
MINUTES

**THOMASTON BOARD OF EDUCATION
POLICY COMMITTEE MEETING**

Thomaston Town Hall
Superintendent's Office
Wednesday, February 25, 2015
5:30 p.m.

Policy Committee Members:

Roxy Fainer
Anne Petrucci
Alexander Lee
Francine Coss

I. Call to Order:

The meeting was called to order at 5:30P.M. by Roxy Fainer.

II. Read Items:

- A. Policy Audit – Series 1000 – Community Relations – First Read:
The members discussed this series update and determined through consensus that this series shall be listed as a Second Read on the March Regular Meeting agenda.
- B. Policy 3542.33 - Food Sales Other than National School Lunch Program (Policy and Regulation) – First Read:
The members discussed this policy and determined through consensus that this series shall be held as a First Read until additional feedback is received from the District Wellness Committee; it shall be listed as a First Read on the March Regular Meeting agenda.
- C. Policy 3542.34 – Nutrition Program (Policy and Regulation) – First Read:
The members discussed this policy and determined through consensus that this series shall be held as a First Read until additional feedback is received from the District Wellness Committee; it shall be listed as a First Read on the March Regular Meeting agenda.
- D. Policy 3542.45 – Vending Machines – First Read
The members discussed this policy and determined through consensus that this series shall be held as a First Read until additional feedback is received from the District Wellness Committee; it shall be listed as a First Read on the March Regular Meeting agenda.
- E. Policy 4120 – Personnel Certified - Temporary, Part-Time Assignments – Second Read:
The members discussed this policy update and determined through consensus that this series shall be listed as an Action Item on the March Regular Meeting agenda.

- F. Policy 1331 – Smoke Free Environment – Second Read:
The members discussed this policy update and determined through consensus that this policy shall be listed as an Action Item on the March Regular Meeting agenda.
- G. Policy 4118.231 – Personnel – Alcohol, Drugs, and Tobacco – Second Read:
The members discussed this policy update and determined through consensus that this policy shall be listed as an Action Item on the March Regular Meeting agenda.
- H. Policy 5113 – Attendance – Absences for Students of Service Members – Second Read:
The members discussed this policy update and determined through consensus that this policy shall be listed as an Action Item on the March Regular Meeting agenda.
- I. Policy 6142.101 – Student Nutrition and Physical Activity – Second Read:
The members discussed this policy update and determined through consensus that this policy shall be listed as an Action Item on the March Regular Meeting agenda but may be held after reviewing the feedback from District Wellness Committee which is scheduled to be shared during the March Policy Committee meeting.
- J. Program Coordinator – Pupil Personnel Services Job Description – Second Read:
The members discussed this job description and determined through consensus that it shall be listed as an Action Item on the March Regular Meeting agenda.

III. Discussion Items:

- A. Thomaston Public Schools 2015-2016 School Year Calendar:
The members discussed the potential conflict related to Open House and Parent-Teacher Conference dates and determined through consensus that the calendar would be held as a discussion item for the March Regular meeting. The members determined through consensus that the start/end dates of the school year and the school vacation date shall be made public to parents before taking formal action on the calendar as there were no member-generated concerns about those dates. The members wanted to share these dates with parents now to enable them to plan summer and school vacation childcare and family vacations.
- B. Policy 4115(a,b,c) – Personnel Certified Evaluation:
The members discussed the need to update this policy to match the new Professional Development and Evaluation Plan recently approved by the Board of Education. The policy will be updated after the 2015-2016 Professional Development and Evaluation Plan is approved.
- C. Policy 5131.61 – Students – Drug, Alcohol, and Tobacco Policy:
The members discussed this policy and debated the need for a policy that is specific for athletes. Francine Coss will provide a copy of Connecticut Interscholastic Athletic Conference (CIAC) policy related to this topic for discussion during the March Policy Committee meeting.
- D. Policy 5113 – Attendance – Students High School Attendance Excused Absences and Truancy, Regulation: The members determined through consensus that it will be a discussion item on the March Policy Committee agenda.

- E. Policy 3540 – Monies in School Buildings:
The members discussed this policy and determined through consensus that no further discussion is necessary; staff will be oriented on this process with the expectation of following it as written.
- F. Policy 3551 – Business/Non-Instructional Operations – No School/No Play – Guidelines:
The members discussed this policy and determined through consensus that it will be a discussion item on the March Policy Committee agenda. Francine Coss will request information from the Athletic Director about similar policies in other Berkshire League school districts; Francine Coss will also solicit feedback on this policy from at least two long-standing coaches. This information will be presented during the March Policy Committee meeting.
- G. Interest-Based Bargaining Explanation:
The members discussed the concept of Interest-Based Bargaining and determined through consensus that this concept shall not be applied to the upcoming non-certified union contract negotiation process.

IV. Action Items:

- A. Policy 5131.6 - Students - Drug, Alcohol, and Tobacco:
The members determined by consensus that this policy shall remain an action item on the February 25, 2015 Regular Board Meeting agenda.

V. Future Agenda Items:

- A. Secretary Job Descriptions: Francine Coss reported that the Secretary Job Descriptions are not available for discussion caused by school delays and cancelations; once these job descriptions are ready for Board review, they will be placed on the Policy Committee agenda.
- B. Policy Audit Series 2000 – Administrators: Roxy Fainer discussed the need to schedule a separate meeting to complete the review of this policy series. No date was set.

VI. Adjourn:

The meeting was adjourned at 6:50P.M.