



**MINUTES
THOMASTON BOARD OF EDUCATION REGULAR MEETING**

[Live Link](#)

Monday, August 17, 2020

7:00 p.m.

Mission Statement:

In a partnership of family, school and community, our mission is to **educate, challenge** and **inspire** each individual to excel and become a contributing member of society.

Members:

Beth Campbell, Chairperson
David Colavecchio, Vice Chairperson
Heather Patchell, Secretary
Roxy Fainer, Treasurer
Francine Coss, Superintendent

Salvatore SantaMaria
Frank Treglia
Jennifer Nolan
Matthew VanOrmer
Sarah Ethier

Student Representatives 2020-2021

Isabella Guerrero
McKenna O'Sullivan
Cesar Velez

1. Establishment of a Quorum and Call to Order (*Bylaws of the Board 9325.1 – Quorum*)

- 1.1. **Chairperson Beth Campbell** called the meeting to order at 7:02pm.
- 1.2. Board Members in Attendance: **Chairperson Beth Campbell, Vice Chairperson David Colavecchio, Secretary Heather Patchell, Treasurer Roxy Fainer, Salvatore SantaMaria, Frank Treglia, Jennifer Nolan, Matthew VanOrmer and Sarah Ethier**
- 1.3. Board Members Absent: None
- 1.4. Student Representatives Present: **McKenna O'Sullivan and Cesar Velez**
- 1.5. Others in Attendance: The youtube link was posted on the Thomaston school website and it was included on the agenda for the staff and members of the community.

2. Pledge of Allegiance

3. Approval of Agenda ▲ (*Bylaws of the Board 9325.2 – Order of Business and Policy 1205 Community Relations – Participation by the Public – Agenda Format/Preparation and Dissemination*)

Roxy Fainer motioned and Frank Treglia seconded to accept/approve the Regular Meeting Agenda of the Board of Education, August 17, 2020 as presented.

Abstentions: None

Discussion: None

Motion Carried: 9-0-0

A moment of silence was called by **Chairperson Beth Campbell** for the loss of a student from Thomaston High School student.

4. Public Participation ▲▲▲ (Bylaws of the Board 9325 – Meeting Conduct)

The Board welcomes public participation in accordance with Thomaston Board of Education Policy 9325 – Bylaws of the Board Meeting Conduct. Specifically, provision for permitting any individual or group to address the Board concerning any subject that lies within its jurisdiction shall be as follows:

- After Connecticut Executive Order 7, the Thomaston Board of Education meetings are held virtually. Public participation for virtual meetings is permitted through written comment. Those who wish to make public comments during a virtual meeting of the Thomaston Board of Education shall:
 - Submit public comments at least one (1) hour before the scheduled start of the virtual meeting
 - Submit public comments via the Thomaston Board of Education Public Comment Google Form at <https://forms.gle/WtQ7LkbUdpWrsCwJ6>.

NOTE: Written public comments that meet Policy requirements and the criteria above shall be read aloud by a Board member during the Board of Education meeting.

- 4.1. Kim Foss - 45 Blue Trail Drive - Expressed concern regarding installing portable air conditioners for classrooms
- 4.2. Nicole Rinaldi - 65 Edgewood Avenue - Questioned for the need of early release days for the first two weeks of school. Ms. Rinaldi has concerns on childcare should the board opt for the hybrid learning model.
- 4.3. Lisa Rocco - 34 Twin Pond Road - Expressed her gratitude towards the committee for all the hard work. She was concerned that students return to school on a as normal schemata as possible while following the necessary guidelines. She was very concerned about the hybrid model that was being proposed and The impact it would have on students and parents.
- 4.4. Karen St. Jean - 282 Carter Road - She was concerned regarding the two weeks of half days at the beginning of the school year, as well as childcare issues.
- 4.5. Kara Froholoff - 254 Clay Street - Suggested to keep high remain online and live stream class for them as they are able to work independently. She suggested sending a survey to Black Rock and Thomaston Center school families with the choice of sending or keeping kids at home, which will keep class room size small. Eating lunch in classrooms and keep all the specials in the classrooms were also suggested. .

Most of the above comments were addressed at the August 12, 2020 Special Meeting of the Board of Education. The question/comments that were not addressed will receive a written response from the Board of Education.

5. Approval of Minutes ▲ (Bylaws of the Board 9326 – Minutes)

5.1. Regular Board of Education Meeting Minutes Dated June 8, 2020

Roxy Fainer motioned and Salvatore SantaMaria seconded to accept/approve the Board of Education Meeting Minutes Dated June 8, 2020 as presented.

Abstentions: None

Discussion: None

Motion Carried: 9-0-0

5.2. Special Meeting of the Board of Education Dated July 2, 2020

Roxy Fainer motioned and Matthew VanOrmer seconded to accept/approve the Special Meeting of the Board of Education Minutes Dated July 2, 2020 as presented.

Abstentions: None

Discussion: None

Motion Carried: 9-0-0

5.3. Special Meeting of the Board of Education Dated July 20, 2020

5.3.1. Confirm the vote regarding dress policy 5132 due to unclarity on the recording of the meeting.

Roxy Fainer motioned and Matthew VanOrmer seconded to confirm the change to Policy 5132 - Students - Dress and Grooming as presented on July 20, 2020.

Abstentions: None

Discussion: None

Motion Carried: 9-0-0

Roxy Fainer motioned and Matthew VanOrmer seconded to accept/approve the Special Meeting of the Board of Education Minutes Dated July 20, 2020 as presented.

Abstentions: None

Discussion: None

Motion Carried: 9-0-0

5.4 Special Meeting of the Board of Education Dated August 12, 2020

Roxy Fainer motioned and Matthew VanOrmer seconded to accept/approve the Special Meeting Of the Board of Education Minutes Dated August 12, 2020 as presented.

Abstentions: None

Discussion: None

Motion Carried 9-0-0

6. Recognitions ▲ (Policy 1170 – Community Relations/Recognitions of Students, Citizens, Staff Members, and Members of the Board of Education and Bylaws of the Board 9420 – Recognition of Accomplishments by Citizens, Students, Staff Members or Member of the Board)

6.1. Tony Turina - Tony's Coffee Express

7. Presentations ▲▲▲ (Bylaws of the Board 9410 – Public Announcement of Accomplishments) - None

8. Student Representatives Report ▲▲▲ (Bylaws of the Board 9160 – Student Representation on the Board of Education) - None

9. Chairperson's Report ▲▲▲ (Bylaws of the Board 9121 – Office of the Chairperson)

9.1. 2019-2020 Honor Roll - Fourth Quarter - Thomaston High School

10. Superintendent's Report ▲▲▲ (Policy 2131 – Administration – Superintendent of Schools)

10.1. Correspondence

10.1.1. Superintendent

10.1.1.1. Letter of Expulsion Hearing - June 9, 2020

10.1.1.2. Letter of Expulsion - Follow Up - June 16, 2020

10.1.1.3. Letter from Superintendent Coss to Todd Bendtsen - Business Manager , Thomaston Public Schools - 5 Unused Vacation Days

10.1.1.4. Exit Interview Response Per Policy 4117.6 Employee A

10.1.1.5. Exit Interview Response Per Policy 4117.6 Employee B

10.1.1.6. Exit Interview Response Per Policy 4117.6 Employee C

10.1.1.7. Letter to The Standard Insurance - Cancellation of Optional Plan Only

10.1.1.8. Letter from Superintendent Coss to Beth Campbell, Board of Education Chairperson - Requesting Vacation Carry Over

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- 10.1.1.9. List of Fundraisers - PTA - 2020/2021 School Year
 - 10.1.1.10. Thank You Card to the Thomaston Board of Education from Kristin Raymond, former Assistant principal Thomaston High School
 - 10.1.1.11. Appointment of Temporary Designee for Superintendent Coss - July 18, 2020 tp August 15, 2020
 - 10.1.1.12. Letter of Intent to Homeschool - Student A
 - 10.1.1.13. Thank You Card to the Board of Education from Sydney Stevenson - Class of 2020
 - 10.1.1.14. Thank You Card to Superintendent Francine Coss from Sydney Stevenson - Class of 2020
 - 10.1.1.15. Letter to Sydney Stevenson - Class of 2020 - from Superintendent Francine Coss
 - 10.1.1.16. Press Release - Jessica Bedosky - Director of Curriculum, Instruction ,and Assessment - Thomaston Public Schools
 - 10.1.1.17. Town Of Thomaston Safety Committee Minutes - June 10, 2020
 - 10.1.2. *Connecticut Association of Boards of Education (CABE)*
 - 10.1.2.1. June 2020 Liaison Newsletter
 - 10.1.2.2. July 2020 Liaison Newsletter
 - 10.1.3. *Connecticut Association of Public Schools Superintendents (CAPSS)*
 - 10.1.3.1. Letter of Potential Support of Out of School Needs - YMCA of Connecticut and Rhode Island YMCA State Alliances
 - 10.1.4. *U.S. Department of Education*
 - 10.1.4.1. Office for Civil Rights - Annual Report for Fiscal Year 2019
 - 10.1.5. *Connecticut State Department of Education (CSDE)*
 - 10.1.5.1. Guidance Regarding Students Exiting Special Education Services During the COVID-19 Pandemic
 - 10.1.5.2. CARES ACT Application Letter
 - 10.1.5.3. Memorandum - IDEA Eligibility Extended Until Age 22
 - 10.1.5.4. Letter to Governor Lamont from Fran Rabinowitz - Executive Director - Connecticut Association of Public School Superintendents
 - 10.1.5.5. Recommendations for a Supportive and Inclusive Registration System During the COVID-19 Pandemic
 - 10.1.5.6. Updated Department of Public Health Letter to School Superintendents, Medical Advisors, School Nurses, and Supervisors
 - 10.1.5.7. TEAM Reminders and Flexibilities
 - 10.1.5.8. In-Person Graduation Ceremonies
 - 10.1.5.9. Letter from Superintendent Coss to Todd Bendtsen - Business Manager , Thomaston Public Schools - 5 Unused Vacation Days
 - 10.1.5.10. Insights Newsletter - June 2020 - Effective School Solutions
 - 10.1.5.11. Solutions Newsletter - June 2020 - Effective School Solutions
 - 10.1.5.12. CT Learning Hub
 - 10.1.5.13. Connecticut's Plan to Reopen Schools - Adapt, Advance, Achieve
 - 10.1.5.14. Flier - CSDE Presents A Live Webinar
 - 10.1.5.15. Connecticut Reopening Template
 - 10.1.5.16. Federally Funded Early Childhood Programs
 - 10.1.5.17. Health Assessments for 2020-2021 School Year
 - 10.1.5.18. Flexible Staffing Brochure
 - 10.1.5.19. District Website Links
 - 10.1.5.20. Promoting Financial Literacy in Middle School
 - 10.1.5.21. Designing School Accountability to Drive Equity - Webinar
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- 10.1.5.22. Reset, Recover, Reimagine - Connecticut's Path Forward
 - 10.1.5.23. Updated Guidance Regarding IDEA Eligibility Extended Until Age 22
 - 10.1.5.24. Connecticut Reopening FAQ Disinfectant Fogging/Spraying/Misting in Office Buildings and Schools
 - 10.1.5.25. Connecticut Reopening Plan - Addendum 1
 - 10.1.5.26. Connecticut Reopening Plan - Addendum 2
 - 10.1.5.27. Connecticut Reopening Plan - Addendum 3
 - 10.1.5.28. Connecticut Reopening Plan - Addendum 4
 - 10.1.5.29. Professional Support Series 11 - School Ventilation and Cleaning
 - 10.1.5.30. Temporarily Opting Into Voluntary Remote Learning Due to COVID-19
 - 10.1.5.31. Connecticut Distance Learning Planning Guide
 - 10.1.5.32. Congrove Distance Learning Model
 - 10.1.5.33. Addendum 4 Update - Public Health Metrics
 - 10.1.5.34. Flexible Staffing Flier
 - 10.1.5.35. Updated COVID-19 Guidance for Healthcare Providers
 - 10.1.5.36. Educator Evaluations and Support Plan 2020--21 School Year
 - 10.1.5.37. Child Care Referral Assistance for Board of Education Employees
 - 10.1.5.38. Provider Signage - Health Screening Protocol - Connecticut Office of Early Childhood - English
 - 10.1.5.39. Provider Signage - Health Screening Protocol - Connecticut Office of Early Childhood - Spanish
 - 10.1.5.40. Health Screening Protocol
 - 10.1.5.41. Provider Signage - Important COVID-19 Information - Connecticut Office of Early Childhood - English
 - 10.1.5.42. Provider Signage - Important COVID-19 Information - Connecticut Office of Early Childhood - Spanish
 - 10.1.5.43. Provider Signage - Must Wear Mask - Connecticut Office of Early Childhood - English
 - 10.1.5.44. Provider Signage - Must Wear Mask - Connecticut Office of Early Childhood - Spanish
 - 10.1.5.45. Provider Signage - Keeping Your Kids Safe - Office of Early Childhood - English
 - 10.1.5.46. Provider Signage - Keeping Your Kids Safe - Office of Early Childhood - Spanish
 - 10.1.5.47. Provider Signage - Help Keep Us All Healthy - Office of Early Childhood - English
 - 10.1.5.48. Provider Signage - Help Keep Us All Healthy - Office of Early Childhood - Spanish
 - 10.1.5.49. Domestic Violence Services and Resources for Students, Parents/Guardians and the School Community Memo
 - 10.1.5.50. Residency Verification of Students Attending Inter District Choice Programs
 - 10.1.5.51. Educator Guidelines Flexibilities Memo
 - 10.1.5.52. Frequently Asked Questions Regarding Reopening K-12 Public Schools - August 11, 2020
- 10.2. Reports, Contracts and General Information
- 10.2.1. Reports
 - 10.2.1.1. Administrator Reports - July 2020
 - 10.2.1.1.1. 2019-2020 - Reading Recovery - Black Rock School
 - 10.2.1.2. Administrator Report - August 2020
 - 10.2.1.3. Distance Learning
 - 10.2.1.4. Thomaston Reopening Plan Submitted to the Connecticut State Department of Education - July 24, 2020
 - 10.2.1.5. Enrollment Report - July & August
 - 10.2.1.5.1. Registrations have been occurring during the summer for the 2020-2021
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- school year.
- 10.2.2. *Contracts*
 - 10.2.2.1. BloomBoard
 - 10.2.2.2. Thomaston Board of Education and Dr. Ephraim Bartdeld - School Medical Advisor Thomaston Public Schools - July 1, 2020 - June 30, 2021
 - 10.2.2.3. Settlement Agreement and General Release - Brown and Brown of Connecticut, Ins - Approved by the Board of Education on June 8, 2020
 - 10.2.2.4. Regional Collaborative for Human Resources Service and Support - July 1, 2020 - June 20, 2021- Kristen DiVinere - Itinerant Human Resources Support Specialist
 - 10.2.2.5. Athletic Trainer Support Agreement - August 2020 - June 2023
 - 10.2.2.6. Child Health and Development Institute of Connecticut and Thomaston Board of Education - Memorandum of Agreement
 - 10.2.2.7. School Readiness Liaison - Michelle Anderson - EdAdvance
 - 10.2.2.8. Ruler Training
 - 10.2.2.9. Waiver for Contract Negotiations Timeline - AFSCME and Thomaston Board of Education
 - 10.2.2.10. EastConn - Connecticut Documentation & Observation for Teaching System (CT DOTS) - July 1, 2020 - June 30, 2021
 - 10.2.2.11. Memorandum of Agreement COVID-19 Health and Safety nCompliance Liaison 2020-2021- AFSCME Local 1303-97
 - 10.2.2.12. *General Information*
 - 10.2.2.13. *Fund-Raisers*
 - 10.2.2.13.1. Read-a-thon - Grades 7 & 8 - Thomaston High School
 - 10.2.2.13.2. Glow in the Dark Frisbee - National Honor Society- Thomaston High School
 - 10.2.2.13.3. Collection of Class Dues - Class of 2023 - Thomaston High School
 - 10.2.2.13.4. Collection of Dues - National Honor Society - Thomaston High School
 - 10.2.2.13.5. Homecoming Dance - Class of 2020 - Thomaston High School
 - 10.2.2.13.6. Thomaston High School vs. Terryville High School Faculty Basketball game - Class of 2022 - Thomaston High School
 - 10.2.2.13.7. Kan Jam Tournament - Class of 2022 - Thomaston High School
 - 10.2.2.13.8. Class Dues - Class of 2024 - Thomaston High School
 - 10.2.2.13.9. Continued Operation of the School Store - Thomaston High School - Class of 2021
 - 10.2.2.13.10. Winter Semi-Formal Dance - Student Council - Thomaston High School
 - 10.2.2.13.11. Food Drive for Local Food Bank - Student Council - Thomaston High School
 - 10.2.2.13.12. December Dance - Student Council - Thomaston High School
 - 10.2.2.13.13. Admission Tickets for Mr. THS - Student Council - Thomaston High School
 - 10.2.2.13.14. Badminton Tournament - Student Council - Thomaston High School
 - 10.2.3. *Personnel (Policy 4112/4212 - Personnel - Certified/Non-Certified Appointment and Conditions of Employment)*
 - 10.2.3.1. *New Hires*
 - 10.2.3.1.1. Laura Miller - Odyssey Summer Tutor (Part-Time, Temporary Position) - July 2020 - Thomaston Public Schools
 - 10.2.3.1.2. Gilberto Santiago - Summer Custodian - Black Rock School
 - 10.2.3.1.3. Chasse Guerrera - Speech & Language Pathologist - Thomaston Public Schools

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- 10.2.3.1.4. Chasse Guerrera - Speech & Language Pathologist - Extended School Year - Thomaston Public Schools
 - 10.2.3.1.5. Sarah Ryan - Grade 5 Teacher - Thomaston Center School
 - 10.2.3.1.6. Aleta Dubecky - Art Teacher - Grades K-6
 - 10.2.3.1.7. Gianni Perugini - Assistant Principal - Thomaston High School
 - 10.2.3.1.8. Jason Kovacs - Vocational Technology (Industrial Arts) Teacher - Thomaston High School
 - 10.2.3.1.9. Erica Polanco - Kindergarten Teacher - Black Rock School
 - 10.2.3.1.10. Jessica Bedosky - Director of Curriculum, Instruction and Assessment - Thomaston Public Schools
 - 10.2.3.1.11. Kristen Callahan - Special Education Paraprofessional - Thomaston Public Schools
 - 10.2.3.1.12. Elizabeth West - Special Education Teacher - Positive Alternative to High School (PATHS)
 - 10.2.3.1.13. Tracy Scarborough - Long-Term Substitute Teacher - Grade 6
 - 10.2.3.2. Transfers/New Assignments
 - 10.2.3.2.1. Julie Duggan - From 12 Month Secretary to Accounts Payable Staff Accountant - Thomaston Public Schools
 - 10.2.3.2.2. Theresa Gambino - From Paraprofessional to Custodian III Night Shift - Black Rock School
 - 10.2.3.2.3. Susan Heiland - From Math Interventionist to Literacy Interventionist - Black Rock School
 - 10.2.3.2.4. Kathleen Squatriglia - From Paraprofessional to School Secretary - Black Rock School
 - 10.2.3.2.5. Christopher O’Keefe - From Custodial III to Custodial II - Thomaston High School
 - 10.2.3.3. Retirements
 - 10.2.3.3.1. Natalie Duncan - Special Education Teacher - Thomaston High School - Effective December 31, 2020
 - 10.2.3.4. Resignations
 - 10.2.3.4.1. Eric Martin - Director of Curriculum, Instruction, and Assessment - Thomaston Public Schools
 - 10.2.3.4.2. Martha Kelly - Family and Consumer Science Teacher - Thomaston High School
 - 10.2.3.5. Renewals - None
 - 10.2.3.6. Stipends
 - 10.2.3.6.1. Resignation - Bryan Holmes - Team Leader - Grades 11 and 12 - Effective June 30, 2020
 - 10.2.3.6.2. Resignation - Chris McMullen - Team Leader - Grade 9 - Effective June 30, 2020
 - 10.2.3.6.3. Resignation - Heidi Laus - Publicity Coordinator - Thomaston High School
 - 10.2.3.6.4. Diane Aniki - COVID-19 Health and Safety Compliance Liaison - 2020-2021 School Year

Roxy Fainer motioned and Matthew VanOrmer seconded to Vote to acknowledge the Superintendent’s notification of Personnel, specifically, New Hire/ Transfers/Retirements/ Resignations/Renewals/Stipends per Policy 4112/4212 Personnel – Certified/Non-Certified Appointment and Conditions of Employment as presented.

Abstentions:None
Discussion: None
Motion Carried: 9-0-0

- 10.2.3.7. Family and Medical Leave Act (FMLA) (Policy 4152.6/4252.6 – Personnel-- Certified/Non-Certified Personal Leaves Family and Medical Leave Act)
 - 10.2.3.7.1. Employee #1
 - 10.2.3.7.2. Employee #2
- 10.2.3.8. Interns and Student Teachers (Policy 1212 – Community Relations – School Volunteers)
 - 10.2.3.8.1. Goodwill Summer Program - Bailey Coer - Thomaston Center School
 - 10.2.3.8.2. Goodwill Summer Program - Mason Gowell - Thomaston Center School
- 10.2.3.9. Field Trips (out of state) (Policy 6153 - Instruction Field Trips - Secondary Schools) - None
- 10.2.3.10. Policy 3260 Business/Non-Instructional Operations Sales & Disposal of Books, Equipment & Supplies - None

11. Committee Reports ▲ (Bylaws of the Board 9132 – Standing Committees)

- 11.1. Business Manager Report
 - 11.1.1. June Business Report
 - 11.1.1.1. 2019-2020 Budget Table Without Encumbrances
 - 11.1.1.2. 2019-2020 Budget Table With Encumbrances
 - 11.1.1.3. 2019-2021 Grant Report
 - 11.1.1.4. 2019-2020 Projection
 - 11.1.1.5. 2019-2020 Transfers
 - 11.1.1.6. Expenditures
 - 11.1.1.6.1. June 2020 - 2019-2020 Fiscal Year: \$1,477,313.66
 - 11.1.2. July Business Report
 - 11.1.2.1. 2020-2021 Budget Table Without Encumbrances
 - 11.1.2.2. 2020-2021 Budget table With Encumbrances
 - 11.1.2.3. 2019-2020 Grant Report
 - 11.1.2.4. 2020-2021 Grant Report
 - 11.1.2.5. 2019-2020 Transfers
 - 11.1.2.6. Expenditures
 - 11.1.2.6.1. July 2020 - 2020-2021 Fiscal Year: \$725,687.70

Roxy Fainer motioned and Matthew VanOrmer seconded to accept/approve the reimbursement by the Board of Education in the amount of \$99.70 to the Food Service account.

Abstentions: None
Discussion: None
Motion Carried: 9-0-0

Roxy Fainer motioned and Matthew VanOrmer seconded to approve Superintendent Francine Coss' request to carry over three and one-half vacation days to the next contract year per agenda item 10.1.1.8. under Correspondences.

Abstentions: None
Discussion: None
Motion Carried: 9-0-0

Roxy Fainer motioned and Matthew VanOrmer seconded to accept / approve the Business and Finance Report and Expenditures per Policy 3432/3433 Business/Non-Instructional Operations - Budget & Expense Report/Annual Financial Statement as presented.

Abstentions: None

Discussion: None

Motion Carried: 9-0-0

11.2. Policy Committee (*Policy 2231 - Administration/Policy and Regulation Systems*)

11.2.1. Presentations - None

11.2.2. Discussion Items - None

11.2.3. Read Items

11.2.3.1. First Read - None

11.2.3.2. Second Read

11.2.3.2.1. Policy 6159 - Individualized Education Program/Special Education Program (marked up copy)

11.2.4. Action Items - None

12. Adjournment

Roxy Fainer motioned and Matthew VanOrmer seconded to adjourn the meeting.

Chairperson Beth Campbell adjourned the meeting at 7:32pm.
