

MINUTES OF A **REGULAR MEETING** OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION, TOWNSHIP HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 205, COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS, HELD ON **WEDNESDAY, MAY 13, 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 6:37 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 this meeting.

ANNOUNCEMENT
BY BOARD
PRESIDENT

On roll call, Members Banks, Butler, Graham, Lawrence, Whittington and Williams answered. Members Gibbs was absent. Dr. Stacey D. McJunkins, 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

Mrs. Lawrence announced the following Board committee members:

COMMITTEE OF
THE WHOLE

Curriculum & Technology	Ms. Graham and Mr. Butler
Discipline	Mr. Butler and Ms. Williams
Finance & Facilities (Bldgs & Grounds)	Mr. Butler and Ms. Graham
Public Relations/Board Goals & Policies	Mrs. Whittington and Mr. Banks
Negotiations	Mr. Butler and Ms. Graham
SCOPE (2 meetings per year)	Mrs. Gibbs and Ms. Williams
IASB (2 meetings & one convention)	Mrs. Lawrence and Ms. Williams
Student Board	Mrs. Whittington and Ms. Williams

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

CONSENT AGENDA

- The District 205 bills as presented for payment dated May 8, 2015.
- Personnel dated May 13, 2015.

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

The following individuals spoke during Public Participation:

PUBLIC
PARTICIPATION

- Felita Crayton (Dolton) 1) asked who is the Policy Committee Chairperson, (2) stated the community is hoping that the Board follows through with the commitment stated during their campaign and (3) asked when will the Superintendent search begin? In response, (1) Annette Whittington and (3) administration will get back to her.
- Marvin Richardson (South Holland) is the owner of a janitorial service and would like to be included on the janitorial bid.

Mr. Doss 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. Doss presented the following information:

- A moment of silence was offered in memoriam of Ludora “Sweetie” Williams, grandmother of Board Member Kierra Williams.
- District Administrators, Mr. Jerry Doss and Mr. Brett Fickes will be honored by the Family Centered Educational Agency with the Community Service Award at a gala on May 21, 2015 at Maggiano’s Little Italy in Chicago.
- The recent Student Board election results are as follows: Thornton winners: Christina Gutierrez, Mohammad Vhora and Ira Wright; Thornridge winners: Elisa Nichols, Quentin Dailey and Shelby O’Lidge and Thornwood winners: Audrey Mayes, Andy Sandoval and Nyjah Adams.
- At the 2015 Academic Enrichment Foundation Star Gala the following Star Teachers and Students were awarded as follows: Thornton: Teacher Kelly Cunningham and Student Preston Mays; Thornridge: Teacher Golden Perkins-Udu and Student Tim Jones and Thornwood: Teacher Rachael Santos and Student Aaron Clark.
- The Thornton Wildcats will receive a special award on April 26 for having the most school spirit with 46,934 votes.
- Thornridge News. Congratulations to David O. Salami on receiving the Gates Millennium Scholarship. The FCCLA team won two silver medals and three bronze medals at the State Competition. The Concert and Jazz Bands received superior ratings at the IHSA State Organizationals.
- Thornton News. Congratulations to Amoz Wright on receiving the Gates Millennium Scholarship. The symphonic Band received a superior rating at the IHSA State Organizationals.
- Thornwood News. The top three students in the NFTE Building Business Plan competition will move on to the Future Founders competition. Denise Clemente was awarded a scholarship and career opportunity from Universal Dental. Marcos Quiroz and Eduardo Reyes each received a \$2,000 scholarship for placing 1st at the 10th Annual Future Founders Citywide Business Plan Competition for their product *Inventive Smoothie*.

COMMUNICATIONS

Upcoming Events:

May 15	Special Education Services Meeting
May 25	Memorial Day, no school
May 27	Class of 2015 Graduation, all 3 schools
June 5	End of Quarter 4 and End of Semester 2
June 8	Finance Committee Meeting
June 9	Student Board of Education Meeting
June 10	Board of Education Meeting

Mr. Banks moved, Mrs. Whittington seconded to **Go Out to Bid for a New Thornwood Elevator** as presented by Mr. Charnot. After reviewing four proposals for a cylinder upgrade in October 2014, it was recommended to update the entire elevator 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
NEW THORNWOOD
ELEVATOR

Mrs. Theresa King, District Chairperson, announced this year’s winners of the **Ray Price Memorial Faculty Association Scholarship** as follows: Thornton’s recipient is Robert McCalley. He will attend Oklahoma Panhandle State University and will major in secondary education. Thornridge recipient, Ariana Dority, will attend Illinois State University and aspires to be a high school math teacher. Thornwood’s recipient is Brittani Hood. She will attend the University of Illinois in Champaign/Urbana to pursue an undergraduate degree in Education and wants to teach English Language Learners. This year’s Vocational Scholarship winner is Mahogany Clark from Thornton. She will attend the Art Institute of Dallas and she desires to be a Culinary Arts teacher. The scholarship amount is \$800 per year for four years for each teacher candidate and the vocational scholarship is \$800 per year for two years.

PRESENTATION OF
RAY PRICE
MEMORIAL
SCHOLARSHIP

Mr. Kenneth Wendorff, Faculty Association President, addressed the Board regarding the Faculty Association's perspective on how to best serve the District's students' needs. The best part of his job is interacting with the students on a daily basis. The Faculty Association was involved in the last School Board election because it was absolutely necessary. Their concern is a quality education for students. He believes the new Board is willing to work with the Faculty Association and move forward. He stated that the faculty must be an integral part of decisions made in the educational process. In order to be successful, the Board should allow for all members to be involved in creating the plan; keeping the number of initiatives down. There are at least 60 initiatives running concurrently, making it difficult to monitor their effectiveness. Focus is the key. Allow for flexibility, all schools do not need to be the same. Let a plan "bake" for more than one year. Typically, the plans change every year or so, which does not allow for growth or improvement. Through working with CEC (Consortium for Educational Change), School Transformation Committees and a District Transformation Committee have been created. It is crucial for the Board to support the Faculty Association and the students. Some programs should be kept, others should not. Include the Faculty Association in the hiring of a new Superintendent, Business Manager and Human Resources Director. Lack of leadership and turnover in those positions has been debilitating to the District. Lastly, a fair teacher contract must be reached.

FACULTY
ASSOCIATION

Mr. Fickes began by stating that in 2013 the Illinois State Board of Education informed District 205 that it was designated to receive priority services from the Illinois Center for School Improvement (ICSI). ICSI provides a system of support aligned with CEC. Dr. Sheila Sherman, the District liaison, stated she has been working with the District since November 2013, focusing on capacity building to raise student performance, through a District Leadership Team. The goal is for a high-performing district and high-achieving students. ICSI is a contracted company by the State at no cost to the District. Strong support is provided through a network of state-wide partners. They are affiliated with the American Institute for Research and have abundant supply of research at their disposal. to help the district leaders help their schools. Thornton and Thornridge receive support services individually, because of the 3-year average where they failure to meet exceed standards on testing and the graduation rate. They are receiving priority-level services because they are in the lowest 5% of the schools in the state. Twenty-nine districts in the state qualified to receive priority-level services and all 29 have agreed to participate. District 205 can collaborate with these districts that are experiencing the same challenges.

PRESENTATION BY
ICSI

Mr. Banks moved, Mr. Butler seconded to **Approve the Overnight Field Trip** as presented by Mr. Porter for Special Olympics students from each District 205 school to attend the special Olympics State Finals, to be held June 12-14, 2015 in Bloomington, IL. All costs for the trip are covered by Special Olympics or the IDEA Flow Through B grant. On roll call, Members Banks, Butler, Graham, Lawrence, Whittington and Williams voted aye; nay, none; motion passed.

APPROVAL OF
OVERNIGHT FIELD
TRIP

Mr. Butler moved, Ms. Williams seconded to **Approve the Out-of-State Field Trip** as presented by Mr. Doss for six Student Board members and two chaperones to travel to Washington, D.C. to compete in the Jefferson Awards national finals from June 16-20, 2015. The cost of the trip is \$3,975 plus air travel. On roll call, Members Banks, Butler, Graham, Lawrence, Whittington and Williams voted aye; nay, none; motion passed.

APPROVAL OF
OUT-OF-STATE
FIELD TRIP

Mr. Banks moved, Mr. Butler seconded to **Approve the Spin Bikes Bid** as presented by Mr. Charnot to be awarded to the lowest bidder, Direct Fitness Solutions, in the amount of \$164,818. The current bikes are 5 to 11 years old and it is more economical to purchase new bikes instead of repairing them. In response to the Board, Mr. Jerry Styrsky, Area Instructional Leader for P.E., Health and Drivers Ed, stated the majority of the funds were set aside for this purchase at the beginning of the 2014-15 school year. The remainder (approximately \$50,000) will come from next year's budget. On roll call, Members Banks, Butler, Graham, Lawrence, Whittington and Williams voted aye; nay, none; motion passed.

APPROVAL OF SPIN
BIKES BID

Ms. Williams moved, Ms. Graham seconded to **Approve the Baker Tilly Engagement Letter** as presented by Mr. Charnot to conduct audit services for the District. Baker Tilly performed the audit last year. The Board suggested seeking other vendors. On roll call, Members Graham, Lawrence, Whittington and Williams voted aye; Members Banks and Butler voted nay; motion passed.

APPROVAL OF
BAKER TILLY
ENGAGEMENT
LETTER

Mr. Banks moved, Mr. Butler seconded to **Approve the Food Services Contract to Go Out to Bid.** Mr. Charnot recommended the contract be extended for the last year of its four-year contract and go out to bid next year. The Board stated this contract should not be renewed and food services should go out to bid at this time. On roll call, Members Banks, Butler, Graham, Lawrence, Whittington and Williams voted aye; nay, none; motion passed.

APPROVAL OF
SODEXO FOOD
SERVICE RENEWAL

Mr. Banks moved, Mrs. Whittington seconded to **Approve to Go Out to Bid for Transportation Services** as recommended by Mr. Charnot. On roll call, Members Banks, Butler, Graham, Lawrence, Whittington and Williams voted aye; nay, none; motion passed.

APPROVAL TO GO
OUT TO BID FOR
TRANSPORTATION
SERVICES

Mr. Butler moved, Mrs. Whittington seconded to **Approve to Go Out to Bid for Security Services** as recommended by Mr. Charnot. On roll call, Members Banks, Butler, Graham, Lawrence, Whittington and Williams voted aye; nay, none; motion passed.

APPROVAL TO GO
OUT TO BID FOR
SECURITY
SERVICES

Mrs. Whittington moved, Ms. Graham seconded to **Approve to Go Out to Bid for Custodial Services** as recommended by Mr. Charnot. On roll call, Members Banks, Butler, Graham, Lawrence, Whittington and Williams voted aye; nay, none; motion passed.

APPROVAL TO GO
OUT TO BID FOR
CUSTODIAL
SERVICES

Mr. Banks moved, Mr. Butler seconded to **Approve to Go Out to Bid for Scavenger Services.** Mr. Charnot stated the actual recommendation is to roll over the contract for one more year, but the Board does not want to miss any opportunity for cost savings. On roll call, Members Banks, Butler, Graham, Lawrence, Whittington and Williams voted aye; nay, none; motion passed.

APPROVAL TO GO
OUT TO BID FOR
SCAVENGER
SERVICES

Mr. Banks moved, Mr. Butler seconded to **Approve to Go Out for Request for Proposals (RFP) for Copier Services** as presented by Mr. Charnot. On roll call, Members Banks, Butler, Graham, Lawrence, Whittington and Williams voted aye; nay, none; motion passed.

APPROVAL TO GO
OUT TO BID FOR
COPIER SERVICES

Mr. Fickes spoke about the **IB Program** (International Baccalaureate) and recognized the following individuals responsible for the success of the program: Brad Ablin, Andrea DeYoung, Nora McNaughton, Leo Conry, Wanda Russell, Brad Beilfuss and Kelly Hock. Ms. McNaughton stated all 3 high school have been approved for the IB Program next school year and students are set up to begin the designated classes. The assessments of the students are sent around the world for grading. On June 1 there will be an induction ceremony for students joining the IB Program next year. There is only one other school in the south suburbs offering the prestigious IB Program.

SUPERINTENDENT
REPORT

Mr. Fickes introduced the **PARCC** (Partnership for Assessment of Readiness for College & Careers) coordinators, responsible for PARCC testing implementation: Jennifer Kuyper (TT), Veronica Mosley-Raggs (TW) and Patricia Malopsy-Fortier (TR). Mr. Beilfuss, Ms. Russell and Ms. Hock were also recognized. He also complimented the team for a challenging job well done. Mrs. Fortier stated that English 3 and Algebra 2 students were tested this year but the State has not given instructions what will be required next year.

Mr. Banks thanked everyone for their support in the recent election and stated this Board will do everything in their power to keep children first.

BOARD MEMBER
COMMENT

At 7:52 p.m., Mrs. Whittington moved, Mr. Butler seconded to go into **Executive Session** pursuant to Section 2C(1) 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, plus hear pending grievances and updates on teacher negotiations and pending litigation. On roll call, Members Banks, Butler, Graham, Lawrence, Whittington and Williams voted aye; nay, none; motion passed.

EXECUTIVE
SESSION

At 11:52 p.m., **Regular Session Reconvened**. On roll call, Members Banks, Butler, Graham, Lawrence, Whittington and Williams voted aye; nay, none; motion passed.

RECONVENE
REGULAR SESSION

Mr. Banks moved, Mr. Butler seconded to **Terminate the Employment of the Current Interim Superintendent, Dr. Stacey D. McJunkins**. On roll call, Members Banks, Butler, Graham, Lawrence and Whittington voted aye; Member Williams abstained; nay, none; motion passed.

TERMINATION OF
EMPLOYMENT OF
CURRENT INTERIM
SUPERINTENDENT

Mrs. Whittington moved, Mr. Banks seconded to **Approve the Appointment of Dr. Leotis D. Swopes as Interim Superintendent** for the period May 14, 2015 through May 13, 2016 at the rate of \$750.00 per day and other terms as discussed in Executive Session. On roll call, Members Banks, Butler, Graham, Lawrence, Whittington and Williams voted aye; nay, none; motion passed.

APPROVAL TO
APPOINT INTERIM
SUPERINTENDENT

At 11:54 p.m., Ms. Williams moved, Mr. Banks 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