

Minutes
THOMASTON BOARD OF EDUCATION
Regular Meeting
 Thomaston Town Hall – Meeting Room One
 Monday, September 14, 2015
 7:00 p.m.

Members:

- Roxy Fainer, Chairperson
- Kathleen Freimuth, Vice Chairperson
- Anne Petrucci, Secretary
- Alexander Lee, Treasurer
- Beth Campbell
- Carol Pettinicchi
- Rebecca Guay
- Jennifer McDonald
- Maureen McMahan
- Francine Coss, Superintendent

Members Present: Roxy Fainer, Kathleen Freimuth, Alexander Lee, Beth Campbell, Carol Pettinicchi, Anne Petrucci, Rebecca Guay, Jennifer McDonald, and Francine Coss

Members Absent: Maureen McMahan

Staff Present: John Perrucci, Thomaston High School Principal

Public Present: Loraine, Waterbury Republic Reporter

I. Establishment of a Quorum and Call to Order:

Roxy Fainer established a quorum and called to order the Regular Meeting of the Board of Education at 7:04 p.m.

II. Pledge of Allegiance:

Roxy Fainer led the Pledge of Allegiance.

III. Approval of Agenda:

Kathleen Freimuth **MOVED** to **AMEND** the agenda to add Executive Session for the purpose of Collective Bargaining and to vote on the AFSCME Contract after Executive Session.

Kathleen Freimuth **MOVED** and Anne Petrucci **SECONDED** to accept/approve the agenda as amended.

| <i>Yea</i> | <i>Nay</i> | <i>Abstentions</i> |
|-----------------------|------------|--------------------|
| <i>8</i> | <i>0</i> | <i>0</i> |
| <i>Motion Carried</i> | | |

IV. Presentation:

A. *Thomaston High School Grading Policy, Exploring Interventions – Presented by John Perrucci, Thomaston High School Principal - (see attached presentation)*

Discussion:

Kathleen Freimuth asked if any Districts in our DRG were using this grading system. **John Perrucci** responded that Windsor has fully implemented this grading system, but he hasn't heard of any other Districts.

Anne Petrucci asked if this plan has discussed this with the staff. **Mr. Perrucci** responded that there has been an ongoing conversation with his staff.

Mr. Perrucci plans to meet with each team every two weeks for discussion about student progress. There will be monitoring of consistency within each grade level team

Anne Petrucci asked if this would be beneficial to all students. **Mr. Perrucci** responded that he does believe that each student will get what they need and will get feedback.

Jennifer McDonald asked if there was documentation that this would not affect student's acceptance to colleges. **Mr. Perrucci** responded that they will need to communicate differently will colleges.

Rebecca Guay asked if this would affect our student's acceptance into (NCAA) National Collegiate Athletic Association. **Mr. Perrucci** responded that he doesn't think that would be a factor.

Board Members asked if parents be included in the decision making process and would this be implemented District wide. **Francine Coss** explained that she would support this District wide and that at the Elementary level they are already stepping in that direction. Additionally, she explained there would need to be multiple meetings including the community and students to get a better sense of the culture.

V. Approval of Minutes:

Kathleen Freimuth **MOVED** and Anne Petrucci **SECONDED** to accept/approve the Regular Meeting minutes dated August 17, 2015 with Amendment of Jennifer McDonald being absent from meeting not both present and absent be removed; remove the duplicate presentation discussion; list names of Board Members who abstained.

| <i>Yea</i> | <i>Nay</i> | <i>Abstentions</i> |
|-----------------------|------------|--------------------|
| <i>7</i> | <i>0</i> | <i>1</i> |
| <i>Motion Carried</i> | | |

Jennifer McDonald abstained.

Kathleen Freimuth **MOVED** and Anne Petrucci **SECONDED** to accept/approve the Budget Committee meeting minutes dated August 17, 2015 as presented.

| <i>Yea</i> | <i>Nay</i> | <i>Abstentions</i> |
|-----------------------|------------|--------------------|
| <i>7</i> | <i>0</i> | <i>1</i> |
| <i>Motion Carried</i> | | |

Jennifer McDonald abstained.

Kathleen Freimuth **MOVED** and Anne Petrucci **SECONDED** to accept/approve the Policy Committee meeting minutes dated August 17, 2015 as presented.

| <i>Yea</i> | <i>Nay</i> | <i>Abstentions</i> |
|-----------------------|------------|--------------------|
| <i>8</i> | <i>0</i> | <i>0</i> |
| <i>Motion Carried</i> | | |

VI. Superintendent's Report:

- A. AFSCME Contract
- B. Ad Hoc Communication Committee

- C. InfoSnap
- D. Enrollment
- E. Administrator Reports
- F. Personnel
 - a. New Hires/Transfers/Resignations
 - *Peter Selca, School Psychologist, Black Rock School, New Hire effective September 8, 2015*
 - *Rose McLaughlin, Assistant Principal Long Term Substitute, Thomaston High School, effective August 24, 2015 through November 24, 2015*
 - *Patricia Keparutis, Long Term Substitute, Math, Thomaston High School, effective August 26, 2015 through December 23, 2015*
 - *Brian LaFontaine, Assistant Cross Country Coach, resignation effective August 27, 2015*

Discussion:

Rebecca Guay asked if anyone has reached out to families who do not have email to complete their InfoSnap Returning Student Registration. **Francine Coss** explained that there were very few families that didn't have the capability to complete the form, but the few who didn't have email addresses had been contacted.

Rebecca Guay commented on the increased enrollment numbers and asked if there have been any requests asking for additional classroom sections due to too many students. **Beth Campbell** also commented on the increased class sizes at Thomaston Center School, due to the influx in enrollment.

Alexander Lee asked if the Athletic Director is still responsible for recommending coaches for hiring. **Francine Coss** replied that the Athletic Director recommends the coaches to Mr. Perrucci, Thomaston High School Principal and Mr. Perrucci recommends them to the Superintendent.

Kathleen Freimuth **MOVED** and Anne Petrucci **SECONDED** to accept/approve New Hires, Resignations and Long Term Substitutes as presented.

| <i>Yea</i> | <i>Nay</i> | <i>Abstentions</i> |
|-----------------------|------------|--------------------|
| <i>8</i> | <i>0</i> | <i>0</i> |
| <i>Motion Carried</i> | | |

a. Schedule K Positions:

- *Jennifer Ewart - Grade 11 Class Advisor*
- *Alexander Sconziano - Teacher in Charge, Thomaston High School*
- *Debra Gritt, TEAM Facilitator*

Kathleen Freimuth **MOVED** and Anne Petrucci **SECONDED** to accept/approve Schedule K Assignments as presented.

| <i>Yea</i> | <i>Nay</i> | <i>Abstentions</i> |
|-----------------------|------------|--------------------|
| <i>8</i> | <i>0</i> | <i>0</i> |
| <i>Motion Carried</i> | | |

Jennifer McDonald expressed there have been some concerns in the community regarding the hiring of the Field Hockey Coach. Specifically, the coach from the 2014-2015 school year was not asked to coach again this year. **Mr. Perrucci** explained that she did not apply for the position.

Kathleen Freimuth **MOVED** and Anne Petrucci **SECONDED** to accept/approve Coaches as presented.

| <i>Yea</i> | <i>Nay</i> | <i>Abstentions</i> |
|-----------------------|------------|--------------------|
| <i>7</i> | <i>1</i> | <i>0</i> |
| <i>Motion Carried</i> | | |

Jennifer McDonald voted Nay.

- b. Coaches
 - *Agon Bikaj, Middle School Boys Soccer Coach, pending Temporary Coaching Permit*
 - *Gabriel Olsen, Middle School Cross Country Coach, pending Certification Renewal*
 - *Kimberly Theriault, Middle School Field Hockey Coach, effective beginning of season*
- c. Superintendent's Contract:

Kathleen Freimuth **MOVED** and Anne Petrucci **SECONDED** to accept/approve the Superintendent's Contract (3) Three Year as presented.

Discussion:

Jennifer McDonald and **Beth Campbell** commented that they understood that the \$5,000 stipend for health insurance reimbursement was supposed to be eliminated from the Superintendent's Contract. **Roxy Fainer** responded that the Board Members agreed to include the health insurance reimbursement.

Alexander Lee commended **Francine Coss** and **Todd Bendtson** for their leadership in reducing the 2014-2015 Budget deficit.

| <i>Yea</i> | <i>Nay</i> | <i>Abstentions</i> |
|-----------------------|------------|--------------------|
| <i>8</i> | <i>0</i> | <i>0</i> |
| <i>Motion Carried</i> | | |

VII. Committee Reports:

Budget/Audit Committee

B. Reports:

1. Business Report:
 - a. *Thomaston High School Emergency Generator Test*
 - b. *Benjamin Barnes, OPM Secretary Memo*
 - c. *Superintendent Memo to Board of Finance Concerning Unexpended Budget Balance for 2014-2015 School Year*
- b. Finance Report:
 - *2014 - 2015 Budget without Encumbrances*
 - *2015-2016 Budget without Encumbrances*
 - *2015-2016 Budget wit Encumbrances*
 - *2014-2015 Budget Projection*
 - *2013-2016 Grant Report*
 - *2015-2016 Grant Report*
2. Action Items:
 - a. Business and Finance Report
 - *2014-2015 Expenditures of \$76,430.66*
 - *August 2015 Expenditures of \$527,788.49*
 - *August 2015 Transfers \$35,119.35*

Kathleen Freimuth **MOVED** and Anne Petrucci **SECONDED** to approve/accept the Business Manager's Report as presented.

| <i>Yea</i> | <i>Nay</i> | <i>Abstentions</i> |
|-----------------------|------------|--------------------|
| <i>8</i> | <i>0</i> | <i>0</i> |
| <i>Motion Carried</i> | | |

B. Policy Committee

1. Read Items:

- *Policy Audit Series 3000 - Business/Non-Instructional Operations - Second Read*
- *Policy 4115, Personnel - Certified Evaluation - Second Read*

2. Future Agenda Items:

- *2016/2017 School Year Calendar*
- *Policy 6142.101 - Student Nutrition and Physical Activity*
- *Policy 5118 - Students, Nonresident Attendance/Tuition Students*
- *Policy 5118.1 - Students, Homeless Students*

3. Action Items:

- *Policy 3551, Business/Non-Instructional Operations - No School/No Play Guidelines*

Kathleen Freimuth **MOVED** and Anne Petrucci **SECONDED** to approve/accept Policy 3551, Business/Non-Instructional Operations as presented.

| <i>Yea</i> | <i>Nay</i> | <i>Abstentions</i> |
|-----------------------|------------|--------------------|
| <i>8</i> | <i>0</i> | <i>0</i> |
| <i>Motion Carried</i> | | |

VIII. Public Participation:

Roxy Fainer commended **Mr. Perrucci** for his open house handout.

Executive Session:

Kathleen Freimuth **MOVED** and Rebecca Guay **SECONDED** to enter into Executive Session for the purpose of Collective Bargaining of at 8:53p.m.

| <i>Yea</i> | <i>Nay</i> | <i>Abstentions</i> |
|-----------------------|------------|--------------------|
| <i>8</i> | <i>0</i> | <i>0</i> |
| <i>Motion Carried</i> | | |

Alexander Lee excused himself from Executive Session due to a conflict of interest.

Kathleen Freimuth **MOVED** and Beth Campbell **SECONDED** to exit Executive Session at 9:04 p.m.

| <i>Yea</i> | <i>Nay</i> | <i>Abstentions</i> |
|-----------------------|------------|--------------------|
| <i>7</i> | <i>0</i> | <i>0</i> |
| <i>Motion Carried</i> | | |

Kathleen Freimuth **MOVED** and Beth Campbell **SECONDED** to approve the Agreement Between the Thomaston Board of Education and Local 1303-97 of Connecticut Council 4, American Federation of State County and Municipal Employees July 1, 2015 - June 30, 2016

IX. Adjournment:

Kathleen Freimuth **MOVED** and Beth Campbell **SECONDED** to adjourn the Regular Meeting of the Board of Education at 9:05 p.m.