond resolution may be hereafter contested only if such obligations were authorized for an object or purpose for which the Morris Central School District is not authorized to expend money or if the provisions of law which should have been complied with as of the date of publication of this notice were not substantially complied with, and an action, suit or proceeding contesting such validity is commenced within twenty (20) days after the date of publication of this notice, or such obligations were authorized in violation of the provisions of the Constitution.

Judy B. Matson
District Clerk
Morris Central School District,
New York

BOND RESOLUTION DATED MARCH 21, 2024 OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION OF THE MORRIS CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT AUTHORIZING GENERAL OBLIGATION BONDS TO FINANCE THE ACQUISITION OF SCHOOL BUSES, AUTHORIZING BOND ANTICIPATION NOTES IN CONTEMPLATION THEREOF, THE LEVY OF TAXES IN ANNUAL INSTALLMENTS IN PAYMENT THEREOF, THE EXPENDITURE OF SUCH SUMS FOR SUCH PURPOSE, AND DETERMINING OTHER MATTERS IN CONNECTION THEREWITH.

Object or Purpose: the acquisition of one (1) 65-passenger diesel school bus, one (1) 19-passenger gas school bus and one (1) Chevrolet Traverse, all at an estimated maximum aggregate cost of \$307,556.

Period of Probable Usefulness and
Maximum Permissible Term of Any Borrowing: five (5) years.

Amount of Debt Obligations Authorized: up to \$307,556.

A complete copy of the bond resolution summarized above shall be available for public inspection during normal business hours at the office of the School District Clerk of the Morris Central School District, Morris, New York.

Dated: March 21, 2024
Morris, New York