

MINUTES OF A **REGULAR MEETING** OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION, TOWNSHIP HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 205, COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS, HELD ON **THURSDAY JULY 11, 2013** IN THE PERFORMING ARTS CENTER AT THORNWOOD HIGH SCHOOL, 17101 SOUTH PARK AVENUE, SOUTH HOLLAND, ILLINOIS, BEGINNING AT 10:30 A.M.

The meeting was called to order at 10:31 a.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, Green, Lawrence, Robinson, K. Williams and T. Williams answered. Members Gibbs was absent. Mr. Brett Fickes, Director of Curriculum; Mr. Thomas Porter, Director of Pupil Personnel Services; Mrs. Maria Brunson, Director of Information Technology; Mr. Dennis Willis, Principal of Thornwood High School and Mr. Frank Garrett, District 205 Legal Counsel, were also present.

ROLL
CALL

At 10:34 a.m., Mr. Arrington joined the meeting.

MR. ARRINGTON
JOINED MEETING

Report from Curriculum Committee: Mrs. Williams reported that the Curriculum Committee met on July 9, 2013. Topics covered were: AVID update, status on the new IB Program, overview of South Cook Math Initiative and 2012-13 Gates-MacGinitie reading scores; amendment to the athletic eligibility policy and a CEC representative shared details of a possible partnership with the District.

COMMITTEE OF
THE WHOLE

Report from Finance Committee: Mr. Robinson reported that the Finance Committee met on July 8, 2013. There are items on today's agenda to be approved.

Report from Policy Committee: Mrs. Williams reported that a Policy Committee meeting will take place late July or early August.

Report from Discipline Committee: No report.

At 10:38 a.m., Mrs. Gibbs joined the meeting.

MRS. GIBBS
JOINED MEETING

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

CONSENT AGENDA

- The minutes of the Regular Meeting and Executive Session of June 12, 2013.
- The District 205 bills as presented for payment dated June 13, June 21 and June 26, 2013.
- Approval of Settlement Agreement and Release.

MINUTES:
JUNE 12, 2013

BILLS

SETTLEMENT
AGREEMENT

Mr. Williams requested the Personnel portion of the Consent Agenda be removed, to be voted on individually under New Business.

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

PUBLIC
PARTICIPATION

- Anita Richardson (South Holland) the CEO of Dayspring, Inc., spoke of her family's commitment to the community and stated Dayspring was the lowest responsible bidder for the custodial contract. She provided documentation to the Board and stated there was not clarity regarding the addendum to the contract.
- Lisa Daniels (Calumet City) is an RJB employee and stated that some RJB employees were approached regarding cleaning services. They were offered an amount that is not equal to the prevailing wage.
- Tyrone Crider (Flossmoor) representing the Southland Ministers Health Network, congratulated Mr. Arrington as the Acting Superintendent, and hopes to work with District 205 in the future.
- Angela Shumpert (Matteson) Vice President of RJB Properties, representing the 75 RJB employees attending the meeting, stated that according to the contract, the Board is to provide 60 days written notice when not renewing the contract, which was not done. Further, prevailing wage only applies to construction jobs. She asked if the Board checked to see if all bidders were in compliance with the bid specs. The late Ronald J. Blackstone, founder of RJB, served on the Board of the Academic Enrichment Foundation and was very supportive of District 205. Mr. Williams responded that all bid materials were reviewed.
- Laticia Archibald (South Holland) asked why prevailing wage was included in the specs for the custodial bid if it was not required. Mr. Williams responded he could not answer the question.
- Elena Valdez (Dolton) questioned how F.Y.I. was awarded the custodial bid because the specs required the vendor to currently work in 5 school districts of the same scope and size. F.Y.I. does not meet that requirement.
- Felita Crayton (Dolton) asked 1) why the regular Board meeting was rescheduled from last evening at 6:30 p.m. to today at 10:30 a.m. knowing that community members are at work. Mr. Arrington responded that it was an internal error regarding the posting of the agenda; upon advice of legal counsel the meeting needed to be changed. 2) For public information, was there a meeting where John Arrington was appointed Acting Superintendent? Legal counsel responded that it was a personnel issue and would not be addressed. Mr. Williams stated that the answer is contained in a past agenda on the District website. It is noted Mrs. Crayton's question was not answered.
- Bernadette Lawrence (Board member) addressed Mrs. Crayton's concerns stating that at the June Board meeting Mr. Arrington was voted in as Human Resources Director. A vote will be taken today for Mr. Arrington as Acting Superintendent. Since the June 12th Board meeting, District 205 was without a Superintendent.
- Kenneth Williams (Board President) stated that at last month's Board meeting, the Board voted on a topic that was discussed in Executive Session.
- Andre Johnson (South Holland) stated he is excited that his son is an incoming freshman at District 205 and has confidence in the Board of Education and the administration.

Mr. Fickes reported that since the last scheduled Board meeting, three (3) Freedom of Information Act requests were received and responded to within the allotted time.

FOIA

Mr. Fickes presented the following information:

COMMUNICATIONS

- The District 205 Student Board won Gold at the 2013 Jefferson Awards National Competition in Washington, D.C. Over 325 high schools across the country participated in the competition.
- Applications for the International Baccalaureate program for all three high schools have been accepted.
- Fourteen students participated in the enrichment program for pre-pharmacy students at Chicago State University.
- Regular registration dates for the 2013-14 school year are posted online.

Upcoming Events:

July 18	United Nations Leadership Academy End of Summer Program Thornridge Auditorium, 10:00 a.m.
July 24	Thornwood summer fest, Thornwood football Field, 11:00 a.m.
July 25	Summer School Graduation, Thornwood North Fieldhouse,
August 5	Finance Committee Meeting
August 14	Regular Board of Education Meeting
August 16	Teacher Institute Day
August 19	First day of school, Freshmen only
August 20	First day of school, all students
August 29	Back to school Night

Mr. Robinson moved, Mrs. Gibbs seconded to **Approve the 2013-2014 Student Fees** as presented by Mr. Arrington which will remain the same as last year. On roll call, Members Crayton, Gibbs, Green, Lawrence, Robinson, K. Williams and T. Williams voted aye; nay, none; motion passed.

APPROVAL OF
2013-2014
STUDENT FEES

Mrs. Williams moved, Mr. Robinson seconded to **Approve the Security Bid** as recommended by the Finance Committee. The bid is awarded to American Heritage, the lowest responsible bidder in the amount of \$1,839,499.26. Mr. Williams read for the record that the Board of Education reserves the right to reject any and all bids. The contract awarded will be in the school district's sole discretion. The bidder must be able to provide safety for the students and quality of service first, and then price. Unless designated a mandatory requirement, the Board of education reserves the right to waive any informalities in any proposals. The Board shall consider various criteria in awarding the contract for custodial and security services, including, but not limited to: 1) contractor has a minimum of 2 years' experience in the State of Illinois; 2) evidence of financial responsibility and capability to perform the contract; 3) evidence of management experience and reliability in custodial services; 4) demonstrated willingness and ability to provide custodial services; 5) the contractor must currently operate adequate operations and maintenance facilities in an appropriate location to assure proper performance of the contract within close proximity of the school district boundaries; and 6) contract can show evidence of employees with sufficient experience in custodial and security services.

APPROVAL OF
SECURITY BID

Mrs. Lawrence moved, Mrs. Green seconded to **Table the Approval of the Security Bid.** Member Crayton stated the matter is being rushed and should be tabled. Mrs. Lawrence stated that the bid was made public for 7 days, not the required 10 days. The District is setting itself up for lawsuits and that money should be spent on the education of the students, not lawsuits. Mr. Crayton added that the District is without a Superintendent and that Business Manager should be hired to review the bids before a decision is made. Mr. Williams stated the district does not have a current contract with a security vendor; thus the necessity to go out to bid. On roll call, Members Crayton, Green and Lawrence voted aye; Members Gibbs, Robinson, K. Williams and T. Williams voted nay; motion failed.

MOTION TO TABLE

On roll call, Members Gibbs, Robinson, K. Williams and T. Williams voted aye; Members Crayton, Green and Lawrence voted nay, motion passed.

APPROVAL OF
SECURITY BID,
Con't.

Mrs. Williams moved, Mr. Robinson seconded to **Approve the Custodial Bid** as presented by Mr. Williams to the lowest responsible bidder, FYI, in the amount \$1,924,000.00 as recommended by the finance committee.

APPROVAL OF
CUSTODIAL BID

MOTION TO TABLE

Mrs. Lawrence moved, Mrs. Green seconded to **Table the Approval of the Custodial Bid**. The bid was made public for 7 days, not the required 10 days and contained inaccurate specs, thus setting the district up for a lawsuit. A Business Manager needs to be hired before a decision is made. In response to Mrs. Lawrence's question, Mr. Williams stated the need to change is based on the fact there is no current contract. Mr. Crayton stated Mr. Thomas needs to return as Superintendent and hire a business Manager to review the bids on behalf of the district; the entire board did not have an opportunity to review the bidder recommended by the Finance Committee. He also asked for rationale for the bid being awarded to the third lowest bidder. On roll call, Members Crayton, Green and Lawrence voted aye; Members Gibbs, Robinson, K. Williams and T. Williams voted nay; motion failed.

On roll call, Members Gibbs, Robinson, K. Williams and T. Williams voted aye; Members Crayton, Green and Lawrence voted nay, motion passed.

APPROVAL OF
CUSTODIAL BID,
Con't.

Mr. Robinson moved, Mrs. Gibbs seconded, to **Approve the Corporate Authorization Resolution** as presented by Mr. Williams. Mrs. Green stated that Mr. Arrington is not the Acting Superintendent; therefore, he cannot be added as a signatory for the District. No vote was taken and Mr. Williams announced that the item be voted on after Executive session.

APPROVAL OF
CORPORATE
AUTHORIZATION
RESOLUTION

NONE.

SUPERINTENDENT
REPORT

At 11:41 a.m., Mrs. Gibbs moved, Mrs. Williams 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, Green, Lawrence, Robinson, K. Williams and T. Williams voted aye; nay, none; motion passed.

EXECUTIVE
SESSION

At 1:15 p.m., Mr. Robinson moved, Mrs. Green seconded to **Reconvene to Regular Session**. On roll call, Members Gibbs, Green, Lawrence, Robinson, K. Williams and T. Williams voted aye; nay, none; motion passed.

RECONVENE
REGULAR SESSION

No action was taken on student discipline case Nos. 3B-1213-08 and 2H-1213-09.

STUDENT
DISCIPLINE

Mrs. Williams moved, Mr. Robinson seconded to **Approve the Resolution to Dismiss** and to authorize service of the Notice of Dismissal and Charges, Bill of Particulars and Hearing Rights to Administrator A as identified and discussed in Executive Session. On roll call, Members Gibbs, Robinson, K. Williams and T. Williams voted aye; Members Green and Lawrence voted nay, motion passed.

APPROVE
RESOLUTION TO
DISMISS
ADMINISTRATOR A

Mrs. Gibbs moved, Mr. Robinson seconded to Name Mr. John Arrington as Acting Superintendent with corporate signatory authority effective immediately. Mrs. Lawrence stated: "Here we are going for an acting Superintendent based on ... but yet we have on all of our documents that we already have an acting Superintendent. So this is saying that we're going on it twice. Apparently we didn't have a Superintendent for a month; the District was functioning without a Superintendent." On roll call, Members Gibbs, Robinson, K. Williams and T. Williams voted aye; Members Green and Lawrence voted nay, motion passed.

NAMING OF
ACTING
SUPERINTENDENT

No action taken.

ADMINISTRATOR B
ACTION

Mrs. Gibbs moved, Mr. Robinson seconded to **Approve the Corporate Authorization Resolution** to remove John Thomas as signatory for District 205 bank accounts, and add Acting Superintendent John Arrington as a signatory for District 205 bank accounts for such time as he is Acting Superintendent. On roll call, Members Gibbs, Robinson, K. Williams and T. Williams voted aye; Members Green and Lawrence voted nay, motion passed.

APPROVAL OF
CORPORATE
AUTHORIZATION
RESOLUTION

Mrs. Gibbs moved, Mr. Robinson seconded to **Table the Certified Employment 2013-2014 School Year.** On roll call, Members Gibbs, Green, Lawrence, Robinson, K. Williams and T. Williams voted aye; nay, none; motion passed.

CONSENT AGENDA:
PERSONNEL

Mrs. Gibbs moved, Mrs. Williams seconded to **Table the Rescind Retirement 2013-2014 (1) and Rescind Retirement 2014-2015 (1).** On roll call, Members Gibbs, Green, Lawrence, Robinson, K. Williams and T. Williams voted aye; nay, none; motion passed.

CONSENT AGENDA:
RESCIND
RETIREMENTS

Mrs. Gibbs moved, Mrs. Williams seconded to **Approve the Resignations (5).** On roll call, Members Gibbs, Green, Lawrence, Robinson, K. Williams and T. Williams voted aye; nay, none; motion passed.

CONSENT AGENDA:
RESIGNATIONS

Mrs. Gibbs moved, Mrs. Williams seconded to **Approve the Retirement (1).** On roll call, Members Gibbs, Green, Lawrence, Robinson, K. Williams and T. Williams voted aye; nay, none; motion passed.

CONSENT AGENDA:
RETIREMENT

At 1:36 p.m., Mrs. Lawrence moved, Mrs. Gibbs seconded, to **Adjourn the Meeting.** On roll call, Members Gibbs, Green, Lawrence, Robinson, K. Williams and T. Williams voted aye; nay, none; motion passed.

ADJOURNMENT

President

Secretary