

MINUTES OF A **REGULAR MEETING** OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION, TOWNSHIP HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 205, COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS, HELD ON **WEDNESDAY, MARCH 10, 2010** IN THE AUDITORIUM AT THORNTON HIGH SCHOOL, HARVEY, ILLINOIS, BEGINNING AT 6:00 P.M.

The meeting was called to order at 6:34 p.m. On roll call, Members Banks, Burton, King, and Lawrence answered. Members Penman, Williams and Ware were absent. Dr. J. Kamala Buckner, Superintendent; Mr. Tim Truesdale, Associate Superintendent for Curriculum, Instruction and External Funding; Mr. Steven Gress, Director of Business Operations; Mr. Rick Shields, Director of Human Resources; Mr. Jerry Doss, Director of Public Relations; Ms. Maria Brunson, Director of Information Technology; Ms. Shelli Anderson, District 205 Legal Counsel; Mr. Tony Ratliff, Thornton Assistant Principal; Mr. Scott Savage, Thornton Assistant Principal; Ms. Kim Waller, Thornridge Principal; Mrs. Darcelle Williams, Thornwood Principal; Mrs. Dorith Johnson, Thornwood Assistant Principal; Mr. Ken Wendorff, Faculty Association President and Ms. Suzanne Garcia, Faculty Association Executive Director were also present.

ROLL
CALL

At 6:35 p.m., Mr. Burton moved, Mr. Banks seconded, to go into **Executive Session**. On roll call, Members Banks, Burton, King and Lawrence voted aye; nay, none; motion passed.

ADJOURNED
TO EXECUTIVE
SESSION

At 7:00 p.m., Mr. Banks moved, Mr. Burton seconded, to **Return to Regular Session**. On roll call, Members Banks, Burton, King, Lawrence, when did Penman arrive voted aye; nay, none; motion passed.

RETURNED TO
REGULAR SESSION

Mr. Burton moved, Mrs. Lawrence 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 February 10, 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.
- The District 205 bills as presented for payment.
- Resignations: See Director of Human Resources
- Leave of Absence: See Director of Human Resources
- Employment: See Director of Human Resources
- Staff Dismissals:
 - 1) Dismissal of Other Than Final Year Probationary Teachers (32)
 - 2) Dismissal of Paraprofessionals (20)
 - 3) Resolution to Dismiss Fourth-Year Teacher
 - 4) Resolution to Dismiss Fourth-Year Teacher
 - 5) Resolution to Dismiss Fourth-Year Teacher
 - 6) Resolution to Dismiss Fourth-Year Teacher
 - 7) Notice to Remedy for 4 Tenured Teachers
- Discipline: See Director of Human Resources

MINUTES:
February 10, 2010

BILLS

RESIGNATIONS

LEAVE OF ABSENCE

EMPLOYMENT

STAFF DISMISSALS

DISCIPLINE

Hold the Expulsion in Abeyance for Student Case #1F-0910-05 through June 2011 and recommend placement in RISE.

STUDENT
DISCIPLINE CASE
NO. 1F-0910-05

Hold the Expulsion in Abeyance for Student Case #1B-0910-06 through June 2011 and recommend placement in Second Chance.

STUDENT
DISCIPLINE CASE
NO. 1B-0910-06

Hold the Expulsion in Abeyance for Student Case #1F-0910-07 through June 2011 and recommend placement in Second Chance.

STUDENT
DISCIPLINE CASE
NO. 1F-0910-07

Hold the Expulsion in Abeyance for Student Case #2F-0910-11 through June 2011 and recommend placement in the Academy For Learning.

STUDENT
DISCIPLINE CASE
NO.2F-0910-11

Hold the Expulsion in Abeyance for Student Case #2F-0910-12 through June 2011 and recommend placement in RISE.

STUDENT
DISCIPLINE CASE
NO. 2F-0910-12

Hold the Expulsion in Abeyance for Student Case #2H-0910-13 through June 2011 and recommend placement in Second Chance.

STUDENT
DISCIPLINE CASE
NO.2H-0910-13

Hold the Expulsion in Abeyance for Student Case #2H-0910-14 through June 2011 and recommend placement in Second Chance.

STUDENT
DISCIPLINE CASE
NO.2H-0910-14

Hold the Expulsion in Abeyance for Student Case #3B-0910-10 through June 2011 and recommend placement in RISE.

STUDENT
DISCIPLINE CASE
NO. 3B-0910-10

Hold the Expulsion in Abeyance for Student Case #3A-0910-12 through June 2011 and recommend placement in RISE.

STUDENT
DISCIPLINE CASE
NO. 3A-0910-12

Hold the Expulsion in Abeyance for Student Case #3B-0910-13 through June 2011 and recommend placement in Second Chance.

STUDENT
DISCIPLINE CASE
NO. 3B-0910-13

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

Dr. Buckner presented the new Principal of Thornton Township High School, Mr. Tony Ratliff, to the Board and the community.

THORNTON
PRINCIPALSHIP

Mr. Gress reported that no Freedom of Information Act requests were received since the last Board meeting.

FOIA

Mr. Doss presented the following information:

COMMUNICATIONS

- Thornridge Speech Team took first place in Dramatic Duet Acting at the IHSA Speech Tournament.
- Thornridge Jazz Band and SAVE Drill Team performed at the Village of Hazel Crest's Black History Month Program under the direction of Mr. Eanes and Mrs. Robinson. The Village has invited them back for next year.
- Mr. David Eanes, Thornridge Band Director, was awarded the prestigious 2010 Howard Luckey Excellence in Jazz Leadership Award at the Jazz Masters Jam held at Prairie State College.
- Thornton Speech Team took first place in oratorical declamation and third place in poetry reading at the IHSA Speech Tournament.
- Thornton Cheerleaders finished in second place in the National Champion Spirit Group Competition held at the Wisconsin Dells.

- Thornton's Project Lead The Way team competed in an Engineering Competition in Glen Ellyn, taking first place for their project in the Destination Imagination regional competition for structural designs.
- Thornton Wildcats won the first round of playoffs and move forward in March Madness.
- Thornwood Speech Team are the State Champions, taking first place in Duet Acting, second place in Reading and Prose Reading, third place in Humorous Interpretation and fourth place in Performance in the Round.
- Thornwood Cheerleaders won their 7th consecutive National Cheerleading Title in the competition at Walt Disney World.
- All three schools participated in the mock trial competition at the Markham Courthouse. Thornwood student De'Je Holmes won Most Outstanding Lawyer over 75 south suburban school students participating. She will receive a \$5,000 scholarship to John Marshall Law School.
- Thornwood students competed in the Top Teens of America Annual Black Heritage Bowl, a division of the South Suburban Chapter of the Ladies of Distinction, winning first place.
- Congratulations to the students and coaches of the Thornwood Track Team, who took first place at the 2010 Thornwood Invitational.
- The District 205 Academic Enrichment Foundation Reaching for the Stars Gala will take place on March 27, 2010 at the Serbian Hall in Lansing. This year's Star Award winners are: Ron Kokesh, Thornridge; Dr. Veronica Peppers, Thornton; Debbie Ubriaco, Thornwood. The Star Award for Community Service named in honor of a trustee of the Foundation Board, the late Mr. Ed VanKley, will be presented to Representative Will Davis. Ads and tickets are available by contacting Jerry Doss at the District Office.
- Riverdale Mayor Deyon Dean will award two \$100 educational savings bonds to the two highest achieving Riverdale graduating students in May.
- On March 8, 2010, at Thornton High School, the Student Board of Education held a student exchange between District 205 schools and Schaumburg High School. Schaumburg students shadowed District 205 students and participated in a roundtable discussion on social justice matters, particularly homelessness. On March 16, District 205 students will travel to Schaumburg and will visit the Illinois Teen Institute at Monmouth College this summer. Thank you to all the Principals and faculty who made this possible.
- District 205 students were invited to attend another session of the United Nations by the South Suburban Chicago Chapter of the Links, Inc. on behalf of the United Nations. This is a joint project between The Links and the Academic Enrichment Foundation. Four students were selected based on a district-wide essay competition. Board approval is required for the students to travel to New York from March 25-27. The Board President set a Special Board meeting for March 18, 2010 at 5:00 p.m. at the District Office to approve this trip.
- Dr. King recognized the students for their accomplishments and Dr. Buckner suggested that the students be honored at a future Board meeting or reception.

Upcoming events:

March 12	3 rd Quarter Ends
March 13	SAT Test
March 24	Late Start
March 24	South Suburban College Job Fair, 3:30 p.m.
March 27	Reaching for the Stars Gala, Lansing Serbian Hall
March 31	Ray Price Scholarship Deadline
April 1-10	Spring Break (No School)
April 6	Board of Education Finance Committee Meeting
April 10	ACT Test
April 14	Late Start

The following individuals spoke during Public Participation:

PUBLIC
PARTICIPATION

- Shelby Rogers (Thornridge alumni) shared some of his successes as a Freshman at Tennessee State University and asked the Board for support to sponsor him in the election for President of the Student Ambassadors for the 2010-2011 school year.
- Deborah Smith (Thornridge parent) stated that her daughter is a student at University of Tennessee and asked the Board and community to assist in sending her to Africa to study for 3 weeks.
- Pamela Moss-Jones (South Holland) asked: 1) what are life safety items totaling \$160 million as shown on the preliminary master plan list; 2) is there a plan to appropriate funds to the schools based on the number of students or square footage vs. equal distribution of funds; 3) how will this be repaid; 4) what are the Board's top capital improvement recommendations; 5) what are the Board's top priorities on capital improvement; 6) when do the subcommittee's meet and will they be on the website. Tom Szurgot of Tria Architecture responded: 1) life safety items area those that have been identified by the Regional Office of Education ranging from tripping hazards, to roofing issues, windows, masonry cracks, etc. The architects will identify them further so it is more understandable; 2) Dr. King stated it is being worked on; 3) Mr. Gress stated that District 205 is limited to debt service extension based each for tax rebates 8.4 million; these bonds will be repaid through property taxes but at no time will 205 exceed 8.4 million in bond payments per year; 4) Dr. King chose not to respond; 5) Dr. Buckner stated that the District is asking the community to prioritize the projects for Board review, and so they can be taken back to the Parent Advisories; 6) Dr. Buckner responded that Curriculum committee has already met; A community meeting on the 5-year tax projections will be held and posted; the Policy committee has not yet met and asked for her information so she could be notified of upcoming meetings.
- Felita Crayton (Dolton) 1) asked that the Board remember the prom date so it doesn't conflict with the special Board recognition for students; 2) stated that the charts should reflect all community comments regarding capital improvement; 3) stated that items the District has already spent money on should be so noted on the list; 4) asked if there is a committee for Race To The Top; 5) stated she has 400 signatures for Thornridge requests for capital improvement and asked why the \$53 million is not split between the three buildings. 1) Dr. Buckner stated it is so noted; 2) Mr. Gress stated that the chart will reflect all groups making the comment; 3) Whatever has already been spent will not be reflected on the total; 4) Dr. Buckner stated no committee has been formed and will not be until it is known whether Illinois receives Race To The Top funds; 5) the Board said that no conclusion has been reached as to the parity of the money, based on need.

Dr. Penman moved, Mr. Burton seconded, to **Approve the Race To The Top Commencement Challenge** as presented by Student Board representatives, President Adilah Muhammad, Thornwood senior, and Vice president Jeremiah Whittington, Thornton Junior. This competition is for President Obama to speak at their Graduation ceremony. Each school will submit an application. A 2-minute video from each school is required on the application, which will be on the website. On roll call, Members Banks, Burton, King, Lawrence and Penman voted aye; nay, none; motion passed.

APPROVAL OF
RACE TO THE TOP
COMMENCEMENT
CHALLENGE

Dr. Buckner thanked TALF (Thornton Alumni Legacy Fund) for bringing the NFTE program to Thornton. She announced that the NFTE (National Foundation for Teaching Entrepreneurship) Program at Thornton Township High School is recognized as one of the best programs in the United States. A Thornton teacher, Ricardo Johnson, has been selected as the 2010 NFTE Teacher of the Year. He will receive this award at a ceremony in Washington.

DISTRICT 205
PARTNERSHIPS

The South Suburban Chicago Chapter of The Links, Inc. has provided a financial literacy program at Thornwood for the past three years. On March 16, students will receive special financial awards of stock market investments they made through this program.

The Links, Inc. also helped underwrite the U.N. Program and the L.I.F.E. Program by providing financial support.

Mr. Burton moved, Mr. Banks seconded to **Approve the 2010-2011 School Calendar** as presented by Mr. Shields. To accommodate PSAT testing, Spring Break will occur from March 28-April 1, 2011. The Board requested that if possible, graduation be scheduled not to interfere with the State track competitions schedule. On roll call, Members Banks, Burton, King, Lawrence and Penman voted aye; nay, none; motion passed.

APPROVAL OF
2010-2011 SCHOOL
CALENDAR

Mr. Gress reported on the capital improvement project meetings held for the students, staff and community on February 8 and February 24 at Thornton, February 22 at Thornridge, and March 3 at Thornwood, which Mr. Tom Szurgot of Tria Architecture attended to answer questions and gather comments for display at tonight's meeting which are also available in the buildings and on the website. Comments and suggestions will be accepted through March 17 and then summarized and presented to the Board. The Student Board and Tria Architecture have completed a prioritized list. The total funds available is the \$50 million bond issue. The estimated costs for the projects identified by community, students and staff would be:

CAPITAL
IMPROVEMENT
PROJECTS

Thornton	\$56,464.375
Technical Building	\$ 3,188,450
Thornridge	\$45,729,963
Thornwood	<u>\$45,901,156</u>
Total	\$151,283,944

All capital improvement projects funded by the bond issue must be completed and paid for by November 2012. The District will finish gathering input on priorities and then identify projects to be completed in 2010 and those to be completed in 2011. Approval of the projects was tabled for a Special Board meeting to be set for early April 2010.

None.

MISCELLANEOUS

None

SUPERINTENDENT'S
REPORT

At 8:04 p.m., Mr. Burton moved, Mr. Banks seconded, to **Adjourn the Meeting.** On roll call, Members Banks, Burton, King, Lawrence and Penman voted aye; nay, none; motion passed.

ADJOURNMENT

President

Secretary