



Thornton Fractional
HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT 215
BURNHAM • CALUMET CITY • LANSING • WYNWOOD

August 12, 2026

Committee of the Whole

6:00 PM

Thornton Fractional Center for Academics & Technology

1605 Wentworth Ave.

Calumet City, IL 60409

MINUTES

- 1. President Williams** called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. with the following roll call: **Present:** Calderon-Miranda, Guyton, Newman, Perkins, Terrazas, Williams **Absent:** Myers

2. Communication/Public Comment

- Wendy Bivins - Stated she filed a complaint in reference to policy 2:260. She has not received an update and doesn't know where her complaint stands.
- Emily Biegel - Mentioned she filed a complaint adhering to policy 2:260, 2:65 and 5:20. Stating policies are not being followed.

3. Buildings Grounds/Safety Committee--Member Williams

- A. Construction Project Update - Mr. Stephan shared things at South are going well. Due to the recent storm, South currently has no power. There was a roof fire at North, contractors are working on the roof issue. Classrooms and offices at North have received a refresh from new drop ceilings, paint, new door frames and updated intercom system.

4. Finance Committee--Member Perkins

- A. Tentative Fiscal Year 2026-2027 Annual Budget Presentation – Ms. McMillian presented key budget facts including Illinois law requires school districts adopt a balanced budget. Overall, the district maintains strong financial stability. Salaries and benefits continue to represent the largest portion of the district expenditures. There is continued investment in instruction and infrastructure. The budget timeline includes the public display and hearing in September.
- B. Multilingual Director position – Dr. O'Rourke shared that the multilingual population continues to grow. The Multilingual Director position would close the achievement gaps and overall allow more student support.
- A. Director of Communication and Public Relations position – April Jerger presented the history of a similar position titled Grants/Communication. Future discussion will take place regarding the Director of Communication and Public Relations job responsibilities.
- B. HR Manager position – April Jerger shared the HR Manager is a replacement position. Some of the current responsibilities include onboarding, talent acquisition along with employee engagement.

5. Curriculum Committee--Member Calderon-Miranda

- A. Summer school summary - Dr. Martin-Dean and Ms. Szuba shared summer school was offered in two sessions. The district offered in-person and virtual sessions. Students also took courses for advancement and credit recovery.
- B. Teaching and Learning - Dr. Martin-Dean presented an update on the new course proposal process, curriculum writing, curriculum review and summer professional learning offerings. The curriculum proposal form process establishes transparency and consistency. The professional learning activities offered by the Teaching and Learning Department align with the Consolidated District Plan.

6. Equity

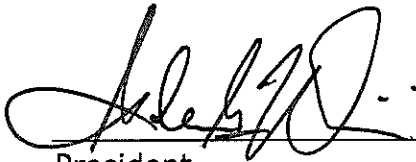
- A. Student Board – Superintendent Williams shared more students are attending school board meetings. It would be a great addition for the district to have more student leadership.

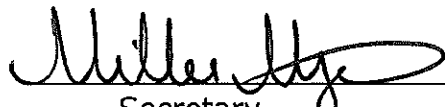
7. Behavior Intervention/Parent-Teacher Advisory Committee--Member Newman

- A. Student Athletic Handbook – Athletic Directors - Mr. Brewe and Mr. Stubbs shared the pledge in the student Athletic Handbook as well as the Student Activity Handbook focuses on the students having accountability at the high school level. Will work on updating the pledge for next school year. Participation in girls wrestling has increased, looking to add additional coaches.
- B. Dr. O'Rourke - Shared updates added to Powerschool includes attendance and performance. Stop Grant will host a student roundtable and offer parent resources. District 215 has partnered with Governor State to provide three intern Social Workers.

8. Adjourn

*I move to adjourn the meeting at 7:53 p.m. This motion made by Member Perkins and
Seconded by Member Calderon-Miranda, passed on voice vote.*



President

Secretary

Recording Secretary