

MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING  
BOARD OF EDUCATION  
HOMER COMMUNITY SCHOOL  
Tuesday, March 11, 2025

A meeting of the Board of Education of Homer Community School was convened in open and public session on Tuesday, March 11, 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: Present, 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

III. Excuse Absent Board Members

IV. Approval of the Agenda and changes to the Agenda

Motion was made by Samantha Johnson and seconded by Ryan Harris 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: Yea, Dr. Kristina Nelsen: Yea, Paul Tighe: Yea

Yea: 6, Nay: 0

V. Consent Agenda

Motion was made by Tyler Kirkholm and seconded by Samantha Johnson 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: Yea, Dr.

Kristina Nelsen: Yea, Paul Tighe: Yea

Yea: 6, Nay: 0

V.A.Approval of minutes from the February regular meeting

V.B.Approve claims and accounts

V.C.Approve new hires

Jacob Brand-Secondary Principal

Ashley Ziska-Library/FCS

Rose Brewer-MS Special Education

VI.Public Comment

There was none.

VII.Information Items: Reports

VII.A.Administrator reports

Mrs. Uhl informed the Board that our annual Blood Drive was held March 3rd. Conferences were held one day this year due to weather and the Elementary Knight Pride celebration will be March 13th. The Pk-5 Spring Concert will be held March 27th. Mr.

Coviello congratulated our Girls Basketball team on their successful season. Conference Speech was held March 10th and was a successful day for our entire Speech Team. Spring sports have started, and we have a large percentage of high school students out for activities.

VII.B.Superintendent report

The meeting covered several key topics, starting with Rule 10 compliance, ensuring the district continues to meet Nebraska's accreditation standards. Attendance was discussed, focusing on current trends and strategies to improve student participation. Updates on scheduling were reviewed, along with plans for potential adjustments. A special recognition was given to the girl's basketball team for their achievements and dedication. Transportation costs were reviewed, while an update on bullying prevention efforts and reporting procedures was provided. The Strategic Plan Survey process was discussed as a way to gather input for district planning.

A notable highlight was the increase in state aid, rising from \$2,008,934 to \$2,189,637, which will impact budget planning. Plans for summer school were reviewed. The board also discussed student fees and potential adjustments. The addition of picnic tables for student and staff use was discussed. Updates were shared regarding requests for proposals (RFPs) for district lunch program. The meeting also covered gate box protocols for handling funds at events and reviewed the implementation of the Attendance Recovery Program to address student absences. Finally, snow days were discussed.

VIII.Discussion Items

VIII.A.Community Eligibility Provision Lunch Program

The Community Eligibility Provision Lunch Program was discussed.

VIII.B.Board Goals

Dr. Lefdal handed out the results of a survey that was filled out by students, staff and board members. This will serve as a starting point for our strategic plan moving forward.

VIII.C.Superintendent Salary

There was a discussion regarding Dr. Lefdal's salary.

IX.Action Items

IX.A.Consider, discuss, and take action to approve the classified staff and principal salary increase of 3.9387%.

Motion was made by Tyler Kirkholm and seconded by Byron Hall to approve the classified staff and principal salary increase of 3.9387%. On roll call vote the Board voted as follows:

The motion carried

Byron Hall: Yea, Ryan Harris: Yea, Samantha Johnson: Yea, Tyler Kirkholm: Yea, Dr.

Kristina Nelsen: Yea, Paul Tighe: Yea

Yea: 6, Nay: 0

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

This will be discussed at next month's meeting.

X.Next Meeting

The April Board Meeting will be held Monday, April 14th at 7:00 p.m.

XI.Adjournment

Motion was made by Dr. Kristina Nelsen and seconded by Byron Hall to adjourn the meeting at 8:16 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: Yea, Dr.

Kristina Nelsen: Yea, Paul Tighe: Yea

Yea: 6, Nay: 0

Dated this Tuesday, March 11, 2025.

ATTEST:  
Dr. Kristina Nelsen  
Secretary

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