

MINUTES OF A **REGULAR MEETING** OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION, THORNTON TOWNSHIP HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 205, COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS, HELD ON **WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 12, 2018** IN THE AUDITORIUM AT THORNRIDGE HIGH SCHOOL, 15000 COTTAGE GROVE AVENUE, DOLTON, ILLINOIS, BEGINNING AT 6:30 P.M.

The meeting was called to order at 6:40 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 Butler, Cruz, Graham, Lawrence and Moody answered. Members Banks and Whittington were absent. Dr. Nathaniel Cunningham, Superintendent, 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; Mrs. Ebonie Williams, Thornridge Principal, Mr. Tony Ratliff, Thornton Principal; Ms. Wanda Russell, Thornton Assistant Principal and Mr. Adam Dauksas, legal counsel, were also present.

ROLL
CALL

- Report from Curriculum Committee: Mr. Fickes reported that the next Curriculum Committee Meeting will be held on October 4th at Thornton Township High School (T-107) at 4:30pm to discuss partnering with ECRA and to hear from the Division Leaders.
- Report from Finance Committee: Mr. Horton reported that the last Finance Committee met on September 4th at the District office and the items will be presented for approval tonight.
- Report from Policy Committee: Dr. Doss – No report
- Report from Discipline Committee: Mr. Arrington – No report
- Report from Facilities Committee: Mr. Garrett reported that the Facilities Committee met on August 30th at the District office, the items were approved and sent to the Finance Committee for recommendation of approval. The next meeting will be held September 27th at 4:00pm at the District office.

COMMITTEE OF THE
WHOLE

Mrs. Lawrence moved, Mr. Butler seconded, to **Approve the Removal of Resignations from the Consent Agenda:**

REMOVAL OF
RESIGNATIONS

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

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

CONSENT AGENDA

- Minutes of the Special Meeting and Executive Meeting of July 20, 2018
- Minutes of the Regular Meeting and Executive Meeting of August 8, 2018
- The District 205 bills as presented for payment dated August 9 through September 12, 2018.
- Personnel dated September 12, 2018 (Resignations, Leave of Absence, New Hires and Terminations)
- Reject the Resignations of Lisa Burns and Hyrine Owens
- Ratifications: Overnight Field Trip to Special Olympics State Finals in Decatur, Illinois

MINUTES

BILLS

PERSONNEL

RATIFICATIONS

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

- Mr. Horton opened the Public Hearing by presenting an overview of the District's budget
- A public participant asked if projected tax collections is included in the tax revenue. Mr. Horton answered yes.
- Mrs. Crayton requested a copy of the presentation.

PUBLIC
HEARING FOR 2018-
2019 DISTRICT 205
BUDGET

The following individuals spoke during Public Participation:

- Angie Myles, Carmelita Love, Felita Crayton and Clarence Pulley expressed concerns regarding new band uniforms for Thornridge High School. Mrs. Williams will follow-up

PUBLIC
PARTICIPATION

regarding this matter.

- Jacqueline Lewis expressed concerns regarding Thornwood High School teacher assignments for Statistics class this year and concerns are for student success regarding this assignment. A meeting will be scheduled with Mr. Holmes and Dr. Cunningham.

Dr. Doss reported that since the last scheduled Board meeting, three FOIA requests were submitted and none are pending. All requests have been responded to within the allotted period.

FOIA

Mr. Arrington presented the following information:

COMMUNICATIONS

- A thank you message card was read from Dr. and Mrs. Leotis Swopes
- Thornridge High School (TRHS):
 - Freshman orientation day was a huge success
 - 3rd Annual AVID's Color Run for College will take place on September 22;
- Thornton Township High School (TTHS):
 - 40 AP, IB and honor students attended their first session of the PSAT Prep classes on September 8th with two students earning 600 and above
 - Fox 32 Chicago will feature TTHS in a LIVE hour-long segment called, "Pep Rally Friday" on September 14th;
- Thornwood High School (TWHS)
 - On October 24th, TWHS students/staff are invited as author/teacher Sam Agyarko discuss the process of writing his book entitled, The Simplicity of Greatness: A Conversation with Mr. A, A Black Male Teacher. Books are on Amazon for \$15.
 - TWHS will host SAT prep classes. Classes available to all students on Tuesday and Thursday from 3:05pm-4:15pm & Saturday from 9:00am-11:00am
 - TWHS will provide a study table for all scholar-athletes this school year. In line with what many top tier college programs offer, scholar-athletes at will have an opportunity to use study areas and tutoring specifically geared for them. On M, T, W, and Th from 3:05pm-4:15pm & Saturday from 9:00am-11:00am, scholar-athletes will meet in 2935, they will have access to Tier 1 study table.
 - Illinois State Board of Education sites teacher attendance as the most influential determinant on student success. TWHS teachers have met and surpassed the states average teacher attendance rate of 76.5%
 - TWHS junior and senior students participated in the US Army High School Challenge on Tuesday 09/11/18. This team-building/problem-solving event provided a unique opportunity for students to learn more about themselves and the US Army. The interactive activities stimulate students' minds and bodies while emphasizing teamwork, leadership, personal wellness, communication skills and mental agility.
- Outlook Academy (OA)
 - Outlook Academy is now located at South Suburban College with 276 students. Stop by for a tour. Check out the OA Monthly Newsletter on our web page for more OA highlights.

Mr. Fickes stated that we are in the third year at the Peace Center, which is serviced by our own teachers. It gives students who have made mistakes at their home schools a chance to learn in a safe and secure environment and leads them on a path to a diploma. The Program Administrator, Mr. Cox-Bey gave an overview of the alternative school and what the students are learning and accomplishing; Students presented the Board with gifts and students received medals from the Board.

PEACE CENTER

At 7:28 p.m. Mr. Banks joined the meeting.

MR. BANKS JOINED THE MEETING

At 7:32 p.m. Mrs. Whittington joined the meeting.

MRS. WHITTINGTON JOINED THE MEETING

Mrs. Moody moved, Mr. Banks seconded, to **Approve of Sodexo Grab & Go Carts** as presented by Mr. Fickes for providing healthy, nutritional breakfast to students in the amount of \$10,237.53. The vendor is Hubert Company funded by Rise & Shine Private Grant. On roll call, Members Moody, Banks, Butler, Cruz, Graham, Lawrence and Whittington voted aye; nay, none; motion passed.

APPROVAL OF SODEXO GRAB & GO CARTS

<p>Mr. Butler moved, Mr. Banks seconded, to Approve the Chromebook 13 3380 (SY 2018-19) as presented by Mr. Fickes for purchase of additional Chromebooks for integrated math classes in the amount of \$130,725.00. The vendor is CDW-G funded by Titles I & IV. On roll call, Members Butler, Banks, Cruz, Graham, Lawrence, Moody and Whittington voted aye; nay, none; motion passed.</p>	<p>APPROVAL OF CHROMEBOOK 13 3380 (SY 2018-19)</p>
<p>Mr. Butler moved, Mr. Banks seconded, to Approve the Chromebook Charging Carts (SY 2018-19) as presented by Mr. Fickes to charge, store and safely transport tablets and Chromebooks in the amount of \$10,480.00. The vendor is CDW-G funded by Titles I & IV. On roll call, Members Butler, Banks, Cruz, Graham, Lawrence, Moody and Whittington voted aye; nay, none; motion passed.</p>	<p>APPROVAL CHROMEBOOK CHARGING CARTS (SY 2018-19)</p>
<p>Mr. Butler moved, Mr. Banks seconded, to Approve the Read 180 Hosting Renewal as presented by Mr. Fickes for to provide licenses for students at all participating schools in the amount of \$20,945.44 for SY 2018-19. The vendor is Houghton Mifflin Harcourt, funded by Title II. On roll call, Members Butler, Banks, Cruz, Graham, Lawrence, Moody and Whittington voted aye; nay, none; motion passed.</p>	<p>APPROVAL OF READ 180 HOSTING RENEWAL)</p>
<p>Mrs. Lawrence moved, Mrs. Cruz seconded, to Approve the Calculus Project (SY2018-19) as presented by Mr. Fickes to expand/enhance STEM education in the amount of \$30,000.00 for Summer 2018 and SY 2018-19. The vendor is Cambridge Education, LLC, funded by Title I. On roll call, Members Lawrence, Cruz, Banks, Butler, Graham, Moody and Whittington voted aye; nay, none; motion passed.</p>	<p>APPROVAL OF CALCULUS PROJECT (SY2018-19)</p>
<p>Mrs. Moody moved, Mrs. Whittington seconded, to Approve the Turnitin Licenses and Implementation Services as presented by Mr. Fickes for a renewal to provided licenses for teachers and students at all participating schools in the amount of \$32,085.00 for SY 2018-19. The vendor is Turnitin, funded by Title I. On roll call, Members Moody, Whittington, Banks, Butler, Cruz, Graham and Lawrence voted aye; nay, none; motion passed.</p>	<p>APPROVAL OF TURNITIN LICENSES AND IMPLEMENTATION SERVICES</p>
<p>Mrs. Lawrence moved, Mrs. Whittington seconded, to Approve the 2018-19 IB Annual Fees as presented by Mr. Fickes for a renewal to provide students with access to updated supplies/materials in the amount of \$34,950.00 for SY 2018-19. The vendor is International Baccalaureate Organization, funded by Title I. On roll call, Members Lawrence, Whittington, Banks, Butler, Cruz, Graham and Moody voted aye; nay, none; motion passed.</p>	<p>APPROVAL OF 2018-19 IB ANNUAL FEES</p>
<p>Mrs. Moody moved, Mrs. Whittington seconded, to Approve the Kognity Renewal as presented by Mr. Fickes for a renewal to provide licenses for teachers and students in the amount of \$15,000.00 for SY 2018-19. The vendor is Kognity AB, funded by Title I. On roll call, Members Moody, Whittington, Banks, Butler, Cruz, Graham and Lawrence voted aye; nay, none; motion passed.</p>	<p>APPROVAL OF KOGNITY RENEWAL</p>
<p>Mrs. Moody moved, Mrs. Whittington seconded, to Approve the PSAT/SAT Contract Renewal as presented by Mr. Fickes for SAT preparation suite assessment in the amount of \$44,130.00 for 09/2018-08/2019. The vendor is College Board, funded by Curriculum Assessment Budget. On roll call, Members Moody, Whittington, Banks, Butler, Cruz, Graham and Lawrence voted aye; nay, none; motion passed.</p>	<p>APPROVAL OF PSAT/SAT CONTRACT RENEWAL</p>
<p>Mrs. Moody moved, Mrs. Cruz seconded, to Approve the Unique Curriculum as presented by Mr. Porter to pilot a 3-year curriculum contract for exception children in the amount of \$20,903.27. The vendor is N2Y LLC, funded by IDEA. On roll call, Members Moody, Cruz, Banks, Butler, Graham, Lawrence and Whittington voted aye; nay, none; motion passed.</p>	<p>APPROVAL OF UNIQUE CURRICULUM</p>
<p>Mrs. Moody moved, Mrs. Lawrence seconded, to Approve the Special Olympics Flag Football Contest Trip as presented by Mr. Porter for 11 male students and 1 female student (3 chaperones) to attend a football contest at Northern Illinois University in DeKalb, IL in the amount of \$3,958.16 funded by Special Olympics or IDEA Grant. On roll call, Members Moody, Lawrence, Butler, Banks, Cruz, Graham and Whittington voted aye; nay, none; motion passed.</p>	<p>APPROVAL OF SPECIAL OLYMPICS FLAG FOOTBALL CONTEST TRIP AT NIU</p>
<p>Mrs. Whittington moved, Mrs. Lawrence seconded, to Approve the Dude Solutions Renewal as presented by Mr. Horton for a 12-month renewal agreement for SchoolDude tracking and report generation for all technology and maintenance requests in the amount of \$20,141.36.</p>	<p>APPROVAL OF DUDE SOLUTIONS RENEWAL</p>

The vendor is Dude Solutions, funded by Fund 20. On roll call, Members Whittington, Lawrence, Banks, Butler, Cruz, Graham and Moody voted aye; nay, none; motion passed.

Mr. Butler moved, Mrs. Whittington seconded, to **Approve the Thornwood High School Library Upgrade** as presented by Mr. Horton for the repair of Thornwood High School's Library elevator in the amount of \$71,687.00. The vendor is Thyssenkrupp Elevators, funded by Fund 20. On roll call, Members Butler, Whittington, Banks, Cruz, Graham, Lawrence and Moody voted aye; nay, none; motion passed.

APPROVAL OF THORNWOOD HIGH SCHOOL LIBRARY UPGRADE

Mr. Butler moved, Mr. Banks seconded, to **Approve the Thornwood High School Vestibule** as presented by Mr. Horton to modify Thornwood High School's Door 2 vestibule to prevent unauthorized entry in the amount of \$15,989.00. The vendor is Boss Door Company, Inc., funded by Fund 20. On roll call, Members Butler, Banks, Cruz, Graham, Lawrence, Moody and Whittington voted aye; nay, none; motion passed.

APPROVAL OF THORNWOOD HIGH SCHOOL VESTIBULE

Mrs. Moody moved, Mrs. Lawrence seconded, to **Approve the 2018-2019 District 205 Budget and Resolution** as presented by Mr. Horton for FY19 Budget and Resolution. On roll call, Members Moody, Lawrence, Banks, Butler, Cruz, Graham and Whittington voted aye; nay, none; motion passed.

APPROVAL OF 2018-2019 DISTRICT 205 BUDGET AND RESOLUTION

Dr. Cunningham stated the following:

SUPERINTENDENT REPORT

Good evening, In my first meeting with the district, I outlined my focus on becoming a healthy organization. A healthy organization is one that builds and maintains cohesive leadership teams, creates clarity by answering six simple questions, they over communicate, and they reinforce clarity to the six questions. The six questions are: (1) Why do we exist? (2) How do we behave? (3) What do we do? (4) How will we succeed? (5) What is most important, right now? And (6) Who must do what? Tonight, I'd like to update the answer for why do we exist? I stated to the board that our existence was to prepare productive citizens that will be contributing members of a global society through lifelong learning. That cannot be done without involving those who you expect to learn. So, last night I asked the student board of education to work with me on creating a culture committee. Culture is often described as the way we do things around here.

This committee will discuss what expectations our students have for their experiences in high school and how to ensure they receive them. I went to the student board of education as elected leaders of their peers to work on creating a systemic process for improving our culture. Please understand that just because I am asking to improve the culture doesn't mean that we have a bad culture – even good ones can be improved. A system refers to interrelated, independent entities that form a complex, unified whole. The interdependent entities work together to try to accomplish a particular aim. The aim defines the system's reason for being and gives those inside the system a sense of purpose. A system must have an aim. Without an aim, there is no system (Deming, 1993). Our aim is to prepare productive citizens that will be contributing members of a global society through lifelong learning. I thank the student board for working with me to help fulfill that aim. I look forward to reporting our work to you and the community.

At 8:12p.m., Mr. Banks moved, Mr. Butler 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 10:20 p.m., Mrs. Lawrence moved, Mrs. Cruz seconded to **Reconvene Regular Session**. On roll call, Members Lawrence, Cruz, Banks, Butler, Graham, Moody and Whittington voted aye; nay, none; motion passed.

RECONVENE REGULAR SESSION

Mrs. Lawrence moved, Mrs. Cruz seconded, to **Decline of Step Increase for Teacher A and Teacher B.** On roll call, Members Lawrence, Cruz, Banks, Butler, Graham, Moody and Whittington voted aye; nay, none; motion passed.

DECLINE STEP
INCREASE OF
TEACHER A AND
TEACHER B

Mrs. Lawrence moved, Mrs. Moody seconded, to **Approve to Accept Administrator Resignation of Derek Alexander.** On roll call, Members Lawrence, Moody, Banks, Butler, Cruz, Graham and Whittington voted aye; nay, none; motion passed.

APPROVAL TO
ACCEPT
ADMINISTRATOR
RESIGNATION OF
DEREK ALEXANDER

Mrs. Lawrence moved, Mr. Banks seconded, to **Approve AFSME Grievance 70-1819-DIST-A11.** On roll call, Members Lawrence, Banks, Butler, Cruz, Graham, Moody and Whittington voted aye; nay, none; motion passed.

APPROVAL OF
AFSME GRIEVANCE
70-1819-DIST-A11

Mrs. Moody moved, Mrs. Cruz seconded, to **Approve Settlement of Property Tax Appeal.** On roll call, Members Moody, Cruz, Banks, Butler, Graham, Lawrence and Whittington voted aye; nay, none; motion passed.

APPROVAL OF
SETTLEMENT OF
PROPERTY TAX
APPEAL

At 10:23 p.m., Mrs. Moody moved, Mrs. Cruz seconded to **Adjourn the Meeting.** On roll call, Members Moody, Cruz, Banks, Butler, Graham, Lawrence and Whittington voted aye; nay, none; motion passed.

ADJOURNMENT

President

Secretary