

MORRIS CENTRAL SCHOOL BOARD OF EDUCATION

Meeting: October 20, 2022

Kind of Meeting: Regular

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

Board Member Absent: Theresa DeLaurentiis

Others Present: Jamie Maistros, Superintendent; Brian Breck, Principal; Staff Members Kathy Bechtold, Leslie Picinich, Jill Foerster; Students Justine Norton, Thomas Pondolfino, Bethanee Barringer, Carissa Richards, Lincoln Waffle, Hannah Swayer, Jason Strain; Community Members Maggie Brenner, Tom Washbon

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

The minutes of the regular meeting of September 15, 2022 was approved as presented on the motion of Russell Tilley, seconded by Emily Boss, and carried 4-0.

Correspondence: None

Public Comment: None

Kathy Bechtold and Leslie Picinich talked to the Board about their fourth grade curriculum. They are doing more hands on lessons for science. They started a new reading program this year.

Jill Foerster gave the Board a report about the cafeteria. The numbers are up for breakfast and lunch this year. They declined during COVID. They haven't been able to get as much out of the greenhouses as they did in the past.

Maggie Brenner from the Butternut Valley Alliance talked to the Board about their hope to create a walking trail, that would cross the Morris Central School property. They are looking at grants for the funding. On the proposed path they would like to have an outdoor classroom, pollination gardens, interpretive signage, and access for people with limited mobility. Organizations involved are Morris Rotary Club, Morris Central School, Butternut Valley Alliance, local garden clubs, and the Morris Boy Scouts. Funding sources are Rotary International Grant, Community Foundation Grant, Karma Grant, Otsego County Soil and Water, and the Upper Susquehanna Coalition.

Superintendent's Reports:

Jamie Maistros talked to the Board about the Board Goals. The Goals will be on the agenda for the November Board meeting.

Jamie Maistros talked to the Board about the proposed Capital Project. The SEQRA is "Unlisted" and MCS is the Lead Agency. The vote is on December 13, 2022.

Jamie Maistros told the Board that the auditor's report would be ready by October 25th.

Jamie Maistros talked to the Board about training opportunities for the Board. There is a training on November 3. The school attorney will be one of the speakers.

Principal's Reports:

Brian Breck talked to the Board about the fall sports. Boys' and girls' soccer won on Saturday and became the Tri-Valley Champions. The girls won their first sectional game and will play again tomorrow. The boys have a bye. Their first game will be a home game on Saturday. The Cross-Country has been going well. There are two more meets.

Brian Breck talked to the Board about the October conference day. Teachers participated in the Safety Risk and Special Education Law presentations. The elementary had meetings about the new ELA curriculum in the afternoon. The aides had another round of TCI training. We had a pot luck lunch and celebrated the retirement of Kathy Forgit and Ginny Robinson. There was a wellness hour with different activities.

Brian Breck talked to the Board about safety drills. October 14 was an evacuation drill to the churches. Overall it went well. We have done five of the six fire drills and we have two lockdowns yet to do.

Brian Breck talked to the Board about school events. The fire department visited and did a presentation about fire prevention for the elementary classes. Trout Unlimited has partnered with Carlena Johnson and provided a 50-gallon tank, food, setup, and baby trout for her classroom. They will be released sometime in the spring. October 14, the junior and senior class went to the Farmer's Museum for the tour called *The Things that Go Bump In The Night*. October 13 the junior class went to a College Information Day at SUNY Cobleskill and will then visit SUNY Oneonta. October 21 the sixth grade class goes to Howe Caverns and to the Corn Maize next week. There was a nice turn out for Open House. Six students were inducted into the National Honor Society. The Senior Play is October 22 and 23.

Brian Breck talked to the Board about the 3-8 grade tests scores from 2021-2022. After two years of COVID, the decline for the overall scores for ELA were minimal. Math saw a slight decrease in level 4's and a slight increase in level 1's. A breakdown of individual student scores was given to the classroom teachers to determine who needs Rtl services.

Brian Breck gave the Board information about upcoming events. Halloween is October 31. The parade will be at 2:15 p.m. November 3 is Photo Retake; November 11 there is no school for Veterans Day; November 17 is parent-teacher conferences until 7:00 p.m.

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 8 were approved as presented on the motion of Russell Tilley, seconded by Wendy Moore, and carried 4-0:

1. Approval of Claim Auditor's Reports and Warrants #19, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29 as presented.
2. Approval of the Treasurer's Report for the month of September 2022 and the bank reconciliation for the month of August, as presented. We have not received September 2022.
3. Approval of the Central Treasurer's Report for the month of September 2022, as presented.
4. **Be It Resolved** that the Board of Education of the Morris Central School District approves the following SEQRA Resolution:

WHEREAS, the Morris Central School District (the "District") seeks to undertake a project including but not limited to:

A new 5,000 sq. ft. bus maintenance facility to be built in the general area of their existing softball field, with parking for the bus fleet, staff and overflow parking from the main lot. The work will also include reconstruction of their main parking lot and driveway, curbs, and sidewalks, and new LED site lighting. The project will also include upgrades to the interior infrastructure of the building, including new flooring, toilet partitions, doors, frames, hardware, flush valves, hose bibs, ceiling replacement in various areas, hvac improvements including new unit ventilators in the 1995 wing, additional security cameras, a new building wide water softener system, and a new digital entrance sign. Work will also include new roofing at the 1931 wing and the 2000 wing.

WHEREAS, the State Environmental Quality Review Act ("SEQRA") and the regulations thereunder require the Board to undertake a review of the potential environmental impacts, if any associated with the project before approving same, and

WHEREAS, 6 NYCRR Section 617.7 requires a lead agency to issue a written determination of significance with respect to any proposed Unlisted action, and

WHEREAS, the Board of Education had received and carefully considered the Environmental Assessment Form as well as the nature and scope of the action as submitted by its architect to assess the environmental impact of the project.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board finds and concludes as follows:

RESOLVED that the proposed action is an Unlisted Action within the meaning of 6 NYCRR 617; and it is further

RESOLVED that the Board hereby declares itself lead agency with respect to the environmental review of the proposed project; and it is further

RESOLVED, that upon consideration of the foregoing, the Board finds and concludes that the proposed action will not result in any significant adverse impacts to the environment, and it is further

RESOLVED, that the Board hereby issues a Negative Declaration with respect to the proposed action, and it is further

RESOLVED, that this resolution shall take effect immediately, as attached. (See Attachment #1)

5. **Be It Resolved** that the Board of Education of the Morris Central School District approves preceding with the vote on December 13, 2022 in the main lobby from noon to 8:00 p.m. for the capital project as follows:

Resolved that the Board of Education of the Morris Central School District is hereby authorized to undertake certain capital improvements consisting of construction and reconstruction of the school building complex and facilities, to include construction of a new bus maintenance facility, various site improvements and the acquisition of certain original furnishings, equipment, and apparatus and other incidental improvements required in connection therewith for such construction and school use, at an estimated maximum aggregate cost of \$14,415,000; and to appropriate and expand from the existing capital reserve fund \$1,000,000 for such costs, and that the balance of such cost, or so much thereof as may be necessary, shall be raised by the levy of tax to be collected in annual installments, with such tax to be offset by state aid available therefor; and, in anticipation of such tax, debt obligations of the school district as may be necessary, not to exceed \$13,415,000 shall be issued, as attached. (See Attachment #2)

6. **Be It Resolved** that the Board of Education of the Morris Central School District approves the Budget Transfer Report of \$14,958.07, as attached. (See Attachment #3)

7. Approval of the Claim Auditor's Reports and Warrants #14, 15, and 16, that were missed by BOCES.

8. **Be It Resolved** that the Morris Central School Board of Education of the Morris Central School District approves the Department of Transportation claiming eminent domain for the property near the stop light where they will be redoing the handicap ramp. The Board also authorizes Superintendent, Jamie Maistros to sign any legal documents pertaining to this project.

The following personnel items 1 through 9 were approved as presented on the motion of Russell Tilley, seconded by Emily Boss, and carried 4-0:

1. Approval of the resignation of Russell Card as a cleaner retroactive to October 14, 2022.
2. Approval of Taryn Ostroff as a CROP Activity Leader, retroactive to September 20, 2022. Ms. Ostroff will be paid \$20 per hour.
3. Approval of Bonnie Georgi, M.S.; C.A.S. as an independent contractor to provide psychology services effective September 28, 2022 through June 30, 2023. The cost of her services are as follows:
 - a. Completion of routine re-evaluations for the CSE at a per student rate of \$350 plus any additional fee for specialized components at a rate of \$50 per hour.
 - b. Completion of initial evaluations at a per student rate of \$350 plus any additional fee for specialized components at a rate of \$50 per component.
 - c. Per diem services as requested by the District as a rate of \$325, or an hourly rate of \$50 per hour.
4. Approval of Destiny Tomlins as a probationary teacher aide retroactive to October 12, 2022. Ms. Tomlins salary is \$17,290 prorated October 12, 2022 through June 23, 2023.
5. Approval of the following mentors for the 2022-2023 school year:

Amy Zeh mentored by Marjorie Bourgeois with a stipend of \$200
Christine Callea mentored by Deidra Forgit with a stipend of \$150
Toree Donnelly mentored by Kathy Bechtold with a stipend of \$225
Julia Bjorvand mentored by Diane Walling with a stipend of \$250
Ryan Manchester mentored by April Vunk with a stipend of \$250
Diane Sneddon mentored by Courtney Mackey (tentative) with a stipend of \$225
Michael Wais mentored by Alison Dening with a stipend of \$175
Deanna Perkosky mentored by Julene Waffle with a stipend of \$250
McKenzie Rhone mentored by Michael Iannelli with a stipend of \$200
Catherine Burch mentored by Jody Bolton with a stipend of \$200
Ashley Johnson mentored by Kelly Catella with a stipend of \$200
JoAnn Fredette mentored by Heather Grant with a stipend of \$200
Mollie Gray (1-year long-term sub) mentored by Carly Norton with a stipend of \$150
6. Approval of Sharon Foster as a substitute teacher (C) for the 2022-2023 school year.
7. Approval of JoAnn Fredette as the Drama Club Advisor for the 2022-2023 school with stipend of \$900.
8. **Be It Resolved** that the Board of Education of the Morris Central School District approves Jamie Maistros as Qualified Lead Evaluator for the principal's evaluations for the 2022-2023 school year.
9. Approval of Mollie Gray as the Spanish Club Advisor for the 2022-2023 school year, with a stipend of \$900.

The following Administrative items 1 and 2 were approved as presented on the motion of Russell Tilley, seconded by Wendy Moore, and carried 4-0:

1. **Be It Resolved** that the Board of Education of the Morris Central School District approves the transportation of Paisley, Jordyn, and Madison Lindberg to the Otsego Christian Academy in Otego, New York for the 2022-2023 school year, retroactive to September 1, 2022.
2. **Be It Resolved** that the Board of Education of the Morris Central School District approves the first reading of the revisions of the following Policy:

#1510 – Regular Board Meetings and Rules (Quorum and Parliamentary Procedure)

Public Comment: Jamie Maistros thanked the students for attending the Board meeting. She said they were here for an important event with the Board's approval of the Capital Project.

The Board went into executive session at 7:16 p.m. to discuss personnel Issues, contraction negotiations, and CPSE/CSE on the motion of Emily Boss, seconded by Wendy Moore, and carried 4-0.

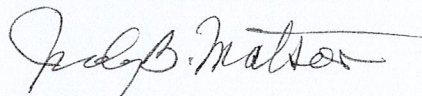
The Board came out of executive session at 7:55 p.m. on the motion of Emily Boss, seconded by Wendy Moore, and carried 4-0.

On the motion of Russell Tilley, seconded by Wendy Moore, and carried 4-0, the IEP's of the specified CPSE students' plans #3249 was approved as presented. Students' Individual Education Plans (IEP) was viewed online, in executive session, on an as needed basis.

On the motion of Russell Tilley, seconded by Wendy Moore, and carried 4-0, the IEP's of the specified CSE students' plans #2933, 3276, 2658 was approved as presented. Students' Individual Education Plans (IEP) was viewed online, in executive session, on an as needed basis.

The Board adjourned at 7:56 p.m. without further discussion on the motion of Russell Tilley, seconded by Wendy Moore, and carried 4-0.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Judy B. Matson".

Judy B. Matson
District Clerk

SEORA RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, the Morris Central School District (the "District") seeks to undertake a project, including, but not limited to:

A new 5,000 sf bus maintenance facility to be built in the general area of their existing softball field, with parking for the bus fleet, staff and overflow parking from the main lot. The work will also include reconstruction of their main parking lot & driveway, curbs and sidewalks, and new LED site lighting. The project will also include upgrades to the interior infrastructure of the building including new flooring, toilet partitions, doors, frames, hardware, flush valves, hose bibs, ceiling replacement in various areas, hvac improvements including new unit ventilators in the 1995 wing, additional security cameras, a new building wide water softener system, and a new digital entrance sign. Work will also include new roofing at the 1931 wing and the 2000 wing.

WHEREAS, the State Environmental Quality Review Act ("SEORA") and the regulations thereunder require the Board to undertake a review of the potential environmental impacts, if any, associated with the project before approving same; and

WHEREAS, 6 NYCRR Section 617.7 requires a lead agency to issue a written determination of significance with respect to any proposed Unlisted action; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Education has received and carefully considered the Environmental Assessment Form as well as the nature and scope of the action as submitted by its architect to assess the environmental impact of the project.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board finds and concludes as follows:

RESOLVED that the proposed action is an Unlisted Action within the meaning of 6 NYCRR 617; and it is further

RESOLVED that the Board hereby declares itself lead agency with respect to the environmental review of the proposed project; and it is further

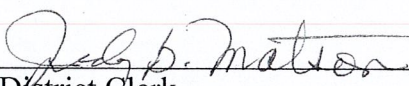
RESOLVED, that upon consideration of the foregoing, the Board finds and concludes that the proposed action will not result in any significant adverse impacts to the environment; and it is further

RESOLVED, that the Board hereby issues a Negative Declaration with respect to the proposed action; and it is further

RESOLVED, that this resolution shall take effect immediately.

Board vote was: Yes – 4 No – 0 One Board member was absent.

October 20, 2022



District Clerk
Morris Central School District

EXTRACT OF MINUTES OF MEETING OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION
CALLING FOR PUBLICATION OF NOTICE REGARDING VOTE ON PROPOSITION

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 20th day of October, 2022:

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

ABSENT: Theresa DeLaurentiis

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

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF EDUCATION AS FOLLOWS:

1. A special meeting of the qualified voters of the Morris Central School District shall be held in the Main Lobby in said District, on Tuesday, December 13, 2022, between the hours of 12:00 Noon and 8:00 P.M., for the purpose of voting on the proposition described in the notice of special meeting hereinafter set forth.
2. Said special meeting shall be called by giving the following notice thereof:

NOTICE OF SPECIAL MEETING OF THE QUALIFIED VOTERS OF
MORRIS CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a special meeting of the qualified voters of the Morris Central School District shall be held in the Main Lobby in said District, on Tuesday, December 13, 2022, between the hours of 12:00 Noon and 8:00 P.M. The following proposition will be submitted for voter approval at said meeting:

PROPOSITION

Shall the following resolution be adopted to wit:

Resolved that the Board of Education of the Morris Central School District is hereby authorized to undertake certain capital improvements consisting of construction and reconstruction of the school building complex and facilities, to include construction of a new bus maintenance facility, various site improvements and the acquisition of certain original furnishings, equipment, and apparatus and other incidental improvements required in connection therewith for such construction and school use, all at an estimated maximum aggregate cost of \$14,415,000; and to appropriate and expend from the existing capital reserve fund \$1,000,000 for such costs, and that the balance of such cost, or so much thereof as may be necessary, shall be raised by the levy of a tax to be collected in annual installments, with such tax to be offset by state aid available therefor; and, in anticipation of such tax, debt obligations of the school district as may be necessary not to exceed \$13,415,000 shall be issued.

NOTICE IS HEREBY FURTHER GIVEN that the text of the aforesaid proposition may appear on the ballot labels in the following abbreviated form:

PROPOSITION

Shall the proposition set forth in the legal notice of this special voter meeting, authorizing construction and reconstruction and equipping of the school building complex and facilities, to include construction of a new bus maintenance facility, various site and incidental improvements, all at an estimated maximum aggregate cost of \$14,415,000; with the expenditure of \$1,000,000 from the existing capital reserve fund for such costs, the issuance of not to exceed \$13,415,000 of debt obligations of the School District therefor, and the levy of a tax in annual installments therefor, with such tax to be offset by state aid available therefor, all as more fully described in said notice, be approved?

The School District, acting as lead agency under the State Environmental Quality Review Act and the applicable regulations promulgated thereunder ("SEQRA"), has completed its environmental review and, on October 20, 2022, has duly issued a

negative declaration and has determined that the implementation of the unlisted action as proposed will not result in any significant adverse environmental impacts.

AND NOTICE IS GIVEN that military voters who are not currently registered may apply to register as a qualified voter of the School District by requesting to be registered by the District Clerk at (607) 263-6102 or jmatson@morriscsd.org. Registered, qualified voters of the School District may apply for a military ballot by requesting an application from the District Clerk at the phone number or email address listed above. For a military voter to be issued a military ballot, the District Clerk must have received a valid ballot application no later than 5:00 PM on November 17, 2022. In a request for a military ballot application or ballot, the military voter may indicate their preference for receiving the application or ballot by mail, facsimile transmission or email.

AND NOTICE IS GIVEN, that applications for absentee ballots shall be obtainable during school business hours from the District Clerk; completed applications must be received by the District Clerk at least seven (7) days before the vote and election if the ballot is to be mailed to the voter, or the day before the vote and election if the ballot is to be delivered personally to the voter. Absentee ballots must be received by the District Clerk not later than 5:00 PM on December 13, 2022.

A list of persons to whom absentee and military ballots are issued will be available for inspection to qualified voters of the District in the office of the District Clerk on and after November 29, 2022, between the hours of 8:00 AM and 4:00 PM on weekdays prior to the Election; and on December 13, 2022, the day set for the Election, said list will be posted at the polling place.

DATED: October 20, 2022
 Morris, New York

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

3. At such meeting taxes to be levied by installments will be proposed providing for payment of such capital costs and providing for the financing costs therefor. Such taxes shall be levied upon all the taxable property of the District, shall be levied in annual installments and shall be of such amounts and levied in such years as may be determined by the Board of Education.

4. The District Clerk or the Clerk's designee is hereby directed to publish a copy of said notice of special meeting in two newspapers having general circulation within the School District in the manner prescribed by law for publication of notice of the annual meeting of the School District.

5. All actions by the School District prior to the final environmental determination by the Board of Education, if any, are hereby found and determined to have been preliminary planning activities under SEQRA necessary to the formulation of a proposal for action which did not commit the School District to commence, engage in, fund or approve any portion of the proposed capital improvement project and financing therefor.

6. This resolution shall take effect immediately upon its adoption.

Duly put to a vote as follows:

AYES
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NAYS
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STATE OF NEW YORK }
 }
COUNTY OF OTSEGO } ss:

I, the undersigned clerk of the Morris Central School District, DO HEREBY CERTIFY as follows:

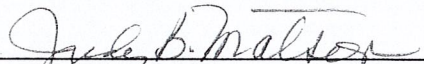
1. A regular meeting of the Board of Education of the Morris Central School District, State of New York, was held on October 20, 2022, and Minutes of said meeting have been duly recorded in the Minute Book kept by me in accordance with law for the purpose of recording the minutes of meetings of said Board.

2. I have compared the attached Extract with said Minutes so recorded and said Extract is a true copy of said Minutes and of the whole thereof insofar as said Minutes relate to matters referred to in said Extract.

3. Said Minutes correctly state the time and place when said Meeting was convened and the place where such meeting was held and the members of said Board who attended said Meeting.

4. Public Notice of the time and place of said Meeting was duly posted and duly given to the public and the news media in accordance with the Open Meetings Law, constituting Chapter 511 of the Laws of 1976 of the State of New York, as modified by the Governor's COVID-19 Executive Orders, if applicable, and that all members of said Board had due notice of said Meetings and that the Meeting was in all respects duly held and a quorum was present and acted throughout.

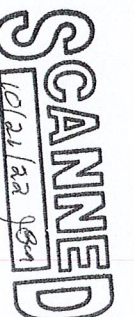
5. IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and have hereunto affixed the corporate seal of the Morris Central School District this 21 day of October, 2022.



District Clerk

Budget Code Transfers

Date: 10/13/2022



DESCRIPTION	TRANSFER FROM	AMOUNT	DESCRIPTION	TRANSFER TO	AMOUNT
Psychology Services	2820-490	\$ 1,784.80	LEGAL	1420-400	\$ 1,784.80
Psychology Services	2820-490	\$ 1,837.89	OPERATION OF PLANT	1621-400	\$ 1,837.89
Psychology Services	2820-490	\$ 3,352.00	INSURANCE	1910-400	\$ 3,352.00
Psychology Services	2820-490	\$ 1,600.40	NON INSTR SALARIES	2020-160	\$ 1,600.40
Psychology Services	2820-490	\$ 3,651.00	NON INSTR SALARIES	2810-160	\$ 3,651.00
Psychology Services	2820-490	\$ 2,001.85	HEALTH SUPPLIES	2815-450	\$ 2,001.85
Psychology Services	2820-490	\$ 2,514.93	NON INSTR SALARIES	5510-161	\$ 2,514.93
		\$ 14,958.07			\$ 14,958.07

Prepared By: Shannon Harrington, Treasurer

Shannon Harrington

Approved by the Board of Education at its meeting on:

Oct. 20, 2022

District Clerk:

Deborah Matson

Date:

10/21/22