

MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING
BOARD OF EDUCATION
HOMER COMMUNITY SCHOOL
May 15, 2023

A meeting of the Board of Education of Homer Community School was convened in open and public session on Monday, May 15, 2023 at 8:00 p.m. in the Library at Homer Community School, Homer, Nebraska. The following board members were present or absent:

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

Administration present: Superintendent Gregg Cruickshank, Principal Abbie Uhl and Casey Tremayne and 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 & 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

Superintendent Cruickshank asked to add Negotiations for 24-25 into Closed Session. Motion was made by Nelsen and seconded by Reis to approve the agenda as amended.

On roll call vote, the Board voted as follows:

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

The motion carried 6-0.

IV. Consent Agenda

1. Approve the Minutes of the April 12th regular meeting.

2. Approve claims and accounts from General Fund.

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

On roll call vote, the Board voted as follows:

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

The motion carried 6-0.

V. Audiences

A. Bradie Johnson addressed the board on the importance of Speech and how she will use what she has learned all through life.

B. Speech and One-Act coaching stipends – Ashley Ziska presented the board with the percent of pay from area schools. The board would also like to compare the percent that other head coaches are paid from the schools.

C. Roger Heck, District Insurance – Mr. Heck reviewed the insurance renewal for the school with the board. There will be a significant increase so he recommended to the board to raise the deductible to save on premium cost. It has been quite a few years since we have had any claims to use the deductible.

VI. Communications

A. Administrative Reports:

Principal Uhl reported that NSCAS and AIMSweb testing are complete. A presentation will be given at a later date. May 16th will be the elementary track meet from 9:00 to 12:00. The summer school coordinator is Angela Ford and will consist of students in grades 2-6. Classes will run from July 17 – August 4. Maryn Phillips will be elementary Guidance Counselor for the 2023-24 school year. She will also work on curriculum. Her salary will be funded by the ACE Grant.

Principal Tremayne reported on the failing students. The FAB Banquet was held on May 9th in the evening and POPS concert was the morning of the 9th. There was a nice turn out of parents, families and students for Graduation on Saturday. The SAL and VAL gave nice speeches and 4 McManigal Scholarships were given. The Athletic Banquet is May 16th at 6:00 pm. The state track qualifiers will be leaving on Thursday afternoon and we wish all the students good luck. There will be no summer school and grades have been addressed on an individual basis with students and parents. Homecoming 2023 will be the last week of August, so they would like to have Coronation and the Bonfire on Sunday, August 27th due to the fact that we have 3 volleyball games and Cross Country meet that week and on Wednesday the Husker Volleyball Team plays in Memorial Stadium.

Superintendent Cruickshank reported that current enrollment is at 430. The district will receive \$5000 donated from Nancy, Tess and Tyler Kirkholm through the America's Farmers Grow Communities program. The donation will be designated for STEM Curriculum. The 10 passenger all wheel drive van will be built started June 12, 2023 with a projected delivery date of August 31, 2023. We have an interest in purchasing a second van. A Crossfire XR plasma cutter was purchased through the federal Perkins PLUS Grant by Mr. Lambert. Mr. Lambert will make a welding lab that is away from the flammable material by moving the automotive lift. The surge suppressor needed replacement at the Krumwiede Field. Bill and Mr. Cruickshank visited with 2 playground equipment vendors. A new playground will be a priority for discussion during the 2023-24 school year. There has been no update on the press box renovation on the Krumwiede field.

B. There was no public comment.

VII. Closed Session

Motion was made by Reis and seconded by Nelsen to enter into closed session at 9:21 p.m. to discuss negotiations, personnel and a student matter to protect the reputations of individuals. On roll call vote, the board voted as follows:

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

The motion carried 6-0.

The Board exited closed session at 10:08 p.m.

Motion was made by Hall and seconded by Reis to enter regular session at 10:08 p.m.

On roll call vote, the board voted as follows:

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

The motion carried 6-0.

VIII. Discussion

- a. The Facility addition project continues to be on schedule. Staff is working together on the relocation of classroom materials. Major demolition work begins May 17th. Next month you may want to discuss an open house for the public upon the completion of the project.
- b. The latest update on the contents and progress of the LB705 – the Education Committee Priority Package was given to the board and the highlighted parts are most important for our situation. A memo from Justin Knight concerning the new conceal and carry law and implications for public schools was provided to the board.
- c. The Master Schedule for the 2023-24 school year was discussed and principals will continue to work on this.

IX. Discussion/Action

- a. Motion was made by Reis and seconded by Kirkholm to approve the Alternative Education Program. On roll call vote, the board voted as follows:
Voting for: Kirkholm, Harris, Tighe, Reis, Hall, Nelsen
The motion carried 6-0.
- b. Motion was made by Reis and seconded by Kirkholm to approve the purchase and installation of the Glass safety film. On roll call vote, the board voted as follows:
Voting for: Harris, Tighe, Reis, Hall, Nelsen, Kirkholm
The motion carried 6-0.
- c. Motion was made by Reis and seconded by Harris to approve the Nutrition program purchase of an oven and lunch tables. On roll call vote, the board voted as follows:
Voting for: Tighe, Reis, Hall, Nelsen, Kirkholm, Harris
The motion carried 6-0.
- d. Motion was made by Kirkholm and seconded by Reis to approve the district insurance renewal at a deductible of \$25,000 for the 2023-2024 school year. On roll call vote, the board voted as follows:
Voting for: Reis, Hall, Nelsen, Kirkholm, Harris, Tighe
The motion carried 6-0

- e. The motion to approve the Speech and One Act Stipends was tabled to obtain further information.

X. Action

- a. Motion was made by Reis and seconded by Harris to approve the resignation of Emma Caskey. On roll call vote, the board voted as follows:
Voting for: Nelsen, Kirkholm, Harris, Tighe, Reis, Hall
The motion carried 6-0.

Motion was made by Reis and seconded by Harris to approve the resignation of Tory McCreary. On roll call vote, the board voted as follows:
Voting for: Hall, Nelsen, Kirkholm, Harris, Tighe, Reis
The motion carried 6-0.

- b. Motion was made by Reis and seconded by Nelsen to approve the hiring of Kealy Ensminger for grades 5-8 Special Education Teacher. On roll call vote, the board voted as follows:
Voting for: Kirkholm, Harris, Tighe, Reis, Hall, Nelsen
The motion carried 6-0.

Motion was made by Nelsen and seconded by Reis to approve the hiring of Brittni Olson for Kindergarten Teacher. On roll call vote, the board voted as follows:
Voting for: Harris, Tighe, Reis, Hall, Nelsen, Kirkholm
The motion carried 6-0.

XI. Time/Date of next meeting

The next regular board meeting is set for Tuesday, June 13, 2023 at 7:00 p.m.

XII. Motion to Adjourn

Motion was made by Nelsen and seconded by Harris to adjourn the meeting at 10:44 p.m. on May 15, 2023.
Voting for: Tighe, Reis, Hall, Nelsen, Kirkholm, Harris
The motion carried 6-0.

The meeting was duly adjourned.

Dated this 15th day of May, 2023.

ATTEST:
Kristina Nelsen
Secretary

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