

MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING
BOARD OF EDUCATION
HOMER COMMUNITY SCHOOL
July 12, 2023

A meeting of the Board of Education of Homer Community School was convened in open and public session on Wednesday, July 12, 2023 at 7:10p.m. in the Library at the Homer Community School, Homer, Nebraska. The following board members were present or absent:

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

Absent: Ryan Harris

Administration present: Superintendent Gregg Cruickshank, Principals Tom Coviello and Abbie Uhl 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 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 Harris

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

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

The motion carried 5-0.

III. Approval of Agenda and Changes to Agenda

Superintendent Cruickshank asked for Discussion Item E to be changed to substitute teacher pay and review the Return of Back to School plan in August.

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

On roll call vote, the board voted as follows:

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

The motion carried 5-0.

IV. Consent Agenda

1. Approve the Minutes of the June 13th regular meeting.

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

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 Reis to approve all Consent Agenda items.

On roll call vote, the Board voted as follows:

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

Motion carried 5-0.

V. Audiences

A. Jeff Reed, Technology Coordinator, gave an update on updating and adding security cameras as well as updating the server. Reed also presented bids from Scorevision and Crouch Recreation, Inc. (Daktronics) for new LED display scoreboards in the main gym. Both companies report you can raise funds through advertising sales to help fundraise for them.

B. Bill McPherran, Facilities Coordinator, gave an update to the Board regarding the facility project. The project is moving along as scheduled with a start date of school on track for August 17th. A draft calendar with an August 24th start date is available if something unforeseen happens in the next few weeks. Concerns have been raised about not having a sidewalk in front of the building. Suggestions were given by Ho-Chunk to provide a sidewalk. McPherran also reported security film on all exterior and interior glass is nearing completion. The goal post that was damaged in a storm will be fixed and ready for football season. The possibility of an open house to show new construction was discussed.

VI. Communications/ Discussion

a. Administrator reports:

Principal Uhl reported on Elementary positions being filled as well as assessments for 3rd – 5th grade. Principal Uhl also reported that JoAnn Gielselman from Community Connections will reimburse the District \$1,000 for various personal supplies students may need.

Principal Coviello reported all teaching positions have been filled; we still have some coaching positions available. He is exploring options for MAP Growth and we will be having a separate back to school night for 6th and 7th grade students and parents. The date will be determined when construction is closer to completion.

Superintendent Cruickshank reported we have received a STEM donation from Bayer Fund in the amount of \$5,000 on behalf of Nancy Kirkholm. We greatly appreciate the donation. The new van is in and was purchased from Sioux City Ford for \$49,500 which will be paid for out of Depreciation. Superintendent Cruickshank will look into the price of another van. The district has received 50 high quality air purifiers with replacement filters for no cost through the director of nursing services at Unity Point, where the district contracts nursing services.

Public Comment: Amber Barclay brought up communications regarding board meetings and the possibility of posting board meeting notices on the school's Face Book page so more community members were aware of meeting times.

VII. Discussion Items

A. Legislation.

Superintendent Cruickshank address the board on the 2023 Legislative Session and how the bills impact Homer School.

B. Budget 2023-2024

Superintendent Cruickshank provided an updated tax and levy history with 2023-2024 state aid and consideration as the 2023-2024 budget is developed over the next 45-60 days.

VIII. Discussion/Action Items

- A. Motion was made by Reis and seconded by Hall to approve the Policy updates as presented. On roll call vote, the board voted as follows:
Voting for: Tighe, Kirkholm, Reis, Hall, Nelsen
The motion carried 5-0.
- B. Motion was made by Reis and seconded by Nelsen to approve the changes to the student handbook for 2023-2024 school year. On roll call vote, the board voted as follows:
Voting for: Tighe, Kirkholm, Reis, Hall, Nelsen
The motion carried 5-0.
- C. Motion was made by Reis and seconded by Kirkholm to approve the 3% increase to the transportation fees for out of district students for 2023-2024 school year. On roll call vote, the board voted as follows:
Voting for: Kirkholm, Reis, Hall, Nelsen, Tighe
The motion carried 5-0.
- D. Motion was made by Reis and seconded by Nelsen to keep the nutrition fees the same for the 2023-2024 school year. On roll call vote, the board voted as follows:
Voting for: Reis, Hall, Nelsen, Tighe, Kirkholm
The motion carried 5-0.
- E. Motion was made by Reis and seconded by Nelsen to approve the increase of substitute teacher pay for the 2023-2024 school year to \$140 for days 1-20, \$155 for days 21-50 and \$185 for days 51+. On roll call vote, the board voted as follows:
Voting for: Reis, Nelsen, Tighe, Kirkholm
Abstain: Hall
The motion carried 4-1.
- F. Motion was made by Hall and seconded by Kirkholm to approve the Superintendent authorization to apply for all state and federal funding, including Title 1 for 2023-2024 school year. On roll call vote, the board voted as follows:
Voting for: Nelsen, Tighe, Kirkholm, Reis, Hall
The motion carried 5-0.
- G. Motion was made by Reis and seconded by Nelsen to approve the installation of additional surveillance cameras. The project will be paid for from federal REAP allocation. On roll call vote, the board voted as follows:
Voting for: Nelsen, Tighe, Kirkholm, Reis, Hall
The motion carried 5-0.

IX. Closed Session

Motion was made by Nelsen and seconded by Reis to go into closed session at 10:20p.m. to protect the reputation of an individual. On roll call vote, the board voted as follows:
Voting for: Nelsen, Tighe, Kirkholm, Reis, Hall
The motion carried 5-0.

The board exited closed session at 10:57p.m.

Motion was made by Hall and seconded by Reis to go into regular session at 10:57p.m.
On roll call vote, the board voted as follows:
Voting for: Tighe, Kirkholm, Reis, Hall, Nelsen
The motion carried 5-0.

X. Time/Date of next meetings

The next regular board meeting is set for Monday, August 14, 2023 at 7:00p.m.
The Budget Workshop meeting is set for Wednesday, August 23, 2023 at 7:00p.m.

XI. Motion to Adjourn

Motion was made by Reis and seconded by Hall to adjourn the meeting at 11:02p.m. on July 12, 2023. On roll call vote the board voted as follows:
Voting for: Kirkholm, Reis, Hall, Nelsen, Tighe
The motion carried 5-0.
The meeting was duly adjourned.

Dated this 12th day of July, 2023.

ATTEST:
Kristen Nelsen
Secretary

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