
**MINUTES
THOMASTON BOARD OF EDUCATION
REGULAR MEETING**

**Thomaston Town Hall - Meeting Room One
Monday, December 14, 2015
7:00 p.m.**

Members:

**Roxy Fainer, Chairperson
Kathleen Freimuth, Vice Chairperson
Anne Petrucci, Secretary
Alexander Lee, Treasurer
Francine Coss, Superintendent**

**Beth Campbell
David Colavecchio
Maureen McMahon
Scott Theriault
Frank Treglia**

Student Representative:

Kathleen Brody

Justin Gallo

Organization Meeting

1. Establishment of a Quorum and Call to Order

- 1.1. **Superintendent Coss** established a quorum and called the Organizational Meeting to order at 7:00 P.M.
- 1.2. Members Present: **Roxy Fainer, Kathleen Freimuth, Anne Petrucci, Alexander Lee, Beth Campbell, David Colavecchio, Maureen McMahon, Scott Theriault, Frank Treglia and Student Representative Justin Gallo.**
- 1.3. Members Absent: **Student Representative, Kathleen Brody**
- 1.4. Others in Attendance: John Perrucci, Thomaston High School Principal, Kristin Bernier, Thomaston Center School Principal, John Piscopo, State Representative, Roger Perreault, Selectmen, Edmond Mone, First Selectmen, Henry Martin, State Senator, Patrice McCarthy CABA Director and General Counsel, and Rebecca Guay.

2. Organizational Meeting for the Purpose of Electing Officers

Bylaws of the Board 9120 - "The Board shall every two years, not later than one month after the date on which newly elected members take office, elect from its number a Chairperson, Vice Chairperson, Secretary and Treasurer. The new officers shall take office upon election. A record of the votes cast by individual members shall be minuted in accordance with statute...These officers shall hold office for a term of two (2) years."

A. Nominations for Board of Education Chairperson

Superintendent Coss asked the Board to nominate a Chairperson.

Beth Campbell motioned and **Kathleen Freimuth** seconded to nominate **Roxy Fainer** as Chairperson.

Discussion: None

Vote: Motion carried

| Yes | No | Abstain |
|-----|----|---------|
| 9 | 0 | 0 |

- B. Nominations for Board of Education Vice Chairperson
Chairperson **Roxy Fainer** asked the Board to nominate a Vice Chairperson.

Anne Petrucci motioned and **David Colavecchio** seconded to nominate **Kathleen Freimuth** as Vice Chairperson.

Discussion: None

Vote: Motion carried

| Yes | No | Abstain |
|-----|----|---------|
| 9 | 0 | 0 |

- C. Nominations for Board of Education Secretary
Roxy Fainer asked the Board to nominate a Secretary.

Kathleen Freimuth motioned and **Maureen McMahon** seconded to nominate **Anne Petrucci** as Secretary.

Discussion: None

Vote: Motion carried

| Yes | No | Abstain |
|-----|----|---------|
| 9 | 0 | 0 |

- D. Nominations for Board of Education Treasurer
Roxy Fainer asked the Board to nominate a Treasurer.

Beth Campbell motioned and **Anne Petrucci** seconded to nominate **Alexander Lee** as Treasurer.

Discussion: None

Vote: Motion carried

| Yes | No | Abstain |
|-----|----|---------|
| 9 | 0 | 0 |

3. Committee Sign Up

Roxy Fainer asked the Board to sign up for sub committees.

Regular Meeting

1. Establishment of a Quorum and Call to Order

Roxy Fainer called the meeting to order at 7:03 P.M.

2. Pledge of Allegiance

3. Approval of Agenda

3.1 Vote to accept/approve, Regular Meeting Agenda, December 14, 2015

Anne Petrucci moved and **Kathleen Freimuth** seconded to accept the Regular Meeting Agenda, December 14, 2015 as written.

Discussion: Superintendent Coss presented some amendments to the agenda. Under Approval of minutes, Section 4 and also under Committee Reports Section 10.1.1.2

Alexander Lee presented the amendment to discuss the Teacher Education Association Contract under Executive Session.

Kathleen Freimuth presented the amendments to the Policy Committee Section 10.2.1.1, to move Exercise Science Curriculum presentation from a presentation to an action item.

Vote: Motion carried

| Yes | No | Abstain |
|-----|----|---------|
| 9 | 0 | 0 |

4. Approval of Minutes:

4.1 Vote to accept/approve Ad Hoc Communication Committee Meeting Minutes dated November 6, 2015 as presented

Kathleen Freimuth moved and **Anne Petrucci** seconded to accept the Ad Hoc Communication Committee Minutes dated November 6, 2015 as presented.

Discussion: None

Vote: Motion carried

| Yes | No | Abstain |
|-----|----|--|
| 6 | 0 | 3 |
| | | Kathleen Freimuth Anne Petrucci David Colavecchio |

- 4.2 Budget/Audit Committee Meeting Minutes dated November 9, 2015
Kathleen Freimuth moved and **Anne Petrucci** seconded to accept the Budget/Audit Committee Meeting Minutes dated November 9, 2015 as written.

Discussion: None

Vote: Motion carried

| Yes | No | Abstain |
|-----|----|---|
| 7 | 0 | 2 Frank Treglia David Colavecchio |

- 4.3 Policy Committee Meeting Minutes dated November 9, 2015
Kathleen Freimuth moved and **Anne Petrucci** seconded to accept the Policy Committee Meeting Minutes dated November 9, 2015 as written.

Discussion: None

Vote: Motion carried

| Yes | No | Abstain |
|-----|----|---|
| 7 | 0 | 2 Frank Treglia David Colavecchio |

- 4.4 Regular Meeting of the Board of Education Meeting Minutes dated November 9, 2015
Kathleen Freimuth moved and **Anne Petrucci** seconded to accept the Regular Meeting of the Board of Education Meeting Minutes dated November 9, 2015

Discussion: None

Vote: Motion carried

| Yes | No | Abstain |
|-----|----|---|
| 7 | 0 | 2 Frank Treglia David Colavecchio |

- 4.5 Special Meeting Minutes dated November 13, 2015
Kathleen Freimuth moved and **Anne Petrucci** seconded to accept the Special Meeting Minutes dated November 13, 2015 as written.

Discussion: None

Vote: Motion Carried

| Yes | No | Abstain |
|-----|----|--|
| 7 | 0 | 2 |
| | | Frank Treglia David Colavecchio |

- 4.6 Special Meeting Minutes dated November 18, 2015
Kathleen Freimuth moved and **Anne Petrucci** seconded to accept the Special Meeting Minutes dated November 18, 2015 as written.

Discussion: None

Vote: Motion Carried

| Yes | No | Abstain |
|-----|----|--|
| 7 | 0 | 2 |
| | | Frank Treglia David Colavecchio |

5. Recognitions

5.1 Rotary Student of the Month

5.1.1 *Morgan Sanson was the November Rotary student of the month.*

6. Student Representatives' Report

6.1 **Justin Gallo** presented the Student Representative Report.

7. Chairperson's Report

7.1 Recognition of Outgoing Board of Education Member

Roxy Fainer thanked Rebecca Guay for her years of service to the students and district of Thomaston.

7.2 Recognition of New Board of Education Members

Roxy Fainer welcomed the new members to the Board

7.3 CABE/CAPSS Convention

Roxy Fainer thanked **Superintendent Coss** for her work in gathering all the information that was needed to submit the application so that Thomaston could get the CABE Board Leadership Award.

8. Presentation

8.1 Legislative Discussions with Boards of Education – CAFE – Patrice McCarthy Director and General Counsel

9. Superintendent’s Report

9.1 School Readiness

- Connecticut Administered State-Funded Program General Policy A-01
- School Readiness QSM Report

9.2 EEF Mini Grant Letters

Superintendent Coss stated that Education Enrichment Fund funded Administrators Mini Grants for the first time this year.

9.3 AFSCME Seniority List

Superintendent Coss explained that every December the Board needs to provide the non-certified union a Seniority List.

9.4 Professional Agreement between Thomaston Education Association and the Thomaston Board of Education

Alexander Lee presented the amendment to discuss the Teacher Education Association Contract under Executive Session

9.5 CSDE October and November Newsletter

9.6 CREC Annual Report

Superintendent Coss explained that CREC is a regional education service that provides us with either direct services or other types of support/resources that maybe we cannot provide on our own or that we just don’t have the scale to provide on our own. This is their annual report.

9.7 Enrollment Report

9.8 Personnel

- 9.8.1 *Spencer Luthy, Transfer to Custodian I Thomaston High School, October 20, 2015*
- 9.8.2 *Timothy Ferris, New hire Custodian III Thomaston High School, December 1, 2015*
- 9.8.3 *Mary Coss, Resignation, Cafeteria Staff, Black Rock School, December 31, 2015*
- 9.8.4 *Marjorie Fields Resignation, Speech Pathologist, Black Rock School June 30, 2016*

Superintendent Coss explained that the teacher’s contract offers an incentive for early announcement of their retirement. *If you announce your retirement before December 31, 2015 you are able to collect a certain dollar amount back on unused sick time.*

Kathleen Freimuth moved and **Anne Petrucci** second to accept the New Hires/Resignations/Retirements as written.

Discussion: None

Vote: Motion Carried

| Yes | No | Abstain |
|-----|----|---------|
| 9 | 0 | 0 |

- 9.8.5 Aaron Bunel, Boys Varsity Basketball Coach, Thomaston High School
- 9.8.6 Mark Sousa, Boys Junior Varsity Basketball Coach, Thomaston High School
- 9.8.7 Brian Lafontaine, Varsity Indoor Track Coach, Thomaston High School
- 9.8.8 Toni Geraci, Girls Junior Varsity Basketball Coach, Thomaston High School
- 9.8.9 Preston Soeprasetyo, Boys Freshman Basketball Coach, Thomaston High School
- 9.8.10 Robert McMahon – Girls Varsity Basketball Coach, Thomaston High School
- 9.8.11 Robert Stack – Middle School Girls Basketball Coach, Thomaston High School

Superintendent Coss explained that all of people that are presented, with the exception of the second to last person, are all ready to take the position. The person who is second to last has a certification that expires on December 20, 2015 and has not yet produced the updated certificate and the State Department of Education Certification Bureau cannot guarantee **Supertendent Coss** that that will occur. **Superintendent Coss** would like it to be clear that if the Board goes forward to approve this person, that we approve them on the contingency that they can continue to coach when they show us the new credentials.

Kathleen Freimuth moved and **Anne Petrucci** second to accept all the coach positions, with the contingency the second to last on the list be approved if and only if the certification is valid.

Discussion: None

Vote: Motion carried

| Yes | No | Abstain |
|-----|----|---------|
| 9 | 0 | 0 |

- 9.9 CSDE College Career Pathways/Dual Enrollment Courses Thomaston High School Honor Roll Letters– First Quarter 2015-2016 School Year
- 9.10 Thomaston High School Honor Roll Letters – First Quarter 2015-2016 School Year
- 9.11 Administrator Reports
- 9.12 Mid-Year Evaluation Evidence Related to Thomaston Board of Education and Superintendent of Schools (2015-2016 Goals)

Superintendent Coss explained that based on the policy the Board just updated, it is suggested strongly that the Board have some kind of mid-year report. So this report is what Superintendent Coss thought should be filed with the Board so that the Board can reflect on it and the recommendation of **Superintendent Coss** is to have the Board meet to discuss the progress on these goals since July/August.

- 9.13 Thomaston Public Schools Historical Books

Superintendent Coss explained that while Central Office was going through documents at Thomaston Center School, the Central Office staff found in the walk-in safe, a pad locked wooden door labeled Board of Education. Upon opening the door the staff found a book that holds records of the Board of Education beginning September 1894 and ends 1929. For

record keeping purposes, the Board is no longer required to keep those records; therefore **Superintendent Coss** suggests that the Board donate them to the Historical Society.

David Colavecchio moved to and **Beth Campbell** seconded to move the documents to the Thomaston Historical Society.

Discussion: None

Vote: Motion carried

| Yes | No | Abstain |
|-----|----|---------|
| 9 | 0 | 0 |

9.14 2016-2017 School Year Calendar

Superintendent Coss stated that the board has patiently been waiting on feedback from one of the unions, in regards to the 2016-2017 School Year Calendar. The approval of the Board is not contingent upon the unions' feedback and the Board cannot avoid action. Since the Board has waited several months for the feedback, it is the suggestion of **Superintendent Coss** that the Board take action on the calendar so the parents know when the 2016-2017 school year will begin.

David Colavecchio moved and **Anne Petrucci** seconded to approve the 2016-2017 School Year Calendar.

Discussion: None

Vote: Motion carried

| Yes | No | Abstain |
|-----|----|---------|
| 9 | 0 | 0 |

10. Committee Reports:

10.1 Budget/Audit Committee

10.1.1 Reports

10.1.1.1 Business Report:

- Phone System – Black Rock School
- Health Insurance Renewal for 2016-2017
- Energy Audit Verification Report
- Elite Roofing Proposal
- Natural Gas Contract
- Budget Building Process
- MOA Osowiecki & Thomaston Board of Education
- Central Office Projects and Plan
- Magnet Transportation Grant
- Audit Process for Local and Regional School Districts
- Preliminary Education Cost Sharing, Public and Nonpublic Transportation, Adult Education, and Health Services Revenue

10.1.1.2 Finance Report:

- 2015-2016 Budget Projection \$0.00

- 2015-2016 Budget
- 2014-2017 Grant Report
- October 2015 Expenditures of \$1,054,253.83
- October 2015 Transfers \$0.00

Alex Lee moved and **Kathleen Freimuth** seconded to accept/approve the Business and Finance Report and Expenditures as presented.

Discussion: None

Vote: Motion carried

| Yes | No | Abstain |
|-----|----|---------|
| 9 | 0 | 0 |

10.2 Policy Committee

10.2.1 Presentations

10.2.1.1 *World Language Proposal – Victoria Santa Maria, Jacob Matteau, Michelle Morrison, and Kaylyn Barberet*
No presentation was given. World Language Proposal Committee to present at the next Policy Committee Meeting on January 11, 2015.

10.2.2 Read Items

10.2.2.1 *Policy Audit Series 4000 – Personnel Certified/Non-Certified – First Read*

10.2.3 Discussion

10.2.3.1 *Cash Deposit Policy*

10.2.4 Action Item

10.2.4.1 *Exercise Science High School Curriculum – Alisha DiCorpo*

10.2.5 Suggested Future Agenda Items

10.2.5.1 *Policy Audit 3281*

Kathleen Freimuth moved and **Anne Petrucci** seconded to approve the Exercise Science High School Curriculum as presented.

Discussion: None

Vote: Motion carried

| Yes | No | Abstain |
|-----|----|---------|
| 9 | 0 | 0 |

11 Public Participation:

The Board welcomes public participation in accordance with Thomaston Board of Education Policy 9325(a) -Bylaws of the Board Meeting Conduct. Specifically, provision for permitting any individual or group to address the Board concerning any subject that lies within its jurisdiction shall be as follows:

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

individual. All charges or complaints against employees shall be submitted to the Board of Education under provision of Board of Education policy.

The Thomaston Board of Education is confident you will observe the rules of common courtesy. Thank you.

12 Executive Session for the purpose of discussion of the Professional Agreement between Thomaston Education Association and the Thomaston Board of Education.

Kathleen Freimuth moved and **Anne Petrucci** seconded to move into Executive Session for the purpose of discussion, due to contract negotiations between the Thomaston Education Association and the Thomaston Board of Education. **Superintendent Coss** was invited by **Kathleen Freimuth** into the Executive Session.

Discussion: None

Vote: Motion carried

| Yes | No | Abstain |
|-----|----|---------|
| 9 | 0 | 0 |

The meeting entered into Executive Session at 8:28 P.M.
The meeting returned to open session at 8:49 P.M.

Anne Petrucci moved and **Kathleen Freimuth** seconded to accept/approve the Professional Agreement between Thomaston Education Association and the Thomaston Board of Education.

Vote: Motion carried

| Yes | No | Abstain |
|-----|----|---------|
| 9 | 0 | 0 |

13 AFSCME Level 3 Grievance Presentation.

13.1 No Presentation, The grievant requested a waiver of the timetable through January 11, 2015, the next regular meeting.

14 Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 8:50 P.M.