

GENERAL ADMINISTRATION DIVISION

Report No. 2

OGDENSBURG CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT  
OGDENSBURG, NEW YORK

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SUBJECT: Sports Merger Fee Schedule Discussion

DATE: July 5, 2016

REASON FOR BOARD CONSIDERATION:

In support of the Ogdensburg City School Districts' decision to share services and allow out-of-district students to participate in the districts' High School sports programs, the Board of Education adopted a per student fee for out-of-district student participation in all sports offered by the district.

FACTS AND ANALYSIS:

To help defray the cost to provide out-of-district students the opportunity to participate in High School sports programs not offered by their home district, the district adopted a sports merger fee schedule on June 18, 2012. Since the Heuvelton Central School District is questioning the total cost of the 2016-2017 sports merger fee with OFA and Section X rules and regulations for sports mergers, the board will discuss both issues. Attached, please find a letter from Heuvelton Central School District Superintendent, Susan E. Todd and a spread sheet with the total costs from 2013-14 through 2016-17 for Heuvelton sports mergers with OFA.

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

No action necessary discussion only.

APPROVED FOR PRESENTATION TO THE BOARD:

  
Superintendent

TMV/alf  
Attachment

# Heuvelton Central School District

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**Respectful**



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June 27, 2016

Mr. Timothy Vernsey  
Superintendent of Schools  
Ogdensburg City School District  
1100 State Street  
Ogdensburg, NY 13669

Dear Tim,

At the June 22, 2016 Heuvelton CSD Board of Education meeting, the Board reviewed the cost that the Ogdensburg City School District is presently charging for students who play for your sports teams through mergers. As you are aware, the Ogdensburg City School District's Board of Education adopted a Sports Merger Fee Schedule on June 18, 2012. According to that fee schedule the estimated cost per student for a Varsity sport is \$600, for Junior Varsity \$400 and for Modified \$300.

The Heuvelton CSD Board of Education is grateful for the opportunities that sports mergers offer students here in the North Country, but the Board is becoming concerned with the amount of money that each year rises due to merger costs with your district. I have attached a spreadsheet showing the cost for Heuvelton per year for 2013-14, 2014-15, 2015-16 and the projected cost for 2016-17. As you can see the jump from 2013-14 of \$7,920 to the projected cost of \$25,800 for this coming year is dramatic.

I have been in contact with Carl Normandin, Executive Director of Section X Athletics, about the rules regarding sports mergers and he has confirmed that the district sending students cannot charge them for the costs incurred by mergers, nor can they limit the number of students who wish to try out for the sport. As a result of the popularity of the sports offered by OFA, our district is finding these increased costs burdensome.

The Heuvelton CSD Board Members are asking your Board Members to review its decision to charge a merger fee and consider reducing the amount. The Board would appreciate it if you would add this to the agenda of your next BOE meeting as an item of discussion. The Board is also requesting an itemized breakdown of the cost of each sport OFA offers and a justification for the cost found on the OFA Sports Merger Fee Schedule. The Heuvelton Board would also appreciate you sharing with your Board that not all school districts in our region charge merger fees.

Also, it appears that recently some coaches from your district have been encouraging Heuvelton students to come play certain sports at OFA. The Board is concerned that increased numbers in students playing at OFA will reduce the number of students participating in the sports offered at Heuvelton, which could negatively affect those programs. According to Carl Normandin recruitment from one school district to another is prohibited. The Board would appreciate if you would look into that as well.

I am hopeful that we can come to an agreement that keeps the door open for opportunities of Heuvelton students playing on OFA teams. Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions regarding the requests outlined in this letter. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Susan E. Todd, Superintendent

cc: Mr. Ronald Johnson, President of the Ogdensburg City School District BOE

Heuvelton mergers with OFA

Estimates

	2013-14	2013-14	2013-14	2014-15	2014-15	2014-15	2015-16	2015-16	2015-16	2016-17	2016-17	2016-17
	# students	cost/student	total cost	# students	cost/student	total cost	# students	cost/student	total cost	# students	cost/student	total cost
<b>Fall Sports Mergers</b>												
Cross-Country/Varsity	2	360	720	3	420	1260	3	480	1440	4	600	2400
Football/Varsity	0	0	0	2	420	840	4	480	1920	9	600	5400
Football/Junior Varsity	3	240	720	3	280	840	2	320	640	3	400	1200
Football/Modified	5	180	900	3	210	630	1	240	240	2	300	600
Swimming/Varsity							2	480	960	4	600	2400
Swimming/Modified	2	180	360	4	210	840	1	240	240	0	300	0
Volleyball/Varsity							1	480	480	2	600	1200
Cross-Country/Modified	0	0	0	1	210	210		240	0		300	0
			\$ 2,700			\$ 4,620			\$ 5,920			\$ 13,200
<b>Winter Sports Mergers</b>												
Hockey/Varsity	2	360	720	2	420	840	2	480	960	2	600	1200
Indoor Track&Field/Varsity	4	360	1440	3	420	1260	5	480	2400	5	600	3000
Wrestling/Varsity	1	360	360	1	420	420	2	480	960	2	600	1200
Wrestling/Modified	2	180	360	3	210	630		240	0		300	0
			\$ 2,880			\$ 3,150			\$ 4,320			\$ 5,400
<b>Spring Sports Mergers</b>												
Modified Lacrosse												
Outdoor Track&Field/Varsity	5	360	1800	7	420	2940	1	240	240	1	300	300
Outdoor Track&Field/Modified	3	180	540	1	210	210	0	480	5280	11	600	6600
			\$ 2,340			\$ 3,150			\$ 5,520			\$ 7,200
<b>TOTAL COST FOR YEAR</b>			\$ 7,920			\$ 10,920			\$ 15,760			\$ 25,800

TOTAL BUDGETED

10,000

15,000

20,000