

MINUTES OF A **REGULAR MEETING** OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION, THORNTON TOWNSHIP HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 205, COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS, HELD ON **WEDNESDAY, JULY 8, 2015** 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 6:34 p.m. President Lawrence made the following announcement: Any person may record or broadcast an open Board meeting. Special requests to facilitate recording or broadcasting an open board meeting such as seating, writing surfaces, lighting and access to electrical power shall be directed to the Superintendent at least 24 hours before the meeting. Recording meetings shall not distract or disturb Board members, other meeting participants, or members of the public. The Board President may designate a location for recording equipment, may restrict the movement of individuals using recording equipment or may take such other steps as are deemed necessary to preserve decorum and facilitate the meeting. Please know if you participate in public participation, you are part of the Board meeting and you may be taped.

ANNOUNCEMENT
BY BOARD
PRESIDENT

On roll call, Members Banks, Butler, Graham, Lawrence, Whittington and Williams answered. Members Gibbs was absent. Dr. Leotis D. Swopes, Interim Superintendent; Mr. Brett Fickes, Director of Curriculum; Mr. Thomas Porter, Director of Pupil Personnel Services; Mr. Jerry Doss, Director of Public Relations; Mr. John Arrington, Director of College and Career Partnerships; Mr. James Walton, Principal of Thornridge High School and Mr. Dennis Willis, Principal of Thornwood High School were also present.

ROLL
CALL

Mr. Butler moved, Mr. Banks seconded to **Remove Item 14.D. Recommended Approval of Custodial Bid** from this meeting's Agenda. On roll call, Members Banks, Butler, Graham, Lawrence, Whittington and Williams voted aye; nay, none; motion passed.

MOTION TO
REMOVE AGENDA
ITEM

Report from Finance Committee: Mr. Butler stated a Finance Committee meeting was held on July 6, 2015. The most pressing matters discussed were Life Safety items including elevator, lighting and proper funding for those items.

COMMITTEE OF
THE WHOLE

Report from Curriculum Committee: Mrs. Graham stated a Curriculum meeting will be held on July 13, 2015 at T107 at 1:00 p.m. Topics will include PSAE score comparison; dual credit and school transformation legal advice. The main focus of the meeting will be the Vision 2016 initiative.

Report from Policy Committee: Mrs. Whittington stated that District 205 will begin to work with IASB on the Thornton Township High School District 205 Policy Manual.

Report from Discipline Committee: None.

Mrs. Lawrence added that due to the volume of updating needed to the District's facilities, the Board will create a Facilities Committee to prioritize building projects. Mr. Banks will be the chairperson for the Facilities Committee.

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

CONSENT AGENDA

- The minutes of the Regular Meeting and Executive Session of June 10, 2015.
- The District 205 bills as presented for payment dated June 12, June 19, June 26 and June 30, 2015.
- Personnel dated July 8, 2015 (Resignations, Leave of Absence and Employment) See Director of Human Resources.
- Engagement Letter from Laduzinsky & Associates
- Ratification of Grant Advisor Contract
- Sunrise Transportation Contract Assignment to LMZ Transportation Equity Partners, LLC

MINUTES:
JUNE 10, 2015

BILLS

PERSONNEL

CONTRACTS

Ms. Williams had a question regarding payments for Thornwood gymnastics and was instructed to email the Interim Superintendent. On roll call, Members Banks, Butler, Graham, Lawrence, Whittington and Williams voted aye; nay, none; motion passed.

CONSENT AGENDA,
Con't.

The following individuals spoke during Public Participation:

PUBLIC
PARTICIPATION

- Gregory Falkman (Plainfield) branch manager of U.S. Securities, the current security provider, addressed the Board regarding security services bid. Although U.S. Securities is not the lowest bidder, the Board was requested to consider their bid. If the contract were allowed to continue, there would be no cost increase.
- Felita Crayton (Dolton) 1) asked if Mr. Charnot provided the Board with a budget for specific Life Safety items as discussed in the Finance Committee meeting. The Board responded nothing has been received, and 2) stated she appreciates the Board for moving in the right direction for the community by being fiscally sound.
- Steve Fleshman (South Holland) stated the substitute band director at Thornwood should continue to be the band director.
- Joel Watson (Chicago) President of FYI & Associates, stated the company has provided custodial services for two years and has saved the district over \$800,000. Morale and professionalism of the custodial staff has improved under their supervision and he addressed rumors about personal check writing and equipment.

Mr. Fickes reported that since the last scheduled Board meeting, there have been no completed Freedom of Information Act requests with one pending. All requests will be responded to within the allotted time.

FOIA

Mr. Fickes presented the following information:

COMMUNICATIONS

- Registration information for all three schools has been posted on the District website, on the marquees and robo calls have been made. The first day of school for freshmen is August 17 and the first day for all students is August 18.
- Community Food Service Sanitation Class will be held on Saturday, July 11, 2015 at Thornridge. The class is sold out. Future classes will be forthcoming.
- Thornridge's 2015 AVID graduates participated in a picnic on Promatory Point in Hyde Park on July 5. All those seniors are college bound.
- Thornton students Jessica Janeth Aguiniga and Eduardo Valle-Guetierrez traveled to Salt Lake City to participate in the 2015 Aesthetic Arm competition.
- Thornwood sophomore Miguel Castillo will join the Special Olympics Illinois soccer team in Los Angeles. He was interviewed by Fox News and his segment will air on July 13, 2015.
- Thornwood's Take Flight Program has been a huge success. The incoming freshmen have been able to get ready for high school life before the start of the school year.

Upcoming Events:

July 23	Summer School Graduation
August 11	Student Board of Education Meeting
August 12	Board of Education Meeting

Mr. Butler moved, Mr. Banks seconded to **Approve the Overnight Field Trip** as presented by Mr. Fickes for 12 member of the Student Board and three chaperones to attend a youth leadership camp at Eastern Illinois University in Charleston, Illinois from July 19-23, 2015. Students will stay in the dormitories and all meals will be provided. On roll call, Members Banks, Butler, Graham, Lawrence, Whittington and Williams voted aye; nay, none; motion passed.

APPROVAL OF
OVERNIGHT FIELD
TRIP

Dr. Swopes stated that the **Approval of the 2015-2016 School Calendar Modification** is not necessary. The modification was to start the school year earlier, but after discussion with the Faculty Association, additional information was provided eliminating the need to modify the calendar.

APPROVAL OF
2015-2016 SCHOOL
CALENDAR
MODIFICATION

Mr. Butler moved, Mr. Banks seconded to **Approve the 2015-2016 Prevailing Wage Act Resolution** as presented by Mr. Charnot. The resolution is an annual activity required of all public bodies in Illinois and the required newspaper publication will be made. On roll call, Members Banks, Butler, Graham, Lawrence, Whittington and Williams voted aye; nay, none; motion passed.

APPROVAL OF
2015-2016
PREVAILING WAGE
ACT RESOLUTION

Mrs. Whittington moved, Mr. Butler seconded to **Approve the Security Services Bid** as presented by Mr. Charnot. Two bids were received. The Finance Committee has recommended the bid be awarded to the low bidder, Prudential Security, Inc., in the amount of \$1,916,736.60. On roll call, Members Banks, Butler, Graham, Lawrence, Whittington and Williams voted aye; nay, none; motion passed.

APPROVAL OF
SECURITY
SERVICES BID

Ms. Graham moved, Mrs. Whittington seconded to **Approve the Lighting Renovation Bid for Thornton, Thornridge and Thornwood** as presented by Mr. Charnot who stated the District applied for and received a \$250,000 safety matching grant approximately one year ago, which means the District must spend a total of \$500,000.00 and the grant dollars must be expended by December 31, 2015. Tria Architecture reviewed the bids and the Finance Committee recommends the bid be awarded to Metropolitan Corp. in the amount of \$567,205.00. On roll call, Members Banks, Butler, Graham, Lawrence, Whittington and Williams voted aye; nay, none; motion passed.

APPROVAL OF
LILGHTING
RENOVATION BID
FOR THORNTON,
THORNRIDGE &
THORNWOOD

Mr. Butler moved, Ms. Graham seconded to **Approve the Establishment of an Imprest Fund** as presented by Mr. Charnot and recommended for approval by the Finance Committee. Mr. Petrungaro stated it is common for school districts to maintain this type of petty cash fund to issue checks for amounts under \$500.00 including reimbursements and routine expenses. It will not be used to pay invoices or businesses. On roll call, Members Banks, Butler, Graham, Lawrence, Whittington and Williams voted aye; nay, none; motion passed.

APPROVAL TO
ESTABLISH
IMPREST FUND

Ms. Graham moved, Mrs. Whittington seconded to **Approve the Special Education Fund Audit** as presented by Mr. Charnot and recommended by the Finance Committee. On roll call, Members Graham, Lawrence, Whittington and Williams voted aye; Members Banks and Butler voted nay; motion passed.

APPROVAL OF
SPECIAL
EDUCATION FUND
AUDIT

Ms. Graham moved, Mrs. Whittington seconded to **Table the Approval of Truant Officers and Child Development Workers as District 205 Employees** until the next board meeting. On roll call, Members Banks, Butler, Graham, Lawrence, Whittington and Williams voted aye; nay, none; motion passed.

APPROVAL OF
TRUANT OFFICERS
AND CHILD
DEVELOPMENT
WORKERS AS DIST.
205 EMPLOYEES

Mr. Butler moved, Mr. Banks seconded to **Approve to Go Out to Bid for Driver Education Simulators** as presented by Mr. Gerald Potacki. The simulators have outlived their use, are 40 years old and the parts are obsolete. On roll call, Members Banks, Butler, Graham, Lawrence, Whittington and Williams voted aye; nay, none; motion passed.

APPROVAL TO GO
OUT TO BID FOR
DRIVER
EDUCATION
SIMULATORS

Mr. Butler moved, Ms. Graham seconded to **Approve to a Forensic Audit of the IT Department** by the District auditors as presented by Mrs. Maria Brunson to safeguard the integrity of security of the system. On roll call, Members Banks, Butler, Graham, Lawrence, Whittington and Williams voted aye; nay, none; motion passed.

APPROVAL TO GO
OUT TO BID FOR
FORENSIC AUDIT
OF I.T.
DEPARTMENT

Dr. Swopes stated he is curious about the snack program and if the Board is satisfied. Ms. Graham would like a meeting with Mr. Charnot regarding clarification on the snack program bills. A meeting will be scheduled.

SUPERINTENDENT
REPORT

Dr. Swopes is sponsoring a doctoral program internship for a short period of time.

At 7:25 p.m., Mr. Butler moved, Mr. Banks seconded to go into **Executive Session** pursuant to Section 2C of the Illinois Open Meetings Act to consider the appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance or dismissal of specific employees of the public body or legal counsel of the public body including hearing testimony on a complaint lodged against an employee of the public body or against legal counsel for the public body to determine its validity, collective negotiation matters and litigation, when an action against, affecting or on behalf of the particular public body has been filed and is pending before a court or administrative tribunal. On roll call, Members Banks, Butler, Graham, Lawrence, Whittington and Williams voted aye; nay, none; motion passed.

EXECUTIVE
SESSION

At 10:18 p.m., **Regular Session Reconvened.** On roll call, Members Banks, Butler, Graham, Lawrence, Whittington and Williams answered.

RECONVENE
REGULAR SESSION

Mr. Butler moved, Mr. Banks seconded to **Appoint Jerry B. Doss as Director of Human Resources and Community Relations.** On roll call, Members Banks, Butler, Graham, Lawrence, Whittington and Williams voted aye; nay, none; motion passed.

APPOINTMENT OF
HUMAN
RESOURCES
DIRECTOR

Ms. Graham moved, Mr. Banks seconded to **Appoint Maria Brunson as Director of Information Technology** for the term of one year effective July 9, 2015. On roll call, Members Banks, Butler, Graham, Lawrence, Whittington and Williams voted aye; nay, none; motion passed.

APPOINTMENT OF
INFORMATION
TECHNOLOGY
DIRECTOR

Mr. Banks moved, Mr. Butler seconded to **Table the Payment of Outstanding legal Fees for the Years 2012-2013 to the Law Firm of Grasso Bass.** On roll call, Members Banks, Butler, Graham, Lawrence, Whittington and Williams voted aye; nay, none; motion passed.

PAYMENT OF
OUTSTANDING
LEGAL FEES TO
GRASSO BASS

At 10:23 p.m., Mr. Banks moved, Mr. Butler seconded, to **Adjourn the Meeting.** On roll call, Members Banks, Butler, Graham, Lawrence, Whittington and Williams voted aye; nay, none; motion passed.

ADJOURNMENT

President

Secretary