

MINUTES OF A **REGULAR MEETING** OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION, TOWNSHIP HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 205, COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS, HELD ON **WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 11, 2012** IN THE AUDITORIUM AT THORNTON HIGH SCHOOL, 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 movements of individuals who are using 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 Banks, Burton, Crayton, Lawrence, Robinson, K. Williams and T. Williams answered. Dr. Betheny Lyke, Acting Superintendent; Mrs. Dorith Johnson, Director of Curriculum and Instruction; Mrs. Carrie Ablin, Director of Pupil Personnel Services; Mr. Jerry Doss, Director of Public Relations; Mrs. Maria Brunson, Director of Information Technology; Mr. Doug Ogarek, Director of Business Operations; Mr. James Walton, Principal of Thornridge High School; Mr. Tony Ratliff, Principal of Thornton High School; Mrs. Darcelle Williams, Principal of Thornwood High School; Mr. Dennis Willis, Assistant Principal of Thornwood High School; Mr. Ken Wendorff, Faculty Association President; Mrs. Deborah Scaletta, Faculty Association Executive Director, and Ms. Kathleen Elliott, District 205 Legal Counsel, were also present.

ROLL
CALL

Report from Curriculum Committee: Mrs. Lawrence stated that in February District 205 students will compete with other south suburban high schools in a mock trial at the Markham Courthouse. The winning team will each receive a \$1,000 scholarship to John Marshall Law School. Beginning in 2012, District 205 will partner with Governors State University and offer a criminal justice program. We have partnered with South Suburban College and are offering certified nursing assistants certifications. The next curriculum meeting will be on January 25, 2012, Room T107, at 6:00 p.m.

COMMITTEE OF
THE WHOLE

Report from Finance Committee: No report.

Report from Policy Committee: No report.

Report from Discipline Committee: No report.

Mr. Burton moved, Mr. Banks seconded, to **Approve the Consent Agenda**, which includes the following:

CONSENT AGENDA

- The minutes of the Regular Meeting and Executive Session of December 14, 2011.
- The District 205 bills as presented for payment dated December 16 and 22, 2011.
- Resignations: See Director of Human Resources.
- Leave of Absence: See Director of Human Resources.
- Employment: See Director of Human Resources.

MINUTES:
DECEMBER 14, 2011

BILLS

RESIGNATIONS

LEAVE OF ABSENCE

EMPLOYMENT

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

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.

PUBLIC
PARTICIPATION

The following individuals spoke during Public Participation:

- Sam McNabb (Crete, formerly Dolton) will host a football camp on January 21, 2012 for graduating seniors. Athletes who were not observed during the course of the year will have an opportunity to be observed by recruiters. 185 colleges have been invited to the camp which will take place at the Thornwood indoor field house. The cost to participate is \$100, which includes a video.
- Cleo Smith (South Holland, former Dist. 205 Board member) stated he is concerned about the District 205 State Report Card; that the District spends approximately \$7,000 per week per student; they performed poorly and it is getting worse. District 205 students performed significantly lower than the state average in 2010-2011.
- Vivienne Williams (Dolton) asked: 1) the graduation date be changed so students in sporting events may also participate in graduation; 2) for support on HB603 regarding student athlete injuries—Robin Clark who was a quadriplegic recently passed away and 3) progress of the teachers' contract.
- Felita Crayton (Dolton) asked: 1) when is the next policy committee meeting; policies other than discipline need to be reviewed; 2) regarding concessions all 3 schools should be controlled the same, athletics and activities are two separate things; and 3) does money collected at the door go back to the school. Mrs. Williams responded: 1) the meeting will be scheduled around the discipline committee meeting; Dr. Lyke responded: 3) the money is considered revenue and goes into the education fund.

PUBLIC
PARTICIPATION,
Con't.

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

FOIA

Mr. Doss presented the following information:

COMMUNICATIONS

- Thornton's Speech Team is Champion of the SWSC Red Division.
- Wildcat Cheerleaders Qualified for ICCA State Championship Series to take place on February 11, 2012 in Springfield
- Thornton's Wrestling Team won 2nd place out of 20 schools in the Lincoln Tournament.
- Seniors Tamara Byrd and Crystal Estrada have been accepted into the 2012 Northwestern University Feinberg School of Medicine Health Professions Exposure and Recruitment Program.
- Thornton was visited by Obama Administration White House Intern, Mr. David Anderson, a Thornton 2003 graduate.
- Thornwood student Glennita Williams held a Veterans Appreciation luncheon on December 19, 2011 at the River Oaks Community Church with 130 people in attendance. She will receive the "Living the Dream Award" at Bethlehem Temple on January 16, 2012.
- Thornwood student Amber Taylor received the Presidential Scholarship totaling \$64,000 and will attend St. Xavier University.
- Thornwood Varsity Boys Basketball Team is tied for first place in the SWSC Conference with a 4-0 record.
- Thornwood cheerleaders placed 2nd in the Bloomington ICCA competition which qualified them for the ICCA State Championship in the Co-Ed Division.
- Thornwood's Speech Team hosted the Annual T-shirt Speech Tournament on January 7.

Upcoming Events:

Jan. 13	ACT Registration Deadline for February 11
Jan. 16	Dr. Martin L. King, Jr. Celebration at South Suburban College, No School
Jan. 20	Coffee Chat with Dr. Lyke, 9:00 a.m., District Office
Jan. 25	Late Start
Jan. 28	SAT Test
Jan. 30	Teacher Institute Day, No School

Feb. 7 Student Board of Education Meeting
Feb. 8 Board of Education Meeting, 6:30 p.m., Thornton

COMMUNICATIONS,
Con't.

Mrs. Lawrence moved, Mr. Burton seconded to **Approve the District Improvement Plan Process** as presented by Mrs. Johnson. She described the completed steps with guidelines and strategies and stressed that this approval is not for the plan, but for the process, which has no deadline for completion and is an ongoing process. On roll call, Members Banks, Burton, Crayton, Lawrence, Robinson, K. Williams and T. Williams voted aye; nay, none; motion passed.

APPROVAL OF
DISTRICT
IMPROVEMENT
PLAN PROCESS

Mr. Burton moved, Mrs. Lawrence seconded to **Approve the School Improvement Plan Process for Thornridge, Thornton and Thornwood High Schools** as presented by Mrs. Johnson. As with the District Improvement Plan Process, she described the completed steps with guidelines and strategies. This approval is not for the plan, but the process which has no deadline for completion and is an ongoing process. On roll call, Members Burton, Crayton, Robinson, K. Williams and T. Williams voted aye; Members Banks and Lawrence voted nay; motion passed.

APPROVAL OF
SCHOOL
IMPROVEMENT
PLAN PROCESS
FOR THORNRIDGE,
THORNTON AND
THORNWOOD HIGH
SCHOOLS

Dr. Lyke reported on the Superintendents Roundtable, stating that all nine feeder schools of District 205 have committed to the purpose of increasing articulation and implementing common core standards between the junior high and high schools.

SUPERINTENDENT
REPORT

Mr. Brett Fickes, Area Instructional Leader for Social Studies highlighted the different aspects of Social Studies, stating that Social Studies and History are more important to students than ever before. Students learn to respect all cultures and find their place in the global society. They learn qualities to become good Americans and citizens.

Dist. 205 students take 3 years of Social Studies:

Freshman year	Ancient World History
Sophomore Year	Economics
Junior Year	Modern U.S. History; Constitution Test is taken

Honors is offered in all of the above courses. Elective courses include: African American History, which is the most popular; American Law; Global Issues and Society; Latin American History; Philosophy, Psychology and World Film Studies. Advanced Placement Courses include American Government and Politics; Psychology and U.S. History. The advanced placement enrollment is increasing overall in the District.

Three new courses will be offered in 2012-2013: Modern World History; United States Government and Advanced Placement World History. An advanced placement summer program is underway for teachers.

The Mock Trial Competition is a great opportunity for students to consider a career in law. On February 25, 2012 they will work with attorneys at the Markham courthouse and law students from Loyola and John Marshall Law School and compete in a mock trial with other south suburban mock trial teams. Students will also attend Annual High School Law Day at John Marshall Law School on January 26 and will attend a Mock Congressional Hearing.

The Voter Registration Drive is scheduled for February 1, 2012 in conjunction with the League of Women Voters.

Other topics discussed were articulation meetings with the Social Studies teachers in the partner schools; Young Eagles Program with the Tuskegee Airmen; 2012 Mock Election; the Social Justice career pathway with Governors State University and Legal Assistants program with South Suburban College.

At 7:49 p.m., Mr. Crayton moved, Mr. Burton seconded, to go into **Executive Session** for the purpose of discussing student discipline, contractual issues and Board committees. On roll call, Members Banks, Burton, Crayton, Lawrence, Robinson, K. Williams and T. Williams voted aye; nay, none; motion passed.

ADJOURN TO
EXECUTIVE
SESSION

At 9:42 p.m., Mr. Crayton moved, Mr. Banks seconded, to **Return to Regular Session**. On roll call, Members Banks, Burton, Crayton, Lawrence, Robinson, K. Williams and T. Williams voted aye; nay, none; motion passed.

RETURN TO
REGULAR SESSION

Mr. Burton moved, Mr. Robinson seconded, to **Uphold the Suspension** for Student Case Nos. 3F-1112-03(S) and 3F-1112-04(S). On roll call, Members Banks, Burton, Crayton, Lawrence, Robinson, K. Williams and T. Williams voted aye; nay, none; motion passed.

STUDENT
DISCIPLINE

At 9:48 p.m., Mr. Crayton moved, Mrs. Williams seconded, to **Adjourn the Meeting**. On roll call, Members Banks, Burton, Crayton, Lawrence, Robinson, K. Williams and T. Williams voted aye; nay, none; motion passed.

ADJOURNMENT

President/Presiding Member

Secretary/Recording Secretary