THORNTON TOWNSHIP HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT 205

BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING

November 8, 2017

Serving All or Portions of the Following Communities:

Blue Island * Burnham * Calumet City * Dixmoor * Dolton * East Hazel Crest * Harvey * Hazel Crest * Lansing * Markham * Phoenix * Posen * Riverdale * South Holland * Thornton





Pledge of Allegiance



Committee of the Whole

- Report from Curriculum Committee
- Report from Finance Committee
- Report from Policy Committee
- Report from Discipline Committee
- Report from Facilities Committee



- Approval of District 205 Bills dated: October 12 through November 8, 2017
- **Personnel:** Approval of Resignations, Leave of Absence, New Hires and Terminations dated November 8, 2017

Public Participation

We now open the Public Participation section of our agenda. At this time, members of the community are invited to address the Board. We ask that you state your name and town, limit your total time to two minutes, and talk only about items on the current Board Agenda.

In addition, if your comments are of a critical nature about specific people, the Board requests that you present your comments during the personnel portion of the "executive session."

Your name will not be called if you do no sign in and list a topic or the topic is not on the current Board agenda or if public participation has begun.

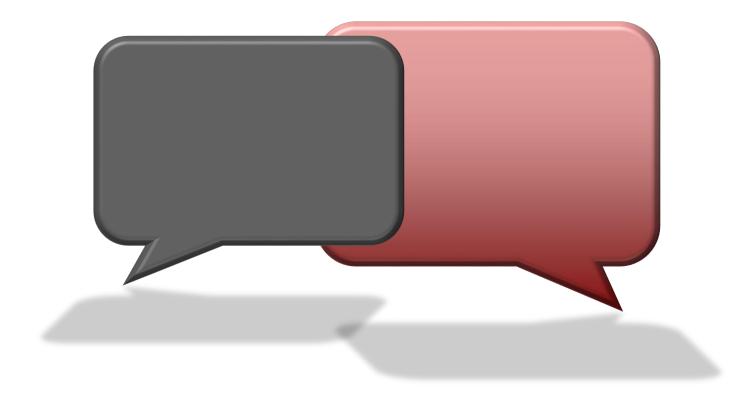
Freedom Of Information Act

• Dr. Doss



Communications

• Mr. Arrington



Thank You!!



From the District Doorways

The following are the Superintendent's responses to questions, inquiries, and concerns that arose from last month's Public Participation at the board meeting.



Questions from October 11, 2017 Board Meeting

- 1. The current enrollment at District 205 is as follows:
 - Thornton 1947
 - Thornridge 1307
 - Thornwood 1850
 - Outlook Academy 217
 - PEACE Center 45





The **TR band family** along with coordinator, Keasha Jones and her team from the Chicago Police Department and other community members donated and we were able to fill 100 shoe boxes for the Samaritan' Purse Operation Christmas Child organization. The organization brings hope to children in impoverished areas around the world.









The **Thornridge Marching Band** received 1st place in Class A at the Rich Central Band Festival.

Falcon Band Students, Kaliaha Patton, Destin Miller and Brianna Boyd were selected to the 2017 ILMEA All District 1 Band comprising of the best High School musicians in and around the Chicagoland Area.



The TR Speech team made their debut at the HF Viking Classic Tournament. The team set an amazing tone for this season

Honorable mentions goes to:

- Jahari Johnson placing 2nd in Oratorical Declamation
 - Akil Jones placing 2nd in Dramatic Interpretation
 - **Reah McDonald** placing 3rd in Poetry Reading
- Jaelin Gordon and Reah McDonald placing 2nd in Dramatic Duet Acting



TT 2016-17 graduates, **Calia Brooks and Yareli Avila** recently reported earning between 20-24 credit hours at the University of Illinois for their IB courses. They are extremely excited that they will start their 2nd semester of the first year of college as Sophomores!





The **TT Haunted Hallway** Team, activity sponsors, volunteers and participants showed up and showed out Thursday, October 26, 2017. We are elated to report 247 young people under 10 years of age participated, not including the middle and high school students and adults.





Congratulations to the **Boys' Unified Basketball** team for taking 1st place in the Homewood-Flossmoor H.S. Viking Invite



3rd Place

Calleb Travier and Anijah GilbertHAD

- ✤ Aaliyah Evans HI
- ✤ Arden Renard Poetry

2nd Place

Michael Green - Prose

1st Place

- ✤ Calleb Travier in DEC
- ✤ Aaliyah Evans in SOS



On November 4th, the speech team competed at Homewood Flossmoor. The Novice team took 2nd place Overall

On October 14th, TW's **Special Olympics Bocce Team** earned 4 gold medals, 6 silver medals and 5 bronze medals for a total of 15. Three of the players qualified for the State Special Olympic Games in June. Austin Jackson and Eddie Green qualified for individual events by winning gold, and Austin Jackson and Antonio Carr earned gold in the doubles event.

TW English II teacher, **Cerelia Hampton**, presented at the Illinois Association for Teachers of English in Normal, IL on October 20th. She did such a phenomenal job representing TW English that she was requested to join the IATE's Board.



The **Thornwood Flag Football Team** took first place in their tournament in Trenton, IL. The Thunderbirds defeated the Lightening Bolts 37–10 and the High Flyers 48–13. The team also took first place at the UIC tournament on October 21st

Congrats to Coaches: Lisa Zuccolo, Denard Eaves and Krista Jarrett

On Sunday, October 15th, two students placed at the Sectional Bowling Tournament in Addison. **Sencere Gerald** received gold and advances to state, and **Austin Jackson** received a bronze medal.





Congratulations to **Mr. Dwayne Sanders and the Thornwood Band** on receiving the Overall Grand Champion Trophy along with 1st place in Class AA Best Winds, Best Percussion and 1st Place Drumline Competition.

Congratulations to **Thunderbird Chante Johnson** on signing her letter of intent with Indiana State University on November 6th for a full ride. Chante is an IB student as well.



Outlook Academy

November Staff Member of the Month – Josh Folsom



November Student of the Month – Pedro Gonzalez



Dual Credit Classes at CSU













- Art & Ceramics
- Diversity & International Studies
- Manufacturing
- Game Design
- Karate
- Dance &
 - Aerobics



Unfinished Business



Recognition of Board Members–
Dr. Swopes



- Thornridge AVID Color Run Team and Thunderbirds Spoken Word Team–
 - Mr. Fickes

TRAVID'S COLOR BUNGEN FOR COLLEGE! SEPTEMBER 30TH, 2017

ONE OF A KIND COMMUNITY EVENT...

Participants start with a "color burst" and then walk, jog, and run 3.1 miles in support of our program!







AN EVENT FOR EVERYONE!



Families



Students



Division Leaders



Mayor Riley Rogers



Staff Members



AVID Alumni

OUR SUCCESS...





- Our second annual AVID's Color Run for College was a huge success!
- We had over 130 people attend the event.
- Community members, including the Chief of Police, the Mayor, and the chief of staff to the mayor were in attendance
- We partnered with eight different local businesses that helped make this day a success including:
 - **Thornton Township**
 - South Suburban College
 - Jump and Jam
 - Spoken word Fellowship Church
- Mayor Riley Rogers
- Walgreens
- Fairway foods
- **Dolton park district** •





AVID's Color Run for College helps us to increase college access for our students!



THORNWOOD POETRY SLAM TEAM

POETRY CLUB SERVING 30-40 STUDENTS

COMPETITIVE TEAM—12 YEAR LEGACY INCLUDING FINISHING REGULARLY IN THE TOP 10 OF 140 TEAMS IN THE CHICAGO LAND AREA

FEATURED YEAR IN THE MOVIE "LOUDER THAN A BOMB"

SERVING THE COMMUNITY AT VARIOUS EVENTS

STUDENT LEAD/ STUDENT INSPIRED

SUPPORTED BY THE THORNTON EDUCATIONAL FOUNDATION



STUDENTS AS PEACE ACTIVISTS







• Faculty Association –

Mr. Dwayne Bearden, President



 Recommended Approval of Out-of-State Field Trip (HBCU Tour)–

Mr. Arrington (Approval Needed)



 Recommended Approval of IASB PRESS Plus Maintenance Service Agreement–
Dr. Swopes (Approval Needed)



 Recommended Approval of Cook County Sheriff SRO Agreement–

Mr. Horton (Approval Needed)



 Recommended Approval of Chromebooks Purchase– Mr. Horton (Approval Needed)

Superintendent's Report

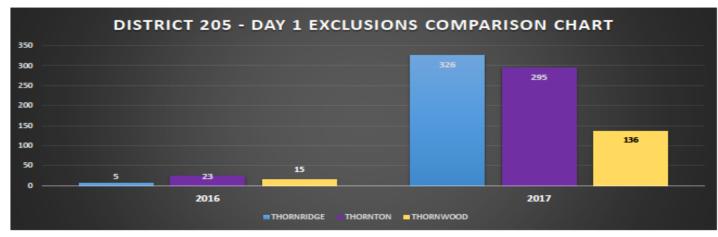
• Exclusion Data



DISTRICT 205 EXCLUSION DATA - 2017-2018 SCHOOL YEAR

	10/16	10/17	10/18	10/19	10/20	10/23	10/24	10/25	10/26	10/30	10/31	11/1	11/2	11/3	11/6	11/7
THORNWOOD	136	91	65	45	32	27	18	15	12	9	11	11	8	8	9	9
THORNTON	295	236	189	158	139	128	116	109	85	76	72	67	64	61	49	45
THORNRIDGE	326	168	145	85	68	58	54	32	27	25	17	14	12	12	11	9
TOTAL	757	495	399	288	239	213	188	156	124	110	100	92	84	81	69	63

Each number in the columns represent the number of students who were on the exclusion list, for each school, at the beginning of each school day in October 2017. The chart below is the comparison of data from Day 1 of exclusion day from October 17, 2016 versus October 16, 2017.



Superintendent's Report

• Government Finance Officers Association Conference Update

MATH AND BUSINESS Division

- We have an articulation meeting scheduled for December 5th with our feeder schools to discuss common core standards, statewide testing, and to begin scheduling classroom visits to see what students are doing in math.
- We reached out to our middle schools and have made visits to discuss the PSAT 8/9 entrance exam with administrators and teachers. We shared copies of last year's exam, the standards included in the 4 Domains of SAT, and an overview of the test itself, with a focus on the gridded response.
- We are sending lead teachers to the Regional NCTM (National Council for Teachers of Mathematics) Conference in Chicago at the end of the month. They will be exposed to the current research and best practices in mathematics education. The Division Leaders will also attend an additional day with NCSM (National Council for Supervisors of Mathematics) addressing equity and social justice in mathematics education.

MATH AND BUSINESS Division

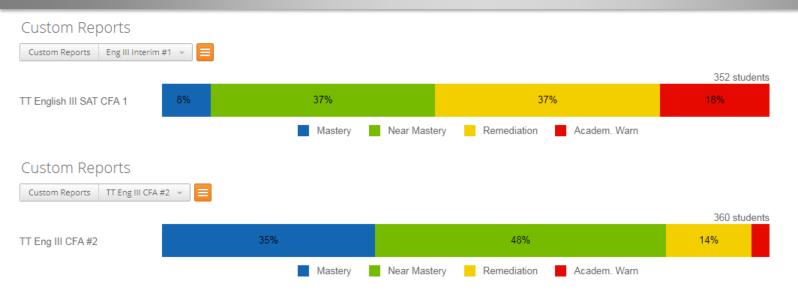
- All of our Junior courses are focusing on SAT Prep through Khan Academy. Teachers have received PD and support around setting up their account, creating courses, facilitating student accounts, and tracking student progress.
- We have started articulation discussions with South Suburban College. Education Career Technology classes will now receive dual credit and we are investigating the possibility of core math classes having dual credit such as calculus and pre-calculus.

English/ Reading/ Speech/ Library Division

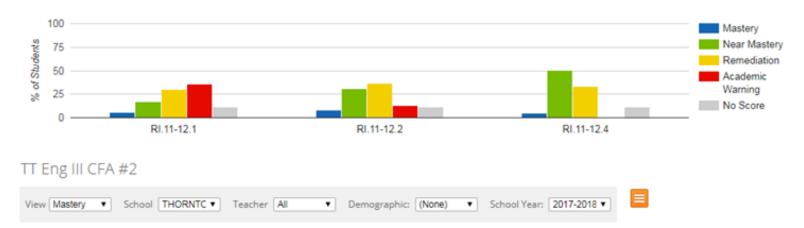
- English and Reading courses at Thornton High School have begun implementing monthly common formative interim assessments aligned to the Illinois Learning Standards for Reading in order to measure student skill growth throughout the school year and make informed instructional decisions according to student needs in real time (not just pre/post).
- The monthly interim results are then being uploaded to Mastery Connect and analyzed as a way of calibrating teaching and learning. The data is then assessed by each core course team during their weekly meetings in order to pinpoint large trends in student skill gaps.
- Assessment results are then shared with students using question and item analysis reports produced by Mastery Connect. Student scores are tracked over time by students themselves as a way of practicing metacognition and selfreflection. When progress-monitoring over time, students are able to take ownership in their learning and begin to see individual growth toward their goals.

English/ Reading/ Speech/ Library Division

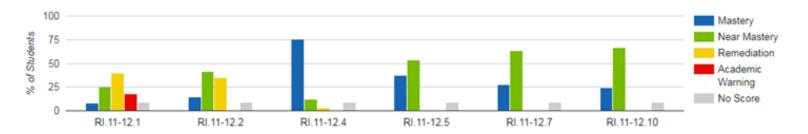
- Reading interim assessments are also now being given at three different reading levels starting freshman year in order to strategically scaffold and build the skills students will need to be successful on the SAT their junior year.
- Juniors at Thornton High School recently showed outstanding SAT skill growth between two interim assessments. The results were off the charts, nearly doubling the amount of junior students meeting and exceeding standards on a SAT Reading passage in one month (45% mastery in September to 83% mastery in October)! This was accomplished because our teachers noticed a trending student skill deficiency on standard RI.11.2 (main idea) across the junior class (nearly 400 students) on the first interim assessment and targeted that skill in their lessons throughout the month. As a result, the percentage of students in academic warning went from 18% to 3%!
- That is powerful teaching and learning that could not have accomplished without teachers and division leaders collaborating together in order to do what is best for students.



Mastery for THORNTON TOWNSHIP HIGH SCHOOL



Mastery for THORNTON TOWNSHIP HIGH SCHOOL



Science and CTE Division

- Weekly CCT meetings
- FISH! book study as a division
- Focus on SAT and AVID strategies
- Sharing student work. Sharing effective strategies.
- Solar Eclipse viewing in August.
- Unit assessments in Mastery Connect.
- Planning Earth Expo 2018 for April.

Social Studies and Fine Arts Division

- A district team of Social Studies teachers have created a curriculum plan for the state-mandated Civics course. The team visited area schools already offering the course, reviewed numerous textbooks and wrote a textbook proposal, and wrote the curriculum for the course that is aligned to Illinois Social Studies Standards and Common Core Standards.
- Due to the mandate of the Civics course, many Social Studies classes will need curriculum adjustments. The Social Studies team has created a curriculum renewal calendar that gets all Social Studies courses on schedule for renewal based on priority.
- The CCTs are running in a positive direction by using data to drive instruction. Besides using item analysis from MasteryConnect, the CCTs are allowing teachers to collaborate on learner-centered activities the best help students overcome deficiencies in standards.
- On November 1st, the district hosted a Mock Congressional Hearing organized by Joe Janowiak (TT) in collaboration with *We the People*. Teams of students participate in a mock congressional hearing that is judged by professionals from the Chicagoland area. It is Civics in action, as students are required to perform research and develop communication skills with their presentations. The winning team from Thornton will be going to the Dirksen Federal Building to compete against Chicago area schools.

Social Studies and Fine Arts Division

- Thornwood has the first Social Studies dual-credit course. The Psychology course designed by Rachel Santos and is in the process of being approved by South Suburban. Students passing the course will receive college credit.
- Thornwood U.S. History students will have the opportunity to see the Broadway hit *Hamilton*. There are engaging lessons that lead up to the performance which include the opportunity to have direct questioning and discussion with the cast members. This is a great opportunity for over 200 students to take ownership of their learning.
- On Friday, November 2nd, Rho Kappa National History Honor Society inducted new members in a ceremony in front of an audience of family, staff, and community members.
- U.S. History classes in coordination with Rho Kappa will be viewing the film *Marshall* about the first African-American Supreme Court Justice Thurgood Marshall. The activity will include a panel discussion after viewing the film.

P.E. and FACS Division

- Planning for the updates to the weight and fitness rooms are nearing completion
- We had 12 cumulative instructor certifications for CPR/AED, ServSafe (Sanitation), and WSI (Water Safety Instructors) among our Division Faculty; we are looking into more instructor certifications for our teachers so they can certify our students
- Our students have gone on 3 field trips: visit with the Coast Guard, MSI live open heart surgery, and House of Hope Driver's Safety Expo
- Mock interviews will be held on the 14th with guest interviewers from: Junior Achievement, Governors State Univ, Aunt Martha's, and Community Volunteers. Advanced Culinary Arts will be catering a luncheon for our guest.
- Dual Credit is moving forward with Culinary Arts partnership with Joliet Junior College, we are meeting with South Suburban to partner in hopes of establishing a dual credit partnership in health, and we had our first meeting with South Suburban Child Development Advisory committee; all of this along with working on curriculum development for Driver's Education and PE.

Curriculum Audit Update

Curriculum Audit Update Relative to **Finding 2.1**: The scope of district written curriculum is inadequate to direct instruction; <u>and</u> **Finding 2.2**: The quality of curriculum documents is inadequate to support instruction and maximize student success on high stakes assessments. Use of curriculum documents to provide direction for classroom instruction is inconsistent district-wide.

Recommendation/Action Required: Design and implement a comprehensive curriculum management system that integrates development and use of the written, taught, and tested curriculum.

Action Steps Completed:

- Selection of Rubicon-Atlas as curriculum mapping software/technology firm
- Developed Curriculum Map template design, format. and content requirements to ensure consistency district-wide
- Conducted training on/roll-out of Rubicon-Atlas for Division Leaders and Teacher Department Leads and provided curriculum mapping plan for collaboration and feedback
- Identified courses and staff for input/mapping of courses into Rubicon-Atlas
- Established completion timeline for courses to be mapped and online: *mid-May, 2018*

Executive Session

- Closed session pursuant to Section 2(c) of the Open Meetings Act to consider:
 - "The appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of specific employees;
 - Student discipline
 - Collective negotiating matters, and
 - Pending, probable or imminent litigation.

Reconvene Open Session

Action Items Following Executive Session

- Action Concerning Teacher Discipline and Notice to Remedy
- Action Concerning Teacher Step Increase (2)
- Action Concerning Hiring Thornridge Interim Assistant Principal
- Action Concerning Superintendent Contract



NEXT MEETING

Wednesday, December 13, 2017 6:30pm Thornridge High School