MINUTES OF A **REGULAR MEETING** OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION, TOWNSHIP HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 205, COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS, HELD ON **WEDNESDAY**, **JANUARY 9**, **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. Vice President Crayton 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, and T. Williams answered. Member Williams was absent. Mr. John F. Thomas, Superintendent; 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 Mr. Anthony Bass, District 205 Legal Counsel, were also present.

ROLL CALL

Vice President Crayton offered a moment of silence in memory of the late Ronald J. Blackstone, charter member of the Thornton Township High School District 205 Academic Enrichment Foundation and philanthropist. Board Secretary Toni Williams read the Resolution of the Board of Education Relative to Ronald J. Blackstone into the record.

MOMENT OF SILENCE

Report from Curriculum Committee: Mrs. Williams reported that on December 17 she met with Mr. Fickes and discussed the creation of an International Baccalaureate Program; the AVID program; the January 28<sup>th</sup> Teacher Institute Day, the development of new Curriculum handbook and a cosmetology program. They met with Pearson regarding the school improvement model. On February 5, 2013 Mr. Fickes will host Curriculum Night at T-107 at 6:30 p.m. to update parents.

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

Report from Finance Committee: No report.

Report from Policy Committee: Mrs. Williams stated that a Policy Committee meeting will be scheduled for February.

Report from Discipline Committee: No report.

Mr. Burton moved, Mr. Banks seconded, to **Approve the Consent Agenda**. Mrs. Williams requested the Consent Agenda be stricken. Legal counsel advised that the bills must be approved; therefore, she removed the minutes of the Regular Meeting and Executive Session December 12, 2012; Personnel: Employment dated July 11, September 12, October 10, November 9 and December 6, 2012, and Personnel: Employment dated January 9, 2013. On roll call, Members Banks, Burton, Robinson and T. Williams voted aye; Member Crayton voted nay, motion passed.

CONSENT AGENDA

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

• Kathy Bendell (Dolton) asked: 1) how can staff be employed if the employment portion of the consent agenda is not approved by the Board; 2) are those individuals currently working; 3) how do they get paid if they are not hired. In response: 1) Legal counsel stated the Board has the ability to remove items from the consent agenda if they wish; 2) Mr. Thomas responded yes; 3) legal counsel stated that these items have been on the consent agenda since July for approval; Mrs. Williams added that she needs clarity regarding employment. Mr. Thomas explained the hiring process.

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• Felita Crayton (Dolton) stated an announcement was made that students could not purchase prom tickets if they had outstanding fees. She feels this is unfair. Mr. Thomas will meet with Mrs. Crayton to discuss the issue.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION, Con't.

- Briggitte Spencer (Thornwood parent) was instructed to discuss her issue in Executive Session as it is about a student.
- Ken Wendorff (Thornwood teacher) stated that teachers and children especially need Curriculum support. The stadium lights were installed quickly; yet students cannot purchase a pencil because there are no bookstores in the schools any longer for students to buy even basic supplies. Students and their priorities are not put first. However, there is a headphone vending machine at Thornwood although school policy prohibits the use of headphones in the classroom. A business manager is desperately needed to oversee the budget and manage the resources of the District.

Mr. Doss reported that since the last Board meeting, one (1) Freedom of Information Act requests were received and responded to within the allotted time.

**FOIA** 

Mr. Burton moved, Mr. Banks seconded, to **Approve the Corporate Authorization Resolution** as presented by Mr. Thomas to change the signatory authority on the District 205 accounts to Mr. Thomas and Ms. Heather Buller, Coordinator of Business Services. The bank has been acting on good faith and a signatory is necessary. On roll call, Members Banks, Burton, Crayton voted aye; Robinson and T. Williams voted nay, motion passed.

APPROVAL OF CORPORATE AUTHORIZATION RESOLUTION

At 7:05 p.m., Mr. Burton moved, Mr. Banks seconded to go into **Executive Session** for the purpose of discussing student discipline, employment grievances, personnel and pending litigation. On roll call, Members Banks, Burton, Crayton, Robinson and T. Williams voted aye; nay, none; motion passed.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

At 9:40 p.m., Mr. Burton moved, Mr. Robinson seconded to **Reconvene Regular Session.** On roll call, Members Burton, Crayton, Robinson, K. Williams and T. Williams voted aye; nay, none; motion passed.

RECONVENE REGULAR SESSION

Mr. Williams moved, Mrs. Williams seconded to **Approve the Student Discipline Case No. 3AC-1213-05** as recommended by the Superintendent. On roll call, Members Burton, Crayton, Robinson, K. Williams and T. Williams voted aye; nay, none; motion passed.

STUDENT DISCIPLINE

At 9:41 p.m., Mr. Banks joined the meeting.

MR. BANKS JOINED MEETING

Mr. Burton moved, Mr. Robinson seconded to **Approve the Grievance No. 100412** as recommended by the Superintendent. On roll call, Members Banks, Burton, Crayton, Robinson, K. Williams and T. Williams voted aye; nay, none; motion passed.

EMPLOYEE GRIEVANCE No. 100412

Mr. Robinson moved, Mrs. Williams seconded to **Continue Grievance No. 101812** to the February 2013 Board meeting. On roll call, Members Banks, Burton, Crayton, Robinson, K. Williams and T. Williams voted aye; nay, none; motion passed.

EMPLOYEE GRIEVANCE No. 101812

Mr. Williams stated that the Board consists of seven members; a quorum consists of four members; a vote consists of four members and for the record a 3-2 vote does not pass.

MR. WILLIAMS' COMMENT

At 9:50 p.m., Mr. Williams moved, Mr. Burton 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