

MINUTES OF A **REGULAR MEETING** OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION, TOWNSHIP HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 205, COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS, HELD ON **WEDNESDAY, MAY 13, 2009** IN THE STUDENT CAFETERIA 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, Penman and Williams answered. Members Burton and Ware were absent. Dr. J. Kamala Buckner, Superintendent; Dr. Paige Dague, Director of Accountability, Research and Information Service; 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; Mr. Jim Beckwith, 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 April 8, 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:
April 8, 2009

Mrs. Lawrence moved, Mr. Banks seconded, to **Approve the Minutes for April 8, 2009**. On roll call, Members Banks, King, Lawrence, Penman and Williams voted aye; nay, none; motion passed.

Dr. Penman moved, Mrs. Lawrence seconded, to **Approve the Minutes of the Special Meeting on April 28, 2009**. On roll call, Members Banks, King, Lawrence, Penman and Williams voted aye; nay, none; motion passed.

MINUTES:
April 28, 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

None for this meeting.

RESIGNATIONS

None for this meeting.

LEAVE OF
ABSENCE

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

EMPLOYMENT

Mr. Doss reported on the following:

COMMUNICATIONS

- Comcast Cares Day, Saturday, April 25, 2009 – Over 175 Thornridge students, staff, community members and Comcast employees took part in Comcast Cares Day at Thornridge by cleaning inside and outside the building. Dolton Mayor Lewis, Superintendent Buckner and Comcast executives also participated. Comcast provided food, supplies and t-shirts for all participants as well as a donation to the Academic Enrichment Foundation.
- Thornton student Juan Haro was awarded a \$10,000 scholarship from Ford Motor Company for the photo-electric hydrogen fuel cell car that he built for an AP Chemistry independent study project.
- Thornton students Roberto Landin and Diwante Shuford were admitted to the prestigious Northwestern University CURE Summer 2009 Program and will act as student interns, working with researchers to find cures for various forms of cancer. Roberto Landin has been accepted to Harvard University and MIT.
- Thornwood's Intergenerational Book Club participated with adult mentors from Christ Community Church during April 2009. Dr. King was very pleased with the program, commended Ms. Margosein and the Thornwood administration for the Book Club and hopes to expand participation throughout the community.

COMMUNICATIONS,
Con't.

- The Thornwood Mesdemoiselles will host “Time for Tea” “Woman to Woman: Sharing and Caring in Our Community”, on Saturday, May 16, 2009 from 11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. Proceeds from the event will go to the Susan G. Komen Breast Cancer Foundation.
- Congratulations to Rod Galvan, Alma Rogue and Raquel DeLaRosa who celebrated the graduation of Thornwood's first Adult English Language Learners Class, which hopefully will continue with classes in the next school year.
- On May 5, 2009 Thornwood Career Counselor, Ms. Jalena Martin, sponsored a short motivational rally for 84 students who prepared to take Advanced Placement exams. Local pastor Georgina Ayala also spoke to encourage the students.
- Thornwood Library sponsored a special book signing and discussion with local author, Earl Sewell, who wrote the young adult novel, Keysha's Drama, which is set at Thornwood High School.
- Dr. Buckner publicly congratulated Mr. Charlie Rose on his recent appointment as General Counsel to the United States Secretary of Education. Mr. Rose was the legal counsel for District 205 and partner with Franczek Radelet & Rose. Dr. King commended Mr. Rose for his expertise in education.
- Dr. Buckner congratulated the faculty and staff who were recognized at a reception preceding the Board meeting for those employees attaining 25 years of service to District 205; namely, Eugene Adrian, Mark Downey, Cheryl Krzyzaniak, Debra Mitchell, Denise Schwieger and Kathleen Towns.
- Mr. Doss congratulated the 2009 Gates Millennium Scholars from District 205: Shelby Rogers from Thornridge and Leni Glenn and Brittany Jackson from Thornton. The scholarship provides the student's tuition, room and board for degrees for college and graduate studies.
- Ms. Waller, Thornridge Principal, presented the Biodiesel Team and Sponsor, Mr. Brian Sievers, to the Board, who are the winners of the \$50,000 Lexus Eco Challenge #3. \$35,000 in scholarships will be divided among the seven students on the team, Mr. Sievers will receive a \$5,000 grant toward supplies and the Thornridge Principal will receive \$10,000 which will be used for physics equipment.
- Dr. Lyke, Thornton Principal, presented the Varsity Basketball Team and Coach Troy Jackson to the Board, who took 3rd Place in the state championship competition.
- Mrs. Williams, Thornwood Principal, presented the 2009 Group Interpretation State Champions to the Board, who took 1st Place for their performance of *The Bluest Eye*, and Co-Directors Cheryl Frazier and Lauren Wells. Thornwood High School has the highest record of championships in the State and Ms. Frazier holds the highest record as coach.
- The Board commended and congratulated the students and their parents for their accomplishments.
- Mrs. Lawrence thanked Mayor Kellogg and Dr. Lyke for the Diamond Dress Project which provided high school girls with free prom dresses.

The following individuals spoke during public participation:

PUBLIC
PARTICIPATION

- Dolores Rivers (South Holland) asked why the summer school fee is \$400 and if grants are available. Dr. Buckner replied that \$400 is needed to cover costs such as transportation, books and teachers. There are no grants available. Mr. Truesdale met with the parent to discuss a payment plan.

- A Thornridge parent commended the Board, administration and educators for all their hard work and thanked them for their spirit and excellence in leadership that ultimately influences the students.
- Shelly Taylor Johnson (Thornridge parent) questioned the fairness of IPF's since students with IPD's were not given option to bring it up their grade up to a C. Dr. Buckner said that in view of the large number of students who failed, the District's primary responsibility is to serve those students with IPF's. The parent asked how children are chosen for IP's. Ms. Waller met with Ms. Johnson to discuss this issue.
- Felita Crayton (Dolton) asked 1) for details of the Arbor Management contract extension; 2) the length of the renewal extension; 3) what does MEP mean on the agenda; 4) is the uniform bid going to the same company as last year? 5) what are student fees and what is included in the activity fee? Dr. Buckner replied that 1) the Finance Committee reviewed the details of the renewal and that the review needs to be in December rather than later; 2) annual renewal; 3) mechanical, electrical and plumbing items; 4) Yes; 5) the fees are \$150 for all students and Steve will respond in writing.
- Ed Crayton (Dolton) representing the Thornridge Booster Club, requested to speak during Executive Session.

PUBLIC
PARTICIPATION,
Con't.

Mrs. Lawrence moved, Mr. Williams seconded, to Set a Date for a Board Retreat for the purpose of self-evaluation, evaluation and personnel. The date will be discussed during Executive Session. On roll call, Members Banks, King, Lawrence, Penman and Williams voted aye; nay, none; motion passed.

MOTION TO SET
DATE FOR BOARD
RETREAT

Karrie Evans and Shelby Rogers reported on the duties and activities of the Student Board, which included:

STUDENT BOARD
REPORT

- The mission and vision of the Student Board as an instrument for the cooperation of students and a voice for student opinions concerning the affairs of the District.
- The newly-formed Lunch committee's commitment to students' concerns regarding the cafeteria. The committee approves all lunch menus monthly and meets regularly with Arbor Management. New equipment is being installed at two of the high schools to improve the food service.
- Establishment of a District S.A.V.E. (Students Against Violence Everywhere) committee to ensure all schools operate under the same agenda and also to have designated S.A.V.E. days.
- The Jefferson Awards for Public Service in Youth Initiative was piloted at Thornridge. It was very successful and won the Jefferson Award National Regional Competition at Illinois Institute of Technology. All schools will now have this program for the 2009-2010 school year.
- Student Board elections were held on April 2 and reorganized on May 12 for the 2009-2010 school year. The new members are: Joshua Sanders, Sara Curtis (Secretary), Jennifer Williams and Mica Davis (Treasurer). Returning members are: Markist Booker, Lamar Hawkins, Adilah Muhammad (President), Jeremiah Whittington (Vice President).
- The graduating Student Board members will be attending the following colleges:
- Kiara Bishop, Thornridge, attending Alabama A&M University majoring in Elementary Education.
- Shelby Rogers, Thornridge, attending Tennessee State University majoring in History and Political Science.
- Karrie Evans, Thornton, attending Howard University, majoring in Political Science, minor in Business Economics.
- Brittany Jackson, Thornton, attending University of Illinois majoring in Journalism.
- Calvin Martin, Thornwood, attending University of Arkansas at Pine Bluff majoring in Business Management minor in Music.

Students that served on the Student Board of Education will receive graduation chords and be acknowledged on the commencement programs for their service.

Mrs. Lawrence moved, Mr. Banks seconded, to approve the request for three Thornwood students, Sinnard Scott, Darius Leaks and Johari Mackey, to compete in the **National Forensics League Tournament** in Birmingham, Alabama from June 14-19, 2009. On roll call, Members Banks, King, Lawrence, Penman and Williams voted aye; nay, none; motion passed.

THORNWOOD
NATIONAL
FORENSICS
LEAGUE
TOURNAMENT

Mr. Burton moved, Dr. King seconded, to **Approve the P.E. Uniform Bid**. The low bid was awarded to St. John's Sports in the amount of \$31,036.52 and the Finance Committee recommends approval of this bid. On roll call, Members Banks, King, Lawrence, Penman and Williams voted aye; nay, none; motion passed.

APPROVAL OF P.E.
UNIFORM BID

Mr. Banks moved, Dr. Penman seconded, to **Approve the Copy Paper Bid**. The Finance Committee recommends approval of the low bid of \$71,000.00 from Midland Paper with multiple delivery dates. On roll call, Members Banks, King, Lawrence, Penman and Williams voted aye; nay, none; motion passed.

APPROVAL OF
COPY PAPER BID

Mr. Banks moved, Mr. Williams seconded, to **Approve the 2009-2010 Student Fee Schedule**. The Finance Committee recommends approval of this schedule which is the same as last year. On roll call, Members Banks, King, Lawrence, Penman and Williams voted aye; nay, none; motion passed.

APPROVAL OF
2009-2010
STUDENT FEES

Mr. Banks moved, Mrs. Lawrence seconded, to **Approve the Arbor Management Food Services Contract Renewal**. It was tabled after a discussion that addressed concerns about the 5% increase in cost and the rationale. The Finance Committee will meet with Arbor before the next Board meeting to address their concerns before approving the contract renewal. Mr. Williams moved, Dr. Penman seconded, to **Rescind the Motion**. On roll call, Members Banks, King, Lawrence, Penman and Williams voted aye; nay, none; motion passed. No action taken.

APPROVAL OF
FOOD SERVICES
CONTRACT
RENEWAL

Dr. Penman moved, Mr. Williams seconded, to **Approve the Mechanical, Electrical and Plumbing (MEP) Upgrades Bid**. After reviewing all bids, the Finance Committee recommends approval of the low bid of \$2,525,000.00 from Chicago Heights Construction, which will be paid from Life Safety funds. On roll call, Members King, Lawrence and Penman voted aye; Member Williams voted nay; Member Banks passed; motion passed.

APPROVAL OF MEP
UPGRADES BID

Mr. Banks moved, Mrs. Lawrence, seconded, to **Approve the 2009-2010 IHSA Membership** as presented by Dr. Buckner. No payment for membership is required. The IHSA governs the equitable participation in interscholastic athletics and activities. On roll call, Members Banks, King, Lawrence, Penman and Williams voted aye; nay, none; motion passed.

APPROVAL OF
2009-2010 IHSA
MEMBERSHIP

Dr. Buckner announced that Saturn will no longer lease cars to the District for Drivers' Education. With the closing of local car dealerships and in view of the present economy, there are concerns about cars being available and the Drivers' Education program will most likely need to be reorganized.

MISCELLANEOUS

At 8:35 p.m., Dr. Penman moved, Mr. Banks seconded, to go into **Executive Session**. On roll call, Members Banks, King, Lawrence, Penman and Williams voted aye; nay, none; motion passed.

ADJOURNED
TO EXECUTIVE
SESSION

At 10:15 p.m. Mrs. Lawrence moved, Mr. Williams seconded, to **Return to Regular Session** On roll call, Members Banks, King, Lawrence, Penman and Williams voted aye; nay, none; motion passed.

RETURNED TO
REGULAR SESSION

Dr. King moved, Mr. Banks seconded, to **Uphold the Suspension** for Student Case #3F-0809-13(S). On roll call, Members Banks, King, Lawrence, Penman and Williams voted aye; nay, none; motion passed.

STUDENT
DISCIPLINE CASE
NO. 3F-0809-13(S)

Dr. King moved, Mr. Banks seconded, to **Uphold the Suspension** for Student Case #3F-0809-14(S). On roll call, Members Banks, King, Lawrence, Penman and Williams voted aye; nay, none; motion passed.

STUDENT
DISCIPLINE CASE
NO. 3F-0809-14(S)

Dr. King moved, Mr. Banks seconded, to **Uphold the Suspension** for Student Case #3F-0809-15(S). On roll call, Members Banks, King, Lawrence, Penman and Williams voted aye; nay, none; motion passed.

STUDENT
DISCIPLINE CASE
NO. 3F-0809-15(S)

Dr. King moved, Mr. Banks seconded, to **Uphold the Expulsion** for Student Case #2B-0809-22 for the remainder of the 2008-2009 school year and the 2009-2010 school year. Should the student wish to return to a District 205 school after the expulsion, a meeting with the administration will determine the most appropriate placement. On roll call, Members Banks, King, Lawrence, Penman and Williams voted aye; nay, none; motion passed.

STUDENT
DISCIPLINE CASE
NO. 2B-0809-22

Dr. King moved, Mr. Banks seconded, to **Uphold the Expulsion** for Student Case #2A-0809-25 for the remainder of the 2008-2009 school year and the 2009-2010 school year. Should the student wish to return to a District 205 school after the expulsion, a meeting with the administration will determine the most appropriate placement. On roll call, Members Banks, King, Lawrence, Penman and Williams voted aye; nay, none; motion passed.

STUDENT
DISCIPLINE CASE
NO. 2A-0809-25

Dr. King moved, Mr. Banks seconded, to **Hold the Expulsion in Abeyance** for Student Case #2F-0809-26 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, King, Lawrence, Penman and Williams voted aye; nay, none; motion passed.

STUDENT
DISCIPLINE CASE
NO. 2F-0809-26

Dr. King moved, Mr. Banks seconded, to **Uphold the Suspension** for Student Case #2H-0809-26(S). On roll call, Members Banks, King, Lawrence, Penman and Williams voted aye; nay, none; motion passed.

STUDENT
DISCIPLINE CASE
NO. 2H-0809-26(S)

Dr. King moved, Mr. Banks seconded, to **Hold the Expulsion in Abeyance** for Student Case #2F-0809-27 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, King, Lawrence, Penman and Williams voted aye; nay, none; motion passed.

STUDENT
DISCIPLINE CASE
NO. 2F-0809-27

At 10:19 p.m. Mrs. Lawrence moved, Mr. Williams seconded, to **Adjourn the Meeting**. On roll call, Members Banks, King, Lawrence, Penman and Williams voted aye; nay, none; motion passed.

ADJOURNMENT

President

Secretary

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REGULAR SESSION