

MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING  
BOARD OF EDUCATION  
HOMER COMMUNITY SCHOOL  
April 8, 2024

A meeting of the Board of Education of Homer Community School was convened in open and public session on Monday, April 8, 2024 at 7:00 p.m. in the Library at Homer Community School, Homer, Nebraska. The following board members were present or absent:

Present: Byron Hall, Tyler Kirkholm, Aaron Reis, Paul Tighe, Ryan Harris, Kristina Nelsen

Administration present: Superintendent Gregg Cruickshank, Principals Abbie Uhl and Tom Coviello and Board 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 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 & 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 Reis and seconded by Nelsen to approve the agenda as presented.

On roll call vote, the Board voted as follows:

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

The motion carried 6-0.

IV. Consent Agenda

1. Approve the Minutes of the March 11<sup>th</sup> regular meeting.

2. Approve claims and accounts.

3. Discuss, consider and take all necessary action to approve all items presented on the Consent Agenda. Motion was made by Nelsen and seconded by Harris to approve all Consent Agenda items. On roll call vote, the Board voted as follows:

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

The motion carried 6-0.

V. Communications

A. Administration Reports

Principals Uhl and Coviello reported we were unable to view the partial solar eclipse on April 8<sup>th</sup> due to cloud cover. 5<sup>th</sup> – 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Orientation was discussed as well as the

Preschool/Senior hallway walk. The Jr. Class will be holding a Mother's Day flower sale in the front lobby on May 10<sup>th</sup>. This is open to the public.

Principal Uhl reported our Spring Concert was excellent and thanked Mrs. Anderson and Mrs. Moos for all their work. Elementary Enrichment as well as Elementary Student Council updates were given. The American Heart Association fundraiser is completed with \$10,236.91 being raised. Kindergarten Round Up is April 12<sup>th</sup> and NSCAS and AIMSweb Spring testing will start mid-April and conclude the first of May. The Elementary Track Meet will be held on May 24<sup>th</sup>. 4 year old Preschool graduation is May 10<sup>th</sup> and summer school will be held June 10-28 with Angela Ford as the coordinator.

Principal Coviello reported the Spring Pops Concert will be held April 26<sup>th</sup> and Spring testing will be this month. Mr. Coviello discussed the new phone rules implementation and reported that Track and Golf are well underway. Dual Enrollment classes were also discussed.

Superintendent Cruickshank reported on student movement in and out of the school with current attendance at 437. He shared the primary election ballot as well as reports from the State Fire Marshal Office and the DHHS Health Inspector regarding the feasibility of hosting childcare. Mr. Cruickshank discussed the most recent legal updates from Justin Knight regarding policy, education work force, curriculum and finance. The notes from the March 7<sup>th</sup> meeting regarding HVAC were discussed and a meeting will be scheduled soon so members Reis and/or Harris can attend. Communication from Veronica Schmidt was shared regarding asking the board consideration for an extended contract for the Elementary Counselor/Success Coordinator. A proposal was submitted to the Nebraska Department of Education to update and fully integrate the fire alarm systems between the new addition and the rest of the building. The proposal was submitted through the \$10 million competitive grant for school safety enhancements. All teacher intent forms were returned and contracts for the next school year were distributed and are due back April 15<sup>th</sup>.

B. Public Comment: There was no public comment.

VI. Discussion Items

A. Head Cheer Coach Amanda Madison shared information and thoughts on staffing and funding for the Cheer Team program.

VII. Discussion/Action Items

A. Alex O'Dell presented an updated playground layout proposal and financing options were shared. It was discussed to get definite numbers for financing and wait until May to make a decision whether or not to move forward.

B. A proposed calendar for the 2024-2025 school year was shared along with additional information regarding the calendar. Motion was made by Reis and seconded by Kirkholm to approve the calendar as presented for the 2024-2025 school year. On the roll call vote, the board voted as follows:

Voting for: Harris, Tighe, Kirkholm, Reis, Hall

Voting against: Nelsen

The motion carried 5-1.

- C. A renewal proposal from First Student Transportation was shared as well as pricing for the previous three school years. More information will be shared at the May meeting.

Member Kirkholm will hand out diplomas at Graduation on May 11<sup>th</sup>.

VIII. Action

- B. Motion was made by Reis and seconded by Kirkholm to approve the hiring of Spencer Koehn as Junior High Teacher for the 2024-2025 school year. On the roll call vote, the board voted as follows:  
Voting for: Nelsen, Harris, Tighe, Kirkholm, Reis, Hall  
The motion carried 6-0.

IX. Time/Date of next meeting

The next regular board meeting is set for Monday, May 13, 2024 at 7:00 p.m.

X. Motion to Adjourn

- Motion was made by Nelsen and seconded by Reis to adjourn the meeting at 8:52p.m. on April 8, 2024.  
Voting for: Kirkholm, Reis, Hall, Harris, Nelsen, Tighe  
The motion carried 6-0.

The meeting was duly adjourned.

Dated this 8<sup>th</sup> day of April, 2024.

ATTEST:  
Kristina Nelsen  
Secretary

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