

MINUTES OF A **REGULAR MEETING** OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION, TOWNSHIP HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 205, COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS, HELD ON **WEDNESDAY, APRIL 10, 2013** IN THE AUDITORIUM AT THORNTON HIGH SCHOOL, 15001 BROADWAY AVENUE, HARVEY, 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 VICE
PRESIDENT

On roll call, Members Banks, Burton, Crayton, Robinson, K. Williams and T. Williams answered. Mr. John F. Thomas, Superintendent; Mr. Brett Fickes, Director of Curriculum; Mr. Tom Porter, Director of Pupil Personnel Services; Mr. Jerry Doss, Director of Public Relations; Mrs. Maria Brunson, Director of Information Technology; Mr. Tony Ratliff, Principal of Thornton Township 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. Kathleen Elliott, District 205 Legal Counsel, were also present.

ROLL
CALL

Report from Curriculum Committee: Mrs. Williams reported that the Curriculum Committee met on February 5, 2013 and topics presented were the International Baccalaureate program, the Pearson School Improvement model, an AVID update and a special report from Smaller Learning Communities and Junior Achievement. On March 26 the committee met again and discussed the Common Core initiative and preparation for the PARCC assessment. Also presented were English and Reading content area reports, the Summer Boost program update and a proposal regarding a community volunteer program. The next Curriculum meeting will be announced when a date is selected.

COMMITTEE OF
THE WHOLE

Report from Finance Committee: Mr. Crayton reported that the Finance Committee met on March 28, 2013 and three items will be presented for approval at this meeting.

Report from Policy Committee: No report.

Report from Discipline Committee: No report.

Mr. Burton moved, Mr. Crayton seconded, to **Approve the Consent Agenda**. Mr. Robinson requested the District Bills portion of the Consent Agenda be removed.

CONSENT AGENDA

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

Mr. Crayton 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

- Victor Coriano (Dolton) asked for the number of Latino students, teachers, counselors and administrators in the district. He stated the Latino population is increasing and there should be more Latino personnel to support the students. Mr. Thomas agreed to meet with Mr. Coriano to discuss the issue.
- Lufreda Shine (Dolton) representing the Dolton basketball and football organization, was denied to use the facilities at Thornridge. These children have nowhere to play basketball. She requested reasons for the denial.
- Jerry Jones (South Holland) was concerned about the Dolton Bears being denied the use of the Thornridge facilities. The Board responded that it was never the intention of the Board to deny the children and they will work toward an amicable resolution.

- George Jordan (Dolton) stated that many Dolton organization coaches came out to assist at the Thornridge night games last year and to deny the children is wrong.
- Yvette Pierce Williams (Harvey) spoke in support of the Dolton Bears using the Thornridge facilities.
- Les Wilson (South Holland) spoke in support of the Dolton basketball program.
- Felita Crayton (Dolton) 1) stated she has not received a response about the Thornridge Athletic Director selection process; 2) are the individuals employed whose contracts were not approved at the March Board meeting? 3) why has the employment list been removed from the consent agenda since August? 4) requested a response about correcting the Thornridge Athletic Director selection because a panel chose a candidate but was told certain Board members asked it to be otherwise, and 5) stated she called the state's attorney's office and the suit has not been dropped. Mr. Thomas responded: 2) the individuals are employed and have been paid. Mr. Williams responded: 3) there is no response as it is a personnel issue.

PUBLIC
PARTICIPATION,
Con't.

Mr. Doss reported that since the last Board meeting, two (2) Freedom of Information Act requests were received and responded to within the allotted time.

FOIA

Mr. Doss presented the following information:

COMMUNICATIONS

- Thornridge Performance in the Round took 4th place in the State speech competition.
- Thornridge FCCLA Club will participate in the March of Dimes March for Babies fundraiser on April 28.
- Thornridge Junior Payton Fox won the Classroom Entrepreneurship Competition and will compete in the Chicago competition on May 1.
- Thornton Science Club Competition: Santiago Gonzales placed 3rd in the SWSC Science Competition for building a simple electric motor.
- Thornton Spoken Word Competition students scored an overall 10.
- Thornton IHSA Drama Competition: The Group Interpretation placed 3rd and placed 6th in the Contest Play.
- Thornton student and Student Board Vice President Luke Arrington received a full scholarship to Northern Illinois University for four years. He is also a finalist for the Gates Millennium Scholarship.
- Thornton Principal, Mr. Ratliff, announced the 11th Annual McLegends basketball game sponsored by McDonalds on April 20 at 2:00 p.m. and invited the Board.
- Thornwood will host incoming freshman night on Monday, May 6, at 6:00 p.m.
- Former Chicago Bulls Bob Love will be a guest speaker for the PSAE assembly.
- Thornwood Janez Winston broke the sophomore girls' discus throwing record from 1980 with a throw of 101 feet 3 inches.
- Family Reading Night at Thornwood will take place on April 25 from 5:00 – 8:30 p.m.
- Reaching for the Stars Gala will take place on April 20 at 5:30 p.m. at the Serbian Social Center in Lansing, IL.
- Superintendent Thomas will hold a community forum on moving education forward at the Dolton Library on April 16.

Upcoming events:

April 13	ACT Test Date
April 16	Community Forum, Dolton Library
April 17	Late Start
April 20	Academic Enrichment Foundation Gala
April 23	PSAE
April 24	PSAE
April 25	Family Reading Night, Thornwood
May 1	Late Start
May 2	SAT Registration deadline for June 1
May 3	ACT Registration deadline for June 8
May 4	SAT Test Date
May 7	Student Board of Education Meeting
May 8	Board of Education Meeting

Mr. Crayton moved, Mr. Robinson seconded to **Approve the 2013-2014 School Calendar** as presented by Mr. Porter. Questions raised at last month's Board meeting were addressed. To change the PSAE date would create conflict in several areas. The first day of school will be August 16, 2013; the last day will be June 3, 2014. On roll call, Members Banks, Burton, Crayton, Robinson, K. Williams and T. Williams voted aye; nay, none; motion passed.

APPROVAL OF
2013-2014 SCHOOL
CALENDAR

Mr. Crayton moved, Mr. Robinson seconded to **Ratify the Overnight Field Trip** as presented by Mr. Ratliff for 29 students and four chaperones to travel to Springfield, IL to compete in the IHSA State Drama Tournament from March 21-23, 2013. The team placed third in the event. On roll call, Members Banks, Burton, Crayton, Robinson, K. Williams and T. Williams voted aye; nay, none; motion passed.

RATIFICATION OF
OVERNIGHT FIELD
TRIP

Mr. Crayton moved, Mr. Burton seconded to **Approve the Out-of-State Field Trip** as presented by Mr. Walton for four students to participate in the National Competition of the FCCLA (Family Career and Community Leaders of America) in Nashville, TN from July 7-11, 2013. On roll call, Members Banks, Burton, Crayton, Robinson, K. Williams and T. Williams voted aye; nay, none; motion passed.

APPROVAL OF
OUT-OF-STATE
FIELD TRIP

Mr. Burton moved, Mr. Robinson seconded to **Approve the Out-of-State Field Trip** as presented by Mr. Willis for one student to travel to Birmingham, Alabama from June 16-22, 2013 to participate in the 2013 National Forensic League Tournament. The student will be accompanied by two coach chaperones. On roll call, Members Banks, Burton, Crayton, Robinson, K. Williams and T. Williams voted aye; nay, none; motion passed.

APPROVAL OF THE
OUT-OF-STATE
FIELD TRIP

Mr. Robinson moved, Mr. Crayton seconded, to **Approve the 2013-2014 IHSA Membership** as presented by Mr. Thomas for each of the three high schools. No payment for membership or entry fees is required. The IHSA governs the equitable participation in interscholastic athletics and activities. On roll call, Members Banks, Burton, Crayton, Robinson, K. Williams and T. Williams voted aye; nay, none; motion passed.

APPROVAL OF
2013-2014 IHSA
MEMBERSHIP

Mr. Burton moved, Mr. Crayton seconded to **Approve the 2013-2014 Summer Renovations** as presented by Mr. Thomas. The cost for renovations for all three schools totals \$10,735,377.00 and includes Thornton: \$3,960,000.00; Thornridge: \$3,194,000.00; Thornridge Bleachers: \$261,377.00 and Thornwood: \$3,320,000.00. Tria Architecture representative Mr. Tom Szurgot responded to questions from the Board and reviewed the project details. The Board requested more detailed information in writing for their review.

APPROVAL OF
2013-2014 SUMMER
RENOVATIONS

Mr. Robinson moved, Mrs. Williams seconded to **Table the Approval of the 2013-2014 Summer Renovations**. On roll call, Members Robinson, K. Williams and T. Williams voted aye; Members Banks, Burton and Crayton voted nay; motion failed.

Mr. Crayton moved, Mr. Banks seconded to **Approve the Reduced Project for the 2013-2014 Summer Renovations** as presented by Mr. Thomas for partial project approval in anticipation of the Board not approving the entire Summer Renovation project. He separated the projects out by Priority 1, 2 and 3 for consideration.

APPROVAL OF
REDUCED
PROJECT FOR THE
2013-2014 SUMER
RENOVATIONS

Mr. Crayton moved, Mr. Robinson seconded to **Table the Approval of the Reduced Project for the 2013-2014 Summer Renovations**. On roll call, Members Burton, Crayton, Robinson, K. Williams and T. Williams voted aye; member Banks voted nay; motion passed.

Mr. Crayton moved, Mr. Robinson seconded to **Table the Approval of the Pitney Bowes Contract**. On roll call, Members Burton, Crayton, Robinson, K. Williams and T. Williams voted aye; member Banks voted nay; motion passed.

APPROVAL OF
PITNEY BOWES
CONTRACT

At 7:47 p.m., Mrs. Williams moved, Mr. Robinson seconded to go into **Executive Session** for the purpose of discussing student discipline and pending litigation. On roll call, Members Banks, Burton, Crayton, Robinson, K. Williams and T. Williams voted aye; nay, none; motion passed.

EXECUTIVE
SESSION

At 9:29 p.m., Mr. Robinson moved, Mr. Burton seconded to **Return to Regular Session**. On roll call, Members Banks, Burton, Crayton, Robinson, K. Williams and T. Williams voted aye; nay, none; motion passed.

RECONVENE
REGULAR SESSION

Mr. Crayton moved, Mr. Burton seconded to **Approve the Student Discipline Case No. 1B-1213-01** for the student to return to Thornton High School with time served subject to random searches. On roll call, Members Banks, Burton, Crayton, Robinson, K. Williams and T. Williams voted aye; nay, none; motion passed.

STUDENT
DISCIPLINE CASE
NO. 1B-1213-01

At 9:36 p.m., Mr. Burton moved, Mr. Crayton seconded, to **Adjourn the Meeting**. On roll call, Members Banks, Burton, Crayton, Robinson, K. Williams and T. Williams voted aye; nay, none; motion passed.

ADJOURNMENT

President/Presiding Member

Secretary/Recording Secretary

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REGULAR SESSION