



Wednesday, July 12, 2023  
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

**BOARD OF EDUCATION, THORNTON TOWNSHIP HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 205 HELD AT THORNWOOD HIGH SCHOOL, 17101 SOUTH PARK AVENUE, SOUTH HOLLAND, ILLINOIS AT 6:30 PM**

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

ROLL  
CALL

**Report from Curriculum Committee:** Mr. Fickes reported that the next meeting will be held on 07/10/23 at 12:00 p.m. in Room T107. Discussed were new teacher academy agenda,

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

**Report from Finance Committee:** Mr. Horton reported the last meeting was held 07/05/23 at 4:00 p.m. Each action item approved will be presented at tonight’s meeting for board approval. The next meeting will be held 08/01/23 at 4:00 p.m. at District Office.

**Report from Policy Committee:** None.

**Report from Discipline Committee:** None.

**Report from Facilities Committee:** Mr. Garrett reported that the next meeting will be held 7/27/23 at District Office. All items approved will be sent to the Finance Committee Meeting.

Mr. Brown moved, Dr. Davis seconded, to **Approve the Consent Agenda**, which includes the following:

CONSENT AGENDA

- A. Approval of Regular Meeting and Executive Session Minutes dated June 14, 2023
- B. The District 205 bills as presented for payment dated June 14, 2023 through July 12, 2023
- C. Personnel dated July 12, 1023 (Resignations, Leave of Absence, New Hires and Terminations)
- D. Ratifications
  - i. Approval of Congressional Art Competition Winner’s Reception Overnight Fieldtrip for a Thornridge High School Student, Washington, DC, June 19-21, 2023
  - ii. Approval of Thornridge High School Football Team Same Day Fieldtrip to West Side Leadership Academy, Gary, IN, June 22, 2023

MINUTES

BILLS

PERSONNEL

RATIFICATIONS

On roll call, Brown, Davis, Graham, and Owens voted aye; nay, none; motion passed.

The following individuals spoke during Public Participation:

- Mrs. Felita Crayton, Dolton resident, expressed concerns regarding the Falcon store located near Thornridge High School; she questioned if the store had permission to use the school’s name and logo. Mrs. Graham stated that this concern is being addressed. Dr. Cunningham stated that he will get back to Mrs. Crayton with the outcome and that the district has been in touch with the proprietor. The district is doing everything within its ability.
- Ms. Gwen Robinson, Dolton resident and concerned parent regarding her student’s suspension hearing being upheld and does not agree with the outcome. She also expressed safety concerns. Dr. Cunningham stated to the parent that he would be in touch to further address concerns.

Dr. Doss stated that there are zero (0) completed and one (1) pending

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT (FOIA)

At 6:50 p.m. Mrs. Moody joined the meeting

MRS. MOODY JOINED THE MEETING

Mr. Fickes presented the following information:

COMMUNICATIONS

- Thornwood High School
  - Student receives the distinguished IB Diploma for her marks on the IB exam.
  - Marching Band participated in the July 4<sup>th</sup> parade for Harvey
  - Marching Band attended Bethune Cookman High School Band Camp 2023 in Florida
  - Hosted Parent Institute Days on June 15, July 12, and July 14, 2023
  - Hosted Freshman Clinic on August 7-9, 2023

PRESENTATIONS

- Thornton Township High School Advanced Placement Seminar Students presented by Mr. Fickes and Dr. Dewitt
- Roseland Ceasefire Afterschool Project for SY2023-2024 – Mr. Bob Jackson and his team presented the yearly report and student survey results. Mr. Brown asked which school received the program. Dr. Cunningham stated that Thornridge and Thornton Township High Schools were the recipients at this time.

FIRST READING OF PRESSPLUS POLICY UPDATE 111

- Dr. Doss presented the First Reading of PRESSPlus Policy Update 111 (30-Day Review), the policies will be approved at the August meeting. The policies are available for review at the district office. **DRAFT UPDATE - [2:110 Qualifications, Term, and Duties of Board Officers](#); [3:40 Superintendent](#); [5:30 Hiring Process and Criteria](#); [5:90 Abused and Neglected Child Reporting](#); [5:125 Personal Technology and Social Media; Usage and Conduct](#); [5:150 Personnel Records](#); [5:260 Student Teachers](#); [6:135 Accelerated Placement Program](#); [6:230 Library Media Program](#);**

Mrs. Moody moved, Mr. Owens seconded the **Approval of Student Board of Education Summer Retreat** to Downers Grove, Illinois, presented by Dr. Doss, who stated that all protocols will be upheld that align with the district. On roll call, Members Moody, Owens, Brown, Davis, and Graham voted aye; voted nay, none; motion passed.

APPROVE THE Student Board of Education Summer Retreat

Dr. Davis moved, Mr. Brown seconded the **Approval of School Improvement Plans for Thornridge Township, Thornton Township, and Thornwood High Schools** which identifies areas of improvement and nurturing for students as presented by 071223

APPROVE THE School Improvement Plans

Fickes. On roll call, Members Davis, Brown, Graham, Moody, and Owens voted aye; voted nay, none; motion passed.

Mr. Brown moved, Mrs. Moody seconded the **Approval of Thornwood High School Asbestos Abatement for Nurse's Office, Driver's Ed Simulator Room, and Room 1251**, presented by Mr. Horton. On roll call, Members Brown, Moody, Davis, Graham, and Owens voted aye; voted nay, none; motion passed.

APPROVE THE THORNWOOD HIGH SCHOOL ASBESTOS ABATEMENT

Mr. Owens moved, Mr. Brown seconded the **Approval of District Office Renovation: Add two (2) Offices in Human Resources Department**, presented by Mr. Horton. On roll call, Members Owens, Brown, Davis, Graham, and Moody voted aye; voted nay, none; motion passed.

APPROVE THE District Office Renovation: Larger Space Needed

Mrs. Moody moved, Dr. Davis seconded the **Approval of District-Wide Marquee Sign Landscaping Project**, presented by Mr. Horton. On roll call, Members Moody, Davis, Brown, Graham, and Owens voted aye; voted nay, none; motion passed.

APPROVE THE District-Wide Marquee Sign Landscaping Project

Mrs. Moody moved, Dr. Davis seconded the **Approval of Purchase and Install New Dishwasher at Thornton Township High School**, presented by Mr. Horton. On roll call, Members Moody, Davis, Brown, Graham, and Owens voted aye; voted nay, none; motion passed.

APPROVE THE Purchase and Install New Dishwasher at Thornton Township High School

Mrs. Moody moved, Mr. Brown seconded the **Approval of Organiclife Food Service Contract Renewal**, presented by Mr. Horton. On roll call, Members Moody, Brown, Davis, Graham, and Owens voted aye; voted nay, none; motion passed.

APPROVE THE Organiclife Food Service Contract Renewal

Mr. Brown moved, Mrs. Moody seconded the **Approval of First Student Bus Contract Renewal**, presented by Mr. Horton. On roll call, Members Brown, Moody, Davis, Graham, and Owens voted aye; voted nay, none; motion passed.

APPROVE THE First Student Bus Contract Renewal

Mrs. Moody moved, Dr. Davis seconded the **Approval of New Prudential Security Contract**, presented by Mr. Horton. On roll call, Members Moody, Davis, Brown, Graham, and Owens voted aye; voted nay, none; motion passed.

APPROVE THE New Prudential Security Contract

Mr. Brown moved, Mrs. Moody seconded the **Approval of New ABM Custodial Contract**. ABM was the second lowest bidder and most responsible bidder. The lowest bidder was not able to fulfill the needs of the district; presented by Mr. Horton. On roll call, Members Brown, Moody, Davis, Graham, and Owens voted aye; voted nay, none; motion passed.

APPROVE THE New ABM Custodial Contract

Mrs. Moody moved, Mr. Owens seconded the **Approval of Resolution Declaring Critical Staffing Shortage in All Subject Areas**, presented by Mr. Horton. On roll call, Members Moody, Owens, Brown, Davis, and Graham voted aye; voted nay, none; motion passed.

APPROVE THE Resolution Declaring Critical Staffing Shortage in All Subject Areas

Dr. Cunningham shared that over the summer, many teachers were receiving additional training to ensure that we are ready to educate our students. Administrators received extensive training at leadership retreats (principals, assistant principals and division leaders) over the summer, working extensively on security and

SUPERINTENDENT REPORT

safety. The new Discipline Administrators will also receive extensive training in preparation of their new roles.

At 7:36p.m., Mr. Brown moved, Dr. Davis 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, Brown, Davis, Graham, Moody, and Owens voted aye; nay, none; motion passed.

At 8:23p.m., Mrs. Moody moved, Mr. Brown seconded to **Reconvene Regular Session**. On roll call, Members Moody, Brown, Davis, Graham, and Owens voted aye; nay, none; motion passed.

RECONVENE REGULAR SESSION

Mr. Owens moved, Mrs. Moody seconded the **Approval of the Ratification of Union of Support Staff Tentative Agreement**. On roll call, Members Moody, Owens, Brown, Davis, and Graham voted aye; voted nay, none; motion passed.

UNION OF SUPPORT STAFF TENTATIVE AGREEMENT

At 8:27p.m., Mrs. Mood moved, Mr. Brown seconded to **Adjourn the Meeting**. On roll call, Members Moody, Brown, Davis, Graham, Owens voted aye; nay, none; motion passed.

ADJOURNMENT

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President

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Secretary