



THOMASTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Contact Kristin Reichelt Bernier
Telephone 860-283-3036
Email kbernier@thomastonschools.org
Website www.thomastonschooldesk.org

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THOMASTON CENTER SCHOOL STUDENTS RUN FOR OFFICE

Fifth Graders Experience the Political Process through Connecticut's Kid Governor 2017 Program

Thomaston, CT, November 15, 2017– Grade five students at Thomaston Center School are learning about our political process firsthand through their participation in Connecticut's Kid Governor Program. Connecticut's Kid Governor is a national award-winning statewide civics program for fifth graders created by the Connecticut Public Affairs Network at Connecticut's Old State House in 2015 and is designed to coincide with Election Day in November.

Under the direction of Thomaston Center School's fifth grade Social Studies teacher, Mr. Robert McMahon, twenty-six expressed an interest in becoming Center School's Kid Governor. During the first half of October, students learned about the campaign issues and platforms of these twenty-six candidates. Students then participated in a primary and voted for six students to go forward with the election process. The six students were eager to share their platform issues with their peers. The students campaigned for the Kid Governor's position through the use of videos and speeches.

As the month progressed, students continued to learn about the political process and state government. Principal Kristin Bernier stated, "This program is a wonderful way for our students to gain experience in the political process and learn about state leadership and legislative issues in Connecticut." On October 26, 2017, Gwynth Romanzi was elected to become Thomason Center School's Kid Governor Nominee. Gwyn's platform is combatting childhood poverty. According to Gwyn, "Kid Governor taught me that if you're passionate about something you need to give it your all. I am proud to represent others in my campaign to end child poverty."

This year, Gwyn Romanzi was selected among the other student candidates around the state to run for Connecticut's top spot of Kid Governor for 2018, a prestigious honor for a Connecticut fifth grade student. This year, more than 6,000 fifth graders from around the state of Connecticut will be voting for Kid Governor. Fifth grade students at Thomaston Center School officially cast their vote on Wednesday, November 8, 2017. Results from the 2017 Connecticut Kid Governor election will be announced prior to Thanksgiving and the inauguration of the new governor will take place in January 2018.

For additional information regarding in the Connecticut's Kid Governor Program, please visit the official website at: <http://ct.kidgovernor.org/>



Photo Caption: Thomaston Center School fifth graders analyze the videos introducing the candidates and explaining the platforms of the CT Kid Governor candidates prior to casting their vote for the CT Kid Governor.



Photo Caption: Thomaston Center School recently held a primary for the 2017 CT Kid Governor and elected Gwynth Romanzi. Gwyn ran on the platform of combatting child poverty.

Thomaston Board of Education 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.

-TBOE Policy 0100

Goals and Objectives of the Thomaston Board of Education:

The Thomaston Board of Education believes that all students have a right to an education which is based on standards of excellence, which stresses rigorous demands and which serves to expand students' personal horizons. The Board believes that the education of each student is the shared responsibility of students, parents, faculty, and administrators. The Board also recognizes that students differ in their

interests and abilities and therefore the district offers a comprehensive program consisting of a variety of learning experiences. The Board believes that an important function of the school is to prepare students for participation in our American democratic society. The Board seeks to improve the intellectual, emotional, social, and physical capacities of all students. The Board encourages the development of thinking and communication skills, the tolerance of and responsibility for others, and the understanding of varied cultures and life styles. In order to implement this philosophy, recognizing that elementary, middle and high school education are important steps in a lifelong process, the Board of Education establishes the following objectives:

- A. To teach the essential skills traditionally associated with the various disciplines.
- B. To develop the four communication skills of listening, speaking, reading, and writing.
- C. To extend and refine the students' ability to comprehend, interpret, and evaluate printed, visual, and aural material.
- D. To develop critical thinking.
- E. To further the students' development of self-awareness, self-discipline, and self-esteem.
- F. To promote the physical well-being of all students.
- G. To promote creativity and appreciation of the arts, humanities, and sciences.
- H. To encourage students to consider both the alternatives to and the consequences of their actions in the decision making process.
- I. To present career options and to assist students in setting tentative goals.
- J. To help the student appreciate that learning is integrated and continuous.

-TBOE Policy 5010

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If you would like more information about this topic, please contact Kristin Reichelt Bernier at 860-283-3036 or email at kbernier@thomastonschools.org.