

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

A meeting of the Board of Education of Homer Community School was convened in open and public session on Monday, October 12, 2020 at 8:00 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, Kristina Nelsen, Paul Tighe

Absent: Aaron Reis and Tyler Kirkholm

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

Visitors present: Jeff Reed

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 and Kirkholm.

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

Voting for: Hall, Vanschoiack, Nelsen, Tighe

The motion carries 4-0.

III. Approval of Agenda and Changes to Agenda

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

Voting for: Vanschoiack, Nelsen, Tighe, Hall

The motion carried 4-0.

IV. Consent Agenda

1. Approve the Minutes of the September 14 budget hearing, levy rate hearing and regular meeting.

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

Motion was made by Vanschoiack and seconded by Nelsen to approve all Consent Agenda items. On roll call vote, the Board voted as follows:

Voting for: Nelsen, Tighe, Hall, Vanschoiack

The motion carried 4-0.

V. Communications

Public Comment: None

Jeff Reed reported to the board that we have had issues with 4 servers. He had most of the issues resolved within a day and a half with a few stray issues not yet resolved. He purchased a refurbished server box that will fix all the server issues.

Principal Lembke reported that Homecoming week began with a dance and coronation last Saturday. Congratulations to Queen Brooklyn Schmidt and King Carson Gaarder. The dance was well attended but the crowd dwindled slowly. The HC parade will be in reverse order with the floats parked at the Football field and cars may drive by the floats. Deputy Fernau and Mr. Lembke will attend SRO Training for 20 hours on school law and discipline issues. Remote learning is going well, students and staff are doing a great job with it. We have no homeschool students due to Covid. The HKTV class production is doing an awesome job and has completed 2 weeks of news casts. The football team has won 3 straight games to get up back into the playoff conversation. VB is doing good as tournament time closely approaches. Cross Country continues to do well with great places at conference. Grant Lander was 2nd, Tim Harris was 10th and Lilly Harris won the JH girls conference.

Tyler Kirkholm arrived at 8:15 p.m.

Superintendent/Principal Cruickshank reported that State School Board Convention will be November 18-20 if you would like to attend please let him know. Parent Teacher Conferences were will attended, our attendance rate is at 94%, total number of students PreK – 12 is 429, and we are currently not taking any open enrollment students due to covid. An application has been submitted to fund support for our Native American students. A planning meeting will be held in the next 30 days. The board was given information regarding the tax levy for all school districts in Dakota County. It showed the districts property tax values for state aid purposes. We have one teacher on maternity leave and another that will be out soon. The subs are all set up for those teachers.

Celebrations: Congrats to King Carson Gaarder and Queen Brooklyn Schmidt. The cross country team is doing great as well as football and volleyball teams!

VI. Discussion

- A. Building and Grounds: The board was presented with a letter from Rex Schultze, attorney with Perry and Gessford, regarding possible construction for classrooms. The letter outlined some financing options such as a Lease Purchase or Tax Anticipation Note. The building fund has a balance of \$900,000 and the tax asking will bring in another \$390,000 so little will need to be financed depending on the design. The letter also stated you must hire an Architect and must obtain bids on the construction. All the board agreed that we need to update our science rooms. A work session will be held with Mr. Schultze for the board to ask questions.
- B. Covid update: The board was given an updated contact tracing guide from public health and the updated Return to School Plan. The number of students in quarantine has declined in the last few days.

- C. Policy: The following policies were given to the board to review:
402.15 – Staff conduct with students
404.02 – Employee injury on the job
404.13 – School closure under extraordinary circumstances
503.04 – Addressing barriers to attendance
The policies will be presented for approval next month

VII. Action Items

- a. The board discussed the District/Board Goals and Activities. There were a few changes to be made so no motion to approve was made at this time.

VIII. Closed Session

Motion was made by Nelsen and seconded by Vanschoiack to enter closed session at 10:07 p.m. to discuss a personnel matter to protect the reputation of an individual. On roll call vote, the Board voted as follows:

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

The motion carried 5-0.

The board reconvened to public session.

Motion was made by Kirkholm and seconded by Vanschoiack to reconvene to regular session at 10:15 p.m. On roll call vote, the Board voted as follows:

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

The motion carried 5-0.

VIII. Time/Date of next meeting

The next board meeting will be on November 9, 2020 at 8:00 p.m.

IX. Motion to Adjourn

Motion was made by Vanschoiack and seconded by Nelsen to adjourn the meeting at 10:17 p.m. on October 12, 2020. On roll call vote, the board voted as follows:

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

The motion carried 5-0.

The meeting was duly adjourned.

Dated this 12th day of October, 2020.

ATTEST:
Kristina Nelsen
Secretary

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