



**Wednesday, June 10, 2026
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES**

**BOARD OF EDUCATION, THORNTON TOWNSHIP HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 205
HELD AT THORNWOOD HIGH SCHOOL 17101 SOUTH PARK AVE, SOUTH HOLLAND,
ILLINOIS, AT 6:30 PM**

The meeting was called to order at 6:35p.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.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY
BOARD PRESIDENT

On roll call, Members Banks, Bowman, Bradley, Davis, Graham, and Moody answered. Member Lawrence was absent. Dr. Nathaniel Cunningham, Superintendent; Dr. Jerry Doss, Associate Superintendent; Dr. Tony Ratliff, Assistant Superintendent; Dr. Anderson, Director of Special Services; and Ms. Rosaura Duran, Director of Human Resources were also present.

ROLL CALL

Report from Curriculum Committee: None.

COMMITTEE OF THE
WHOLE

Report from Finance & Facilities Committee: None.

Report from Policy Committee: None.

Report from Discipline Committee: None.

Ms. Bradley moved, Mr. Banks seconded, to **Approve the Consent Agenda**, which includes the following:

CONSENT AGENDA

MINUTES

BILLS

PERSONNEL

RATIFICATION

- Regular Meeting Minutes and Executive Meeting Minutes dated May 13, 2026 and Special Meeting Minutes dated June 2, 2026
- The District 205 bills as presented for payment dated May 13, 2026, through June 9, 2026
- Personnel dated June 9, 2026 (Resignations, Leave of Absence, New Hires and Terminations)
- Ratification:
 - Approval of Thornwood Girls Track State Competition, Overnight Trip, Charleston, IL, May 20-23, 2026
 - Approval of Thornton Girls Track State Competition, Overnight Trip, Charleston, IL, May 21-23, 2026
 - Approval of Thornridge Varsity Girls Track State Competition, Overnight Trip, Charleston, IL, May 28-30, 2026
 - Approval of Thornridge Varsity Boys Track State Competition, Overnight

Trip, Charleston, IL, May 28-30, 2026

- Approval of Thornton Boys Track State Competition, Overnight Trip, Charleston, IL, May 28-30, 2026
- Approval of Thornton Lindenwood Football Camp, Overnight Trip, St. Charles, MO, June 11, 2026
- Approval of Special Olympics Summer Games, Overnight Trip, Normal, IL, June 12-14, 2026
- Approval of Thornwood Cheerleading Camp, Overnight Trip, Orlando, FL, July 8- 14, 2026
- Approval of Amendment to Go 4 Healthcare Athletic Trainer Agreement
- Approval of Extended School Year Calendars for 2025-2026
- Approval of Basketball Shot Clocks & Installation

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

The following individual addressed the board:

- None

PUBLIC
PARTICIPATION

Dr. Doss stated there have been four FOIA requests since last board meeting. Four are pending.

FREEDOM OF
INFORMATION ACT

News from the Schools- as presented by Dr. Ratliff

COMMUNICATIONS

D205 TV Digital Signage Initiative- Ms. Thornton

Communications Consultant, Ms. Thornton gave a brief overview of the student survey results and the timeline for Phase 2 of D205 TV Digital Signage Initiative.

PRESENTATION: D205
TV DIGITAL SIGNAGE

Dr. Doss presented the **First Reading of PRESS Plus Policy Updates, Issue 121 for a 30-day review**. This included policy draft updates and policies for review and monitoring. A copy is available to view at our district office. These policies will be approved at our July Board Meeting.

FIRST READING OF
PRESS PLUS POLICY
UPDATE, ISSUE 121

Mrs. Moody moved, Ms. Bradley seconded the **Approval of the Student Board of Education Retreat, Overnight Trip, Chicago, IL, July 7-11, 2026** as presented by Dr. Doss. This is the ninth year of this Leadership Retreat that focuses on goals and priorities for the Student Board of Education. On roll call, Members Moody, Bradley, Banks, Bowman, Davis, and Graham voted aye; voted nay, none; motion passed.

APPROVAL OF
STUDENT BOARD OF
ED RETREAT
OVERNIGHT TRIP

Mrs. Moody moved, Mr. Banks seconded the **Approval of the Thornton CB Elite Cheer Camp, Overnight Trip, Parkside, WI, June 26-28, 2026**, as presented by Dr. Ratliff. Students will compete, strengthen skills, and build team relationships. On roll call, Members Moody, Banks, Bowman, Bradley, Davis, Graham voted aye; voted nay, none; motion passed.

APPROVAL OF
THORNTON CHEER
CAMP OVERNIGHT
TRIP

Dr. Cunningham stated the following:

SUPERINTENDENT
REPORT

Good evening,

On April 30, 2026, I participated in the statewide convening *Black Student Success in Illinois: Aligning Research, Policy, and Practice*, hosted by the Illinois Workforce and Education Research Collaborative (IWERC), Discovery Partners Institute, and the

Institute for Racial Justice at Erikson Institute in Chicago. I was invited to serve as both an advisory board member and panel participant representing Thornton Township High School District 205. The event brought together researchers, state educational leaders, higher education representatives, philanthropy organizations, and school district leaders from across Illinois to examine statewide data related to Black student outcomes from early childhood through workforce entry.

The convening focused on examining educational and workforce outcomes for Black students across Illinois and identifying strategies that improve long-term success. The data reviewed trends in early childhood readiness, K-12 performance, graduation rates, postsecondary enrollment, college completion, and workforce outcomes. One of the strongest themes throughout the convening was that access alone is not enough. Educational systems must move beyond measuring participation and instead focus on measurable outcomes and long-term success for students.

The research also examined Black-serving school districts, defined as districts with student populations that are at least 30 percent Black. The findings showed that Black-serving districts often serve communities with higher levels of poverty and student need while simultaneously carrying increased academic and social-emotional responsibilities. At the same time, the research highlighted important strengths within Black-serving districts, including strong community connections, higher percentages of Black educators and administrators, and ambitious instructional practices.

As I participated in the panel discussions and reviewed the statewide data, it became increasingly clear that many of the strategies currently underway in District 205 align directly with the recommendations and themes identified during the convening. Our district's focus on Freshman on Track, Professional Learning Communities, Guaranteed and Viable Curriculum, career pathways, and our mission of ensuring students are enrolled, enlisted, or employed at graduation aligns closely with the work being identified statewide as necessary to improve Black student success.

During the panel discussion, I shared that District 205 focuses on building strong adult systems that ensure students are not left to chance. I discussed our use of the Daily Disciplines of Execution (DDX), our focus on Behavior, Attendance, and Grades (BAG), and our continued implementation of the Professional Learning Community model as mechanisms to improve accountability and student outcomes.

Several findings from the convening strongly reinforced the direction of our district. First, the research confirmed that educational trajectories are established early and compound over time, particularly through ninth-grade performance. This further validates District 205's continued focus on Freshman on Track as a key district strategy. Second, the convening emphasized that postsecondary success must be measured not only by college enrollment, but also by persistence, completion, workforce readiness, and long-term economic opportunity. This aligns directly with our continued expansion of career pathways, dual credit opportunities, Career and Technical Education programming, and workforce partnerships.

The event concluded with discussions focused on what Illinois must do next to improve Black student success. Participants consistently emphasized the importance of strong leadership systems, aligned instructional practices, rigorous expectations, and career-connected opportunities for students. There was also strong agreement that Black-

serving districts should not be viewed through a deficit lens, but rather as systems capable of becoming statewide models of success when properly aligned and supported.

As Superintendent, I believe District 205 is positioned to continue leading in this work. The data and discussions from this convening reinforced that our mission remains both necessary and urgent. Our responsibility is not simply to graduate students, but to ensure they leave our district prepared to thrive in life. I appreciate the Board's continued support as we continue strengthening systems designed to improve outcomes for all students and position District 205 as a leading example of excellence in a Black-serving school district.

At 7:00p.m., Mrs. Moody moved, Mr. Banks 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
- The selection of a person to fill a public office, including a vacancy in a public office, when the public body is given power to appoint under law or ordinance

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

At 7:58p.m., Mrs. Moody moved, Mr. Banks seconded to **Reconvene Regular Session**. On roll call, Members Moody, Banks, Bowman, Bradley, Davis, and Graham voted aye; nay, none; motion passed.

RECONVENE
REGULAR SESSION

Ms. Bradley moved, Mr. Bowman seconded the **Approval of the 2026-2027 Employment Contracts for Administrative and Exempt Personnel**. Recommendations for salary increases were provided to the board. On roll call, Members Bradley, Bowman, Banks, Davis, Graham, and Moody voted aye; voted nay, none; motion passed.

APPROVAL OF 2026-
2027 EMPLOYMENT
CONTRACTS

Mrs. Moody moved, Dr. Davis seconded the **Approval of the New Buildings, Grounds, and Maintenance Employees Collective Bargaining Agreement**. This agreement is for the term of 2026-2031. On roll call, Members Moody, Davis, Banks, Bowman, Bradley, and Graham voted aye; voted nay, none; motion passed.

APPROVAL OF NEW
COLLECTIVE
BARGAINING
AGREEMENT

Dr. Davis moved, Ms. Bradley seconded the **Approval of the Separation Agreement between the Board of Education and Chief School Business Official, Toriano Horton**. The board upholds the decision for the reasons set forth in the Superintendent's prior written decisions. On roll call, Members Davis, Bradley, Banks, Bowman, Graham, and Moody voted aye; voted nay, none; motion passed.

APPROVAL OF
ADMINISTRATOR
EMPLOYMENT

Mrs. Moody moved, Ms. Bradley seconded to **reject Danielle Jania's appeal of the Superintendent's May 13, 2026 Uniform Grievance Procedure Decision**. The board upholds the decision for the reasons set forth in the Superintendent's prior written decisions. On roll call, Members Moody, Bradley, Banks, Bowman, Davis, Graham, and Moody voted aye; voted nay, none; motion passed.

UNIFORM GRIEVANCE
PROCEDURE
DECISION

At 8:01p.m., Mrs. Moody moved, Mr. Banks seconded to **Adjourn the Meeting**. All in favor voice voted aye; nay, none; motion passed.

ADJOURNMENT

The Board of Education Regular Meeting Presentation is available on our website at <https://www.district205.net/board-of-ed/board-of-education/board-of-education-meeting-presentation-decks>

PRESENTATION DECK

Tina Graham

President

8/18

Almetta Vasser Moody

Secretary

8/18