

MORRIS CENTRAL SCHOOL BOARD OF EDUCATION

Date of Meeting: August 19, 2021 (REVISED)

Kind of Meeting: Regular

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

Others Present: Dr. Shannon Babbie, Superintendent; Principal Katharine Smith; Staff Member Donna Stanistreet; Community Members Todd Gould, Kristin Winn, Debra Myers, Michelle Newell, Carrie Baldo, Maura Schiller, Rob Myers

The meeting was called to order by President Mary Dugan at 6:31 p.m.

The minutes of the re-organizational and regular meeting of July 8, 2021 was approved as presented on the motion of Russell Tilley, seconded by Michael Walling, and carried 4-0.

Correspondence: None

Public Comment: Several parents spoke against children being required to wear masks. The parents felt that: masks are ineffective against COVID, children do not wear them properly, the masks are dirty at the end of the day, they reduce the ability to communicate, if students can eat without a mask they can learn without a mask, we have no respect for the children if we force them to wear a mask all day, cloth masks do not provide protection, etc. The parents asked that we do not require masks for the students. They asked the school to not make the parents choose between sending their children to school and keeping them home. They wanted masks to be optional.

Superintendent's Reports:

Dr. Shannon Babbie told the Board that the new teacher dinner put on by the Rotary Club will be on October 18, 2021. Greg Thom and the lawyers are looking at privacy software.

Dr. Shannon Babbie discussed the damage to the library and other parts of the building from flooding. He said we are adding three water bottle fillers in the elementary wings.

Dr. Shannon Babbie talked to the Board about our reopening plans. School will be five days a week. We will not provide remote learning. We will be following the DOH and CDC guidelines. As of now, they require masks to be worn on the bus, indoors in transition, in classrooms if you cannot maintain social distancing. If the students are socially distanced, at this point masks are optional, masks are optional outdoors. Parents will be able to sign a waiver so their children will not have to wear masks except where required.

Principal's Reports:

Katharine Smith gave the Board a hiring update. On the agenda for your approval is a long-term substitute for Carlena Johnson's maternity leave for the month of September. She is not certified but is working towards her certification. Under NYSED substitute flexibility she is allowed to sub for the month. There were two candidates for PE/Health. One was emailed and called and never responded the other person only wanted to teach high school PE. Due to the flexibility for substitutes we have someone that is not certified but is working for her certification in PE and Health. If it is okay with the Board, she will be on the September agenda. We will continue to advertise for a certified teacher. We had three people apply for the math position. Two were certified and were contacted to schedule an interview. One did not come to the interview, they forgot to write it down, the other one called and cancelled in hopes of rescheduling. That person had been a long-term sub here covering a maternity leave. Mrs. Dening, Mrs. Kane and Mrs. Catella met and reworked the schedule and we will be able to go with just the two teachers this year. The position we were trying to fill is supposed to be a .5 FTE position but we could never find someone fill the .5 FTE position. The Special Education position is being advertised and needs to be filled as soon as possible. Permanent substitutes – we had four applicants. Only one was certified. That person found

another job. One was certified as a LTA, was interviewed but was waiting for a response from another interview and has not responded. We will re-advertise.

Katharine Smith talked to the Board about Professional Development. We had two BOCES facilitated workshops this week. We had a total participation of 19 teachers. Next week is New Teacher Orientation on Tuesday and two more BOCES workshops. Many teachers have been in working on curriculum during the summer.

Katharine Smith told the Board that a few years ago Michele Pepe advocated for a sensory path in the elementary hallway. She spent the day laying it out and it was waxed into place. It is a colorful, creative and playful way for kids to build connections in the brain that are responsible for sight, touch, sound, etc. It enables kids to complete complex, multi-stage tasks.

Shannon Babbie said we are still looking for a .5 FTE School Psychologist. He will be meeting with BOCES.

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 1-6 were approved as presented on the motion of Russell Tilley, seconded by Emily Boss, and carried 4-0: Item 7 is a separate vote.

1. Approval of Claim Auditor's Reports and Warrants # 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, and 14 as presented.
2. Approval of the Treasurer's Report and Bank Statements for the month of July 2021 and the revised Treasurer's Report and the Bank Statements for the month of June 2021, as presented.
3. Approval of the Central Treasurer's Report for the month of June 2021 and July 2021 and the Trial Balance for 2020-2021, as presented.
4. **Be It Resolved** that the Board of Education of the Morris Central School District approves the Tax Warrant for the 2021-2022 school year in the amount of \$3,104,000. The amount of the Library Tax is \$57,785, as attached. (See Attachment #1)
5. **Be It Resolved** that the Board of Education of the Morris Central School District approves the Final AS-7 Contract for the 2020-2021 BOCES Educational Services at a cost of \$1,186,809.45, retroactive to July 23, 2021, as presented.
6. **Be It Resolved** that the Board of Education of the Morris Central School District approves the merger of the Morris Central School Cross-Country team with the Milford Central School Cross-Country team for the 2021-2022 school year.
7. **The Board received from Wendy Moore, a request to withdraw her previously submitted resignation from the Board of Education. The Board has the authority to grant the request to withdraw the resignation by majority vote as per the New York Public Officers Law §31. President Mary Dugan asked for a motion. The motion was made by Emily Boss, seconded by Michael Walling, and carried 4-0.**

The following personnel items 1 through 11 were approved as presented on the motion of Michael Walling, seconded by Emily Boss, and carried 4-0:

1. Approval of Jennifer Mattocks as a special education summer school teacher July 21 through August 27, 2021. Ms. Mattocks will be paid \$253.72 for a full day and \$126.86 for a half day.
2. Approval of Deborah Chicorelli as a mentor for Donna Stanistreet, Director of Pupil Personnel, retroactive to July 21, 2021. Mrs. Chicorelli will be paid \$500 per diem.

3. Approval of the resignation of Dylan Jaklitsch as a probationary PE/Health teacher effective August 31, 2021. Mr. Jaklitsch paid for his health and dental insurance for the months of July and August. The total paid was \$318.62.
4. Approval of the resignation of Brittney Gregg as a secondary math teacher effective August 31, 2021. Mrs. Gregg paid for her July and August health and dental insurance. The amount was \$577.06.
5. Approval of removing Brian Roser as modified boys' soccer coach with a stipend of \$1,757 and approving him as the boys' varsity soccer coach with a stipend of \$2,878 (2-yrs. exp.) Mr. Roser is replacing Brittney Gregg.
6. Approval of Beth Collins as the Senior Play advisor for the 2021-2022 school year. Mrs. Collin's stipend is \$900.
7. **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 2021-2022 school year.
8. Approval of April Vunk as the National Honor Society Advisor for the 2021-2022 school year. Mrs. Vunk's stipend will be \$1,200.
9. Approval of Pat Harmer and Sarah Saggese as Senior Class Advisors for the 2021-2022 school year. The stipend is \$900 each.
10. Approval of Liana Garry as a permanent substitute. Ms. Garry's stipend will be \$123.90 per diem. She is eligible for single insurance with a 20% contribution.
11. Approval of Kallie Jaquay as a long-term substitute to cover Carlena Johnson's maternity leave, starting on September 1 through October 1, 2021. Her stipend is \$200 per diem with no benefits. Mrs. Johnson expects to return to work on October 4, 2021.

THE FOLLOWING ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS WERE APPROVED AT THE AUGUST 19, 2021 BOARD MEETING BUT WAS MISSED WHEN THE MINUTES WERE DONE. Judy B. Matson, District Clerk

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

1. **Be It Resolved** that the Board of Education of the Morris Central School District approves the revisions of the Code of Conduct for the 2021-2022 school year.
2. **Be It Resolved** that the Board of Education of the Morris Central School District approves the revisions to the District-Wide Safety Plan and the Communicable Disease – Pandemic Plan for the 2021-2022 school year.
3. **Be It Resolved** that the Board of Education of the Morris Central School District approves the revisions to the Building Level School Emergency Response Plan for the 2021-2022 school year. This is a confidential document.
4. **Be It Resolved** that the Board of Education of the Morris Central School District approves the Code of Ethics for the officers and employees of the Morris Central School District, as presented.

Public Comment: Mary Dugan thanked the parents for coming and caring about their children.

The Board went into executive session at 7:33 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/CPSE on the motion of Emily Boss, seconded by Russell Tilley, and carried 4-0.

The Board came out of executive session at 8:24 p.m. on the motion of Emily Boss, seconded by Russell Tilley, and carried 4-0.

On the motion Michael Walling, seconded by Russell Tilley, and carried 4-0, the IEP's of the specified CPSE students' plan #3203 was approved as presented. Students' Individual Education Plans (IEP) was viewed online, in executive session, on an as needed basis.

On the motion of Emily Boss, seconded by Russell Tilley, and carried 4-0, the IEP's of the specified CSE students' plans # 3100, 3197, 3202, 3195, and 3128 were approved as presented. Students' Individual Education Plans (IEP) was viewed online, in executive session, on an as needed basis.

The Board adjourned at 8:26 p.m. without further discussion on the motion of Michael Walling, seconded by Emily Boss, and carried 4-0.

Respectfully submitted,



Judy B. Matson
District Clerk

MOTION CONCERNING TAX WARRANT

(Collector Appointed to Serve on a Salary Basis)

Motion made by _____ Seconded by _____
Resolved

To the collector of _____ school district No. 1 Town(s) of Morris,
New Lisbon, Pittsfield, and Laurens County(ies) of Otsego

New York State.

You are hereby commanded:

1. To give notice and start collection on September 1, 2021
(in accordance with the provisions of _____ Date
Section 1322 of the Real Property Tax Law)
2. To give notice that tax collection will end on November 1, 2021
Date
3. To collect taxes in the total sum of \$3,104,000 in the same manner that
collectors are authorized to collect town and county taxes in accordance with the
provisions of Section 1318 of the Real Property Tax Law.
4. To collect taxes in the total sum of \$57,785 and pay over such monies to the trustees of
the Village Library of Morris.
5. To make no changes or alterations in the tax warrant or the attached tax rolls but shall
return the same to the Board of Education. The board may recall its warrant and tax roll
for corrections of errors or omissions in accordance with the provisions of Section 1316
of the Real Property Tax Law.
6. To forward by mail to each owner of real property listed on the Tax rolls within ten days
after the start of collection a statement of taxes due on his property on press-numbered
tax bill forms provided by the school district in accordance with the provisions of Section
922 of the Real Property Tax Law. To forward by mail, without interest penalties, to the
office of the county treasurer a detailed tax bill of all state land parcels liable for taxes on
the school tax rolls in accordance with provisions of sections 540 and 544 of the Real
Property Tax Law.
7. To receive from each of the taxable corporations and natural persons the sums listed on
the attached tax rolls without interest penalties when such sums are paid before the end of
the first month of the tax collection period. To add two per cent interest penalties to all
taxes collected during the second month of the tax collection and to add three per cent
interest penalties to all taxes collected during any part of the third month of the tax
collection period and to account for such sums as income due the school district.
8. To issue press-numbered receipts only on forms provided by the school district in
acknowledgment to receipt of payments of taxes and to retain, preserve and file exact
carbon copies of all such receipts issued as required by Section 987 of the Real Property
Tax Law.

9. To promptly return the warrant at its expiration and if any taxes on the attached tax rolls shall be unpaid at the time, deliver an accounting thereof on forms showing by town the total assessed valuation, tax rate, the total tax levy, the total amounts collected and the total amounts remaining uncollected as required by Section 1330 of the Real Property Tax Law.

The warrant is issued pursuant to Sections 940, 912, and 914 of the Real Property Tax Law and is delivered in accordance with Sections 1306 and 1318 of this law. It is effective immediately after it is properly signed by a majority of the members of the board of education. The warrant shall expire on the date stated above unless a renewal or extension has been endorsed on the face of this warrant in writing in accordance with Section 318, subdivision 2 of the Real Property Tax Law.

Ayes _____

Nays _____

Motion Carried

Judy B. Matson, District Clerk

Date