



## MINUTES

### THOMASTON BOARD OF EDUCATION REGULAR MEETING

Monday, September 11, 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.

#### 2023-2024 Board of Education Goals:

1. The Board will evaluate the Superintendent based on the effectiveness of her leadership in implementation and achievement of the district goals.
2. The Board will participate in biannual professional development provided by CAFE to improve the collaborative leadership team with the Superintendent to focus on priorities around high achievement for all students in the district.

#### Members:

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

Francine Coss, Superintendent  
Marie Eldridge  
Megan Campbell, Student Representative  
Landen Galpin, 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 7:00pm.
- 1.2. Board Members in Attendance: **Chairperson Roxy Fainer, Secretary Heather Patchell, Treasurer Steven Carr, Marie Eldridge, Beth Campbell, Sarah Ethier, Matthew VanOrmer, Frank Treglia**
- 1.3. Board Member Absent: **Vice Chairperson David Colavecchio**
- 1.4. Student Representatives in Attendance: **Megan Campbell, Landen Galpin**
- 1.5. Administrators in Attendance: Kristin Bernier, Aaron Bunel, Jennifer Irazabal, Cristina Kingsbury, Jonathan Kozlak, Andrea Peters
- 1.6. Others in Attendance: Nicole Sul, Tanya and Bert Galpin, Pat Chasse, Kristin Mosimann, Cierra O'Sullivan

#### 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 Matthew VanOrmer seconded to accept/approve the agenda of the Board of Education Meeting dated September 11, 2023 as presented.**

Discussions: None

Opposed: None

Abstain: None

Motion Carried: 8-0-0

#### 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 - August 21, 2023](#)

---

**Beth Campbell motioned and Matthew VanOrmer seconded** to accept/approve the Thomaston Board of Education Regular Meeting Minutes dated August 21, 2023 as presented.

Discussions: None

Opposed: None

Abstain: None

Motion Carried: 8-0-0

## 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. [Kristen Callahan, 2024 Paraprofessional of the Year, Thomaston Public Schools](#)

6.2. [Nicole Sul, 2024 Teacher of the Year, Thomaston Public Schools](#)

## 7. Presentations ▲▲▲

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

7.1. [Cierra O’Sullivan, Grade 12, US Senate Youth Program](#)

7.2. [Landen Galpin, Grade 12, Stevens Institute of Technology Summer 2023 Pre-College Program and Connecticut Boys State](#)

## 8. Student Representatives Report ▲▲▲

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

## 9. Chairperson’s Report ▲▲▲

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

9.1. [Progress Report on 2023-2024 Goals for the Thomaston Board of Education and the Superintendent of Schools](#)

9.2. [2023 CABE Board Recognition Award Application](#)

**Steven Carr motioned and Matthew VanOrmer seconded** to accept/approve the CABE Board Recognition Award Application as presented.

Discussions: None

Opposed: None

Abstain: None

Motion Carried: 8-0-0

## 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 - August 2023](#)

10.1.1.2. [2023-2024 Parent Teacher Association Fundraisers & Events](#)

10.1.1.3. [Letter from Department of Administrative Services Regarding Application and Grant Commitment for a Proposed Building Project for Thomaston High School](#) (A.K.A. oil tank removal grant)

10.1.1.4. [Letter from Department of Administrative Services Regarding Application and Grant Commitment for a Proposed Building Project for Thomaston Center School](#) (A.K.A. oil tank removal grant)

10.1.1.5. [Regional School Year Calendar to EdAdvance Area Superintendents](#)

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. [Talk Tuesdays - 2023-2024 Training Sessions](#)

10.1.6.2. [Cultivating a Meaningful Partnership: Equity at the Center - Professional Development Symposium](#)

10.1.6.3. [Back to School Letter](#)

10.1.6.4. [Evaluations for Existing Active Radon Mitigation Systems in Connecticut Public Schools](#)

10.1.6.5. [Student Assessment News - August 2023](#)

10.1.6.6. [Performance Matters Newsletter - August 2023](#)

10.1.6.7. [Components of Social, Emotional and Intellectual Habits](#)

---

10.2. Reports

- 10.2.1. [Thomaston Center School Gymnasium Floor Project Update](#)
- 10.2.2. [Black Rock School Blue Wing Flood Update](#)
- 10.2.3. [Town of Thomaston Solar Exploration Timeline](#)
- 10.2.4. [Black Rock School Air Handler Project Report](#)
- 10.2.5. Administrator Reports
  - 10.2.5.1. [September 2023](#)
  - 10.2.5.2. Food Service Report - Thomaston Public Schools
    - 10.2.5.2.1. [2023-2024 Policy Statement for Free And Reduced-price Meals in the National School Lunch Program \(NLSP\), School Breakfast Program \(SBP\), Afterschool Snack Program \(ASP\) or Free Milk in the Special Milk Program \(SMP\)](#)
    - 10.2.5.2.2. [2023-2024 State Transition Assistance for Breakfast and Lunch Expenses \(STABLE\) Funds Attestation](#)

**Matthew VanOrmer motioned and Steven Carr seconded to accept/approve the Authorized Signatures Change Form as presented.**

Discussions: None

Opposed: None

Abstain: None

Motion Carried: 8-0-0

10.2.6. Enrollment Report

- 10.2.6.1. [September 1, 2023](#)

10.3. Contracts

- 10.3.1. [2022-2023 and 2023-2024 Thomaston CT-SEDS Training Contract - EdAdvance](#)
- 10.3.2. [2023-2024 Memorandum of Agreement Clinical/School Psychologists Evaluations - EdAdvance](#)

10.4. Grants - None

10.5. General Information

10.5.1. Fundraisers

- 10.5.1.1. Fundraising Follow Up - None
- 10.5.1.2. Gifts/Donations - None
- 10.5.1.3. Approved Fundraisers
  - 10.5.1.3.1. [Mr. THS Annual Pageant - Student Council - Thomaston High School](#)
  - 10.5.1.3.2. [Spring Fling - Student Council - Thomaston High School](#)
  - 10.5.1.3.3. [Badminton Tournament - Student Council - Thomaston High School](#)
  - 10.5.1.3.4. [Homecoming - Student Council - Thomaston High School](#)
  - 10.5.1.3.5. [Car Wash - Student Council - Thomaston High School](#)
  - 10.5.1.3.6. [Lock In Students - Student Council - Thomaston High School](#)
  - 10.5.1.3.7. [Egg Sale Fundraiser - Catering Club - 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

- 10.6.1.1. [Owen McGowan, Music Teacher, Thomaston High School \\*August 25, 2023](#)
- 10.6.1.2. [David Oravetz, Science Teacher, Thomaston High School \\*August 25, 2023](#)

10.6.2. Transfer/New Assignments - None

10.6.3. Resignations

- 10.6.3.1. [Jonathan MacIsaac, Business Education Teacher, Thomaston High School \\*September 22, 2023](#)
- 10.6.3.2. [Danielle Sullo, Library Media Specialist, Black Rock School \\*September 27, 2023](#)
- 10.6.3.3. [Erin Dake, Kitchen Worker, Thomaston High School \\*August 1, 2023](#)

10.6.4. Retirement - None

10.6.5. Termination - None

10.6.6. Non-Renewals - None

---

10.6.7. Stipends - 2023-2024

- 10.6.7.1. [Alex Sconziano, Co-Director of Athletics, Thomaston High School](#)
- 10.6.7.2. [Michael Watson, Co-Director of Athletics, Thomaston High School](#)
- 10.6.7.3. [Peg Protzmann, Grade 7 Team Leader, Thomaston High School](#)
- 10.6.7.4. [Thomas Andronowitz, Web Page Coordinator, Thomaston High School](#)
- 10.6.7.5. [Owen McGowan, Band Director, Thomaston High School](#)
- 10.6.7.6. [Owen McGowan, Choral Director, Thomaston High School](#)

**Steven Carr motioned and Matthew VanOrmer 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.

Discussions: None

Opposed: None

Abstain: None

Motion Carried: 8-0-0

10.6.8. Family and Medical Leave Act (FMLA)

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

- 10.6.8.1. [Employee B](#)

10.6.9. Interns and Student Teachers

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

- 10.6.9.1. [Vincent Torello, Student Teacher, Thomaston High School](#)
- 10.6.9.2. [Isabella Theriault – Student Intern – Black Rock School](#)

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. [August 2023 Business Manager's Report](#)

- 11.1.1.1. 2023-2024 Budget Table Without Encumbrances
- 11.1.1.2. 2023-2024 Budget Table With Encumbrances
- 11.1.1.3. 2022-2024 Grant Report
- 11.1.1.4. Transfers - None
- 11.1.1.5. Expenditures for the Month: \$903,507.04

**Steven Carr motioned and Matthew VanOrmer 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 August 2023.

Discussions: None

Opposed: None

Abstain: None

Motion Carried: 8-0-0

- 11.1.2. Payroll Processing, Tracy Decker, Business Manager, Thomaston Public Schools

11.2. Policy Committee - Canceled - *In lieu of this meeting, the Board of Education will visit the Thomaston Center School Gymnasium (5:00PM) and the Black Rock School Blue Wing (5:30PM)*

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

**12. Adjournment**

**Matthew VanOrmer motioned and Steven Carr seconded** to adjourn the meeting.

**Chairperson Roxy Fainer** adjourned the meeting at 7:29pm.