



Thornton Fractional High School District 215  
Dominique Newman, Public Relations Officer  
dnewman@tfd215.org; 708-585-2309

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: 4.14.21**

## **Thornton Fractional District 215 Board of Education Appoints Dr. Christopher Dodd of Lynwood**



**Lansing, IL:** At a special board meeting on April 14<sup>th</sup>, Thornton Fractional High School District 215 Board of Education voted to appoint Dr. Christopher Dodd to the vacant Board seat.

Dodd holds a Bachelor's of Science in sociology from Northern Illinois University and a Master's of Divinity and Doctorate of Ministry from Northern Theological Seminary, where his studies focused primarily on community development. He is lead pastor of New Community Church in Dolton, where he has facilitated community partnerships with Meals on Wheels, Easter Seals, Open Access Clothing Closet, ACE Before and After Care Program, Family Christian Health Center, and the Village of Dolton. Dodd worked from 2013-2020 as an outreach and

volunteer coordinator for Alexian Brothers Housing and Health Alliance in Chicago, and prior to that spent four years as a special education aide at Thornton Fractional South High School, where his daughter is currently a student. In his early career, Dodd worked in sales and management at several Fortune 500 companies.

Dodd is a member of the South Suburban HIV/AIDS Regional Clinics, the creator and editor of the Friday Fuel podcast, a board member of Converge Mid America, and frequently does leadership training and guest speaking for local organizations. Dodd was born and raised on the south side of Chicago, where his mother was a Chicago Public School teacher for 35 years.

Dodd stated, "I am honored to be appointed to the Board of Education. Serving my community is one of my top priorities, and I look forward to working with my fellow board members to serve the staff, students and communities of our district."

District 215 acting board president LeeAnn Revis noted, "I am pleased to welcome Dr. Dodd to the Board of Education and excited about the leadership experience and community development expertise he brings to the Board. Additionally, the fact that he is a parent in the district and former employee of the district makes him uniquely positioned to be a voice on the Board that will benefit our students, staff, and communities."

Dodd is the first African American male to serve on the District 215 Board of Education, and replaces former board member Michael Bolz, who resigned from the board last month due to a job offer that presented a conflict of interest.

**About Thornton Fractional High School District 215:** District 215 serves the students of Burnham, Calumet City, Lansing, and Lynwood at Thornton Fractional North High School, Thornton Fractional South High School, Thornton Fractional Center for Academics and Technology, and Thornton Fractional Center for Alternative Learning. The mission of District 215 is to provide diverse learning opportunities that inspire all students to become life-long learners who contribute to their community.

###