

MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING
BOARD OF EDUCATION
HOMER COMMUNITY SCHOOL
September 14, 2020

A meeting of the Board of Education of Homer Community School was convened in open and public session on Monday, September 14, 2020 at 7:15 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, Tyler Kirkholm, Paul Tighe and Aaron Reis

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 is posted in the Library.

II. Roll Call – All members are present.

III. Approval of Agenda and Changes to Agenda

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

On roll call vote, the Board voted as follows:

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

The motion carried 6-0.

IV. Audience

Kristen Hightree addressed the board regarding elementary volleyball practice in the back gym for grades 3,4,5 and 6. She stated that coaches will follow all guidelines that the school sets and would only use the back entrance with no extra siblings or parents allowed to watch practice. There would be no games played here as those are all in Pender.

V. Closed Session

Motion was made by Nelsen and seconded by Reis to move into closed session at 7:45 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: Tighe, Reis, Hall, Nelsen, Kirkholm, Vanschoiack

The motion carried 6-0.

The board reconvened to regular session.

Motion was made by Reis and seconded by Nelsen to move into regular session at 8:39 p.m. On roll call vote, the board voted as follows:

Voting for: Reis, Hall, Nelsen, Kirkholm, Vanschoiack, Tighe
The motion carried 6-0.

The board took a 5 minute break.

VI. Consent Agenda

1. Approve the Minutes of the August 10th regular meeting, August 10th special meeting, and the August 25th special meeting.

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

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

Voting for: Hall, Nelsen, Kirkholm, Vanschoiack, Tighe, Reis
The motion carried 6-0.

VII. Communications

Public Comment: None

Principal Lembke reported that there are seven students learning remotely by parents choice. Students must be on Zoom or they are counted absent for the day. Students are keeping up with the pace of the class. Juniors have taken the preACT test and sophomores have finished the ASVAB testing. Seniors will take the ACT that was missed last spring on September 22. Cross Country has 2 boys and 1 girl for high school and 1 boy and 3 girls for middle school. The high school students are improving their time each meet. Students and staff are doing great with mask wearing.

Superintendent/Principal Cruickshank reported that enrollment is at 431 for the 2020-21 school year. We currently have 4 students that are being home-schooled and 4 students under quarantine. Professional Development was September 8 and staff worked on Canvas online learning platforms. The district has had 1 positive student and no staff who have tested positive for Covid. Bus transportation has been a challenge with several Durham drivers not working due to illness. PT conferences will be on September 24 from 3:30 – 8:30. Conferences will be in person unless the parent requests a virtual conference. School lunches will be free to all students through December 31st.

Celebrations: The first 4 weeks of school have been good. The cross country team is doing good. Staff and students are doing very good dealing with Covid.

VIII. Discussion

A. Covid 19 update as we move to phase IV will increase capacity inside and out.

School employees are considered essential workers and can remain at school if they come in contact with Covid as long as they have no symptoms and wear their mask.

B. Building and Grounds update: Track resurface is done and a grant to receive 25% of the cost has been applied for. The new construction will be reviewed further at the October meeting.

IX. Action Items

- A. Motion was made by Vanschoiack and seconded by Reis to adopt the proposed 2020-2021 Budget. On roll call vote, the board voted as follows:
Voting for: Nelsen, Kirkholm, Vanschoiack, Tighe, Reis, Hall
The motion carried 6-0.
- B. Motion was made by Reis and seconded by Kirkholm to adopt the proposed Property Tax Request/Levy Resolution for the 2020-2021 as presented. On roll call vote, the board voted as follows:
Voting for: Kirkholm, Vanschoiack, Tighe, Reis, Hall, Nelsen
The motion carried 6-0.
- C. Motion was made by Reis and seconded by Nelsen to approve the Homer Education Association as the exclusive bargaining agent for the non-supervisory certificated staff for the 2022-2023 contract year. On roll call vote, the board voted as follows:
Voting for: Vanschoiack, Tighe, Reis, Hall, Nelsen, Kirkholm
The motion carried 6-0.
- D. Motion was made by Reis and seconded by Kirkholm to approve the revision of the Return to School Plan to allow indoor use of the gym for youth volleyball practice contingent on following the guidelines established by the Board and Administration. On roll call vote, the board voted as follows:
Voting for: Tighe, Reis, Hall, Nelsen, Kirkholm, Vanschoiack
The motion carried 6-0.

VIII. Time/Date of next meeting

The next board meeting will be on October 12, 2020 at 8:00 p.m.

IX. Motion to Adjourn

Motion was made by Nelsen and seconded by Vanschoiack to adjourn the meeting at 9:35 p.m. on September 14, 2020. On roll call vote, the board voted as follows:
Voting for: Reis, Hall, Nelsen, Kirkholm, Vanschoiack, Tighe
The motion carried 6-0.

The meeting was duly adjourned.

Dated this 14th day of September, 2020.

ATTEST:
Kristina Nelsen
Secretary

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