

MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION, THORNTON TOWNSHIP HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 205, HELD ON WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 10, 2021, AT THORNTON TOWNSHIP HIGH SCHOOL, 15001 BROADWAY AVENUE, HARVEY, ILLINOIS AND WEBEX CONFERENCING, BEGINNING AT 6:30 P.M.

The meeting was called to order at 6:32 p.m. President Graham made the following announcement: Call to Order. Tonight's meeting is being streamed live via videoconferencing on WebEx and is video-recorded. The Board President declares that an in-person meeting is not practical or prudent because of the current Disaster Proclamation issued by the Governor. Physical presence for the meeting is not feasible due to the disaster.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY
BOARD PRESIDENT

On roll call, Members Cruz, Graham, Lawrence, and Whittington answered. Members Banks, Butler and Moody were absent. Dr. Nathaniel Cunningham, Superintendent, Dr. Jerry B. Doss, Assistant Superintendent of Human Resources; Mr. Toriano Horton, Assistant Superintendent of Business; Mr. Brett Fickes, Executive Director of Curriculum and Instruction; Mr. Thomas Porter, Executive Director of Special Services; Adam Dauksas, legal counsel, were also present.

ROLL
CALL

At 6:34 p.m. Mr. Banks joined the meeting

MR. BANKS JOINED THE
MEETING

Report from Curriculum Committee: Mr. Fickes reported that the last meeting was held on 01/27/21 at 4:00 p.m. Discussed implementation Pre-AP courses and celebrated a grant received from TMA Education Foundation to support the machine shop.

COMMITTEE OF THE
WHOLE

Report from Finance Committee: Mr. Horton reported that the last meeting was held on 02/02/21 at 4:00pm via WebEx. There were two action items approved and will be presented at tonight's meeting for board approval. The next meeting is on 03/02/21 at 4:00 p.m.

Report from Policy Committee: Dr. Doss reported that there is no report. There is an item in this agenda.

Report from Discipline Committee: None.

Report from Facilities Committee: Mr. Garrett reported that the last meeting was held on 01/28/21 at 4:00pm. Items approved were sent to the Finance Committee for review and approval; next meeting will be held on 02/28/21 at 4:00pm via WebEx.

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

CONSENT AGENDA

- Minutes of the Regular Meeting dated January 13, 2021
- The District 205 bills as presented for payment dated January 14, 2021 through February 10, 2021.
- Personnel dated February 10, 2021 (Resignations, Leave of Absence, New Hires and Terminations)
 - **Non-Certified Employment (1):** Ricca Louissaint, Thornwood, Administrative Assistant to Assistant Principal, effective February 22, 2021
 - **Resignation (2):** Lorna English, Administrative Assistant, Thornridge, effective February 4, 2021; Andrew Lawrence, Help Desk Support, District, effective February 3, 2021
 - **Retirement (1):** Earl Powell, Teacher, Thornton, effective the end of the 2020-2021 school year

MINUTES

BILLS

PERSONNEL

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

There were no public participants

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Dr. Doss reported that since the last scheduled Board meeting, no FOIA requests were submitted and none are pending. All requests have been responded to within the allotted period.

FOIA

Mr. Fickes presented the following information:

COMMUNICATIONS

- Thornton Township High School
 - Second quarter honor roll results were presented
 - Chess Team and Matheletes (3rd place overall) winners were announced
 - Educational Support Professional (ESP) of the Year was presented to Ms. Debra Ward-Mitchell, President of the Union of Support Staff/Infant Care Center Assistant Director
- Thornwood High School
 - Scholarships received total approximately \$3M
 - Second quarter honor roll results were presented
 - Hosted first National Honor Society Induction Ceremony
 - Junior Scholar-Athletes Commit to Western Illinois University (WIU)
 - Alum breaks Ole' Miss Record in Track and Field; reining SEC runner-up broke 21-meter barrier on first attempt
- PEACE Center
 - Second quarter honor roll results were presented
 - Recognition of student for post-graduate planning
- Outlook Academy
 - Closed out 20202 with 39 new graduates
 - Weekly career-based guest speakers for students. Visits were from Jason Hill (OA Social Worker), Diamond Hill (Human Resources professional) and Dr. Jamie Williams (President/CEO at Team81, Inc.)
 - New Art classes were implemented, and an Afro History web page will be launched. The new teacher is Ms. Martinez

- Student Board of Education Mid-Year Report – Dr. Doss, Jonathan Rodriguez, and Kya Arnold
 - Presented was the Mission Statement, Vision Statement, Restorative Justice Training, Student Board Leadership Retreat, Road to Success College and Career Panel, Uniform and Picture Day, First Student Town Hall Meeting on 01/29/21, and Committee Reports
- Mr. Fickes introduced the Student Celebrations: International Baccalaureate (IB) Student Advisory Council
 - Recipients Kennady Hall, Christyana Arrington and Spirit Webb received the Board Medal of Honor and presented the International Baccalaureate Coalition framework and benefits

PRESENTATION(S)

Mrs. Whittington moved, Mrs. Cruz seconded, to **Approve the Pre-AP Program Courses (Pre AP-English-I, Pre AP-Biology, Pre AP-World History and Geography)** as presented by Mr. Fickes, vendor is College Board. On roll call, Members Whittington, Cruz, Banks, Graham and Lawrence voted aye; nay, none; motion passed.

APPROVAL OF PRE-AP PROGRAM COURSES (PRE AP-ENGLISH-I, PRE AP-BIOLOGY, PRE AP-WORLD HISTORY AND GEOGRAPHY)

First reading of Press Plus Issue 106 Updates (30-day review) as presented by Dr. Doss.

- Policy Sections: **4:80, Accounting and Audits; 4:90, Student Activity and Fiduciary Funds; 6:300, Graduation Requirements; 6:310, High School Credit for Non-District Experiences; Course Substitutions; Re-Entering Students; 6:340, Student Testing and Assessment Program; 7:100, Health, Eye, and Dental Examinations; Immunizations; and Exclusion of Students; 7:300, Extracurricular Athletics; 7:325, Student Fundraising Activities**

First Reading of Press Plus Issue 106 Updates

Mrs. Lawrence moved, Mrs. Whittington seconded, to **Approve the Resolution providing for the issue of \$2,575,000 Taxable General Obligation Limited Tax School Bonds, Series 2021, of the District for the purpose of increasing the Working Cash Fund of the District, providing for the levy of a direct annual tax to pay the principal and interest on the bonds, and authorizing the sale of the bonds to the purchaser thereof** as presented by Mr. Horton. On roll call, Members Lawrence, Whittington, Banks, Cruz and Graham voted aye; nay, none; motion passed.

APPROVAL OF BOND RESOLUTION

Mrs. Whittington moved, Mrs. Cruz seconded, to **Approve the Thornton Mailroom Pump Replacement** as presented by Mr. Horton to improve the air quality and eliminate flooding issues, vendor is Calumet City Plumbing. On roll call, Members Whittington, Cruz, Banks, Graham and Lawrence voted aye; nay, none; motion passed.

APPROVAL OF THORNTON MAILROOM PUMP REPLACEMENT

Dr. Cunningham stated the following:

- Planning for in-person learning
 - Once the plan is finished, we will publish it, gather input from the community, parents, and students. Make any necessary edits and have it ready to proceed when it is safe to return to in-person instruction. We will have a plan and in that plan the safety of students, staff and community will be paramount.
- IHSA Resumption of sports
 - The IHSA, the governor's office, and the Illinois Department Public Health have authorized the resumption of sporting activities. Currently, Basketball, Bowling, Competitive Cheer, competitive dance, and Swimming and Diving are authorized. The seasons are shortened and for the most part, they will be viewed virtually.
- Planning for 2021 - 2022
 - Building schedules – starting registration – and planning for hiring. We have started the process. The district again will be using online registration and those who register for school before June will register for free. I know after dealing with all that we have dealt with in the pandemic it is not easy to plan for next school year, but it is that time. So, parents, please start to prepare for next year by registering your students for free.

SUPERINTENDENT REPORT

At 7:20 p.m., Mrs. Lawrence 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.

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

At 7:57 p.m., Mrs. Whittington moved, Mrs. Lawrence seconded to **Reconvene Regular Session**. On roll call, Members Whittington, Lawrence, Banks, Cruz, and Graham voted aye; nay, none; motion passed.

RECONVENE REGULAR SESSION

Mrs. Cruz moved, Mrs. Whittington seconded to **Approve the Memorandum of Understanding with the Union of Support Staff Over Non-Licensed School Nurses' Employment**. On roll call, Members Cruz, Whittington, Banks, Graham, and Lawrence voted aye; nay, none; motion passed.

APPROVAL OF MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING WITH THE UNION OF SUPPORT STAFF OVER NON-LICENSED SCHOOL NURSES' EMPLOYMENT

Mrs. Lawrence moved, Mrs. Cruz seconded to **Approve the 2020 – 2024 Collective Bargaining Agreement with AFSCME Local 3335 (Clerical)**. On roll call, Members Lawrence, Cruz, Banks, Graham, and Whittington voted aye; nay, none; motion passed.

APPROVAL OF APPROVE THE 2020 – 2024 COLLECTIVE BARGAINING AGREEMENT WITH AFSCME LOCAL 3335 (CLERICAL)

Mrs. Lawrence moved, Mrs. Whittington seconded to **Approve the Approval of Teacher Suspension Without Pay**. On roll call, Members Lawrence, Whittington, Banks Cruz, and Graham voted aye; nay, none; motion passed.


APPROVAL OF APPROVAL OF TEACHER SUSPENSION WITHOUT PAY


Mrs. Cruz moved, Mrs. Whittington seconded to **Approve the Resolution Authorizing Teacher Notice of Remediation**. On roll call, Members Cruz, Whittington, Banks, Graham, and Lawrence voted aye; nay, none; motion passed.

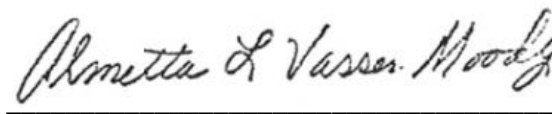
APPROVAL OF RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING TEACHER NOTICE OF REMEDIATION

At 8:02 p.m., Mrs. Cruz moved, Mr. Banks seconded to **Adjourn the Meeting**. On roll call, Members Cruz, Banks, Graham, Lawrence, and Whittington voted aye; nay, none; motion passed.

ADJOURNMENT



President 



Secretary 