



## MINUTES

### THOMASTON BOARD OF EDUCATION REGULAR MEETING

Monday, May 8, 2023 at 7:00 p.m. Thomaston High School Auditorium Entrance - Door #2

*This meeting can be attended in person by the public ([see requirements](#)) or viewed live/recorded on the [Board of Education YouTube Channel](#).  
([Bylaws of the Board 9322 - Public and Executive Sessions](#) and [Bylaws of the Board 9326.1 - Taping/Recording Board Meetings](#))*

#### 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.

#### 2022-2023 Board of Education Goals:

1. Board Members shall respond to invitations within 24 hours.
2. Board Members will attend district events.

#### Members:

Roxy Fainer, Chairperson  
Heather Patchell, Secretary  
Beth Campbell  
Frank Treglia

Francine Coss, Superintendent  
Marie Eldridge  
Delaney Jose, Student Representative  
Nathan Marsh, Student Representative

David Colavecchio, Vice Chairperson  
Steven Carr, Treasurer  
Sarah Ethier  
Matthew VanOrmer

### 1. Establishment of a Quorum and Call to Order

*(Bylaws of the Board 9325.1 – Quorum)*

- 1.1. **Chairperson Roxy Fainer** called the meeting to order at 7:02pm.
- 1.2. Board Members in Attendance: **Chairperson Roxy Fainer, Vice Chairperson David Colavecchio, Secretary Heather Patchell, Treasurer Steven Carr, Sarah Ethier, Marie Eldridge, Frank Treglia, Beth Campbell, Matthew VanOrmer, Superintendent Francine Coss**
- 1.3. Board Members Absent: None
- 1.4. Student Representatives in Attendance: **Nathan Marsh**
- 1.5. Student Representative Absent: **Delaney Jose**
- 1.6. Administrators in Attendance: Jessica Bedosky, Kristin Bernier, Jonathan Kozlak, Andrea Peters
- 1.7. Others in Attendance: Jessyca Tucker, Cheyenne Clark, Kelsey Murzak, Megan Campbell, James Campbell, Amanda Behuniak, Nathan Kowalski

### 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)*

**Beth Campbell motioned and Steve Carr seconded to accept/approve the agenda of the Board of Education Meeting dated May 8, 2023 as presented.**

Discussion: **Matthew VanOrmer** moved to amend the motion to approve the agenda to include an amendment, specifically to change agenda item 11.2.5. From "Action Items - None" to "Action Items - Policy and Form 5123 - Students - Promotion/Acceleration/Retention" and to add the two motions under 11.2.5., specifically

1. Vote to permit Policy 5123 and Form 5123 to be "fast tracked" by two thirds vote of the members present at tonight's Board of Education meeting.
2. Vote to accept/approve the changes to Policy 5123 and Form 5123 - Students- Promotion/Acceleration/Retention as presented

**Matthew VanOrmer motioned and Beth Campbell seconded to amend the agenda to fast track Policy 5123 and Form 5123 and accept/approve the changes to Policy 5123 and Form 5123 as presented.**

Discussion: None

Opposed: None

Abstain: None

Motion Carried: 9-0-0

**David Colavecchio** motioned to amend the agenda by going into executive session and move the superintendent's evaluation to this evening.

**David Colavecchio motioned and Beth Campbell seconded to go into executive session and move the superintendent's evaluation to this evening's meeting.**

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[Discussion Link](#)

Opposed: **Roxy Fainer, Matthew VanOrmer**

Abstain: None

Motion Carried: 7-2-0

**4. Public Participation** ▲▲▲ None

*(Bylaws of the Board 9325 – Meeting Conduct)*

*The Board welcomes public participation in accordance with the rules of common courtesy and the Bylaws of the Board 9325 – Meeting Conduct:*

- *Five minutes may be allotted to each speaker and a maximum of twenty minutes to each subject matter.*
- *No boisterous conduct shall be permitted; persistence in boisterous conduct shall be grounds for termination of that person's privilege to address the Board. The Chairperson may clear the room so that Board members may continue the meeting.*
- *No oral presentation shall include charges/complaints against any employee of the Board of Education, regardless of whether or not the employee is identified by name.*

**5. Approval of Minutes** ▲

*(Bylaws of the Board 9326 – Minutes)*

5.1. Thomaston Board of Education Regular Meeting Minutes - April 17, 2023

**Beth Campbell motioned and David Colavecchio seconded** to accept/approve the Thomaston Board of Education Regular Meeting Minutes dated April 17, 2023 as presented.

Discussion: None

Opposed: None

Abstain: None

Motion Carried: 9-0-0

5.2. Thomaston Board of Education Special Meeting Minutes - May 2, 2023

**Beth Campbell motioned and David Colavecchio seconded** to accept/approve the Thomaston Board of Education Special Meeting Minutes dated May 2, 2023 as presented.

Discussion: None

Opposed: None

Abstain: 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. April Rotary Student of the Month - Michael Grant

6.2. Students of the Month - April 2023

Grade 12: Michael Grant

Grade 7: Joseph Rocco

Grade 2: Maya Holway

Grade 11: Alba Pupprigi

Grade 6: Emily Mazzarella

Grade 1: Ethan McGee

Grade 10: Grace LeVasseur

Grade 5: Lauryn Caviasca

Kindergarten: Clark Lounsbury

Grade 9: Brianna Ronalter

Grade 4: Jackson Ethier

Preschool: Cash Kloss

Grade 8: Ava Smith

Grade 3: Paisley Glick

6.3. Connecticut Association of Public Schools Superintendents/Litchfield County Superintendent Association Student Recognition

Grade 12: Michael Grant

Grade 8: Emily Thornton

Grade 6: Adriana Rocco

Grade 12: Marissa VanOrmer

6.4. May 2023 Staff Spotlight - Jessyca Tucker, Teacher - Thomaston High School

6.5. Kristin Bernier, Thomaston Center School Principal - Connecticut Association of Schools (CAS) Recognition Award

6.6. Susan Larson, Reading Interventionist - Thomaston Center School - Fund for Teachers Fellowship Recipient

**7. Presentations** ▲▲▲

*(Bylaws of the Board 9410 – Public Announcement of Accomplishments)*

7.1. Co-Teaching - Andrea Peters, Director of Pupil Services, Thomaston Public Schools, Jody Minotti, Director of Student Services - EdAdvance, and Melissa Baldwin, Assistant Director of Student Services - EdAdvance

**8. Student Representatives Report** ▲▲▲

*(Bylaws of the Board 9160 – Student Representation on the Board of Education)*

8.1. May 2023

**9. Chairperson's Report** ▲▲▲

*(Bylaws of the Board 9121 – Office of the Chairperson)*

9.1. Connecticut Association of Boards of Education (CABE) Appropriations Committee Update

9.2. Thomaston High School - Third Quarter Honor Roll

9.3. Progress Report on 2022-2023 Goals for the Thomaston Board of Education and the Superintendent of Schools

9.4. Thomaston Board of Education Self-Assessment Summary Report (Board of Education Self-Evaluation)

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**David Colavecchio motioned and Beth Campbell seconded** to accept/approve the Thomaston Board of Education Self-Assessment Summary Report (Board of Education Self-Evaluation) as presented.

Discussion: None

Opposed: None

Abstain: None

Motion Carried: 9-0-0

9.5. 2024-2025 Thomaston Public Schools District Calendar

**David Colavecchio motioned and Beth Campbell seconded** to accept/approve the 2024-2025 Thomaston Public Schools District Calendar as presented.

Discussion: None

Opposed: None

Abstain: None

Motion Carried: 9-0-0

9.6. 2023-2024 Revised Thomaston Public Schools District Calendar

**David Colavecchio motioned and Beth Campbell seconded** to accept/approve the 2023-2024 Revised Thomaston Public Schools Calendar as presented.

Discussion: None

Opposed: None

Abstain: None

Motion Carried: 9-0-0

9.7. Student Representation on the Board of Education - Policy 9160

9.7.1. Letter of Recommendation - Megan Campbell - Grade 11 Student Representative - 2023-2024

9.7.2. Letter of Recommendation - Landen Galpin - Grade 12 Student Representative - 2023-2024

**David Colavecchio motioned and Matthew VanOrmer seconded** to accept/approve the recommendations of Megan Campbell and Landen Galpin as the Student Representatives for the 2023-2024 school year.

Discussion: None

Opposed: None

Abstain: **Beth Campbell**

Motion Carried: 8-0-1

## 10. Superintendent's Report ▲▲▲

*(Policy 2131 – Administration – Superintendent of Schools)*

### 10.1. Correspondence

#### 10.1.1. Superintendent

10.1.1.1. Effective School Solutions - MINDBEAT - April 19, 2023

10.1.1.2. Effective School Solutions - MINDBEAT - April 26, 2023

10.1.1.3. Thank You Letter to Gianni Perugini for Presenting at the April 17, 2023 Board of Education Regular Meeting

10.1.1.4. Letter to Nicole Lefebvre, Director of Food Services, Thomaston Public Schools, Regarding the Approval of the Revised Policy 3542.43 at the April 17, 2023 Board of Education Regular Meeting

10.1.1.5. Notification to Nicole Lefebvre, Director of Food Services, of 2023-2024 Healthy Food Certification Statements/Resolutions Approval at the April 17, 2023 Board of Education Regular Meeting

10.1.1.6. Notice to First Selectman Edmond Mone Regarding the Response from the Thomaston Board of Education for the Gentlemen's Agreement between the Town of Thomaston and the Board of Education

10.1.1.7. Letter from Connecticut Association of Schools (CAS) Regarding the 2023 Annual Membership Reception and the Recognition of Kristin Bernier, Thomaston Center School Principal, for her Years of Service to CAS-CIAC.

10.1.1.8. Literacy Look-Fors for K-3 Literacy Classes from Fran Rabinowitz, Executive Director, Connecticut Association of Public Schools Superintendents (CAPSS)

10.1.2. Connecticut Association of Boards of Education (CABE) - None

10.1.3. Connecticut Association of Public Schools Superintendents (CAPSS) - None

10.1.4. United States Department of Education (USDE) - None

10.1.5. Department of Public Health (DPH) - None

10.1.6. Connecticut State Department of Education (CSDE)

10.1.6.1. Process to File a Request for an Extension of Time to Implement Connecticut's Approved Reading Curriculum Models or Programs

10.1.6.2. Internet Safety for Parents, Teachers, and Child Workers

10.1.6.3. Student Assessment News - April 2023

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10.2. Reports

- 10.2.1. 2022-2023 Thomaston Public Schools COVID-19 Positivity and Vaccination Rate
- 10.2.2. Thomaston Center School Gymnasium Floor Project Update
- 10.2.3. Black Rock School Blue Wing Flood Update
- 10.2.4. Town of Thomaston Solar Exploration Timeline
- 10.2.5. Administrator Reports
  - 10.2.5.1. May 2023
  - 10.2.5.2. Algebra I Curriculum Guide Update (incorporating probability and statistics into Grade 8) - Jessica Bedosky, Director of Curriculum, Instruction and Student Assessment

**David Colavecchio motioned and Beth Campbell seconded to accept/approve the updated Algebra 1 (incorporating probability and statistics) - Grade 8 as presented.**

Discussion: None

Opposed: None

Abstain: None

Motion Carried: 9-0-0

10.2.6. Enrollment Report

10.2.6.1. May 1, 2023

10.2.6.2. 2022-2023 Spring Enrollment Projection Report from New England School Development Council (NESDEC)

10.3. Contracts

- 10.3.1. Parent Square Renewal -Thomaston Public Schools - 2023 - 2024
- 10.3.2. Memorandum of Agreement -AFSCME Local Union and Thomaston Board of Education - District Medical Liaison/Nurse Coordinator - 2022-2023
- 10.3.3. Extension of Contract - Lisa Lavoie - Board Certified Behavioral Analyst - Thomaston Public Schools - July 1, 2023-June 30, 2028
- 10.3.4. Extension of Contract - Michelina Stanley - Executive Secretary to the Superintendent - Thomaston Public Schools - July 1, 2023- June 30, 2028

10.4. Grants

10.4.1. Applications

- 10.4.1.1. Multi-Media School Security Grant Program - Grant Application - Part 1 - Thomaston Public Schools - FY2023
- 10.4.1.2. School Security Competitive Grant Program - Grant Application - Part I - Thomaston Public Schools - FY 2023

10.5. General Information

10.5.1. Fundraisers

10.5.1.1. Fundraising Follow Up

- 10.5.1.1.1. Class of 2023 - Spice Sale - Thomaston High School
- 10.5.1.1.2. Class of 2026 - Holiday Ornaments - Thomaston High School

10.5.1.2. Gifts/Donations - None

10.5.1.3. Approved Fundraisers

- 10.5.1.3.1. Money Collection for Bus and Admission to Bronx Zoo - Class of 2025 - Thomaston High School
- 10.5.1.3.2. Clothing Drive - Senior Capstone Project - Thomaston High School
- 10.5.1.3.3. Sale of Homemade Dog Treats - Interact Club - Thomaston High School
- 10.5.1.3.4. Sale of Sunflower Bracelets - Senior Capstone Project - Thomaston High School
- 10.5.1.3.5. Collection of Fees - Oceanology Field Trip - Thomaston High School
- 10.5.1.3.6. Collection of Fees - Holam Manufacturing Field Trip - Thomaston High School
- 10.5.1.3.7. Collection of Fees - Shepaug Dam Field Trip - Thomaston High School

10.5.1.4. Denied Fundraisers - None

10.6. Personnel (*\*Denotes Effective Date*)

*(Policy 4112/4212 - Personnel - Certified/Non-Certified Appointment and Conditions of Employment)*

10.6.1. New Hires - None

10.6.2. Transfer/New Assignments

10.6.2.1. Extended School Year - June 19, 2023 - July 14, 2023

10.6.2.1.1. Diane Aniki, School Nurse (temporary, part time)

10.6.3. Resignations

- 10.6.3.1. Carol Gallo, Substitute Nurse, Thomaston Public Schools\*March 31, 2023
- 10.6.3.2. Jade Morey, Special Education Paraprofessional, Thomaston Center School\*April 17, 2023
- 10.6.3.3. Richard Revere, Special Education Paraprofessional, Thomaston High School\*April 21, 2023
- 10.6.3.4. Mackenzie Norton, 10 Month Secretary, Thomaston High School\*April 28, 2023

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10.6.3.5. Jessica Bedosky, Director of Curriculum, Instruction and Assessment - Thomaston Public Schools\*June 30, 2023

10.6.4. Retirement - None

10.6.5. Termination - None

10.6.6. Non-Renewals - None

10.6.7. Stipends - 2022-2023 - None

**Matthew VanOrmer motioned and Steven Carr seconded** to acknowledge the Superintendent's notification of Personnel, specifically, New Hires/Transfers/ Retirements/ Resignations/Renewals/Stipends per Policy 4112/4212 Personnel – Certified/Non-Certified Appointment and Conditions of Employment as presented.

[Discussion Link](#)

Opposed: None

Abstain: None

Motion Carried: 9-0-0

10.6.8. Family and Medical Leave Act (FMLA) - None

*(Policy 4152.6/4252.6 – Personnel – Certified/Non-Certified Personal Leaves Family and Medical Leave Act)*

10.6.9. Interns and Student Teachers - None

*(Policy 1212–Community Relations–School Volunteers)*

10.7. Field Trips - None

*(Policy 6153 - Instruction Field Trips - Secondary Schools)*

10.8. Sales and Disposal of Books, Equipment and Supplies - None

*(Policy 3260 Business/Non-Instructional Operations Sales & Disposal of Books, Equipment & Supplies)*

## 11. Committee Reports ▲

*(Bylaws of the Board 9132 – Standing Committees and Bylaws of the Board 9133 - Special Committees/Advisory Committees)*

### 11.1. Budget Audit Committee

11.1.1. April 2023 Business Manager's Report

11.1.1.1. 2023- 2024 Budget

11.1.1.2. 2022-2023 Budget Table Without Encumbrances

11.1.1.3. 2022-2023 Budget Table With Encumbrances

11.1.1.4. 2021-2023 Grant Report

11.1.1.5. 2022-2023 Projection - \$124,535 deficit

11.1.1.6. 2022-2023 Transfer

11.1.1.7. Expenditures

11.1.1.7.1. \$886,781.92

**Matthew VanOrmer motioned and Steven Carr seconded** to accept/approve Business and Finance Report and Expenditures per Policy 3432/3433 Business/Non-Instructional Operations - Budget & Expense Report/Annual Financial Statement as presented for April 2023.

Discussion: None

Opposed: **Beth Campbell, David Colavecchio, Sarah Ethier**

Abstain: None

Motion Carried: 6-3-0

### 11.2. Policy Committee

*(Policy 2231–Administration/Policy and Regulation Systems)*

11.2.1. Presentations - None

11.2.2. Discussion Items

11.2.2.1. New Proposed Policy and Regulation 3513.1 - Business/Non-Instructional Operations - Energy Conservation - Superintendent Francine Coss

11.2.2.1.1. Eliminated Policy and Regulation 3513.1 from 2007 - Thomaston Public Schools

11.2.2.1.2. Proposed Policy and Regulation 3513.1

11.2.3. First Read - Policy 5123 - Students - Promotion/Acceleration/Retention, Jessica Bedosky, Director of Curriculum, Instruction and Assessment

11.2.3.1. Current Policy - Thomaston Public Schools

11.2.3.2. CABA Sample Policy

11.2.3.3. Marked Up Copy

11.2.3.4. Clean Copy

11.2.4. Second Read - None

11.2.5. Action Item - None

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Per the Bylaws 9311 of the Thomaston Board of Education, policies will be adopted or amended after consideration at two regular meetings of the Board of Education, unless by vote of two-thirds of the members present at a Board of Education meeting, the Board permits a "fast tracking" of the policy adoption or amendment. **Matthew VanOrmer motioned and Steven Carr seconded** that the Policy Committee's proposed amendments to Policy 5123 and Form 5123 - Students - Promotion/Acceleration/Retention be permitted for "fast-tracking" by two-thirds vote of the members present at tonight's Board of Education Meeting.

Discussion: None

Opposed: None

Abstain: None

Motion Carried: 9-0-0

**Matthew Vanormer motioned and Steven Carr seconded** to accept/approve the changes to Policy 5123 and Form 5123 - Students - Promotion/Acceleration/Retention as presented.

Discussion: None

Opposed: None

Abstain: None

Motion Carried: 9-0-0

**12. Enter into Executive Session for the amendment to the agenda made by David Colavecchio to move the superintendent's evaluation to tonight.**

**David Colavechchio motioned and Beth Campbell seconded** to enter into Executive Session at 8:08pm for the purpose of moving the superintendent's evaluation to tonight.

Discussion: None

Opposed: None

Abstain: None

Motion Carried: 9-0-0

**13. Exit Executive Session/Enter into Regular Session - Exit Executive Session at 9:26pm.**

No action taken during executive session

**14. Adjournment**

**Matthew VanOrmer motioned and David Coloavecchio seconded** to adjourn the meeting.  
**Chairperson Roxy Fainer** adjourned the meeting at 9:26pm.