

MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING
BOARD OF EDUCATION
HOMER COMMUNITY SCHOOL
February 14, 2018

A meeting of the Board of Education of Homer Community School was convened in open and public session on Wednesday, February 14, 2018 at 7:05 p.m. in the Library at the Homer Community School, Homer, Nebraska. The following board members were present or absent:

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

Administration present: Superintendent Gregg Cruickshank, Principal Randy Pirner, Principal Lora Crowe & 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 and informed the public that a current copy of the Open Meetings Act was posted in the Library.

II. Roll Call – All members are present.

III. Approval of Agenda and Changes to Agenda

Superintendent Cruickshank asked to add Discussion item F and Action item C to the agenda. Motion was made by Reis and seconded by Murphy to approve the agenda as amended. On roll call vote, the Board voted as follows:

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

The motion carried 6-0.

IV. Consent Agenda

1. Approve the Minutes of the January 10th regular meeting.

2. Approve claims and accounts and payroll expense of \$345,520.45 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: Tighe, Reis, Hall, Murphy, Kirkholm, Vanschoiack

The motion carried 6-0.

V. Communications

Principal Crowe reported that teachers had a productive Professional Development day on the 15th. They reviewed targets, testing, guided reading charts, TestWiz and P-T

Conferences. 2nd grade teachers worked with Kindergarten teachers with whiteboard activities. The Business Appreciation Day will be on the 16th at 8:05 in the main gym. P-T conference attendance was down due to poor weather conditions. Teachers held make sessions or communicated by phone with parents. Currently we have 28 preschoolers signed up for next year. Kindergarten round-up parent meeting will be on April 16th @ 6:30 p.m. and Kindergarten Round-Up will by April 19th from 8:30 to 10:30 a.m.

Principal Pirner provided the board with documentation from ACT and MAP testing results. The football schedule was released on Feb. 13th and there are no referees for the Sept. 28th game against Wakefield so the time may need to be changed. The following students received awards at the Jazz Festival: Breanna Woodard, Erin Georgesen, Emily Jewitt and Lane McRoberts. The new Learning Management System will be implemented for 2018-2018 school year and will be introduced to staff on Feb. 19th. Mr. Horner, Deputy Rohde and Mr. Pirner attended a Threat Assessment workshop in Norfolk on Feb. 12th and 13th. The training was very beneficial. The Lewis and Clark Art Show will be held at WSC on Feb. 26th and the Spring Concert will be on Feb. 27th at school.

Superintendent Cruickshank reported that the district received a grant to purchase a walk-in cooler through the Federal Nutrition program. Mr. Cruickshank will attend the Rural Schools Legislative conference at Lincoln on Feb. 20th. Mr. Hall and Mr. Cruickshank will attend the NASB Finance Conference on Feb. 28th if anyone else is interested in attending. Culture and Environment Committee will host a Business/Community Outreach event at school on Feb. 16th. Mr. Cruickshank shared information from the Feb. 8th staff meeting. They discussed make-up instructional days along with time and resource utilization. The focus of the meeting was to help students succeed. NASB is looking for nominees for the NASB Legislation Committee, Mr. Hall will be nominated. The average daily attendance for January was 94% and total enrollment including PreK-12 is 386.

Jeff Reed received another HP laptop to test and will obtain a bid on the machine. He will be evaluating Chromebooks for JH students. It is necessary that the camera in the lunchroom needs to be replaced in order to capture all of the lunchroom area activity. He will obtain bids on the camera.

Public Comment: None

VI. Discussion

- A. Ashley Ziska addressed the board concerning the National Speech Competition in Denver on May 11th – 13th which does conflict with graduation. A total of 5 students and 2 coaches would attend and the overall price would be around \$2,740. Students will fundraise to help offset the cost of the trip. The board would like for student fundraisers to start earlier in the year and perhaps would consider paying the entry fee for students or a certain % of the cost.
- B. Mr. Hall and Supt. Cruickshank attended a Community Outreach Meeting with area tax payers to discuss school enrollment, district finances, option students and sharing resources. It was reported that it was good conversation with all in attendance and questions and suggestions were very appreciated. The board members discussed the pros and cons of the meeting but thought it was a good idea to share resources if

possible and to meet with stakeholders for student focus and enlighten the community on school issues.

- C. The Building and Grounds committee met regarding the storage shed – location has been determined and specifications need to be finalized, school space and repurposing space by splitting classrooms, heat pump replacement – 2 in 2018 and 2 in 2019, track resurface in summer of 2018, landscaping awarded to Country Nursery, summer gym floor refinish and carpet replacement.
- D. Staff has meet and will be meeting 2-3 more times to review and gather information for the AdvancEd site visit and accreditation update. The external visit is April 23-25. The school board will be interviewed and are invited to attend the supper at the Marina.
- E. The Head Volleyball coaching position is vacant, and Ms. Spurrell is intending to return to work the beginning of the 4th quarter. One teacher has turned in her resignation.
- F. The Preschool Committee has decided to not apply for grant funding to try to establish a 2nd PreK classroom so both classrooms could maintain the same rules. If 30 students sign up for PreK then a second classroom would be discussed further. An ad will be published in the Star so all community members are aware that a 2nd classroom is being considered.

VII. Action Items

A. Motion was made by Vanschoiack and seconded by Kirkholm to approve the revised 2017-2018 school calendar. On roll call vote, the board voted as follows:
Voting for: Reis, Hall, Murphy, Kirkholm, Vanschoiack, Tighe
The motion carried 6-0.

B. Motion was made by Reis and seconded by Murphy to approve the 2018/2019 school calendar. On roll call vote, the board voted as follows:
Voting for: Hall, Murphy, Kirkholm, Vanschoiack, Tighe, Reis
The motion carried 6-0.

C. Motion was made by Vanschoiack and seconded by Reis to approve the resignation of Michele Ellingson, 7-12 SPED Teacher. On roll call vote, the board voted as follows:
Voting for: Murphy, Kirkholm, Vanschoiack, Tighe, Reis, Hall
The motion carried 6-0.

XIII. Closed Session

Motion was made by Hall and seconded by Kirkholm to go into closed session at 9:35 p.m. to discuss the bargaining strategy for determining non-certified wages and administration salaries for the protection of the public's interest. On roll call vote, the board voted as follows:
Voting for: Kirkholm, Vanschoicack, Tighe, Reis, Hall, Murphy
The motion carried 6-0.

The board came out of closed session at 10:45 p.m.

IX. Time/Date of next meeting

The next board meeting is set for Monday, March 12, 2018 at 7:00 p.m.

X. Motion to Adjourn

Motion was made by Murphy and seconded by Reis to adjourn the meeting at 10:47 p.m. on February 14, 2018.

Voting for: Vanschoicack, Tighe, Reis, Hall, Murphy, Kirkholm

The motion carried 6-0.

The meeting was duly adjourned.

Dated this 14th day of February, 2018.

ATTEST:
Carrie Vanschoiack
Secretary

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