

MINUTES OF A **REGULAR MEETING** OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION, THORNTON TOWNSHIP HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 205, COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS, HELD ON **WEDNESDAY, JULY 10, 2019** IN THE STUDENT CAFETERIA AT THORNWOOD HIGH SCHOOL, 17101 SOUTH PARK AVENUE, SOUTH HOLLAND, ILLINOIS, BEGINNING AT 6:30 P.M.

The meeting was called to order at 6:35 p.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, Butler, Cruz, Graham, Lawrence, Moody and Whittington answered. 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; Mr. Tony Ratliff, Thornton Principal; and Mr. James Petrungaro, legal counsel, were also present.

ROLL  
CALL

**Report from Curriculum Committee:** Mr. Fickes reported that the next meeting will be held on 07/15/19 at Thornwood High School in room 1531 at 1:30p.m. to review the School Discipline Survey, Summer Math Data and an update on the Driver's Ed program. Will provide a draft of the Institute Day agenda.

COMMITTEE OF  
THE WHOLE

**Report from Finance Committee:** Mr. Horton reported that June 26, 2019. The agenda contained for action items that will be presented for approval at tonight's meeting. The next meeting will be held on August 6, 2019 at 4:00pm at the District Office.

**Report from Policy Committee:** Dr. Doss reported that the District has receive the summer updates from IASB for Issue 100. A meeting will be soon scheduled, and the recommended updates will be presented at the August meeting.

**Report from Discipline Committee:** No report

**Report from Facilities Committee:** Mr. Garrett reported that the next meeting will be held on 07/27/19 at 4:00pm. A construction updated presentation was provided for Thornridge and Thornton Township High Schools (bathrooms, tuckpointing, asbestos removal, roofing, weight room and flooring)

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

CONSENT AGENDA

- The District 205 bills as presented for payment dated June 13, 2019 through July 10, 2019
- Personnel dated July 10, 2019 (Resignations, Leave of Absence, New Hires and Terminations)
- Ratifications:
  - Non-Renewal of Part-time Certified Employee
  - Thornton High School 2019 Boys NCAA Summer Shootout, Rockford, IL June 29-30, 2019

BILLS

PERSONNEL

RATIFICATIONS

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

Board member Mr. Butler voiced concerns about the consent agenda

At 6:51p.m. Mr. Butler left the meeting

MR. BUTLER LEFT  
THE MEETING

The following individuals spoke during Public Participation:

- Felita Crayton, Dolton, IL requested a printout of the number of students that failed or transferred; wants a copy of the Facilities report.
- Mr. Lightfoot, teacher at Thornton Township High School spoke on average hours of sleep children need and how we can help them.
- Mrs. Crawley, Markham, IL, spoke on her concerns regarding residency requirements

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Dr. Doss reported that since the last scheduled Board meeting, one (1) FOIA requests was submitted and one (1) is pending. All requests have been responded to within the allotted period.

FOIA

Mr. Fickes presented the following information:

- Student Board of Education met with Senator Dick Durbin and Congresswoman Robin Kelly during their visit to Washington, DC to attend the 47<sup>th</sup> Annual Jefferson Awards.
- Thornridge High School:
  - Awarded the Amazon/Edhesive Future Engineer Grant
- Thornton Township High School
- Thornwood High School
  - Two top freshmen students were selected to attend Student Government Day at the Village of South Holland
  - Two students competed in the National Speech and Debate Tournament in Dallas, TX
  - Varsity cheerleaders won the Ultimate Camp Team

COMMUNICATIONS

Mr. Fickes introduced Special Olympics Athletes.

- Thornridge, Thornton Township and Thornwood High Schools students competed at the 2019 State Summer Games, in Bloomington/Normal, IL, in basketball, unified basketball, soccer, unified soccer and track and field, bocce, unified bocce, bowling, cheerleading, dance, unified dance, flag football, floor hockey, golf, unified golf, snowshoe, swimming, volley and unified volleyball

[PRESENTATION]  
STUDENTS

Students received medals from The Board.

Ms. Moody moved, Mrs. Lawrence seconded, to **Approve the Employee Benefits: New Group Long-Term Disability Carrier** as presented by Dr. Doss. Members Moody, Lawrence, Banks, Cruz, Graham, and Whittington voted aye; nay, none; motion passed.

APPROVAL OF  
EMPLOYEE BENEFITS:  
NEW GROUP LONG-  
TERM DISABILITY  
CARRIER

Dr. Cunningham stated the following:

- District 205 vision
  - Become a high-quality district that produces major gains in student achievement and prepares all students for success in college, careers, and service in our community and global society and creates responsible citizens.
  - The average student coming into our district arrives on average with a 6th-grade reading level. District 205 has four years to move the student through six years of learning
- First Step:
  - Informing our public of the data
  - More than half of our freshmen students fail at least one class. About ten percent of our freshmen students miss more than a month of school – considered chronic truant. The average grade for our freshmen is a C.
- Grades
  - More than 95 percent of students with a B average or better in their freshman year graduate.
  - Freshmen who earn a B average or better have an 80-percent chance of finishing high school with at least a 3.0 GPA.
  - Freshmen with less than a C average are more likely to drop out than graduate.
- Attendance

SUPERINTENDENT  
REPORT

- Nearly 90 percent of freshmen who miss less than a week of school per semester graduate, regardless of their 8th-grade test scores.
- Freshmen who miss more than two weeks of school flunk, on average, at least two classes—no matter whether they arrive at high school with top test scores or below-average scores. In fact, freshmen who arrive with high test scores but miss two weeks of school per semester are more likely to fail a course than freshmen with low test scores who miss just one week.

We are using this data to help us improve student achievement in our district. Community relations, each building, the parent coordinators, the student board, and the district will ensure that this information is received by our parents. We will work together to ensure improvement by informing parents and students what is needed to be successful

At 7:26p.m., Ms. Moody moved, Mr. Banks 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 Moody, Banks, Cruz, Graham, Lawrence, Whittington, voted aye; nay, none; motion passed.

At 9:32p.m., Mrs. Lawrence moved, Mr. Banks seconded to **Reconvene Regular Session**. On roll call, Members Lawrence, Banks, Cruz, Graham, Moody and Whittington voted aye; nay, none; motion passed.

RECONVENE REGULAR SESSION

Mrs. Lawrence moved, Mr. Banks seconded, to **Approve the New and Revised Memorandum of Understanding Regarding District's Credit Recovery Program**. On roll call, Members Lawrence, Banks, Cruz, Graham, Moody, and Whittington voted aye; nay, none; motion passed.


APPROVAL OF NEW AND REVISED MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING FOR CREDIT RECOVERY PROGRAM

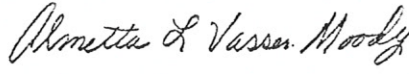
Ms. Moody moved, Mrs. Whittington seconded, to **Approve the Administrator Employment Contract**. On roll call, Members Moody, Whittington, Banks, Cruz and Graham voted aye; nay, none; motion passed.

APPROVAL OF ADMINISTRATOR EMPLOYMENT CONTRACT

At 9:36p.m., Mrs. Lawrence moved, Mrs. Cruz seconded, to **Adjourn the Meeting**. On roll call, Members Lawrence, Cruz, Banks, Graham, Moody and Whittington voted aye; nay, none; motion passed.

ADJOURNMENT

  
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President

  
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Secretary