

MORRIS CENTRAL SCHOOL BOARD OF EDUCATION

Date of Meeting: March 20, 2025

DRAFT

Kind of Meeting: Regular

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

Others Present: Jamie Maistros, Superintendent; April Vunk, Principal; Staff Members
Shannon Harrington, Kalliann Harrison, Julia Bjorvand; ONC BOCES Marion
Mossman, Catie Huber, Lynn Chase; Sarah Bradshaw, Bernie Donegan Rep.

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

The minutes of the regular meeting of February 13, 2025 were approved as presented on the motion of Emily Boss, seconded by Wendy Moore, and carried 5-0.

Correspondence: Jamie Maistros said she had a letter that she would discuss with the Board during her reports.

Public Comment: None

Julia Bjorvand and Kalliann Harrison talked to the Board about their fifth grade curriculum. They had their students write a paragraph for the Newsletter. Mrs. Bjorvand teaches ELA and social studies. Ms. Harrison teaches math and science. Sharon Foster, a retired teacher comes in and helps with the science experiments.

Dr. Catherine Huber, ONC BOCES District Superintendent talked to the Board about the regionalization meetings that have been held. Dr. Huber said Jamie Maistros was a valuable member of the committee. ONC BOCES is comprised of 19 school districts spread over 1,600 square miles with barely 7,000 students. The committee is discussing ways to bring more advantages for the students in the districts. Discussed were aligning the bell schedules between all the schools, bring more support services for the special education students, etc.

Sarah Bradshaw from Bernie Donegan, Inc. talked to the Board about the schools finances, capital projects, bus purchases, and the tax cap.

Superintendent's Reports:

Jamie Maistros talked to the Board about the Outlay and Capital Projects. The Outlay bid came in at \$119,000, which is too high. The project cannot go over \$100,000, about \$20,000 goes to the architects. The bid needs to come in at \$80,000 or lower. Ms. Maistros said the roof is on the new garage. They discussed replacing the doors that have been put in as part of the project. The wrong doors were sent and installed. The Phase 2 bids will be opened on March 24th.

Jamie Maistros discussed a letter from Edmeston Central School District requesting we renew our sports mergers for three years. The Board discussed going to a 4 or 5 year extension, coaching status, possibly a head coach and an assistant coach, having a coach on the bus, adding new sports, etc. These are some of the items that need to be worked out with renewing the merger between Edmeston and Morris.

Jamie Maistros talked to the Board about the 2025-2026 budget. We are still looking at ways to make cuts. We are looking at sharing a business official between two schools, we may need to split the kindergarten class into two classes and hire a new elementary teacher. The tax increase may be set at 2.5%.

Jamie Maistros talked to the Board about the Outlay Project for the 2025-2026 school year. We are looking at new classroom doors with less window and will close automatically if the fire alarm goes off and updating the clock system.

Jamie Maistros said the budget vote will be held on May 20, 2025. Mary Dugan and Teresa DeLaurentiis are running for the Board again.

Principal's Reports:

April Vunk talked to the Board about the Superintendent's Conference Day held on March 14, 2025. The staff had various professional development opportunities including Therapeutic Crisis Intervention and Enhancing Questioning Techniques. Some of the staff went to science or counselors workshops. Some of the faculty went to a conference about mental health in children.

April Vunk talked to the Board about scheduling for the 2025-2026 school year. There were scheduling meetings during the Superintendent's Conference going over what is working and what needs to be changed. An elementary scheduling committee will be established soon to begin their scheduling process for 2025-2026.

April Vunk talked to the Board about the elementary classroom assignments for the 2025-2026 school year. The teachers were surveyed to gather information to help determine what would be best for the students in the 2025-2026 school year.

April Vunk talked to the Board about the Morning Program and PARP. In March elementary students participated in PARP – "Pick a Reading Partner". Students, faculty, and staff participated in reading activities like dressing as our favorite character, DEAR (Drop Everything and Read), Dr. Seuss' activities, a reading-themed spirit week, and hearing stories from masked readers, who will be revealed at the morning program tomorrow. Morning program continues to grow and be a huge success. Many families and community members come and celebrate with the students. We have seen so much growth with public speaking and the positive character traits we have been celebrating.

April Vunk talked to the Board about upcoming dates. March 27 is Student Council Game Night for grades 7-12. April 7 Modified sports begin. April 9 is the 7-12 spring music concert at 7:00 p.m. April 11 is the Morning Program at 8:30 a.m. and third quarter ends. April 12 is the NHS Egg Hunt at 10:00 a.m. April 14 through April 18 is Spring Break, no school.

The following business items #1 through 10 were approved as presented on the motion of Russell Tilley, seconded by Wendy Moore, and carried 5-0:

1. Approval of the Claim Auditor's Reports for Warrants #59, 60, 61, 62, 63, 64, 65, 66, 67, 68, 69, 70, 71, 72, 73, 74, 75, and 76, as presented.
2. Approval of the Treasurer's Report for the month of February 2025, and Bank Reconciliations for the months of September, October, and November 2024 as presented.
3. Approval of the Central Treasurer's Report for the month of February 2025, as presented.
4. **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, 2025, as follows:

Carol Tyson, Marillyn Boggs, Michael and Barbara Virgil, Elaine Frederick, Lucy Holcombe
Chief Election Officials Norma Boyd and Cindy Sines
5. **Be It Resolved** that the Board of Education of the Morris Central School District approves the Certified Bus Vote held on March 12, 2025, as follows:

Yes: 34 No: 2 Total: 36

6. **Be It Resolved** that the Board of Education of the Morris Central School District approves extending Raymond G. Preusser, CPA, P.C. services as external auditor until 2029. Their bid was the lowest from the RFP put out by BOCES. The results are as follows:

Raymond G. Preusser	2025-2029 – \$13,750
Nawrocki Smith	2025 - \$39,500; 2026 - \$40,000; 2027 - \$41,000; 2028 - \$41,500; 2029 - \$42,000
CLAconnect.com CPAs	2025 - \$26,000; 2026 - \$26,665; 2027 - \$27,827; 2028 - \$28,515; 2029 - \$29,722

7. **Be It Resolved** that the Board of Education of the Morris Central School District approves the request of \$508.20 from the Morris Beautification Committee for May 2025 through the fall of 2025. The Morris Beautification Committee will prepare the plants for four large containers on the school property.

8. **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 20, 2025 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)

9. **Be It Resolved** that the Board of Education of the Morris Central School District approves the following resolution:

RESOLVED, that the Board of Cooperative Educational Services of the Otsego Northern Catskills BOCES be authorized to expend the sums set forth in the Administration Budget document during the school year of 2025-2026.

10. **Be It Resolved** that the Board of Education of the Morris Central School District approves the following resolution approving BOCES Board of Education elections:

There are four (4) vacancies for the position of BOCES Board of Education member.

The following four (4) candidates have been nominated for four (4) vacant seats on the BOCES Board of Education. Each component district shall be entitled to one vote for each vacant seat.

The District Clerk, or other officer authorized to certify that a Board resolution has been adopted, shall complete this ballot by placing an ("X") next to the names of each candidate for whom a vote has been cast, and by completing the certification at the bottom of the ballot.

The candidates are:

Jacquelyn McGuire, Home District: Gilboa-Conesville Central School
Collin Miller, Home District: South Kortright Central School District
Timothy Powell, Home District: Stamford Central School District
Bobbi Schmitt, Home District: Hunter-Tannersville Central School District

The following personnel items #1 through 5 was approved as presented on the motion of Teresa DeLaurentiis, seconded by Wendy Moore, and carried 5-0:

1. Approval of the resignation of Elizabeth Bubadias as the probationary Head Bus Driver, effective March 21, 2025.

2. Approval of the resignation of William Whitaker as a bus driver effective February 13, 2025.
3. Approval of the resignation of Deanna Perkosky as a probationary music teacher (Instrumental) effective June 30, 2025.
4. Approval of the resignation of Jenna Turner as an English teacher and Dean of Students effective June 30, 2025.
5. Approval of Ethan McCarthy as a substitute teacher (NC). Mr. McCarthy is a student teacher in Patrick Harmer's classroom. After he finishes his student teaching, he will be able to substitute for other teachers.

The following Administrative item #1 was approved on the motion of Russell Tilley, seconded by Wendy Moore, and carried 5-0

1. **Be It Resolved** that the Board of Education of the Morris Central School District approves the second reading and approval of the following new policy:

Policy #3414 – Law Enforcement Weapons on School Property

Public Comment: Several people from BOCES complemented Jamie Maistros on her leadership and hard work during their regionalization meetings.

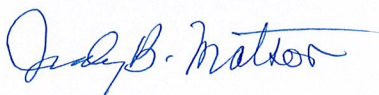
Mary Dugan congratulated the Drama Club and Spring Musical for their hard work with the Wizard of Oz presentation. She said the cast was wonderful. She also congratulated the varsity boys basketball team for winning the Section IV Championship.

The Board went into executive session at 8:21 p.m. to discuss personnel Issues, on the motion of Russell Tilley, seconded by Emily Boss, and carried 5-0.

The Board came out of executive session at 9:11 p.m. on the motion of Russell Tilley, seconded by Emily Boss, and carried 5-0.

The Board adjourned at 9:11 p.m. without further discussion on the motion of Russell Tilley, seconded by Emily Boss, and carried 5-0.

Respectfully submitted,



Judy B. Matson
District Clerk

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, Morris, New York, on the 28th day of March, 2025:

PRESENT: Mary Dugan, Russell Tilley, Emily Boss, Teresa DeLaurentiis

ABSENT: Wendy Moore

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

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF EDUCATION AS FOLLOWS:

1. The following notice shall be added to the notice of annual meeting and election:

AND NOTICE IS ALSO GIVEN that the following proposition will be submitted for voter approval at such time:

PROPOSITION #2

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 the acquisition of one (1) large school bus and one (1) small wheelchair accessible school bus, both at an estimated maximum aggregate cost of \$331,000, less trade-in value, if any, and that 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 \$331,000 shall be issued, or the School District may enter into an installment purchase contract if the Board of Education determines that it is in the best interest of the School District to finance the purchase in that method.

2. At such meeting taxes to be levied by installments will be proposed for authorized indebtedness providing for payment of the acquisition of school buses at an estimated aggregate maximum cost of not to exceed \$331,000. 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.

3. The District Clerk or the Clerk's designee is hereby directed to add the above to the notice of the annual meeting of the School District.

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

Duly put to a vote as follows:

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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 , 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.

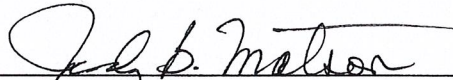
2. I have compared the attached Extract with said Minutes so recorded and said Extract is a true copy of said Minutes and of the whole thereof insofar as said Minutes relate to matters referred to in said Extract.

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, and that all members of said Board had due notice of said Meeting 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 28th day of March, 2025.

{SEAL}


District Clerk