**Heuvelton Central School** 

# **BOARD OF EDUCATION**

March 9, 2011

Heuvelton, NY 13654

A Regular Meeting of the Board of Education of the Heuvelton Central School District was held in Middle School Computer Lab on Wednesday evening March 9, 2011.

The Meeting was called to order by President John Zeh at 7:31 p.m.

Members present:

Dr. John Zeh, President, Andrew Martin, Vice President, Michael Davis, Dennis Durant, Timothy Johnson, Richard

Moore and Thomas Nichols

Members absent:

Also present:

Susan Todd, Superintendent; Cynthia Belleau, Elementary Principal/CSE Chairperson, Michael Warden, MS/HS

Principal, Tessa Herron, District Clerk and Carol LaSala, Business Manager

Guests:

P. Hebert, T. Brothers, A. Hamilton, Z. Abar, C. Bennett, A. Bennett, A. Sloan, V. Hollis, L. Gardner, S. Matheson,

C. Cole, S. Murdock and D. Hale

10-145 Motion # 1

Adopt Proposed Agenda

To adopt the proposed agenda. Moved: Martin Seconded: Johnson

Six present, six ayes. Carried

10-146 Public Forum Mr. Davis expressed his congratulations towards our Athletic Teams.

### Dennis Durant entered the meeting at 7:32 p.m.

10-147

Information

**BOCES Service Request** 

Discussion

Mrs. Todd discussed with the Board the BOCES Service request form for the 2011-2012 school year. The final commitment form is due to BOCES at the end of March. Mrs. Todd explained that there are not a lot of changes from last year. The Instructional Technology Coach will be reduced to a 0.6 and the additional 0.2 will be billing through invoice. In the end this will be the same cost to the district. Mr. Durant asked about counseling services being dropped on the commitment form. Mrs. Belleau explained that students do not need the services anymore. Mr. Martin asked why the Adaptive Physical Education students are not being serviced in the district. Mrs. Belleau explained that we do not offer these all day services/programs at our district for those grade levels.

Mr. Nichols asked about the 12.1.1 521 code that is on the BOCES Service request form. Mrs. Belleau explained that this is a program with 12 students, 1 teacher and 1 teaching assistant. Mr. Johnson asked about our current P.E. teacher doing any extra with those services. Mrs. Belleau explained that currently we do not have any students that need her services. Mrs. Curry has done some consulting. Mr. Johnson also asked how the Instructional Technology Coach will be paid for the 4th day. Mrs. Todd stated that BOCES will be invoiced for that day.

10-148

Information Second draft of Budget Mrs. Todd discussed with the Board the second draft of the 2011-2012 Budget. Mrs. Todd stated that this budget reflects some cuts. Mrs. Todd went over the proposed Instructional cuts and explained the K-12 schedule of the Art Teacher. Mrs. Todd discussed some possible consolidation of duties such as: Mrs. Belleau would supervise Pre-K -5 students, Mr. Warden would supervise 6-12 students and take over the Athletic Director duties. Mrs. Todd also explained Athletic Mergers that could take place with Lacrosse, Football and Golf.

Mr. Durant asked about the Job Ed. Funds. Mrs. Todd explained that this is money from the Federal Government that would allow us to keep some positions. Mr. Nichols asked about any positions being cut have we figured unemployment rates. Ms. LaSala has been prepared for this. Mr. Johnson asked about the cut of the Business Education teacher if all his current classes will be absorbed. Mr. Warden explained that all/most of the classes will be picked up. Mrs. Hebert will be taking on 1-2 classes. Mrs. Todd explained the Teaching Assistant position being cut is the TA that works with our AIS program and services. Mr. Johnson asked about the 0.5 Art Position how will the High School teacher absorb these classes. Mrs. Todd explained that there would be separate classes for K-6 and possibly looking to merge 7th and 8th grade.

Mr. Johnson asked Mr. Warden how he is going to handle being Athletic Director on top of being Middle/High School Principal. Mr. Johnson stated that he is concerned with Mr. Warden being overloaded. Mr. Johnson suggested lowering the AD stipend. Mr. Johnson expressed that he has heard positive reviews from parents regarding the Football merger with OFA. Mr. Durant expressed his concern with the merger for Lacrosse as the community has raised money to start up a Lacrosse program for our district. Mr. Durant stated that he would like the district to look at all sports.

Ms. LaSala went over Property Tax sheet. Dr. Zeh asked about our timetable for budget approval. Ms. LaSala stated that the last date for possible approval is April 18th.

Ms. LaSala discussed fuel bids for next year. Ms. LaSala explained that there was a 38.7% increase for Diesel. She stated because the Gas is fluctuating this can be acted on at the next meeting. Ms. LaSala stated that she Heuvelton, NY 13654

needs to know the direction the Board would like to go in by Friday, March 11th. Mr. Nichols asked how much we use in a year. Ms. LaSala stated that we don't use 25,000 she estimates around 22,000. The Board agrees to go with the fixed rate of Diesel.

The Board of Education went over the Expenses part of the budget line by line. Ms. LaSala pointed out that the district reduced the equipment line for maintenance as Mr. Knowlton doesn't foresee any equipment purchases needed. Ms. LaSala stated that there was a reduction in the Electrical line due to SMEC. Mr. Martin suggested possibly shutting down power to buildings because there are ways to receive money for it. Mr. Davis asked what the Phone Interconnect is. Ms. LaSala explained that it is part of the BOCES commitment form. Ms. LaSala stated that there is an increase in Professional Development due to the new regulations put forth by the Race to the Top and substitutes needed to cover for training. Mr. Johnson asked about salary lines. Mr. Johnson stated he would like to see \$0 budgeted and \$0 negotiated. Mrs. Todd explained that an increase was budgeted keeping in mind the legal obligations of paying teachers their step increase if a contract is not settled. Mr. Johnson asked for information regarding the total overall with increases. Ms. LaSala stated that she would provide this. Mr. Nichols asked why the monitors have jumped to \$11,248. Mrs. Todd informed him that it depends on the classifications. Ms. LaSala pointed out that the total budget has decreased from last year.

10-149 Motion #2

District Students with Disabilities

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 and the District's Preschool Committee on Special Education.

Moved: Nichols

Seconded: Davis

Seven present, seven ayes. Carried

10-150 Motion #3

Interscholastic Sports Merger To approve the request for our district to merge with Ogdensburg City School District for the following sport for the 2011-2012 school year:

Football (All levels)

Moved: Davis

vis Seconded: Nichols

Seven present, seven ayes. Carried

10-151 Information Administrative/Board reports Mrs. Todd discussed with the Test Data 2000-01 – 2009-2010 NYS Grades 4-8 ELA & Math. Mrs. Todd informed the Board that this information has been shared with the Shared Decision Making Committee. Mrs. Todd stated that there is a plan in place. As explained in the report SED adopted new procedures by raising the score for students to be considered proficient. Mrs. Todd stated that we have made yearly progress. We are still a school in good standings. Mrs. Todd expressed that the articles in the paper didn't adequately explain.

Dr. Zeh discussed with the Board feedback on the Community Focus Group. Dr. Zeh explained that a facilitator from K-12 Insight came up on March 3<sup>rd</sup> met with a team of administrators, a team of teachers then the community group in the evening. Mrs. Sloan spoke up from the Public and stated that she was pleased with Mr. Farooqui as the facilitator. Mrs. Sloan expressed that the district needs to take the suggestions into consideration or it was a waste of time and money. Mrs. Sloan expressed that there should be more meetings to take place. Mrs. Todd recommended organizing a Community Café on a Saturday morning for Community members, BOE members and Administration/Teachers to meet to discuss issues. Dr. Zeh informed the Board that Mr. Farooqui expressed he has great expectations for our school.

Mrs. Todd thanked the Board for their continued support for Professional Development as she attended the NYSCOSS Mid-Winter Conference.

Mr. Warden discussed with the Board a plan being developed to collaborate with Canton College so the English 12 class students will receive college credit for a class. If this were to happen this would give students 2 college credits under their belt. Mr. Warden was part of a meeting with Dr. Kennedy, President of SUNY Canton College and Dr. Kennedy stated that this would of no cost to our district the first year. This course would be offered as an online course through SUNY Canton but being taught by Ms. Coller. Mr. Warden will be meeting with Dr. Kennedy again on March 24th.

10-152 Public Forum

Mr. Nichols asked if Mrs. Todd had time to review the email he sent regarding mandate relief. Mrs. Todd stated that she briefly looked over it but will look into it further.

Ann Bennett stated that she feels the cut of the 0.5 Elementary Art teacher is atrocious. Ms. Bennett expressed that there may be other ways to cut costs. She stated that when she drives by the district there are lights on throughout the building when no one is in the building. Ms. Bennett doesn't want to see High School art electives cut because now the teacher has to teach K-12. Mrs. Todd explained that possibly combining 7th & 8th grade for one period would free up 3 periods to teach HS classes. Ms. Bennett expressed that having class sizes of 25 is not productive. Ms. Bennett also stated that she finds it atrocious that the MS/HS Principal be the Athletic Director and the district needs to look at other ways to gain or save money.

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### Executive Session convened at 9:40 a.m.

10-153

Motion # 4

Convene Executive Session

Catherine Bennett informed the Board that the School Garden project is getting set up. Ms. Bennett stated that to save money by using milk cartons to transplant seeds which would save on garbage.

To approve convening an Executive Session for the purpose of discussing collective negotiations pursuant to

article 14 of the Civil Service Law and the purpose of discussing employment of a particular individual at 9:40

Moved: Martin

Seconded: Durant

Seven present, seven ayes. Carried

Respectfully Submitted

10-154

Motion # 5

Clerk Pro-Tem

Tessa E. Herron District Clerk

10-155

Motion #6

To appoint Dennis Durant as Clerk Pro-Tem. Moved: Davis

End Executive Session

Seconded: Moore

Seven present, seven ayes. Carried

### Executive Session ended at 10:50 p.m.

10-156

Motion #7

Adjournment

To approve ending Executive Session at 10:50 p.m.

Moved: Martin

Seconded: Nichols

Seven present, seven ayes. Carried

To approve adjourning the meeting at 10:52 p.m.

Moved: Davis

Seconded: Martin

Seven present, seven ayes. Carried

Dennis Durent Clerk Pro-Tem