

MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING  
BOARD OF EDUCATION  
HOMER COMMUNITY SCHOOL  
March 8, 2021

A meeting of the Board of Education of Homer Community School was convened in open and public session on Monday, March 8, 2021 at 7:00 p.m. in the Library at Homer Community School, Homer, Nebraska. The following board members were present or absent:

Present: Kristina Nelsen, Paul Tighe, Byron Hall, and Aaron Reis

Absent: Carrie Vanschoiack, Tyler Kirkholm

Administration present: Superintendent Gregg Cruickshank, Principal Seth Lembke and Board Secretary Trish Rohde.

Visitors present: Jeff Reed and Abbie Uhl

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 Vanschoiack and Kirkholm

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

Voting for: Tighe, Reis, Hall, Nelsen

The motion carried 4-0.

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

Voting for: Reis, Hall, Nelsen, Tighe

The motion carried 4-0.

III. Approval of Agenda and Changes to Agenda

Motion was made by Reis and seconded by Nelsen to approve the agenda as presented.

On roll call vote, the Board voted as follows:

Voting for: Hall, Nelsen, Tighe, Reis

The motion carried 4-0.

IV. Consent Agenda

1. Approve the Minutes of the February 10<sup>th</sup> regular meeting.

2. Approve claims and accounts and payroll expense 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: Nelsen, Tighe, Hall, Reis  
The motion carried 4-0.

#### V. Communications

Superintendent Cruickshank reported the enrollment is at 433. He is looking at option enrollment as they come up and trying to keep class size to 18 per section in elementary and 40 in JH-HS. The state aid calculations were reviewed for 2020/21 and 2021/22. Parent-Teacher Conference was attended by about 95% of parents in elementary. The spring NSAA guidelines regarding covid were discussed and porta-potties will be brought in for track season to alleviate crowds in the restrooms. We have 7 students participating in Golf and Denny Redel will be their coach. The head volleyball position has been filled by Makayla Murphy with assistant coach being Brittany White and part-time assistant is Kelli Olson. There was no Legislative or Cares Act 2 updates. Staff has been given the first round of the covid vaccine. We currently have 12 students quarantined for close contact with Covid and 1 positive student that happened outside of school. The math curriculum continues to be reviewed. Teachers are split between Eureka and Bridges on which would be the best application.

Principal Lembke reported that they are also reviewing the math curriculum. The failing grades were shared with the board and will be discussed further in the report. There are 5 students quarantined in HS and 2 students learning from home. The attendance rate for HS Parent-Teacher conferences was at 30%. This will be reviewed and perhaps appointments set up for conferences. A Digital Citizenship Symposium is underway, and students are watching 3 videos on Cyberbullying, Sexting and Consequences. A secondary tutoring program will be launched starting on March 22, 2021. This will be targeted to assist students on the failing list and those that might not be on target to graduate.

Public Comment: None

#### VII. Discussion

- a. Technology from Jeff Reed – Mr. Reed presented the board with quotes on Chromebook purchases for the entire school. The current systems are outdated and slow. The Dell brand systems are the lowest cost and will give a \$20-30 rebate on our old systems. The Dell systems will have a 10% Comprehensive ADP plus a 4-year warranty. We can utilize Cares Act II, REAP or Depreciation funds to pay for the units. The access points will also need to be upgraded and Erate funds will pay for 70% of that. Mr. Sages needs about 5 high end computer systems for his video class.
- b. Building and Grounds: The bid from Trane to replace 2 rooftop unit was \$37,575.00. The 12 current units are 20+ years old and will need to be replace over the next few years. When the units that control the auxiliary gym are replaced it would be nice to add air conditioning to those units. Mr. Cruickshank will ask for bids on replacing 6 units or all 12 at one time to see if there is a price reduction. There have been 3 architectural firms selected for interviews to see which is the

best fit for Homer. The 3 firms are: BCDM from Omaha, FEH Design from Sioux City, and Clark & Enersen from Lincoln. Interviews will be conducted the week of March 22<sup>nd</sup>.

- c. The Return to School Plan was discussed regarding the wearing of masks and fieldtrips. The board thinks no changes to the plan should be made at this time.

## VII. Action Items

- a. Motion was made by Reis and seconded by Nelsen to approve the hiring of Kimberly Woltman as the 4<sup>th</sup> grade teacher. On roll call vote, the board voted as follows:  
Voting for: Tighe, Reis, Hall, Nelsen  
The motion carried 4-0.

- b. Motion was made by Reis and seconded by Nelsen to approve the resignation of Courtney Hochstein as kindergarten teacher at the end of the 2020-2021 school year. On roll call vote, the board voted as follows:  
Voting for: Reis, Hall, Nelsen, Tighe  
The motion carried 4-0.

- c. Motion was made by Reis and seconded by Nelsen to approve the Negotiated agreement with the Homer Education Association for the 2021-2022 school year. On roll call vote, the board voted as follows:  
Voting for: Hall, Nelsen, Tighe, Reis  
The motion carried 4-0.

- d. Motion was made by Reis and seconded by Nelsen to approve the Sick leave proposal from the Homer Education Association. On roll call vote, the board voted as follows:  
Voting for: Nelsen, Tighe, Reis, Hall  
The motion carried 4-0.

- e. Motion was made by Reis and seconded by Nelsen to approve the amended calendar for the 2020-2021 school year. On roll call vote, the board voted as follows:  
Voting for: Nelsen, Tighe, Reis, Hall  
The motion carried 4-0.

- f. Motion was made by Nelsen and seconded by Reis to approve the 2021-2022 school calendar. On roll call vote, the board voted as follows:  
Voting for: Tighe, Reis, Hall, Nelsen  
The motion carried 4-0.

## VIII. Closed Session

Motion was made by Nelsen and seconded by Reis to enter into closed session at 8:55 p.m. to discuss the collective bargaining negotiations for classified staff and administration. On roll call vote, the board voted as follows:  
Voting for: Reis, Hall, Nelsen, Tighe  
The motion carried 4-0.

The board exited closed session.

Motion was made by Nelsen and seconded by Reis to enter regular session at 9:44 p.m.  
On roll call vote, the board voted as follows:  
Voting for: Hall, Nelsen, Tighe, Reis  
The motion carried 4-0.

IX. Time/Date of next meeting

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

XI. Motion to Adjourn

Motion was made by Nelsen and seconded by Reis to adjourn the meeting at 9:46 p.m. on March 8, 2021.

Voting for: Nelsen, Tighe, Reis, Hall  
The motion carried 4-0.

The meeting was duly adjourned.

Dated this 8th day of March, 2021.

ATTEST:  
Kristina Nelsen  
Secretary

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