

MORRIS CENTRAL SCHOOL BOARD OF EDUCATION

Date of Meeting: February 27, 2020

Kind of Meeting: Regular

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

Board Member Absent: Wendy Moore

Others Present: Matthew Sheldon, Superintendent; Principal Katharine Smith; Staff Members Monica Kilts, Stacia Norman

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

The minutes of the regular meeting of January 16, 2020 was approved as presented on the motion of Russell Tilley, seconded by Michael Walling, and carried 4-0.

The minutes of the emergency meeting of January 29, 2020 was approved as presented on the motion of Emily Boss, seconded by Russell Tilley, and carried 4-0.

The minutes of the special meeting and budget workshop of February 13, 2020 was approved as presented on the motion of Russell Tilley, seconded by Emily Boss, and carried 4-0.

Correspondence: None

Public Comment: None

Monica Kilts gave the Board a report about her special education program. Mrs. Kilts is a resource room teacher for grades 4 through 7. She co-teaches fifth and seventh grade math. Mrs. Kilts works on IEP goals and strategies to help the students be successful.

Monica Kilts gave the Board a report about Student Council. The Student Council helps with the haunted hallway on Halloween. They serve doughnuts and pour cider after the Halloween parade. They put on the Homecoming Dance, do a bake sale at the Academic Fair, update the sign at the main entrance, do car washes at the fire house and put on the Senior Citizen Luncheon.

Stacia Norman gave the Board a report about her fifth-grade curriculum. Mrs. Norman teaches fourth and fifth grade ELA and Social Studies. Mrs. Norman described the books that the students read and the lessons that she teaches for each subject.

Superintendent's Reports:

Matthew Sheldon talked to the Board about the 2020-2021 School Calendar. There are two conference days before Labor Day. The Christmas break is less than two weeks. The last day of school is June 25, 2021. The State requires the elementary students to attend school until June 25.

Matthew Sheldon talked to the Board about the 2020-2021 Fiscal Budget. Governor Cuomo is talking about changing the way Building Aid is given out. That could reduce our aid. Faculty and staff salaries increased per the MESSA and MTA contracts. Some of the salaries will be moved into Federal Grants. At this point, we do not have any retirees this year. Mr. Sheldon said he thought that we would have a negative Tax Cap because we are coming off paying for a big project. Greg Beall told Mr. Sheldon that our Tax Cap will be 3.1 percent. The Board is looking at a one to two percent tax increase.

Matthew Sheldon talked to the Board about the Smart Bond and Capital Outlay Projects. The Smart Bond project is almost completed. They are working on the emergency lockdown system. The cameras are in and the Wi-Fi is connected outside and working in the concession stand. The Capital Outlay Project has

completed the floors in the elementary bathrooms. Bernier and Carr are working on getting the cost for an expansion joint in the cafeteria.

Principal's Reports:

Katharine Smith talked to the Board about Testing and Academic Achievement. There were three Regents exams administered in January. ELA three of the four passed. Algebra both students passed. The student taking the Global Regents passed the test. The second quarter Report Card data showed 92 out of 143 students on academic achievement lists. 36 out of 143 were failing one or more classes.

Katharine Smith talked to the Board about the Elementary Science Lab Grant. We received \$4,000 from the Terra Science and Education Grant. Requisitions have been put in for basic equipment such as googles, lab aprons, hot plates, a refrigerator/freezer and microwave. We also ordered supplies for hands on experiments and modeling, such as compasses and magnets, fossil and rock kits, a large magnetic solar system, snap circuits and a 20-gallon aquarium kit, etc. Lessons will be designed for the new equipment. The grant requires data collection from students and teachers.

Katharine Smith talked to the Board about the scheduling for the 2020-2021 school year. Mrs. Catella will start meeting with the juniors in the next couple of weeks. We hope to expand the classes offered through Distance Learning. Scheduling is an obstacle for some of the classes because of the lack of consistency of the bell schedules in the participating schools.

Katharine Smith talked to the Board about the upcoming student events. Feb. 28 is the 5-week mark for the third quarter. March 7 is All County in Cooperstown. March 9 spring sports begin. March 13 is the Superintendent's Conference Day. There are no BOCES workshops so the teachers will be working here. March 23 modified sports begin.

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 Michael Walling, seconded by Russell Tilley, and carried 4-0:

1. Approval of Warrants 49, 50, 51, 52, 53, 54, 55, 56, and 57, as presented.
2. Approval of the Treasurer's Report for the month of December 2019, as presented.
3. Approval of the Central Treasurer's Reports for the month of January 2020, as presented.
4. **Be It Resolved** that the Board of Education of the Morris Central School District approves the Certified Bus Vote held on February 13, 2020 as follows:

Yes: 45 No: 7 Total: 52

5. **Be It Resolved** that the Board of Education of the Morris Central School District approves the following election officials for the Certified Bus Vote held on February 13, 2020:

Dale Hungerford, Cindy Gumble, Elaine Frederick, Kathy Kodrich, Marillyn Boggs,
Carol Tyson; Chief Election Officers Norma Boyd, Lois Jones

6. **Be It Resolved** that the Board of Education of the Morris Central School District approves the Bus Bond Resolution as follows:

BOND RESOLUTION DATED FEBRUARY 27, 2020 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 THE PURPOSE, AND DETERMINING OTHER MATTERS IN CONNECTION THEREWITH, as attached. (See Attachment #1)

7. **Be It Resolved** that the Board of Education of the Morris Central School District approves the merging of the Morris Central School Varsity and Modified Track Teams with the Laurens Central School and the Milford Central School Varsity and Modified Track Teams for the 2019-2020 school year.

8. **Be It Resolved** that the Board of Education of the Morris Central School District approves the merging of the Morris Central School Varsity Baseball Team with the Laurens Central School Varsity Baseball Team for the 2019-2020 school year.

9. Approval of the Morris Central School Calendar for the 2020-2021 school year.

10. **Be It Resolved** that the Board of Education of the Morris Central School District approves a school tax refund for Eric Shields of \$603.00, retroactive to January 21, 2020. Mr. Shield over paid a total of \$603 on the following parcels: 189.00-1-34.00; 189.00-1-33.02; 189.00-1-33.04; 188.00-1-54.00; and 236.00-1-8.00.

11. **Be It Resolved** that the Board of Education of the Morris Central School District does not wish to retain the following equipment or components, as it is obsolete, no longer functional or operational and declares the following equipment as surplus accordance with Board Policy #5250 and will be disposed of accordingly:

32 cameras removed during the Smart Bond Project. The estimated value of the cameras is \$1,300.

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

1. Approval of Willard Lasher as a regular-run bus driver, start date to be determined. Mr. Lasher's salary will be \$13,581, prorated.

2. Approval of Sarah Stroh Thornton as a substitute teacher (NC) for the remainder of the 2019-2020 school year.

3. Approval of the following spring coaches for 2020:

Varsity Baseball – Patrick Harmer with a stipend of \$3,520

Modified Baseball – Michael Gregg with a stipend of \$1,823

Varsity Softball – Julene Waffle with a stipend of \$3,124

Modified Softball – Liana Garry with a stipend of \$1,648

Varsity Track – Dylan Jaklitsch with a stipend of \$2,891

Modified Track – TBD

Unpaid Assistant Varsity and Modified Track – Michael D'Amico

4. Approval of the resignation of Catherine Wetherbee effective June 30, 2020. Ms. Wetherbee decided not to return to MCS after her leave of absence for the 2019-2020 school year.

Public Comment: Matthew Sheldon told the Board there is a graduate from 1994 that would like to give back to the community. He is an Investigator with the State Troopers and lives in Binghamton. He is going to work with Kelly Catella. It will not be just for students that are going to attend college. Mr. Sheldon said he would keep the Board updated.

The Board went into executive session at 7:32 p.m. to discuss the medical, financial, credit, or employment history of a particular person or corporation, or matters leading to the appointment, employment, promotion, demotion, discipline, suspension, dismissal or removal of a particular person or corporation and CSE on the motion of Emily Boss, seconded by Michael Walling, and carried 4-0.

The Board came out of executive session at 8:40 p.m. on the motion of Michael Walling, seconded by Russell Tilley, and carried 4-0.

On the motion of Michael Walling, seconded by Russell Tilley, and carried 4-0: the IEP's of the specified CSE students' plans #2743, 3133, and 3085 was approved as presented. Students' Individual Education Plans (IEP) was viewed online, in executive session, on an as needed basis.

The Board adjourned at 8:41 p.m. without further discussion on the motion of Russell Tilley, seconded by Emily Boss, and carried 4-0.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Judy B. Matson". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Judy B. Matson
District Clerk

EXTRACT OF MINUTES OF MEETING OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION OF THE
MORRIS CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT ADOPTING BOND RESOLUTION

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 27th day of February, 2020:

PRESENT: Mary Dugan, Emily Boss, Russell Tilley, Michael Walling

ABSENT: Wendy Moore

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

BOND RESOLUTION DATED FEBRUARY 27, 2020 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.

WHEREAS, the qualified voters of the Morris Central School District, New York, at a special meeting of such voters duly held on February 13, 2020, duly approved a proposition authorizing the levy of taxes to be collected in installments, in the manner provided by the Education Law, for the specific objects or purposes hereinafter described; now therefore

BE IT RESOLVED BY THIS BOARD OF EDUCATION AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. The Morris Central School District has undertaken or shall undertake certain capital expenditures, as more particularly described in Section 3 hereof.

Section 2. The Morris Central School District is hereby authorized to issue its General Obligation Serial Bonds in the aggregate principal amount of not to exceed \$236,877, pursuant to the Local Finance Law of New York, in order to finance the specific object or purpose described herein.

Section 3. The specific object or purpose to be financed pursuant to this resolution (hereinafter referred to as "purpose") is the acquisition of one 65-passenger propane school bus, one 35-passenger gasoline school bus and one Chevrolet Suburban.

Section 4. It is hereby determined and declared that (a) the maximum aggregate cost of said purpose, as estimated by the Board of Education, is \$236,877, and such amount is hereby appropriated therefor, (b) the Morris Central School District plans to finance the cost of said purpose entirely from funds raised by the issuance of said Bonds and the Bond Anticipation Notes hereinafter referred to, and (c) no money has heretofore been authorized to be applied to the payment of the cost of said purpose.

Section 5. It is hereby determined that the purpose is one of the class of objects or purposes described in Subdivision 29 of Paragraph a of Section 11.00 of the Local Finance Law, and that the period of probable usefulness of said purpose is five (5) years.

Section 6. The Morris Central School District is hereby authorized to issue its Bond Anticipation Notes in the aggregate principal amount of not to exceed \$236,877, and is hereby authorized to issue renewals thereof, pursuant to the Local Finance Law of New York in order to finance the purpose in anticipation of the issuance of the above described Bonds.

Section 7. It is hereby determined and declared that (a) there are presently no outstanding Bond Anticipation Notes issued in anticipating of the sale of said Bonds, (b) the Bond Anticipation Notes authorized hereby are not issued in anticipation for Bonds for an assessable improvement.

Section 8. It is hereby determined and declared that the Morris Central School District reasonably expects to reimburse the general fund, or such other fund utilized, not to exceed the maximum amount authorized herein, from the proceeds of the obligations authorized hereby for expenditures, if any, from such fund that may be made for the purpose prior to the date of issuance of such obligations. This is a declaration of official intent under Treasury Regulation §1.150-2.

Section 9. The faith and credit of the Morris Central School District, New York, are hereby irrevocably pledged for the payment of the principal of and interest on such Bonds and Bond Anticipation Notes as the same respectively become due and payable. And annual appropriation shall be made in each year sufficient to pay the principal of and interest on such obligations becoming due and payable in such year. There shall annually be levied on all taxable real property of said School District, a tax sufficient to pay the principal of and interest on such obligations as the same become due and payable.

Section 10. The power to further authorize the issuance of said Bonds and Bond Anticipation Notes and to prescribe the terms, form and contents of said Bonds and Bond Anticipation Notes, subject to the provisions of this resolution and the Local Finance Law of New York, including without limitation, the consolidation with other issues, the determination to issue Bonds with substantially level or declining annual debt service, whether to authorize the receipt of bids in an electronic format, and to sell and deliver said Bonds and Bond Anticipation Notes, is hereby delegated to the President of the Board of Education or to the Vice President of the Board in the event of the absence or unavailability of the President. The President of the Board of Education and the District Clerk are hereby authorized to sign by manual or facsimile signature any Bonds and Bond Anticipation Notes issued pursuant to this resolution, and are hereby authorized to affix to such Bonds and Bond Anticipation Notes the corporate seal of the School District and to attest the same.

Section 11. This resolution, or a summary hereof, shall be published in full by the District Clerk of the School District together with a notice in substantially the form prescribed by Section 81.00 of said Local Finance Law, and such publication shall be in each official newspaper of the School District. The validity of said Bonds and Bond Anticipation Notes may be contested only if such obligations are authorized for an object or purpose for which said School District is not authorized to expend money, or the provisions of law which should be complied with, and an action, suit or proceeding contesting such validity, is commenced within twenty (20) days after the date of such publication; or if said obligations are authorized in violation of the provisions of the Constitution.

Section 12. This resolution shall take effect immediately upon its adoption.

Duly put to a vote as follows:

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STATE OF NEW YORK }
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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 February 27, 2020, 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 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 28 day of February, 2020.



District Clerk

LEGAL NOTICE PURSUANT TO
LOCAL FINANCE LAW SECTION 81.00

The bond resolution, a summary of which is published herewith, was adopted on February 27, 2020, and the validity of the obligations authorized by such bond resolution may be hereafter contested only if such obligations were authorized for an object or purpose for which the Morris Central School District is not authorized to expend money or if the provisions of law which should have been complied with as of the date of publication of this notice were not substantially complied with, and an action, suit or proceeding contesting such validity is commenced within twenty (20) days after the date of publication of this notice, or such obligations were authorized in violation of the provisions of the Constitution.

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

BOND RESOLUTION DATED FEBRUARY 27, 2020 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.

Object or Purpose: the acquisition of one 65-passenger propane school bus, one 35-passenger gasoline school bus and one Chevrolet Suburban, at an estimated maximum aggregate cost of \$236,877.

Period of Probable Usefulness and
Maximum Permissible Term of Any Borrowing: five (5) years.

Amount of Debt Obligations Authorized: up to \$236,877.

A complete copy of the bond resolution summarized above shall be available for public inspection during normal business hours at the office of the School District Clerk of the Morris Central School District, Morris, New York.

Dated: February 27, 2020
Morris, New York