

MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING  
BOARD OF EDUCATION  
HOMER COMMUNITY SCHOOL  
Tuesday, March 10, 2026

A meeting of the Board of Education of Homer Community School was convened in open and public session on Tuesday, March 10, 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: Present, 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

All members present.

III. Excuse Absent Board Members

IV. Approval of the Agenda

Motion was made by Samantha Johnson 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: Yea, Dr. Kristina Nelsen: Yea, Paul Tighe: Yea

Yea: 6, Nay: 0

V. Consent Agenda

Motion was made by Ryan Harris 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: 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

The board reviewed the district's budget, including a discussion of all major accounts. Current balances, spending trends, and projected expenditures were examined to ensure alignment with district priorities and financial responsibilities. Annual spending patterns were also reviewed to help guide planning and maintain responsible fiscal management moving forward.

VI. Public Comment

Comments were made on how well the lunch program is going.

VII. Information Items: Reports

VII.A. Teacher Report

This will be postponed until April's meeting.

VII.B. Administrator reports

Homer Community Schools continue to see strong engagement from students and families across the district, with high participation in recent parent-teacher conferences. At the elementary level, upcoming activities include NAEP testing for fourth grade, NAIA Youth Day for grades 3-5, a fourth-grade field trip to the Orpheum Theatre, and the annual Kids Heart Challenge fundraiser. Elementary staff have also selected the CKLA English Language Arts curriculum and will be visiting neighboring districts to observe implementation. At the secondary level, students are preparing for ACT and PreACT testing while also participating in music festivals, art shows, and spring athletics. The district will also host the District Speech Contest and recognize National Agriculture Week with student demonstrations and community activities.

VII.C. Superintendent report

An update was provided on current enrollment and attendance data. Trends and overall student attendance rates were reviewed as part of ongoing monitoring efforts. Information regarding student internship opportunities and potential partnerships to support career exploration and real-world learning experiences was also shared.

VIII. Discussion Items

VIII.A. Mid year policy updates 1st reading

Dr. Lefdal discussed different policy updates and how they tie in with Homer School. Policy updates will now come from NASB.

VIII.B. Legislative Update

Dr. Lefdal reviewed several Legislative Updates with the board.

IX. Action Items

IX.A. Consider, discuss, and take action to approve the transfer of \$80,000 to School Nutrition Fund from the General Fund for March through August.

The board considered, discussed, and took action to approve the transfer of \$80,000 from the General Fund to the School Nutrition Fund to support operations for the period of March

through August.

Motion was made by Tyler Kirkholm and seconded by Byron Hall to approve the transfer of \$80,000 to School Nutrition Fund from the General Fund for March through August. 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 bid for \$64,392 for K-5 English Language Arts curriculum

Discussion was held regarding the new elementary curriculum. Dr. Lefdal and Mrs. Uhl shared their excitement about implementing the new program. It was also noted that elementary teachers were provided the opportunity to give input and participate in the decision-making process regarding the curriculum selection.

Motion was made by Dr. Kristina Nelsen and seconded by Ryan Harris to approve the bid for \$64,392 for K-5 English Language Arts curriculum. On roll call vote the Board voted as follows: The motion carried

Byron Hall: Abstain (With Conflict), Ryan Harris: Yea, Samantha Johnson: Yea, Tyler Kirkholm: Yea, Dr. Kristina Nelsen: Yea, Paul Tighe: Yea

Yea: 5, Nay: 0, Abstain (With Conflict): 1

X.Next Meeting

The next meeting will be Tuesday, April 14th at 7:00 p.m.

XI.Adjournment

Motion was made by Dr. Kristina Nelsen and seconded by Samantha Johnson to adjourn the meeting at 7:35 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 10, 2026.

ATTEST:  
Dr. Kristina Nelsen  
Secretary

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