

MORRIS CENTRAL SCHOOL BOARD OF EDUCATION

Date of Meeting: May 21, 2019

Kind of Meeting: Regular

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

Board Members Absent: Wendy Moore

Others Present: Matthew Sheldon, Superintendent; Katharine Smith, Principal; Staff Members Joanne Telfer; Students John Oliver, Devin Alger, Marissa Romer, Anna Pavelkova; Community Member Michael Walling

The meeting was called to order by President Margaret Caezza at 7:00 p.m.

The minutes of the regular meeting of April 11, 2019 was approved as presented on the motion of Russell Tilley, seconded by Mary Dugan, and carried 4-0.

Correspondence: Matthew Sheldon shared a letter with the Board from a tax payer concerned about the Library Tax. The person wanted to know what the Morris Village Library was doing with the tax money collected.

Margaret Caezza shared a letter from the Butternut Village Arts and Craft Center regarding the Morris student's art show held at the center.

Public Comment: None

Joanne Telfer talked to the Board about her Spanish classes, Spanish Club, Drama Club, Spanish Honor Society, etc. 41 students took the National Spanish Exam and 40 passed. Next year there will be a Spanish 5 class because the Spanish students in Spanish 4 would like to continue taking Spanish. The Spanish Club helped raise money for a school in Ecuador that had a fire in December. The Spanish Club went to Hershey Park on May 18. The Drama Club presented Clue in February and has a Dessert Theater on June 7. We inducted 2 students into the Spanish Honor Society this year. The senior trip was April 27 through the 30th. Senior Switch day was May 15 and the Prom is on June 15.

Superintendent's Reports:

Matthew Sheldon talked to the Board about the Capital Outlay Project. If the budget passes we hope to have the information sent to the state in the next few days. There was confusion over the fire stop in the elementary wing. There are 17 grates that lead from the hall into the classrooms but the confusion has been cleared up and the repair will be made.

Matthew Sheldon talked to the Board about the bus lift. The lift was fixed but broke again this week. A company is coming tomorrow to look at the lift and give us an estimate. Edmeston Central School had to do an emergency project to replace their bus lift. It cost \$161,000. There will be a survey available to voters to get their opinions about getting a new lift or possibly a new bus garage.

Matthew Sheldon gave the Board a School Safety Update. The Crisis Committee meets every two months. They went over a check list for safety items that need to be looked at. During the year they go over different scenarios and brainstorm what can be done. Mr. Sheldon talked about an article he saw that discussed Run, Hide, and Fight procedure. For school districts, in most circumstances it may be better to go in a classroom, lock the door and barricade it, if possible, and hide. We are still waiting for the final approval of our Smart Bond project. We hope to be able to start it this summer.

Principal's Reports:

Katharine Smith talked to the Board about the scheduling for the 2019-2020 school year. Mrs. Catella has met with all the students in grades 9 through 11 to schedule courses for next year. She met with the 8th graders today and should have the schedules completed by Thursday. The elementary scheduling committee will work on Thursday to complete the schedule for next year. Next year a secondary math

teacher will be pushing into sixth grade math and will cover AIS and Rtl. This will free up Rhoda Flint to work with more students. Next year fourth grade will be part of the Elementary Chorus. A technology class will be taught to the fourth grade students to give them keyboarding skills, basic computer and internet safety information. The students receive Chrome Books in fifth grade.

Kathrine Smith talked to the Board about Summer School. Ms. Smith will be meeting with Mrs. Catella next week to plan for summer school. We look at 7th and 8th grade needs first, then look at high school to see what can be offered to the students.

Katharine Smith gave the Board an assessments update. The 4th and 8th grade Science Performance Test is on May 22nd. June 3rd is the 4th and 8th grade written science test and Global New Framework Regents.

Katharine Smith talked to the Board about hiring for two open positions for the 2019-2020 school year. There will be interviews next week for the elementary position. Ms. Smith said there are many strong candidates. She is hoping to do the interviews for art within the next two weeks. There are a few strong candidates. April Vunk will be moving into the middle/high school position. We will be advertising for her primary self-contained position.

Katharine Smith talked to the Board about Upcoming Student Events. May 23 is Kindergarten visitation; June 11 is 8th Grade Parent Night; May 31 and June 1 is Sherburne Pageant of the Bands; June 4 is Athletic Awards; June 5 is the 7th grade Kayak trip; June 6 is the grades 4-6 concert at 7 p.m.; June 7 is Dessert Theater at 7 p.m.; June 10-13 is the final exams; June 15 is the Senior Prom; June 17 is the last day of school for grades 7-12. The seniors will march in the hall wearing their cap and gown at 2:15; Regents starts on June 18 and Pre-K through 6 grade are going to the Farmer's Museum; June 19 Pre-K and Kindergarten are going to Noah's World and grades 1-6 are going to Interskate 88; Gilbert Lake Day is on June 21.

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 of Mary Dugan, seconded by Emily Boss, and carried 4-0:

1. Approval of the Warrants # 72, 73, 74, 75, 76, 77, and 78, as presented.
2. Approval of the Treasurer's Report for the month of March 2019, as presented.
3. Approval of the Central Treasurer's Report for the month of April 2019, as presented.
4. **Be It Resolved** that the Board of Education of the Morris Central School District approves the Capital Outlay Project of \$100,000 or less. The project is part of the 2019-2020 Fiscal Budget. Pending voter approve of the budget on May 21, 2019.
5. **Be It Resolved** that the Morris Central School Board of Education had determined that the project 47-12-01-04-0-001-012 is a Type II action as that term is defined in the State Environmental Quality Review Act and will not have a significant impact on the environment. The project is therefore not subject to further review under SEQRA. On the motion of Mary Dugan, seconded by Emily Boss, and carried 4-0, it is

RESOLVED that the Morris Central School Board of Education, acting as lead agency for purposes of the State Environmental Quality Review Act and Regulations hereby determines that the project 47-12-01-04-0-001-012 is Type II action, which will not have a significant impact on the environment and is not subject to further review under the State Environmental Quality Review Act.

6. **Be It Resolved** that the Board of Education of the Morris Central School District approves the reimbursement of school taxes for the 2018-2019 school year for the following parcels:

Parcel #237.00-1-16.02 for \$373.54 to William and Linda Pickens. The Agricultural Exemption was added after the taxes were paid.

Parcel #221.13-1-26.00 for \$551.48 to Robert Thomas and Carol Valentine. The Enhanced STAR was added after the taxes were paid.

7. **Be It Resolved** that the Board of Education of the Morris Central School District approves the following Election Officials for the 2019-2020 Fiscal Budget vote to be held on May 21, 2019:

Kathy Hungerford (mother of BOE member Wendy Moore), Carol Tyson, Joan Miller, Elaine Frederick, Lisa Galbreth, Lucy Holcombe; Chief Election Officials Norma Boyd, Lois Jones

8. **Be It Resolved** that the Board of Education of the Morris Central School District approves the correction made to the March 21, 2019 Board Minutes as follows:

Be It Resolved that the Board of Education of the Morris Central School District approves the transfer of \$25,000 from the general fund balance (A3289) to the following codes:

A-1620-400 - \$16,147.40

A-2110-400 - \$6,700.00

A-2110-450 - \$2,151.60 should have been A-2110-450 - \$2,152.60

The minutes have been corrected.

9. **Be It Resolved** that the Board of Education of the Morris Central School District approves Cwynar and Co. as our External Auditors for the 2019-2020 through 2023-2024 school years at a cost of \$15,600 per year. Cwynar and Co. was chosen from the result of the BOCES RFP for Auditors.

10. **Be It Resolved** that the Board of Education of the Morris Central School District approves establishing a sub-fund within the Retirement Contribution Reserve for Teachers' Retirement System Reserve as follow:

WHEREAS, the Morris Central School participates in the New York State Teachers' Retirement System ("TRS"); and

WHEREAS, on January 18, 2007, the Board of Education of the Morris Central School District by resolution established a Retirement Contribution Reserve Fund known as the Retirement Contribution Reserve Fund pursuant to Section 6-r of the General Municipal Law; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Education has determined it is also appropriate to establish a sub-fund within said Retirement Contribution Reserve Fund pursuant to Section 6-r of the General Municipal Law.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by Board of Education of the Morris Central School District, pursuant to Section 6-r of the General Municipal Law, as follows:

1. The Board hereby establishes a sub-fund within the Retirement Contribution Reserve Fund to be known as the Morris Central School District Retirement Contribution Reserve Sub-Fund;
 2. The source of funds for this Reserve Sub-Fund shall be: (As Attached) (See Attachment #1)
11. **Be It Resolved** that the Board of Education of the Morris Central School District accepts the bus bond bid from Delaware National Bank of Delhi at 3.42% interest on \$179,291 for one (1) 65-passenger propane school bus, one (1) 30-passenger school bus, wheelchair accessible. Bond signing is on June 4, 2019.
12. **Be It Resolved** that the Board of Education of the Morris Central School District approves the Budget of \$10,592,358 for the 2019-2020 school year. The amount of School Taxes to be collected is \$3,050,245, with an estimated tax increase of 1.76%. The 2019-2020 Budget will go to voters on May 21, 2019, retroactive to April 11, 2019, as presented.

The following personnel items 1 through 8 were approved as presented on the motion of Russell Tilley, seconded by Mary Dugan, and carried 4-0:

1. Approval of the resignation of Aaron Sorensen effective June 30, 2019. Mr. Sorensen will not be returning after his one-year unpaid leave for 2018-2019.
2. Approval of tenure for Brittney Gregg, effective September 3, 2019, is hereby made:
 - a) Name of Appointee: Brittney Gregg
 - b) Tenure Area: Secondary Math
 - c) Date of Commencement of Service of Tenure: September 2, 2015
 - d) Certification Status: Mathematics 7-12, Professional 8/3/18
3. Approval of tenure for Vidya Nagarur, effective September 3, 2019, is hereby made:
 - a) Name of Appointee: Vidya Nagarur
 - b) Tenure Area: Secondary Science
 - c) Date of Commencement of Service of Tenure: August 31, 2016
 - d) Certification Status: General Science 7-12, Professional 3/28/17
Chemistry 7-12, Professional 3/28/17
4. Approval of tenure for Sarah Saggese, effective September 3, 2019, is hereby made:
 - a) Name of Appointee: Sarah Saggese
 - b) Tenure Area: Special Education
 - c) Date of Commencement of Service of Tenure: January 1, 2016
 - d) Certification Status: Students With Disabilities, Grade 7-12, Sup. Cert. Exp. 8/31/19
Students With Disabilities, Grade 1-6, Exp. 8/31/20

Ms. Saggese was a long-term substitute for Shana Bugyi from Sept. to Dec. 2016.
5. Approval of Jamie Joy as a substitute teacher aide and cafeteria worker retroactive to May 6, 2019, for the remainder of the 2018-2019 school year.
6. Approval of the resignation of Justin Dunham as bus driver/mechanic effective May 31, 2019.
7. Approval of the resignation of Kristine van Ingen as a probationary art teacher effective June 28, 2019. The Morris Central School District will pay for Ms. van Ingen's health insurance for the months of July and August 2019.
8. Approval of Wendy Johnson as a substitute teacher aide for the remainder of the 2018-2019 school year.

Public Comment: None

The Board went into executive session at 7:31 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, negotiations, and CSE on the motion of Mary Dugan, seconded by Emily Boss, and carried 4-0.

The Board came out of executive session at 8:30 p.m. on the motion of Russell Tilley, seconded by Mary Dugan, and carried 4-0.

On the motion of Russell Tilley, seconded by Mary Dugan, and carried 4-0; the IEP's of the specified CPSE students' plans #2957 and 3094 was approved as presented. Students' Individual Education Plans (IEP) was viewed online, in executive session, on an as needed basis.

The following business items 13 through 15 were approved as presented on the motion of Russell Tilley, seconded by Mary Dugan, and carried 4-0:

13. **Be It Resolved** that the Board of Education of the Morris Central School District accepts the results of the Certified District Vote for the 2019-2020 Budget of \$10,592,358 held on May 21, 2019. The amount of the taxes to be collected is \$3,050,245, which is a tax increase of approximately 1.76% as follows:

Yes: 118 No: 23 Blank: 2 Total: 143

14. **Be It Resolved** that the Board of Education of the Morris Central School District accepts the results of the Certified District Vote for the Board of Education Member held on May 21, 2019, as follows:

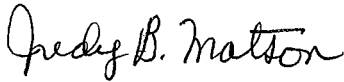
Mary Dugan: 127 Blank: 12 Write In: 4 Total: 143

14. **Be It Resolved** that the Board of Education of the Morris Central School District accepts the results of the Certified District Vote for the Board of Education Member held on May 21, 2019, as follows:

Michael Walling: 124 Blank: 12 Write In: 6 Invalid: 1 Total: 143

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,



Judy B. Matson
District Clerk

Retirement Contribution Reserve Sub-Fund Resolution

WHEREAS, the Morris Central School participates in the New York State Teachers' Retirement System ("TRS"); and

WHEREAS, on January 18, 2007, the Board of Education of the Morris Central School District by resolution established a Retirement Contribution Reserve Fund known as the Retirement Contribution Reserve Fund pursuant to Section 6-r of the General Municipal Law; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Education has determined it is also appropriate to establish a sub-fund within said Retirement Contribution Reserve Fund pursuant to Section 6-r of the General Municipal Law.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Board of Education of the Morris Central School District , pursuant to Section 6-r of the General Municipal Law, as follows:

1. The Board hereby establishes a sub-fund within the Retirement Contribution Reserve Fund to be known as the Morris Central School District Retirement Contribution Reserve Sub-Fund;
2. The source of funds for this Reserve Sub-Fund shall be:
 - a. such amounts as may be provided therefore by budgetary appropriation or raised by tax therefore;
 - b. such revenues as are not required by law to be paid into any other fund or account;
 - c. such other funds as may be legally appropriated; and
 - d. notwithstanding any law to the contrary, such amounts as may be transferred from a reserve fund established pursuant to Section 6-c, 6-d, 6-e, 6-f or 6-g of Article 2 of the General Municipal Law, comprised of moneys raised from budgetary appropriations or by taxes in the retirement contribution reserve fund, or a reserve fund established pursuant to Education Law Section 3651, provided that any such transfer shall only be made by Board resolution adopted after a public hearing held on at least 15 days prior notice published in at least one newspaper having general circulation in the District.
3. By resolution, the Board of Education may authorize expenditures from this Reserve Sub-Fund. Except as otherwise provided by law, moneys in this Reserve Sub-Fund may only be appropriated to finance retirement contributions to the New York State Teachers' Retirement System, and/or to offset all or a portion of the amount deducted from the moneys apportioned to the District from the State for the support of schools pursuant to Section 521 of the Education Law.
4. No member of the Board of Education or employee of the District shall:

- a. authorize a withdrawal from this Reserve Sub-Fund for any purpose except as provided in Section 6-r of the General Municipal Law; or
 - b. expend any money withdrawn from this Reserve Sub-Fund for a purpose other than as provided in Section 6-r of the General Municipal Law.
5. The moneys contributed annually to the Reserve Sub-Fund shall not exceed 2% of the total compensation or salaries of all teachers employed by the District who are members of TRS paid during the immediately preceding fiscal year.
6. The balance of the Reserve Sub-Fund shall not exceed 10% of the total compensation or salaries of all teachers employed by the District who are members of TRS paid during the immediately preceding fiscal year.
7. The moneys in this Reserve Sub-Fund shall be deposited and secured in the manner provided by Section 10 of the General Municipal Law. The Board of Education or its authorized designee may invest the moneys in this Reserve Sub-Fund in the manner provided by Section 11 of the General Municipal Law. Any interest earned or capital gain realized on the money so deposited or invested shall accrue to and become part of this Reserve Sub-Fund.
8. The Treasurer shall account for this Reserve Sub-Fund separate and apart from all other funds of the District. Such accounting shall show: the source, date and amount of each sum paid into the sub-fund; the interest earned by such sub-fund; capital gains or losses resulting from the sale of investments of this sub-fund; the order, purpose thereof, date and amount of each payment from this sub-fund; the assets of the sub-fund, indicating cash balance and a schedule of investments. The Treasurer, within sixty (60) days of the end of each fiscal year, shall furnish a detailed report of the operation and condition of this sub-fund to the Board of Education.
9. This Resolution shall take effect immediately.