

MINUTES OF A **REGULAR MEETING** OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION, TOWNSHIP HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 205, COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS, HELD ON **WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 10, 2010** IN THE AUDITORIUM AT THORNTON HIGH SCHOOL, HARVEY, ILLINOIS, BEGINNING AT 7:00 P.M.

The meeting was called to order at 7:04 p.m. On roll call, Members Banks, Burton, King, Lawrence and Penman answered. Members 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

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

CONSENT AGENDA

- The minutes of the Special Meeting Open Session of January 6, 2010.
- The minutes of the Regular Meeting and Executive Session of the Regular Meeting of January 13, 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 minutes of the Special Meeting Open Session of January 27, 2010.
- 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

MINUTES:
January 6, 2010

MINUTES:
January 13, 2010

MINUTES:
January 27, 2010

BILLS

RESIGNATIONS

LEAVE OF ABSENCE

EMPLOYMENT

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

Mr. Gress reported that there was one Freedom of Information Act request received on January 13 which requested certified payroll information relative to asbestos removal at Thornridge. The District responded on January 19.

FOIA

Mr. Doss presented the following information:

COMMUNICATIONS

- The following Thornton students were selected to participate in Northwestern University's Health Professional Recruitment & Exposure Program: Michael Babatunde, Kneandra Cooper, Kelis King, Andrea Rogers, Jeremiah Whittington and Arthur Williams. This program is highly selective and provides an opportunity for students to be immersed in a medical school setting and curriculum.
- Thornton's Restorative Justice Program students attended a workshop in Chicago hosted by Judge Sophia Hall where the concepts of the program were shared. Judge Hall was impressed by Dontrail Evans and charged him to coordinate a Town Hall Meeting with neighboring school districts to allow south suburban youth to discuss alternatives to violence in schools, which meeting she will attend. Mr. Banks added that he attended this workshop and Dontrail did a tremendous job representing District 205.

- Thornton teacher, Ricardo Johnson, was recognized for his work with the National Foundation for Teaching Entrepreneurship (NFTE) which was piloted last year at Thornton. He had the most advanced program in the U.S. NFTE will be expanding to the other two schools next year.
- The first group of District 205 Credit Recovery Program students passed their final exams and is on target to participate in a graduation ceremony in April. Thirty students have completed the requirements.
- District 205 Parent Academy Program will hold sessions that focus on numeracy on February 24, 2010 from 6:30 – 8:30 p.m. at the following locations:

Thornton	Room T-103
Thornridge	Library & C-217
Thornwood	Library

- Thornton Township Youth Job and Career Fair will be held on March 24, 2010 from 3:30 to 6:30 p.m. in the South Suburban College Field House.

Upcoming events:

February 11	Parent/Teacher Conference
February 12	Parent/Teacher Conference – no school
February 12	Progress 2 Reporting Period Ends
February 15	Presidents' Day – no school
February 16	Progress 2 grades due
February 22	Thornridge Architect Meetings for capital improvement
February 24	Late Start
February 26	Thornton Black History Program

March 1	Casimir Pulaski Day – no school
March 2	Board of Education Finance Committee Meeting
March 3	Thornwood Architect Meetings for capital improvement
March 5	ACT Registration Deadline for April 10 test
March 10	Late Start
March 10	Board of Education Meeting

The following individuals spoke during Public Participation:

PUBLIC
PARTICIPATION

- Felita Crayton (Dolton) asked: 1) for the NFTE Program mission and vision information; 2) how the community was notified about the architect meetings; 3) will the video surveillance policy be voted on this evening and the procedures put into place afterwards; 4) has a permission slip been sent to parents about the video surveillance policy, and 5) for a copy of the RJB custodial and Arbor food service contract renewals. Dr. Buckner responded: 1) the information would be sent to her; 2) notification is on the website and local cable stations, in newspapers, was sent to the local mayors' offices to announce at town meetings, and robocalls were made; 3) yes and the procedures have not been finalized; 4) opportunities have been provided to parents for input, and 5) instructed her to submit the request in writing.

Mr. Burton moved, Mrs. Lawrence seconded, to **Approve the Video Surveillance Policy** as presented by Mr. Shields. Feedback requested from staff and community was minimal and included clarification between Thornton and the District. Parent notification will be in the student handbook and registration packet. The policy is effective immediately. On roll call, Members Banks, Burton, King, Lawrence and Penman voted aye; nay, none; motion passed.

APPROVAL OF
VIDEO
SURVEILLANCE
POLICY

Mr. Shields reported that all three schools hosted a H1N1 vaccination clinic on February 9, 2010. Each school worked with the Cook County Department of Public Health. A total of 161 students were vaccinated.

H1N1 VACCINATION
UPDATE

The Student Board presented the Capital Improvement Committee recommendations to the Board of Education. Jennifer Williams stated the program mission and vision and announced the following student positions:

STUDENT BOARD
REPORT

Student Board:

President	Adilah Muhammad	Thornwood
Vice President	Jeremiah Whittington	Thornton
Secretary	Sara Curtis	Thornridge

Capital Improvement Committee:

Chairperson	Jennifer Williams	Thornridge
Members	Jeremiah Whittington	Thornton
	Garrick Bradley	Thornridge
	Bryan Williamson	Thornwood

Jeremiah Whittington presented the program goals and explained the public hearing process. The committee invited leadership from various student organizations at each school to each school to testify and answer the following questions:

1. What does the ideal school look like in terms of classrooms, cafeteria, recreation, fine arts/drama and athletics?
2. Should the District build 3 new schools or renovate current facilities?
3. What would technology look like in the perfect school?

Sixteen student organizations testified and 50 students represented all three buildings. The Committee met for three months after school to plan and implement the process. Hearings were held at all three schools. Committee members visited Thornton Fractional North High School.

Garrick Bradley presented the recommendations common to all three schools as well as those special to each individual school.

- The common recommendations are: Cafeteria expansion, bathroom renovations and Athletic & P.E. locker room renovations. Garrick described the enhancements shown by the displayed pictures of renovated cafeterias and locker rooms from other high schools.
- For athletics: reconditioned weight training facilities, new training room, new outside sport fields (basically athletic turf); new concession stands for all three high schools. Hallway and locker renovation includes new lockers, repainted hallways with art display and flat screen monitors.
- For facilities: painted hallways; higher output lighting; new windows and doors and new classroom furniture (student desks, blackboard, flat screen television with Channel 1 news and modernized athletic facilities and bleachers).
- Fine Arts: Improvements to band and choir facilities; new music labs and new technology for radio T.V. and digital media courses.
- Technology: Wireless internet access, smart board, automated everything and more computer labs.

- Bryan Williamson presented the special requests from the individual schools:
 - Thornridge New student activity center
 - Thornton Renovated auditorium and elevators
 - Thornwood New auditorium

STUDENT BOARD
REPORT, Con't.

The Student Board thanked the District 205 Board of Education for the opportunity to present their recommendations. The Board commended the students for their diligence and hard work.

The Mid-Year Curriculum Report was given by Mr. Truesdale. At the last curriculum meeting held on February 3, 2010 a discussion concerning Board Goals I and II. Board Goal I is to increase by 25% the number of students of students mastering standards and benchmarks and reducing by 25% the number of students receiving D's and F's. The interim assessment results were provided.

MID-YEAR
CURRICULUM
REPORT

Freshman English overall is the same as last year.

Freshman Math overall is 2% behind.

Sophomore English overall is 5% ahead. (gain)

Sophomore Math overall is 6% ahead.

Junior English overall is 2% ahead.

Junior Math overall is 10% ahead.

Percentage of Freshmen on track after Semester 1 is 48%, which is a gain of 9%. Many students are missing only ½ credit in one core area.

Students earning D's and F's:

English 42%; Math 43%; Science 41%; Social Studies 32%

The Credit Recovery Program will graduate 30 non-grads in April 2010.

Board Goal II is to increase the use of "Best Practice". Reading across the curriculum will include professional development for teachers of all content areas to implement strategies. In response to the Board, Mr. Truesdale stated that feedback has been positive from teachers. Dr. Buckner asked Mr. Truesdale to update the Board with the data from the reading coaches for teachers obtaining their professional development credit and the results as it pertains to the classroom. She also asked for a survey by the reading team for their suggestions and the support they need. Approximately 50% of students enter as freshman at or below sixth and seventh grade level in math.

Mr. Truesdale updated the Board on the Summer School programs. Credit recovery is focusing on benchmarks that students have not learned and not to repeat what they have learned. A major goal under Board Goal II is to increase enrollment in Summer Boost programs to focus on high school readiness. Communication among parents is needed to increase enrollment in summer programs to get students ready for the school year. Enrichment programs such as the Smaller Learning Communities Camps and Summer UN Program will continue to be offered.

SUMMER SCHOOL
REPORT

The 2010 Summer School Calendar was provided, which is from June 7 through July 16. Graduation is on July 16, 2010.

Mrs. Lawrence moved, Mr. Banks seconded, to **Approve of Submission of Grants** including the Early Childhood Block Grant, Sprint Character Education Grant Program, Teaching American History Grant and Safe Schools Healthy Students Initiative as presented by Mr. Doss. On roll call, Members Banks, Burton, King, Lawrence and Penman voted aye; nay, none; motion passed.

APPROVAL OF
SUBMISSION OF
GRANTS

At 7:55 p.m., Mr. Williams joined the meeting.

MR. WILLIAMS
JOINED MEETING

Mr. Burton moved, Mr. Banks seconded to **Approve the Property Tax Appeal Board Resolution** which allows legal counsel, Franczek Radelet, to intervene in any property tax collection proceedings involving District 205. Franczek contests such appeals and attempts to negotiate settlements when the appeals are filed, most of which are from local businesses. On roll call, Members Banks, Burton, King, Lawrence, Penman and Williams voted aye; nay, none; motion passed.

APPROVAL OF
PTAB RESOLUTION

Mr. Burton moved, Dr. King seconded to **Approve the Precision Systems Energy and Mechanical Contract Renewal** for three years with no increase in the first year and a 2% increase in years two and three. Precision had requested a 3% increase for years two and three. In response to the Board, Dr. Buckner stated that the 2% increase saved the District \$10,000.00. On roll call, Members Banks, Burton, King, Lawrence, Penman and Williams voted aye; nay, none; motion passed.

APPROVAL OF
PRECISION
SYSTEMS ENERGY
AND MECHANICAL
CONTRACT
RENEWAL

Mr. Banks moved, Mr. Burton seconded to **Approve the Transportation Services Contract Renewal** with Cook Illinois Corporation for the last optional renewal year at a 1.6% increase to cover the salary increase for their union drivers. When the money owed to the District from the State of Illinois is received, it will reimburse the transportation fund. The Finance Committee recommends approval of the one-year contract renewal. On roll call, Members Banks, Burton, King, Lawrence, Penman and Williams voted aye; nay, none; motion passed.

APPROVAL OF
TRANSPORTATION
SERVICES
CONTRACT
RENEWAL

Mr. Banks moved, Mrs. Lawrence seconded to **Approve the Custodial Services Contract Renewal** with RJB Properties for the last optional renewal year at a 2% increase for staff wages contingent upon RJB providing support that the 2% increase will be used for staff wages. Mr. Gress will provide the Board with the 5-year history of information requested from RJB as soon as it is received. The Finance Committee recommends approval of the one-year contract renewal. On roll call, Members Banks, Burton, King, Lawrence, Penman and Williams voted aye; nay, none; motion passed.

APPROVAL OF RJB
CUSTODIAL
SERVICES
CONTRACT
RENEWAL

Mr. Burton moved, Mr. Banks seconded to **Approve the Food Services Contract Renewal** with Arbor Management for the last optional renewal year at no increase. Arbor has worked to improve service by meeting with the Student Board, preparing a taste test to provide the most popular products and have looked to expand the offering to students with local products. The Finance Committee recommends approval of the one-year contract renewal with no increase. On roll call, Members Banks, Burton, King, Lawrence, Penman and Williams voted aye; nay, none; motion passed.

APPROVAL OF
ARBOR FOOD
SERVICES
CONTRACT
RENEWAL

None.

MISCELLANEOUS

Dr. Buckner announced that Rick Shields, Director of Human Resources, will retire effective June 30, 2010 after 33 years of service in District 205. She also announced the appointment of Dr. Betheny J. Lyke as Assistant Superintendent of Staff, Student and Community Service (formerly Director of Human Resources) effective July 1, 2010. Dr. Lyke has been a part of District 205 for 15 years and has been Principal of Thornton High School for the past four years. Dr. Lyke thanked the Board of Education and the Superintendent for this new opportunity to serve the District. Dr. Buckner then announced the vacancy for the Principalship of Thornton Township High School.

SUPERINTENDENT'S
REPORT

At 8:10 p.m., Mr. Williams moved, Mr. Banks seconded, to go into **Executive Session**. On roll call, Members Banks, Burton, King, Lawrence, Penman and Williams voted aye; nay, none; motion passed.

ADJOURNED
TO EXECUTIVE
SESSION

At 8:36 p.m., Mr. Burton moved, Mr. Williams seconded, to **Return to Regular Session**. On roll call, Members Banks, Burton, King, Lawrence, Penman and Williams voted aye; nay, none; motion passed.

RETURNED TO
REGULAR SESSION

Mr. Burton moved, Mrs. Lawrence seconded, to **Hold the Expulsion in Abeyance** for Student Case #2F-0910-09 for the remainder of the 2009-2010 school year and the 2010-2011 school year and recommended placement in the Academy for Learning, pending availability. On roll call, Members Banks, Burton, King, Lawrence, Penman and Williams voted aye; nay, none; motion passed.

STUDENT
DISCIPLINE CASE
NO. 2F-0910-09

Mr. Burton moved, Mrs. Lawrence seconded, to **Hold the Expulsion in Abeyance** for Student Case #2F-0910-10 for the remainder of the 2009-2010 school year and the 2010-2011 school year and recommended placement in the Academy for Learning, pending availability. On roll call, Members Banks, Burton, King, Lawrence, Penman and Williams voted aye; nay, none; motion passed.

STUDENT
DISCIPLINE CASE
NO. 2F-0910-10

Mr. Burton moved, Mrs. Lawrence seconded, to **Hold the Expulsion in Abeyance** for Student Case #3B-0910-08 for the remainder of the 2009-2010 school year and the 2010-2011 school year and recommended placement in the Academy for Learning, pending availability. On roll call, Members Banks, Burton, King, Lawrence, Penman and Williams voted aye; nay, none; motion passed.

STUDENT
DISCIPLINE CASE
NO. 3B-0910-08

Mr. Burton moved, Mrs. Lawrence seconded, to **Hold the Expulsion in Abeyance** for Student Case #1F-0910-04 for the remainder of the 2009-2010 school year and recommended placement in the Academy For Learning, pending availability. On roll call, Members Banks, Burton, King, Lawrence, Penman and Williams voted aye; nay, none; motion passed.

STUDENT
DISCIPLINE CASE
NO. 1F-0910-04

At 8:45 p.m., Mr. Banks moved, Mr. Burton seconded, to **Adjourn the Meeting**. On roll call, Members Banks, Burton, King, Lawrence, Penman and Williams voted aye; nay, none; motion passed.

ADJOURNMENT

President

Secretary

rp(brd.mins.2-10-10)
REGULAR SESSION