

MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING
BOARD OF EDUCATION
HOMER COMMUNITY SCHOOL
Monday, April 14, 2025

A meeting of the Board of Education of Homer Community School was convened in open and public session on Monday, April 14, 2025 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 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. 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 Ryan Harris 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. Approval of the Agenda and changes to the Agenda

Motion was made by Samantha Johnson and seconded by Dr. Kristina Nelsen 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

V. Consent Agenda

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

V.A.Approval of Mintues from the March regular meeting

V.B.Approve claims and accounts

The district recently incurred roofing costs due to a leak that required repair. As of the end of April, the General Fund balance stands at \$863,217.92. The Activity Account currently has a balance of \$72,271.86 but is overspent and will be recoded accordingly. The Building Fund totals \$117,000; however, a portion of this must be used to repay an interfund loan from the depreciation account made during the 2022-2023 fiscal year. Additionally, the QCPUF (Qualified Capital Purpose Undertaking Fund) has a balance of \$114,857.

V.C.Approve resignations

The board respectfully accepted the resignations of the staff members and extended their sincere gratitude for their service to the district.

V.D.Approve new hires

VI.Public Comment

There was none.

VII.Information Items: Reports

VII.A.Administrator reports

Mrs. Uhl and Mr. Coviello shared several updates regarding upcoming District wide events and recent activities. The 5th Grade Orientation Day for students transitioning to 6th grade will be held on April 30th, and the Preschool/Senior hallway walk is scheduled for May 6th. The Junior Class Mother's Day flower sale and the Grades 3-12 Art Show were discussed as well. Mrs. Uhl also announced that the Nebraska Soybean Board Presentation will take place on April 28th and commended students for their excellent performances at the Elementary Spring Concert. Special thanks to Mrs. Anderson and Mrs. Moos for all their work. The Elementary raised an impressive \$9,818.82 for the American Heart Association, and Kindergarten Round-Up was held on March 28th with 25 families in attendance. Testing will take place in the upcoming weeks, and the Elementary Track Meet is scheduled for May 16th from 9:00 to 11:30 a.m. Additionally, Preschool Graduation will be held on May 19th at 10:00 a.m. Elementary Enrichment projects were discussed as well as the Title I Read in on April 11th.

Mr. Coviello reported that spring sports and activities are currently underway, and ACT testing has been completed for all Freshman, Sophomore, and Junior students. NSCAS testing will be conducted at the end of April, and the Senior Trip is scheduled for April 25-28. He also confirmed that Graduation will take place on May 10th at 2:00 p.m. Our Middle School was recognized on KTIV and received the Make a Difference Award and will receive a free trip to Arnold's Park.

VII.B.Superintendent report

Jeff R provided an internet update, followed by discussion on planning for student summer help. Board volunteers are being sought to assist with handing out diplomas at graduation. Updates were shared on the school's partnership with the Legion, including ongoing collaboration. The band program has recently purchased guitars and keyboards, with plans to

acquire a trailer next year. Staffing updates included hiring for janitorial and maintenance positions as well as a full-time substitute. Recognition was given to KTIV contest winners. Coaching and teaching position updates were provided, along with information on building and grounds projects. A legislative update was shared, covering developments relevant to the district. Discussion also included 6th grade student placement and adjustments to scheduling, including study hall planning and the creation of a back area designated for middle school use.

VIII. Discussion Items

VIII.A. ELL Program

The district has entered into a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with ESU 7 for the 2025-2026 school year. Districts with EL expenditures under \$10,000 are required to join a consortium. The district is in the process of revamping its EL interventions in alignment with ongoing improvements to the MTSS (Multi-Tiered System of Supports) framework.

VIII.B. Academic Content Standards for reading, writing, mathematics, science, and social studies

The board reviewed academic content standards in reading, writing, mathematics, science, and social studies for Rule 10 requirements. These standards outline what students should know and be able to do at each grade level. Districts must review these standards annually to ensure they remain current, aligned with state expectations, and effectively support student learning.

IX. Action Items

IX.A. Consider, discuss, and take action to approve the Homer Emergency Operations Plan

The board reviewed the Emergency Operations Plan last month approved the plan this month.

Motion was made by Byron Hall and seconded by Samantha Johnson to approve the Homer Emergency Operations Plan. 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

IX.B. Consider, discuss, and take action to approve the Superintendent's contract for Dr. Joseph Lefdal.

Motion was made by Ryan Harris and seconded by Dr. Kristina Nelsen to approve the Superintendent's contract for Dr. Joseph Lefdal. 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

IX.C. Consider, discuss, and take action to approve the Class of 2025 Graduation List

Motion was made by Samantha Johnson and seconded by Dr. Kristina Nelsen to approve the Class of 2025 Graduation List. 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

IX.D. Consider, discuss, and take action to accept contract renewals for certificated staff

Motion was made by Dr. Kristina Nelsen and seconded by Ryan Harris to accept contract

renewals for certificated staff. 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. Next Meeting

The next meeting will be Wednesday, May 14th at 7:00p.m.

XI. Adjournment

Motion was made by Dr. Kristina Nelsen and seconded by Samantha Johnson to adjourn the meeting at 8:21 p.m. 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 Monday, April 14, 2025.

ATTEST:
Dr. Kristina Nelsen
Secretary

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