# MORRIS COUNTY VOCATIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT BOARD OF EDUCATION

# **January 10, 2023**

A regular meeting of the Board of Education of the Morris County Vocational School District was held on January 10, 2023 at the Morris County School of Technology, 400 East Main Street, Denville, New Jersey and was called to order by President Barbara Dawson at 6:30 p.m. with a salute to the flag.

Presiding Officer President Barbara Dawson read the following statement:

"I hereby announce that adequate notice of this meeting of the Board of Education of the Morris County Vocational School District was given as required by the "Open Public Meetings Act" as follows:

Pursuant to Section 5 of the Open Public Meetings Act, adequate written notice was given to the official newspapers, the Star Ledger and Daily Record, by email on November 2, 2022 and a copy of the notice was posted on the bulletin board in the Morris County School of Technology, Denville, New Jersey by the Secretary of this Board and a copy of the notice was likewise filed in the Secretary's Office and a copy sent to the Clerk of the Board of County Commissioners of Morris County and the Clerk of the Township of Denville at the same time. Copies of this notice were mailed, by certified mail to all persons who have requested it, and the Secretary of this Board shall incorporate into the minutes of this meeting a copy of the notice as above set forth."

#### **ROLL CALL**

The following Board Members were present at roll call: Mrs. Barbara Dawson, Mr. John Hyland and Mrs. Hanna Roth Starr.

Also present were: Superintendent Scott Moffitt, Business Administrator/Board Secretary James Rollo, Board Attorney John Mills and Student Representative Aaron Sackett.

## **CORRESPONDENCE - None**

## SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

- Mr. Sackett presented recent events from the high school sports program to the board.
- Mr. Andrew Kucinski of Nisivoccia presented the annual audit and discussed the fund balance with the board.
- Mrs. Castelli shared the results of the Fall 2022 Start Strong Assessment.

#### Information Only:

- Security and Fire Drill Logs and Student Incident Reports
- HIB Incident Report

#### **COMMITTEE PROGRAMS - NONE**

**HEARING OF THE PUBLIC** (related to agenda items only) – NONE

#### **MINUTES**

The following motions made by Mr. Hyland, seconded by Mrs. Roth Starr, were approved as submitted.

1. Approved the minutes of the Regular Session Meeting of the Board of Education of December 13, 2022 as submitted.

2. Approved the minutes of the Closed Session Meeting of the Board of Education of December 13, 2022 as submitted.

Roll Call Vote – Yes: 3 Mrs. Dawson, Mr. Hyland and Mrs. Roth Starr No: 0 Abstain: 0 Motion Carried.

# **BUSINESS ADMINISTRATOR/BOARD SECRETARY'S REPORT and TREASURER'S REPORT**

The following motions made by Mr. Hyland, seconded by Mrs. Roth Starr, were approved as submitted.

Approved the Report of the Business Administrator/Board Secretary submitted pursuant to 18A:17-9 for the period ending and investments made during the month of November 2022. Further, pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-16.10(c)4 the Board of Education certifies that as of November 30, 2022, after review of the Secretary's monthly financial report (appropriate section) and upon consultation with the appropriate district officials, to the best of our knowledge no major account or fund has been over expended in violation of N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-16.10 and that sufficient funds are available to meet the district's financial obligations for the remainder of the fiscal year.

Pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-16.10(c)3, I certify that as of November 30, 2022 no budgetary line item account has been over expended in violation of N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-16.10.

Business Administrator/Board Secretary

Date

Approved the Report of the Treasurer submitted pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:17-36 for the period ending November 30, 2022.

Roll Call Vote - Yes: 3 Mrs. Dawson, Mr. Hyland and Mrs. Roth Starr

No: 0 Abstain: 0 Motion Carried.

#### **FINANCE**

The following motions made by Mrs. Roth Starr, seconded by Mr. Hyland, were recommended by the Superintendent of Schools to the Board of Education and approved as submitted.

- 1. Approved the payment of bills as attached.
- 2. Approved the following amendments to the 2022/2023 Current Expense anticipated revenue budget statement and the corresponding appropriations budget for Funds 11, 12, 13, 20, 30, 62, 63 and 66 as per listing attached.
- 3. Approved the attached list of travel and related costs which are educationally necessary, fiscally prudent, in compliance with state travel reimbursement guidelines, are related to and within the scope of the employee's current responsibilities and promote the delivery of instruction or further the efficient operation of the school district.
- Accepted the 2021-2022 Annual Comprehensive Financial Report (Audit) as submitted by Nisivoccia & Company LLP.

**5.** Approved the following tuition rates for full-time and share-time secondary students for the 2023-2024 school year:

	In-County 23-24 Rate	Anticipated 21-22 DOE Certified Cost per Pupil	Out-of-County 23-24 Rate*
Full-Time General Education	\$9,647 (1% increase)	\$9,965	\$13,647 (0.71% increase) \$18,853 (9.22% increase) \$6,770 (0.71% increase)
Full-Time Special Education	\$14,853 (12% increase)	\$16,874	
Share-Time General Education	\$4,770 (1% increase)	\$4,982.50	
Share-Time Special Education	\$7,427 (12% increase)	\$8,437	\$9,427 (9.22% increase)

<sup>\*</sup>Includes a \$4,000 (Full-Time) or \$2,000 (Share-Time) capital and operating expense charge per 18A:54-23.4 for non-resident students.

- **6.** Accepted a donation from the MCST Athletic Booster Club of a ten-foot bleacher scoring table with an estimated value of \$3,656.00, with a letter of appreciation to the donor.
- 7. Approved the following Guest Artists for the Design Academy for the 2022-2023 school year:

<u>Name</u>	# Days_	<b>Daily Rate</b>	Funding Source
Kyle Jorgenson	1 day	\$275.00	FY23 Perkins Secondary Grant
Katja van der Loo	1 day	\$275.00	FY23 Perkins Secondary Grant

8. Approved the following resolution:

WHEREAS, the Alliance For Competitive Energy Services (hereinafter referred to as "ACES"), an alliance composed of the New Jersey School Boards Association (hereinafter referred to as "NJSBA"), the New Jersey Association of School Business Officials, will from time to time during the Effective Period as defined below solicit bids from natural gas suppliers for retail natural gas supply services including interstate transportation to the local natural gas distribution utility company (Natural Gas Supply Services) through an energy aggregation program in which NJSBA will act as Lead Agency of the ACES Cooperative Pricing System #E8801-ACESCPS in accordance with the "Public School Contracts Law", N.J.S.A. 18A:18A-1 et seq., and the Electric Discount and Energy Competition Act, N.J.S.A. 48:3-49 et seq. ("EDECA") and the regulations promulgated thereunder; and

WHEREAS, the Morris County Vocational School District is a Participating member of the ACES Cooperative Pricing System and is eligible thereby to obtain natural gas services for its own use through one or more contracts to be awarded to natural gas suppliers following said bids for natural gas services pursuant to the aggregation program; and

WHEREAS, the Lead Agency will from time to time during the Effective Period (from date of adoption through May, 2028, hereinafter referred to as "Effective Period") issue one or more Requests for Bids for natural gas services on behalf of the ACES Cooperative Pricing System pursuant to the Public School Contracts Law and EDECA; and

WHEREAS, due to significant volatility and the potential for price increases in the wholesale natural gas market, Participating Members will preauthorize the Lead Agency to award contracts for Natural Gas Supply Service in each service territory to one or more natural gas suppliers that submits bids which are reasonably forecasted to provide estimated savings to the Participating Member based upon its previous natural gas usage and utility provided Basic Gas Supply Service rates; and

WHEREAS, the Lead Agency will only award contracts for said Natural Gas Supply Services to natural gas suppliers that submit bids with pricing reasonably estimated to be lower than the utility-provided basic gas supply service; and

WHEREAS, the District agrees to purchase all Natural Gas Supply Services for its own use during the Effective Period through any natural gas supplier(s) awarded a contract, it being understood that the term of any one contract shall be subject to the provisions of Public School Contracts Law; and

WHEREAS, the Lead Agency will notify the Department of Community Affairs' Division of Local Government Services by mail prior to the issuance a Request for Bids for natural gas supply services, with the understanding that if the Division of Local Government Services does not respond within 10 business days, it will be deemed to have approved the issuance of the Request for Bids or the Request for Rebids.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the District binds itself to the ACES Cooperative Pricing System ##E8801-ACESCPS to purchase all natural gas supply services needed for its own use during the Effective Period from the natural gas supplier or suppliers awarded a contract for natural Gas supply services by the Lead Agency; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Lead Agency of the ACES Cooperative Pricing System is hereby authorized to execute a master performance agreement that obligates the district to purchase natural gas at the terms and conditions stated therein with a third-party supplier or suppliers who have been awarded the contract or contracts by the Lead Agency on behalf of the participating members of the ACES Cooperative Pricing System #E8801-ACESCPS (or any CPS number to be assigned in the future), and provided further that all such contracts shall be at prices reasonably forecast and estimated by the Lead Agency to provide savings to the districts relative to the price charged for basic gas supply service by the natural gas public utility that would otherwise provide such service; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that ACES is authorized to continue to bid to obtain natural gas services at any time during the Effective Period on behalf of the ACES Cooperative Pricing System including, for example, a rebid if energy market conditions do not initially lead to a successful bid, on additional dates to be determined by the Lead Agency; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this Resolution shall take effect immediately upon passage. The authorization provided to the NJSBA pursuant to the Local Public Contracts Laws (N.J.S.A. 40A:11-11(5)), and the Local Public and Public School Contracts Laws Administrative Code (N.J.A.C. 5:34-7.1 et seq.) shall be valid until May, 2028 (the Effective Period) at which time the Cooperative Pricing System will be subject to renewal. Any rescission of this resolution shall not affect any Agreements entered into prior to such rescission or expiration.

## **9.** Approved the following resolution:

WHEREAS, the Alliance For Competitive Energy Services (hereinafter referred to as "ACES"), an alliance composed of the New Jersey School Boards Association (hereinafter referred to as "NJSBA"), the New Jersey Association of School Administrators, and the New Jersey Association of School Business Officials, will from time to time during the Effective Period as defined below solicit bids from electric power suppliers for electric generation services through an energy aggregation program in which NJSBA will act as Lead Agency of the ACES Cooperative Pricing System #E8801-ACESCPS in accordance with the "Public School Contracts Law", N.J.S.A. 18A:18A-1 et seq., and the Electric Discount and Energy Competition Act, N.J.S.A. 48:3-49 et seq. ("EDECA") and the regulations promulgated thereunder; and

WHEREAS, the Morris County Vocational School District is a Participating member of the ACES Cooperative Pricing System and is eligible thereby to obtain electric generation services for its own use through one or more contracts to be awarded to electric power suppliers following said bids for electric generation services pursuant to the aggregation program; and

WHEREAS, the Lead Agency will from time to time during the Effective Period (from date of adoption

through May, 2028 hereinafter referred to as "Effective Period") issue one or more Requests for Bids for electric generation services on behalf of the ACES Cooperative Pricing System pursuant to the Public School Contracts Law and EDECA; and

WHEREAS, due to significant volatility and the potential for price increases in the wholesale electric market, Participating Members will preauthorize the Lead Agency to award contracts for Electric Generation Service in each service territory to one or more electric power suppliers that submit bids which are reasonably forecasted to provide estimated savings to the Participating Member based upon its previous electric usage and utility provided Basic Generation Service rates; and

WHEREAS, the Lead Agency will only award contracts for said electric generation services to electric power suppliers that submit bids with pricing reasonably estimated to be lower than the utility-provided basic generation service; and

WHEREAS, the District agrees to purchase all electric power needed for its own use (exclusive of on-site electric generation sources) during the Effective Period through any electric power supplier(s) awarded a contract, it being understood that the term of any one contract shall be subject to the provisions of Public School Contracts Law; and

WHEREAS, the Lead Agency will notify the Department of Community Affairs' Division of Local Government Services by mail prior to the issuance a Request for Bids for electric generation services, with the understanding that if the Division of Local Government Services does not respond within 10 business days, it will be deemed to have approved the issuance of the Request for Bids or the Request for Rebids.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the District binds itself to the ACES Cooperative Pricing System ##E8801-ACESCPS to purchase all electric power needed for its own use (exclusive of on-site electric generation sources) during the Effective Period from the electric power supplier or suppliers awarded a contract for electric generation services by the Lead Agency; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Lead Agency of the ACES Cooperative Pricing System is hereby authorized to execute a master performance agreement that obligates the district to purchase electricity at the terms and conditions stated therein with a third-party supplier or suppliers who have been awarded the contract or contracts by the Lead Agency on behalf of the participating members of the ACES Cooperative Pricing System #E8801-ACESCPS (or any CPS number to be assigned in the future), and provided further that all such contracts shall be at prices reasonably forecast and estimated by the Lead Agency to provide savings to the Districts relative to the price charged for basic generation service by the electric public utility that would otherwise provide such service; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that ACES is authorized to continue to bid to obtain electric generation services at any time during the Effective Period on behalf of the ACES Cooperative Pricing System including, for example, a rebid if energy market conditions do not initially lead to a successful bid, on additional dates to be determined by the Lead Agency; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this Resolution shall take effect immediately upon passage. The authorization provided to the NJSBA pursuant to the Local Public Contracts Laws (N.J.S.A. 40A:11-11(5)), and the Local Public and Public School Contracts Laws Administrative Code (N.J.A.C. 5:34-7.1 et seq.) shall be valid until May, 2028 (the Effective Period) at which time the Cooperative Pricing System will be subject to renewal. Any rescission or expiration of this resolution shall not affect any Agreements entered into prior to such rescission or expiration.

Roll Call Vote – Yes: 3 Mrs. Dawson, Mr. Hyland and Mrs. Roth Starr No: 0 Abstain: 0 Motion Carried.

# **CURRICULUM, INSTRUCTION, PROGRAMS, STUDENTS**

The following motions made by Mr. Hyland, seconded by Mrs. Roth Starr, were recommended by the Superintendent of Schools to the Board of Education and approved as submitted.

- 1. Approved the senior Work-Based Learning Experiences for the 2022-2023 school year as per the attached list.
- 2. Confirmed and approved the senior Work-Based Learning Experiences for the 2022-2023 school year as per the attached list.
- 3. Approved the attached list of field trips for the 2022-2023 school year as amended.
- 4. Approved the following resolution:

WHEREAS, the Morris County Vocational School District Board of Education received the Harassment, Intimidation and Bullying Report of the Superintendent dated December 13, 2022;

WHEREAS, the parties involved in the case(s) reported were notified of the results of the investigation, Superintendent's decision and the rights of those parties to request a hearing before the Board of Education; and

WHEREAS, no requests for a hearing before the Board of Education have been received; and

WHEREAS, the Anti-Bullying Bill of Rights provides the Board of Education the opportunity to affirm, modify or reject the Superintendent's decisions on reported cases of Harassment, Intimidation and Bullying;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education **affirms** the Superintendent's decision in the case(s) listed in the HIB Investigation Reports reported to the Board at its regularly-scheduled Board of Education meeting on December 13, 2022.

**5.** Approved the attached First Amendment to the Memorandum of Understanding between Rutgers University and Morris County Vocational School District.

Roll Call Vote – Yes: 3 Mrs. Dawson, Mr. Hyland and Mrs. Roth Starr No: 0
Abstain: 0
Motion Carried.

## **PERSONNEL**

The following motions made by Mrs. Roth Starr, seconded by Mr. Hyland, were recommended by the Superintendent of Schools to the Board of Education and approved as submitted.

- 1. Accepted the resignation of James Rollo, School Business Administrator/Board Secretary, effective March 20, 2023.
- 2. Approved the appointment of Mark Menadier as Principal High School Academies at the prorated annual salary of \$170,000.00 effective February 1, 2023 through June 30, 2023.
- 3. Approved the transfer of Lynne Jackson to the title of Principal High School Programs at her current annual salary effective February 1, 2023 through June 30, 2023.

- **4.** Approved the appointment of Scott Shaw as Director Career and Technical Education at the prorated annual salary of \$157,000.00 effective February 1, 2023 through June 30, 2023.
- **5.** Approved the appointment of Lisa Adams as Assistant Principal Instruction at the prorated annual salary of \$142,000.00 effective February 1, 2023 through June 30, 2023.
- **6.** Approved the transfer of Michael Gowdy to the title of Manager Grants and Admissions at his current annual salary effective February 1, 2023 through June 30, 2023.
- 7. Approved the appointment of August Joy as a Security Guard at the annual salary of \$40,000.00 to be prorated for the period January 17, 2023 through June 30, 2023, pending successful completion of a criminal history background check and pre-employment physical examination.
- **8.** Approved the appointment of the following staff members as a Club Competition Chaperones for the 2022-2023 school year:

Rocio Felix Jessica Klimas

- **9.** Approved the appointment of Jessica Short as Production Director Multimedia for the 2022-2023 school year.
- 10. Approved the appointment of John Wrobel as a Volunteer Bowling Coach.
- 11. Confirmed and approved the placement of Zachary Wilson from Fairleigh Dickinson University for a QUEST field experience assignment in the Special Education Department for a total of 60 hours during the period January 3 through May 5, 2023.
- 12. Approved the appointment of John Piechnik as a Substitute Teacher for the 2022-2023 school year.
- **13.** Approved the appointment of Peter Horan as a part-time Continuing Education Introduction to Electrical Trades Instructor for a total of 60 hours at the rate of \$35.00 per hour for the period February 13, 2023 through May 1, 2023.
- **14.** Approved the appointment of Alex Nafz as a part-time Continuing Education Homeowners Plumbing Workshop Instructor for a total of 35 hours at the rate of \$35.00 per hour for the period March 11, 2023 through May 20, 2023.

Roll Call Vote – Yes: 3 Mrs. Dawson, Mr. Hyland and Mrs. Roth Starr No: 0 Abstain: 0 Motion Carried.

#### **HEARING OF THE PUBLIC - NONE**

## **OLD BUSINESS**

- Share-Time Completers Ceremony: June 9, 2023
- Graduation: June 21, 2023

#### **NEW BUSINESS**

- Next Board Meeting: February 14, 2023 at 6:30 p.m.
- Sports Award Banquet: June 7, 2023 at 6:00 p.m., Morris County School of Technology

# **ADDITIONAL BUSINESS - None**

# **ADJOURNMENT**

Motion made by Mr. Colasurdo, seconded by Mr. Hyland, to adjourn the meeting at 7:02 p.m.

All present voted yes - Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

James C. July James Rollo, Business Administrator/Board Secretary