

MORRIS CENTRAL SCHOOL BOARD OF EDUCATION

Date of Meeting: September 21, 2023

Kind of Meeting: Regular

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

Others Present: Jamie Maistros, Superintendent; April Vunk, ISSSL, Staff Member Patrick Harmer; Students Haylee Cole, Everett Pondolino, Yana King, Maiya King, Maddie Coleman, Dominique Cruz, Tiger Ross, Carter Tuttle, Keegan Fraser; Josh Reiss, Safety Risk

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

The minutes of the regular meeting of August 24, 2023 were approved as presented on the motion of Russell Tilley, seconded by Teresa DeLaurentiis, and carried 5-0.

Correspondence: None

Public Comment: None

Josh Reiss from ONC BOCES Safety Risk talked to the Board about the Safety Audit. They were allowed to enter the building several times without ID or signing in. Some staff questioned them, one took the person to the office, but mostly they were greeted and allowed to wander the building. Students saw them but did not report a stranger in the building to the staff. Interior doors were propped open with wedges and unoccupied. Old gym was unlocked with lights out, easy place to plant a device. Recommendations, different hardware on doors that allow them to lock the door from the inside. More cameras. Quick look during lockdowns, stop the repeated notice of lockdown, make calling a lockdown available in classrooms, staff ID badges with breakaway lanyards, challenging visitors without ID, make sure exterior doors are not propped, door status sensors on exterior doors, security film on exterior doors, trim vegetation around the building, acclimate aides to off-site evacuation locations, visitor management system, cameras in the parking lot, more alarms and blue lights, etc.

Members of the senior class and Patrick Harmer, their advisor, talked to the Board about a proposed senior trip to Boston, leaving on a Saturday and returning on a Monday afternoon. The class listed a variety of activities they were talking about doing. Estimated cost \$12,000 to \$13,000. They still have several items to lock down to get a firm cost, including housing. The consensus of the Board was to continue getting information before the Board can consider approving it. The class has to decide by January in order to book transportation and housing.

Superintendent's Reports:

At this time, a Public Hearing was held to talk about using the Repair Reserve. The hot water holding tank is twelve years old and leaking where it is not repairable. It will need to be replaced. The cost is \$22,500. We will need to use the Repair Reserve in order to purchase a new one.

Jamie Maistros talked to the Board about a Conservation Easement. The Otsego Land Trust wants an easement for lot 237.00-1-1.01 of the Morris Central School property bordering the Butternut Creek by the soccer field as part of the Stream Corridor Restoration Project. This easement can be temporary but the Trust would prefer permanent. We would not be able to develop that property. Upper Susquehanna Coalition has a contract with Tioga County Soil and Water Conservation District to do the work. The total cost is \$240,000. It will cost the school \$20,000. The project will stabilize the creek bank, wetland restoration, and planting bushes and trees along the creek.

Jamie Maistros talked to the Board about the Capital Project. They discussed what they were going to do with the existing bus garage. The consensus of the Board was to make the existing bus garage a separate project. In 2027 you will only be able to purchase zero emission buses. Softball field was discussed.

Jamie Maistros talked to the Board about the Building Condition Survey. We are due this year but are able to get a waiver to extend it. We are considering architect firms and would like to go with the waiver. The consensus of the Board was to apply for the waiver.

Jamie Maistros talked to the Board about Athletics. We are having fewer and fewer athletes for the sports. Other schools are doing a permanent merger with another school in order to have enough players. The consensus of the Board was to look into the options of permanent mergers with a school for sports.

Jamie Maistros talked to the Board about our surplus furniture and technology items. The Weaver's are building an Amish School in this area and are interested in getting surplus items if they are available.

Jamie Maistros told the Board that we are exceeding 1% cap for alternately assessed. We are looking at the Regents requirements for graduation.

Jamie Maistros told the Board that she is part of the Commissioner's Advisor Panel.

Principal's Reports:

April Vunk talked to the Board about Opening Day, First Week, and Homecoming/Spirit Week. Opening Day there were team building and getting-to-know-you activities. Various learning activities took place. The first day was lunch from Scotty's and the second day was pot luck. The first day of school went well. Homecoming and Spirit Week was a great success.

April Vunk told the Board that the 3-8 testing results are still embargoed.

April Vunk talked to the Board about the Superintendent Conference Day plans for October 6th. Many of the staff will be attending workshops through BOCES. Special education teachers will be attending training on writing IEP, compliance, and resources led by Lindsey Gifford. April Vunk will be providing TCI training.

April Vunk talked to the Board about upcoming dates. Open House is October 5. NHS Inductions October 5. Fire Prevention Week is October 9 through 13. The Morning Program is on October 20.

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 Russell Tilley, seconded by Teresa DeLaurentiis, and carried 5-0:

1. Approval of Claim Auditor's Reports and Warrants # 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, and 29, as presented.
2. Approval of the Treasurer's Report for the month of August 2023, as presented. The Bank Reconciliations for the months of April and May 2023.
3. Approval of the Central Treasurer's Report for the month of August 2023, as presented.
4. **Be It Resolved** that the Board of Education of the Morris Central School District approves the agreement between Morris Central School and Edmeston Central School to accept Edmeston students into our Special Education Program for the 2023-2024 school year. Edmeston will be billed for the students' services.
5. **Be It Resolved** that the Board of Education of the Morris Central School District approves the agreement between Morris Central School and Laurens Central School. Laurens' Director of Instructional Support Services, Lindsey Gifford, will be coming to Morris Central School two days a week (.4 FTE) to help with the Special Education Department. Morris Central School will be billed for Lindsey Gifford' services at 40% of her salary and benefits, approximately \$46,936 for September 5, 2023 through June 30, 2024.
6. **Be It Resolved** that the Board of Education of the Morris Central School District approves the Stream Corridor Restoration Landowner-SWCD Contract. The property Identification that this contract applies to is 237.00-1-1.01. Upper Susquehanna Coalition and Morris Central School

agree to provide funding, coordination, and component installation for the stream corridor restoration project on the school's property. The approximate cost is \$240,000. Morris Central School will contribute \$20,000 towards the project.

7. **Be It Resolved** that the Board of Education of the Morris Central School District approves the use of \$22,500 from the Repair Reserve to replace the hot water holding tank.
8. **Be It Resolved** that the Board of Education of the Morris Central School District accepts the donation of \$3,000 from the Morris Rotary Club to purchase a camera system for the gym for the purpose of live streaming games and other events.
9. **Be It Resolved** that the Board of Education of the Morris Central School District approves increasing Budget Line 2110-450-00 by \$3,000 to account for the donation from the Morris Rotary Club.
10. **Be It Resolved** that the Board of Education of the Morris Central School District accepts the donation of \$1,000 from the New York School Insurance Reciprocal (NYSIR) for the purpose of funding Homecoming 2023.
11. **Be It Resolved** that the Board of Education of the Morris Central School District approves increasing Budget Line 1010-400-00 by \$1,000 to account for the donation from NYSIR

The following personnel items 1 through 18 were approved as presented on the motion of Emily Boss, seconded by Wendy Moore, and carried 5-0:

1. Approval of the resignation of Kim Canfield as a probationary teacher aide effective August 25, 2023.
2. Approval of the resignation of Lisa Coyle as a probationary teacher aide effective August 29, 2023. Mrs. Coyle was supposed to start on September 5, 2023.
3. Approval of the resignation of Maureen Ahl as an LPN bus monitor effective August 30, 2023.
4. **Be It Resolved** that the Board of Education of the Morris Central School District approves Katharine Smith as a Qualified Lead Evaluator for the teachers' evaluations for the 2023-2024 school year.
5. Approval of Diane Walling as a mentor for Nicholas Chase. Mrs. Walling's stipend is \$250.
6. Approval of Lisa Galbreth and Stephani Mitcham as bus monitors and Rachel Wisniewski as a substitute bus monitor for the 2023-2024 school year. The stipend is \$17.50 per run.
7. Approval of Jenna Turner as Dean of Students for the 2023-2024 school year, effective September 7, 2023. Ms. Turner's stipend is \$3,500.
8. Approval of Lindalou Slotman as a probationary .5 FTE cleaner effective September 5, 2023. Mrs. Slotman's salary is \$15,600, prorated September 5, 2023 through June 30, 2024.
9. Approval of Sarah Lewis as a probationary teacher aide effective September 5, 2023. Ms. Lewis' salary is \$18,525.
10. Approval of Valerie Gould as a probationary teacher aide effective September 5, 2023. Ms. Gould's salary is \$18,525.
11. Approval of Kristen Launt as a substitute teacher (NC) for the 2023-2024 school year. Ms. Launt is a student teacher from SUCO and is able to substitute for Heather Grant.
12. Approval of Bethanee Barringer as an intern teacher aide effective September 5, 2023. Ms. Barringer is being paid by ARC Otsego while she is in their training program.
13. Approval of Stephanie Connally as Color Guard Advisor for the 2023-2024 school year. Mrs. Connally's stipend will be \$800. Mrs. Connally has been fingerprinted.

14. Approval of Laura Hazen covering the reception desk from 3 to 5 p.m. on CROP days. Ms. Hazen's stipend is \$25.83 per hour, effective September 18, 2023.
15. Approval of the following CROP employees for the 2023-2024 school year:
 - Co-Directors – Caitlin Smith and Diane Turner at \$27.50 per hour
 - Activity Leaders – Caitlin Smith, Diane Turner, Courtney Mackey, Virginia Robinson, Lisa Rozanski, Rachel Wisniewski, and Stephani Mitcham at \$20.50 per hour
 - Substitute Activity Leaders at \$20.50 per hour and Substitute Peer Tutors at \$14.20 per hour are Carla LaMariana, Alexandra Stankowitz, and Heather Bevilacqua
16. Approval of Carla LaMariana as a substitute to cover the reception desk when CROP is in session, if Ms. Hazen is unable to cover the desk. Ms. LaMariana's stipend is \$19.25 per hour.
17. Approval of Victor Lasher, former MCS bus driver, as an unpaid volunteer to help the Transportation Department for the 2023-2024 school year.
18. Approval of Deanna Merrill as a substitute LTA and substitute teacher aide for the 2023-2024 school year.

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

1. **Be It Resolved** that the Board of Education of the Morris Central School District approves the transportation request for Jordyn and Paisley Lindberg to be transported to the Otsego Christian Academy in Otego, New York for the 2023-2024 school year, retroactive to September 8, 2023.

Public Comment: None

The Board went into executive session at 8:11 p.m. to discuss personnel Issues, and CSE/CPSE on the motion of Emily Boss, seconded by Teresa DeLaurentiis, and carried 5-0.

The Board came out of executive session at 9:10 p.m. on the motion of Emily Boss, seconded by Russell Tilley, and carried 5-0.

On the motion Wendy Moore, seconded by Russell Tilley, and carried 5-0: the IEP's of the specified CSE students' plans #3298 were approved as presented. Students' Individual Education Plans (IEP) was viewed online, in executive session, on an as needed basis.

On the motion Wendy Moore, seconded by Russell Tilley, and carried 5-0: the IEP's of the specified CPSE students' plan #3190 and 3300 was approved as presented. Students' Individual Education Plans (IEP) was viewed online, in executive session, on an as needed basis.

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