

MINUTES OF A **REGULAR MEETING** OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION, TOWNSHIP HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 205, COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS, HELD ON **WEDNESDAY, JUNE 10, 2009** IN THE PERFORMING ARTS CENTER AT THORNWOOD HIGH SCHOOL, SOUTH HOLLAND, 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 and Penman answered. Members Burton, Williams and Ware were absent. Dr. J. Kamala Buckner, Superintendent; Mr. Jerry Doss, Director of Public Relations; Dr. Betheny Lyke, Thornton Principal; Ms. Kim Waller, Thornridge Principal; Mrs. Darcelle Williams, Thornwood Principal; Mr. Rick Shields, Thornridge Assistant Principal; Mr. Tony Ratliff, Thornton Assistant Principal; Mrs. Dorith Johnson, Thornwood Assistant Principal; and Mr. Ken Wendorff, Faculty Association President, were also present.

ROLL  
CALL

The minutes of the regular session and the minutes of the executive session of the regular meeting of May 13, 2009. 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:  
May 13, 2009

Mrs. Lawrence moved, Dr. Penman seconded, to **Approve the Minutes for May 13, 2009**. On roll call, Members Banks, King, Lawrence and Penman voted aye; nay, none; motion passed.

Dr. Penman moved, Mrs. Lawrence seconded, to **Approve the Minutes of the Special Meeting on June 2, 2009**. On roll call, Members Banks, King, Lawrence and Penman voted aye; nay, none; motion passed.

MINUTES:  
June 2, 2009

Mrs. Lawrence moved, Mr. Banks seconded, to **Approve the District 205 Bills**. On roll call, Members Banks, King, Lawrence, Penman and Williams voted aye; nay, none; motion passed.

DISTRICT 205  
BILLS

At 7:03 p.m., Mr. Burton joined the meeting.

MR. BURTON  
JOINED MEETING

Mrs. Lawrence moved, Mr. Burton seconded, to **Approve the Resignation List**. On roll call, Members Banks, Burton, King, Lawrence and Penman voted aye; nay, none; motion passed.

RESIGNATIONS

None for this meeting.

LEAVE OF  
ABSENCE

Mr. Burton moved, Mr. Lawrence seconded, to **Approve the Employment List**. On roll call, Members Banks, Burton, King, Lawrence, Penman and Williams voted aye; nay, none; motion passed.

EMPLOYMENT

Mr. Doss reported on the following:

COMMUNICATIONS

- Dolton Mayor Ronnie Lewis and the Board of Trustees will honor the Thornridge High School students for winning the Biodiesel \$60,000 grand prize on June 15, 2009 at 7:30 p.m. at the Dolton Village Hall.
- The Thornridge students have received national recognition from The White House regarding the Lexus Eco-Challenge. The White House called Mr. Sievers to offer congratulations and to obtain additional information so that they may offer continued support for this project.
- The Thornridge Biodiesel Team has also been awarded \$20,000 for the BP AMOCO grant renewal.
- Thornridge Principal, Ms. Waller, will travel to Washington, D.C., on June 15-17, 2009, with students Kiara Bishop, Markist Booker, Vincent Jones and Shelby Rogers to meet with Senators and compete on the national level for the Jefferson Community Service Award Project.
- Thornton winners from the IHSA Boys and Girls Class 3A Track Meet were announced.
- Congratulations to Thornton student, Kacie Trimble as the Blue Ribbon winner of the 14<sup>th</sup> Annual Student Voices Contest, sponsored by the Illinois Council Against handgun Violence.

- Park National Bank scholarships were awarded to Thornton students Diwante Shuford, Errick Spencer and Rika Donegan, ranging from \$8,000 to \$12,000 per student.
- Approximately 1800 students are enrolled for the first semester of Summer School.
- The United Nations Summer Leadership Academy began June 8, 2009. Approximately 94 students are currently enrolled.
- District 205 will also hold one-week Smaller Learning Communities career-themed camps later this summer, including a Chinese Language Instruction Camp and a Project Lead the Way Pre-engineering Camp. Additional program information is posted on the District 205 website.
- Graduating Seniors in District 205 will receive over \$3 million in grants and college scholarships.
- District 205 was recognized and received an official thank you letter from the President of the Chicago 2016 Olympic Bid Committee for our participation in the Olympic Week Activities held May 4-8, 2009.
- In response to Mr. Burton, Mr. Doss stated that the type of Chinese Language offered at the camp will be Mandarin Chinese.
- Mrs. Lawrence read a thank you letter from former Board member, Mr. Julius Patterson, for his participation in the graduation ceremony at Thornwood High School.
  
- None.

COMMUNICATIONS,  
Con't.

PUBLIC  
PARTICIPATION

Mr. Burton moved, Mrs. Lawrence seconded, to **Approve the Arbor Management Food Services Contract Renewal** as presented by Mr. Gress. The original proposal of a 5% increase was reduced to a 3.5% increase over the 2008-2009 rates. The Finance Committee recommends approval of this contract renewal. On roll call, Members Banks, Burton, King, Lawrence and Penman voted aye; nay, none; motion passed.

APPROVAL OF  
FOOD SERVICES  
CONTRACT  
RENEWAL

Mr. Gress stated that upon request of the Finance Committee, the Board policy on advertising be revisited. Advertising could be a source of additional revenue and support for the athletic teams and other special interest groups. Dr. Buckner added that the Policy Committee would need to review that section of the Board policy and present new language.

REVIEW OF  
ADVERTISING  
POLICY

Mrs. Lawrence moved, Mr. Banks seconded, to **Approve the Graduation Requirements** as presented by Mr. Truesdale. The requirements are impacted by the change in the bell schedule and will begin with the freshmen class of 2009-2010. Twenty-six credits will be required to graduate which includes 22.5 academic credits, plus 3.5 credits in Physical Education. On roll call, Members Banks, Burton, King, Lawrence and Penman voted aye; nay, none; motion passed.

APPROVAL OF  
GRADUATION  
REQUIREMENTS

Mr. Truesdale presented the District Improvement Plan update as follows:

- On May 7, 2009, the District Improvement Plan writing team met to review the action plans in all four areas: Reading, Math, Special Education and Safe & Supportive Learning Environment. Each area provides a section for student strategies, Professional Development and parent/community involvement. On May 23, 2009 the objectives were also reviewed by the Curriculum Committee.
- The successes and areas of focus for 2009-2010 were identified. Fewer students failed the double dose algebra course than the regular algebra course.
- Students using the Princeton Review course showed a growth of 2.2 points on the ACT exam.
- All math classes correlated with Plato.
- Focus for 2009-2010 will be on coordination of all parent meetings and double dose geometry.
- In Reading, there was a significant increase of the 9<sup>th</sup> grade reading level; the Boost program was expanded; articulation was increased with the feeder schools, and Juniors improved by double digit percentages in all areas of Interim Assessments.

DISTRICT  
IMPROVEMENT  
PLAN UPDATE

- Focus for 2009-2010 will be to increase board/community involvement in literacy and add a reading component to all content area curriculum.
- Special Education showed significant attendance at Special Education parent support group meetings; the Resource Rooms are helping students experience success; and the co-teaching model is being embraced and fostering more collaboration.
- Focus for 2009-2010 will be to develop an evaluation tool for the Resource Room; implement a research-based reading model to meet the needs of cognitively disabled students, and survey the stakeholders to assess future needs.
- There was a decrease in major discipline infractions and expulsions at all three buildings and the Creating Positive Relationships (CPR) program was successful.
- Focus for 2009-2010 will be to research and implement a character education program and provide training and collaboration methods for deans and counselors to assist with student behavior issues.

DISTRICT  
IMPROVEMENT  
PLAN UPDATE,  
Con't.

The Board asked for the status of the homework hotline. Mr. Truesdale responded that the current phone system could be used at no cost and the District is exploring other options. Labor Management meetings scheduled for the summer include homework hotline on the agenda.

Dr. Penman moved, Mr. Burton, seconded, to **Approve the No Child Left Behind (NCLB) Grants** as presented by Mr. Truesdale. These grants are applied for annually. Title V (Innovative Programs) no longer exists. The final 2009 allocations will be received in late summer. On roll call, Members Banks, Burton, King, Lawrence and Penman voted aye; nay, none; motion passed.

APPROVAL TO  
SUBMIT NCLB  
GRANTS

Dr. Penman moved, Mrs. Lawrence, seconded, to **Approve the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) Grants** as presented by Mr. Truesdale. These grants are applied for annually and support Special Education within the District. On roll call, Members Banks, Burton, King, Lawrence and Penman voted aye; nay, none; motion passed.

APPROVAL TO  
SUBMIT IDEA  
GRANTS

Mr. Burton moved, Mr. Banks seconded, to **Approve the Illinois Association of School Boards (IASB) Annual Dues** for \$11,125.00, which is a \$225 increase over last year's dues. IASB membership includes workshops, conferences, tools to support the policymaking role of the school board, legislative reports, analysis of new laws, assistance with school board governance, self-evaluation, policymaking, and Board-Superintendent relations. On roll call, Members Banks, Burton, King, Lawrence and Penman voted aye; nay, none; motion passed.

APPROVAL OF IASB  
ANNUAL DUES

Mr. Burton moved, Mr. Banks seconded, to **Approve the Prevailing Wage Act Resolution**. The resolution is an annual activity required of all public bodies in Illinois. The Finance Committee recommends approval of this Resolution. On roll call, Members Banks, Burton, King, Lawrence and Penman voted aye; nay, none; motion passed.

APPROVAL OF  
2009-2010  
PREVAILING WAGE  
ACT RESOLUTION

Mr. Burton moved, Mr. Banks seconded, to **Approve the Scavenger Service Bid** as presented by Mr. Gress. Upon recommendation of the Finance Committee, the bid was awarded to Allied Waste. On roll call, Members Banks, Burton, King, Lawrence and Penman voted aye; nay, none; motion passed.

APPROVAL OF  
SCAVENGER  
SERVICE BID

Mr. Burton moved, Mr. Banks seconded, to **Approve the Tennis Courts Bid** as presented by Mr. Gress for Thornton and Thornwood in the amount of \$573,900. Upon recommendation of the Finance Committee, the bid was awarded to CMM Group, Inc. On roll call, Members Banks, Burton, King, Lawrence and Penman voted aye; nay, none; motion passed.

APPROVAL OF  
TENNIS COURTS  
BID

Dr. Buckner spoke about the Navistar program. Recruitment letters went out to all District 205 freshmen and thus far, 150 applications have been received. District 205 will be the center of this regional program. Navistar has donated over \$1 million in equipment for this program which will begin in the 2009-2010 school year.

MISCELLANEOUS

- The Superintendent attended a Student Board meeting and announced that the Student Board will now be included on the Board Agenda for future regular District 205 Board meetings. The Student Board has a Capital Improvement Committee Work Plan and has developed a mission and goals statement. They desire to make students voices heard and promote visibility, transparency and inclusiveness in the capital improvement planning process. Dr. King, the Board President, agreed they be included on the agenda.
- The Superintendent attended a South West Sports Conference meeting and reported that in order to participate, the District must fill a team in 6 sports.
- The Superintendent introduced Mr. Scott Savage, newly appointed Assistant Principal at Thornridge, who will be in charge of discipline.
- Mrs. Lawrence asked about the Pre-pharmacy program. Mr. Truesdale stated that this year we have our own co-hort with the University of Illinois at Chicago to include students from all three schools. For the Pre-pharmacy program, students will attend South Suburban College for required courses. Students can have 2 courses completed to transfer to a 4-year college in a full pharmacy program.
- Dr. Buckner spoke about plans to implement the CNA (Certified Nurse's Assistant) Program for the 2010-2011 school year.
- Dr. Buckner stated that the plans are being finalized for the Culinary Arts program for the 2010-2011 school year.

SUPERINTENDENT'S  
REPORT

At 8:00 p.m., Mr. Burton moved, Dr. Penman seconded, to go into **Executive Session**. On roll call, Members Banks, Burton, King, Lawrence and Penman voted aye; nay, none; motion passed.

ADJOURNED  
TO EXECUTIVE  
SESSION

At 9:25 p.m., Mr. Burton moved, Dr. Penman 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 #3B-0809-16 for the remainder of the 2008-2009 school year and 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. 3B-0809-16

Mr. Burton moved, Mrs. Lawrence seconded, to **Uphold the Suspension** for Student Case #3B-0809-17(S). On roll call, Members Banks, Burton, King, Lawrence, Penman and Williams voted aye; nay, none; motion passed.

STUDENT  
DISCIPLINE CASE  
NO. 3B-0809-17(S)

Mr. Burton moved, Mrs. Lawrence seconded, to **Hold the Expulsion in Abeyance** for Student Case #3F-0809-18 for the remainder of the 2008-2009 school year and 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. 3F-0809-18

Mr. Burton moved, Mrs. Lawrence seconded, to **Hold the Expulsion in Abeyance** for Student Case #3B-0809-16 for the remainder of the 2008-2009 school year and 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. 2A-0809-28

Mr. Burton moved, Mrs. Lawrence seconded, to **Hold the Expulsion in Abeyance** for Student Case #2A-0809-29 for the remainder of the 2008-2009 school year and 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. 2A-0809-29

Mr. Burton moved, Mrs. Lawrence seconded, to **Hold the Expulsion in Abeyance** for Student Case #2H-0809-30 for the remainder of the 2008-2009 school year and 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. 2H-0809-30

Mr. Burton moved, Mrs. Lawrence seconded, to **Hold the Expulsion in Abeyance** for Student Case #2B-0809-31 for the remainder of the 2008-2009 school year and 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. 2B-0809-31

Mrs. Lawrence moved, Mr. Burton seconded, to allow post-retirement funds to be spread out over a four-year period for the Superintendent.

PERSONNEL

Mr. Banks moved, Mr. Burton seconded, to give the Finance Committee authority to bid out contracts up to \$850,000.00 for the Navistar Project.

NAVISTAR  
PROJECT

At 9:45 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.6-10-09)  
**REGULAR SESSION**