



**Wednesday, October 11, 2023
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES**

**BOARD OF EDUCATION, THORNTON TOWNSHIP HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 205
HELD AT THORNRIDGE HIGH SCHOOL AUDITORIUM, 15000 COTTAGE GROVE
AVENUE, DOLTON, ILLINOIS, ILLINOIS, AND VIA MICROSOFT TEAMS
CONFERENCING AT 6:30 PM**

<p>The meeting was called to order at 6:36p.m. President Graham made the following announcement: Any person may record or broadcast an open Board meeting. Special requests to facilitate recordings or broadcast an open Board meeting should be directed to the Superintendent at least 24 hours before the meeting. Recording meetings shall not distract or disturb Board Members or participants. Please know if you participate in public participation, you are part of the Board meeting and may be taped.</p>	<p>ANNOUNCEMENT BY BOARD PRESIDENT</p>
<p>On roll call, Members Banks, Davis, Graham, Lawrence, and Moody answered. Member Brown and Member Owens were absent. Dr. Nathaniel Cunningham, Superintendent; Mr. Toriano Horton, Assistant Superintendent of Business Operations; Mr. Brett Fickes, Assistant Superintendent of Curriculum & Instruction; Mr. Thomas Porter, Executive Director of Special Services; Mrs. Rosaura Duran, Director of Human Resources; Mr. Adam Dauksas, Legal Counsel were also present.</p>	<p>ROLL CALL</p>
<p>Report from Curriculum Committee: The next meeting will discuss Mielle Cares, College & Careers, updates on the PSAT process, and Learning Walks debriefs.</p>	<p>COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE</p>
<p>Report from Finance Committee: The last meeting was held October 3, 2023. All agenda items presented are on the agenda for approval. The next meeting will be held on November 3, 2023.</p>	
<p>Report from Policy Committee: The last meeting was held on September 27, 2023.</p>	
<p>Report from Discipline Committee: None.</p>	
<p>Report from Facilities Committee: The next meeting will be held October 26, 2023.</p>	
<p>Mrs. Lawrence moved, Mr. Banks seconded, to Approve the Consent Agenda, which includes the following:</p>	<p>CONSENT AGENDA</p>
<p>A. The District 205 bills as presented for payment dated September 14, 2023 through October 11, 2023</p>	<p>BILLS</p>
<p>B. Personnel dated October 11, 2023 (Resignations, Leave of Absence, New Hires and Terminations)</p>	<p>PERSONNEL</p>
<p>C. Ratification:</p>	<p>RATIFICATION</p>

- i. Approval of 2023 Peoria Cross Country Invitational Overnight Fieldtrip, Peoria, Illinois, September 29-30, 2023

On roll call, Members Lawrence, Banks, Davis, Graham, and Moody voted aye; voted nay, none; motion passed.

The following individuals spoke during Public Participation:

- Ms. Sasheen Smith of Chicago- Thornridge faculty member concerns over democracy and open communication
- Ms. Felita Crayton of Dolton inquired about an update for TR water damage. Dr. Cunningham will get the information to her
- Mr. David Etheridge of South Holland- TW grad and TT Faculty member had concerns over shots fired and would like to know if we have a plan

PUBLIC
PARTICIPATION

Dr. Doss stated there have been no FOIA requests since last board meeting.

FREEDOM OF
INFORMATION ACT
(FOIA)

Mr. Fickes presented the following information:
Thornridge High School:

COMMUNICATIONS

- Science Club
 - Over the last year, students completed two beach cleanups, removed invasive species at forest preserves in Cook County and kayaked

Thornton High School:

- Transition Discourse 101- Featuring Malachi Wright
 - TD101 is a discussion series where students are able to connect to industry leaders, connect with their process in becoming, and get answers to relevant questions
- TTHS Varsity Soccer Team
 - On Sunday, September 24, 2023, the Varsity soccer team won the Body Armor Championship for the third time
- Homecoming 2023
 - TT won against TR in the Homecoming Football game and the pep rally included a slim challenge

Thornwood High School:

- National Honors Society
 - Induction Ceremony held for 60 students
- Hispanic Heritage Month
 - Celebrated with a school assembly
- Leaders & Students of the Month
 - PE Students of the Month Awards were presented to Zoe Hicks and Ariana Diaz

Annual AVID Presentation- Mr. Fickes & AVID Coordinators

PRESENTATIONS

- Data has shown that AVID students earn more credits, higher GPA, more classes passed, and have better attendance than non-AVID students
- Many events are planned at all three schools, including college visits
- Several students gave testimonials on how important AVID has become to them succeeding in high school

The First Reading of PRESS Plus Policy Update 112 (30 Day Review) was presented by Dr. Doss. These policy updates include many five-year reviews and language updates that are available for view at our District Office. The next board meeting will vote to approve these updates as presented.

FIRST READING OF
PRESS PLUS ISSUE
112

Mr. Banks left the meeting at 7:15p.m. and returned at 7:20p.m.

Dr. Davis moved, Mrs. Lawrence seconded the **Approval of the Mielle Cares MiMental Mindset Program** as presented by Mr. Fickes. MiMental Mindset is a transformative and comprehensive program centered on promoting mental well-being and developing emotional resilience among students. On roll call, Members Davis, Lawrence, Banks, Davis, Graham, and Moody voted aye; voted nay, none; motion passed.

APPROVAL OF
MIELLE CARES
MiMENTAL
MINDSET PROGRAM

Mrs. Lawrence moved, Mr. Banks seconded the **Approval of Thornridge HS Tuckpointing Work** as presented by Mr. Horton. This is for necessary exterior tuckpointing outside of the auditorium. On roll call, Members Lawrence, Banks, Davis, Graham, and Moody voted aye; voted nay, none; motion passed.

APPROVAL OF
THORNRIDGE HS
TUCKPOINTING

Mrs. Moody moved, Dr. Davis seconded the **Approval of the District-Wide Bus Transportation Radios** as presented by Mr. Horton. This is to install radios District 205 owned buses. On roll call, Members Moody, Davis, Banks, Graham, and Lawrence voted aye; voted nay, none; motion passed.

APPROVAL OF
DISTRICT-WIDE BUS
TRANSPORTATION
RADIOS

Mrs. Moody moved, Dr. Davis seconded the **Approval of the Fiscal Year 2024 Audit Engagement Letter** as presented by Mr. Horton. The Illinois Combined Statutes require each school district to have its accounts audited by an entity lawfully qualified to practice public accounting as regulated by the Illinois Public Accounting Act. John Kasperek Company will conduct the District's annual audit. On roll call, Members Moody, Davis, Banks, Graham, and Lawrence voted aye; voted nay, none; motion passed.

APPROVAL OF FY24
AUDIT
ENGAGEMENT
LETTER

Dr. Cunningham thanked the Board of Education, FCA, and the attorneys. The work isn't easy but enables us to keep the labor force and focus on taking care of our students.

SUPERINTENDENT
REPORT

At 7:47p.m., Mrs. Moody moved, Mrs. Lawrence seconded to **Go into Executive Session** pursuant to Section 2C of the Illinois Open Meetings Act to consider:

EXECUTIVE SESSION

- The appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of specific employees;
- Student discipline;
- Collective negotiating matters, and
- Pending, probable or imminent litigation.

On roll call, Moody, Lawrence, Banks, Davis, and Graham, voted aye; nay, none; motion passed.

At 8:14p.m., Mrs. Lawrence moved, Dr. Davis seconded to **Reconvene Regular Session**. On roll call, Members Lawrence, Davis, Banks, Graham, and Moody voted aye; nay, none; motion passed.

RECONVENE
REGULAR SESSION

Mrs. Moody moved, Mrs. Lawrence seconded the **Approval of the 2023-2028 Faculty Association Collective Bargaining Agreement**. The board accepts this agreement as presented. On roll call, Members Moody, Lawrence, Davis, Banks, and Graham voted aye; voted nay, none; motion passed.

APPROVAL OF
2023-2028 FA
AGREEMENT

Dr. Davis moved, Mrs. Moody seconded the **Approval of the Extension of the Human Resources Labor Shortage and Open Positions Action Plan**. This is a plan to recruit tenured teachers to our district. This gives authority to provide up to fifteen years' experience on the pay lanes. On roll call, Members Davis, Moody, Banks, Graham, and Lawrence voted aye; voted nay, none; motion passed.

APPROVAL OF THE
EXTENSION OF HR
LABOR SHORTAGE
AND OPEN
POSITIONS ACTION
PLAN

At 8:16p.m., Dr. Davis moved, Mrs. Moody seconded to **Adjourn the Meeting**. On roll call, Davis, Moody, Banks, Graham, and Lawrence voted aye; nay, none; motion passed.

ADJOURNMENT



President



Secretary