

MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING
BOARD OF EDUCATION
HOMER COMMUNITY SCHOOL
Wednesday, June 11, 2025

A meeting of the Board of Education of Homer Community School was convened in open and public session on Wednesday, June 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.2025-26 Parental and Family Engagement Policy Hearing

I.A.Call the hearing to order

I.B.The purpose of the hearing is to review, discuss, consider, and receive input, support, opposition, criticism, and suggestions from patrons relating to the parental and family engagement policy.

I.C.Public comment

I.D.Discussion

Dr. Lefdal discussed the parent involvement policies.

I.E.Adjourn the parental and family engagement policy

II.Opening the Meeting

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

II.A.i.Posted in the room

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

II.B.District Mission Statement:

III.Board Member Roll Call

IV.Excuse Absent Board Members

V.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

VI.Consent Agenda

Motion was made by Tyler Kirkholm 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: Yea, Dr.

Kristina Nelsen: Yea, Paul Tighe: Yea

Yea: 6, Nay: 0

VI.A.Approval of Minutes from the May 14th regular meeting

VI.B.Approve claims and accounts

VI.C.Approve new hires

VII.Public Comment

Diana Hauck thanked the board for the opportunity to work for Homer Community Schools as a bus driver.

VIII.Information Items: Reports

VIII.A.Administrator reports

Mrs. Uhl discussed she will be going to literacy coaching training this summer and Mr. Brand shared he has been in the office doing some trainings and is looking forward to meeting staff this summer.

VIII.B.Superintendent report

Food service staffing is complete with all positions now filled, ensuring smooth meal service for the upcoming school year. Additionally, three of the five bus driver positions have been successfully hired, with continued efforts underway to recruit the remaining drivers. As part of our commitment to community engagement, we are also exploring the possibility of opening the school library to the public one evening per week during the school year, providing increased access to resources for families and residents.

VIII.B.i.Update on food service program

We have hired kitchen staff and will line up training for new staff.

VIII.B.ii.Update on transportation

Jeff Reed informed the board about a GPS device we can install on the new buses and a parent portal that can be utilized. Cameras for the new buses were also discussed.

VIII.B.iii.Library

Dr. Lefdal expressed he is looking at offering a community library once or twice a week

during the school year in our Library.

IX.Discussion Items

IX.A.Pepsi contract

Both the Pepsi and Coke contracts were looked at. We will be moving forward with Pepsi.

IX.B.Legion update

Dr. Lefdal has been working with the Legion and has come up with a monthly amount for the year so we can utilize the space at any time for many activities.

IX.C.Superintendent Evaluation

The Superintendent Evaluation was just sent out to board members.

IX.D.Policy Update

Dr. Lefdal informed the board on the different policy updates.

IX.E.Review policy regarding appropriate relationships with students.

This will be discussed with staff at PD.

IX.F.Bully Prevention Policy Review

This will be a big push at our school next year.

IX.G.Graduation Requirements Review

Graduation requirements were discussed.

IX.H.HAL Program Review

HAL was discussed and will be talked about more next month.

IX.I.Review attendance policy

Recovery of attendance was discussed and we will have a lot of information sent out regarding attendance and time mattering.

IX.J.Review board adopted policies, rules, and standards pertaining to student conduct.

Discussion was held regarding standards pertaining to student conduct.

IX.K.Student Handbook

Dr. Lefdal has reached out to our school attorney, and we will be redoing our handbook so it ties in with our policies.

X.Action Items

X.A.Consider, discuss, and take action to approve the parental and family engagement policy.

Motion was made by Byron Hall and seconded by Tyler Kirkholm to take action to approve the parental and family engagement policy. 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

X.B.Consider, discuss, and take action to approve the 2025-26 transportation fees.

Motion was made by Byron Hall and seconded by Tyler Kirkholm to eliminate bus fees for the 25-26 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: Yea, Dr.
Kristina Nelsen: Yea, Paul Tighe: Yea
Yea: 6, Nay: 0

XI.Next Meeting

Will be Monday, July 14th at 6:00p.m.

XII.Adjournment

Motion was made by Dr. Kristina Nelsen and seconded by Samantha Johnson to adjourn the meeting at 8:37p.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 Wednesday, June 11, 2025.

ATTEST:
Dr. Kristina Nelsen
Secretary

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