

MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING  
BOARD OF EDUCATION  
HOMER COMMUNITY SCHOOL  
August 14, 2023

A meeting of the Board of Education of Homer Community School was convened in open and public session on Monday, August 14, 2023 at 7:00 p.m. in the Library at the Homer Community School, Homer, Nebraska. The following board members were present or absent:

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

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

On roll call vote, the Board voted as follows:

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

The motion carried 6-0.

IV. Consent Agenda

1. Approve the Minutes of the July 12 regular meeting.

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

Motion was made by Nelsen and seconded by Reis to approve all Consent Agenda items.

On roll call vote, the Board voted as follows:

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

The motion carried 6-0.

V. Audiences/Discussion

A. Dan Schmitt shared information on an opportunity for CNOS to provide athletic training and medical support at future athletic contests starting the 2024-2025 school year.

## VI. Communications/Discussion

### Administration Reports:

Principals Uhl and Coviello reported on the back to school agenda for staff as well as certificated staff evaluation documents. Professional development was discussed along with different areas the principals would like to focus on. The assessment calendar is updated, and homecoming information was shared. Teammates will hold a mentor/mentee night on August 22 in the main gym and the district added a snapchat account.

Superintendent Cruickshank reviewed two options from two quotes for vehicle wraps for the new Ford van. Information was shared on NASB membership meetings and shared a notification that members Nelsen and Kirkholm have moved up on their Awards of Achievement Program. Notification was shared regarding the district being accredited to operate as a PK-12 school district by the Nebraska Department of Education. The district's early retirement incentive policy was discussed as well as LB 753. A copy of the new calendar with the August 24<sup>th</sup> start date was shared with the board.

Public Comment: Public comment was given by Melissa Rushing.

## VII. Discussion

- A. The staff now has access to the entire facility. Final walk-throughs by the fire marshal and BCDM will be August 17<sup>th</sup>. The Community Open House is August 20<sup>th</sup> from 1-4 p.m.
- B. Budget considerations were updated from the July meeting. The board received information regarding the tax and levy history as well as a summary of district levying capacity under LB 243 for 2023-2024. Discussion was held regarding considerations for property tax asking.
- C. 2022-2023 goals and priorities were discussed and will have further discussions at September's board meeting.
- D. The Safe Return to School Plan was revised to reflect the current reality and comply with federal guidelines to receive federal money. This is the last time the board will need to validate a review of the plan.

## VIII. Discussion/Action Items

- A. Motion was made by Hall seconded by Reis to approve the purchase of digital scoreboards/message boards for the main gym. On roll call vote, the board voted as follows:  
Voting for: Nelsen, Kirkholm, Harris, Tighe, Hall, Reis  
The motion carried 6-0.
- B. Motion was made by Reis and seconded by Hall to approve the new policies and policy revisions with the exception of Policy 604.16 which will be reviewed in September. On roll call vote, the board voted as follows:  
Voting for: Hall, Reis, Harris, Nelsen, Kirkholm, Tighe  
The motion carried 6-0.
- C. Motion was made by Reis and seconded by Nelsen to approve LB 243 taxing authority resolution. On roll call vote, the board voted as follows:  
Voting for: Hall, Reis, Harris, Nelsen, Kirkholm, Tighe  
The motion carried 6-0.

VIII. Closed Session

Motion was made by Reis and seconded by Nelsen to enter into closed session at 9:21 p.m. to discuss an employee matter to protect the reputation of an individual. On roll call vote, the board voted as follows:

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

The motion carried 6-0.

The board reconvened to regular session.

Motion was made by Hall and seconded by Kirkholm to enter into regular session at 9:39 p.m. On roll call vote, the board voted as follows:

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

The motion carried 6-0.

IX. Time/Date of next meeting

The next meetings will be on Tuesday, August 22<sup>nd</sup> for the Budget Work Session at 7:00 p.m. and the Budget Hearing, Tax Levy and regular board meeting will be on Monday, September 11th, beginning at 7:00 p.m.

X. Motion to Adjourn

Motion was made by Hall and seconded by Reis to adjourn the meeting at 9:45 p.m. on August 14, 2023. On roll call vote, the board voted as follows:

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

The motion carried 6-0.

The meeting was duly adjourned.

Dated this 14th day of August 2023.

ATTEST:  
Kristina Nelsen  
Secretary

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