

## MORRIS CENTRAL SCHOOL BOARD OF EDUCATION

**Date of Meeting:** December 19, 2024

**Kind of Meeting:** Regular

**Board Members Present:** Mary Dugan, Russell Tilley, Theresa DeLaurentiis

**Board Member Absent:** Emily Boss, Wendy Moore

**Others Present:** Jamie Maistros, Superintendent; April Vunk, Principal; Staff Members Jenna Turner; Student Georgia Kolka; LPP Lisa Marino

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

The minutes of the regular meeting of November 21, 2024 were approved as presented on the motion of Russell Tilley, seconded by Teresa DeLaurentiis, and carried 3-0.

**Correspondence:** Mary Dugan shared a Christmas card from Shirley Newell with the Board.

**Public Comment:** None

Lisa Marino talked to the Board about Liberty Partnerships Program (LPP). The program was started to address the dropout rate in New York State. LPP provides tutoring, academic support, counseling services, etc. They advocate for the student and serve as a liaison between the student and teachers. It provides character and leadership development, after school program, and assists in college and career exploration. The program provides bridge between school, parents, student, and other appropriate community resources.

Jenna Turner talked to the Board about the academic assessment data from the 2024 state assessments. Ms. Turner said there were more 1 and 2 scores on the 2024 assessments. Many of the 1 and 2 scores were special education and/or low income students. These students tend to be absent more often. We need to look at the strategy that is not working see what needs to be changed.

### **Superintendent's Reports:**

Jamie Maistros talked to the Board about the Corrective Action Plans on the agenda for approval. There were no findings or material findings in either audit. We need to do an RFP for an auditor this year.

Jamie Maistros talked to the Board about the Budget Calendar for the 2025-2026 Fiscal Budget vote held on May 20, 2025.

Jamie Maistros talked to the Board about updating the Mission, Vision, and Goals for the 2025-2026 school year. The Board Goals need to be updated in 2026.

Jamie Maistros talked to the Board about Phase 2 of the Capital Project. The bid for replacing the playground equipment and resurfacing the playground came it at \$80,000. They checked into a Ga Ga Pit and it is very expensive. They talked about adding basketball hoops.

Jamie Maistros talked to the Board about lead testing that will be conducted soon.

### **Principal's Reports:**

April Vunk talked to the Board about the winter concerts. The UPK-3 concert was held on December 13. On December 17 the 7-12 winter concert was held. The 4-6 concert will be held on January 14.



April Vunk talked to the Board about the Senior Citizen Brunch to be held on December 20. The cafeteria is making a delicious meal for the seniors. The food will be served by Student Council and Honor Society members. The chorus and band will perform and the faculty choir will be singing.

April Vunk talked to the Board about the academic achievements and gathering for the first quarter. 21 students were on Honor Roll, 31 students were on High Honor Roll and 36 students were on the Principal's List. 88 of the 130 students were on one of the lists. The "Smart Cookies Gathering" was held on the afternoon of Friday, December 6 for all the students on the lists.

April Vunk told the Board that a core group of Student Council members led by Diane Walling, participated in the Student Voices Student Choices competition on November 25. They won prize money that will be used to continue their very successful Second Saturday Food Pantry, which takes place the second Saturday of the month at the Zion Church in Morris.

April Vunk told the Board that our 3-8 testing will be done online this year. There will be a required state-wide simulation week in January. It allows the teachers and students an opportunity to prepare and become familiar with the procedures for the computer-based testing.

April Vunk talked to the Board about the upcoming dates. December 20 is the Senior Citizen's Brunch. The Holiday Break is December 23 through January 3. January 9 is the secondary Parent/Teacher Conferences. January 14 is the 4-6 Winter Concert at 6:30 p.m.

**The following business items #1 through 6 were approved as presented on the motion of Teresa DeLaurentiis, seconded by Russell Tilley, and carried 3-0:**

1. Approval of Claim Auditor's Reports for Warrants # 47, 48, 49, and 50, as presented.
2. Approval of the Treasurer's Report for the month of November 2024, as presented.
3. Approval of the Central Treasurer's Report for the month of November 2024, as presented.
4. Approval of the Budget Timeline for the 2025-2026 Budget Vote held on May 20, 2025, as presented.
5. **Be It Resolved** that the Board of Education of the Morris Central School District approves the Corrective Action Plan for the 2023-2024 External Audit, as presented.
6. **Be It Resolved** that the Board of Education of the Morris Central School District approves the Corrective Action Plan for the 2023-2024 Extraclassroom Activity Audit.

**The following personnel items #1 through 8 were approved as presented on the motion of Russell Tilley, seconded by Teresa DeLaurentiis, and carried 3-0:**

1. Approval of Angela Garruto as a long-term substitute for the elementary Guidance Counselor effective December 16, 2024. Ms. Garruto's salary will be \$41,500, prorated December 16, 2024 through June 30, 2025. Ms. Garruto should receive her certification soon.
2. Approval of Peyton Mackey as a part-time permanent substitute starting on January 6, 2025. Mr. Mackey's stipend will be \$135 per diem with no benefits.
3. Approval of Garrett Aikins as a volunteer for the Boys' JV Basketball team. Volunteers are never allowed to be alone with the athletes.
4. Approval of Asa Dugan as a volunteer for the Boys' Varsity Basketball team. Volunteers are never allowed to be alone with the athletes.
5. Approval of Alicia Diaz and Jordan Lawyer as volunteers for the Cheerleader Squad. Volunteers are never allowed to be alone with the cheerleaders.



6. Approval of Julene Waffle as a volunteer to help the varsity softball team.
7. Approval of Elaine Ropeter as a volunteer in Deidra Forgit's Kindergarten room. Volunteers are never allowed to be alone with the students.
8. Approval of the resignation of Mallory Frazier as a permanent substitute effective December 20, 2024. Ms. Frazier would like to stay on the substitute list as a per diem substitute when she is home on break from college.

**Public Comment:** None

The Board went into executive session at 7:27 p.m. to discuss personnel Issues, and CSE/CPSE on the motion of Teresa DeLaurentiis, seconded by Russell Tilley, and carried 3-0.

The Board came out of executive session at 8:00 p.m. on the motion of Russell Tilley, seconded by Teresa DeLaurentiis, and carried 3-0.

On the motion of Russell Tilley, seconded by Teresa DeLaurentiis, and carried 3-0: the IEP's of the specified CPSE students' plans #4000 and 4028, were 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 Teresa DeLaurentiis, and carried 3-0: the IEP's of the specified CSE students' plan #3170 was approved as presented. Students' Individual Education Plans (IEP) was viewed online, in executive session, on an as needed basis.

The Board adjourned at 8:02 p.m. without further discussion on the motion of Russell Tilley, seconded by Teresa DeLaurentiis, and carried 3-0.

Respectfully submitted,



Judy B. Matson  
District Clerk