



**Wednesday, July 8, 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 6:30p.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, Davis, Graham, and Lawrence answered. Members Bowman, Bradley and Moody were absent. Dr. Nathaniel Cunningham, Superintendent; Dr. Tony Ratliff, Assistant Superintendent; Dr. Johnson, Assistant Superintendent of Finance & Operations; 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.

Mrs. Lawrence moved, Dr. Davis 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 June 10, 2026, through July 7, 2026
- Personnel dated July 7, 2026 (Resignations, Leave of Absence, New Hires and Terminations)
- Ratification:
 - Approval of Thornton Boys Basketball Saluki Team Camp, Southern Illinois University, Overnight Trip, Carbondale, IL, June 17-18, 2026

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

The following individual addressed the board:

PUBLIC
PARTICIPATION

- Ms. E. Rucker, Reach 4 the Sky- Thanked the Board and district for partnering with Reach 4 the Sky.
- Ms. M. Wilson of Calumet City- stated concerns over youth athletic camp.
- Ms. F. Crayton of Dolton- Happy Belated Fathers' Day
- President Graham announced the upcoming youth athletic summer camp this Saturday, July 11 by Developing Our Youth. This camp will be free to all children that participate.

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

FREEDOM OF
INFORMATION ACT

Mrs. Lawrence moved, Dr. Davis seconded the **Approval 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 was available to view at our district office. On Roll Call, Members Lawrence, Davis, Banks, and Graham voted aye; voted nay, none; motion passed.

APPROVAL OF PRESS
PLUS POLICY UPDATE,
ISSUE 121

Dr. Davis moved, Mrs. Lawrence seconded the **Approval of the Consolidated District Plan** as presented by Dr. Ratliff. This is a requirement by the Illinois State Board of Education, as submitted by Dr. Anderson. On roll call, Members Lawrence, Davis, Banks, and Graham voted aye; voted nay, none; motion passed.

APPROVAL OF
CONSOLIDATED
DISTRICT PLAN

Dr. Davis moved, Mr. Banks seconded the **Approval of the Resolution to Appoint an IMRF Agent**, as presented by Dr. Cunningham. This resolution appoints Dr. Sheila Johnson to the District's IMRF Agent Role as required. On roll call, Members Davis, Banks, Graham, and Lawrence voted aye; voted nay, none; motion passed.

APPROVAL OF
RESOLUTION TO
APPOINT IMRF
AGENT

Dr. Cunningham stated the following:

SUPERINTENDENT
REPORT

Good evening, Madam President, members of the Board, and members of our District 205 community.

As we move through the month of July, I wanted to take a moment to share what summer really looks like in public education.

There is an old saying that people become educators because they get their summers off. While that may have been a common perception years ago, I can assure you that it is not the reality here in Thornton Township High School District 205.

For our administrative team, summer is one of the busiest and most important times of the entire year. It is when we prepare the foundation for everything that will happen once students return to our classrooms.

Over the past several weeks, we have completed our Executive Cabinet Retreat, our Principal Retreat, and our Assistant Principals, Division Leaders, and Discipline Administrators Retreat. These were not simply meetings. They were working sessions focused on strengthening leadership, refining our systems, and ensuring that every leader is prepared to support student success on day one.

Our teams have been refining our Wildly Important Goals, aligning district, building, and departmental priorities, and developing the action plans that will guide our work throughout the 2026–2027 school year.

At the same time, our schools have been hosting summer learning opportunities and camps, helping students recover credits, strengthen academic skills, and prepare for the coming year. Registration is well underway, departments are preparing classrooms and facilities, technology systems are being updated, transportation plans are being finalized, and countless details are being addressed to ensure that when our students arrive, everything is ready for them.

We are also taking advantage of the summer months to complete classroom renovations, update curriculum, improve instructional resources, repair and maintain our buildings and infrastructure, and complete projects that simply cannot be done when thousands of students and staff are in our schools each day. Every improvement we make this summer is an investment in providing our students and employees with safe, welcoming, and high-quality learning environments.

Simply put, our administrators and staff are doing everything but resting. Their work during the summer may not always be visible, but it is essential. The success of a school year is determined long before the first bell rings. Every meeting, every plan, every training session, every renovation, and every decision we make this summer is designed to ensure that our students have the best possible opportunity to succeed.

I want to publicly thank our principals, assistant principals, division leaders, discipline administrators, directors, cabinet members, teachers, support staff, maintenance and custodial teams, construction partners, and summer employees for their tremendous commitment to our students and our district.

Finally, I want to thank the members of this Board for your continued support. Your commitment to our mission allows us to focus on what matters most—preparing every student to graduate ready to be enrolled, enlisted, or employed.

We are excited about the year ahead, and we look forward to welcoming our students back for what we believe will be another outstanding school year.
Thank you.

At 6:53p.m., Mrs. Lawrence moved, Dr. Davis 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, Lawrence, Banks, Davis, and Graham voted aye; nay, none; motion passed.

At 7:33p.m., Mrs. Lawrence moved, Dr. Davis seconded to **Reconvene Regular Session**. On roll call, Members Lawrence, Davis, Banks, and Graham voted aye; nay, none; motion passed.

RECONVENE
REGULAR SESSION

Mrs. Lawrence moved, Dr. Davis seconded the **Approval of the 2026-2027 Administrator Promotions and Contracts**. This is to approve Jose Gonzalez, District Discipline Administrator, District, as presented by Administration. On roll call, Members Lawrence, Davis Banks, and Graham voted aye; voted nay, none; motion passed.

APPROVAL OF 2026-
2027 ADMINISTRATOR
PROMOTIONS AND
CONTRACTS

Mrs. Lawrence moved, Dr. Davis seconded the **Approval of Administrator Retirement Salary Adjustments**. This is to approve the 6% retirement salary adjustments for Camilla Covington, Patricia Fortier, & Cynthia Sowles during the 2026-2027 school year, as presented by Administration. On roll call, Members Lawrence, Davis Banks, and Graham voted aye; voted nay, none; motion passed.

APPROVAL OF
ADMINISTRATOR
RETIREMENT SALARY
ADJUSTMENTS

At 7:34p.m., Mrs. Lawrence moved, Dr. Davis 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



President

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Secretary

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