

MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING
BOARD OF EDUCATION
HOMER COMMUNITY SCHOOL
Tuesday, June 9, 2026

A meeting of the Board of Education of Homer Community School was convened in open and public session on Tuesday, June 9, 2026 at 7:00 PM in the Library at Homer Community School, Homer, Nebraska. The following board members were present or absent:

Byron Hall: Present, Ryan Harris: Present, Samantha Johnson: Present, Tyler Kirkholm: Absent, Dr. Kristina Nelsen: Present, Paul Tighe: Present.

Administration present: Superintendent Dr. Joseph Lefdal, Principal Abbie Uhl, Principal Jake Brand, 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. Opening the Meeting

I.A. Call Meeting to Order and Notification of Open Meeting Law

I.A.i. Posted in the room

I.A.ii. Publication of Meeting was provided according to 84-1411

I.B. District Mission Statement:

II. Board Member Roll Call

Motion was made by Byron Hall and seconded by Dr. Kristina Nelsen to excuse absent board member Kirkholm. On roll call vote the Board voted as follows: The motion carried
Byron Hall: Yea, Ryan Harris: Yea, Samantha Johnson: Yea, Tyler Kirkholm: Absent, Dr. Kristina Nelsen: Yea, Paul Tighe: Yea

Yea: 5, Nay: 0, Absent: 1

III. Excuse Absent Board Members

IV. Pledge of Allegiance

V. Approval of the Agenda and changes to the Agenda

Motion was made by Ryan Harris and seconded by Byron Hall to approve the agenda as presented. On roll call vote the Board voted as follows: The motion carried
Byron Hall: Yea, Ryan Harris: Yea, Samantha Johnson: Yea, Tyler Kirkholm: Absent, Dr. Kristina Nelsen: Yea, Paul Tighe: Yea

Yea: 5, Nay: 0, Absent: 1

VI.Consent Agenda

Motion was made by Samantha Johnson and seconded by Dr. Kristina Nelsen to approve all items presented on the Consent Agenda. On roll call vote the Board voted as follows: The motion carried

Byron Hall: Yea, Ryan Harris: Yea, Samantha Johnson: Yea, Tyler Kirkholm: Absent, Dr. Kristina Nelsen: Yea, Paul Tighe: Yea

Yea: 5, Nay: 0, Absent: 1

VI.A.Approval of Minutes from the May regular meeting

VI.B.Approve claims and accounts

VII.Public Comment

There was none.

VIII.Information Items: Reports

VIII.A.Administrator reports

Work continues on finalizing NDE verification reports throughout the summer. Professional development efforts are focused on instructional rigor, ELA, standards unpacking, collective efficacy, and student engagement, with support from ESU 1 and new curriculum training. Preparations for the 2026-27 school year are underway, including in-service days, safety drills, attendance initiatives, Registration Night, and Open House. Staff trainings are being coordinated, and the elementary master schedule is being finalized to ensure adequate instructional time for the new ELA curriculum.

VIII.B.Superintendent report

The board reviewed several district updates, including compliance requirements related to special education funding and ongoing efforts to ensure all federal and state requirements are met. Attendance trends were discussed, along with strategies to continue improving student attendance across all grade levels. The board also received an update on the development of the district's virtual school program and progress toward implementation. Enrollment and attendance data were reviewed as part of ongoing planning for the upcoming school year. Additionally, the board discussed current enrollment trends and athletic participation numbers as the district continues preparations for the 2026-27 school year.

IX.Discussion Items

X.Action Items

X.A.Consider, discuss, and take action to approve the 2026-27 school lunch prices.

Discussion was held regarding the impact different lunch prices would have on the lunch program. Rising food costs are a large factor.

Motion was made by Byron Hall and seconded by Ryan Harris to increase breakfast prices .25 to \$2.50 and lunch prices .50 for elementary and high school and adult prices. On roll call vote the Board voted as follows: The motion carried

Byron Hall: Yea, Ryan Harris: Yea, Samantha Johnson: Yea, Tyler Kirkholm: Absent, Dr. Kristina Nelsen: Yea, Paul Tighe: Yea

Yea: 5, Nay: 0, Absent: 1

X.B.Consider, discuss, and take action to approve annual insurance coverage.

Different insurance possibilities were looked into. ALICAP came in significantly lower than EMC at about \$49,100 in savings.

Motion was made by Byron Hall and seconded by Dr. Kristina Nelsen to approve ALICAP

for our annual insurance coverage. On roll call vote the Board voted as follows: The motion carried

Byron Hall: Yea, Ryan Harris: Yea, Samantha Johnson: Yea, Tyler Kirkholm: Absent, Dr. Kristina Nelsen: Yea, Paul Tighe: Yea

Yea: 5, Nay: 0, Absent: 1

X.C.Consider, discuss, and take action to approve staff trainings for the 2026-27 school year.

Dr. Lefdal shared all the staff trainings for the year staff will need to complete.

Motion was made by Samantha Johnson and seconded by Byron Hall to approve staff trainings for the 2026-27 school year. On roll call vote the Board voted as follows: The motion carried

Byron Hall: Yea, Ryan Harris: Yea, Samantha Johnson: Yea, Tyler Kirkholm: Absent, Dr. Kristina Nelsen: Yea, Paul Tighe: Yea

Yea: 5, Nay: 0, Absent: 1

X.D.Consider, discuss, and take action on Policy Updates for 2026-27

Dr. Lefdal have an overview of all the policy updates.

Motion was made by Byron Hall and seconded by Ryan Harris to approve Policy Updates for the 2026-27 school year. On roll call vote the Board voted as follows: The motion carried

Byron Hall: Yea, Ryan Harris: Yea, Samantha Johnson: Yea, Tyler Kirkholm: Absent, Dr. Kristina Nelsen: Yea, Paul Tighe: Yea

Yea: 5, Nay: 0, Absent: 1

XI.Next Meeting

The next meeting will be Monday, July 13th at 7:00 pm.

XII.Adjournment

Motion was made by Samantha Johnson and seconded by Dr. Kristina Nelsen to adjourn the meeting at 7:35 pm. On roll call vote the Board voted as follows: The motion carried

Byron Hall: Yea, Ryan Harris: Yea, Samantha Johnson: Yea, Tyler Kirkholm: Absent, Dr. Kristina Nelsen: Yea, Paul Tighe: Yea

Yea: 5, Nay: 0, Absent: 1

Dated this Tuesday, June 9, 2026.

ATTEST:
Dr. Kristina Nelsen
Secretary

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