

HOMEWOOD-FLOSSMOOR HIGH SCHOOL
BOARD OF EDUCATION

Regular Meeting
Tuesday, 7:00 p.m.
The Viking Room

February 17, 2026

AGENDA

1. **Call to order**
2. **Roll Call:** Ms. Jackson, Mr. Legardy, Dr. Leonard, Dr. O'Quin, Mr. Riedel, Dr. Smith, Mr. Pauling
3. **Public Comments**
4. **Communications**
 - Student Representative
 - Delegations
 - Board Members
5. **Superintendent's Report**
 - 5.1 District Updates
 - 5.1.1 Prairie State College Dual Credit - MOU
 - 5.1.2 IB Visits
6. **Consent Agenda**

Our adopted rules of Parliamentary Procedures, Robert's Rules and Bylaws, provide for a consent agenda listing for approval of the Board by a single motion. Most of the items listed under the consent agenda have gone through Board subcommittee review and recommendation. Documentation concerning these items has been provided to all Board members in advance to assure an extensive and thorough review. Items may be removed from the consent agenda at the request of any board member.

Consider approval of Consent Agenda/Routine Business

- 6.1 [Special Board Meeting Minutes](#), February 10, 2026
- 6.2 [Regular Board Meeting Minutes](#), January 20, 2026
- 6.3 Extended Field Trip - Science/Astro-Geo Class - Maquoketa Caves State Park
- 6.4 Extended Field Trip - Bowl & Bee Team - National History Bee & Bowl
- 6.5 Extended Field Trip - Group Interpretation - IHSA Group Interpretation Sectionals
- 6.6 Extended Field Trip - Scholastic Bowl - High School National Championship Tournament
- 6.7 Approval of Expenditures, \$1,836,412.90
- 6.8 Approval of Imprest Fund, \$36,784.63
- 6.9 Ratification of January, 2026, Payroll, \$3,756,660.59
- 6.10 Donations as Listed
 - 6.10.1 Donation of Automobile for the Automotive Program
- 6.11 **Personnel Report, as listed**
 - 6.11.1 Resignations
 - 6.11.2 Appointments
 - 6.11.3 Adjusted Appointments
 - 6.11.4 Extra Responsibility/Stipend

7. Committee Reports

7.1 Finance Committee, Chair: Mr. Riedel

7.1.1 **Informational/Discussion Items:**

7.1.1.1 Next Finance Committee Meeting – Tuesday, April 7, 2026 at 7:45 a.m. at HF High School Viking Room

7.1.1.2 Monthly Financials

7.1.1.3 Old Business

7.1.1.3.1 Bid Results - Tennis Court Replacement Project

7.1.1.3.2 Bid Results - L- and T-Roofing Projects

7.1.1.4 New Business

7.1.1.4.1 Illinois School Insurance Cooperative (ISIC)

7.1.1.4.2 Request for Proposal - Copiers

7.1.1.4.3 Request for Proposal - Athletic Trainer

7.1.1.4.4 Contract Renewal - Transportation

7.1.2 **Action Items:**

7.1.2.1 Tennis Court Replacement Project

Recommendation: That the Board of Education approve the bid for the FY2026 Tennis Court Replacement Project, awarded to Maneval Paving of Ingleside, IL, in the amount of \$877,788. (Roll Call)

7.1.2.2 L- and T-Roofing Projects

Recommendation: That the Board of Education approve the bid for the FY2026 L and T Building Roof Replacement Project, awarded to G.E. Riddiford Company, Inc. of Arlington Heights, IL, in the amount of \$789,500. (Roll Call)

7.2 Planning Committee, Chair: Mr. Legardy

7.2.1 **Informational/Discussion Items:**

7.2.1.1 Next Planning Committee Meeting – Tuesday, March 3, 2026 at 10:30 a.m. at HF High School Viking Room

7.2.2 **Action Items:** None

7.3 Personnel Committee, Chair: Ms. Jackson

7.3.1 **Informational/Discussion Items:**

7.3.1.1 Next Personnel Committee Meeting – Tuesday, March 3, 2026 at 9:00 a.m. at HF High School Superintendent’s Conference Room

7.3.2 **Action Items:** None

8. New Business

8.1 Ombudsman Agreement

Recommendation: That the Board of Education approve the Alternative Educational Services Agreement with Ombudsman Educational Services, Ltd. to provide twelve student slots at a cost of \$91,548. (Roll Call)

8.2 Resolution for Student #448644850

8.3 Resolution for Student #104238979

8.4 Resolution for Student #275638975

8.5 Approval of Teacher Resignation Agreement

9. Executive Session

- 9.1 Motion to enter into Executive Session pursuant to 5 ILCS 120/2(c) of the *Open Meetings Act* to consider the appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of specific employees of the School District, and to consider security procedures, school building safety and security, and the use of personnel and equipment to respond to an actual, a threatened, or reasonably potential danger to the safety of employees, students, staff, the public, or public property. (Roll Call)
- 9.2 Return to Open Session

10. Adjournment

Next Regular Meeting: March 17, 2026
The Viking Room, 7:00 p.m.

Special Board Meeting Minutes,

MINUTES OF BOARD OF EDUCATION SPECIAL MEETING
Homewood-Flossmoor High School, 999 Kedzie Avenue, Flossmoor, Illinois
February 10, 2026

Mr. Pauling called the meeting to order at 8:02 a.m. The following Board members were present for all of the Meeting:

Ms. Jackson	Mr. Riedel
Mr. Legardy	Dr. Smith
Dr. Leonard (Absent)	Mr. Pauling
Dr. O'Quin	

Mr. Legardy and Mr. Pauling attended the meeting via Zoom video conference. The presence of a quorum was noted and the meeting declared duly convened. Superintendent Norrell was also in attendance.

Comments. No comments were received.

Executive Session. Ms. Jackson moved, seconded by Mr. Riedel, that the Board of Education enter into Executive Session at 8:03 a.m. pursuant to 5 ILCS 120/2(c) of the Open Meetings Act to consider student disciplinary matters, as recommended by the Superintendent. Roll Call: Ayes – Ms. Jackson, Mr. Legardy, Dr. O'Quin, Mr. Riedel, Dr. Smith, Mr. Pauling. Nays – None. Motion carried.

Open Meeting. Mr. Riedel moved, seconded by Ms. Jackson, that the Board of Education return to open session at 8:16 a.m. Roll Call: Ayes – Mr. Legardy, Dr. O'Quin, Mr. Riedel, Dr. Smith, Ms. Jackson, Mr. Pauling. Nays – None. Motion carried.

Action Resulting from Executive Session

Resolution for Student #950061237. Mr. Riedel moved, seconded by Ms. Jackson, that the Board of Education approve the recommended expulsion of student #950061237 of Homewood-Flossmoor High School for two calendar years. Roll Call: Ayes – Dr. O'Quin, Mr. Riedel, Dr. Smith, Ms. Jackson, Mr. Legardy, Mr. Pauling. Nays – None. Motion carried.

Resolution for Student #471602691. Mr. Riedel moved, seconded by Dr. O'Quin, that the Board of Education approve the recommended expulsion of student #471602691 of Homewood-Flossmoor High School for one calendar year and for the second and subsequent year, that student #471602691 be placed at Parkland Academy.. Roll Call: Ayes – Dr. O'Quin, Mr. Riedel, Dr. Smith, Ms. Jackson, Mr. Legardy, Mr. Pauling. Nays – None. Motion carried.

Student Agreement for Student #431490911. Mr. Riedel moved, seconded by Ms. Jackson, that the Board of Education approve the Agreement in Lieu of Expulsion for student #431490911, and approve and fund the placement at the alternative educational placement described in the agreement. Roll Call: Ayes – Mr. Riedel, Dr. Smith, Ms. Jackson, Mr. Legardy, Dr. O'Quin, Mr. Pauling. Nays – None. Motion carried.

Student Agreement for Student #716056743. Mr. Riedel moved, seconded by Dr. Smith, that the Board of Education approve the Agreement in Lieu of Expulsion for student #716056743, and approve and fund the placement at the alternative educational placement described in the agreement. Roll Call: Ayes – Dr. Smith, Ms. Jackson, Mr. Legardy, Dr. O'Quin, Mr. Riedel, Mr. Pauling. Nays – None. Motion carried.

Student Agreement for Student #794688256. Mr. Riedel moved, seconded by Dr. Smith, that the Board of Education approve the Agreement in Lieu of Expulsion for student #794688256, and approve and fund the placement at the alternative educational placement described in the agreement. Roll Call: Ayes – Ms. Jackson, Mr. Legardy, Dr. O'Quin, Mr. Riedel, Dr. Smith, Mr. Pauling. Nays – None. Motion carried.

Adjournment. Mr. Legardy moved, seconded by Mr. Riedel, that the Board of Education be adjourned at 8:20 a.m. Nays – None. Motion carried.

President

Vice President/Secretary

Regular Board Meeting Minutes,

MINUTES OF BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING

Homewood-Flossmoor High School, 999 Kedzie Avenue, Flossmoor, Illinois

January 20, 2026

Mr. Legardy called the meeting to order at 7:01 p.m. The following Board members were present for all or part of the meeting:

Ms. Jackson	Mr. Riedel
Mr. Legardy	Dr. Smith
Dr. Leonard	Mr. Pauling (Absent)
Dr. O'Quin	

Student Board Representative Anaya Mootry was in attendance.

Opening Remarks. Mr. Legardy noted that Mr. Pauling is absent due to business travel. He expressed hope that everyone enjoyed the long weekend in observance of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Day. He addressed Friday's incident, noting it as a reminder of the vulnerability faced in an ever-changing and unpredictable landscape. He explained that Friday had been routine in many respects, with a quorum of the Board present due to scheduled committee meetings. However, at the conclusion of those meetings, the District experienced a threat that resulted in a lockdown. Mr. Legardy shared that the incident provided an opportunity for reflection for him, particularly regarding the sense of helplessness experienced by students and staff. He emphasized that ensuring safety has been, and continues to be, the District's top priority. Mr. Legardy added that no one is immune to the realities of the world today, even within a community considered safe, such as Flossmoor. He stated that the District is reviewing all possible measures to ensure the safety of students, staff, and community members within District buildings.

The presence of a quorum was noted and the meeting declared duly convened. Superintendent Norrell, Chief School Business Official Cook, Curriculum, Instruction & Professional Development Assistant Superintendent Dallacqua, Staff Services Assistant Superintendent Martinez, Principal Alexander, and Communications and Community Engagement Director Erdey were also in attendance for all of the meeting.

Representatives of the Homewood Flossmoor Chronicle and HFEO were present. A large public audience was noted this evening that included former board member Mr. Steve Anderson, in addition to members of the Administrative Leadership Team.

Public Comments. Pastor Doyle Landry, a Marine Corps veteran, addressed the board and noted that it was his birthday. Referencing his remarks from the December meeting, and shared personal context related to grief and emphasized the importance of checking in with individuals during difficult situations. Pastor Landry expressed appreciation to the district administration, noting that their actions demonstrated understanding and intentional support. He referenced a quote attributed to Maya Angelou, stating that challenges cannot be resolved if they are not confronted. He recognized Ms. Diaz and presented her with a greeting card in appreciation for her assistance. Speaking from his perspective, Pastor Landry shared concerns regarding media coverage of Friday's incident, particularly the presence of minors speaking to the press. He stated that it was troubling to see students provide inaccurate accounts of events regarding Friday's incident and emphasized that minors should not be interviewed by journalists without parental permission. He suggested that the District provide verified factual information on its website to ensure parents have accurate information especially during a crisis. Pastor Landry distributed a copy of the Chicago Sun-Times to Board members and referenced page 2, encouraging focus on student and athletic programs as an important part of the District's future. He concluded by reiterating concerns regarding media access to minors and the need for appropriate safeguards.

Ms. Belcher addressed the Board on behalf of herself and other parents whose students participate on the high school Steppers team. She stated that parents are concerned due to a lack of communication regarding the status of the team's coach and the team. She explained that they have been unable to reach the coach and have not received information regarding schedules, training, or next steps. Ms. Belcher noted that students are currently attempting to train on their own and expressed concern that there is no clear direction for the team. She requested clarification on the current status of the program and future plans, particularly in light of a planned trip to North Carolina next month for which some of the families have already made travel arrangements. In response, Mr. Legardy stated that Dr. Alexander would follow up with her and indicated that the follow-up would occur this week.

Ms. Spraggins expressed concerns regarding school safety and communication following Friday's incident. She stated that students do not wear identification badges and noted that open access to the campus raises safety concerns. She suggested that requiring visible student IDs could help prevent unauthorized individuals from entering the building. Ms. Spraggins also shared that she did not receive notification of the incident on Friday and learned of the situation through other means. She stated that parents should receive timely communication when safety concerns arise so they can feel confident sending their children to school. She asked whether additional safety measures are being considered and emphasized the need for a clear safety plan. Additionally, Ms. Spraggins raised a question regarding early release options for students who do not require a full course load. She explained that her daughter will only need three credits next year and asked whether early release could be considered so her daughter may pursue flight training toward earning a private pilot license. Mr. Legardy responded that Dr. Norrell would be providing additional comments regarding Friday's incident and that the early release matter would be reviewed through the Planning Committee.

Dr. Terrell addressed the Board and requested consideration of a change to the school calendar for next year or a future year. She asked that the District consider returning to a full Presidents' Day holiday rather than a Presidents' Day observance. Dr. Terrell stated that the current observance creates challenges for families, particularly when parents are off work while students are in school, resulting in childcare concerns. She noted that feeder districts often align their calendars with the high school, further compounding scheduling issues. Dr. Terrell explained that students may miss out on community resources, volunteer opportunities, athletic activities, and events that are available on Presidents' Day. She added that the holiday is often used by families, particularly those with seniors, for college visits and travel, and that the current schedule can make coordination more difficult. Dr. Terrell stated that she had previously submitted a petition regarding this issue approximately two years ago and that parent interest remains strong and requested that the Board reconsider the calendar in the interest of families and student opportunities. Mr. Legardy asked whether the prior petition was still available. Dr. Terrell indicated she would attempt to locate it and forward it to Dr. Norrell for review.

Ms. Gilbert, an HF alumnus from the Class of 2018, expressed pride in the school and appreciation for her positive experience as a student. Speaking as both an alumna and a family member of a current student, she emphasized that school safety and community perception are important to her, particularly as her family resides in the District. Ms. Gilbert, joined by several parents of students involved in the step team, expressed strong support for the program and its coach. She stated that participation in the team has provided students with meaningful exposure to opportunities, including recognition by colleges, agencies, and organizations, as well as travel and performance experiences they may not have otherwise had. Ms. Gilbert acknowledged receipt of a District email regarding concerns about a video of the Steppers performing and noted understanding of the issues raised. However, she stated that parents believe the coach has been a positive and committed mentor. She expressed concern that recent communications regarding cancellations and postponements were vague, creating challenges for families who had already made travel and financial commitments. She urged the District to address concerns more promptly and clearly, noting the financial impact on families and the importance of timely communication. Ms. Gilbert emphasized that the program has provided students with a sense of belonging, self-expression, and positive engagement, and cautioned against actions that could negatively affect students who have found support and connection through the team. Ms. Gilbert concluded by stating that parents are concerned about how the situation is being handled and asked the Board to consider the importance of the program, the students' well-being, and the relationships formed between students and the coach.

Ms. Ledesma, a parent and member of the multicultural recognition advisory group, addressed the Board during audience comments. She requested that the District consider observing January 6 (Epiphany) as a non-attendance day, noting its religious significance to her family and others. She stated that families should not have to choose between observing religious traditions and missing instructional time, and referenced the District's stated commitment to respecting diverse faiths and customs. Ms. Ledesma also expressed concerns regarding the scheduling of multicultural events, citing *Una Noche* during Hispanic Heritage Month, which she stated was held too early in the evening for many families to attend. Additionally, she requested that student access to cultural events held during the school day not be dependent on individual teacher approval, referencing the *One Ocean, Many Shores* event celebrating Asian American, Native Hawaiian, and Pacific Islander Heritage Month. Lastly, Ms. Ledesma supported strengthening school safety measures, including requiring student identification beyond digital IDs, and expressed interest in the safety action plan discussed by the District. Mr. Legardy indicated that Dr. Alexander or the building principal would follow up with Ms. Ledesma regarding her concerns.

Former Board Member Steve Anderson was welcomed back by Mr. Legardy. Mr. Anderson acknowledged the size of the meeting agenda and expressed appreciation to the administration and attendees for the warm welcome. Mr. Anderson reflected on the recent incident involving a weapon on campus. He stated that, while he did not have full knowledge of the intent or circumstances, the fact that the weapon did not discharge was fortunate, and

he emphasized that the community was “lucky” in this instance. He noted that the District has conducted recent security reviews and expressed confidence that administration will continue to thoroughly evaluate and implement measures to enhance campus safety. Drawing on his previous experience as a board member, including involvement following the Marjory Stoneman Douglas school shooting incident in 2018, Mr. Anderson shared that he has historically engaged in detailed discussions and planning regarding school security measures. He urged the Board and administration to take a deliberate and comprehensive approach to current and future safety planning, emphasizing that no precaution is excessive when protecting students. He acknowledged the challenges of balancing security measures with practicality and noted the importance of maintaining vigilance while being mindful of the campus environment. Mr. Anderson concluded by commending the Board and staff for their ongoing efforts, expressing pride in the work being done, and thanking the Board and administration for the warm welcome and opportunity to speak.

Communications:

Student Representative. Ms. Mootry shared feedback from a recent student survey. She reported that students indicated they feel supported by staff in the hallways and value the opportunities to participate in clubs, athletics, and other activities. Students also expressed appreciation for the availability of tutoring, particularly during final exams. The survey also reflected student concerns related to academic workload, stress, and feelings of burnout, as well as questions regarding certain policies and procedures. Ms. Mootry concluded by reading a student’s personal account describing their experience during the lockdown that occurred last Friday.

Delegation Comments. None

Board Members Comments. Ms. Jackson wished everyone a Happy New Year. She referenced prior discussions with Mr. Anderson and stated that she has spent significant time speaking with Dr. Norrell regarding safety concerns and support for any measures implemented by the district. Ms. Jackson acknowledged the recent incident, noting that she was present in the building at the time and described the experience as unsettling. She stated that no staff member, student, or family should experience fear in a place intended to be safe and emphasized the Board’s responsibility to take all necessary steps to ensure safety. She expressed appreciation to the administration and local police department for their response and support. Ms. Jackson stated that the Board is committed to moving forward with appropriate actions, echoing comments from Mr. Anderson that the District was fortunate the incident did not result in greater harm. She emphasized that the issue is not political, but personal, and directly tied to the Board’s responsibility. She concluded by noting that the incident has had a lasting impact and was difficult for the community.

Mr. Riedel thanked everyone for attending and expressed appreciation for the community’s presence, concern, and support for the District, noting that the past several days have been difficult. He stated that he was also in the building during the incident and echoed prior comments that the District was fortunate in the outcome. Mr. Riedel affirmed that staff and administration responded appropriately, noting that, from his perspective, procedures were followed as intended. He emphasized that safety is the District’s top priority, stating that effective learning cannot occur without a safe environment. He stressed that the Board takes the matter extremely seriously and is committed to addressing it thoughtfully, neither rushing decisions nor delaying necessary action. Mr. Riedel thanked community members for sharing their concerns, noting that community input is essential in making informed decisions to protect students. He concluded by emphasizing the importance of continued vigilance and situational awareness across the community to support the safety of all.

Mr. Legardy echoed the comments of Mr. Riedel and Ms. Jackson and extended a special thank-you to District staff and law enforcement for their response. He stated that if there is such a thing as an orderly crisis, Friday’s incident reflected it, noting that staff acted professionally and effectively. Mr. Legardy remarked that the experience is difficult to fully articulate unless one has gone through it and reiterated that the situation could have resulted in a very different outcome. He emphasized that, while the incident did not require additional motivation to act, it reinforced the need for action, and he assured the community that appropriate steps will be taken.

Superintendent’s Report

Public Relations/Recognitions.

- IB Diploma Recipient – Dr. Norrell reported that the IB Diploma recipient was unable to attend the meeting this evening and that the award will be held until it can be presented at a later time.
- Dr. Norrell commended the administration, staff, and security team for their professionalism and preparedness and thanked Board members for their leadership. She reported that District and school safety teams met following the incident to review events and coordinate communication with students, families,

and staff. Dr. Norrell shared that a Late Start was implemented to allow staff time to regroup, debrief, and review available supports. She also highlighted ongoing and planned safety efforts, including the Board's approval of a national organization to conduct a comprehensive safety assessment. She highlighted immediate actions being taken, including increased police presence, random safety searches, and the expedited exploration of advanced safety technologies. Dr. Norrell noted that, due to the sensitive nature of safety planning, certain details cannot be shared publicly in order to avoid compromising security measures.

District Updates.

- Platform Update: BoardBook Premier - Dr. Jennifer Norrell reported that, due to system needs, the District has selected BoardBook Premier as its board agenda management platform. She explained that the system will allow the Superintendent's Office to add live links directly to Board agendas. Dr. Norrell stated that implementation is planned prior to the spring and noted that the platform will be more user-friendly, more transparent and accessible for the community.
- Meta Glasses – Dr. Norrell stated that this topic had been discussed in the Planning Committee and that she was seeking Board consensus to move forward with banning Meta glasses. She reported that she and Dr. Alexander have been reviewing the use of Ray-Ban Meta Smart Glasses and related emerging technology. Dr. Norrell explained that while earlier versions raised concerns due to audio activation and the ability to take photos and videos, newer versions present additional and more significant issues. She noted that the updated technology includes features such as hand-gesture controls, in-glasses displays, internet access, and real-time translation. She emphasized that the potential use of these devices in private or personal spaces, such as locker rooms, is unacceptable. Dr. Norrell stated that the administration recommends banning the use of Ray-Ban Meta smart glasses on campus. She added that physical education staff have already begun securing such devices when identified. The Board was asked to provide consensus on the proposed ban. It was reported that the Planning Committee had previously given full consensus, and now the Board reached unanimous consensus to move forward with the ban.
- FY27 Academic Updates – Dr. Norrell shared the revised Bell Schedule for implementation next school year. This will be shared with families at the town hall meeting on Wednesday and communicated broadly following that meeting.

Consent Agenda. Mr. Legardy stated that our adopted rules of Parliamentary Procedures, Robert's Rules and Bylaws, provide for a consent agenda listing for approval of the Board by a single motion. Most of the items listed under the consent agenda have gone through board subcommittee review and recommendation. Documentation concerning these items has been provided to all board members in advance and to the public when appropriate, to assure an extensive and thorough review. Items may be removed from the consent agenda at the request of any board member. Mr. Legardy asked if any board member requested any item on the consent agenda be removed from the consent agenda for further discussion. No request was made to remove any consent agenda items. Mr. Riedel moved, seconded by Ms. Jackson, that the Board of Education approve the Consent Agenda, as listed:

Regular Board Meeting Minutes, December 16, 2025

Athletics - Out-of-State Travel

Extended Field Trip - HF Chess Team - IHSA Chess Sectionals

Extended Field Trip - HF VTV Program - IHSA/SOILL State Unified Basketball Finals

Extended Field Trip - HF Operation Snowball - Camp Manitoqua

Extended Field Trip - HF Debate Team - In-State Travel Proposal

Extended Field Trip - HF DECA - DECA State Career Development Conference

Extended Field Trip - HF Scholastic Bowl Team - IHSA State Finals

Extended Field Trip - HF Speech Team - Downers Grove South Speech Invite

Extended Field Trip - HF Viking Law - Mock Trial Team - Illinois State Bar Association State Finals

Extended Field Trip - HF Speech Team - IHSA State Finals

Extended Field Trip - Fine Arts Band & Choir - Illinois Music Education Association (IMEA) All-State Music Ensembles

2026-2027 School Calendar/Start Date FY28

Approval of Expenditures, \$3,107,751.03

Approval of Imprest Fund, \$43,385.92

Ratification of December, 2025, Payroll, \$4,209,334.89

Donations as Listed - Donation of Automobile for the Automotive Program

Personnel Report, as listed. *The Personnel Report that includes Resignations, Appointments, Adjusted Appointments, Per Diem, Leaves, Retirements, Extra Responsibility/Stipend is attached.*

Roll Call: Ayes – Ms. Jackson, Mr. Legardy, Dr. Leonard, Dr. O’Quin, Mr. Riedel, Dr. Smith. Nays - None. Motion carried.

Ms. Martinez introduced Mr. Toriano Horton who has been hired as Assistant Superintendent of Finance and Operations/Chief School Business Official. He will begin in this role on July 1, 2026. Dr. Lawrence Cook is retiring from the position at the end of this school year, following 24 years of leadership at HF, including CSBO, Associate/Assistant Principal, Department Chair, Math Teacher, and Coach. Mr. Horton brings more than 25 years of experience in public finance, auditing, and educational leadership to the role. He has overseen more than 600 school audits, implemented remediation plans, and led a multi-million dollar RFP process ensuring transparency and compliance at every level. He has served Thornton Township High School District 205 since 2016, most recently as Assistant Superintendent of Finance and Operations, where he has led the district’s financial planning, budgeting, and operational oversight. His leadership has supported sound fiscal stewardship, strengthened internal controls, and ensured alignment between financial resources and student-centered priorities. Mr. Horton earned a Master of Science degree in School Business Management from Northern Illinois University and a Bachelor of Science degree in Accounting from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. The Board of Education and those in attendance welcomed Mr. Horton with a round of applause.

Committee Reports

Finance Committee - Finance Committee Chair Riedel noted the next Finance Committee meeting will be held on Tuesday, February 3, 2026 at 7:45 a.m. in the Viking Room.

Planning Committee. Ms. Jackson reported that the next Planning Committee meeting will be held on Tuesday, March 3, 2026, at 10:30 a.m. in the Viking Room. She noted that a hefty agenda was addressed at the meeting, which she stated is typical for Planning Committee meetings. Some of the items are on tonight’s board agenda for approval. Ms. Jackson highlighted the following items that were presented and discussed: Partner District Articulation Update, You Matter 2 Update, Meta Glasses, Homewood-Flossmoor SLT/ILT Presentation, AASA Articles Summary: Where Academic Knowledge & Applied Learning Work Together, MOS Certification, ACT Preparation with Kaplan, Anatomage Table and Subscription, IB for All Update, and a Workplace Learning Experiences Discussion. Ms. Jackson noted that a joint Board meeting with the feeder districts’ Board’s of Education is scheduled for April 30th, arranged by Dr. Norrell.

Action Items

You Matter 2 Spring Proposal. Ms. Jackson moved, seconded by Dr. Smith, that the Board of Education approve the contract for Semester Two with You Matter 2 for the Discover U Program in the amount of \$9,125.00. Mr. Riedel asked whether there is an additional fee associated with the new pilot included in the You Matter 2 proposal. Dr. Alexander responded that the pilot is designed for 9th and 10th grade students to prepare them for participation in Discover U during 11th and 12th grades and clarified that it is a complimentary pilot with no cost to the District. Roll Call: Ayes – Mr. Legardy, Dr. Leonard, Dr. O’Quin, Mr. Riedel, Dr. Smith, Ms. Jackson. Nays - None. Motion carried.

MOS Certification. Ms. Jackson moved, seconded by Dr. Smith, that the Board of Education approve the Certiport subscription to provide Microsoft Office Specialist (MOS) industry-recognized credentials to all freshman and sophomore students through existing dual credit coursework in Computer Applications and Advanced Computer Applications, in the amount of \$17,259, funded through the CTEI Perkins grant and local funds. Mr. Riedel asked two questions regarding the proposal. First, he requested clarification on two product line items that appeared similar but had different product IDs and quantities. Dr. Norrell and Mr. Gordon responded that the items represent two separate courses and certifications: Computer Applications I and Advanced Computer Applications. One certification focuses on Word and Excel, while the other focuses on PowerPoint and Access. It was further clarified that the licensing reflects the total number of freshmen and sophomores and that the difference in product descriptions is due to how the vendor structures its product codes. Mr. Riedel also asked about the funding split between the Perkins Grant and local funds. Dr. Norrell responded that the majority of the funding will come from local funds, as Perkins funding is limited and supports multiple CTE programs. She explained that new items are often listed across multiple grants to allow for flexibility in future funding, noting that grant availability can shift year to year. She added that including items in multiple grants allows the District to access different funding streams

over time, particularly for recurring costs. Roll Call: Ayes – Dr. Leonard, Dr. O’Quin, Mr. Riedel, Dr. Smith, Ms. Jackson, Mr. Legardy. Nays - None. Motion carried.

ACT Preparation with Kaplan. Ms. Jackson moved, seconded by Dr. Smith, that the Board of Education approve providing Kaplan ACT Preparation Services to all junior students at Homewood-Flossmoor High School, at a cost of \$265,000, funded through the Title I grant & local funds. Dr. Norrell explained that the Kaplan ACT Preparation Program will provide comprehensive test preparation for all junior students through a mass assignment similar to other mass-assigned courses, juniors who are not enrolled in any other skinny period will be placed into an ACT preparation class during designated “skinny” periods. She stated that students will receive continuous access to Kaplan’s online test preparation platform, available 24/7. In addition to online resources, the program includes two Kaplan instructors who will provide in-person instruction at HF. Students will continue to have access to the Kaplan platform beyond their junior year. She added that participation in the program will earn students elective credit toward graduation. Dr. Norrell added that, when the cost is broken down, the program represents a significant savings for families. She noted that the majority of the funding will come from local funds. Dr. Leonard asked whether the program is eligible to be covered under Title I funds. Dr. Norrell confirmed that it is eligible. Roll Call: Ayes – Dr. O’Quin, Mr. Riedel, Dr. Smith, Ms. Jackson, Dr. Leonard, Mr. Legardy. Nays - None. Motion carried.

Anatomage Table & Subscription. Ms. Jackson moved, seconded by Dr. Smith, that the Board of Education approve the purchase of Anatomage Tables and subscription for instructional use at Homewood-Flossmoor High School, in the amount of \$115,490, with the subscription being fully funded through the CTEI Perkins grant, Title IV & local funds. Dr. Norrell shared that the Science Department, along with Physical Education, is very enthusiastic about the new addition. She noted that the Health Science pathway is the largest student pathway, and the new anatomy table will be utilized within that pathway. The table includes six cadavers, one representing a healthy case and others displaying various pathologies, allowing students to engage in hands-on learning and project their work for the entire class. Dr. Dallacqua added that the newest cadaver represents an 84-year-old woman with metastatic pancreatic cancer, providing a highly authentic learning experience. She noted that this technology is widely used in medical schools and significantly enhances student learning, and that science teachers are thrilled with the opportunity it provides. Mr. Riedel asked whether the science software package and license require annual renewal. Dr. Dallacqua clarified that once the subscription is purchased, annual renewal is not required and professional development is included. Roll Call: Ayes – Mr. Riedel, Dr. Smith, Ms. Jackson, Mr. Legardy, Dr. Leonard, Dr. O’Quin. Nays - None. Motion carried.

Personnel Committee. Ms. Jackson stated the next Personnel Committee meeting will be held on Tuesday, March 3, 2026 at 9:00 a.m. in the Superintendent’s Conference Room. Ms. Jackson reported that Ms. Martinez provided a staffing 2026-27 update before moving into closed session.

New Business

Parent/Student Agreement. This item was removed from the agenda.

Executive Session

Mr. Riedel moved, seconded by Ms. Jackson, that the Board of Education move into Executive Session at 8:38 P.M. pursuant to 5 ILCS 120/2(c) of the Open Meetings Act pursuant to 5 ILCS 120/2(c) of the Open Meetings Act to consider the appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of specific employees of the School District, and to discuss student disciplinary cases and pending litigation. Mr. Legardy noted that there will be no action taken coming out of closed session. The closed session began in the Superintendent’s conference room at 8:56 p.m. Roll Call: Ayes – Dr. Smith, Ms. Jackson, Mr. Legardy, Dr. Leonard, Dr. O’Quin, Mr. Riedel. Nays - None. Motion carried.

Return to Open Session

Mr. Riedel moved, seconded by Dr. Smith, that the Board of Education return to Open Session at 9:57 p.m. Roll Call: Ayes – Ms. Jackson, Mr. Legardy, Dr. Leonard, Dr. O’Quin, Mr. Riedel, Ms. Smith. Nays - None. Motion carried.

Adjournment.

Mr. Riedel moved, seconded by Dr. Smith, that the Board of Education be adjourned at 9:58 p.m.

President

Vice-President/Secretary

6.18.1	<u>APPOINTMENTS</u>		<u>Start Date/Salary</u>
	<u>Certified</u>		
	1 *Toriano Horton	CSBO/Assistant Superintendent for Finance and Operations Northern Illinois University, Master of Science in School Business Management University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign, Bachelor of Science in Accountancy	Eff 7/1/2026 \$207,000.00
	<u>Support</u>		
	1 *Amanda Weisenberger	Human Resources Assistant University of Illinois-Chicago, Bachelor of Psychology	Eff 2/2/2026 \$29/hour
6.18.2	<u>ADJUSTED APPOINTMENTS</u>		<u>Start Date/Salary</u>
	1 Alfred Mayes	From: Police Security Liaison To: School Security Liaison	Eff 1/21/2026 \$27.20/hour
6.18.3	<u>PER DIEM</u>		
	See Memo		
	* Pending successful completion of all legally required background checks		
6.18.4	<u>LEAVES</u>		
	1 John McKinley	Maintenance Staff FMLA	Eff 01/22/2026 - 3/23/2026
6.18.5	<u>RETIREMENTS</u>		
	1 Brett Geijer	Dean of Students	Eff 6/30/2030
	2 Lorrie Maul	School Counselor	Eff 6/1/2029
	3 Melissa Sauder	School Counselor	Eff 6/30/2030
	4 Regina Slusinski	Science Teacher	Eff 6/30/2029
6.18.6	<u>EXTRA RESPONSIBILITY/STIPEND</u>		
	See Activities Memo		
	See Exempt Memo		

	<u>Name</u>	<u>Hire Date</u>	<u>Primary Job Title</u>	<u>Employee Category</u>
delete	DIXON, MARTIN	3/18/2022	POLICE LIAISON	HOURLY - OTHER
delete	MCCLAIN, MICHAEL	10/25/2022	POLICE LIAISON	HOURLY - OTHER
delete	JOHNSON, APRIL	2/22/2023	POLICE LIAISON	HOURLY - OTHER
delete	WALKER, WILLIE	10/30/2024	POLICE LIAISON	HOURLY - OTHER
delete	HOGANCAMP, BERNARD	8/11/2025	POLICE LIAISON	HOURLY - OTHER

ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF MEMORANDUM
January 20, 2026

EXTRA-RESPONSIBILITY CONTRACTS 2025-2026 (ACTIVITIES)

RECOMMENDATION: "That the Board of Education authorize the President and Secretary to approve the extra-responsibility activities stipends with the following person(s) for the 2025-2026 school year, as recommended by the Assistant Superintendent of Staff Services and the Superintendent:

	First Name	Last Name	Position	Stipend
delete	Tiana	Sharpe	Debate Assistant Coach (1.0)	\$6,572.00
	Tiana	Sharpe	Debate Assistant Coach (.50)	\$3,286.00
delete	Emily	Carroll	Debate Assistant Coach (.50)	\$3,849.50
	Emily	Carroll	Debate Assistant Coach (1.0)	\$7,699.00
	Kanoa	Mulling	Speech Assistant Coach (.50)	\$1,217.67*
			Total	\$12,202.67

*Prorated amount

ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF MEMORANDUM

January 20, 2026

2025-2026 Exempt Staff Stipends

RECOMMENDATION: "That the Board of Education authorize the President and Secretary to approve the stipend(s) with the following person(s) for the 2025-2026 school year, as recommended by the Assistant Superintendent for Staff Services and the Superintendent:

	First Name	Last Name	Position	Stipend	
delete	Paula	Lueder	Human Resource Specialist	\$12,000.00	
	Anathayee	Heyward	Human Resource Specialist	\$12,000.00	*
delete	Anathayee	Heyward	Human Resource Assistant	\$8,000.00	
	Amanda	Weisenberger	Human Resource Assistant	\$8,000.00	*
			Total	\$20,000.00	

* Prorated amount

