

MINUTES OF A **REGULAR MEETING** OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION, TOWNSHIP HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 205, COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS, HELD ON **WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 9, 2013** IN THE AUDITORIUM AT THORNTRIDGE 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. President Williams 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
PRESIDENT

On roll call, Members Crayton, Lawrence, Robinson, K. Williams and T. Williams answered. Members Gibbs and Green were absent. Mr. John Arrington, Acting Superintendent; Mr. Brett Fickes, Director of Curriculum; Mr. Thomas Porter, Director of Pupil Personnel Services; Mrs. Maria Brunson, Director of Information Technology; Mr. Tony Ratliff Principal of Thornton High School; Mr. James M. Walton, Jr., Principal of Thornridge High School; Mr. Dennis Willis, Principal of Thornwood High School Mr. Ken Wendorff, Faculty Association President; Mrs. Debbie Scaletta, Faculty Association Executive Director and Ms. Susan Glover, District 205 Legal Counsel, were also present.

ROLL
CALL

Mr. Crayton requested that Agenda Item 14C. be removed as it was not on the agenda the Board received in preparation for the meeting. Legal counsel stated the agenda that is posted on the website 48 hours prior to the meeting is the legal agenda for the meeting.

REMOVAL OF
AGENDA ITEM

Report from Curriculum Committee: No report.

COMMITTEE OF
THE WHOLE

Report from Finance Committee: Mr. Robinson reported stated that a Finance Committee meeting was held and there is a matter on the agenda this evening.

Report from Policy Committee: Mrs. Williams reported that a Policy Committee meeting was held on October 4, 2013. Topics discussed were the upcoming compliance visit, policy services with IASB, charter schools and Policy 8:90 (Parent Organizations and Booster Clubs).

Report from Discipline Committee: None.

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

CONSENT AGENDA

- The District 205 bills as presented for payment dated September 12, September 20, September 27 and October 4, 2013.
- Resignations: See Director of Human Resources.
- Leave of Absence: See Director of Human Resources.
- Employment: See Director of Human Resources.

BILLS

RESIGNATIONS

LEAVE OF ABSENCE

EMPLOYMENT

Mr. Crayton requested the Personnel portion of the Consent Agenda be removed. Mrs. Lawrence requested the Personnel portion of the Consent Agenda be removed and voted on separately under New Business at this meeting.

Mr. Robinson moved, Mrs. Williams seconded to **Approve the District 205 Bills** for payment.

On roll call, Members Crayton, Lawrence, Robinson, K. Williams and T. Williams voted aye; nay, none; motion passed.

At 6:41 p.m., Mrs. Gibbs joined the meeting.

MR.S GIBBS
JOINED MEETING

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

PUBLIC
PARTICIPATION

- Jewelle Vernon (Thornridge student) asked: 1) where the funding was coming from for the artificial turf. There are other things needed such as lighting and sound for the auditorium. Mr. Williams responded the turf will be funded through capital improvement. 2) Will the installation of turf affect the lighting project in any way. Mr. Williams responded the money is already set aside.
- Mrs. Lawrence (Board member) commended Ms. Vernon for her statements and further that turf is a waste of money and it should be spent on education. The State of Illinois will not take over the District if we don't have turf; however, they will take over the District if our scores are not up. She had requested that the policy committee meeting agenda include the District 205 charter school topic (for discussion only) but it was not included.
- Mr. Crayton (Board member) also commended Ms. Vernon and stated that before turf is installed, clean and usable restrooms are needed. Some of the concession stands are not usable. Four Board members vote the same way and any discussion seems senseless.
- Felita Crayton (Dolton) asked: 1) did every Board member and Dr. McJunkins received the email about the concession stands from Mr. Walton for the homecoming game. There is confusion about which club had the concessions; she he did not stop any club from working concessions. She requested a response to her email; 2) do the Prevailing Wage Act provisions apply to each custodian employee, and 3) why is FYI using a district vehicle to travel among the 3 schools.
- Jarron T. Williams (Thornridge student) stated that there is much lacking in the areas of safety, health and education that affect the schools as a whole. Support should be for the schools and not just for football.
- Dr. Andre Johnson (South Holland) commended the Board on the work they are doing and looks forward to better things.
- Mr. Crayton (Board member) questioned the presentation from IAlertU because it is not on the agenda. Mr. Williams responded that it is being held during Public Participation.
- Trayshawn Mitchell, Student Board President, spoke about safety in the schools and introduced Ms. Victoria Shannon to share information regarding the IAlertU anti-violence app for smart phones. This app allows students to transmit information anonymously to the security department.

Mr. Doss reported that since the last scheduled Board meeting, four (4) Freedom of Information Act requests were received and responded to within the allotted time.

FOIA

Mr. Doss presented the following information:

COMMUNICATIONS

- Ms. Ferguson of the Thornridge College & Career Center held a luncheon for the 46 Gates Millennium Scholars who are eligible to apply for the competition.
- Emmanuel Barjebo, Thornton Senior and Varsity Soccer Player, won the Southwest Suburban Conference Medal for Sportsmanship.
- Thornwood's own Jesus Fernandez-Ortiz & Toheeb Okenla emerged from 38 competitors to win the 2013 NFTE National Youth Entrepreneurship Challenge. They took home the \$25,000 grand prize for their business, T&J Soccer.

Upcoming Events:

Oct. 7-12 Homecoming Week for Thornridge and Thornton
 Oct. 14 Columbus Day (No School)
 Oct. 23 Late Start
 Nov. 4 Finance Committee Meeting
 Nov. 6 Late Start
 Nov. 11 Veterans Day (No School)
 Nov. 12 Student Board of Education Meeting
 Nov. 13 Board of Education Meeting

COMMUNICATIONS,
 Con't.

Mr. Robinson moved, Mrs. Williams seconded to **Approve the 2012-2013 Annual Scope Dues** in the amount of \$2,014.00 as presented by Dr. McJunkins. SCOPE (South Cooperative Organization for Public Education) provides guidance on various funding issues pending with the State and Professional Development opportunities. On roll call, Members Crayton, Gibbs, Lawrence, Robinson, K. Williams and T. Williams voted aye; nay, none; motion passed.

APPROVAL OF
 2013-2014 SCOPE
 ANNUAL DUES

Mr. Robinson moved, Mrs. Williams seconded, to **Approve the Request for Proposals for Artificial Turf** at the three high schools' football fields as presented by Charnot. Mrs. Lawrence and Mr. Crayton stated the money would be better spent on student programs. On roll call, Members Gibbs, Robinson, K. Williams and T. Williams voted aye; Members Crayton and Lawrence voted nay; motion passed.

APPROVAL OF RFP
 FOR ARTIFICIAL
 TURF

Mr. Robinson moved, Mrs. Williams seconded to **Approve Agenda Item 5: Personnel Resignations, Leave of Absence and Employment.** Mr. Crayton asked about the hiring process of certain individuals and stated that the Board did not have prior notification of any new hires. On roll call, Members Gibbs, Robinson, K. Williams and T. Williams voted aye; Members Crayton and Lawrence voted nay; motion passed.

CONSENT AGENDA:
 PERSONNEL

Mr. Fickes introduced the Principals of the three high schools who presented information regarding test scores. The District has failed to meet AYP. Last year, only 11 high schools met the state standards. Below are the Spring PSAE results:

SUPERINTENDENT
 REPORT

School	Reading Meets & Exceeds	Math Meets & Exceeds	Science Meets & Exceeds
Thornton	21%	14%	9%
Thornridge	27%	23%	11%
Thornwood	32%	23%	16%

The Principals provided data on test score growth by subject area, the average ACT scores and their plans for increased growth. The Board stated they would like to be provided hard data to see if we are progressing in the right direction.

Mr. Fickes announced the at next curriculum meeting the Principals and Area Instructional Leaders will be in attendance for a thorough discussion regarding PSAE scores.

At 7:50 p.m., Mrs. Gibbs moved, Mr. Robinson seconded to go into **Executive Session** pursuant to 5 ILCS 120/2(c) of the Illinois Open Meetings Act to consider student disciplinary matters; the appointment of employment, compensation, discipline or dismissal of specific employees of the public body and litigation. On roll call, Members Crayton, Gibbs, Lawrence, Robinson, K. Williams and T. Williams voted aye; nay, none; motion passed.

EXECUTIVE
 SESSION

At 9:10 p.m., Mr. Robinson moved, Mrs. Gibbs seconded to **Return to Regular Session.** On roll call, Members Crayton, Gibbs, Lawrence, Robinson, K. Williams and T. Williams voted aye; nay, none; motion passed.

RECONVENE
REGULAR SESSION

Mr. Robinson moved, Mrs. Williams seconded to **Approve the Termination of Administrator A, Maria Brunson**, as discussed in Executive Session. Mrs. Lawrence stated that this action is totally wrong; Mrs. Brunson has not been given a chance to prove her innocence and the Board is rushing to judgment. Mr. Crayton agreed. President Williams stated that Mrs. Brunson was invited to a hearing before the Board but has not done so. On roll call, Members Gibbs, Robinson, K. Williams and T. Williams voted aye; Members Crayton and Lawrence voted nay; motion passed.

TERMINATION OF
ADMINISTRATOR A

Mrs. Gibbs moved, Mrs. Williams seconded to **Approve Grievances Nos. 052713 and 052813.** On roll call, Members Crayton, Gibbs, Lawrence, Robinson, K. Williams and T. Williams voted aye; nay, none; motion passed.

APPROVAL OF
GRIEVANCES

Mr. Robinson moved, Mrs. Williams seconded to **Suspend the Parent Coordinators at Thornton, Thornridge and Thornwood** until further notice pending an investigation. On roll call, Members Gibbs, Robinson, K. Williams and T. Williams voted aye; Members Crayton and Lawrence voted nay; motion passed.

ACTION RELATED
TO PARENT
COORDINATOR (S)

At 9:19 p.m., Mrs. Gibbs moved, Mr. Robinson seconded, to **Adjourn the Meeting.** On roll call, Members Crayton, Gibbs, Lawrence, Robinson, K. Williams and T. Williams voted aye; nay, none; motion passed.

ADJOURNMENT

President

Secretary