

MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING
BOARD OF EDUCATION
HOMER COMMUNITY SCHOOL
June 15, 2021

A meeting of the Board of Education of Homer Community School was convened in open and public session on Tuesday, June 15, 2021 at 7:00 p.m. in the Library at Homer Community School, Homer, Nebraska. The following board members were present or absent:

Present: Paul Tighe, Byron Hall, Kristina Nelsen, Carrie Vanschoiack and Tyler Kirkholm

Absent: Aaron Reis

Administration present: Superintendent Gregg Cruickshank, Principals Seth Lembke and Abbie Uhl 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 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 Reis.

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

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

The motion carried 5-0.

III. Approval of Agenda and Changes to Agenda

Superintendent Cruickshank asked for Item 8b to only be a discussion item.

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

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

The motion carried 5-0.

IV. Consent Agenda

1. Approve the Minutes of the May 10th regular meeting and May 17th, 25th and June 2nd special meetings.

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

Motion was made by Kirkholm 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, Hall

Motion carried 5-0.

V. Audience and Discussion

A. Brooklyn Schmidt performed her speech titled Covid before the board. Coach Ziska reviewed Brooklyn's rankings for her season of speech.

B. Superintendent Cruickshank reviewed the numbers from Lauritsen Insurance regarding the insurance renewal pricing. EMC Insurance is the largest school insurance company. The company pays us a dividend each year.

VI. Communications/Discussion

Principal Uhl reported that Preschool teachers would like to see Preschool start on August 18th to give them an opportunity to do home visits the week prior. Parents would still have the opportunity to attend Open House on August 11th. A letter will be sent home to all the preschool parents. The 3rd grade teachers, Katie Mueller and Katie Pick, have attended Eureka training on June 10th and 15th and will train the rest of the staff in July. There are 9 elementary teachers registered for the LETRS training through the ESU. The tardy policy, discipline policy and homework policy are being reviewed.

Principal Lembke reported that the number of students failing classes was lower for 2nd semester. The master schedule is completed and was shared with the board. Shelby Benson placed 12th in the nation in the NCFL Grand National competition. Other students who qualified were Brooklynn Schmidt, Raegan Modlin, Emylee Jewett, Cloe Holmes and Bradie Johnson. Carson Gaarder finished 11th in the 800 at State track and Grant Lander finished 6th in the 3200 at State Track. The following handbook changes were recommended to the board; change the grading scale to align more with college and change the activity code of conduct to add any illegal activity.

Superintendent Cruickshank reported that he will be working with the Principals for administration goals and activities. The Superintendent Evaluation needs to be filled out and returned to Trish Rohde by July 1. Abbie Uhl and Josh Watchorn graduated in May with their master's degrees and Staci Smith and Katie Mueller earned their master's degree last year and participated in the commencement exercise this year. We plan to replace 2 paras this school year, hire JH and HS sports coaches and change the nursing hours to 6 hours per day. We will be able to utilize the ESSERII and ESSERIII funds to tech supplies, math curriculum, and HVAC upgrades.

B. Public comment: None

VII. Discussion Items

A. Building and Grounds: Bill McPherran reviewed the summer work projects with the board. The classroom cleaning is near completion, hall waxing has begun, the parking lot will be patched and sealed, the goal post has been repaired, mobile bleachers have been discussed for easy access, new seat planks will be installed on the bleachers, obtained estimates for electric to the football shed, upgrade lights and timing system for the tennis/basketball courts at night.

VIII. Discussion/Action Items

A. There was no motion made by the board. The board had a constructive and candid conversation about priorities, scope, cost, and financing for a potential construction project. The board will continue the discussion at the July 12 regular meeting.

B. There was no motion made on the HVAC upgrades and will be discussed further next month.

C. Motion was made by Kirkholm and seconded by Hall to approve the upgrades to the serving line for the nutrition program. On roll call vote, the board voted as follows:
Voting for: Kirkholm, Hall, Vanschoiack, Nelsen, Tighe
The motion carried 5-0.

D. Motion was made by Kirkholm and seconded by Hall to approve the bid for installing cabinets in classrooms. On roll call vote, the board voted as follows:
Voting for: Hall, Vanschoiack, Nelsen, Tighe, Kirkholm
The motion carried 5-0.

E. Motion was made by Nelsen and seconded by Hall to approve the adoption of the Papio-Missouri River NRD Multi-Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan update. On roll call vote, the board voted as follows:
Voting for: Hall, Vanschoiack, Nelsen, Tighe, Kirkholm
The motion carried 5-0.

F. Motion was made by Hall and seconded by Kirkholm to approve the property, casualty, workmen compensation insurance coverage of the 2021-2022 school year. On roll call vote, the board voted as follows:
Voting for: Vanschoiack, Nelsen, Tighe, Kirkholm, Hall
The motion carried 5-0

IX. Closed Session

Motion was made by Hall and seconded by Nelsen to go into closed session at 9:30 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: Nelsen, Tighe, Kirkholm, Hall, Vanschoiack
The motion carried 5-0.

The board reconvened to regular session.

Motion was made by Hall and seconded by Kirkholm to convene to regular session at 9:45p.m. On roll call vote, the board voted as follows:
Voting for: Tighe, Kirkholm, Hall, Vanschoiack, Nelsen
The motion carried 5-0.

X. Time/Date of next meeting

The next regular board meeting is set for July 12, 2021 at 7:00 p.m.

X. Motion to Adjourn

Motion was made by Vanschoiack and seconded by Kirkholm to adjourn the meeting at 9:47 p.m. on June 15, 2021.
Voting for: Kirkholm, Hall, Nelsen, Vanschoiack, Tighe
The motion carried 5-0.

The meeting was duly adjourned.

Dated this 15th day of June, 2021.

ATTEST:
Kristina Nelsen
Secretary

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

