

MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING
BOARD OF EDUCATION
HOMER COMMUNITY SCHOOL
June 14, 2022

A meeting of the Board of Education of Homer Community School was convened in open and public session on Tuesday, June 14, 2022 at 8:00 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 Casey Tremayne and Abbie Uhl 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 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 Nelsen and seconded by Vanschoiack 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

Motion was made by Vanschoiack and seconded by Nelsen to approve the agenda as presented. 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 9th regular meeting and May 22nd special meeting.

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

Motion was made by Nelsen and seconded by Hall 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. Dean Carrol from First Student Transportation addressed the board and stated First Student is looking forward to a new school year and improved service. He stated we went to three routes and a van route last year and it worked well. The pros and cons of staying with three routes with a van route was discussed as was the savings the school incurs with one less route. The Board will make a decision regarding routes at the July meeting.

B. Chris Kleinberg, Dakota County Sheriff, talked about the importance of keeping our school safe and the possibility of increasing our School Resource Officer (SRO) hours during the school year. It is a priority to have the services of a full time SRO. The Board is willing to share the cost of a full time SRO to help with security and build rapport with students and staff. It was discussed that Deputy Fernau does a tremendous job with his duties at Homer School. Sherriff Kleinberg and Superintendent Cruickshank will look further into increased SRO hours at next month's board meeting.

C. Jamie Chamberlin from HCI Construction presented the three phases of our remodeling project. He gave a tour of current construction going on and where classrooms will be temporarily located to this upcoming school year. Having materials come in a timely manner will be imperative to stay on schedule with the project.

D. Jeff Reed, Technology Coordinator, presented two bids on a new communication system upgrade. This will be an extensive project as all phones will have to be upgraded with new cables. Both systems would have some wireless options to have more flexibility and will be internet based with two phone lines on a land line for backup. Reed reported this project could be done before school starts in the Fall. He also recommended the bid from Quality Communications. Mr. Reed also brought up concerns with a Genius Bar (charging station) in the remodeling plans on the secondary side. Reed has always promoted students' charging their computers at home and should always bring them to school fully charged as charging at school is a tripping hazard can possibly cause damage to the computers. He would like to remove the Genius Bar from the plans as to not promote charging devices at school.

VI. Communications/Discussion

Principal Uhl reported on the Science Curriculum update for the upcoming school year and gave a staffing update for Elementary Summer School. We will have 45 students attending Summer School in July. Mrs. Uhl gave Student Handbook suggestions on the Grading Policy, Elementary Technology Policy, Excessive Absenteeism/Truancy Policy and an updated Elementary Behavioral Expectation Matrix. Mrs. Uhl and Mrs. Tremayne attended Phil Warrick training the first of June and found it to be very useful training.

Principal Tremayne reported the failing list continued to improve Second Semester. She shared new coaches and sponsors for the upcoming school year and announced Stacy Delperdang will be the new Data Coordinator. A Senior Survey was completed by Seniors and the Master Schedule is complete for the 22-23 school year. We will be offering some new courses this year taught by various teachers. Mrs. Tremayne also had Student Handbook revisions for the Board to review before the July meeting. Her purpose in the changes is to bring structure and consistency to the Secondary end of the building. She also reviewed that Summer School went well.

Superintendent Cruickshank did not have a report.

B. Public comment: None

VII. Discussion/Action Items

A. Security and Safety. The Board fully supports to increase our SRO to full time. A bid was shared installing 8mm bullet retardant film on all front windows as well as office windows and exterior glass doors. Will look into difference options such as replacing some side doors with steel doors and adding cement pillars in front of the main entrance. Other safety issues were shared, and it was agreed training regarding safety will be looked at before the school year starts. Mr. Horner and Deputy Fernau will be included in these conversations.

B. Facility Project. Discussed the overview of the project and sharing information regarding the project with the public.

Motion was made by Vanschoiack and seconded by Nelsen to approve the formal construction contract with Ho-Chunk, Inc. On roll call vote, the board voted as follows:
Voting for: Kirkholm, Hall, Vanschoiack, Nelsen, Tighe
The motion carried 5-0.

Motion was made by Kirkholm and seconded by Hall to approve the purchase of a new communication system. On roll call vote, the board voted as follows:
Voting for: Kirkholm, Vanschoiack, Nelsen, Tighe
Voting against: Hall
The motion carried 4-1.

C. Qualified Capital Purpose Undertaking Fund (QCPUF) Resolution.

Motion was made by Vanschoiack and seconded by Nelsen to formally approve access to \$720,000 in QCPUF funds for the facility project. On roll call vote, the board voted as follows:
Voting for: Vanschoiack, Nelsen, Tighe
Voting against: Kirkholm, Hall
The motion carried 3-2.

D. Transportation. Mr. Cruickshank presented information on our vehicle fleet and stated we still have a new 9 passenger van in production. Transportation rates and routes will be discussed at the July Board meeting.

VIII. Action Items

A. Hiring of certified staff

Motion was made by Nelsen and seconded by Vanschoiack to approve the hiring of Lois Harris for the 5-12 Band Teacher position for the 2022-2023 school year. On roll call vote, the board voted as follows:
Voting for: Hall, Vanschoiack, Nelsen, Tighe, Kirkholm
The motion carried 5-0.

Motion was made by Vanschoiack and seconded by Nelsen to approve the hiring of Keely Steffen for the 4th Grade Teacher position for the 2022-2023 school year. On roll call vote, the board voted as follows:
Voting for: Hall, Vanschoiack, Nelsen, Tighe
Abstaining: Kirkholm
The motion carried 4-1 AB

Motion was made by Nelsen and seconded by Vanschoiack to approve the hiring of Katie Scott for the Kindergarten Teacher position for the 2022-2023 school year. On roll call vote, the board voted as follows:

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

The motion carried 5-0.

IX. Closed Session

Motion was made by Nelsen and seconded by Vanschoiack to go into closed session at 11:33 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 Nelsen and seconded by Hall to convene to regular session at 11:39 p.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 13, 2022 at 8:00 p.m.

XI. Motion to Adjourn

Motion was made by Nelsen and seconded by Hall to adjourn the meeting at 11:42 p.m. on June 14, 2022.

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

The motion carried 5-0.

The meeting was duly adjourned.

Dated this 14th day of June, 2022.

ATTEST:
Kristina Nelsen
Secretary

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