

MINUTES OF A **SPECIAL MEETING** OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION, THORNTON TOWNSHIP HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 205, COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS, HELD ON **WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 25, 2014** IN THE AUDITORIUM AT THORNRIDGE HIGH SCHOOL, 15000 SOUTH COTTAGE GROVE AVENUE, DOLTON, ILLINOIS, BEGINNING AT 6:30 P.M.

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m. Vice President Robinson 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 may be taped.

ANNOUNCEMENT
BY BOARD VICE
PRESIDENT

On roll call, Members Crayton, Lawrence, Robinson, and Williams answered. Dr. Stacey D. McJunkins, Interim Superintendent; Mr. Thomas Porter, Director of Pupil Personnel Services; Mr. Jerry B. Doss, Director of Public Relations; Mr. Brett Fickes, Director of Curriculum and Instruction; Mr. James Walton, Thornridge Principal; Mr. Ken Wendorff, Faculty Association President; Mrs. Debbie Scaletta, Faculty Association Executive Director; Ms. Susan Glover District 205 Legal Counsel were also present.

ROLL
CALL

Mr. Robinson stated your name will not be called if you do not list a topic; or the topic is not on the current Board agenda; or if Public Participation has begun. The following individuals spoke during Public Participation:

PUBLIC
PARTICIPATION

- Jackie Franklin (Dolton) asked: 1) Do we have any money in the budget for crisis situations? Told by students that after a weekend incident no counselors were present the following school day to assist students, if needed. Dr. McJunkins responded advising Ms. Franklin that the budget does include money for crisis situation and that counselors were in place after the specified incident mentioned. Dr. McJunkins asked Ms. Franklin to send additional information via email on Monday, September 29th.
- Felita Crayton (Dolton) asked: 1) Are there any copies of the budget? 2) May the community have copies? 3) Why is the District behind on approving the budget? 4) Gave congratulations to Board Member Williams on being award recipient in the IASB Master Board Member Program and asked if she was the only Board Member to receive the award? Mr. Grossi responded that the budget has been on display on the district website for the past 30 days. If approved, it will continue to be on display on the website.

Mr. Crayton moved, Mrs. Lawrence seconded to **Open the Public Hearing on the 2014- 2015 District 205 Budget** as presented by Mr. Rob Grossi. On roll call, Members Crayton, Lawrence, Robinson and Williams voted aye; nay, none; motion passed.

PUBLIC HEARING

Mr. Grossi opened the 2014- 2015 District 205 Budget Public Hearing by stating the following major budget assumptions are:

2014- 2015
DISTRICT 205
BUDGET PUBLIC
HEARING

Revenues

- ☐ R/E Taxes will grow pursuant to tax cap restrictions (CPI =1.5%).
- ☐ General State-Aid will decrease \$374,000.
- ☐ State grant revenues will decrease due to:
 - ☐ Timing of payments
 - ☐ Elimination of grant programs
 - ☐ Reimbursements due to audit findings
- ☐ Federal grants will increase as increase as carryover dollars due from Title 1 and Title 2 grants will more than offset reimbursements due from audit finding.

Expenses

- ☐ District debt payments will decrease by \$1.2 million.
- ☐ District will spend \$5 million in total capital expenses.
- ☐ Primary increases in expenses due to grant expenses.

The Breakdown of expenses by type shows that 46% salaries, 22% purchased services, 11% employee benefits, 10% out of district tuition, 5% debt payments, 4% supplies & materials, and 2% capital outlay.

The major factors that have already impacted District's Financial Condition:

❑ Dramatic decrease in average daily student attendance.

- **Impact:** *Decrease in average daily student attendance of 1,448 students over past four years has resulted in millions of dollars in lost General State-Aid revenues.*

❑ Dramatic decrease in taxable property values.

- **Impact:** *Decline in property values in excess of 34% over past six years has dramatically decreased the ability of the District to allocate tax revenues into the education and building funds.*

❑ Proration of General State-Aid dollars.

- **Impact:** *District will lose \$3.1 million in FY 2015 due to proration and will have lost in excess of \$11 million over past four years.*

The current financial threats facing the District are:

❑ Shifting of teacher pension costs from State to District.

- **Estimated Impact:** *Consensus is that the State will shift pension obligations to school districts. This would increase District expenses by an estimated \$1.6 - \$3.6 million annually.*

❑ Passage of Senate Bill 16.

- **Estimated Impact:** *Senate Bill 16 passed the Senate last year and is currently being considered by House. Based on estimates from ISBE, if the bill passes, the District would lose \$3.6 million annually in State revenues.*

❑ Creation of charter school.

- **Estimated Impact:** *If a charter school is approved within the District, the District stands to lose \$4 - \$6 million annually.*

The biggest deficient is the Education Fund. The district will have to transfer \$5.6 million from the Transportation Fund to the Education Fund. This is normal for school districts as property value is dropping in all areas.

At 9:36 p.m., Mrs. Lawrence moved, Mrs. Green seconded to **Reconvene to Regular Session**. On roll call, Members Crayton, Lawrence, Robinson, and Williams voted aye; nay, none; motion passed.

RECONVENE
REGULAR SESSION

Mrs. Williams moved, Mrs. Lawrence seconded to **Adopt Resolution for the 2014-2015 District 205 Budget** as presented by Mr. Grossi. On roll call, Members Crayton, Lawrence, Williams and Robinson voted aye; nay, none; motion passed.

MOTION TO
ADOPT
RESOLUTION
FOR THE 2014-
2015 DISTRICT
205 BUDGET

Mrs. Lawrence moved, Mr. Crayton seconded, to **Adjourn the Meeting**. On roll call, Members Lawrence, Crayton, Williams and Robinson voted aye; nay, none; motion passed.

ADJOURNMENT

President

Secretary