

A Regular Meeting of the Board of Education of the Heuvelton Central School District was held in the Middle School Computer Lab on Wednesday evening December 15, 2010.

The Meeting was called to order by President John Zeh at 7:32 p.m.

Members present: Dr. John Zeh, President, Andrew Martin, Vice President, Michael Davis, Dennis Durant, Timothy Johnson, and Richard Moore

Members excused: Thomas Nichols

Also present: Susan Todd, Superintendent; Michael Warden, MS/HS Principal, Cynthia Belleau, Elementary Principal/CSE Chairperson, Tessa Herron, District Clerk and Jeffrey Swanson, Assistant Business Manager

Guests: J. Lawton, S. Murdock, D. Hale, T. Schulz, E. Barr, D. Backus, M. Wattie, J. Gray, J. Madlin, G. Collier and M. Hebert

- 10-77 Motion # 1 To adopt the revised agenda.
Revised agenda Moved: Davis Seconded: Martin
Six present, six ayes. Carried
- 10-78 Public Forum No one from the public addressed the board at this time.
- 10-79 Motion # 2 To accept the recommendations on the consent agenda for the December 15, 2010 meeting which included:
Approve Consent agenda
- To approve the minutes of the November 17, 2010, Regular Meeting of the Board of Education.
 - To accept the Financial Reports for the period ending September 2010.
 - To accept the Financial Reports for the period ending October 31, 2010.
 - To accept the Financial Reports for the period ending November 30, 2010.
 - To accept the Treasurer's Reports for the period ending November 30, 2010.
 - To accept the Warrants for the period ending November 30, 2010, as previously approved by the Claims Auditor.
 - To approve the Budget Transfer over \$5,000 (Account Code 2110-121 to 2110-122 and 2110-160.)
 - 2011 Income Ceilings for the Senior Citizen Exemption on Assessment Rolls (For information purposes only.)
 - To approve change orders: P001 – October 21, 2010, R001 – November 4, 2010, G003 & G004 – December 2, 2010 for the Capital Improvement Project.
 - To approve arranging for the appropriate programs and services for District Students with disabilities as previously approved by the District's Preschool Committee on Special Education.
 - To approve arranging for the appropriate programs and services for District Students with disabilities as previously approved by the District's Preschool Committee on Special Education.
 - To approve the highest bid received for the 1987 GMC Bus (51,300 miles, 350 V* - Gas, used as Band Equipment bus no seats) declared surplus on October 13, 2010.
 - \$200.00 – Linda VanKirk
 - To approve the request of the Punch Lock Travelers Snowmobile Club to use school property to create a snowmobile trail beside the athletic field fence line that will be maintained by the club.
 - Field Trip Notification:
 - 1st grade walking trip to the Heuvelton Free Library – November 17, 2010
 - Area All-State Chorus students to Crane School of Music – November 19 & 20, 2010
 - Life on your Own Class to Ogdensburg & Canton merchants – November 29, 2010
 - Life on your Own Class to St. Lawrence University & SUNY Canton – December 3, 2010
 - Kindergarten walking field trip to the Heuvelton Free Library – December 17, 2010

Moved: Durant Seconded: Martin

Six present, six ayes. Carried

Mr. Johnson asked to discuss the following items under Financial: Financial Reports – September 2010, Financial Reports – October 2010, Financial Reports – November 2010 and Warrants – November 2010. Mr. Johnson asked why this information is being received all at once and not monthly. Mr. Swanson explained that because of the year end and the fact that the audit was late this year. Mr. Johnson asked why the total budget amount was different. Mr. Swanson explained that adjustments had to be made. A check was received from the insurance company for the roof leak and overtime had to be paid. Mr. Johnson asked why the budget is being changed. Mr. Swanson stated that it doesn't have to be changed. Mr. Johnson stated he would like to see it board approved if the amount needs to be changed. Mr. Johnson explained he felt that the budget should stay as adopted with no adjustments. There was a total of \$27,995 of adjustments made and Mr. Swanson explained this had to do with open encumbrances from year end. Mr. Durant stated he would like to know about budget adjustments before they are made.

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Mr. Johnson asked about the check register report which listed a few hotels on it. The hotels in question were the Saratoga Hilton and the Crowne Plaza in Lake Placid. Mrs. Todd explained that the Saratoga was for her Administrators Conference and the Crowne Plaza was for Mr. Moore's New Board Member training.

10-80 Motion #3
Tenure Appointments

To approve the following tenure appointments:

- Megan Wattie in the K-12 Music tenure area effective January 29, 2011.
- Mary Hebert in the 7-12 Family & Consumer Sciences tenure area effective July 1, 2010

Moved: Moore Seconded: Martin

Six present, six ayes. Carried

Mrs. Hebert took a moment to thank the administrators and Board of Education for the support she has received as the Family & Consumer sciences teacher.

Mr. Davis asked why there is an approval of a tenured position if that teacher has already been granted tenure. Mrs. Todd explained that it was because they are different tenure areas.

10-81 Motion #4
Resignation

To accept, with regrets, the resignation of Lee Dezell, as Business Education Teacher for the purpose of retirement as of July 1, 2011.

Moved: Davis Seconded: Martin

Six present, six ayes. Carried

10-82 Motion #5
Resignation

To accept, with regrets, the resignation of Thomas MacKay, as Custodian for the purpose of retirement as of June 30, 2011.

Moved: Davis Seconded: Durant

Six present, six ayes. Carried

10-83 Motion #6
Resignation

To accept, with regrets, the resignation of Matthew Smithers, as Boys Varsity Lacrosse Coach effective November 27, 2010.

Moved: Durant Seconded: Martin

Six present, six ayes. Carried

10-84 Information
Presentation

Mr. Warden gave a presentation on the Professional Learning Communities conference that he attended along with several teachers. Julie Madlin, Jennifer Gray, Ted Schulz, Eric Barr, Desaree Backus and Ginger Coller all gave positive feedback on this conference.

Mr. Davis stated that he is excited to see how excited teachers are about this conference.

10-85 Item for Discussion
Use of Consent Agenda

Dr. Zeh explained that as the board worked with a consultant from NYSSBA. This consultant suggested using a consent agenda. Dr. Zeh explained that having a consent agenda is not to stifle discussions. Mr. Moore stated that for approval of minutes and financial items that is understandable but for all new business items should be approved individually as it is the first the board is seeing it. Mr. Martin discussed that he felt the reason this started was to streamline certain issues so that the more important issues have more time for discussions. Dr. Zeh stated he would like to take new business off the consent agenda. Mr. Johnson suggested having the meetings earlier in the evening. Dr. Zeh stated that he can't get to the meetings much earlier due to his job.

10-86 Item for Discussion:
Superintendent's/Board
Duties

Dr. Zeh explained that at one time the board approved all conferences but several years ago that changed. For many years now as part of the reorganization meeting that is held in July every year it is approved that the board give the Superintendent authority to approve conferences. Dr. Zeh stated that Mrs. Todd gives updates on conferences that are being attended along with updates from Mr. Warden and Mrs. Belleau. Mrs. Todd informed the board that there have been more conferences attended in the last year because the district was given federal stimulus money and it came with strict guidelines on how to spend it. Money was allotted for professional development from the ARRA funds because both she and the Board felt this was a good way to use this funding source.

Mr. Durant stated that he wasn't sure of what the issues/concerns were about this. Mr. Moore stated that with the state budget constraints that this money will dry up. Mrs. Todd explained that was why the Board felt at the time it would be wise to spend this money on Professional Development instead of hiring new employees that the district didn't really need. Dr. Zeh gave an update on what Regent Dawson had shared about the difficult times ahead. Mr. Moore stated that he read somewhere that the regulations for costs on Special Education have changed. Mrs. Belleau stated that she was not aware of this.

Mr. Moore asked about the surveys that are being handed out to faculty where they came from. Mrs. Todd explained that two years ago the board came up with the goals of creating a High Performing School. . At the board retreat in August it was discussed that a survey for each indicator of criteria of a High Performing School

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would be given to teachers. The Shared Decision Making Committee will be looking over all comments from teachers. Mrs. Todd shared that the comments that stood out the most was how teachers need more time to work collaboratively.

Mr. Martin shared that he is receiving feedback on the community survey that was sent out. He received an anonymous letter about the number that is on the survey is a way of tracing who filled out the survey. The person also stated that they weren't happy with sending the survey's back to the district.

- 10-87 Item for Discussion: Training for Board Members Mrs. Todd wanted to ask about upcoming training for all board members. Soon we will be building the budget and wanted to see if the Board wanted to budget funds for more training. Dr. Zeh said he felt that the Board of Education should wait and see how bad things are going to be from The State Education Department.
- 10-88 Item for Discussion: Board of Education Self-Evaluation The Board of Education Self-Evaluation as briefly discussed. Mr. Martin stated that there is always room for improvement.
- 10-89 Item for Discussion: SEI Design: "Hold Harmless" agreement The Board sees that Mr. Klempa took responsibility for the playground issue. Mrs. Todd asked the board if they would like her to formulate wording to give to Mayor Lashua. Mr. Durant stated that everyone benefited from the Capital Project with the new playground and the Basketball Courts but he would like to put some parameters on this agreement. Dr. Zeh shared that he feels we're making this a bigger issue then it needs to be. Mr. Durant and Mr. Martin stated that they would have a hard time signing the current agreement that was presented to them from the Village of Heuvelton. Mrs. Todd stated that she would have Andy Silver, School Attorney look it over.

Mr. Johnson brought up the request for information from SLLBOCES. He stated that for the amount of money that we spend on BOCES services the district should not have to pay for a document that was requested. Mr. Johnson stated that he would like a letter sent back to Mr. Burns requesting them disregard the cost for the information requested. Mr. Davis asked why this information is being requested. Mr. Johnson shared that he has some concerns about practices being done inside BOCES. Mr. Johnson stated that he wanted to look over the information requested and report back to the board. Mr. Johnson explained that his concern is that BOCES is inflating their budgets by keeping retirees on as consultants and charging schools. Mr. Johnson stated he feels BOCES is not running their finances prudently. Dr. Zeh stated he doesn't understand why this has to do with our taxpayers. Mr. Johnson stated that he requested this information for the board at the October 13th meeting. He then emailed the information that he was requesting to Mrs. Todd. Mrs. Todd stated that the email went into her SPAM folder that is why she didn't see the email in a timely fashion. Mrs. Todd saw Mr. Burns, District Superintendent in passing and mentioned this request and Mr. Burns informed her that the board member could email him directly for this information.

Mr. Durant stated that at the last board meeting there was no discussion on the request and no one questioned why Mr. Johnson was asking for this information. Mr. Durant shared that he is not interested in receiving this information. Mr. Johnson stated that he has a concern for his taxpayers that BOCES is inflating their budget. Mr. Durant and Mr. Martin shared that they would like to have Mr. Burns come to our next meeting. Mr. Johnson stated that his personal experience with Mr. Burns is that he doesn't trust him. Mrs. Todd stated that she will contact Mr. Burns and ask him if he would be willing to attend a board meeting.

- 10-90 Administrative/Board Reports
- Mr. Warden discussed with the board the following:
- The winter concert was held on December 8th.
 - The Class of 2013 held a Spaghetti Dinner prior to the concert.
 - Thanked the Board for their support for administrators and teachers to attend the Professional Learning Communities conferences.
 - An after-school Drama club will be putting on a play Monday, December 20th.
 - There will be an assembly on December 21st for grades 5-8 on Drug awareness.
 - Senior privileges are being used. Seniors having been helping out with the Heuvelton Free Library Giving Tree.
- Mrs. Belleau discussed with the board the following:
- Buster the Bus visited the Kindergarten classrooms on November 19th.
 - The winners of the High-Five Drawing at the Elementary awards ceremony were Emma Ladouceur, Emily French & Braxton Woods.
 - The winter concert was held on December 10th. This year there was a change in the performances to accommodate people in the auditorium. K-2 performances took place, there was a 15 minute intermission and then 3-6 performed.
- Mrs. Todd discussed with the board the following:
- A handout was given on the results of the 2nd Characteristic of Highly Effective Schools.
 - A handout was given from Ferrara, Reitz, Wilson. Mrs. Todd attended a presentation from this law firm.

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This is something to look at because of upcoming negotiations.

- Regent Dawson Dinner update
- The Leadership Training in Albany with Dr. Michael Fullen was phenomenal.
- A ½ day early dismissal at 11:15 on January 14th will be for phone training, Plan C information and team work.

Dr. Zeh stated that he would like input on what the district is saving with Plan C. Mr. Durant stated that the district is not going to know premiums at this time.

- K-12 foundations. The Heuvelton Alumni Association will be meeting with Diane DuFrane on January 13th at 12:30 in the Superintendent's office if any board member is interested in attending.

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| 10-91 | Motion #7
Half-day Early Dismissal | To approve a half-day Early Dismissal on January 14, 2010 at 11:15 a.m. for the purpose of training for all faculty and staff on RONCO – new communication system and offer updates on Plan C and HAS accounts by Stephen Foy, Insurance Consultant.
Moved: Martin Seconded: Davis
Six present, six ayes. Carried |
| 10-92 | Public Forum | No one from the public addressed the board at this time. |
| 10-93 | Motion #8
Convene Executive
Session | To approve convening an Executive Session for the purpose of discussing employment of a particular individual.
Moved: Durant Seconded: Martin
Six present, six ayes. Carried |

Executive Session convened at 9:51 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted



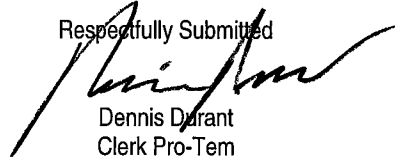
Tessa E. Herron
District Clerk

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| 10-94 | Motion #9
Clerk Pro-Tem | To appoint Dennis Durant as Clerk Pro-Tem.
Moved: Davis Seconded: Martin
Six present, six ayes. Carried |
| 10-95 | Motion #10
End Executive Session | To approve ending Executive Session at 10:15 p.m.
Moved: Johnson Seconded: Davis
Six present, six ayes. Carried |

Executive Session ended at 10:15 p.m.

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| 10-96 | Motion #11
Adjournment | To approve adjourning the meeting at 10:18 p.m.
Moved: Zeh Seconded: Davis
Six present, six ayes. Carried |
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Respectfully Submitted



Dennis Durant
Clerk Pro-Tem