

MORRIS CENTRAL SCHOOL BOARD OF EDUCATION

Date of Meeting: October 14, 2020

Kind of Meeting: Regular

Board Members Present: Wendy Moore, Emily Boss, Russell Tilley, Michael Walling

Board Member Absent: Mary Dugan

Others Present: Matthew Sheldon, Superintendent; Principal Katharine Smith; Staff Member Michele Rehrmann; Students Katie Tilley, daughter of BOE member Russell Tilley, Ian Rehrmann

The meeting was called to order by President, Wendy Moore at 6:30 p.m.

The minutes of the regular meeting of September 17, 2020 was approved as presented on the motion of Russell Tilley, seconded by Emily Boss, and carried 4-0.

Correspondence: None

Public Comment: Matthew Sheldon said it was Board Appreciation Month. He thanked the Board for all they do and said it has been tough since March because of COVID-19. Mr. Sheldon gave the Board members a card and a gift certificate for Weavers Farm Market.

Superintendent's Reports:

Matthew Sheldon talked to the Board about the new face covering guidelines and updates to the Re-Opening Plan. We received an update from the Department of Health. The neck gaiters, bandanas, and masks with vents are not recommended. We spent money for gaiters for the younger students. 150 masks have been donated. We ordered another 300 masks in different sizes with Morris on them. Coyle Scholarship is willing to donate towards the masks. In the Re-Opening Plan, the Health Department has changed the quarantine time from 14 days to 10 days from the start of the symptoms, as long as symptoms are improving and they are fever free for 72 hours without taking a fever reducing medication. The rapid antigen COVID test is not as accurate as the molecular rapid test.

Matthew Sheldon talked to the Board about a possible Capital Outlay Project. The boiler room is supposed to have two exits and only has one. The rafters in the boiler room ceiling are all rusted. Some sidewalks need to be repaired. Mr. Sheldon said we should know if there will be a large state aid cut in November. The Board felt if there was money the work should be done.

Matthew Sheldon talked to the Board about a future Audit Committee Meeting. The Auditor did not have GASB 75 which they needed to complete the audit. They were also lacking some other information and will not have the audit done on time. Mr. Sheldon checked with the Board and everyone could make a meeting on October 29. The Audit Committee meeting will be rescheduled until October 29 with a special Board meeting to follow.

Principal's Reports:

Katharine Smith gave the Board an update on the hybrid model we are using. The logistics of the hybrid model and the delivery of materials for remote learners are working well. We are focusing on getting the students back into the school routine and on the social and emotional aspects. There have been mixed reports from parents and students on the amount of work being assigned. Teachers are very mixed on the hybrid model. Some teachers find it exhausting and difficult to have live instruction and remote learners. Ms. Smith said we are trying to give the teachers as much support as possible

Katharine Smith talked to the Board about the plans for an in-person CROP. Ms. Smith said we are planning to start in-person CROP on October 19th. Parents will have to pick up their children, no

transportation is being provided. The students will stay in their cohorts and can only attend CROP on the days they are in school. Snacks will be delivered to the students. The students will have snack time, homework club/help, a social-emotional aspect, virtual field trips, crafts and outdoor activities. CROP will run from 3 to 5 p.m. Caitlin Smith and Diane Turner will be staying until at least 6:00 p.m. for parents who may not be able to pick up their children until 5:30 p.m. We will have a floater as well as a door person so we do not have any visitors inside the building. CROP kits will still be given to students on a bi-weekly basis. We have 101 students receiving CROP kits and have gotten very positive feedback from them. We have done a cooking kit, an apple kit, and this week is a pumpkin kit.

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 3 were approved as presented on the motion of Russell Tilley, seconded by Michael Walling, and carried 4-0:

1. Approval of Warrants #16, 17, 18, and 19, as presented.
2. Approval of the Treasurer's Report for the month of July 2020, as presented.
3. Approval of the Central Treasurer's Report for the month of September 2020, as presented.

The following personnel items 1 through 3 were approved as presented on the motion of Michael Walling, seconded by Russell Tilley, and carried 4-0:

1. Approval of the CROP staff for the 2020-2021 school year as follows:

Co-Directors – Caitlin Smith and Diane Turner with a stipend of \$25.75 per hour

Activity Leaders – Caitlin Smith, Diane Turner, Courtney Mackey, Jody Bolton, Jessica Wellman, Stephani Mitcham, and Virginia Robinson
Their stipend will be \$17.50 per hour.

2. Approval of a stipend increase for permanent substitute, Lindsey Laing, retroactive to October 8, 2020 through December 22, 2020 from \$118.74 to \$197.50 while Ms. Laing is covering the vocal music position. Ms. Laing's stipend will return to \$118.74 on January 4, 2021.

3. Approval of Kelly Allaire as a probationary vocal music teacher effective January 4, 2021. Ms. Allaire's salary will be \$39,500, prorated January 4 through June 30, 2021.

This will be put in the proper format at the Dec. 14th meeting.

The following Administrative items 1 and 2 first reading was approved as presented on the motion of Emily Boss, seconded by Russell Tilley, and carried 4-0:

1. **Be It Resolved** that the Board of Education of the Morris Central School District approves the first reading of the new policies as follows:

#6570 – Remote Working

#3520 – Extraordinary Circumstances

2. **Be It Resolved** that the Board of Education of the Morris Central School District approves the first reading of the revisions to the following policies:

#5662 – Information Security Breach and Notification

#5671 – School Safety Plans

#5761 – Drug and Alcohol Testing for School Bus Drivers

#6214 – Probation and Tenure

#6550 – Leaves of Absence

#5677 – Privacy and Security for Student Data and Teacher and Principal Data

#7240 – Student Records: Access and Challenge

- #7511 – Immunization of Students
- #7530 – Child Abuse and Maltreatment
- #7554 – Dignity For All Students (New Name)
- #8241 – Patriotism, Citizenship, and Human Rights Education
- #7221 – Participation in Graduation Ceremonies and Activities (New Name)
- #7220 – Graduation Requirements/Early Graduation/Accelerated Program
- #6121 – Sexual Harassment in the Workplace

Public Comment: None

The Board went into executive session at 7:09 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 on the motion of Michael Walling, seconded by Russell Tilley, and carried 4-0.

The Board came out of executive session at 7:33 p.m. on the motion of Emily Boss, seconded by Russell Tilley, and carried 4-0.

The Board adjourned at 7:34 p.m. without further discussion on the motion Russell Tilley, seconded by Michael Walling, and carried 4-0.

Respectfully submitted,



Judy B. Matson
District Clerk