What kind of dog is Heidi?

When Mike’s family was deciding what breed of dog would be right for them, they considered what each person in the family wanted. Mike’s Mom wanted a dog that wouldn’t shed very much. Mike’s Dad wanted a small-to medium-size dog. Mike and his sister wanted a dog with lots of energy to run and play with them outside.

Based on what you know about Mike’s family, which of the breeds below do you think Heidi is?* (Circle your answer.)

I’m a friendly and mischievous medium-size dog. I was originally bred to pull sleds in the arctic. That’s why my soft coat is so dense — to help keep me warm. Occasionally it “blows.” (That’s when I shed fuzzy clumps of fur.)

I’m a dog who loves to be the center of my family’s attention. Every few months I go to the groomer to have my wiry coat cared for, but I don’t shed much. I’m small but sturdy with energy to spare! I’m a devoted playmate.

I’m a very stocky but not too tall. I have a nice short coat that only needs brushing once a week. Light exercise is enough for me, and in the summer I prefer to be inside with the air-conditioning.

By looking at me it’s not hard to see why I’m called Great. I’m one of the largest dogs, I can grow to be more than 3 feet tall from my toes to the tips of my ears. I’m calm and well-behaved in the house, but please make sure I get plenty of exercise!

Can you think of other breeds of dogs that would fit the Canuto’s description? (A Beagle, for example, is also a medium-size, energetic dog with a short coat that doesn’t shed much.)

*Breed descriptions can be found in The Complete Dog Book For Kids.