

MORRIS CENTRAL SCHOOL BOARD OF EDUCATION

Date of Meeting: March 15, 2018

Kind of Meeting: Regular

Board Members Present: Margaret Caezza, Wendy Moore, Mary Dugan, Emily Boss, Russell Tilley

Others Present: Matthew Sheldon, Superintendent; Katharine Smith, Principal; Staff Members Stacia Norman, Julene Waffle, Leona Shaver, Jerome Degan; Students Melissa Cady

The meeting was called to order by President Margaret Caezza at 6:30 p.m.

The minutes of the regular meeting of February 15, 2018 was approved as presented on the motion of Russell Tilley, seconded by Mary Dugan, and carried 5-0.

Correspondence: Matthew Sheldon shared a letter with the Board he received from the 4-H thanking us for letting them use the school.

Matthew Sheldon shared a letter with the Board from Dan Buttermann who is running for the Assembly.

Matthew Sheldon shared a letter with the Board from a concerned parent regarding a teacher.

Public Comment: None

Leona Shaver, Julene Waffle, Jerome Degan, and Stacia Norman talked to the Board about their curriculum. Leona Shaver teaches ninth and twelfth grade English. Ms. Shaver started the year using the New York State Modules, part way through the year she switched to Reading, Writing Workshop. The students read for three days and write for two days. They can choose the books they want to read that go along with the state standards. Julene Waffle teaches tenth and eleventh grade English. She talked to the Board about the TUCCR Program (The Uncommon Community Read Program). This is the third year of the program. The theme for the first year was Overcoming Obstacles and Global Awareness. The second year theme was Acceptance: We are all Human. The third year theme is Finding Identity. The books highlighted this year were written by Joseph Bruchac, a Native American storyteller. Jerry Degan teaches seventh and eighth grade English. One of the books his classes are reading is Code Talker by Joseph Bruchac. It is about a Navaho in World War II, the Navaho cultures, identity and dealing with the horrors of war. Mr. Degan also teaches TC 3 English, a tuition free, college course and the students earn college credits. Stacia Norman teaches fifth grade and ELA for third and fifth grade. Mrs. Norman replaces one module with the TUCCR books that have been read for the last three years. A few of the books are A Long Walk to Water, Milkweed, Julie of the Wolves, etc.

Julene Waffle talked to the Board about the Yearbook. The yearbook is done online. Advertisement spaces are sold to businesses, community, family members, etc. The students choose the theme for the yearbook. Jostens comes in May to talk to the class that will be putting the yearbook together for the next year. The students design templates, sell the ads, and take the pictures for the yearbook.

Superintendent's Reports:

Matthew Sheldon talked to the Board about the 2018-2019 Budget. The budget is closer to being finished. Mr. Sheldon said he is still looking for places to make cuts. Once the state budget is finished, we will have a better idea on where our budget stands.

Matthew Sheldon talked to the Board about the Long Range Financial Plan required by the state. Districts are written up if no plan is in place. The plan will be on the agenda in April for Board approval.

Matthew Sheldon told the Board that the capital project is still being reviewed.

Matthew Sheldon talked to the Board about the Morris Beautification Committee's request for a \$400 contribution to continue planting tulips, providing flowering pots, etc. on the school grounds. This will be on the April agenda for approval.

Principal's Reports:

Katharine Smith talked to the Board about the 3 through 8 testing. The ELA test is on April 11 and 12. The math test is on May 1 and 2. The 4th and 8th grade science test is the end of May and the written is on June 3. We have one test refusal letter at this point. A letter is being sent home with the testing dates. The computer based field test will be 8th grade ELA. The test will be done on chrome books.

Katharine Smith told the Board that there was an optional faculty meeting about school safety. All suggestions were reviewed and discussed. Teacher Aides will have a key to a classroom, so classrooms can remain locked during the day. They discussed having another State Police, Active Shooter presentation because of all the new staff members this year. We still have two more lockdown and fire drills to do this year. A letter will be sent home about an upcoming lockdown drill, dates of the drill will not be given. Teachers were asked to see if there is a better way to set up their classroom to keep an intruder out of the room. The Board discussed several different safety issues and ideas.

Katharine Smith talked to the Board about upcoming events. We had a group of 60 to 70 students that participated in the student walk out in support of the 17 students that were killed in the Florida school shooting. The students went into the auditorium. A student talked to the group about the students that were killed. The student then asked the group to set in silence for the next 17 minutes and think about 17 things they can do to make a difference. The spring musical is on March 16 and 17 at 7:00 p.m. The modified sports start on March 19. The Chemistry Olympiad at Binghamton University is on March 23rd. Spring break is March 26 through April 2. The Pre-k through 3rd concert is on April 18 at 1:00 p.m.

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 4 were approved as presented on the motion Wendy Moore, seconded by Russell Tilley, and carried 5-0:

1. Approval of Warrants #50, 51, 52, 53, 54, 55, 56, and 57, as presented.
2. Approval of the Treasurer's Report for the month of January 2018, as presented.
3. Approval of the Central Treasurer's Reports for the month of February 2018, as presented.
4. **Be It Resolved** that the Board of Education of the Morris Central School District approves increasing Code A-2110-450-05 in the amount of \$110 for parents' payments for iPad insurance or repairs.

The following personnel items 1 through 10 were approved as presented on the motion of Mary Dugan, seconded by Emily Boss, and carried 5-0:

1. Approval of Julene Waffle as the Girls Varsity Softball Coach with a stipend of \$2,918.
2. Approval of Catherine Wetherbee as an unpaid assistant coach for the Girls Varsity Softball.
3. Approval of Michael D'Amico as unpaid assistant coach for the track teams.
4. Approval of Abigail Gray as a substitute teacher (C) retroactive to March 1, 2018.
5. Approval of Abigail Gray as a long-term substitute for Jessica Wellman's maternity leave to start on or about April 27, 2018 through the end of the 2017-2018 school year. Ms. Gray's stipend will be \$190.00 per diem with no benefits.

6. Approval of the maternity leave for Caitlin Smith to start on or about April 27, 2018. Ms. Smith hopes to return on or about June 11, 2018. Ms. Smith will use her remaining sick and personal days. If she does not have enough days, the remainder will be unpaid.
7. Approval of the maternity leave for Danielle Tyler to start March 12, 2018 through approximately May 7, 2018. Ms. Tyler's leave will be unpaid. She does not have any sick or personal days remaining.
8. Approval of Jody Bolton as the Girls Modified Coach for the 2018 spring season. Mrs. Bolton's stipend will be \$1,600.
9. Approval of Deidra Forgit as a long-term substitute for Caitlin Smith's maternity leave scheduled to start on or about April 27, 2018 through approximately June 11, 2018. Mrs. Forgit will be paid \$190.00 per diem with no benefits.
10. Approval of Stephanie Holbert as a bus driver starting on March 19, 2018, pending fingerprint approval and physical clearance. Mrs. Holbert's salary will be \$10,054, prorated March 19 through June 19, 2018.

Public Comment: None

The Board went into executive session at 8:16 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 Wendy Moore, seconded by Russell Tilley, and carried 5-0.

The Board came out of executive session at 8:29 p.m. on the motion of Emily Boss, seconded by Wendy Moore, and carried 5-0.

On the motion of Wendy Moore, seconded by Emily Boss, and carried 5-0, the IEP's of the specified CSE students' plans #3023 was approved as presented. Students' Individual Education Plans (IEP) was viewed online, in executive session, on an as needed basis.

The Board adjourned at 8:30 p.m. without further discussion on the motion Mary Dugan, seconded by Russell Tilley, and carried 5-0.

Respectfully submitted,



Judy B. Matson
District Clerk