

MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING
BOARD OF EDUCATION
HOMER COMMUNITY SCHOOL
April 12, 2021

A meeting of the Board of Education of Homer Community School was convened in open and public session on Monday, April 12, 2021 at 7:00 p.m. in the Library at Homer Community School, Homer, Nebraska. The following board members were present or absent:

Present: Byron Hall, Tyler Kirkholm, Aaron Reis, Paul Tighe, Carrie Vanschoiack,

Absent: Kristina Nelsen

Administration present: Superintendent Gregg Cruickshank, Principal Seth Lembke and District Secretary Amy Brand

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 Nelsen. Motion was made by Kirkholm and seconded by Reis to approve the absence of Member Nelsen from the meeting. On roll call vote, the board voted as follows:

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

The motion carried 5-0.

III. Approval of Agenda and Changes to Agenda

Motion was made by Vanschoiack and seconded by Reis to approve the agenda as presented. On roll call vote, the Board voted as follows:

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

The motion carried 5-0.

IV. Consent Agenda

1. Approve the Minutes of the March 8 regular meeting and the March 22 special meeting.

2. Approve claims.

3. Discuss, consider and take all necessary action to approve all items presented on the Consent Agenda.

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

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

The motion carried 5-0.

V. Audiences/Discussion

a. Dean Carroll from Mid-State/First Student Transportation shared what they have to offer for transportation services. The board decided by consensus to move forward working with them for next year. Durham is leaving the area after losing the SSC contract to MS/FS.

b. Matt Erion from BCDM Architects updated the board on the initial phases of the building project. Staff are asked to complete the survey. From that survey, information will be used to have conversations with the staff on April 21 and the board and community at a later date.

c. Jeff Reed followed up on the laptop refresh and wifi upgrades in the building.

d. Speech Coach Ashley Ziska thanked the board and administration for their support in allowing Homer to host District Speech. Out of 16 events, 14 went to finals and four went to State. The three students attending State were Shelby Benson in two events, Bradie Johnson and Brooklynn Schmidt. Bradie Johnson thanked the board and administration for their support and also performed her humorous speech. Shelby Benson performed her Dramatic Interpretation speech. Both ladies did an excellent job.

VI. Communications

A. Administration Reports

Principal Lembke reported that Secondary grades are improving and moving in the right direction. Students are making better use of homeroom time working with teachers in subjects they are failing. He also reported Prom went very well and commended Lynn Rich and Brittany White on the phenomenal job they did organizing the event. Track season is underway and Principal Lembke reported that Grant Lander broke the school record in the 2 mile event. We will be hosting a parent/student engagement evening on Monday, April 19th. Coaches and staff will have the opportunity to present on their classes at the Activity Fair and Mr. Horner and Mr. Lembke will be having discussions with students in grades 6-11 about the upcoming year and expectations. Finally, Principal Lembke reported that Carson Gaarder was the recipient of a \$180,000 ROTC scholarship which was presented to him at an assembly in the main gym last week.

Superintendent Cruickshank reported the Kindergarten round up is scheduled for Friday, April 16. We have 24 students signed up. He also stated that, at this time, we are looking at 8-12 possible new students next year. The Elementary concerts were a big success and special thanks were given to Noelle Petersen and Bridget Anderson on a great job preparing the kids. Splitting the concert into two groups was a success and may be continued in the future.

B. There was no public comment.

VII. Discussion Items

- a. CARES 2/ESSER 2/COVID 2 Funding was discussed and it is fairly wide open what those funds can be used for. There is a lot of flexibility where we can use these funds for new math curriculum, 1:1 updates and wi-fi upgrades.
- b. Building and Grounds. Bill McPherran reported all 12 rooftop units, which are approaching 20 years old, will eventually need replaced. He has received a bid from Trane to replace two of the units for \$37,575. Bill also striped the parking lot over Easter break and added 34 parking spots.
- c. Curriculum. New Math curriculum is needed at both the elementary and secondary level. Several teachers and administration have looked into different options and elementary has both decided to go with Eureka Math and the secondary teachers have

chosen McGraw-Hill Reveal. Mr. Cruickshank and Mr. Lembke thank the teachers for putting so much effort into the decision.

VIII. Closed Session

Motion was made by Vanschoiack and seconded by Reis to enter into closed session at - 9:48p.m. to discuss negotiations with classified staff and administration as it relates to the 21-22 budget for the protection of the public's interest. On roll call vote, the board voted as follows:

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

The motion carried 5-0.

Motion was made by Kirkholm and seconded by Vanschoiack to convene to regular session at 10:18p.m. On roll call vote, the board voted as follows:

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

The motion carried 5-0.

IX. Action Items

A. Motion was made by Vanschoiack and seconded by Reis to approve the hiring of Tory McCreary as Kindergarten Teacher for the 2021-22 school year. On roll call vote, the board voted as follows:

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

The motion carried 5-0.

B. Motion was made by Reis and seconded by Vanschoiack to approve the resignation of John Blomstedt. On roll call vote, the board voted as follows:

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

The motion carried 5-0.

C. Motion was made by Reis and seconded by Vanschoiack to approve salary and benefits for classified staff for 2021-2022 school year. On roll call vote, the board voted as follows:

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

The motion carried 5-0.

D. Motion was made by Vanschoiack and seconded by Kirkholm to approve the Elementary Principal contract for the 2021-22 school year. On roll call vote, the board voted as follows:

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

The motion carried 5-0.

E. Motion was made by Kirkholm and seconded by Reis to approve the JH-HS Principal contract for the 2021-22 school year. On roll call vote, the board voted as follows:

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

The motion carried 5-0.

F. Motion was made by Kirkholm and seconded by Vanschoiack to approve the Superintendent contract for the 2021-22 through 2023-2024 school year. On roll call vote, the board voted as follows:

Voting for: Reis, Kirkholm, Tighe, Vanschoiack

Voting against: Hall

The motion carried 4-1.

G. Motion was made by Reis and seconded by Kirkholm to approve the technology wi-fi upgrade. On roll call vote, the board voted as follows:

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

The motion carried 5-0.

H. Motion was made by Vanschoiack and seconded by Reis to approve the 1 to 1 laptop refresh. On roll call vote, the board voted as follows:

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

The motion carried 5-0.

I. Motion was made by Reis and seconded by Kirkholm to approve the Math curriculum. On roll call vote, the board voted as follows:

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

The motion carried 5-0.

X. Time/Date of next meeting

The next regular board meeting is set for Monday, May 10, 2021 at 8:00 p.m.

XI. Motion to Adjourn

Motion was made by Reis and seconded by Vanschoiack to adjourn the meeting at 10:27p.m. on April 12, 2021.

Voting for: Hall, Kirkholm, Vanschoiack, Tighe, Hall,

The motion carried 5-0.

The meeting was duly adjourned.

Dated this 12th day of April, 2021.

ATTEST:
Kristina Nelsen
Secretary

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