

MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING
BOARD OF EDUCATION
HOMER COMMUNITY SCHOOL
August 9, 2021

A meeting of the Board of Education of Homer Community School was convened in open and public session on Monday, August 9, 2021 at 7:00 p.m. in the Library at the Homer Community School, Homer, Nebraska. The following board members were present or absent:

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

Absent: Tyler Kirkholm – arrived at 7:05 p.m.

Administration present: Superintendent Gregg Cruickshank, Principals Abbie Uhl and Seth Lembke & 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 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 and 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 Nelsen and seconded by Reis to approve the absence of Member Kirkholm. On roll call vote, the board voted as follows:

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

The Motion carried 5-0.

III. Approval of Agenda and Changes to Agenda

Superintendent Cruickshank asked to add item D. to Discussion/Action item to approve the grading scale.

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

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

The motion carried 5-0.

IV. Consent Agenda

1. Approve the Minutes of the July 12 regular meeting.

2. Approve claims and accounts and payroll expense from General Fund.

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

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

The motion carried 6-0.

V. Audiences/Discussion

Matthew Erion from BCDM Architects reviewed the construction project time line. Delivery of materials may slow the project completion. The board reviewed the pros and cons of Design-Bid-Build or Cost Manager AR option. The board will use the DBB option.

VI. Communications/Discussion

Administration Reports:

Principal Uhl reported that summer school was a success. There were 17 students that had perfect attendance. The Eureka training was very beneficial for staff. We will work with NENTA for substitute teachers this year. The elementary will be a pilot group for One Tab reading, math and writing skills.

Principal Lembke reported that one family is choosing to homeschool due to concerns with Covid. Football practice started last week and Cross Country and Volleyball will start this week. The 7th grade and New Student Orientation will be on Tuesday at 6:15 p.m. The principals will attend a Student Teacher Fair at Wayne State College on August 27th.

Jeff Reed reported that the gym sound system will be delayed as parts are due to arrive in October. The access points are installed but the cabling is backordered and due in September. The 3 new laptop charging carts are due in tomorrow.

Superintendent Cruickshank reported that he will serve on the Leadership Team for the Cultural Connections Grant (ACE). The grant dollars will support Native American students and families. If anyone is interested in attending the NASB area meetings, please let us know. The board self-reflection was discussed and will not be filled out at this time. The board was supplied with the legal update from Justin Knight regarding Covid, State Health Standards, Staff/Student relationship boundaries and gender identity. Member Vanschoiack addressed the board regarding a professional growth program that she participated in as a teacher. The nutrition server line has been ordered but will not be installed until Christmas break. The PK-12 enrollment number is around 442. The enrollment on the last day of 2020-21 school year was 433 and enrollment on the last day of 2017-18 school year was 377.

Public Comment: None

VII. Discussion

A. Budget Work Session/special meeting, budget hearing, tax levy rate hearing dates will be set at August 30th at 7:00 p.m. for the work session and the budget hearing and tax levy will be on September 13th at 7:00 p.m.

VIII. Discussion/Action Items

A. Motion was made by Reis and seconded by Kirkholm to approve the bid from Yandas Pro Audio and Video for replacement of the main gym sound system. On roll call vote, the board voted as follows:

Voting for: Reis, Hall, Nelsen, Kirkholm, Vanschoiack, Tighe
The motion carried 6-0.

B. Motion was made by Vanschoiack and seconded by Nelsen to approve the second reading of policy updates and revisions. On roll call vote, the board voted as follows:

Voting for: Hall, Nelsen, Kirkholm, Vanschoiack, Tighe, Reis
The motion carried 6-0.

C. No motion was needed on substitute teacher and para pay due to keeping the pay the same as last year.

- D. Motion was made by Vanschoiack and seconded by Reis to approve the new grading scale. On roll call vote, the board voted as follows:
Voting for: Nelsen, Kirkholm, Vanschoiack, Tighe, Reis, Hall
Motion carried 6-0.

VIII. Closed Session

Motion was made by Nelsen and seconded by Reis to enter into closed session at 8:52 p.m. to discuss a student matter to protect the reputation of an individual. On roll call vote, the board voted as follows:

Voting for: Kirkholm, Vanschoiack, Tighe, Reis, Hall, Nelsen
The motion carried 6-0.

The board reconvened to regular session.

Motion was made by Vanschoiack and seconded by Nelsen to enter into regular session at 9:08 p.m. On roll call vote, the board voted as follows:

Voting for: Vanschoiack, Tighe, Reis, Hall, Nelsen, Kirkholm
The motion carried 6-0.

IX. Time/Date of next meeting

The next meetings will be on August 30th for the Budget Work Session at 7:00 p.m. and the Budget Hearing, Tax Levy and regular board meeting will be on Monday, September 13, 2021 beginning at 7:00 p.m.

X. Motion to Adjourn

Motion was made by Reis and seconded by Nelsen to adjourn the meeting at 9:09 p.m. on August 9, 2021. On roll call vote, the board voted as follows:

Voting for: Tighe, Reis, Hall, Nelsen, Kirkholm, Vanschoiack
The motion carried 6-0.

The meeting was duly adjourned.

Dated this 9th day of August 2021.

ATTEST:
Kristina Nelsen
Secretary

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