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## MINUTES

### Thomaston Board of Education Budget Committee Meeting

Thomaston Town Hall  
Superintendent's Office  
Monday, April 13, 2015  
5:00 p.m.

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#### Budget Committee Members:

Roxy Fainer  
Alexander Lee

Kathleen Freimuth  
Francine Coss

Rebecca Guay  
Todd Bendtsen

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*The Thomaston Board of Education welcomes public attendance, but there will be no public comments taken.*

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#### I. Call to Order:

- The meeting was called to order at 5:00P.M. by **Roxy Fainer**.
- Committee Members in Attendance: Roxy Fainer, Kathleen Freimuth, Rebecca Guay, Francine Coss and Todd Bendtsen.
- Others in Attendance: Laraine Wescheler, Reporter for the Republican American.

#### II. Business and Financial - March 2015:

- **Business Report: Todd Bendtsen**, Business Manager, read and discussed the Business Report as listed below.

- i. Executed Notice of Grant Award #014S140A
- ii. Boiler Section Replacement
- iii. Low Flow Shower Head
- iv. Mechanical Maintenance Invoice
- v. Tuition, Building Use, and Lunch Rates
- vi. Thomaston Public Schools Education Budget 2015-2016
- vii. Thomaston Board of Education 2015 – 2020 Capital Budget

A discussion about tuition, building use and lunch rates led to the Committee reaching consensus on a per meal rate of \$3.00 in the 2015-2016 school year.

The Committee determined by consensus that the new meal rate for the 2015-2016 school year would be brought to the full Board for action during the April Regular Meeting.

- **Finance Report: Todd Bendtsen**, Business Manager, read and discussed the Finance Report as listed below.

- i. *2014-2015 Financials*
- ii. *2014-2015 Budget Projection: Deficit of \$149,432.00*
- iii. *Grant Report*
- iv. *Expenditures – March 2015: \$1,544,818.50*
- v. *Transfers – March 2015: \$0.00*

- **Discussion Items: Todd Bendtsen**, Business Manager, discussed Policy 3240 which describes the Board’s obligation to set tuition rates.
  - i. **Policy 3240 - Thomaston Public Schools Tuition Rates**
    - *General Education Tuition Rate - Per the ED001 Report and confirmed by the Connecticut State Department of Education, the per pupil expenditure rate for Thomaston Public Schools is \$15,043 beginning immediately upon Board approval and holding until the end of the 2015-2016 school year. The Committee members determined by consensus that this rate should be brought to the full Board for action during the April Regular Meeting.*
    - *Special Education Tuition Rate - The sample rates provided to the Committee will be shared with Aimee Turner, Thomaston Public Schools Director of Pupil-Personnel Services. The Committee members determined by consensus that these rates should be held for full Board action until Ms. Turner’s review is complete; the final rates may be available for action during the May Regular Meeting.*
    - *Pre-School Program Tuition Rate: The preschool tuition rate has been published to parents as part of the enrollment process. The Committee determined by consensus that the 2016-2017 rates would be discussed during the May Budget Committee meeting.*
    - *Positive Alternative to Traditional High School (PATHS) Program Tuition Rate: The PATHS tuition rate was listed as \$25,000 in the 2015-2016 Operating Budget proposal shared with the Thomaston Board of Finance. The Committee determined by consensus that the 2015-2016 rates would not be acted on until after the Town budget is approved.*

**II. Adjourn:**

- The meeting was adjourned at 5:29P.M.