

Heuvelton, NY 13654

A Regular Meeting of the Board of Education of the Heuvelton Central School District was held in the Multi-Media Room on Wednesday, February 26, 2014. The Meeting was called to order by President Michael Davis at 6:32 p.m.

Members present: Michael Davis, President, Andrew Martin, Vice President, Darcy Backus, Michelle McGaw and Thomas Nichols

Members absent: Keith Carmany and Dennis Durant

Also present: Susan Todd, Superintendent, Jesse Coburn, 7-12 Principal, Randy Johnson, Interim PreK-6 Principal, Michael Robinson, Assistant Business Manager and Tessa Herron, District Clerk

Guests: C. Smithers, S. Bush, A. Calkins, D. Hale, S. Johnston, A. Williams, N. Wilson-Mashaw, A. MacAbee, A. Mitchell, A. Smithers and S. Ewart

- 13-111 Motion #1
Adopt revised agenda To adopt the revised agenda.
Moved: Martin Seconded: McGaw
Four present, four ayes. Carried
- 13-112 Public Forum
Tony Williams expressed his thanks to the district for allowing them to host the youth basketball tournaments. Mr. Williams thanked the custodial staff. Mr. Williams informed the Board what this youth basketball association does and where all money that is raised goes. Mr. Williams shared that all money raised goes back to the team by purchasing uniforms, all entry fees into other tournaments, etc. Mr. Williams also asked if the district would recognize and thank the other volunteers in our district such as Bernie Breault. Mr. Williams asked the Board to reconsider approving Charlie McCormick as volunteer assistant for the Girls varsity team in the fall. Mr. Williams spoke very highly of Mr. McCormick and offered up his support for him. He stated that he would be willing to provide a letter of recommendation for his appointment in the fall as a volunteer.

Mr. Martin expressed his personal thanks to Mr. Williams for volunteering and coaching these students. Mr. Martin shared that he was pleased to see that the gym is packed for the 5th & 6th graders.

Mrs. Calkins shared that she would like to back up what Mr. Williams said regarding Mr. McCormick. Mrs. Calkins stated that her daughter had him as a coach and if we didn't have people like Mr. McCormick here to strengthen the young girls and boys that participate in basketball those students would not be participating in other programs that Heuvelton offers. Mrs. Calkins stated that she would also be willing to provide a letter of recommendation for his appointment in the fall as a volunteer.
- 13-113 Motion #2
Approve consent agenda To accept the recommendations on the consent agenda for the February 26, 2014 meeting which included:
- To approve the minutes of the January 22, 2014, Regular Meeting of the Board of Education.
 - To accept the Financial Reports for the period ending January 31, 2014.
 - To approve the Budget Transfer Report for the period ending January 31, 2014.
 - To accept the Treasurer's Report for the period ending January 31, 2014.
 - To accept the Warrants for the period ending January 31, 2014, as previously approved by the Claims Auditor.
 - To approve arranging for the appropriate programs and services for District Students with disabilities as previously approved by the District's Committee on Special Education.
 - To approve the 41j option of the New York State and Local Employees' Retirement System as previously approved in the CSEA Negotiated Agreement: BE IT RESOLVED; that the Heuvelton Central School Board of Education of the Heuvelton Central School District does hereby elect to provide the additional pension benefits of Section 41-j of the Retirement and Social Security Law, as presently or hereafter amended.
 - To accept the donation in the amount of \$188.04 from the Heuvelton Alumni Association to fund the Best IDEA award supporting the purchase of materials for the Michael Shoulders author visit on March 18, 2014.
 - To approve the 2014-2015 St. Lawrence-Lewis Counties School calendar.
- Moved: Martin Seconded: Nichols
Five present, five ayes. Carried
- Mr. Nichols asked where the district stood in relation to snow days. Mrs. Todd assured him that the district has only used 3 and that there are 3 days left.
- 13-114 Motion # 3
Personnel To approve the following individual as a Spring 2014 volunteer assistant:
- Tony Williams – Girls Modified softball volunteer assistant
- Moved: Nichols Seconded: Martin
Five present, five ayes. Carried
- 13-115 Motion # 4
Personnel To accept, with regrets, the resignation of Stephen Knowlton as Head of Buildings & Grounds for the purpose of retirement effective August 31, 2014.
Moved: Nichols Seconded: McGaw
Five present, five ayes. Carried

- 13-116 Motion # 5
Personnel
- To accept, with regrets, the resignation of Jessica Hayes as Monitor effective March 10, 2014.
Moved: Martin Seconded: Backus
Five present, five ayes. Carried
- 13-117 Information
Administrative/Board
Reports
- Mr. Coburn discussed with the Board the following:
- Girls Varsity Basketball is experiencing such great success.
 - Assemblies were held today for each grade level 7-12 to review behavior expectations.
 - The 7th & 8th grade students were able to hear what two African Americans experienced growing up in St. Louis, Missouri due to segregation and Jim Crow laws. This took place through the Polycorn system.
 - Two upcoming Staff Development days. Half day early release for students on Thursday, March 20th and full day regional Staff Development on Friday, March 21st.
- Mr. Johnson discussed with the Board the following:
- Read across America week starts on March 3rd there will be different activities taking place throughout the week.
 - March 4th Freddy the Fire Truck will be here for 1st grade.
 - On March 5th middle and high School students can sign up to read to elementary students
 - March 6th will be a character parade.
 - The author Michael Shoulders will be visiting the district on March 18th. Mr. Shoulders will present to grades PreK-6. Mr. Johnson thanked the PTA and Alumni Association for providing funds to purchase eBooks and regular books for the library.
- Mrs. Todd discussed with the Board the following:
- Preliminary Budget Forecast – first round of what the Governor is proposing that the district is receiving for aid. Mrs. Todd explained that foundation aid is frozen and has been frozen several years now. She encouraged everyone to contact legislators about eliminating the GEA. The Board discussed and decided to take the budget document home and look over and have further discussions at the March 12th Budget meeting.
 - Board Self-Evaluation Results – one evaluation is still missing. This has been moved to be discussed at the next Board meeting.
 - Homework policy committee meeting was moved due to the Girls basketball game falling on that date so there is no update. There will be a committee meeting prior to our next Board meeting.
 - Elementary Principal search – 15 people applied; only 10 fully completed the application materials. The search committee meets tomorrow night to go through application materials.
 - Strengthening Teacher's Leader Effectiveness Grant discussion. The district has selected the following teachers as District Teacher Leaders: Michelle Desormeaux, Sonja Johnston, Kellie Giorgi, Angie Calkins, Nancy Mashaw, Mary Rasmussen and Debbie Hale
 - Reminder – Superintendent evaluation due at March 26th meeting.
 - Legislative Breakfast has been cancelled.
- Mr. Nichols would like to see what the district is doing regarding the purchase of textbooks. Mr. Nichols stated that he would be happy to see the district spend more money so that the teachers receive the support they need and get rid of the worksheets that are being used. The principals will ask teachers what they would like and prefer. Mr. Nichols stated that if the district needs to put more money in textbooks he's ready to do that.
- Mr. Nichols expressed his interest in possibly having graduates that come in and speak to 7th & 8th grade students about their accomplishments. Mr. Nichols expressed that the district has had some graduates do very well and he feels that they could inspire the younger students to pursue more programs. Mrs. Todd suggested bringing this idea to the Heuvelton Alumni Association to reach out to graduates.
- Mr. Nichols also shared a concern that parents have come to him about parent/teacher Conferences. Parents have expressed to him that it is difficult to take time off from work for afternoon conferences. Mr. Nichols shared that he would like to see evening conferences take place to help with this. Mrs. Todd explained that administrators are working on putting schedules together to give teachers a half day in morning or afternoon depending on their preference and possibly having evening conferences.
- 13-118 Public Forum
- Ms. Smithers asked if in the future the fall parent conferences could align with the first report card being sent out. Parent conferences currently take place a few weeks prior to report cards being sent out. Mrs. Todd stated that she was not aware that conferences didn't align with report cards going out and that she would look into it.
- 13-119 Motion # 6
Thank you
- Mr. Davis made a motion to publicly thank all of the volunteers and assistants for the hard work and dedication to the Heuvelton Central School District.
Moved: Davis Seconded: Martin
Five present, five ayes. Carried

13-120 Motion # 7 To approve convening an Executive Session at 7:31 p.m. for the purpose of discussing employment of a particular individual
Convene Executive Law and for the purpose of discussing collective negotiations pursuant to article 14 of the Civil Service Law and appoint
Session Susan Todd as Clerk Pro-Tem.
Moved: Martin Seconded: Backus
Five present, five ayes. Carried

Respectfully Submitted



Tessa E. Herron
District Clerk

13-121 Motion # 8 To approve ending Executive Session at 8:40 p.m.
End Executive Session Five present, five ayes. Carried

13-122 Motion # 9 To approve adjourning the meeting at 8:45 p.m.
Adjournment Moved: Nichols Seconded: McGaw
Five present, five ayes. Carried

Respectfully Submitted



Susan E. Todd
Clerk Pro-Tem