

MINUTES OF A **REGULAR MEETING** OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION, THORNTON TOWNSHIP HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 205, COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS, HELD ON **WEDNESDAY, MAY 9, 2018** IN THE STUDENT CAFETERIA AT THORNWOOD HIGH SCHOOL, 17101 SOUTH PARK AVENUE, SOUTH HOLLAND, ILLINOIS, BEGINNING AT 6:30 P.M.

The meeting was called to order at 6:35 p.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, Butler, Graham, Lawrence and Moody answered. Members Cruz, and Whittington were absent. Dr. Jerry B. Doss, Assistant Superintendent for Human Resources; Mr. Brett Fickes, Director of Curriculum; Mr. Thomas Porter, Director of Pupil Personnel Services; Mr. Toriano Horton, Assistant Superintendent for Business; Mr. John Arrington, Director of College and Career Partnerships; Mr. Tony Ratliff, Thornton Principal; Mr. Dennis Willis, Thornwood Principal, and Mr. Adam Dauksas, legal counsel, were also present.

ROLL  
CALL

**Report from Curriculum Committee:** Mr. Fickes reported that a Curriculum Committee meeting was held on April 25, 2018. Agenda topics included ALICE training; integrated math proposal; possible cosmetology course, the one-to-one technology initiative and summer school report.

COMMITTEE OF  
THE WHOLE

**Report from Finance Committee:** Mr. Horton reported that a Finance Committee meeting was held on May 1, 2018. Discussion included seven action items, each will be recommended for approval at tonight's meeting. The next Finance Committee meeting will be on June 5, 2018.

**Report from Policy Committee:** None.

**Report from Discipline Committee:** None.

**Report from Facilities Committee:** Mr. Garrett reported that the last Facilities Committee meeting was held on April 26, 2018. The remaining bond amount for capital improvements is \$14,614,934.91. The next Facilities Committee meeting will be on May 31, 2018.

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

CONSENT AGENDA

- Minutes of the Regular Meeting and Executive Session of March 14, 2018
- Minutes of the Special Meeting and Executive Session of March 28, 2018
- The District 205 bills as presented for payment dated April 12 through May 9, 2018.
- Personnel dated May 9, 2018 (Resignations, Leave of Absence, New Hires and Terminations)

MINUTES

BILLS

PERSONNEL

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

At 6:39 p.m., Mrs. Whittington joined the meeting.

MRS. WHITTINGTON  
JOINED MEETING

The following individuals spoke during Public Participation:

PUBLIC  
PARTICIPATION

- Jennifer Taylor (South Holland) representing parents of Thornwood, supported Mr. Willis as a principal and stated he is doing a great job.
- Judith Gray (Chicago) stated Thornwood has improved and supports principal Willis.
- Karen Holloway (South Holland) is a parent volunteer, stated many parents are upset and supports principal Willis.

- Barry Lyons (South Holland) stated politics do not belong in the schools and he supports Mr. Willis.
- Clifton Jackson (Dixmoor) stated Mr. Willis has always been there for his family.
- Yolunda Bell (Riverdale) is a parent coordinator and stated the male students need the support of a principal like Mr. Willis.
- Felita Crayton (Dolton): 1) congratulated the community for coming together to support the principal and 2) asked about the food sanitation classes.
- Marlene Matthias (Thornwood teacher) stated that she has tried to get on the executive session agenda regarding harassment and retaliation but has not been successful. She has followed all protocol instructed to her and feels she is getting the runaround. She asked how she can get on the agenda to talk to the board.
- Mary Smith (South Holland) asked what lateral move is being made for Mr. Willis.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION, Con't.

Dr. Doss reported that since the last scheduled Board meeting, five FOIA request was completed and none are pending. All requests have been responded to within the allotted period.

FOIA

At 7:10 p.m., Mrs. Cruz joined the meeting.

MRS. CRUZ JOINED MEETING

Mr. Arrington presented the following information:

COMMUNICATIONS

- A moment of silence was offered for Joshua Hunter, Thornwood truancy officer and football coach.
- The Hispanic Outreach Leadership Association (HOLA) dinner will be held on May 11, 2018. Board member Leticia Cruz is a keynote speaker.
- The Student Board election results were read.
- A video was shown of the F.A.C.E. Summit from March 2018.
- Thornridge FCCLA students attended the State Leadership Conference in Springfield.
- Thornridge Falcon band received a superior rating at the IHSA Oak Lawn Sectional. The Jazz band was named Best Band of the Day.
- Thornton's Chess team placed 2<sup>nd</sup> in the nation in the unrated division. The Wildcat team came in 4<sup>th</sup> place in the rated division.
- The Lady Wildcats Track & Field team won the SWSC Championship meet for the third straight title.
- Thornwood's Miles Somerville took home a 1<sup>st</sup> place award for his original TV commercial and 2<sup>nd</sup> place for his original music video at South Suburban College's video competition.
- Thornwood Concert Band, Percussion Ensemble, Jazz Band, Jazz Combo and Marching Band received 7 superior and excellent trophies at the 2018 Music in the Parks Festival at Zion-Benton High School.
- Thornwood hosted the Region E Special Olympics Track and Field event on May 5. Over 1000 athletes competed. Thornwood gold medalists will travel down state in June to compete.
- Thornwood's Jasmine Mitchell broke the outdoor shotput school record and could be the first thrower to win state in school history. Thornwood's Morgan Reed and Jasmine Mitchell qualified for the New Balance National Championship.
- Outlook Academy Staff Member of the Month for May is Ms. Nikita Coleman, Diverse Learners Coordinator. May Student of the Month is Jai Tarek Brown.

Mr. Fickes introduced Ms. Carrie Carlson and eight of the IB Visual Arts program students. She showed some of their work. They have competed in regional and conference art exhibitions. The course encourages students to challenge their own creative and cultural expectations and boundaries. Students develop analytical skills in problem-solving and divergent thinking, while working towards technical proficiency and confidence as art-makers. They are expected to engage in, experiment with and critically reflect upon a wide range of contemporary practices and media. Jaelin Gordon was the 3<sup>rd</sup> place winner in the Congressional Art Competition. He and several students showed some of their work and talked about how the program encourages creativity.

THORNRIDGE HIGH SCHOOL ART STUDENTS

Dr. Bill Truesdale, from Chicago State University, presented the South Cook Principal of the Year award to Mrs. Patricia Malopsy-Fortier. Mrs. Fortier spoke about the inception of Outlook Academy that began in the summer of 2006, inspired by a question from a teacher. It began as a 13<sup>th</sup> graders program and grew into what it is today-a program to help students obtain their high school diploma and strive for a post-secondary education. She thanked all teachers, administrators and staff who continue to advocate for the students and make Outlook Academy shine.

HIGH SCHOOL  
PRINCIPAL OF THE  
YEAR AWARD  
PRESENTATION

Mr. Dwayne Bearden, Faculty Association President, announced the Ray Price Scholarship winners who will attend college to become educators: Dejah Hawkins, Thornridge; Imani Lewis and Taylor Washington, Thornton; and Jordan Crosby, Thornwood. They will be honored at the Ray Price Golf Outing and the District 205 Retirement Tea. He emphasized the importance of dialogue between administration and the Faculty Association.

PRESENTATION OF  
RAY PRICE  
SCHOLARSHIPS

Mr. Butler moved, Mr. Banks seconded, to **Approve the Overnight Field Trip** as presented by Mr. Walsh for approximately 40 students and 4 chaperones to attend an overnight trip to Six Flags Great America from May 19-20, 2018. On roll call, Members Banks, Butler, Cruz, Graham, Lawrence, Moody and Whittington voted aye; nay, none; motion passed.

APPROVAL OF  
OVERNIGHT FIELD  
TRIP

Mr. Butler moved, Mr. Banks seconded, to **Approve the Overnight Field Trips** as presented by Mrs. Williams for 3 students and 1 coach to attend the FCCLA National Competition in Atlanta, Georgia from June 27 to July 3, 2018. On roll call, Members Banks, Butler, Cruz, Graham, Lawrence, Moody and Whittington voted aye; nay, none; motion passed.

APPROVAL OF  
OUT-OF-STATE  
FIELD TRIP

Mrs. Whittington moved, Mr. Banks seconded, to **Approve the Silver Strong & Associates Agreement** as presented by Dr. Swopes to provide planning and leadership support for District 205 administration, at a cost of \$9,000.00. On roll call, Members Banks, Butler, Cruz, Graham, Lawrence, Moody and Whittington voted aye; nay, none; motion passed.

APPROVAL OF  
SILVER STRONG &  
ASSOCIATES  
AGREEMENT

Mrs. Moody moved, Mrs. Lawrence seconded, to **Approve the Rental Contract for Washington School** as presented by Mr. Horton in the amount of \$15,000.00, which will provide space for Thornton students and staff for the summer as it will be closed for capital improvements. On roll call, Members Banks, Butler, Cruz, Graham, Lawrence, Moody and Whittington voted aye; nay, none; motion passed.

APPROVAL OF  
RENTAL  
CONTRACT FOR  
WASHINGTON  
SCHOOL

Mrs. Moody moved, Mrs. Lawrence seconded, to **Approve the Rental Contract for Stanley Brown Facility** as presented by Mr. Horton in the amount of \$5,450.00, which will provide space for Thornridge students and staff for the summer as it will be closed for capital improvements. On roll call, Members Banks, Butler, Cruz, Graham, Lawrence, Moody and Whittington voted aye; nay, none; motion passed.

APPROVAL OF  
RENTAL  
CONTRACT FOR  
STANLEY BROWN  
FACILITY

Mr. Banks moved, Mrs. Cruz seconded, to **Approve the Thornridge Fence Repairs and Replacement** as presented by Mr. Horton by Fence Masters in the amount of \$8,220.00. On roll call, Members Banks, Butler, Cruz, Graham, Lawrence, Moody and Whittington voted aye; nay, none; motion passed.

APPROVAL OF  
THORNRIDGE  
FENCE REPAIRS  
AND  
REPLACEMENT

Mr. Butler moved, Mr. Banks seconded, to **Strike Item J, Recommended Approval of Bathroom Phase 2 Bid**, from the agenda. On roll call, Members Banks, Butler, Cruz, Graham, Lawrence, Moody and Whittington voted aye; nay, none; motion passed.

APPROVAL OF  
BATHROOM PHASE  
2 BID

Mrs. Lawrence moved, Mr. Butler seconded, to **Approve the Intergovernmental Agreement between the Board of Education of District 205 and the Board of Trustees of South Suburban Community College District 510** as presented by Mr. Fickes to move the location of Outlook Academy from Chicago State University to South Suburban College. It has been vetted at Curriculum Committee meetings and it is a better fit for students. On roll call, Members Banks, Butler, Cruz, Graham, Lawrence, Moody and Whittington voted aye; nay, none; motion passed.

APPROVAL OF  
OUTLOOK  
ACADEMY/  
SOUTH SUBURBAN  
COLLEGE INTER-  
GOVERNMENTAL  
AGREEMENT

Mr. Banks moved, Mrs. Cruz seconded, to **Approve the Sewing Cabinets Purchase for Thornton High School** as presented by Mr. Fickes from Mighty Shops for 48 cabinets in the amount of \$19,104.00. The cabinets will allow students to work at independent work stations. On roll call, Members Banks, Butler, Cruz, Graham, Lawrence, Moody and Whittington voted aye; nay, none; motion passed.

APPROVAL OF  
SEWING CABINETS  
PURCHASE FOR  
THORNTON HIGH  
SCHOOL

Mrs. Whittington moved, Mrs. Moody seconded, to **Approve the Mobile Stations for Thornton and Thornridge Culinary Labs** as presented by Mr. Fickes from Nasco for 3 stations in the amount of \$8,592.00 to replace old units. On roll call, Members Banks, Butler, Cruz, Graham, Lawrence, Moody and Whittington voted aye; nay, none; motion passed.

APPROVAL OF  
MOBILE STATIONS  
PURCHASE FOR  
THORNTON &  
THORNRIIDGE  
CULINARY LABS

Mr. Butler moved, Mr. Banks seconded, to **Approve the Equipment Purchase for Thornton and Thornridge Culinary Labs** as presented by Mr. Fickes from Hubert in the amount of \$44,144.67 to upgrade the current labs to meet industry standards. On roll call, Members Banks, Butler, Cruz, Graham, Lawrence, Moody and Whittington voted aye; nay, none; motion passed.

APPROVAL OF  
EQUIPMENT  
PURCHASE FOR  
THORNTON &  
THORNRIIDGE  
CULINARY LABS

Mr. Butler moved, Mrs. Whittington seconded, to **Approve the Laser Engraver Purchase for Thornwood CTE Instruction** as presented by Mr. Fickes from Engraving Machines Plus in the amount of \$26,518.20 to allow students to utilize cutting edge technology. On roll call, Members Banks, Butler, Cruz, Graham, Lawrence, Moody and Whittington voted aye; nay, none; motion passed.

APPROVAL OF  
LASER ENGRAVER  
PURCHASE FOR  
THORNWOOD CTE  
INSTRUCTION

Dr. Swopes congratulated Mrs. Carlson and the International Baccalaureate Visual Arts students for their presentation. When teachers are excited, students will reflect that. He further stated that the district is bound by processes to serve all. There are ways to bring any concerns forward, specifically the grievance process. All administrators are trained in the evaluation process, which must be adhered to.

SUPERINTENDENT  
REPORT

At 7:55 p.m., Mrs. Moody moved, Mrs. Cruz 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, Members Banks, Butler, Cruz, Graham, Lawrence, Moody and Whittington voted aye; nay, none; motion passed.

At 9:40 p.m., Mrs. Lawrence moved, Mrs. Moody seconded to **Reconvene Regular Session**. On roll call, Members Butler, Cruz, Graham, Lawrence, Moody and Whittington voted aye; nay, none; motion passed.

RECONVENE  
REGULAR SESSION

Mrs. Moody moved, Mrs. Cruz seconded, to **Approve the Administration’s Discipline Recommendation for Student Discipline Case No. 01-21-1718-20.** On roll call, Members Butler, Cruz, Graham, Lawrence, Moody and Whittington voted aye; nay, none; motion passed.

STUDENT  
DISCIPLINE CASE  
NO. 01-21-1718-20

Mrs. Moody moved, Mrs. Lawrence seconded, to **Approve the Administration’s Discipline Recommendation for Student Discipline Case No. 10-2020-1718-20.** On roll call, Members Butler, Cruz, Graham, Lawrence, Moody and Whittington voted aye; nay, none; motion passed.

STUDENT  
DISCIPLINE CASE  
NO. 10-2020-1718-  
20

Mrs. Moody moved, Mrs. Lawrence seconded, to **Approve the Administration’s Discipline Recommendation for Student Discipline Case No. 04-2019-1718-22.** On roll call, Members Butler, Cruz, Graham, Lawrence, Moody and Whittington voted aye; nay, none; motion passed.

STUDENT  
DISCIPLINE CASE  
NO. 04-2019-1718-  
22

At 9:43 p.m., Mrs. Lawrence moved, Mrs. Moody seconded, to **Adjourn the Meeting.** On roll call, Members Butler, Cruz, Graham, Lawrence, Moody and Whittington voted aye; nay, none; motion passed.

ADJOURNMENT

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President

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Secretary