

MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING  
BOARD OF EDUCATION  
HOMER COMMUNITY SCHOOL  
May 13, 2019

A meeting of the Board of Education of Homer Community School was convened in open and public session on Monday, May 13, 2019 at 8:00 p.m. in the Library at Homer Community School, Homer, Nebraska. The following board members were present or absent:

Present: Byron Hall, Kristina Nelsen, Aaron Reis, Paul Tighe and Carrie Vanschoiack

Absent: Tyler Kirkholm

Administration present: Superintendent Gregg Cruickshank, Principal Lora Crowe and Board Secretary Trish Rohde

Visitors present: Several

Notice of the meeting was given in advance by publication and/or posting in accordance with the Board approved method for giving notice of meetings. Notice of this meeting was given in to all members of the Board of Education. The Secretary of the Board maintains a list of the news media requesting notification of meetings and advance notification to the listed media of the time and place of the meeting and the subjects to be discussed at this meeting was provided. Availability of the agenda was communicated in the publicized notice and a current copy of the Agenda was maintained as stated in the publicized notice. All proceedings of the Board of Education, except as hereinafter noted, were taken while the convened meeting was open to the attendance of the public.

I. Call Meeting to Order and Notification of Open Meeting Law

The meeting was duly called to order and the Chairperson announced & informed the public that a current copy of the Open Meetings Act is posted in the Library.

II. Roll Call – All members are present except Kirkholm.

Motion was made by Reis and seconded by Vanschoiack to excuse member Kirkholm from the meeting. On roll call vote, the Board voted as follows:

Voting for: Reis, Hall, Vanschoiack, Nelsen, Tighe

Motion carried 5-0.

III. Approval of Agenda and Changes to Agenda

Mr. Cruickshank as to remove Discussion Item 5B from the agenda.

Motion was made by Nelsen and seconded by Reis to approve the agenda as amended.

On roll call vote, the Board voted as follows:

Voting for: Hall, Vanschoiack, Nelsen, Tighe, Reis

The motion carried 5-0.

IV. Consent Agenda

1. Approve the Minutes of the April 8th regular meeting.

2. Approve claims and accounts and payroll expense of \$458,346.61 from General Fund.

Motion was made by Vanschoiack and seconded by Reis to approve all Consent Agenda items. On roll call vote, the Board voted as follows:

Voting for: Vanschoiack, Nelsen, Tighe, Reis, Hall

The motion carried 5-0.

V. Audiences

A. Dave Dziurawiec, Matthew Georgesen, Josh Shadbolt, Katie Baker, Skylar Moe and Raegan Modlin participated in a 5-day experience at the NASA Space Center in Houston.

Homer was the first Nebraska school to participate. It gave the students the opportunity to think outside the box and to use science and math skills by creating something to use in the future. Mr. Dziurawiec is looking at a tour of an Atomic Field site for next year's HAL trip.

C. Nick Leucart and Cassie Schwier reviewed the LSI contract with the board and percentage of students eating school lunch. They try to encourage students to eat healthy foods and snacks by supplying a variety of foods on the salad/veggie bar. They will once again send the start back to school letter. They suggested that the kitchen make a sack lunch for all field trips taken by students. A review of pricing for meals and ala carte will be submitted to Mr. Cruickshank for board approval next month.

## VI. Communications

### A. Administrative Reports:

Mrs. Crowe reported she had 32 award winners at the Pride Assembly that qualified for lunch with the Principal. The tutoring program ended on 5-2-19 with 14 students participating. The elementary students have been going to various field trips this month: 4<sup>th</sup> grade to Lincoln and Dakota-Thurston Fairgrounds, Kindergarten to Lauritzen Gardens in Omaha, 5<sup>th</sup> grade to Aqua Fest at WSC and Washington Pavilion in Sioux Falls, and 2<sup>nd</sup> grade to the Omaha Zoo. We have had 2 fire drills and also bus evacuation drills this month. The Preschool graduation will be on 5-21-19 at 2:00 p.m. The elementary track meet will be on 5-22-19 at 9:00 a.m. The PreK Advisory Committee will meet on May 14<sup>th</sup> and Jump Rope for Heart will be at the morning assembly to pass out prizes to students.

Superintendent Cruickshank reported that he will be in Honduras June 6– 12. The current enrollment is at 388. The legislative attempts to reform property tax imbalance to fund PK-12 education have failed.

Celebrations: In May students obtaining a 3.5 gpa or higher were awarded with the Lewis and Clark Principal awards. The Lewis and Clark Superintendent Award was given for scoring 28 or higher on the ACT Test. Three students were recognized for NSAA Academic All-State Recognition Spring Sports. Several students received Fine Arts Students of the Year awards. We had 2 students qualify for State Track. The Optimist Club presented a \$1,500 scholarship to Brooklyn Schmidt.

B. There was no public comment.

## VII. Discussion Items

- a. Building and Grounds update: The quote to install the 2 HVAC units is \$21,827 and the cost is \$11,717 to install the new VAV panel. Contractors have been in the building regarding remodeling/repurposing of space. Separate bids will be taken for the classroom to be restored to a full-size classroom and a bathroom in the new preschool room. Bids will be taken on carpet removal and flooring installed in two classrooms. Jake Brand and Jake Nelsen will be assisting Bill and Ruby with summer projects.
- b. Staffing: The personnel reductions and additional staff were reviewed. Four paras have been hired – Traci Criss for PreK para, Hollie Waldee for Elementary SPED para, Jonah Schmitt to assist in Kindergarten and Brent Schmidt as a general para. Next month a MTSS review will be presented to the board.

VIII. Action Items

A. Motion was made by Reis and seconded by Vanschoiack to approve the Business Manager/Board Secretary compensation for 2019-2020 to \$53,000. On roll call vote, the board voted as follows:

Voting for: Reis, Hall, Vanschoiack, Nelsen, Tighe

The motion carried 5-0.

B. Motion was made by Vanschoiack and seconded by Reis to approve the Teacher Evaluation documents and procedures. On roll call vote, the board voted as follows:

Voting for: Reis, Hall, Vanschoiack, Nelsen, Tighe

The motion carried 5-0.

C. The nutrition program pricing will be tabled until next month.

D. Motion was made by Nelsen and seconded by Reis to approve the contract for Jill Huisenga as the Science Teacher for the 2019-20 school year. On roll call vote, the board voted as follows:

Voting for: Vanschoiack, Nelsen, Tighe, Reis, Hall

The motion carried 5-0.

Motion was made by Reis and seconded by Vanschoiack to approve the contract for Kaydee Dunker as the second Preschool Teacher for the 2019-20 school year. On roll call vote, the board voted as follows:

Voting for: Nelsen, Tighe, Reis, Hall, Vanschoiack

The motion carried 5-0

IX. Time/Date of next meeting

The next regular board meeting is set for Monday, June 17, 2019 at 8:00 p.m.

X. Motion to Adjourn

Motion was made by Vanschoiack and seconded by Nelsen to adjourn the meeting at 9:55 p.m. on May 13, 2019.

Voting for: Reis, Hall, Vanschoiack, Nelsen, Tighe

The motion carried 5-0.

The meeting was duly adjourned.

Dated this 13th day of May, 2019.

ATTEST:  
Kristina Nelsen  
Secretary

Dakota County School District #31R  
a/k/a Homer Community School  
BY: Paul Tighe, President