

MINUTES FOR A REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION, THORNTON TOWNSHIP HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 205, HELD ON WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 11, 2021, IN THE CAFETERIA AT THORNWOOD HIGH SCHOOL, 17101 SOUTH PARK AVENUE, SOUTH HOLLAND, ILLINOIS, AND WEBEX CONFERENCING BEGINNING AT 6:30 P.M.

The meeting was called to order at 6:40 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 Banks, Brown, Graham, Lawrence, and Whittington answered. Members 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; and Mr. James Petrungaro, legal counsel, were also present.

ROLL
CALL

At 6:44p.m. Ms. Moody joined the meeting

MS. MOODY JOINED
THE MEETING

Report from Curriculum Committee: Mr. Fickes reported that the last meeting was held on 07/12/21 at 4:00pm. Introduced new division leaders and school improvement plans. Shared upcoming back to school celebrations. The next meeting will be held 09/02/21 at 4:00pm.

COMMITTEE OF THE
WHOLE

Report from Finance Committee: Mr. Horton reported that the last meeting was held on 08/03/21 at 4:00pm via WebEx. All action items were approved and will be presented at tonight’s meeting for board approval.

Report from Policy Committee: None.

Report from Discipline Committee: None.

Report from Facilities Committee: Mr. Garrett reported that the last meeting was held on 07/29/21 at 4:00pm. Items approved were sent to the Finance Committee for review and approval next meeting will be held on 08/26/21 at 4:00pm via WebEx.

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

CONSENT AGENDA

- Minutes of the Regular Meeting dated July 14, 2021
- The District 205 bills as presented for payment dated July 15, 2021, through August 11, 2021
- Personnel dated August 11, 2021 (Resignations, Leave of Absence, New Hires and Terminations
- Certified Employment (9) Jazmyn Styles, Thornton, Psychologist, Master’s +45, Step D, effective August 12, 2021; Afsar Farooqui, Thornwood, Science, Master’s, Step A, effective August 12, 2021; Greg Kolke, Thornton, Science, Master’s, Step F effective August 12, 2021; Della Mayes, Thornwood, Permanent Substitute, effective August 12, 2021; Vincent Brown, Thornton, Permanent Substitute, effective August 12, 2021; Margie Walker, Thornton, Permanent Substitute,

MINUTES

BILLS

PERSONNEL

effective August 12, 2021; Stafford Owens, , Thornridge, Permanent Substitute, effective August 12, 2021; Marcus Rodgers, Thornridge/Thornwood, Physical Education, Master's, Step A, effective August 12, 2021; William Hill, Thornridge, Permanent Substitute, effective August 12, 2021-February 22, 2022;

- Resignation (8) Jasmine Jones, Thornwood, Administrative Assistant, effective July 29, 2021; Afsar Farooqui, Thornton, Paraprofessional, effective the end of the 2020-2021 school year; Christine Henle, Thornton, Science, effective the end of the 2020-2021 school year; Terilise Harris, Thornridge, Special Education, effective the end of the 2020-2021 school year; Latoya Montgomery, Thornridge, Paraprofessional, effective the end of the 2020-2021 school year; Jennifer Mitchell, Thornton, Division Leader, effective August 6, 2021; Tamara Shackelford, Thornwood, Administrative Assistant, effective August 20, 2021; Jolene Taylor, Thornwood, FACS, effective the end of the 2020-2021 school year

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

The following individuals spoke during Public Participation:

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

- David Etheridge spoke on the concerns of in-person learning due to COVID-19 as it pertains to social distancing and other guidelines. How will benefits be affected for those who may be on quarantine
- There are two (2) completed FOIA requests and zero pending since the last board meeting. All requests have been responded to in the allotted period of time

FOIA

Dr. King presented the following information:

COMMUNICATIONS

- Thornridge High School:
 - Thornridge hosted their orientation days Wednesday August 4th and Thursday August 5th
- Outlook Academy
 - Outlook continues daily to register new applicants.

Mr. Fickes introduced Green Generation Summer Program

PRESENTATION(S)

- G2 is a collaborative of Urban Efficiency Group, University of Illinois (Champaign Urbana) and CEDA. Together we have created and provided a unique and innovative approach to ensuring that BIPOC Communities will no longer be left without a voice. This year's Green Generation Workforce Program has proven there are young, passionate, intelligent, and focused youth that will become the future voice of their communities. This summer's cohort has formed the first ever Youth Sustainability Council that will be mentored by the G2 team to ensure they are the voice for the issues in their communities. This council will ensure the community is treated equitably through the education and implementation of Just Sustainability

First Reading of PRESS Recommended Updates (Issue 107) - Dr. Doss (30-Day Review)

FIRST READING OF
PRESS RECOMMENDED
UPDATES (ISSUE 107)

- Policy Sections: 1:30, School District Philosophy; 2:10, School District Governance; 2:30, School District Elections; 2:130, Board-Superintendent Relationship; 2:240, Board Policy Development, 5:10, Equal Employment Opportunity and Minority Recruitment, 6:145, Migrant Students; 6:160, English Learners; 6:235, Access to Electronic Networks; 6:260, Complaints About Curriculum, Instructional Materials, and Programs; 7:220, Bus Conduct; 8:90, Parent Organizations and Booster Clubs

- Additional District Edits:
 - Section 8:20 Community Use of School Facilities - “School facilities are available to community organizations during non-school hours when such use does not: (1) interfere with any school function or affect the safety of students or employees, or (2) affect the property or liability of the School District. The use of school facilities for school purposes has precedence over all other uses. The District reserves the right to cancel previously scheduled use of facilities by community organizations and other groups. The use of school facilities requires the prior approval of the Superintendent or designee and is subject to applicable procedures; provided, however, any request to use school facilities for a private funeral and/or memorial service shall not, under any circumstance(s), be approved.
 - Persons on school premises must abide by the District's conduct rules at all times.
 - Student groups, school-related organizations, government agencies, and non-profit organizations are granted the use of school facilities at no costs during regularly staffed hours. Fees and costs shall apply during non-regularly staffed hours and to other organizations granted use of facilities at any time. A fee schedule and other terms of use shall be prepared by the Superintendent and be subject to annual approval by the Board of Education.”

Presentation of Tentative Budget for Fiscal Year 2022 – Dr. Grossi

PRESENTATION – TENTATIVE BUDGET

Mrs. Whittington moved, Ms. Moody seconded, to **Approve the Return to In-Person Learning Plan 2021-2022 SY** as presented by Mr. Fickes. On roll call, Members Whittington, Moody, Banks, Brown, Graham, and Lawrence voted aye; nay, none; motion passed.

APPROVAL OF RETURN TO IN-PERSON LEARNING PLAN 2021-2022 SY

Ms. Moody moved, Mrs. Whittington seconded, to **Approve the Board Docs Proposal** as presented by Mr. Garrett. On roll call, Members Moody, Whittington, Banks, Brown, Graham, and Lawrence voted aye; nay, none; motion passed.

APPROVAL OF BOARD DOCS PROPOSAL

Ms. Moody moved, Mrs. Whittington seconded, to **Approve the Sodexo Contract Renewal** as presented by Mr. Garrett. On roll call, Members Moody, Whittington, Banks, Brown, Graham, and Lawrence voted aye; nay, none; motion passed.

APPROVAL OF SODEXO CONTRACT RENEWAL

Mr. Banks moved, Ms. Moody seconded, to **Approve the Thornwood Room 2935 Theater Seating Replacement** as presented by Mr. Garrett. On roll call, Members, Banks, Moody, Whittington, Brown, Graham, and Lawrence voted aye; nay, none; motion passed.

APPROVAL OF THORNWOOD ROOM 2935 THEATER SEATING REPLACEMENT

Mr. Brown moved, Ms. Moody seconded, to **Approve the HUDL Camera System Agreement** as presented by Mr. Garrett. On roll call, Members Brown, Moody, Banks, Graham, Lawrence, and Whittington voted aye; nay, none; motion passed.

APPROVAL OF HUDL CAMERA SYSTEM AGREEMENT

Dr. Cunningham discussed the return to school and the following:
Return to learning plan:

SUPERINTENDENT REPORT

- Will continue to work on the agreement with Faculty Association
- Will address concerns of the public
- We had a Leadership retreat, where we worked on expectations for our organization. We want to become a healthy organization by minimizes the potential for confusion by clarifying a few questions

- Why do we exist? To develop exemplary citizens who are enrolled, enlisted, or employed at the completion of our high school
- How do we behave? As servant leaders working to improve the system and serve our community
- What do we do? We provide a high-quality education with platinum customer service to our community
- How will we succeed? Setting clear direction, creating collaborative work and effective teams, making student-centered decisions, those decisions have continued to help us to have a balanced budget and continue taking care of our schools, students, and our community; we will work on improving and having an effective communication, holding staff accountable and having effective hiring and training in staff retention and preparing for our financial future and academic, social, and emotional health issues. Working on building trust between students, parents, and staff, we will ensure our students and staff are safe during this pandemic by having clear communications and directions. We will clearly define expectations, goals, and progress learning. Together we will continue to improve and have great successes.

At 7:48p.m., Whittington moved, Brown seconded to **Adjourn the Meeting**. On roll call, Members Whittington, Brown, Banks, Graham, Lawrence, and Moody voted aye; nay, none; motion passed.

ADJOURNMENT

President

Secretary