



MINUTES
THOMASTON BOARD OF EDUCATION
Special Meeting
Thomaston Center School – Library Media Center
 Date: Wednesday, February 24, 2010
 6:00 p.m.

Members: Laurie Barrett, Chair; Beth Yaffe, Vice Chair; Lucy Santopietro, Secretary; Laura Rieley, Treasurer; Joanne Gilland, Holly Herbert, Roxy Fainer, George Counter and Steve Catania, Members

Present: Laurie Barrett, Lucy Santopietro, Holly Herbert, Roxy Fainer and Joanne Gilland

Also Present: Superintendent, Lynda Mitchell; Principal, John Perrucci

I. Call to order:
 Presiding Board Member Laurie Barrett called to order the Special Meeting of the Board of Education at 6:08 p.m.

II. Approval of Agenda:
 On a motion made by Joanne Gilland and seconded by Lucy Santopietro to approve/accept the agenda as presented; no further discussion; motion carried unanimously.

III. Executive Session:
 Motion for Executive Session made by Laurie Barrett, seconded by Lucy Santopietro; no discussion; motion passed unanimously (5-0) at 6:10 p.m.

Move that the Board enter Executive Session to discuss a matter that would result in the disclosure of public records or the information contained therein as described in Connecticut General Statutes Sections 1-210(b)(2), (11) and (17). Only those invited by the Board may be present in the Executive Session. The Board invites the following individuals into the executive session:

- Superintendent, Lynda Mitchell
- Principal, John Perrucci
- The student who is the subject of this proceeding
- The parent(s) of the student
- Matthew Curtin, Board Attorney
- Officer Randy Graham

6:55 p.m. everyone excused for deliberations, except for Board Attorney Curtin.

7:06 p.m.: back in Executive Session. Everyone returned into the Executive Session. The Board exited the Executive Session at 7:07 p.m.

Board Member, Roxy Fainer made motion to **expel** the student, seconded by Lucy Santopietro; no discussion; motion passed unanimously (5-0) at 7:10 p.m

Board Motion

Move that pursuant to Connecticut General Statutes Section 10-233d, the Thomaston Board of Education shall expel the student discussed in executive session from attendance at Thomaston High School for the period from February 15, 2010 until February 14, 2011, for the reasons presented by the parties in this hearing.

Further, the Board directs the administration to offer an alternative educational opportunity, pursuant to Connecticut General Statutes Section 10-233d(d) in the form of tutoring, to the student during any period of exclusion from school during this expulsion.

The Student will be granted permission to participate in the formal High School graduation ceremony (without participation in any other activities) only if the Student meets the following conditions to the satisfaction of the Superintendent of Schools in the Superintendent's sole discretion:

- (1) Participation in any alternative educational opportunity offered by the Board. Additionally, the teacher or tutor(s) administering such alternative educational opportunity must report, to the satisfaction of the Superintendent, that the Student has successfully completed all assignments; the Student must also maintain at least a B minus grade average to be considered successful;
- (2) No future arrests or engaging in conduct that would violate the law or the Board's published policies that could result in suspension during the period of expulsion;
- (3) Drug counseling in a form and frequency to be approved in advance by the Superintendent of Schools at the family's expense. The family shall provide adequate releases so as to permit the Administration to confirm the specific nature of the treatment, progress and frequency of such treatment; and
- (4) Drug testing in a form and frequency (not to exceed once per month) to be determined by the Superintendent, with no positive results for illegal substances, at the family's expense.

During any period of exclusion from school, the Student may not be present on Board property or at any school sponsored activities.

The Board also directs the Administration, pursuant to Connecticut General Statutes Section 10-233d(f), to record this expulsion on the student's cumulative educational record, to be expunged from such record if the student graduates from high school.

Finally, the Board authorizes the Board Chairwoman and Attorney Matthew Curtin to communicate in writing the Board's decision and the reasons therefore, consistent with the Board's executive session discussion to the Student and/or the Student's parents, as appropriate.

IV. Adjournment:

Board Member, Lucy Santopietro moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:11 p.m., seconded by Holly Herbert, no discussion; motion passed unanimously (5-0) at 7:11 p.m.