

MINUTES OF A **REGULAR MEETING** OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION, THORNTON TOWNSHIP HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 205, COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS, HELD ON **WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 10, 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 6:38 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. 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; and Mr. James Petrunaro, legal counsel, were also present.

ROLL
CALL

- Report from Curriculum Committee: Mr. Fickes reported that the Curriculum Committee Meeting was 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 October 3rd at the District office and the items will be presented for approval tonight; the next meeting will be held on November 6th at 4:00pm at the District office.
- Report from Policy Committee: Dr. Doss – No report
- Report from Discipline Committee: Mr. Porter – No report
- Report from Facilities Committee: Mr. Garrett reported that the Facilities Committee met on September 27th at the District office, the items were approved and sent to the Finance Committee for recommendation of approval. The next meeting will be held November 1st at 4:00pm at the District office.

COMMITTEE OF THE
WHOLE

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

CONSENT AGENDA

- Minutes of the Regular Meeting and Executive Meeting of September 12, 2018
- The District 205 bills as presented for payment dated September 13 through October 10, 2018.
- Personnel dated October 10, 2018 (Resignations, Leave of Absence, New Hires and Terminations)
- Ratifications: None

MINUTES

BILLS

PERSONNEL

RATIFICATIONS

At 6:42 p.m. Mrs. Cruz joined the meeting.

MRS CRUZ JOINED
THE MEETING

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

The following individuals spoke during Public Participation:

PUBLIC
PARTICIPATION

- Felita Crayton reminded those present of Domestic Violence and Breast Cancer Awareness month and distributed commemorative pink ink pens and ribbons to the Board.
- Angela Myles extended a thank you to the Board

Dr. Doss reported that since the last scheduled Board meeting, two 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:

- District 205 annual Manufacturing Day was held on October 3, 2018, which was established to expand knowledge and improve the public perception and hope to generate an interest within our students to pursue manufacturing careers.
- Special Services:
 - Thornridge High School (TRHS):
 - 3rd Annual AVID's Color Run for College took place on September 22
- Thornton Township High School (TTHS):
 - Soccer team was able to secure a #3 seed in a competitive sectional. They will play at the Reavis regional on 10/17 at 4:00 pm against the winner of Reavis / Kenwood.
 - Congratulations to Thornton Wildcat Marching Band and Sophisticat Dancers for receiving a 3rd place trophy out of 11 competing bands in the Chicago Classic at Soldiers Field. Wildcats were highlighted in the Columbus Day Parade which was televised on WGN 9.
- Thornwood High School (TWHS)
 - Special Olympics Floor Hockey Team played September 12th in Rolling Meadows. Winning 7-4.
 - Special Olympics Flag Football team defeated McKinley Vocational 31-6. The Thunderbirds Gold team will compete in the Region jE qualifier this Saturday in Homewood to qualify for the state tournament in October in Rockford.
 - Special Olympics Volleyball Gold Team has a record of 3-0.
- Outlook Academy
 - 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.
 - September Staff Member of the Month is Ms. Claudia Perez, Administrative Assistant and Student of the Month is Miracle Burford, Representing Thornridge High School, Future Teacher or Make-Up Artist

Mrs. Santos, IB Psychology teacher, stated that this is time intensive and independent learning. It is unique in that the curriculum includes AP Psychology for the first-year of the course. The first-year IB Psychology students have the advantage of being assessed on a national level with the AP exam, which can also earn them college credit. Last year, at Thornwood, IB Environmental Science ran the same format with AP Environmental Science as its first-year curriculum. 4 students achieved college credit in this course. 26 students took the course, 8 students achieved college credit through the AP Psychology exam. Through the Dual Credit program with South Suburban, 23 students received a Psychology 101 credit on their transcript. Students presented the benefits and how the class has prepared them for the exam. Most students scored between 3 and 5. Board members presented the students with medals.

STUDENT
PRESENTATIONS - IB
/ AP PSYCHOLOGY
STUDENTS

Mr. Banks moved, Mr. Butler seconded, to **Approve of Alternative Schools Network Partnership** as presented by Mr. Fickes for 28 weeks of programming during the school year for all three high schools. On roll call, Members, Banks, Butler, Cruz, Graham, Lawrence and Moody voted aye; nay, none; motion passed.

APPROVAL OF
ALTERNATIVE
SCHOOLS NETWORK
PARTNERSHIP

Mrs. Lawrence moved, Mr. Butler seconded, to **Approve AVID Membership Fees and AVID Weekly** as presented by Mr. Fickes for purchase of the AVID which trains educators to prepare students for colleges and careers in the amount of \$13,302.00. The vendor is AVID funded by Titles I & II. On roll call, Members Lawrence, Butler, Banks, Cruz, Graham and Moody voted aye; nay, none; motion passed.

APPROVAL OF AVID
MEMBERSHIP FEES
AND AVID WEEKLY

Mr. Butler moved, Mr. Banks seconded, to **Approve Special Olympics Volleyball State Competition Field Trip to Machesney Park, IL** as presented by Mr. Porter for 9 male and 5 female students (3 chaperones) in the amount of \$5,446.76. Funded by Specials Olympics or my IDEA Flow Through B grant. On roll call, Members Butler, Banks, Cruz, Graham, Lawrence, and Moody voted aye; nay, none; motion passed.

APPROVAL OF
SPECIAL OLYMPICS
VOLLEYBALL STATE
COMPETITION FIELD
TRIP TO MACHESNEY
PARK, IL

Mrs. Lawrence moved, Mr. Banks seconded, to **Approve Out-of-State Field Trip to New Orleans, LA** as presented by Mr. Holmes for 15 and 4 chaperones in the amount of \$13,059.00. No funds are required from the District. On roll call, Members Lawrence, Banks, Butler, Cruz, Graham and Moody voted aye; nay, none; motion passed.

APPROVAL OF OUT-
OF-STATE FIELD TRIP
TO NEW ORLEANS,
LA

Mrs. Moody moved, Mrs. Cruz seconded, to **Approve Band Uniforms for Thornridge and Thornwood High Schools** as presented by Mr. Horton to replace the current 25-year old band uniforms at Thornridge High School in the amount of \$55,174.21 and Thornwood High School in the amount of \$66,594.69. The vendor is Demoulin Bros. & Co., funded by the District. On roll call, Members Moody, Cruz, Banks, Butler, Graham and Lawrence voted aye; nay, none; motion passed.

APPROVAL OF BAND UNIFORMS FOR THORNTRIDGE AND THORNWOOD HIGH SCHOOLS

Mrs. Moody moved, Mr. Butler seconded, to **Approve SPC Truck Purchase** as presented by Mr. Horton for one 2019 Ford F-250XL Pick Up Truck for snow plowing and salting services in the amount of \$36,729.00 and snow plow and salt spreader in the amount of \$12,000. The vendor is Roesch Ford, funded by Fund 20 Operations and Maintenance. On roll call, Members Moody, Butler, Banks, Cruz, Graham and Lawrence voted aye; nay, none; motion passed.

APPROVAL OF SPC TRUCK PURCHASE

Mrs. Moody moved, Mr. Butler seconded, to **Approve Striping Cart Purchase** as presented by Mr. Horton to replace the current 7 years old machines to be used for the athletic field in the amount of \$11,505.00. The vendor is Sherwin Williams, funded by Fund 20 Operations and Maintenance. On roll call, Members Moody, Butler, Banks, Cruz, Graham and Moody voted aye; nay, none; motion passed.

APPROVAL OF STRIPING CART PURCHASE

Mrs. Moody moved, Mrs. Cruz seconded, to **Approve District Sound Proofing** as presented by Mr. Horton for a renewal to install acoustics in key administrative offices in the amount of \$70,000.00. The vendor is K.M. Holly Construction, funded by Fund 60 Capital Projects. On roll call, Members Moody, Cruz, Banks, Butler, Graham and Lawrence voted aye; nay, none; motion passed.

APPROVAL OF DISTRICT SOUND PROOFING

Dr. Cunningham stated the following - Good evening, as America's classrooms become increasingly connected, the nation inches ever closer to reaching a major milestone: 100 percent (100%) of schools with high-speed internet access. We, as a district, have sought a different and higher milestone of one device for every student (known as one-to-one). Even as we move toward that goal – we have major challenges in infrastructure, age of devices, and agreed upon goals. In August, the board of education approved the recommendations of The Everette Group on rebuilding IT infrastructure of the district, IT support staff, and district hardware. As we prepare to move forward, it must be understood that the journey is not short or quick and we must make some decisions before we start down the path. First, the decisions about infrastructure will be made by experts. Second, the administration will be making some interim adjustments to keep us moving forward. Third, and finally, we will be looking to the Technology Committee to make recommendations to address next steps in our technology journey. These steps are designed to stabilize our current technology for classroom usage while we repair/ upgrade our infrastructure and plan for our future. The district has contracted with an IT Specialist to help us plan for our infrastructure upgrades. I started with the discussion about schools being 100% connected. What we must all understand with IT is that what was once the gold standard for high speed is now barely enough to keep pace with modern learning environments. Keeping current with technology is a moving target and we, as educators, are not IT experts so we will require assistance from the IT industry. Our current partner is well-respected in the industry and understands that we are looking to be functional not flashy. Translated to mean we do not need the "latest and greatest" technology, we need what works. Our technology must become like your light switch at home. When you flip the switch, it works all the time and every time. Currently, we have issues with Smartboards, old desktops, and projectors. These issues are impacting teaching and learning; therefore, we are going to enact some interim solutions: (1) we are going to collect data on the use of the smartboards, (2) we will use the collected data to determine where to replace some of the broken smartboards and projectors with large televisions, and (3) we will use the collected data to focus on smartboard repair and replacement to ensure all technology is being used and working as well as possible for those who need it. Next, I am announcing the death of the (G) and (H) Drives. These items are networked drives. A network drive is a storage device on a local access network (LAN) within a business or home. Within a business, the network drive is usually located on a [server](#) or a network-attached storage ([NAS](#)) device. Our NAS system has surpassed its expected use. It has reached what tech professionals call "End-of-life" (EOL). EOL is a term used with respect to a product supplied to customers, indicating that the product is in the end of its useful life and a vendor stops marketing, selling, or rework sustaining it. Our networked drives have reached this point. The district has two major options for replacing the devices: (1) purchase new and updated network drives and attempt to move the old data to the new drives before the old drives stop working completely, or (2) replace the networked drives with cloud drive systems like Microsoft OneDrive or Google Drive. The district currently has licenses to both Microsoft OneDrive and Google Drive. The district is going to allow staff members to choose which cloud drive system they would like to use: (1) Microsoft OneDrive or

SUPERINTENDENT REPORT

(2) Google Drive. The failure of the networked drive system is imminent. We have had several people lose data from their networked drive. In order to have an orderly transition from networked drive to cloud drive system, we have set up a six-week departure system based on teacher last names. Once the six weeks are up, IT will remove the system. On Nov. 26, 2018 the network drive system will be turned off forever. Finally, our Technology Committee will be working on our Technology Vision, Mission and Values for our future. The recommendations will be made hopefully by March 2019 so that we can begin planning for our FY19 Budget and Procurement Process. This concludes my report.

At 7:35p.m., Mrs. Lawrence 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 Lawrence, Cruz, Banks, Butler, Graham and Moody, voted aye; nay, none; motion passed.

At 9:06 p.m., Mrs. Lawrence moved, Mr. Butler seconded, to **Adjourn the Meeting**. On roll call, Members Lawrence, Butler, Banks, Cruz, Graham, Moody and Whittington voted aye; nay, none; motion passed.

ADJOURNMENT

President

Secretary