

MINUTES OF A **REGULAR MEETING** OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION, TOWNSHIP HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 205, COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS, HELD ON **WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 16, 2009** IN THE AUDITORIUM AT THORNTRIDGE HIGH SCHOOL, DOLTON, ILLINOIS, BEGINNING AT 7:00 P.M.

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. On roll call, Members Banks, King, Lawrence, Penman and Williams answered. Members Burton and Ware were absent. Dr. J. Kamala Buckner, Superintendent; Mr. Tim Truesdale, Associate Superintendent for Curriculum, Instruction and External Funding; Mr. Rick Shields, Director of Human Resources; Mr. Jerry Doss, Director of Public Relations; Mrs. Maria Brunson, Director of Information Technology; Dr. Betheny Lyke, Thornton Principal; Ms. Kim Waller, Thornridge Principal; Mrs. Darcelle Williams, Thornwood Principal; Mr. Scott Savage, Thornton Assistant Principal; Mr. Bradley Beilfuss, Thornridge Assistant Principal; Mr. Al Pearson, Thornridge Assistant Principal, and Mr. Ken Wendorff, Faculty Association President were also present.

ROLL
CALL

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

CONSENT AGENDA

- The minutes of the regular meeting and the minutes of the Executive Session(s) of the Regular meeting of August 12, 2009. The minutes of the Executive Session(s) of this meeting(s) 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

MINUTES:
August 12, 2009

BILLS

RESIGNATIONS

LEAVE OF ABSENCE

EMPLOYMENT

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

Mr. Doss reported on the following:

COMMUNICATIONS

- Students participated in the District 205 South Suburban College AIM Program where they can take introductory level courses that will allow them to forego those college courses at the university level.
- August 27th Back to School night attendance results: Thornridge, 496 parents; Thornton, 500 parents, and Thornwood, 450 parents.
- Thornridge received the BP Amoco Grant for the second year. Students will visit feeder schools to educate students about green technology and biodiesel.
- Thornton hosted a discussion wherein Dr. Jonathon McKenzie and Jose Avila discussed college opportunities, financial aid, scholarship counseling and senior project.
- Thornton held a voluntary parent training on PowerSchool for over 30 parents.
- The Thornton Alumni Legacy Fund held its 4th Annual Wildcat Open. This year's event boosted the endowment to \$300,000.
- Thornwood has teamed up with Fireman's Fund to work on various projects to beautify the school including the three courtyards.
- Upcoming events:
 - Sept. 18 ACT Registration Deadline
 - Sept. 19 One Church One School Education Summit
 - Sept. 24 & 25 Parent Teacher Conferences
 - Oct. 1 SAT Registration Deadline
 - Oct. 7 Late Start
 - Oct. 12 Columbus Day – No School
 - Oct. 14 Board of Education Meeting

At 7:04 p.m., Mr. Burton joined the meeting.

MR. BURTON
JOINED MEETING

The following individuals spoke during Public Participation:

PUBLIC
PARTICIPATION

- Edward Crayton (Dolton) asked: 1) if the outdoor basketball court for Thornridge will be discussed tonight; 2) if a previous motion included backboards and rims and if the vote was to install the basketball courts; 3) for a copy of the minutes from said meeting; 4) what was the proposal language and if the project is delayed, will the bid price be honored; 5) is a new booster club policy being voted on tonight, and 6) where to direct specific questions about athletic booster club. In response, Dr. King stated: 1) it will be discussed at this time; 2) there was no such motion which was confirmed by Mr. Burton; 3) he will be sent a copy of the minutes; 4) the matter will be referred back to Finance Committee; 5) the procedures that were approved in April 2009 need to be approved as policy, and 6) he may submit his questions in writing to the Superintendent.
- Evelyn Sorrell (Dolton) stated that all organizations within the schools should be notified of any and all procedures.
- Felita Crayton (Dolton) requested to go into Executive Session relative to the agenda item E, Recommended Approval of Booster Club and Activity Policy, which request was accepted.
- Delta Smith (Thornridge) asked for a copy of the Booster Club and Activity Policy. She was invited to pick up a copy from the District Office and was informed the policy would be on the website tomorrow.
- Lache Crayton (Dolton) asked 1) who delegates the usage of the concession stands; 2) are the clubs notified beforehand, and 3) how do clubs get money back from concessions. Dr. Buckner responded: 1) the Principal of each building is responsible; 2) instructed the Principals to so notify the organizations and 3) after the policy is approved, meetings will be held to address this topic.
- Mr. Williams (Board member) asked if meetings were held with the Booster Club Presidents prior to the approval of the procedures. Dr. Buckner stated that there was a prior meeting held.
- Darren Robinson (South Holland) asked if the product listed in the tennis courts bid was a recycled or a virgin product; that there is a price difference between the two and the Board should be aware.
- Ernestine Davis (Thornwood) 1) asked when the advisory meetings were starting and 2) stated that there is not enough food in the cafeterias and the food is cold. Dr. Buckner replied: 1) a robocall went out recently. Mrs. Williams added that the parent advisory meetings are the Tuesday before each monthly Board meeting. Dr. Buckner stated: 2) Arbor provided a food tasting of the cafeteria food yesterday and after the food survey results are received, any issues will be addressed.
- Annette Livingston (Harvey) asked if antibacterial sanitizers are available in the cafeterias. The Principals replied yes.

Mr. Gress introduced Mr. Mark Siwit from Legat Architects. The work on the Thornwood tennis courts has been completed. Work on the Thornton tennis courts began on August 23. On September 10, a proof roll was performed on the foundation which determined that additional stone would be needed. 3 options were presented to rectify this problem: Option 1: Fill areas where asphalt has been removed with stone, put four inches of stone over the entire surface and lay asphalt on top. Cost savings would be \$10,000 on the \$216,700 bid price with no warranty. Option 2: Remove wet clay from areas where the asphalt has been removed and replace it with a 12-inch foundation, put four inches of stone over entire area and lay asphalt on top. There would be no warranty and the cost is

TENNIS COURTS
UPDATE

an additional \$22,098. Option 3: Remove asphalt and wet clay, replace it with 12 inches of stone and lay asphalt on top. This option contains a one-year warranty and the cost would be an additional \$48,237. The project will be funded with dollars from the November 2008 capital improvement bond issue. Mr. Siwit recommended Option 3.

Mr. Burton stated that the Board needs to be informed of all options in order to make the best decision. Mr. Williams added that the warranty should be for more than one year and directed Mr. Gress to provide all facts to the Finance Committee. He also stressed that all options need to be presented.

After a lengthy discussion and in view of the uncertainty whether the project could be completed before winter, the item was tabled until the October Board meeting. If the District waits until Spring to begin the project, there would most likely be a cost increase unless the price is locked in now.

An alternate bid was made to convert four of the eight Thornridge tennis courts to basketball courts at \$12,000 each. In order to host competitive tennis, there must be six courts. There has been community and parent concern about basketball games and tennis matches occurring simultaneously. Mr. Burton stated that there was not enough community input about installing basketball courts. Dr. King added that this will be addressed at a public meeting.

A professional opinion is needed to determine if the Thornridge tennis courts need to be refurbished and what work needs to be done to bring the courts to high school level standards.

Mr. Banks moved, Mr. Williams seconded, to **Remove the asphalt on the Thornridge tennis courts, secure the area, table the Thornridge basketball court project until the October Board meeting and refer it back to the Finance Committee and Mr. Gress.** Mr. Williams requested all options be presented to the Finance Committee for any future projects. On roll call, Members Banks, Burton, King, Lawrence, Penman and Williams voted aye; nay, none; motion passed.

MOTION TO TABLE
TENNIS COURTS
PROJECT

Mr. Doss presented an overview of **Comcast Cares Day** held on April 25, 2009 where over 175 Thornridge students, staff, community members and Comcast employees cleaned inside and outside the building. Comcast agreed to donate \$7.00 for each participant. On behalf of Comcast, Mr. Brad Beilfuss presented a check in the amount of \$3,500 to the Academic Enrichment Foundation to be used for Thornridge activities. Board President, Dr. King, accepted the donation.

COMCAST CARES
DAY
PRESENTATION

Mr. Banks moved, Mrs. Lawrence seconded, to **Approve the Out-of-State Field Trip** for four students and two chaperones to attend the 12th Annual Youth Conference in New York City to observe the International Day of Peace scheduled for September 18, 2009. This trip is in partnership with the South Suburban Chicago Chapter of The Links, Incorporated. On roll call, Members Banks, Burton, King, Lawrence, Penman and Williams voted aye; nay, none; motion passed.

APPROVAL OF
OUT-OF-STATE
FIELD TRIP

Mr. Burton moved, Mr. Banks seconded, to **Approve the 2009-2010 District 205 Budget** as presented by Mr. Gress. The tentative budget was available for public inspection for more than 30 days and a public hearing was held. Changes were made to the Tentative Budget regarding more detailed information on expenses and for grants that have come through within the last 30 days so that revenues and expenses related to the grants have been adjusted. On roll call, Members Banks, Burton, King, and Penman voted aye; Members Lawrence and Williams voted nay; motion passed.

APPROVAL OF
2009-2010 DISTRICT
205 BUDGET

Mr. Burton moved, Mr. Banks seconded to **Approve the Booster Club and Activity Policy** as presented by Mr. Gress. The procedures approved at the April 8, 2009 Board meeting now need to be approved as Board policy. The auditors have made these recommendations. Mr. Williams stated that all organizations need to be made aware of any changes prior to approval. On roll call, Members Banks, Burton, King, and Penman voted aye; Members Lawrence and Williams voted nay; motion passed.

APPROVAL OF
BOOSTER CLUB
AND ACTIVITY
POLICY

Mr. Banks moved, Mr. Williams seconded, to **Approve the Driver Ed Cars Bid** as presented by Mr. Gress. The Finance Committee recommends that the one bid received from Mancari in the amount of \$129,603.90 be rejected and that the Board approve the state bid listing from Morrow Brothers Ford to purchase six (6) vehicles for a cost of \$79,710. This cost does not include installation of the instructor break. On roll call, Members Banks, Burton, King, Lawrence, Penman and Williams voted aye; nay, none; motion passed.

APPROVAL OF
DRIVER ED CARS
BID

Mr. Banks moved, Mr. Burton seconded, to **Approve the Activity Bus Bid** as presented by Mr. Gress. The low bid was awarded to Midwest Transit Equipment in the amount of \$46,717 for one activity bus with a wheelchair lift. The Finance Committee has reviewed the bid and recommends approval. On roll call, Members Banks, Burton, King, Lawrence, Penman and Williams voted aye; nay, none; motion passed.

APPROVAL OF
ACTIVITY BUS BID

Mr. Burton moved, Mr. Banks seconded, to **Approve the Athletic Fence Bid** for District-wide fence work on the baseball and softball fields. The low bid was awarded to Region Fence in the amount of \$79,174. The Finance Committee has reviewed the bid and recommends approval. On roll call, Members Banks, Burton, King, Lawrence, Penman and Williams voted aye; nay, none; motion passed.

APPROVAL OF
ATHLETIC FENCE
BID

Mr. Banks moved, Dr. Penman seconded to **Approve the Application for Recognition of Schools for 2009-2010.** Every year, school districts must submit a Board-approved application to the Regional Office of Education by September 30. On roll call, Members Banks, Burton, King, Lawrence, Penman and Williams voted aye; nay, none; motion passed.

APPROVAL OF
APPLICATION FOR
RECOGNITION OF
SCHOOLS FOR
2009-2010

Mrs. Lawrence requested that an attendance meeting be scheduled during October.

MISCELLANEOUS

At the request of the Principals, Dr. Buckner discussed the current Attendance Policy. The current policy provides that students only receive 50% credit for make-up work. There has been discussion in the past that students should receive 100% credit. The current Attendance Policy is having an adverse impact on student achievement. The joint committee on attendance will meet to review this policy. Board members will participate. A meeting will be scheduled as soon as possible and a status discussion will take place at the October Board meeting. Mrs. Lawrence stated that lengthy suspensions also need to be reviewed.

Mr. Burton asked if all Booster Club members were notified of the meeting scheduled for September 22, 2009. Mr. Gress stated that letters were sent to the Booster presidents and that a phone call would be made to Booster and all organization presidents informing them of the upcoming meeting.

Mrs. Lawrence expressed a concern about students not being able to take classes outside of their House. Dr. Buckner stated that any increase in class availability would involve additional cost and that direction would need to come from the Board.

Dr. King appointed the following Board members to the Architect Sub-Committee for the purpose of interviewing architects interested in providing services to the District: Dr. King and Dr. Penman. Mrs. Lawrence was appointed as an alternate.

ARCHITECT SUB-
COMMITTEE

None.

SUPERINTENDENT'S
REPORT

At 8:40 p.m., Mr. Banks moved, Mrs. Lawrence 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 10:05 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. Banks moved, Mr. Burton seconded, to **Hold the Expulsion in Abeyance** for Student Case #1B-0910-01 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. 1B-0910-01

Mr. Banks moved, Mr. Burton seconded, to give a **Notice of Remedy** to a staff member. On roll call, Members Banks, Burton, King, Lawrence, Penman and Williams voted aye; nay, none; motion passed.

PERSONNEL

Mr. Banks moved, Mr. Burton seconded, to **Accept the Settlement Offer from Rayalco** concerning software for District 205. On roll call, Members Banks, Burton, King, Lawrence, Penman and Williams voted aye; nay, none; motion passed.

RAYALCO
SETTLEMENT

Mr. Burton moved, Mr. Banks seconded, to **Approve a 3% Raise for Administrators** as recommended by Dr. Buckner. On roll call, Members Banks, Burton, King, Penman and Williams voted aye; Member Lawrence voted nay, motion passed.

PERSONNEL

At 10:35 p.m., Mrs. Lawrence 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.9-16-09)
REGULAR SESSION