

MINUTES OF A **REGULAR MEETING** OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION, THORNTON TOWNSHIP HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 205, COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS, HELD ON **WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 11, 2019** IN THE AUDITORIUM AT THORNRIDGE HIGH SCHOOL, 15000 COTTAGE GROVE AVENUE, DOLTON, IL, BEGINNING AT 6:30 P.M.

The meeting was called to order at 6:35p.m. President Graham made the following announcement: Any person may record or broadcast an open Board meeting. Special requests to facilitate recordings or broadcast an open Board meeting should be directed to the Superintendent at least 24 hours before the meeting. Recording meetings shall not distract or disturb Board members or participants. Please know if you participate in public participation, you are part of the Board meeting and may be taped.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY BOARD
PRESIDENT

On roll call, Members Banks, Graham, Moody and Whittington answered. Members, Butler, Cruz and Lawrence were absent. Dr. Nathaniel Cunningham, Superintendent, Dr. Jerry B. Doss, Assistant Superintendent for Human Resources; Mr. Brett Fickes, Director of Curriculum; Mr. Thomas Porter, Director of Pupil Personnel Services; Mr. Toriano Horton, Assistant Superintendent for Business; Mr. John Arrington, Director of College and Career Partnerships; Mrs. Ebonie Williams, Thornridge Principal; Mr. Tony Ratliff, Thornton Principal; Mr. Don Holmes, Thornwood Principal; and Mr. Adam Dauksas, legal counsel, were also present.

ROLL
CALL

Report from Curriculum Committee: Mr. Fickes reported at last meeting they reviewed student growth/performance data. Next meeting will be 10/02/19 at T-107 at 4:30p.m.

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

Report from Finance Committee: Mr. Horton reported last meeting was held 09/06/19 at 4:00p.m. The agenda contained five (5) action items that will be presented at tonight's meeting for approval. Next meeting will be 10/01/19 at 4:00p.m. at the District office.

Report from Policy Committee: None.

Report from Discipline Committee: None.

Report from Facilities Committee: Mr. Garrett reported last meeting was held 08/29/19 and all items were approved and sent to Financial Committee for approval. Next meeting will be 09/26/19 at 4:00p.m. at the District office.

Mrs. Whittington moved, Mr. Banks seconded, to **Approve the Consent Agenda**, which includes the following:

CONSENT AGENDA

- Minutes: Regular Meeting and Executive Session of June 12, 2019
- Minutes: Special Meeting and Executive Session of June 28, 2019
- The District 205 bills as presented for payment dated August 15, through September 11, 2019.
- Personnel dated September 11, 2019 (Resignations, Leave of Absence, New Hires and Terminations. The Board President read the names of the individuals.

MINUTES

BILLS

PERSONNEL

On roll call, Members Whittington, Banks, Graham and Moody voted aye; nay, none; motion passed.

The following individuals spoke during Public Participation:

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

- Felita Crayton, Dolton, IL, concerned with village of Dolton and community; Asked how did online registration help the parents? Commended security guards and custodians during registration; has a FOIA request and would like Superintendent to provide a copy of total district enrollment.
- Several parents expressed concerns regarding bus transportation. Board President stated the district administration will get back to each parent individually. Mrs. Whittington and Ms. Graham stated they appreciate the parents' coming forth and sharing their concerns about hazards of being a walker during perilous times.
- Public Hearing Request Concerning the Amended Budget for FY2020 as presented by Mr. Horton. There were no questions from the public or Board members.

PUBLIC HEARING

Dr. Doss reported since last Board meeting, two (2) FOIA requests were submitted and zero (0) are pending. All requests have been responded to within allotted period.

FOIA

COMMUNICATIONS

Mr. Arrington presented the following information:

- Teacher Institute Day was successful
- Thornridge High School:
 - Freshman orientation
 - Fox32 Live Pep Rally was Friday, September 20, 2019

Mr. Fickes introduced International Baccalaureate Program Students and teacher, Dr. Curl
The Board of Education members presented the students with medals.

- Thornridge High School – 19 curse students
- Thornton Township High School – 27 diplomas students
- Thornwood High School – Students earned 108 college credits

STUDENT PRESENTATIONS

Mr. Fickes introduced ELA Division and teacher, Ms. Hampton
The Board of Education members presented the students with medals.

- English, Reading, Speech and Library Summer Curriculum Division – provided an overview of the division's action steps and timeframe
- Average 9th grade growth is 1.4%
- Average 10th grade growth is 1.3%
- Project high school average from fall to spring is approximately one (1) point

STUDENT PRESENTATIONS

Ms. Graham, Board President, Tabled Item to **Approve the Revised Board Resolution Concerning Expense Reimbursements**

APPROVAL OF REVISED
BOARD RESOLUTION
CONCERNING EXPENSE
REIMBURSEMENTS

Ms. Graham moved, Mr. Banks seconded to **Second Reading of PRESS Recommended Updates (Issue 100)** - Dr. Doss

SECOND READING OF PRESS
RECOMMENDED UPDATE:
(ISSUE 100)

- Policy Sections: 2:20 Powers and Duties of the Board of Education; Indemnification; 2:40 Board Member Qualifications; 2:50 Board Member Term of Office; 2:60 Board Member Removal from Office; 2:250 Access to District Public Records; 4:30 Revenue and Investments; 4:100 Insurance Management; 4:110 Transportation; 4:150 Facility Management and Building Programs; 4:160 Environmental Quality of Buildings and Grounds; 4:190 Targeted School Violence Prevention Program; 5:10 Equal Employment Opportunity and Minority Recruitment; 5:250 Leaves of Absence; 5:330 Sick Days, Vacation, Holidays and Leaves; 6:15 School Accountability; 6:65 Student Social and Emotional Development; 6:185 Remote Educational Program; 7:185 Teen Dating Violence Prohibited; 8:95 Parental Involvement;
- Amendment to 2:220 Board of Education Meeting Procedure

There were no questions from the public or Board members. On roll call, Members Graham, Banks, Moody and Whittington voted aye; nay, none; motion passed.

Mr. Banks moved, Ms. Moody seconded, to **Approve Thornridge High School's Out-of-State Horticulture Class Trip to County Line Orchard, Hobart, IN, October 2019** as presented by Mrs. Williams, funded by the Science Department. Date will be determined. On roll call, Members Banks, Moody, Graham and Whittington voted aye; nay, none; motion passed.

APPROVAL OF THORNIDGE
HIGH SCHOOL'S OUT-OF-
STATE FIELDTRIP

Ms. Moody moved, Mr. Banks seconded, to **Approve Vocational Work Skills Program (Culinary Arts, History, Business) International Fieldtrip, Italy and Spain, July 20-28, 2020** as presented by Dr. Ratliff. Cost is \$3,500.00 per student, funded by fundraising. On roll call, Members Moody, Banks, Graham and Whittington voted aye; nay, none; motion passed.

APPROVAL OF
INTERNATIONAL FIELDTRIP TO
ITALY AND SPAIN

Mrs. Whittington moved, Ms. Moody seconded, to **Approve Drivers Education Vehicles Acquisition** as presented by Mr. Horton for ten (10) vehicles, distributed to Thornridge (3), Thornton Township (3) and Thornwood (4), Vendor is Hawkinson Kia for \$176,897.00, funded by Fund 60. On roll call, Members Whittington, Moody, Banks and Graham voted aye; nay, none; motion passed.

APPROVAL OF DRIVERS
EDUCATION VEHICLES
ACQUISITION

Mrs. Whittington moved, Mr. Banks seconded, to **Approve FY20 Final Budget** as presented by Mr. Horton. On roll call, Members Whittington, Banks, Graham and Moody voted aye; nay, none; motion passed.

APPROVAL OF FY20 FINAL
BUDGET

Mr. Banks moved, Ms. Moody seconded, to **Approve Sodexo Contract Renewal SY2019-20** as presented by Mr. Horton for the school lunch program. On roll call, Members Banks, Moody, Graham and Whittington voted aye; nay, none; motion passed.

APPROVAL OF SODEXO
CONTRACT RENEWAL

Ms. Moody moved, Mrs. Whittington seconded, to **Approve AED Equipment** as presented by Mr. Horton, vendor is School Health for \$11,115.61, funded by Fund 60. On roll call, Members Moody, Whittington, Banks and Graham voted aye; nay, none; motion passed.

APPROVAL OF AED
EQUIPMENT

Ms. Moody moved, Mrs. Whittington seconded, to **Approve Virco Furniture Order** as presented by Mr. Horton for \$88,000.00, funded by Fund 20. On roll call, Members Moody, Whittington, Banks and Graham voted aye; nay, none; motion passed.

APPROVAL OF VIRCO
FURNITURE ORDER

Dr. Cunningham stated one of the major complaints about American Education is that it looks the same today as it looked when it was invented. The complaints go on to focus on how learning for today cannot meet needs of tomorrow. Proactive school districts like ours have used what is called 21st Century Skills to combat that complaint. Varier (2017) says, "School districts in the United States are increasingly adopting educational goals to promote 21st Century skills of enhanced collaboration, communication, creativity, digital literacy and self-directed learning". These skills are what is needed now and will be needed in the future no matter what field students choose for their future. One of the ways districts are focusing on 21st Century Skills is adopting One-to-one computing. One-to-one computing refers to a learning environment where students and teachers have access to a personal computing device to use as a tool for academic learning.

SUPERINTENDENT REPORT

Last year, the Technology Committee recommended that the district move to Google to support delivering instruction and administration. There are several classrooms piloting the G-Suite this year. The district is also making Google training available and will use that data to develop a training for all staff members. As we begin preparation for one-to-one, the district upgraded many systems over the summer, the upgrades include:

1. State-of-the-art voice and core network, which provides faster communication (to go with new phones) and 5 times the bandwidth;
2. We are now the only district in the south suburbs with a 10-gig network;
3. New copiers and printers throughout the district; and
4. Next phase will include replacement of end user devices and classroom technology components (i.e. Smartboards).

We must engage our students. Engagement occurs when students take responsibility for their learning, feel invested in learning tasks and see the value of school learning in the real world. Our students need and deserves to be prepared the best way possible for future success. We must know and understand that one-to-one is not the end of the road and is the beginning of the journey to future success.

Next steps will include a teacher training system that keeps our staff's knowledge current, choosing the one-to-one device and building a system for servicing the devices and ensuring all students can get on the web at home. It is an audacious goal but one that is designed to move our students forward.

At 8:05p.m., Mr. Banks moved, Ms. Moody seconded to go into **Executive Session** pursuant to Section 2C of the Illinois Open Meetings Act to consider:

EXECUTIVE SESSION

- The appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of specific employees;
- Student discipline;
- Collective negotiating matters and
- Pending, probable or imminent litigation.

On roll call, Members Banks, Moody, Graham and Whittington voted aye; nay, none; motion passed.

At 9:54p.m., Mr. Banks moved, Ms. Moody seconded to **Reconvene Regular Session**. On roll call, Members Banks, Moody, Graham and Whittington voted aye; nay, none; motion passed.

RECONVENE REGULAR
SESSION

Ms. Moody moved, Mr. Banks seconded, to **Approve 2019-2020 Administrator Employment Contract at \$145,000.00**. On roll call, Members Moody, Banks Graham voted aye; Whittington voted nay, none; motion passed.

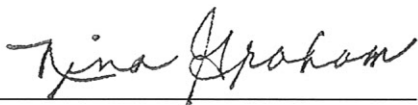
APPROVAL OF 2019-2020
ADMINISTRATOR
EMPLOYMENT CONTRACT

Ms. Moody moved, Mr. Banks seconded, to **Approve Settlement Agreement with Former Administrator Dennis Willis**. On roll call, Members Moody, Banks, Graham and Whittington voted aye; nay, none; motion passed.

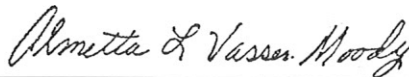
APPROVAL OF
ADMINISTRATOR SETTLEMENT
AGREEMENT

At 9:56p.m., Ms. Moody moved, Mr. Banks seconded to **Adjourn the Meeting**. On roll call, Members Moody, Banks, Graham and Whittington voted aye; nay, none; motion passed.

ADJOURNMENT



President



Secretary