
MINUTES

Thomaston Board of Education Policy Committee Meeting

Thomaston Town Hall
Superintendent's Office
Monday, April 13, 2015
5:30P.M.

Policy Committee Members:

Roxy Fainer

Alexander Lee

Anne Petrucci

Francine Coss

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

I. Call to Order:

- The meeting was called to order by Roxy Fainer at 5:40P.M.
- Policy Committee Members in Attendance: Roxy Fainer, Anne Petrucci, and Francine Coss.
- Others in Attendance:
 1. Board Members: Kathleen Freimuth, Rebecca Guay.
 2. Staff Members: Todd Bendtsen (Business Manager), Heidi Laus (Teacher), Mark Olsen (Teacher), Susan Abbott (Teacher).
 3. Others: Ryan Wells, CIRMA Representative and Laraine Wescheler, Reporter for the Republican American.
- Francine Coss requested that the order of the agenda be adjusted to accommodate Ryan Wells. Roxy Fainer requested a change in the order of the agenda to accommodate the teachers who were present to discuss their respective field trip proposals. The Committee determined by consensus to adjust the agenda.
- Item "II. Presentation" would be postponed until the Ryan Wells was ready to present.
- Heidi Laus, Mark Olsen and Susan Abbott discussed their respective field trip requests with the Policy Committee members. The Policy Committee members determined by consensus that their requests along with the request made by teacher Preston Sopresayo, would be recommended for favorable action during the April 2015 Regular Meeting.
- Todd Bendtsen, Business Manager, stated he would investigate CIRMA field trip insurance for the overseas trip.

III. Read Items:

- a) Policy Audit Series 2000 – First Read was discussed; it was determined by consensus that this policy would be a First Read during the April Regular Meeting.

- b) Policy 3542.33 – Food Sales Other than National School Lunch Program (Policy and Regulation) - Second Read was discussed by the Committee and determined by consensus to be held as a Second Read until the May Regular Meeting.
- c) Policy 3542.34 – Nutrition Program - Second Read was discussed by the Committee and determined by consensus to be held as a Second Read until the May Regular Meeting.
- d) Policy 3542.45 – Vending Machines - Second Read was discussed by the Committee and determined by consensus to be held as a Second Read until the May Regular Meeting.

IV. Discussion Items:

- a) Policy 5131.61 – Students – Drug, Alcohol, and Tobacco was discussed by the Committee and determined by consensus to be in conflict with the recently updated Policy 5131; the Committee determined by consensus that this policy be recommended for elimination from Thomaston Board of Education Policy during the April Regular Meeting.

II. Presentation:

- Connecticut Interlocal Risk Management Agency (CIRMA) Worker’s Compensation Stewardship Report - Ryan Wells - Mr. Wells presented a five-year summary document of worker’s compensation data for Thomaston Public Schools and offered his assistance in addressing the information in the summary document.

IV. Discussion Items (continued from before the “II. Presentation”):

- b) Policy 5113 – Attendance – Students High School Attendance Excused Absences and Truancy, Regulation was included in the discussion items to allow for any additional questions about the policy. No Committee members posed questions.
- c) Policy 3551 – Business/Non-Instructional Operations – No School/No Play – Guidelines was discussed by the Committee and determined by consensus to be limiting and complicating of a process that does not require a policy; the Committee determined by consensus that this policy be recommended for elimination from Thomaston Board of Education Policy during the April Regular Meeting.
- d) Policy 6146 – Graduation Requirements was included in the discussion items to allow Committee members to review the current policy when considering the two graduation requirement options recently proposed by John Perrucci, Principal of Thomaston High School. Kristin Raymond, Assistant Principal of Thomaston High School will be making a presentation about these two proposals to the Committee during the May Policy Committee meeting.
- e) Two Year Board of Education Meeting Calendar was provided to the Committee for consideration at a future date.
- f) 2016/2017 School Year Calendar was provided to the Committee for consideration at a future date.
- g) Policy 4121 – Personnel – Certified Substitute Teachers was discussed by the Committee and determined by consensus to be in conflict with the recently updated Policy 5131; the Committee determined by consensus that this policy be

recommended for elimination from Thomaston Board of Education Policy during the April Regular Meeting.

- h) Thomaston Public Schools Educator Evaluation and Support Plan was offered by Francine Coss for review by the Committee for potential action during the May Regular Meeting.
- i) Policy 1330 – Community Relations – Use of Facilities was discussed as part of the fee discussion. The Committee determined by consensus that this policy be edited to include “mandatory” before item 1.C. under Rental Classifications on page 1330(e). The Committee determined by consensus that this edit would be addressed as part of the expected action on Policy Audit Series 1000 during the April Regular Meeting.
- j) Policy 3240 – Business – Tuition Fees was discussed as part of the tuition discussion. Sick Pay, Fees, General Education Tuition Rate, Special Education Tuition Rate, Pre-School Tuition Rate, and the tuition rate for Positive Alternatives to Traditional High School (PATHS) were all discussed.
- k) Policy Audit Series 3000 was included for discussion as the Committee has not completed the review of this series.

V. Action Items:

- a) Policy Audit Series 1000 – Community Relations was discussed; the Committee determined by consensus that the word “mandatory” be added before item 1.C. under Rental Classifications on page 1330(e) and that all other policies in this series be accepted as presented.
- b) Policy 6142.101 – Student Nutrition and Physical Activity (tabled from March 9, 2015 Regular Meeting) was discussed; the Committee determined by consensus that action on this policy be held until the May Regular meeting.

VI. Adjourn: The meeting was adjourned by Roxy Fainer at 6:50P.M.