

MINUTES OF A **REGULAR MEETING** OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION, TOWNSHIP HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 205, COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS, HELD ON **WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 14, 2011** IN THE AUDITORIUM AT THORNBRIDGE HIGH SCHOOL, 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 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 Mr. Anthony Bass and Ms. Kathleen Elliott, District 205 Legal Counsel, were also present.

ROLL
CALL

Report from Curriculum Committee: Mrs. Lawrence announced that District 205 will partner with South Suburban College in January 2012 for a CNA (Certified Nurses' Assistant) Program.

COMMITTEE OF
THE WHOLE

Report from Finance Committee: Mr. Crayton stated the Finance Committee met on December 8, 2011 and recommendations will follow at this evening's meeting.

Report from Policy Committee: Mrs. Williams reported the Policy Committee held a meeting on December 7, 2011 which agenda included the Nepotism Policy, Algebra I Restart Program, Student Athlete Concussion Policy, and recommended changes to the Discipline and Attendance Policies. The next Policy Committee meeting will be scheduled for January 2012.

Report from Discipline Committee: Mr. Banks stated he was unable to attend the Discipline Committee meeting but his concern is that students are being put out of school too often and too fast. The policy needs to be revisited to find a way to keep students in school.

Mr. Crayton moved, Mrs. Lawrence seconded, to **Approve the Consent Agenda as amended**, which includes the following:

CONSENT AGENDA

- The minutes of the Regular Meeting and Executive Session of November 9, 2011.
- The District 205 bills as presented for payment dated Nov. 8, Nov. 18, Nov. 25, Dec. 2 and Dec. 8, 2011.
- Resignations: See Director of Human Resources.
- Leave of Absence: See Director of Human Resources.
- Employment: See Director of Human Resources.

MINUTES:
NOVEMBER 9, 2011

BILLS

RESIGNATIONS

LEAVE OF ABSENCE

EMPLOYMENT

The Approval of the IASB Superintendent Search Contract will be moved to a new business action item on the agenda. The Approval of the District Improvement Plan and School Improvement Plans are removed. 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:

- Willie Richardson (South Holland) stated: 1) this is not the time to relax the nepotism policy; 2) focus should be on PSAE scores and the selection of a new Superintendent, and 3) encouraged the District to partner with the black firefighters.
- Jacqueline Franklin (South Holland) stated she does not understand the reason for the tax levy and asked who is responsible for cutting back on District expenses. Mr. Williams stated Mr. Ogarek will present information on the tax levy during this meeting.
- Katherine Worther (South Holland) stated that she represents residents of South Holland and asked the Board to consider the impact of the tax levy on residents who are on fixed incomes.
- Felita Crayton (Dolton) asked: 1) about future Policy committee meetings; 2) what is the status of the Superintendent search; 3) will the HVAC be voted on this evening; 4) do funds collected at athletic events go to the District or that particular school; 5) what does "approval of Life Academy" mean; and 6) she understood the Board could release the closed session minutes. Mrs. Williams responded: 1) She would like to have a meeting in January; Mr. Williams responded: 2) the IASB will make a presentation this evening; 3) It is on the agenda for a vote; 4) the funds go to the school, and 5) the item is on the agenda for a vote.
- Jeanita Eaves (Harvey) stated a heating and air conditioning system is needed at Thornton and students need to be in school all day; they are losing educational time. She does not understand why the Board is voting on the same item so many times.
- Lynette Mayberry (Dolton) stated that the Thornton HVAC is recommended at the Finance Committee meetings and then the Board does not vote accordingly. Air conditioning is needed at Thornton.
- Felita Crayton (Dolton) asked the Board to imagine not being able to breathe fresh air. The funds were approved in 2008 and the 80-year old system needs to be rectified. She does not trust District Office or the individuals who are supposed to be representing the community.
- Vivienne Williams (Dolton) stated: 1) the nepotism policy should not be changed at this time; 2) reports indicate that charter schools have failed to do what they were supposed to do; 3) in order to save money, administrators still in place relative to the freshman academy should be removed and the money saved should be spent for the teachers. We don't want to lose good teachers.

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

FOIA

Mr. Doss presented the following information:

COMMUNICATIONS

- Thornridge National Honor Society's annual One Can, One Dollar, One Smile Food Drive is currently underway. The NHS collected food and monetary donations to benefit the Thornton Township Food Pantry.
- Thornridge chapter of SAVE (Students Against Violence Everywhere) is hosting their annual Toy Drive. 100 toys will be donated to CEDA in Harvey for needy children.
- In December, the Thornridge Science Club is reducing energy consumption as part of the ACE "Biggest Loser" Energy Conservation competition.

- Thornton Township High School thanks Mr. Paul Garnes, a 1989 graduate and film and television producer who visited Mr. Keith Hudson's class on November 23.
- Representative Will Davis visited Mr. Ricardo's Johnson's entrepreneurship class who ranked third in the *Stock Market Game* and will move onto the State finals.
- Congratulations to Thornwood teachers Shelia Svoboda and Julia Glaser who were named by Western Illinois University as "most inspirational" by incoming freshmen.
- Mary Doornbus' freshmen biology students participated in a science fair and were judged by Mr. Adrian's AP Chemistry students. First place: Aliah Jones and Isabel Barajas; second place: Anike Oke, and third place: Riel Davis and Estefania Ambroso.
- District 205 was awarded a \$75,000 grant (\$25,000 to each building) to fund improvement in the areas of curriculum development, the implementation of Common Core and training through ACT.
- Student Board of Education is working with Arbor Management through food tastings with the focus on heartier breakfast items to be featured each Monday and Wednesday in December.
- District 205—Schaumburg Student Exchange: Schaumburg students visited Thornton High School on November 22 and Thornton students visited Schaumburg High School on December 5, 2011. The exchange was covered in the Chicago Tribune and in a video on the Tribune website.
- District 205 will be implementing a Certified Nursing Program starting January 2012. Twenty-one students will participate in this program which will be held at South Suburban College twice a week for eight weeks. Upon completion, the student is eligible to take the State of Illinois Nursing Assistant Competency Examination.

COMMUNICATIONS,
Con't.

Upcoming Events:

Dec. 19	Coffee Chat with Dr. Lyke
Dec. 23	End of Semester 1
Dec. 26 - Jan 6	Winter Break
Dec. 30	SAT Registration deadline for January 28
Jan. 9	Late Start
Jan. 10	Student Board of Education Meeting
Jan. 11	Board of Education Meeting, Thornton High School

Mr. Banks thanked the Faculty Association for the coat drive they sponsored for Restoration Ministries.

Mr. Burton moved, Mr. Crayton seconded to **Approve the HVAC Bid – Phase 1** as presented by Mr. Ogarek. The Finance Committee is recommending the contract for Bid Package "A" be awarded to Nicholas & Associates, Inc. in the amount of \$5,998,000.00, which is the base bid. The architect, Mr. Szurgot, explained Phase 1 which includes the infrastructure of the academic building. Three alternates are available to the Board: extending the warranty from one year to two years; screening in the mechanical room and epoxy coating the floor in the mechanical room. On roll call, Members Banks, Burton, Crayton, Lawrence, Robinson, K. Williams and T. Williams voted aye; nay, none; motion passed.

APPROVAL OF
HVAC BID: PHASE 1

Mr. Burton moved, Mr. Crayton seconded to **Approve the IASB Superintendent Search Contract**. A discussion ensued whether spending \$10,000 is justified based on feedback from other school districts and the fact that the Board has already began their own search. On roll call, Members Burton, Crayton, Robinson, K. Williams and T. Williams voted aye; Members Banks and Lawrence voted nay; motion passed.

APPROVAL OF IASB
SUPERINTENDENT
SEARCH
CONTRACT

Mr. Ken Wendorff, Faculty Association President, urged the Board to clarify and strengthen the nepotism policy, not suspend it. District 205 needs more unity, trust and transparency and should focus on hiring a Superintendent.

FACULTY
ASSOCIATION

Dr. Lyke recited the current nepotism policy and the rationale presented by the Policy Committee to suspend the policy. **No motion was made to Suspend the Nepotism Policy**; no action was taken.

APPROVAL TO
SUSPEND
NEPOTISM POLICY

Dr. Lyke presented the recommended **Student Athlete Concussions and Head Injuries Policy** as mandated by the Illinois State Board of Education outlining procedures for a student who shows signs of concussion. The Policy Committee recommended the policy be provided to the Board for review. It will be available for review for thirty (30) days, be posted on the website with copies available at the schools. The Board added that this policy must be taken seriously.

PRESENTATION OF
STUDENT ATHLETE
CONCUSSION
POLICY

Mr. Crayton moved, Mrs. Lawrence seconded to **Deny the Approval of the Life Academy Charter School Proposal** as presented by Ms. Darcell Ross, Founder of Life Academy, at the November 9th Board meeting. On roll call, Members Banks, Burton, Crayton, Lawrence voted aye; Members Robinson and T. Williams voted nay, Member K. Williams passed; motion passed.

APPROVAL OF LIFE
ACADEMY
CHARTER SCHOOL
PROPOSAL

Mrs. Williams moved, Mr. Robinson seconded to **Release the Closed Meeting Minutes for Public Inspection**. On roll call, Members Robinson, K. Williams and T. Williams voted aye; Members Banks, Burton, Crayton and Lawrence voted nay; motion failed.

APPROVAL TO
RELEASE CLOSED
MEETING MINUTES
FOR PUBLIC
INSPECTION

Mr. Banks moved, Mrs. Lawrence seconded to **Approve the Unreleased Closed Meeting Minutes Remaining Closed for Public Inspection**. On roll call, Members Banks, Burton, Crayton, Lawrence and Robinson voted aye; Members K. Williams and T. Williams voted nay; motion passed.

APPROVAL OF
UNRELEASED
CLOSED MEETING
MINUTES REMAINING
CLOSED FOR PUBLIC
INSPECTION

Mr. Burton moved, Mr. Banks seconded, to **Approve the 2011 Tax Levy** as presented by Mr. Ogarek in the amount of \$61,966,625.00, representing a 4.99% increase. The tax levy was presented at the November Board meeting and has been on display for more than 30 days. There have been no changes and no inquiries on the levy presented. The Finance Committee recommends approval of the Tax Levy and the Resolution to Apportion the Tax Levy. Mr. Ogarek explained that without the tax levy, there would be no funds to operate the school district. The Board added that the minimal increase in the tax levy is the same as it has been for the past 5 years. On roll call, Members Banks, Burton, Crayton, Lawrence, Robinson, T. Williams and K. Williams voted aye; nay, none; motion passed.

APPROVAL OF 2011
TAX LEVY

Mr. Burton moved, Mr. Banks seconded to **Approve the Asbestos Bid** as presented by Mr. Ogarek. The Finance Committee is recommending the bid be awarded to Colfax Corporation in the amount of \$108,400.00 which is under the budgeted amount. Asbestos will be removed in flooring tiles and areas of the mechanical room in conjunction with the HVAC Phase 1 project. The Board requested that in the future the bidder being awarded the contract be present at the Board meeting. On roll call, Members Banks, Burton, Crayton, Lawrence, Robinson, T. Williams and K. Williams voted aye; nay, none; motion passed.

APPROVAL OF
ASBESTOS
REMOVAL BID

Mr. Crayton moved, Mr. Burton seconded to **Approve the HVAC Bid – Phase 2** as presented by Mr. Ogarek for the Thornton field house and gymnasium. The Finance Committee is recommending the bid be awarded to the lowest bidder, Mechanical Concepts, in the amount of \$2,475,000.00. The Board requested a breakdown of labor and material costs for all projects in the future. On roll call, Members Banks, Burton, Crayton and Lawrence voted aye; Members Robinson, K. Williams and T. Williams voted nay; motion passed.

APPROVAL OF
HVAC BID –
PHASE 2

Mr. Crayton moved, Mr. Burton seconded to **Approve the HVAC Bid – Phase 2 Pre-Purchase** as presented by Mr. Ogarek. The Finance Committee is recommending approval to award the contract for Bid Packages A, B and C to the three lowest bidders for a total amount of \$856,690.00. On roll call, Members Banks, Burton, Crayton and Lawrence voted aye; Members Robinson, K. Williams and T. Williams voted nay; motion passed.

APPROVAL OF
HVAC BID –
PHASE 2
PRE-PURCHASE

Mr. Burton moved, Mr. Banks seconded to **Approve the Thornton Window Bid – Phase 3 and 4** as presented by Mr. Ogarek. The Finance Committee is recommending the bid be awarded to the lowest qualified bidder, 3F Corporation, in the amount of \$1,538,000.00. The Board stated that asbestos removal is already budgeted for in the amount of \$1,000,000.00 for this and other projects. On roll call, Members Banks, Burton, Crayton, Lawrence, Robinson, T. Williams and K. Williams voted aye; nay, none; motion passed.

APPROVAL OF
THORNTON
WINDOW BID –
PHASE 3 AND 4

Dr. Lyke introduced Mrs. Dorith Johnson who spoke about the Algebra 1 Restart Program which will begin in January 2012. This will provide students the opportunity to retake Algebra 1 if they were not successful. Mrs. Johnson presented District 205 data regarding math credits shortages under the current practice.

SUPERINTENDENT
REPORT

Mr. Jerry Styrsky, Area Instructional Leader for Physical Education and Student Services gave an overview of the physical education courses offered:

Freshmen	1 st Semester	Health Education
	2 nd Semester	Physical Education (swimming, Conflict Resolution Training and Introduction to Fitness
Sophomore Year		Option 1: Driver Education;
		Swimming/lifeguard training; Physical Education II
Junior Year		Option 2: PE II for 2 semesters; no Driver Education
		PE III: students choose their activities
Senior Year		PE IV: students choose their activities

IHSA athletes may take a conditioning class elective with coach approval. A year-long course is also provided for students with special needs.

Mr. Styrsky remarked about student activities including performances presented by the theater guild; performing arts club; band activities and highlights, and the 120 new student members inducted into the National Honor Society district-wide.

He mentioned the student athletes who were all conference and all area players in the Southwest Conference in the areas of football, cross country, soccer and volleyball.

Thornwood student, Darrell Combs, signed a national Letter of Intent with Loyola University for a 5-year full scholarship in the approximate amount of \$250,000.00.

District 205 hosted community events including a cheerleading competition; South Holland Jets and Dolton Bears home football games and Summer Athletic Camps at Thornwood High School.

A video presentation of activities was also presented.

At 8:56 p.m., Mrs. Lawrence moved, Mr. Burton seconded, to go into **Executive Session** for the purpose of discussing student discipline, personnel and negotiations. On roll call, Members Banks, Burton, Crayton, Lawrence, Robinson, T. Williams and K. Williams voted aye; nay, none; motion passed.

ADJOURN TO
EXECUTIVE
SESSION

At 11:30 p.m., Mr. Banks moved, Mr. Burton seconded, to **Return to Regular Session**. On roll call, Members Banks, Burton, Crayton, Lawrence, Robinson, T. Williams and K. Williams voted aye; nay, none; motion passed.

RETURN TO
REGULAR SESSION

Mr. Burton moved, Mr. Banks seconded, to **Hold the Expulsion in Abeyance** for Student Case #1F-1112-01 for the remainder of the 2011-2012 school year through June 2013 and recommended placement in the Academy for Learning, pending availability. On roll call, Members Banks, Burton, Crayton, Lawrence, Robinson, T. Williams and K. Williams voted aye; nay, none; motion passed.

STUDENT
DISCIPLINE CASE
NO. 1F-1112-01

At 11:37 p.m., Mr. Burton moved, Mrs. Lawrence seconded, to **Adjourn the Meeting**. On roll call, Members Banks, Burton, Crayton, Lawrence, Robinson, T. Williams and K. Williams voted aye; nay, none; motion passed.

ADJOURNMENT

President/Presiding Member

Secretary/Recording Secretary