

MINUTES OF A **REGULAR MEETING** OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION, TOWNSHIP HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 205, COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS, HELD ON **WEDNESDAY, JULY 14, 2010** IN THE PERFORMING ARTS CENTER AT THORNWOOD HIGH SCHOOL, SOUTH HOLLAND, ILLINOIS, BEGINNING AT 6:00 P.M.

The meeting was called to order at 6:02 p.m. On roll call, Members Banks, King, Lawrence and Penman answered. Members Burton, Ware and Williams 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; Ms. Maria Brunson, Director of Information Technology, and Ms. Shelli Anderson, District 205 Legal Counsel, were also present.

ROLL
CALL

At 6:03 p.m., Mr. Williams joined the meeting.

MR. WILLIAMS
JOINED MEETING

Report from Curriculum Committee (Mrs. Lawrence and Dr. Penman). At the request of Mrs. Lawrence, Mr. Truesdale reported on the two sessions of the curriculum committee. It is the committee's goal to have a more consistent turn-out at future meetings. From the two sessions, the following nine recommendations were:

COMMITTEE OF
THE WHOLE

1. High school readiness – working with the K-8 partner districts to develop a set of high school readiness standards for the middle grade students.
2. Implement expanded enrichment programs for middle school students.
3. Implement a summit for K-8 Boards of Education schools for student success.
4. Compare ISAT results to students' Explore exam results; need cooperation from elementary districts to provide the data.
5. A comparison chart is needed, e.g., in math - show the standards needed to be successful on ISAT, and what is needed to be successful in high school algebra.
6. Implement diagnostic exams for incoming freshmen, sharing results with middle schools.
7. Sharing achievement data with municipalities so they can work with their own schools to be sure students meet standards to be ready for high school.
8. Providing more flexible schedules for summer boost programs.
9. Increase participation on the curriculum committee. Ask Principals to get 5 parents from Parent Advisories to be members of the District curriculum committee to report back. Set dates for meetings for the year.

In response to Dr. King, Mr. Truesdale stated that High Schools That Work has a program entitled Making Middle Grades Work, and recommends working on strategies with middle grades. Race To The Top provides that we partner with feeder schools.

Dr. Penman commented that many feeder schools do not understand that the scores that indicate students are succeeding do not mean they are where they need to be when they enter high school. They don't see the need for improvement. Parents do not understand that those scores are not high enough for the students to be successful in high school. We must identify the problem and compare data to show the middle schools. Mr. Truesdale added that more students need to exceed rather than meet standards to be successful in high school.

Report from Finance Committee (Mr. Burton and Mr. Williams). Mr. Williams stated that the Finance Committee is moving in a positive direction and becoming more informed on the finances of the District, in relation to the bidding process and other applications; and looks forward to recommendations from the community, board members and administration regarding the finances of the district.

Mr. Gress reported on the capital improvement recommendations. Previously approved projects are as follows:

<u>Thornridge</u>		
Elevator	\$	161,250
2 Science labs	\$	774,000
Cafeteria	\$	1,505,000
Total		\$2,440,250

Thornwood

Elevator	\$ 110,000	
2 Science labs	\$ 451,000	
Cafeteria	\$2,311,250	
Total		\$2,872,750

COMMITTEE OF
THE WHOLE, Con't.

Thornton

Elevator	\$ 430,000	
2 Science labs	\$ 451,000	
Cafeteria	\$2,322,000	
ADA		
Accessibility	\$ 53,750	
Windows	\$5,506,150	
Auditorium	\$3,000,000	
Total		\$11,763,400

Technical Building

Elevator	\$ 37,265	
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TOTAL \$17,114,025

Potential Projects identified by the architects as high priority include Thornridge projects in the approximate amount of \$5,628,700; Thornwood - \$5,180,000; Thornton - \$6,849,900 and the Technical Building - \$252,625, for a total of \$17,900,000.

If the high priority items above are approved, there would be approximately \$15 million remaining for the following high priority potential projects including: Thornridge (heating/air and roofing) - \$8,202,250; Thornwood - \$5,400,000 (heating/air and roofing) and Thornton (heating only) - \$14,500,000.

A discussion took place about the condition of Thornton High School. Mr. Szurgot of Tria Architecture said that Thornton is a solid, well-built building but it is outdated. The steam system needs replacement; it is currently operating at 65% efficiency. A new hot water system at 95% efficiency would save natural gas costs. New windows without a new heating system would only gain approximately 5% in efficiency.

At 6:50 p.m., Mr. Burton joined the meeting.

MR. BURTON
JOINED MEETING

Mr. Williams discussed the possibility of the District investing funds to make interest on District dollars. Mr. Gress responded that investments are done through the Township Treasurer and that public entities are restricted in the types of investments they can make. The question arose whether we can roll over the interest earned on the \$50 million or must it also be spent by 2012. Mr. Gress will look into this and report back to the Board.

Report from Policy Committee (Mr. Banks and Dr. King). The Superintendent stated that the Policy Committee worked diligently with a representative from the Illinois School Board Association to ensure that the draft board policy presented last month meets all state regulations. Only one change was made relative to Acceptable Use, i.e., to include "hacking" of the network. Dr. King commended the process for acquiring and updating the new Board Policy.

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

CONSENT AGENDA

- The minutes of the Regular Meeting and Executive Session of the Regular Meeting of June 9, 2010. The minutes of the Executive Session of this meeting shall be confidential and closed to the public until such time that the Board of Education determines that it is no longer necessary to protect the public interest or privacy of an individual by keeping them confidential.

MINUTES:
JUNE 9, 2010

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| ▪ The minutes of the Special Meeting and Executive Session of June 23, 2010. | MINUTES:
JUNE 23, 2010 |
| ▪ The District 205 bills as presented for payment. | BILLS |
| ▪ Resignations: See Director of Human Resources | RESIGNATIONS |
| ▪ Release: See Director of Human Resources | RELEASE |
| ▪ Leave of Absence: See Director of Human Resources | LEAVE OF ABSENCE |
| ▪ Employment: See Director of Human Resources | EMPLOYMENT |

On roll call, Members Banks, Burton, King, Lawrence, Penman and Williams voted aye; nay, none; motion passed.

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

1. Request for staff member's absences for 2009-2010.
2. Names of security bidders and proposal of winning bidder.

Mr. Doss provided the following:

COMMUNICATIONS

- Thornwood student Johari Mackey placed second in the nation in prose reading at the National Forensic League competition. Coach Cheryl Frazier earned her second Diamond Degree of Membership in the National Forensic League.
- The Student Board began their committee work to set their goals and objectives for the 2010-2011 school year. They will attend leadership training at the Illinois Teen Institute on July 18-22, 2010, accompanied by Mr. Doss.
- Due to construction at Thornwood, the UN Summer Leadership Academy will meet at Thornridge for July 19-21, with the End of the Year Celebration on July 21.
- 2010-2011 school registration dates and times were recited by Mr. Doss and are posted on the website, the school marquees, local newspapers and cable stations. At the request of the Board, the registration schedule will be changed to be made uniform for all three schools.
- Upcoming Events:
 - August 3 Board of Education Finance Committee meeting
 - August 6 School Registration begins
 - August 11 Board of Education Dates
 - August 18 First day of school for all students

PUBLIC
PARTICIPATION

- Edward Crayton (Dolton) spoke about the equity of capital improvement dollars between the three schools; that 2/3 of \$17 million is going for Thornton improvements. Dr. Buckner stated that based on the 2009 life safety report, there are critical issues that the Board still has to make decisions on. Mr. Williams stated it is important for the community to come together as a whole for School District 205.
- Vivian Williams (Dolton) stated that Thornwood and Thornton have a field house and if all things are equal, a Thornridge field house should be put into the budget.
- Evelyn Sorrell (Dolton) asked that the registration schedule include seniors first, to make sure they can graduate.
- Felita Crayton (Dolton) asked: 1) if life safety items identified under capital improvement were being funded through life safety funds; and 2) is it true that a freshman only building will be at Thornridge. The response was: 1) Mr. Gress stated yes, that the life safety funds are from the overall tax levy and 2) Dr. Buckner stated if the District receives a grant, a freshman center will be proposed to the Board. The location is yet to be determined.

Mr. Burton moved, Dr. King seconded, to **Approve the Capital Improvement Recommendations** as presented by Mr. Gress in the approximate amount of \$17.9 million. Previously approved projects total \$17.1 million. Potential projects include: Thornridge \$5.6 million; Thornwood \$5.2 million; Thornton \$6.8 million; Technical Building \$252,000; totaling \$17.9 million district-wide. Mr. Williams suggested the matter be placed on hold. After discussion, it was agreed the approval of the remaining available funds of approximately \$14 million will be sent back to the Finance Committee. On roll call, Members Banks, Burton, King, Lawrence and Penman voted aye; Member Williams voted nay, none; motion passed.

APPROVAL OF
CAPITAL
IMPROVEMENT
RECOMMENDA-
TIONS

The presentation will take place at the August 11th Board meeting.

UIC PATHWAYS TO
PHARMACY
PROGRAM
PRESENTATION

Dr. Penman moved, Mr. Burton seconded to **Approve the District 205 School Board Policy As Amended**. On roll call, Members Banks, Burton, King, Lawrence, Penman and Williams voted aye; nay, none; motion passed.

APPROVAL OF
DISTRICT 205
SCHOOL BOARD
POLICY AS
AMENDED

At 7:20 p.m., Mr. Banks left the meeting.

MR. BANKS LEFT
THE MEETING

Mr. Gress stated that the Tentative Budget will be on display for thirty (30) days. The budget will be posted on the District website, distributed to the 13 District communities and hard copies available at the three schools and District Office. It will be presented for approval at the September 8, 2010 Board meeting.

PRESENTATION OF
2010-2011
TENTATIVE
BUDGET

Dr. King asked for Tria Architecture's comments about the priority of the remaining capital improvement projects. Mr. Szurgot stated that Thornridge air conditioning is operating but needs repair; roofs at all three schools need repair; Thornwood heating and air conditioning is reaching 30-years old; Thornton heating is by far is a necessity with 1938 piping in a 100-year old building. In his opinion, Thornton heating is the highest priority.

CAPITAL
IMPROVEMENT
COMMENTS

Dr. Buckner stated that a 10-year capital improvement plan is needed and the Board agreed.

Dr. Buckner asked for confirmation of Board goals to 1) develop a process to meet with mayors, managers and school boards to develop dialogue; 2) establish a clear vision to share collectively; 3) and look at the climate and culture within the community at large. Dr. King responded yes.

MISCELLANEOUS

At 7:40 p.m., Mr. Burton moved, Dr. Penman seconded, to **Adjourn the Meeting**. On roll call, Members Burton, King, Lawrence, Penman and Williams voted aye; nay, none; motion passed.

ADJOURNMENT

President

Secretary