

MINUTES OF A **REGULAR MEETING** OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION, TOWNSHIP HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 205, COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS, HELD ON **WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 8, 2010** IN THE AUDITORIUM AT THORNBRIDGE HIGH SCHOOL, SOUTH HOLLAND, ILLINOIS, BEGINNING AT 7:00 P.M.

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. On roll call, Members Banks, Bradley, Lawrence, Penman and Williams answered. Members Burton and King were absent. Dr. J. Kamala Buckner, Superintendent; Mr. Tim Truesdale, Associate Superintendent for Curriculum, Instruction and External Funding; Mr. Steven Gress, Assistant Superintendent for Finance & Operations; Mr. Jerry Doss, Director of Public Relations; Mrs. Maria Brunson, Director of Information Technology, Mrs. Kim Waller-Echols, Principal of Thornridge High School; Mr. Tony Ratliff, Principal of Thornton High School; Mrs. Darcelle Williams, Principal of Thornwood High School; Mrs. Deborah Scaletta, Faculty Association Executive Director, and Mr. Brian Crowley, District 205 Legal Counsel, were also present.

ROLL
CALL

In the absence of the President, the Vice President, Mrs. Lawrence, assumed the role of President *Pro Tem*.

PRESIDENT *PRO*
TEM

Report from Curriculum Committee (Mrs. Lawrence and Dr. Penman). Dr. Penman reported that there is a disconnect between the state assessments for the feeder schools and the high schools. This misalignment is creating a gap in the curriculum and instruction even though feeder schools and high schools are using the data that the State has provided. On August 31, 2010 a meeting was held with Boards of Education from 7 of the 9 feeder schools to discuss test scores. Explore tests show that incoming freshmen are not on target. The high schools are being held accountable and the feeder schools understand the need for the partnership to work together to close this gap and graduate students who are high school ready. The District shared an overview of the summer programs which hopefully feeder schools will take advantage of. A discussion took place about the possibilities of cross Professional Development which will help close the gap. This would be funded through the School Improvement Grant and it is hoped to continue beyond the grant money received. More meetings will be scheduled.

COMMITTEE OF
THE WHOLE

Report from Finance Committee (Mr. Burton and Mr. Williams). Mr. Williams reported that the Finance Committee is in the process of reviewing the budget and looks forward to working to ensure wise spending by the District.

Report from Policy Committee (Mr. Banks and Dr. King). Mr. Banks stated there was no report from the Policy Committee.

Mrs. Lawrence led a moment of silence for two members of District 205, Thornridge teacher, Gary Fryrear and Thornridge student, Kenyatta Brack, Jr. who recently passed.

MOMENT OF
SILENCE

Mrs. Lawrence introduced and welcomed Board member, Mrs. Vanessa Bradley, to fellow Board members and the audience. Mrs. Bradley was appointed by the Board to fill the vacancy left by the resignation of Mrs. Elizabeth Ware.

INTRODUCTION OF
NEW BOARD
MEMBER

Mrs. Lawrence stated that the Board will defer acting on the Consent Agenda until the September 15, 2010 Special Board Meeting.

CONSENT AGENDA

Mr. Gress reported that since the last Board meeting, two Freedom of Information Act requests were received and responded to as follows:

FOIA

1. Copies of transportation services information.
2. Copies of slides from the last Board meeting.

Mr. Doss provided the following:

COMMUNICATIONS

- The District welcomes the new Band Director for Thornton Township High School, Mr. James Render. The band recently participated in the Bud Billiken Parade, the Village of Hazel Crest Hazelnut parade and a performance at the Varsity Football Game.
- TALF will hold the Annual Wildcat Open Golf Outing at Calumet Country Club on September 2010.

- The Student Board is working with the architects on cafeteria improvements. They recently visited Homewood-Flossmoor and Lincoln-Way North High Schools. Surveys were conducted and a report will be provided to the Board and the architect in the near future.
- South Suburban Ministers Conference Education Summit will be held at Thornridge on October 2, 2010. Families are encouraged to participate.
- FEMA has provided disaster assistance information for the 2008 floods that is available at the District Office. Also, visit www.disasterassistance.gov for more information.

- Upcoming Events:

Sept. 10	SAT Registration deadline for October 9 th test
Sept. 11	ACT Test
Sept. 15	Late Start
Sept. 17	ACT Registration deadline for October 23 rd test
Sept. 20	TALF Wildcat Open
Sept. 23	Early Dismissal
Sept. 23	Parent/Teacher Conference
Sept. 24	No School and Parent/Teacher Conference
Sept. 24	Progress 2 – Q2 Reporting period ends
Sept. 28	Progress 2 – Q1 grades due
Sept. 29	College and Career Expo at South Suburban College

Oct. 1	ACT late registration deadline for October 23 rd test
Oct. 5	Board of Education Finance Committee Meeting
Oct. 6	Late Start
Oct. 8	SAT Registration Deadline for November 6 th test
Oct. 9	SAT test
Oct. 11	No School – Columbus Day
Oct. 12	Student Board of Education Meeting
Oct. 13	Board of Education Meeting - Thornridge

- None.

**PUBLIC
PARTICIPATION**

On behalf of the UIC Pathways to Pharmacy Program, Mr. Andy Chidester presented a video of the students as they participated in the summer program in partnership with UIC. Mrs. Brenda Wilson presented the students who represented four research groups: asthma, heart disease, non-communicable diseases and obesity. They introduced themselves with their career choices including a medical doctor, oncologist, dermatologist and pharmacist and gave a brief statement about their project and how this program has enhanced their learning experience. Representing the program were the following students: Janine Ragland, Nile Robinson and Zubair Vhora from Thornton; Joanna Sawyer from Thornridge and Charles Sullivan and Nneoma Onwumah from Thornwood.

**UIC PARTHWAYS
TO PHARMACY
PROGRAM
PRESENTATION**

At 6:35 p.m., Dr. Buckner joined the meeting.

**DR. BUCKNER
JOINED MEETING**

Mrs. Wilson and Mrs. Lawrence presented certificates to all students who participated in the program and Mr. Chidester thanked the Board and everyone for their support. Dr. Buckner recognized the parents of the students in the pre-pharmacy program. Mrs. Lawrence congratulated the students encouraged them to continue working toward their goals.

**UIC PARTHWAYS
TO PHARMACY
PROGRAM
PRESENTATION.
Con't.**

Mrs. Lawrence stated that the Board will defer acting on the approval of the 2010-2011 SCOPE annual dues until the September 15, 2010 Special Board Meeting.

**APPROVAL OF
2010-2011 SCOPE
ANNUAL DUES**

Mr. Banks moved, Dr. Penman seconded to open the **2010-2011 District 205 Budget Public Hearing**. On roll call, Members Banks, Bradley, Lawrence, Penman and Williams voted aye; nay, none; motion passed. Mr. Gress recited the requirements of the Public Hearing set by the Illinois School Code and proceeded with the presentation of the 2010-2011 Budget. The budget has been on display for more than thirty (30) days as required by law, since the July 14, 2010 Board meeting. Changes were made to the tentative budget to reflect the District's receipt of the School Improvement Grant. The budget projects for deficit spending, resulting from the November 2008 capital improvement bond issue and revenue reductions from both the State of Illinois and local property tax collections. Budget assumptions included revenues of property tax collections conservatively estimated at 83% due to the weak economy and increase in foreclosures. State sources revenue, including transportation, special education and truancy funding, was projected to be lower than the 2009-2010 actual collections. Student enrollment is down over 800 from last year and will result in decreased general state aid in the future. Federal sources are projected to increase due to the stimulus dollars, Federal supplanting of State funding and the receipt of the School Improvement Grant.

2010-2011 DISTRICT
205 BUDGET
PUBLIC HEARING

Expenses of salaries have increased based on union contracted increases; employee benefits have increased over 13%; purchased services were based on increases/decreases based on the contracted amount with all major vendors; supplies and materials have been decreased; capital outlay was based on technology requests, building and grounds requests and expected capital expenditures. The State owed the District in excess of \$6 million. The revenue from state sources in the amount of \$32,727,839 is inflated because 2009-2010 money due will not be received until 2010-2011. Total revenue is approximately \$112 million with total expenses of approximately \$130 million.

The hearing was then opened for public participation.

- Felita Crayton (Dolton) asked: 1) what does Other Objects entail; 2) are bond payments on the \$50 million; 3) why can't we see what was spent last year as compared to what is presented for this year. Mr. Gress responded: 1) Other Objects includes any fees for special education students that attend outplacement programs such as ECHO, students who attend Academy for Learning, and for bond and interest payments; 2) yes, on that bond issue and three other outstanding bonds of the District; 3) a comparison will be posted on the website.

Mr. Banks moved, Dr. Penman seconded to **Continue the 2010-2011 District 205 Public Hearing** to the Special Board Meeting on September 15, 2010. On roll call, Members Banks, Bradley, Lawrence, Penman and Williams voted aye; nay, none; motion passed.

No action was taken.

APPROVAL OF
2010-2011 DISTRICT
205 BUDGET

Mr. Doss introduced Riverdale Deputy Chief Philip Stephens to the Board and audience. Deputy Chief Stephens is a 32-year veteran of the Cook County Sheriff's Police Department. He stated that he maintains a zero tolerance and open door policy and encouraged the Board to contact him regarding any student issues that he may be of assistance.

PUBLIC
PARTICIPATION,
Con't.

None.

MISC/SUPERINTENDENT
REPORT

At 7:05 p.m., Dr. Penman moved, Mr. Banks seconded, to **Adjourn the Meeting**. On roll call, Members Banks, Bradley, Lawrence, Penman and Williams voted aye; nay, none; motion passed.

ADJOURNMENT

President

Secretary