



**NE Land
Board of Education Regular Meeting
John B. Conference Room, 123 Yellow Brick Road, Lincoln, NE
68502
Wednesday, October 2, 2024 at 4:00 PM**

AGENDA

1. Administrative Assistants Resources/Support	
<i>Attachments:</i>	
<i>Homer Community School - Minutes (2)</i>	3
1.A. Nebraska Administrative Assistants	
<i>Attachments:</i>	
<i>Sandy Creek Public Schools - Sandy Creek Board of Education Meeting Agenda (1)</i>	4
1.B. AA Email Communications / Learning	
1.C. Opportunity Invites	
1.D. AA Association sponsored	
1.E. AA Frequently Asked Questions	
2. Opening the Meeting	
2.A. Pledge of Allegiance	
2.B. Call to Order and Welcome	
2.C. Open Meeting Act	
2.D. Publication of Meeting	
2.E. Excuse Absent Board Members	
3. Did you Know?	
4. Public Comments	
<i>Attachments:</i>	
<i>Letter 2024</i>	6
5. Reports	
5.A. Building/District Administrators	
5.B. Superintendent	
5.C. Board Members	
5.D. Board Committees	
5.E. Other School Personnel	
5.F. District Goals Update	
6. Action Items	
6.A. Consent Agenda	
6.A.i. Minutes of Previous Meeting(s)	
6.B. SPArq Meetings	
7. Approval of the Regular Meeting Agenda	
8. Discussion Items	
8.A. Updating District Information in the Association Database	
8.B. The Board Meeting	
8.B.i. Parliamentary Procedure	
8.B.ii. Board Meeting Rules of Order	
8.B.iii. School District Record Retention	
8.C. Association Programs/Services	
8.C.i. eMeetings	
8.C.ii. Document Imaging and Management	
8.C.iii. eFunds	

8.C.iv. **Online Policy Service**

8.C.v. **2013-2014 Calendar of Event**

9. **Adjournment**

10. **Public Comments**

Attachments:

NPPD September Video

8

11. **Consent Agenda**

Posted Locations:

Lincoln Journal Star

Omaha World Herald

Sparq Main Office

Posted Date: 3-30-21

MINUTES OF SPECIAL MEETING
BOARD OF EDUCATION
HOMER COMMUNITY SCHOOL
{{Date}}

A meeting of the Board of Education of Homer Community School was convened in open and public session on {{Date}} at {{Time}} in the {{Location}} at Homer Community School, Homer, Nebraska. The following board members were present or absent:

{{Attendance}}

Visitors present: None

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.

{{AgendaItemStart}}

{{Name}}

{{Discussion}}

{{Actions}}

{{AgendaItemEnd}}

Dated this {{Date}}.

ATTEST:
Dr. Kristina Nelsen
Secretary

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

Sandy Creek Board of Education Meeting Agenda
Wednesday, September 11, 2024
Sandy Creek School
7:30 PM

I. Public Hearing for the purpose of hearing support, opposition, criticism, suggestions, or observations of taxpayers related to the 24-25 proposed budgets

II. Public Hearing to discuss, consider and review property taxes for the General Fund, Qualified Capital Purpose Fund, and Special Building Fund for the 24-25 school year

III. Call the Meeting to Order

III.A. Pledge of Allegiance

III.B. Notation of Nebraska Open Meeting Laws posted

III.C. Roll Call

III.D. Excuse absent board members

IV. Public Recognition

IV.A. Students

IV.B. Staff

IV.C. Public Participation

V. Information Items

V.A. Board Committee Reports

V.B. Administrator Reports

V.C. Miscellaneous

VI. Consent Agenda

VI.A. Approval of General Fund Claims

VI.B. Approval of Additions

VI.C. Approval of Other Fund Claims

VI.D. Approval of Minutes

VI.E. Approval of Activity Report

VI.F. Approval of Cash Receipts

VI.G. Approval of Revenue/Expenditure Account Summary

VI.H. Board Member Insurance Coverage

VII. Action Items

VII.A. Consider amending the Policy 2008 - Meetings to reflect the rotation of meeting times for the year as present.

VII.B. Consider approving the policy 6033 - Seclusion & Restraint as presented.

VII.C. Discuss consider and take all necessary action to purchase a 2024 Ford Edge and a 2024 Ford Expedition

VII.D. Discuss, consider, and take all necessary action to adopt the Proposed Budget for the 2024-2025 school year

VII.E. Discuss, consider, and take all necessary action to pass the resolution setting the Property Tax Request for the 2024-2025 school year

VIII. Next Meeting date/time/location & Committee Discussion

VIII.A. Regular Board Meeting

VIII.B. Committee Meeting

IX. Adjournment

Dear-

I'm reaching out to share my concerns regarding Aquinas Catholic Elementary, specifically about Mrs. Sarah Zook, the principal. My husband and I are both alumni of the school, parents of four, active parishioners at St. Francis Church, and deeply involved in the school community—I am a substitute teacher and volunteer, and we both volunteer coach multiple sports. We are truly invested in the well-being and success of our Catholic school. Mrs. Zook has been the principal since our oldest child started in 2017, and over the past seven years, I (Paula) have had numerous interactions and conversations with her. I would like to share my observations and concerns from these experiences, particularly those from the past year.

I've been a part of our school's Parent Teacher Organization for about 4-5 years. During that time, I've seen numerous parents who initially wanted to help organize fun, light-hearted events for our children and teachers, eventually quit volunteering. This was largely due to Sarah's disorganization, dishonesty, her desire to control every detail, and her inability to communicate important information about events in a timely manner. Many of these events required several hours of effort from volunteering parents, but Sarah often made the process unnecessarily difficult. She tends to micromanage aspects that a principal shouldn't need to oversee. These parents are more than capable of organizing events without her needing to be at every meeting or deeply involved. In my opinion, she has bigger responsibilities that deserve her attention.

In one of our recent meetings, we were planning the track and field day at the end of last year, and the conversation took an awkward turn. When someone mentioned all the work Mrs. Katie Smith puts into the event, Sarah's comments and body language suggested that Katie's efforts weren't appreciated or sufficient. I'm not entirely sure what Sarah meant, but it came across as if she was uncomfortable with the excellent work Katie had done for the event in the past.

Our daughter is in 3rd grade this year and has always been a bright student, excelling in her schoolwork. Unfortunately, she is already feeling frustrated, particularly with math. While I'm not an educator and don't claim to understand all the complexities of running a school, it seems clear that starting a new math curriculum abruptly in 3rd grade is problematic. The kids were gradually not introduced to this change, and it's causing a lot of frustration.

Just last week, I spent over an hour helping my daughter with a math assignment. The workbook comes home with no resources to guide parents in supporting their children. I didn't learn math this way, and although I'm not saying the method is wrong, the time I'm spending on homework makes me wonder why I'm paying for school when I could homeschool her in the same amount of time for much less cost. It's apparent that this wasn't a well-thought-out plan for our students' benefit. I've also been told that this curriculum was imposed on our teachers and wasn't given to them until right before school started.

Last spring, during parent-teacher conferences, I had a heartfelt conversation with Sarah in the hallway. We spoke as moms about the frightening incident in town that day—a potential child abduction that caused all the schools to go into lockdown. We discussed how scary the world is, especially for our daughters, and how we can't be too careful with their safety.

The next day, when I arrived at my job at the flower shop, about 5-6 blocks from the school, my coworker informed me that two students from Aquinas Elementary had been in the shop the day before, during school hours, unsupervised. One of the students was Mrs. Zook's daughter. Living in a small town, everyone knows everyone, and my coworker even followed the girls as they left, watching them walk down the sidewalk without any adult supervision. Sarah had sent the girls to get coffee together as a punishment for not getting along, intending for them to mend their relationship as they walked.

Sarah never mentioned this during our conversation about how dangerous the world is, even though she knew she had done this the very same day our school had been in lockdown. I felt deceived and foolish for trusting her words in that conversation and from that point on.

Last fall, my 3rd-grade daughter, who was then in 2nd grade, got into the car after school and started to tell me a story about what a classmate had said at lunch. Trusting my instincts, I asked her to wait until we got home so the other kids in the car wouldn't hear what she was about to say. By that point, I had been hearing daily stories about this classmate who wasn't receiving proper discipline, so I knew this wasn't going to be a good story.

Once we were home, I spoke privately with my daughter, and she told me that the student had said something like "sucking balls" during lunch. I was appalled! I immediately contacted the school to find out what was going on and why I hadn't been informed that my child might hear and repeat such inappropriate comments at school. Even a simple notification that an incident involving my child had occurred would have been helpful when talking to her and understanding the situation. Sarah is extremely difficult to work with and tends to downplay issues, making it seem like they're not a big deal.

Another issue we've encountered is that the discipline at the school often seems inconsistent and based on favoritism, or what I call "blanket discipline," where all the boys are punished for the actions of just one or two individuals. There have been multiple occasions when my son has come home saying that all the boys were punished for the behavior of just a few. I'm not suggesting that my son is always innocent or won't make mistakes, but he should only be held accountable for his own actions. It's frustrating for the kids when their honesty is overlooked, and one person's words are consistently taken over another's without fair consideration.

These are just a few examples of the frustrations, chaos, and dishonesty I've encountered as a parent and volunteer. I'm more than willing to discuss this further if you need any clarification or additional information. Please understand that we are hoping for positive changes soon to prevent the loss of more outstanding teachers and families from our school. We will seriously consider withholding future funding if this grave matter isn't addressed for the continued success of our great Catholic school.

Hold down control key and click link to watch the September NPPD CEO, Pat Pope video

<http://media.nppd.com/nplayer.asp?video=CEOSeptember2017&w=640&h=360&autostart=true&folder=MP4&videotype=mp4&wufoo=s7p0q5>