

**MORRIS COUNTY VOCATIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT  
BOARD OF EDUCATION**

**April 9, 2024**

A regular meeting of the Morris County Vocational School District held on April 9, 2024 at the Morris County School of Technology, 400 East Main Street, Denville, New Jersey and was called to order by President Barbara Dawson at 6:35 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, 2023 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, Mr. Ray Menard and Mrs. Hanna Roth Starr.

Also present were: Interim Superintendent James Jencarelli, Business Administrator/Board Secretary Michael Davison, Board Attorney John Mills and Student Representative Ashwin Vaithiyalingam.

**CORRESPONDENCE - None**

**SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT**

- Mr. Vaithiyalingam presented the student report to the board including an update on college admissions, MCST's first talent show hosted by the PTO, a collaboration between NASA and the biotechnology and design academies to engineer food solutions for astronauts, and the DECA club has 24 members who qualified for the national conference in California.
- Mr. Davison reported that the 2024-2025 budget and capital projects were approved at the Board of School Estimate Meeting.

**COMMITTEE PROGRAMS - None**

**HEARING OF THE PUBLIC (related to agenda items only) - None**

**MINUTES**

The following motions made by Mr. Hyland, seconded by Mr. Menard, were approved as submitted.

1. Approved the minutes of the Regular Session Meeting of the Board of Education of March 12, 2024 as submitted.

2. Approved the minutes of the Closed Session Meeting of the Board of Education of March 12, 2024 as submitted.


Roll Call Vote – Yes: 4 Mrs. Dawson, Mr. Hyland, Mr. Menard 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 Mr. Menard, 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 February 2024. Further, pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-16.10(c)4 the Board of Education certifies that as of February 29, 2024, 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 February 29, 2024 no budgetary line item account has been over expended in violation of N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-16.10.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Business Administrator/Board Secretary

4/9/24  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

Approved the Report of the Treasurer submitted pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:17-36 for the period ending February 29, 2024.

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

### **FINANCE**

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 payment of bills as attached.
2. Approved and authorized the Board Secretary to pay urgent and unforeseen bills and meet financial obligations for April 10, 2024 through the next Morris County Vocational School District Board of Education meeting.
3. Approved the following amendments to the 2023/2024 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.
4. 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.

5. Approved the following resolution:

WHEREAS, there exists a need for the retention of professional civil engineering services; and

WHEREAS, funds are available for these purposes; and

WHEREAS, contracts for "Professional Services" under Local Public Contracts Law (N.J.S.A. 18A:18A-5) require an award by the Board of Education by resolution at a public meeting.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the President and Secretary are hereby authorized and directed to execute an agreement with:

Colliers Engineering and Design, Inc. to provide special inspection and materials testing services and construction administration and consulting services to the Board of Education for the 2023-2024 school year per the attached proposals.

These contracts are awarded without competitive bidding as a "Professional Service" under the provisions of the Local Contracts Law because:

The services of licensed professional civil engineering services et al. are considered "Professional Services" under the provisions of the Local Public Contracts Law because such services are of such qualitative nature as will not reasonably permit the drawing of specifications or the receipt of competitive bids.

Roll Call Vote – Yes: 3 Mrs. Dawson, Mr. Hyland and Mr. Menard

No: 0

Abstain: 1 Mrs. Roth Starr

Motion Carried.

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

The following motions made by Mrs. Roth Starr, seconded by Mr. Menard, 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 2023-2024 school year as per the attached list.
2. Approved the attached list of field trips for the 2023-2024 school year.
3. 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 March 12, 2024;

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 March 12, 2024.

Roll Call Vote – Yes: 4 Mrs. Dawson, Mr. Hyland, Mr. Menard and Mrs. Roth Starr  
No: 0  
Abstain: 0  
Motion Carried.

## PERSONNEL

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

1. Accepted the resignation of Allison Pagan, Secretary, effective March 22, 2024.
2. Accepted the resignation of Louis Rosso, part-time School Bus Driver, effective March 27, 2024.
3. Approved the appointment of the following Club Competition Chaperones for the 2023-2024 school year:

Rocio Felix  
Ruben Rosado

4. Rescinded the appointment of Rocio Felix as a Hackathon Supervising Chaperone.
5. Approved the appointment of Binah Ezra as a Hackathon Supervising Chaperone on Saturday, April 13, 2024, at the rate of \$33.00 per hour for a maximum of 6 hours, with funding provided by FY24 Perkins Secondary Grant.
6. Approved the attendance of the following individuals at the DECA National Conference in Anaheim, California, from April 26 – May 1, 2024:

<u>Student</u>	<u>Student</u>	<u>Advisor</u>	<u>Chaperone</u>
Bhaumi Bhatt	Haley Kosovitz	Kimberly Delesky	Justin Jacobs
Precious Desiree Cachuela	Siddhi Maheshwari	Deirdre Romero	
Garv Desai	Shraddha Mamidipaka		
Rida Fathima	Aastha Motwani		
Gianna Grillo	Siddhant Pandit		
Taanishi Haldar	Aarvi Patel		
Nicholas Iwasko	McKenna Roper		
Sahana Jeyakumar	Manya Sharma		
Ashwin Kathiresan	Gabriela Slusarek		
Suhana Khitolia	Joshua Patrick Stieff		

7. Accepted the resignation of Victor Costantini, Teacher of Spanish, effective July 1, 2024.

Roll Call Vote – Yes: 4 Mrs. Dawson, Mr. Hyland, Mr. Menard and Mrs. Roth Starr  
No: 0  
Abstain: 0  
Motion Carried.

## **FACILITIES**

The following motion made by Mr. Hyland, seconded by Mr. Menard, was recommended by the Superintendent of Schools to the Board of Education and approved as submitted.

1. Approved the use of the facilities by County College of Morris for its Culinary Opportunity Program I in the Building #1 Kitchen on Mondays, Tuesdays and Thursdays from 4:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. from April 16, 2024 through June 11, 2024.

Roll Call Vote – Yes: 4 Mrs. Dawson, Mr. Hyland, Mr. Menard and Mrs. Roth Starr  
No: 0  
Abstain: 0  
Motion Carried.

**HEARING OF THE PUBLIC – None**

## **OLD BUSINESS**

- Sports Award Banquet: June 6, 2024 at 6:00 p.m., Morris County School of Technology
- Share-Time Completers Ceremony: June 7, 2024 at 1:00 p.m., County College of Morris
- Graduation: June 17, 2024 at **2:30 p.m.**, Mennen Arena (**NOTE TIME CHANGE**)

## **NEW BUSINESS**

- Special Board Meeting (Superintendent Search): April 16, 2024 at **4:00 p.m.**
- Next Regular Board Meeting: May 14, 2024 at 6:30 p.m.
- Academic Achievement Recognition Dinner: June 4, 2024 at 6:00 p.m., Hanover Marriott, Whippany (Barbara Dawson to attend)
- NJ School Boards Annual Fall Workshop: October 21-24, 2024, Atlantic City

Mr. Menard inquired about the statutory deadline for employee nonrenewal notifications.

## **SUNSHINE RESOLUTION**

The following motion made by Mr. Menard, seconded by Mr. Hyland, was approved as submitted.

WHEREAS, this meeting is duly and properly called for a regular session meeting of this Body and adequate notice has been given as provided by the "Open Public Meetings Act" and,

WHEREAS, it is now necessary that the Board of Education of the Morris County Vocational School District consider the following matters:

### **MCVTEA Negotiations**

which fall within the exceptions as set forth in the "Open Public Meetings Act" and therefore are matters which this Body determines should be discussed at a closed meeting. It is anticipated that this closed session will last approximately **30 minutes**.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE Board of Education of the Morris County Vocational School District as follows:

That this Body shall at this time recess this meeting and conduct a closed meeting concerning the above referenced matters, which involve exceptions this Body hereby determines are of such a nature that they cannot be discussed at an open meeting and this Body is at this time unable to determine when the matters

under discussion can be disclosed to the public. However, this Body will make such a disclosure when circumstances permit.

The meeting recessed at 6:52 p.m. and reconvened at 7:20 p.m. with the following Board Members present: Mrs. Dawson, Mr. Hyland, Mr. Menard and Mrs. Roth Starr. Also, present were Interim Superintendent James Jencarelli, Business Administrator/Board Secretary Michael Davison and Board Attorney John Mills.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Motion made by Mr. Menard, seconded by Mr. Hyland, to adjourn the meeting at 7:21 p.m.

All present voted yes – Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Michael Davison", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Michael Davison  
Business Administrator / Board Secretary