

**HOMER COMMUNITY SCHOOLS BOARD OF EDUCATION**  
**Minutes of Regular Meeting**  
**April 19, 2010**

**Call to Order/Roll Call/  
Pledge of Allegiance**

The regular meeting of the Homer Community Schools Board of Education was called to order on April 19, 2010 at 7:03 p.m. at the Homer High School Media Center by Board President Gary Tompkins.

**Members Present:**

Gary Tompkins, Dick Folk, JoAnne Miller, Derek Allen, Josh McCullough, Chad Rocco

**Members Absent:**

Kevyn VanWert

**Others Present:**

Superintendent Rob Ridgeway, Martha Robinson, Holly Blashfield, Su Vincent, Ruth Cooley, Scott Salow, Renee Cribbins, Andrew Ayres, Megan Michael, Kori Rafferty, Tom Salow, Jill Grant, LaVonne March, Johnica March, Michele Sharp, Kim Willis, Will Forgrave, Gene Hackworth, Leslie Reagle, Trevor Reagle, Don Anderson, Henry Orman, Duane Sitkiewicz

**STUDENT RECOGNITION**

Andrew Ayres (12<sup>th</sup>), Johnica March (9<sup>th</sup>), Tori Strausser (7<sup>th</sup>), Lizabeth Esqueda (7<sup>th</sup>), Trevor Reagle (3<sup>rd</sup>), and Jamee Bussing (K) were recognized as Academic Booster Club students of the month. FFA students were recognized for the awards they received at the State FFA Convention; student athletes were recognized for the awards they received at the winter 2010 sports banquet and students in civics class were recognized for academic achievement.

**CHILDREN ARE OUR  
REASON FOR EXISTING  
(CARE)**

Middle school staff Don Anderson, Holly Blashfield, Henry Orman, Scott Salow, Duane Sitkiewicz and Su Vincent from the school improvement team gave a presentation highlighting the 2009 student registration, improving parent/community communication, the use of Trojan Time to increase student success and decrease student failure, and developing district student assessment.

**PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

Gene Hackworth addressed the Board about consolidation of school services, the 2009 football team, the 2010 basketball team, and on ways to make classes more interactive to promote student learning. Gene complimented the MS school improvement team on the positive initiatives they are making to promote student success.

**COMMUNICATIONS**

All of the Board members received an invitation to the Junior/Senior Prom on May 1 starting at 9:00 p.m. in the school cafeteria.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS**

Finance/Bldg. & Grounds

The Finance/Building & Grounds committees met on April 15 to discuss the 2009-10 budget, the goal of only using \$150,000 of fund equity money, and the business manager position. They also discussed the 2010-11 budget, bid quotes from Set-Seg for health insurance for non-HEA staff and summer maintenance projects. HCS's application for the Qualified School Construction Bond has been moved up to 5<sup>th</sup> on the list. If Homer receives the Qualified School Construction Bond, the district needs to be ready to move forward. The next Finance/Building & Grounds committees meeting was scheduled for Wednesday, May 12 at 7:00 a.m.

## **POLICY**

Policy 1015 District  
Mission Statement

It was moved by JoAnne Miller and supported by Chad Rocco to dispense with the 3<sup>rd</sup> reading and approve the updates to Policy 1015 District Mission Statement as printed. The motion passed unanimously.

Policy 7477 Gen-Net  
Program

It was moved by Derek Allen and supported by Josh McCullough to dispense with the 3<sup>rd</sup> reading and approve Policy 7477 Gen-Net Program as printed. The motion passed unanimously.

MMC Diploma vs.  
Certificate of Completion  
for Alt Ed Students

After the administration reviewed what other alternative high school are doing, a decision was made to only offer a Michigan Merit Curriculum (MMC) diploma for the alternative education students.

A Policy Committee meeting was scheduled for Thursday, May 6 at 4:30 p.m.

## **EMPLOYMENT**

Superintendent Ridgeway accepted the following resignations on behalf of the Board:

- Art Welch – HS teacher – 41 years
- Eric Fogel – 5<sup>th</sup> Grade – 39 years
- Henry Orman - 6<sup>th</sup> Grade – 34 years
- Su Vincent - 8<sup>th</sup> Grade – 35 years
- Melissa McKenna – Elementary – 37 years
- Margaret Micheal – Elementary – 33 years
- Mike Murphy – Elementary – 35 years
- Carol Stewart – Elementary – 39 years
- Roberta Thompson – Elementary – 36 years
- Virginia Warner – Elementary – 21 years

## **CONSENT AGENDA**

Minutes

The following consent agenda items were covered:

- Approval of minutes of the regular meeting of March 15, 2010 and the closed session on March 15, 2010
- Approval of checks numbered 043562 - 043731

Financial Report  
Bills/Reimbursements

It was moved by Derek Allen and supported by JoAnne Miller to approve the consent agenda. The motion passed unanimously. Dick Folk abstained on check numbered 043692.

## **CLOSED SESSION**

Probationary Teacher  
Evaluations

It was moved by Dick Folk and supported by Derek Allen to go into closed session at 8:24 p.m. for the purpose of reviewing probationary teachers' evaluations. The motion passed unanimously.

## **RETURN TO REGULAR MEETING**

It was moved by Dick Folk and supported by Derek Allen to return to the regular meeting at 9:03 p.m. The motion passed unanimously.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

Tenure Approval

It was moved by JoAnne Miller and supported by Derek Allen to approve the recommendations, evaluations and to grant tenure to the following teachers for the probationary teachers as submitted by the administration:

- Michelle Allison - Tenure

- Erik Baum - completing year 2
- Joe Brya - completing year 1
- JoEllen O'Keefe - completing year 1
- Nicky Smith - completing year 1
- Lyndi Wolfinger - completing year 2
- Terry McKown - Tenure
- Allison Leathehead - Tenure
- Michelle Burke - 4th year probation
- Elizabeth Buelow – completing year 3
- Kim Eishen – completing year 3
- Darcy Harsch – Tenure
- Nicole Mansfield – completing year 1
- Courtney Poe – completing year 3
- Steve Beck – completing year 1

The motion passed unanimously.

Kindergarten Round-Up Report

Rick Cooley, elementary principal, reported that 65 students registered for kindergarten during round-up. He expects a kindergarten class in the range of 70 students plus a class for the young-five's for a total of 93 – 95 students. This number is consistent with past years.

2010 – 2011 District Budget Update

Superintendent Ridgeway reviewed revenue scenarios for next year with the best possible scenario showing a \$571,730 deficit and the worst scenario showing a \$1,000,000 deficit. The Board also reviewed 2010 – 11 budget reduction ideas. Because of attrition through retirement, at this point there are no plans to lay-off staff.

**NEW BUSINESS CON'T**

2009-2010 Revised Budget

Superintendent Ridgeway reported that he is working with Tom Bean from the CISD on a revised 2009-2010 budget. The revised budget will be ready for adoption at the May 17, 2010 Board meeting.

D & D Maintenance Custodial Contract Renewal

The D & D Maintenance contract was set-up for three years, renewable each July 1<sup>st</sup>. Superintendent Ridgeway recommended staying with D & D for the 2010-11 school year. Because the Board agreed with this recommendation, no Board action was required.

Chartwells Food Service Contract Renewal

Chartwells's contract, as per state regulations, must be renewed yearly. The 2010-11 contract has been sent to the state for approval. The Board will need to pass a resolution on the contract renewal at either the May or June Board meeting. The Board reviewed the price of school lunches for HCS as they compare to area schools, and they will ask Chartwells to investigate raising the price of school lunches. Data will be reviewed with Chartwells before a recommendation is made.

Resolution for School of Choice (105) and Open Enrollment for 2010 – 2011

The Board suggested that the open enrollment dates of August 2 through August 31 be changed to the end of July and early August. Superintendent Ridgeway will review dates for the open enrollment period and report back to the Board. It was moved by Derek Allen and supported by Josh McCullough

that Homer Community Schools participate in the School of Choice (105) and Open Enrollment for the 2010 – 2011 school year. The motion passed unanimously.

Approval of the CISD Budget

It was moved by JoAnne Miller and supported by Dick Folk to approve the CISD budget. The motion passed unanimously.

**SUPERINTENDENT'S UPDATE**

- A. CASBMA Annual Awards Dinner – April 28 at Bellevue Elementary at 6:00 p.m. Kevyn VanWert and Gary Tompkins will be honored for 10 years of service.
- B. Junior/Senior Prom and Mystery Trip – May 1
- C. KCC Foundation Celebration of Academic Excellence on May 12
- D. Board of Education recycle center date on May 15
- E. HS Honors Night on May 18 at 7:30 p.m.
- F. Alternative Education Graduation on May 27 at 7:00 p.m.
- G. HS Graduation on June 6 at 2:00 p.m.
- H. Student Count and School of Choice Update
- I. Chartwells Profit & Loss

**CLOSED SESSION**

It was moved by Dick Folk and supported by Derek Allen to go into closed session at 9:58 p.m. to review an attorney/client privileged communication. The motion passed unanimously.

**RETURN TO REGULAR MEETING**

It was moved by Derek Allen and supported by JoAnne Miller to return to regular session at 10:33 p.m. The motion passed unanimously.

**NEW BUSINESS CON'T**

It was moved by Derek Allen and supported by Dick Folk that the Board of Education accept the resignation of Mr. Bill Mullaly effective June 30, 2010; approve the agreement with him; and authorize Superintendent Ridgeway to sign the agreement on behalf of the district. The motion carried unanimously.

**ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business the meeting adjourned at 10:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

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JoAnne Miller, Secretary Board of Education