

MORRIS CENTRAL SCHOOL BOARD OF

Date of Meeting: May 17, 2022

Kind of Meeting: Regular

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

Others Present: Matthew Sheldon, Interim Superintendent; Katharine Smith, Principal; Staff Members Rhonda Burnside, Claire Fraser, Carly Norton, Amy Gerhartz; Students Leah Rehrmann, Kelsey Chase, Keegan Valentine; Community Member Wayne Gerhartz

The meeting was called to order by President Mary Dugan at 7:00 p.m.

The minutes of the regular meeting of April 21, 2022 and the special meeting of March 31, 2022 (wrong date on minutes approved at April 21, 2022 meeting) were approved as presented on the motion of Russell Tilley, seconded by Emily Boss, and carried 5-0.

Correspondence: None

Public Comment: Katharine Smith said that Michael Iannelli received an email, we are a School of Distinction. The athletes on all our varsity teams were named scholar athletes this year. Ms. Smith congratulated all the athletes and coaches. Mary Dugan said they all worked so hard and congratulated them.

Caitlin Smith gave the Board a report about CROP. At CROP, the students have homework club, snack and enrichment activities. Ms. Smith said the peer tutors have really stepped up this year and helped the students with their homework. There are several presentations during the year, Cornell Extension, Hawk Circle, and Farmers Museum to name a few. There are 130 students enrolled. About 82 students attend at least 30 hours and 59 students have achieved 90 hours through March. The CROP Grant has been renewed for five years. Ms. Smith said members of Honor Society volunteer at CROP to get their volunteer hours.

Carly Norton and Claire Fraser talked to the Board about the third grade curriculum. In math they are working on fractions. In science they are doing animal reports. In ELA they are working on a wolf unit. The class will be going to Wolf Mountain. When finished with the wolf unit they will be reading Charlie and the Chocolate Factory. Mary Dugan asked how they felt COVID had affected the students learning. They said they felt it depended on the group. Their group is very strong and adaptive with supportive parents.

Superintendent's Reports:

Matthew Sheldon talked to the Board about the Project Manager position for CROP. There are three CROP Grants. We are the lead school for the Otsego side and have to hire a project manager. There will be two other project managers one for Roxbury and one for Charlotte Valley. The position is a competitive Civil Service position. We have to see who is on the list. The three project managers will work together and be located at OAOC. The number of activity leaders and peer tutors have been reduced a little. We will probably add activity leaders and peer tutors with the stimulus funding.

Matthew Sheldon talked to the Board about the future Capital Project. Mr. Sheldon said that the grease traps, carpeting for the library and offices, flush valves, and the PA system were taken off the list. The total cost of the project with the garage is \$7,458,000. Mr. Sheldon said last Friday there was a visual inspection of the bus garage by ONC BOCES. Something has to be done. There had been talked of a county garage that schools could use, but it stalled with financing the garage. The schools cannot finance the county garage; they can only pay rent for their space. Financing would have to come from the county. No one has heard any more about a garage. Mr. Sheldon suggested we keep the garage as part of the project. It can be pulled before the vote.

Principal's Reports:

Katharine Smith gave the Board a hiring update. We are still looking for 2 elementary teachers, the posting closed on May 20th. There are more interviews on May 26th. There will be interviews for high school math and instrumental music next week. The vocal music position was just posted. We are in the process of screening the applicants for principal.

Katharine Smith talked to the Board about an assessments update. The field tests for science 8 is on May 19th and the ELA 11 field test is on May 24th. The 4th and 8th grade performance part of the science test is on May 25th, the written test is on June 6th. For the final exams we will not be doing a block schedule. June 7 and 8 will be the final exams for English, science, Spanish, art and music. The final exams for social studies, math health/life skills, and technology will be on June 9 and 10. June 1 is the first administration of the new framework exam for US History and Government. Regents begin on June 15. There is flexibility in the use of 2021-2022 Regents examinations scores to satisfy diploma requirements.

Katharine Smith talked to the Board about the senior class end of the year activities. The prom was last Saturday at the Grove. 50 students attended including guests from other districts. Senior Switch Day is tomorrow. The Senior Trip is Sunday June 12 to Kalahari Water Park in Pennsylvania

Katharine Smith talked to the Board about the Kindergarten Screening process and pre-kindergarten enrollments projections. Kindergarten screening is on May 19 and 20. Kindergarten visitation is on June 7th. The projected enrollment for pre-kindergarten is 20 at this time. We will need two aides.

Katharine Smith told the Board that we have two more fire drills to do before the end of the year and one more lockdown drill. We will wait to do one of the fire drills and the lockdown drill until after Jamie Maistros starts.

Katharine Smith talked to the Board about upcoming student events. May 20 grades 10-12 go to Sidney High School to see The Crucible. The Memorial Parade is on May 30 at 10 a.m. June 9 is the spring concert for grades 4-6. Sectionals for softball is on May 19 and baseball on May 23, both at Edmeston. June 2 the third grade goes to Wolf Mountain Nature Center. June 3 the band and chorus goes to Trills and Thrills. The playing part of the festival is in North Warren Central School in Chestertown, NY, the thrills part of the trip after they play and get their scores is at Six Flags Great Escape in Lake George, about 5 to 10 minutes from the school. June 14 is the 7th and 8th grade kayaking trip, the Senior March at 2:15 and the last day of school for grades 7-12. June 16 is Gilbert Lake Day. Early dismissals for PK-6 begin on Friday June 17.

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 12 were approved as presented on the motion Russell Tilley, seconded by Michael Walling, and carried 5-0:

1. Approval of Claim Auditor's Reports and Warrants #95, 96, 97, 98, 99, 100, and 101, as presented.
2. Approval of the Treasurer's Report and Bank Statements for the month of April 2022, as presented.
3. Approval of the Central Treasurer's Report for the month of April 2022, as presented.
4. **Be It Resolved** that the Board of Education of the Morris Central School District approves the Response to Audit Findings and Recommendations for Federal Awards for the 2019-2020 school year.
5. **Be It Resolved** that the Board of Education of the Morris Central School District accepts the bus bond bid from Community Bank of 2.99% interest on \$178,347 for one (1) 65-passenger school bus and one (1) 35-passenger school bus. Delaware National Bank of Delhi was 3.85% and NBT was 3.68%. Signing is on May 26, 2022.
6. **Be It Resolved** that the Board of Education of the Morris Central School District approves The Gary Jacobsen Memorial Scholarship as follows:

This is a message from Marie Jacobsen. The Gary Jacobsen Memorial Scholarship will be given out at graduation. There will be 2 scholarships in the amount of \$500 a piece, if only one recipient is selected the student will receive \$500. I would like Mike Iannelli and Maria Deysenroth to be part of the selection process. As we all witnessed, Gary cheered for the underdog.

The Gary Jacobsen Memorial Scholarship is an annual award given to a graduating senior or seniors, who have demonstrated generosity, through acts of love, respect, and kindness in supporting their family, friends, and community, all qualities admired and exemplified by Coach Jake himself. Each recipient must exhibit resiliency through adverse times by turning challenges into opportunities. The recipient must be continuing their education, entering the work force in a field related human services or entering the military.

7. **Be It Resolved** that the Board of Education of the Morris Central School District approves the election officials for the 2022-2023 Budget Vote held on May 17, 2022 as follows:

Maureen Joy, Michael Virgil, Elaine Frederick, Cindy Gumble, Carol Tyson, Marillyn Boggs, Chief Election Officials Norma Boyd, Lois Jones

8. **Be It Resolved** that the Board of Education of the Morris Central School District approves the agreement with the Access Therapy PT, OT, SLP and Psychology Services PLLC for the ESY school year 2022 (July through August), the school will be invoiced for \$3,450 in July and August as follows:

OTR, Occupational Therapy Services up to 7.0 hours per week delivered across two days a week (in-district) at a cost of \$3,300 for the summer program.

PT, Physical Therapy Services up to 7.0 hours per week delivered across two day a week (in-district) at a cost of \$3,600 for the extended school year of 2022 following the district's school calendar.

9. **Be It Resolved** that the Board of Education of the Morris Central School District approves the Negotiated Agreement between the Morris Educational Support Staff Association and the Morris Central School Board of Education for the effective dates of July 1, 2022 through June 30, 2023.
10. **Be It Resolved** that the Board of Education of the Morris Central School District approves the creation of the Project Manager position for CROP, as attached.
11. **Be It Resolved** that the Board of Education of the Morris Central School District approves the Space Usage Agreements between the Morris Central School District and Opportunities for Otsego, Inc. for the use of a space for the Head Start program from August 1, 2022 through July 31, 2023.
12. **Be It Resolved** that the Board of Education of the Morris Central School District approves the Ennis J. Townsend Creative Student Award, as follows:

In honor of their son Ennis Townsend, Mike and Kyna Townsend want to start an award for a student in 4th through 12 grade who demonstrates an active imagination and creativity. The award will go to help him/her reach their creative goals in life. The award is to be handed out at Moving Up or Graduation ceremony.

The following personnel items 1 through 16 were approved as presented on the motion of Michael Walling, seconded by Emily Boss, and carried 5-0: (Michael Walling made note that he knew #11.)

1. Approval of Lisa Marino rescinding her resignation of May 5, 2022 that was approved at the April 21, 2022 Board meeting. Mrs. Marino rescinded her resignation on April 22, 2022.
2. Approval of the resignation of Heather Powell as instrumental music teacher effective July 1, 2022.

3. Approval of the resignation of Kallie Jaquay as a long-term substitute effective April 29, 2022.
4. Approval of Matthew Sheldon as a mentor for Jamie Maistros starting on July 1, 2022 at the rate of \$55.00 per hour.
5. Approval of Katharine Smith as a mentor for the new principal starting on July 1, 2022 at the rate of \$55.00 per hour.
6. Upon recommendation of the Superintendent, and on the motion of Michael Walling, seconded by Emily Boss, the following probationary appointment is hereby made:
 - a) Name of appointee: Catherine Burch
 - b) Tenure area: Special Education
 - c) Date of commencement of probationary service: May 16, 2022
 - d) Expiration date of appointment*: May 16, 2026
 - e) Certification status : Student w/Disabilities (Birth-2, 1-6), Prof.
 - f) Salary: \$52,000, prorated May 16-June 30, 2022
7. Upon recommendation of the Superintendent, and on the motion of Michael Walling, seconded by Emily Boss, the following probationary appointment is hereby made, pending fingerprint clearance:
 - a) Name of appointee: McKenzie Rhone
 - b) Tenure area: PE/Health
 - c) Date of commencement of probationary service: August 31, 2022
 - d) Expiration date of appointment*: August 31, 2026
 - e) Certification status : PE/Health Initial
 - f) Salary: \$40,500
8. Upon recommendation of the Superintendent, and on the motion of Michael Walling, seconded by Emily Boss, the following probationary appointment is hereby made: (Mr. Manchester is carrying over 40 sick days from his previous employment.)
 - a) Name of appointee: Ryan Manchester
 - b) Tenure area: Elementary Education
 - c) Date of commencement of probationary service: August 31, 2022
 - d) Expiration date of appointment*: August 31, 2026
 - e) Certification status : Childhood Edu: (Gr. 1-6) Professional
 - f) Salary: \$50,000
9. Upon recommendation of the Superintendent, and on the motion of Michael Walling, seconded by Emily Boss, the following appointment is hereby made:
 - a) Name of appointee: Amy Zeh
 - b) Tenure area: Elementary Education
 - c) Date of commencement of probationary service: August 31, 2022
 - d) Expiration date of appointment*: August 31, 2026
 - e) Certification status : Pre-K, Kindergarten gr. 1-6, Permanent
 - f) Salary: \$57,000

*To the extent required by the applicable provisions of Education Law §§2509, 2573, 3212 and 3014, in order to be granted tenure the classroom teacher or building principal shall have received composite or overall annual professional performance review ratings pursuant to Education Law §3012-c and/or 3012-d of either effective or highly effective in at least three (3) of the four (4) preceding years. If the classroom teacher or building principal receives an ineffective composite or overall rating in the final year of the

probationary period, he or she shall not be eligible for tenure at that time. For purposes of this subdivision *classroom teacher* and *building principal* mean a classroom teacher or building principal as such terms are defined in Sections 30-2.2 and 30-3.2 of this Part.

10. Approval of Susan Pylinski as a substitute food service worker for the remainder of the 2021-2022 school year.
11. Approval of Jacob Walling as a substitute teacher (NC) for the remainder of the 2021-2022 school year. Jacob Walling is the son of Board member Michael Walling.
12. Approval of Cindy Gumble and Taryn Ostroff as substitute activity leaders for CROP. They will be paid \$18.00 per hour.
13. Approval of tenure for Deidra Forgit, effective August 31, 2022 is hereby made
 - a) Name of Appointee: Deidra Forgit
 - b) Tenure Area: Elementary Education
 - c) Date of Commencement of Service of Tenure: August 29, 2018
 - d) Certification Status: Childhood Edu Birth-2, 1-6, Initial exp. 1/31/23
14. Approval of tenure for Caitlin Smith, effective August 31, 2022 is hereby made
 - a) Name of Appointee: Caitlin Smith
 - b) Tenure Area: Special Education
 - c) Date of Commencement of Service of Tenure: September 1, 2019
 - d) Certification Status: Student w/Disabilities Birth-2, 1-6, Professional
15. Approval of tenure for Carlena Johnson, effective August 31, 2022 is hereby made
 - a) Name of Appointee: Carlena Johnson
 - b) Tenure Area: Secondary Science
 - c) Date of Commencement of Service of Tenure: August 29, 2018
 - d) Certification Status: Biology 7-12, Initial, exp. 1/31/23
16. Approval of the resignation of Roxanne Campo as a probationary teacher aide effective May 27, 2022.

Public Comment: Mary Dugan thanked Matthew Sheldon for his last official Board meeting and stepping up when the school really needed him.

The Board went into executive session at 7:36 p.m. to discuss personnel issues, and CPSE on the motion of Russell Tilley, seconded by Emily Boss, and carried 5-0.

The Board came out of executive session at 8:48 p.m. on the motion Russell Tilley, seconded by Michael Walling, and carried 5-0.

On the motion of Michael Walling, seconded by Russell Tilley, and carried 5-0: the IEP's of the specified CPSE students' plan #3246 was approved as presented. Students' Individual Education Plans (IEP) was viewed online, in executive session, on an as needed basis.

BUSINESS:

The following business items 13 through 15 were approved as presented on the motion Michael Walling, seconded by Russell Tilley, and carried 5-0:

13. **Be It Resolved** that the Board of Education of the Morris Central School District approves the certified results of the 2022-2023 Fiscal Budget Vote held on May 17, 2022 as follows:

Yes: 139 No: 35 Blank: 3 Total: 177

14. **Be It Resolved** that the Board of Education of the Morris Central School District approves the Certified Board Member Vote held on May 17, 2022 as follows:

Mary Dugan: 143 Write in: 4 Blank: 28 Invalid: 2 Total: 177

15. **Be It Resolved** that the Board of Education of the Morris Central School District approves the Certified Board Member Vote held on May 17, 2022 as follows:

Teresa DeLaurentiis: 88

Write in: 1 Blank: 13 Invalid: 0 Total: 177

Charles Fraser: 75

The Board adjourned at 8:50 p.m. without further discussion on the motion of Emily Boss, seconded by Michael Walling, and carried 5-0.

Respectfully submitted,



Judy B. Matson
District Clerk