

## MORRIS CENTRAL SCHOOL BOARD OF EDUCATION

**Date of Meeting:** December 20, 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 Greg Thom, Heather Grant, Vidya Nagarur, Carlena Johnson; Students Anthony Schoentube, Nate Edwards, Renate Carrabba, Alyssia Maerz, Brandon Richards, Tyler Kopp, Reanen Goodspeed, Matthew Murphy, Ben Child, Alexi Baran, Kyle Martin

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

The minutes of the regular meeting of November 15, 2018 was approved as presented on the motion of Emily Boss, seconded by Wendy Moore, and carried 5-0.

**Correspondence:** Matthew Sheldon shared a letter with the Board from a community member concerned because the basketball scores were not being published in The Daily Star. Mr. Sheldon said there are other schools having the same problem. The home coaches have to call in the scores by 9:00 p.m. or they are not published.

**Public Comment:** None

Heather Grant, Vidya Nagarur, and Carlena Johnson talked to the Board about their science curriculum. Heather Grant teaches Earth Science, Science 7, and Environmental Science. Earth Science is a Regents course that requires 1200 lab hours. Carlena Johnson teaches Living Environment and Science 8. Living Environment is a Regents course which requires 1200 lab hours. Vidya Nagarur teaches Chemistry, Physics and College Chemistry. In College Chemistry the student earns 3 college credits and does college level labs. Both Chemistry and Physics are Regents courses and require 1200 lab hours.

Heather Grant and Vidya Nagarur talked to the Board about the Science Club. There is a monthly theme. They will be participating in Pi Day, Hoop Shoot Contest, Earth Day, Robotics, etc. They are doing a recycling project collecting plastic wrap.

Greg Thom gave the Board a Technology Update. We are switching from iPads to Chromebooks. The unused iPads will be given to the lower elementary grades to use. We are using the E-Rate money to update the infrastructure and WiFi. This was supposed to be done with the Smart Bond money but server switches are breaking and the WiFi is seven years old. The Smart Bond will be used to update the security system.

### Superintendent's Reports:

Matthew Sheldon talked to the Board about the State Aid Run for 2018-2019 and the estimated state aid for 2019-2020. The latest State Aid Run showed we would have an increase. We will have a better idea after the Governor and Legislature give their proposals. We usually get something in between the two proposals.

Matthew Sheldon talked to the Board about the Building Project Close Out. Mr. Sheldon said they are meeting with BCA on Tuesday to finalize the project and develop a punch list of items that needs to be completed. The new boilers have been having issues and shutting down. People are coming tomorrow to see why they are not operating properly. Final payments will be made after the project is closed out.

Matthew Sheldon talked to the Board about the DCMO Fuel Bid. DCMO sent out an email asking districts if they wanted to do the fuel bid now or wait. The districts felt we should do the bid now before rates started going back up. The high bid was \$2.517 per gallon. Buell Fuel had the low bid at \$2.12 per gallon. We use approximately 54,000 gallons. The new boilers should be more energy efficient.

## Principal's Reports:

Katharine Smith gave the Board a report on Student Achievement and Assessments. The Five Week period for the second quarter ended on December 14. For first quarter there were 33 students on Honor Roll, 46 students on High Honor Roll, and 13 students on the Principal's List. There are 35 students failing one or more classes. Majority of the students failing one or more classes have been referred for AIS. For the January Regents; three students will be taking Global History, six students will be taking ELA, one student will be taking Living Environment, and two students will be taking US History and Government. Block schedule will be used for the mid-terms again this year. Mid-terms will be given January 17, 18, 22 and 23.

Katharine Smith talked to the Board about the Upcoming Events. Senior Citizen's Luncheon is tomorrow. 71 seniors have signed up for the luncheon. Holiday Break starts on December 24. Students return on January 7, 2019. The Basketball Tournaments are being held on December 27, 28, and 29.

**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, 2, and 4 through 6 were approved as presented on the motion of Russell Tilley, seconded by Emily Boss, and carried 5-0: (Number 3 was removed from the agenda.)**

- 1 Approval of the Warrants #32, 33, 34, 35, 36, 37, 38, 39, 40, 41, 42, 43, and 44, as presented.
2. Approval of the Treasurer's Report for the month of October 2018, as presented.
4. **Be It Resolved** that the Board of Education of the Morris Central School District approves the following resolution for the purchase and bonding of buses to be voted on February 14, 2019:

RESOLVED THAT THE BOARD OF EDUCATION OF THE MORRIS CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT IS HEREBY AUTHORIZED TO UNDERTAKE THE ACQUISITION OF SCHOOL BUSES, TO INCLUDE ONE 65-PASSENGER PROPANE SCHOOL BUS AND ONE 30-PASSENGER WHEELCHAIR ACCESSIBLE SCHOOL BUS, AT AN ESTIMATED MAXIMUM AGGREGATE COST OF \$199,791, LESS TRADE-IN VALUE, IF ANY, AND THAT SUCH SUM OR SO MUCH THEREOF AS MAY BE NECESSARY, SHALL BE RAISED BY THE LEVY OF A TAX TO BE COLLECTED IN ANNUAL INSTALLMENTS, WITH SUCH TAX TO BE PARTIALLY OFFSET BY STATE AID AVAILABLE THEREFOR; AND, IN ANTICIPATION OF SUCH TAX, DEBT OBLIGATIONS OF THE SCHOOL AS MAY BE NECESSARY NOT TO EXCEED SUCH ESTIMATED MAXIMUM AGGREGATE COST SHALL BE ISSUED, OR THE SCHOOL DISTRICT MAY ENTER INTO AN INSTALLMENT PURCHASE CONTRACT IF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION DETERMINES THAT IT IS IN THE BEST INTEREST OF THE SCHOOL DISTRICT TO FINANCE THE PURCHASE IN THAT METHOD, as attached. (See Attachment #1)

5. Approval of the Budget Calendar for the 2019-2020 Budget.
6. **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 in accordance with Board Policy #5250 and will be disposed of accordingly:

Speakers removed from the big gym during the capital project.

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

1. Approval of Charlotte ManWarren as a long-term substitute for the maternity leave of Alyssa Plows expected to start on or about January 21, 2019 through approximately May 1, 2019. Ms. ManWarren's stipend will be \$192.50 per diem with no benefits.
2. Approval of Morgan Brashear as a permanent substitute retroactive to December 18, 2018. Ms. Brashear's stipend will be \$105 from December 18, 2018 through January 18, 2019. On

January 21, 2019, Ms. Brashear's stipend will be \$110. She is eligible for single health insurance with 20% contribution.

3. Approval of William Whitaker as a regular-run bus driver effective January 1, 2019. Mr. Whitaker's salary will be \$12,961 prorated January 1 through June 25, 2019.
4. Approval of Carol Turnbull as a substitute teacher (NC) for the remainder of the 2018-2019 school year.
5. Approval of Katy Bridgers as a probationary music teacher effective February 11, 2019. Ms. Bridgers' salary will be \$45,000, prorated February 11 through June 26, 2019 (approximately \$20,700).

**The following Administrative items 1 and 2 were approved as presented on the motion of Mary Dugan, seconded by Russell Tilley, and carried 5-0:**

1. **Be It Resolved** that the Board of Education of the Morris Central School District approves the second reading and approval of the following new policies:

- #5411 – Procurement of Goods and Services
- #5412 – Alternative Formats for Instructional Materials
- #5413 – Procurement: Uniform Grant Guidance for Federal Awards
- #5551 - Allocation of Title 1, Part A Funds in District
- #7134 – Education of Students in Temporary Housing

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

- #5410 – Purchasing: Competitive Bidding and Offering (Name Change)
- #6110 – Code of Ethics For Board Members and All District Personnel (Name Change)
- #6121 – Sexual Harassment In The Workplace (Name Change)

**Public Comment:** Katharine Smith said the recent concert was well done. The Alumni Band did a lot of hard work to practice and surprised Doug Ernst, who is retiring in February.

The Board went into executive session at 7:07 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 Russell Tilley, seconded by Wendy Moore, and carried 5-0.

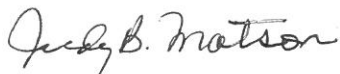
The Board came out of executive session at 9:00 p.m. on the motion of Russell Tilley, seconded by Emily Boss, and carried 5-0.

On the motion of Mary Dugan, seconded by Wendy Moore, and carried 5-0; the IEP's of the specified CPSE students' plans #3091 was approved as presented. Students' Individual Education Plans (IEP) was viewed online, in executive session, on an as needed basis.

On the motion of Russell Tilley, seconded by Emily Boss, and carried 5-0; the IEP's of the specified CSE students' plans #3090 was approved as presented. Students' Individual Education Plans (IEP) was viewed online, in executive session, on an as needed basis.

The Board adjourned at 9:03 p.m. without further discussion on the motion of Mary Dugan, seconded by Wendy Moore, and carried 5-0.

Respectfully submitted,



Judy B. Matson  
District Clerk

EXTRACT OF MINUTES OF MEETING OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION  
CALLING FOR PUBLICATION OF NOTICE REGARDING VOTE ON PROPOSITION

At a regular meeting of the Board of Education of the Morris Central School District, New York, held at the District Offices, Morris, New York, on the 20<sup>th</sup> day of December, 2018:

PRESENT:

ABSENT:

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

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF EDUCATION AS FOLLOWS:

1. A special meeting of the qualified voters of the Morris Central School District shall be held at the main entrance of the Morris Central School Building on Thursday, February 14, 2019, between the hours of 12:00 noon and 8:00 P.M., for the purpose of voting on the proposition described in the notice of special meeting hereinafter set forth.

2. Said special meeting shall be called by giving the following notice thereof:

3. At such meeting taxes to be levied by installments will be proposed for authorized indebtedness providing for payment of the acquisition of school buses at an estimated aggregate maximum cost of not to exceed \$199,791. Such taxes shall be levied upon all the taxable property of the District, shall be levied in annual installments and shall be of such amounts and levied in such years as may be determined by the Board of Education.

4. The District Clerk or the Clerk's designee is hereby directed to publish a copy of said notice of special meeting in two newspapers having general circulation within the School District in the manner prescribed by law for publication of notice of the annual meeting of the School District.

5. This resolution shall take effect immediately upon its adoption.

Duly put to a vote as follows:

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NAYS  
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NOTICE OF SPECIAL MEETING OF THE QUALIFIED VOTERS OF  
MORRIS CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a special meeting of the qualified voters of the Morris Central School District shall be held at the main entrance of the Morris Central School Building on Thursday, February 14, 2019, between the hours of 12:00 noon and 8:00 P.M.. The following proposition will be submitted for voter approval at said meeting:

PROPOSITION

Shall the following resolution be adopted to wit:

RESOLVED THAT THE BOARD OF EDUCATION OF THE MORRIS CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT IS HEREBY AUTHORIZED TO UNDERTAKE THE ACQUISITION OF SCHOOL BUSES, TO INCLUDE ONE 65-PASSENGER PROPANE SCHOOL BUS AND ONE 30-PASSENGER WHEELCHAIR ACCESSIBLE SCHOOL BUS, AT AN ESTIMATED MAXIMUM AGGREGATE COST OF \$199,791, LESS TRADE-IN VALUE, IF ANY, AND THAT SUCH SUM OR SO MUCH THEREOF AS MAY BE NECESSARY, SHALL BE RAISED BY THE LEVY OF A TAX TO BE COLLECTED IN ANNUAL INSTALLMENTS, WITH SUCH TAX TO BE PARTIALLY OFFSET BY STATE AID AVAILABLE THEREFOR; AND, IN ANTICIPATION OF SUCH TAX, DEBT OBLIGATIONS OF THE SCHOOL DISTRICT AS MAY BE NECESSARY NOT TO EXCEED SUCH ESTIMATED MAXIMUM AGGREGATE COST SHALL BE ISSUED, OR THE SCHOOL DISTRICT MAY ENTER INTO AN INSTALLMENT PURCHASE CONTRACT IF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION DETERMINES THAT IT IS IN THE BEST INTEREST OF THE SCHOOL DISTRICT TO FINANCE THE PURCHASE IN THAT METHOD.

AND NOTICE IS ALSO GIVEN that applications for absentee ballots to vote on the proposition may be applied for at the office of the School District Clerk. Any such application must be received by the District Clerk at least seven days before the date of the aforesaid special district meeting if the ballot is to be mailed to the voter, or the day before such special district meeting if the ballot is to be delivered personally to the voter. A list of all persons to whom absentee ballots shall have been issued shall be available for public inspection in the office of the District Clerk during regular office hours on each of the five days prior to the day of the vote (excluding Saturday and Sunday). An absentee ballot must reach the office of the District Clerk not later than 5:00 p.m. on the day of such special district meeting.

DATED: December 20, 2018  
Morris, New York

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

STATE OF NEW YORK }  
  }  
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 December 20, 2018, 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 21st day of December, 2018.

  
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District Clerk