



Wednesday, July 10, 2024
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

BOARD OF EDUCATION, THORNTON TOWNSHIP HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 205
HELD AT THORNTON TOWNSHIP HIGH SCHOOL, 15001 BROADWAY AVE, HARVEY,
ILLINOIS, AND VIA MICROSOFT TEAMS CONFERENCING AT 6:30 PM

The meeting was called to order at 6:34p.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, Brown, Davis, Graham, Lawrence, and Owens answered. Member Moody was absent. Dr. Nathaniel Cunningham, Superintendent; Mr. Toriano Horton, Assistant Superintendent of Business Operations; Mr. Brett Fickes, Assistant Superintendent of Curriculum & Instruction; Mr. Thomas Porter, Executive Director of Special Services; Mrs. Rosaura Duran, Director of Human Resources; Mr. Rob Penman, Director of Research and Assessment were also present.

ROLL CALL

Report from Curriculum Committee: The last meeting discussed August Institute Days, ACT transition plans, La Rabida Children's Hospital, and school improvement plans were presented. The next meeting will be held late August.

COMMITTEE OF THE
WHOLE

Report from Finance Committee: The last meeting was held June 27. All agenda items presented are on the agenda for approval. The next meeting will be held on August 6.

Report from Policy Committee: None.

Report from Discipline Committee: None.

Report from Facilities Committee: The last meeting was held June 27 with Finance. The next meeting will be held July 25 and the proximity cards will be presented for pre-bid.

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

CONSENT AGENDA

- A. Approval of Regular Meeting and Executive Session Minutes dated June 12, 2024
- B. The District 205 bills as presented for payment dated June 12, 2024 through July 9, 2024

MINUTES

BILLS

C. Personnel dated July 9, 2024 (Resignations, Leave of Absence, New Hires and Terminations)

PERSONNEL

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

The following individuals spoke during Public Participation:

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

- Ms. G. Robinson of Dolton spoke about concerns regarding her daughter’s expulsion hearing and FOIA requests.
- Mr. M. Smith of Riverdale spoke about concerns regarding tax bills and an event in Dolton
- Mr. K. Price of Harvey spoke about concerns regarding an event in Dolton and taxes
- Ms. T. Henyard of Dolton spoke about concerns regarding an event in Dolton

Dr. Doss stated there have been no FOIA requests since last board meeting.

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT (FOIA)

Mr. Fickes presented the following information:

COMMUNICATIONS

- Thornton High School:
 - Girls Basketball Coach Eric Armstrong
 - Coach of the Year by Illinois Basketball Coaches Association
 - Boys Basketball Player, Morez Johnson, Jr.
 - Named Gatorade Player of the Year by Illinois Boys’ Basketball HS Assoc. and winner of the Gold Medal for the USA National Basketball Team and part of the #1 ranked team in the world for 18 and under
- Thornwood High School:
 - Trade School Thursday
 - Union & Non-Union Trades Professionals along with post-secondary institution representatives sharing non-degree programs
 - Field trip to Joliet Junior College for students interested in the trades
 - Class of 2024
 - \$11.4 million in scholarships and grants and 95% graduation rate for attendance
- Peace Center:
 - ETI Visit- Hands-on experiences in HVAC and welding
 - Congratulations to Class of 2024 students
 - Ghana Trip
 - Explored city of Accra, historical Ancestral River, rain forest, and botanical gardens. This life-changing experience will be shared at the September Regular Board of Education Meeting

Public Hearing Concerning District’s Proposed Renewal of E-Learning Program was presented by Mr. Fickes. This allows students to continue their learning and complete assignments when the buildings are closed due to weather, etc. for up to five days. One community member asked if this was optional. Dr. Cunningham responded that this is optional and allows the district to not extend the school year. The E-Learning Program to June 30, 2027.

PUBLIC HEARING

Roseland Ceasefire- Mr. Fickes

- Tracie Summers and team presented an end of year recap and included a few testimonials enrolled in the program

NFTE Award Recipients- Mr. Fickes & Ms. Liaskos

- Students, Ariana Whitaker & Jaylin Metcalfe presented their award-winning apps, DigiPlan and Black Woman Support

OpenUp Resource Math Scholarship Winners- Mr. Fickes & Ms. Liaskos

- Students, Chiemela Oyenos and Deven West were the 2024 recipients of the OpenUp Resources Math Scholarship of \$5,000 each

PRESENTATIONS

Dr. Davis moved, Mrs. Lawrence seconded the **Approval of OrganicLife Food Service Contract** as presented by Mr. Horton. Some changes regarding meal charges were highlighted. On roll call, Members Davis, Lawrence, Banks, Brown, Graham, and Owens voted aye; voted nay, none; motion passed.

APPROVAL OF ORGANICLIFE FOOD SERVICE CONTRACT RENEWAL

Mrs. Lawrence moved, Mr. Banks seconded the **Approval of the resolution declaring the intention to issue not to exceed \$35,000,000 Working Cash Fund Bonds of the District for the purpose of increasing the Working Cash Fund of the District, and directing that notice of such intention be published in the manner provided by law** as presented by Mr. Horton. This is to approve publication of notice of intent. The purpose of increasing the Fund and enabling the District to have in its treasury at all time sufficient money to meet demands thereon for expenditures for corporate purposes The next board meeting will include a public hearing. On roll call, Members Lawrence, Banks, Brown, Davis, Graham, and Owens voted aye; voted nay, none; motion passed.

APPROVAL OF THE RESOLUTION OF WORKING CASH FUND BONDS PUBLICATION

Dr. Davis moved, Mr. Banks seconded the **Approval of the Resolution expressing official intent regarding certain capital expenditures to be reimbursed from proceeds of an obligation to be issued by the District** as presented by Mr. Horton. This includes projects for altering, repairing and equipping school buildings and facilities of the District, including roof replacement. On roll call, Members Davis, Banks, Brown, Graham, Lawrence, and Owens voted aye; voted nay, none; motion passed.

APPROVAL OF THE RESOLUTION REGARDING CAPITAL EXPENDITURES

Dr. Cunningham stated the following:

Where [there is] no vision, the people perish – Proverbs 29:18

District 205's vision is to build an exemplary, high-quality organization that produces major gains in student achievement and prepares all students to be productive citizens in a global society.

I and our community is blessed to have board members who are working to live the mission that we as an organization want to become. Last month we were not able to celebrate the accomplishments that match our mission with Mr. Banks, so we will take a moment to hear some of the work that he has done in our community.

(Thanks Ray Banks video played)

SUPERINTENDENT REPORT

Thank you, Mr. Banks and the rest of our board, for all that you do for our students and community.

That is my report for this evening.

At 7:56p.m., Mr. Owens 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, Owens, Banks, Brown, Davis, Graham, and Lawrence voted aye; nay, none; motion passed.

At 8:50p.m., Mr. Owens moved, Mr. Banks seconded to **Reconvene Regular Session**. On roll call, Members Owens, Banks, Brown, Davis, Graham, and Lawrence voted aye; nay, none; motion passed.

RECONVENE
REGULAR SESSION

Mr. Owens moved, Mrs. Lawrence seconded the **Approval of the District's Renewal of E-Learning Program**. This is for the approval following the Public Hearing held earlier in the meeting. On roll call, Members Owens, Lawrence, Banks, Brown, Davis, and Graham voted aye; voted nay, none; motion passed

APPROVE
DISTRICT'S
RENEWAL OF E-
LEARNING
PROGRAM

Mrs. Lawrence moved, Dr. Davis seconded the **Approval of the 2024-2029 AFSCME Collective Bargaining Agreement**. This is the agreement for the administrative assistants' union contract. On roll call, Members Lawrence, Davis, Banks, Brown, Graham, and Owens voted aye; voted nay, none; motion passed


APPROVE 2024-
2029 AFSCME
COLLECTIVE
BARGAINING
AGREEMENT

At 8:51p.m., Mr. Owens moved, Mrs. Lawrence seconded to **Adjourn the Meeting**. On roll call, Owens, Lawrence, Banks, Brown, Davis, and Graham voted aye; nay, none; motion passed.

ADJOURNMENT



President



Secretary