

MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING
BOARD OF EDUCATION
HOMER COMMUNITY SCHOOL
February 12, 2020

A meeting of the Board of Education of Homer Community School was convened in open and public session on Wednesday, February 12, 2020 at 7:00 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 Kristina Nelsen

Administration present: Superintendent Gregg Cruickshank, Principal 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 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 amend the agenda to add Peggy TerWee to #5 Audiences.

Motion was made by Vanschoiack 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, Kirkholm, Reis

The motion carried 6-0.

IV. Consent Agenda

1. Approve the Minutes of the January 15th regular meeting with amendment to Motion D.

2. Approve claims and accounts and payroll expense of \$481,769.59 from General Fund. Motion was made by Reis and seconded by Nelsen to approve all Consent Agenda items.

On roll call vote, the Board voted as follows:

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

The motion carried 6-0.

V. Audiences:

Alisha McPartland approached the board about taking a foreign language trip to Panama. It is for students grades 7-12 who are interested in going. Students and chaperones would pay for the cost of the trip. The trip would be in May 2021.

Peggy TerWee addressed the board to discuss the possibility of adding a special education teacher for the elementary side of the building. This would be helpful to assist the students with their needs.

Dave Dziurawiec invited the board to his room, so he could explain what his classroom needs to have replaced, moved or added for science projects. With the current room he is limited on the experiments that he can demonstrate.

VI. Communications

Principal Lembke reported on possible classes that he would like to see offered for JH- HS students. FFA/Ag classes are being looked into, Technical English is a required course for trade schools and community colleges and would take the place of English 12, Business classes will be determined once a teacher is hired, Wayne State Education classes would be taught by one of our staff members, Office as a computer requirement for graduation, Personal Finance as a new requirement and possibly Robotics, Digital Self Promotion and Coding.

Outstanding soloists for Jazz Band at the Morningside Jazz Festival included Emylee Jewett, Avery Overfelt, and Bradie Johnson. Sweetheart Coronation is February 15th at 7:00 p.m. Several students will be attending the All-State Band in Kearney on March 28th.

Superintendent Cruickshank reported that the current enrollment is at 414.

Public Comment: None

VII. Discussion

A. The 2020-2021 school calendar was presented and explained to the board. The board will review the calendar and then vote to approve it at the March meeting.

B. Superintendent Cruickshank attended the NCSA Legislative update in Lincoln, He supplied the board with information regarding State Aid Models and LB 974. LB 974 would represent a major change in the way schools are funded and could result in reduced revenues for schools.

C. Staffing: The interviews for our Para opening have been conducted and a decision will be made on hiring tomorrow. The Business-Instructional Technology position has been advertised and three applications have been received.

VIII. Action Items

A. Motion was made by Vanschoiack and seconded by Reis to approve a 2.6% raise for non-para classified staff and 4.6% raise for para classified staff for the 20/21 school year. The cash in lieu of insurance will raise to \$2663 for classified staff. On roll call vote, the board voted as follows:

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

Voting nay: Hall

The motion carried 5-1.

B. Motion was made by Reis and seconded by Kirkholm to approve the Early Retirement Incentive Program application and resignation from Rod Harris. On roll call vote, the board voted as follows:

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

The motion carried 6-0.

C. Motion was made by Reis and seconded by Vanschoiack to approve the amendment of the 2019-2020 school calendar to add May 21 and 22 as regular school days and May 26 as a teacher work day. On roll call vote, the board voted as follows:

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

The motion carried 6-0.

IX. Closed Session

Motion was made by Nelsen and seconded by Reis to go into closed session at 9:08 p.m. to discuss the bargaining strategy with administration for the protection of the public interest or for the prevention of needless injury to the reputation of an individual and if such individual has not requested a public meeting. Moreover, to evaluate the job performance of a person when necessary to prevent needless injury to the reputation of a person and if such person has not requested a public meeting. On roll call vote, the board voted as follows:

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

The motion carried 6-0.

The board came out of closed session.

Motion was made by Vanschoiack and seconded by Reis to convene to open session at 9:26 p.m. On roll call vote, the board voted as follows:

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

The motion carried 6-0.

X. Time/Date of next meeting

The next board meeting is set for Wednesday, March 11, 2020 at 7:00 p.m.

XI. Motion to Adjourn

Motion was made by Vanschoiack and seconded by Nelsen to adjourn the meeting at 9:31 p.m. on February 12, 2020.

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

The motion carried 6-0.

The meeting was duly adjourned.

Dated this 12th day of February 2020.

ATTEST:
Kristina Nelsen
Secretary

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