Draft Until Board Approved

MINUTES

THOMASTON BOARD OF EDUCATION REGULAR MEETING

Monday, October 19, 2020

7:00 p.m.

Public May Attend In-Person (see requirements) or Virtually

This meeting can be viewed live or recorded on Town of Thomaston YouTube Channel

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.

Members:

Beth Campbell, Chairperson
David Colavecchio, Vice Chairperson
Heather Patchell, Secretary
Roxy Fainer, Treasurer
Francine Coss, Superintendent
Salvatore SantaMaria
Frank Treglia
Jennifer Nolan
Matthew VanOrmer
Sarah Ethier

Student Representatives 2020-2021

Isabella Guerrera
McKenna O'Sullivan
Cesar Velez

1. **Establishment of a Quorum and Call to Order** *(Bylaws of the Board 9325.1 – Quorum)*
   - 1.1. **Chairperson Beth Campbell** called the meeting to order at 7:09 p.m.
   - 1.2. Board Members in Attendance - In Person: **Chairperson Beth Campbell, Vice Chairperson David Colavecchio, Secretary Heather Patchell, Treasurer Roxy Fainer, Frank Treglia, Matthew VanOrmer, Sarah Ethier, Superintendent Francine Coss, Jennifer Nolan (absent in the beginning of the meeting- logged on virtually for both executive sessions)**
   - 1.3. Board Member Absent: **Salvatore SantaMaria**
   - 1.4. Student Representatives Present - Virtually **: Isabella Guerrera and McKenna O'Sullivan**
   - 1.5. Student Representative Absent: **Cesar Velez**
   - 1.6. School Administrators in Attendance - In-Person: **Kristin Bernier, Jessica Bedosky**

1.7. Others in Attendance: Patrick Riley, Ms. Ingrid Riley, Mr. Anthony Riley

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****)*

Vote to accept/approve Regular Meeting Agenda of the Board of Education,dated October 19, 2020 as presented.

4. **Public Participation** ▲▲▲ *(Bylaws of the Board 9325 – Meeting Conduct)*

The Board welcomes public participation in accordance with Thomaston Board of Education Policy 9325 – 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:

- *After Connecticut Executive Order 7, the Thomaston Board of Education meetings are held virtually. Public participation for virtual meetings is permitted through written comment. Those who wish to make public comments during a virtual meeting of the Thomaston Board of Education shall:*
  - *Submit public comments at least one (1) hour before the scheduled start of the virtual meeting*
  - *Submit public comments via the Thomaston Board of Education Public Comment Google Form at https://forms.gle/WtQ7LkbUdpWrsCwJ6.*

NOTE: Written public comments that meet the criteria above shall be read aloud by a Board member during the Board of Education meeting.

5. **Approval of Minutes** ▲ *(Bylaws of the Board 9326 – Minutes)*

5.1. Regular Board of Education Meeting Minutes dated September 14, 2020

Roxy Fainer motioned and Frank Treglia seconded to accept/approve the Regular Board of Education Meeting Minutes dated September 14, 2020 as presented.

Abstentions: None

Discussion: **David Colavecchio** requested to add two items to the agenda for discussion. The items requested were mask breaks for students at the high school and a discussion regarding board member comments prior to the Executive session scheduled at the end of the meeting. **Sarah Ethier** seconded the motion.

Motion Carried: 7-0-0

5.2. Special Meeting of the Board of Education Dated September 28, 2020

David Colavecchio motioned and Matthew VanOrmer seconded to accept/approve the Special Meeting of the Board of Education Minutes Dated September 28, 2020 as presented.

Abstentions: None

Discussion: None

Motion Carried: 7-0-0

5.3. Special Meeting of the Board of Education Dated September 28, 2020

David Colavecchio motioned and Matthew VanOrmer seconded to accept/approve the Special Meeting of the Board of Education Minutes Dated September 28, 2020 as presented.

Abstentions: None

Discussion: None

Motion Carried: 7-0-0

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. September Rotary Student of the Month - Patrick Riley

6.2. Ms. Darlene Brasche and Ms. Katie Bike - Play and Learn

7. **Presentations** ▲▲▲ *(Bylaws of the Board 9410 – Public Announcement of Accomplishments)* - None
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. Welcome Back Gathering - New Employees of Thomaston Public Schools - October 19, 2020
   - 9.2. Election Day Facility Use Request
10. **Superintendent's Report** ▲▲▲ *(Policy 2131 – Administration – Superintendent of Schools)*
   - 10.1. Correspondence
     - *10.1.1. Superintendent*
       - 10.1.1.1. Policy Statement for Free and Reduced-Price Meals, Afterschool Snack Programs, and Free Milk
       - 10.1.1.2. Thomaston Board of Education Response to Public Comment - September 14, 2020 Board of Education Meeting - Ms. Tracy Hungerford
       - 10.1.1.3. Thomaston Board of Education Response to Public Comment - September 14, 2020 Board of Education Meeting -Ms. Nicole Rinaldi
       - 10.1.1.4. Thomaston Board of Education Response to Public Comment - September 14, 2020 Board of Education Meeting - Ms. Jessica Coer
       - 10.1.1.5. Distant Learning Feeding Plan Beginning September 16, 2020
       - 10.1.1.6. Mindbeat - Effective School Solution - September 9, 2020
       - 10.1.1.7. Mindbeat - Effective School Solutions - September 16, 2020
       - 10.1.1.8. Mindbeat - Effective School Solutions - September 23, 2020
       - 10.1.1.9. Mindbeat - Effective School Solutions - September 30, 2020
       - 10.1.1.10. Mindbeat - Effective School Solutions - October 7, 2020
       - 10.1.1.11. Letter of Intent to Homeschool - Student A
       - 10.1.1.12. Residency Determination Letter - Student B
       - 10.1.1.13. Appeal of Residency Determination and Hearing - Response from Superintendent Coss - Student B
       - 10.1.1.14. Residency Determination Letter - Student C
       - 10.1.1.15. Appeal of Residency Determination and Hearing - Response from Superintendent Coss - Student C
       - 10.1.1.16. Residency Determination Letter - Student D
       - 10.1.1.17. Appeal of Residency Determination and Hearing - Response from Superintendent Coss - Student D
       - 10.1.1.18. Residency Determination Letter - Student E - student transferred to an out of town school
       - 10.1.1.19. Residency Determination Letter - Student F - student transferred to an out-of-town school
       - 10.1.1.20. Residency Determination Letter - Student G
       - 10.1.1.21. Response Letter from Superintendent Coss to Residency Determination Letter - Student G
       - 10.1.1.22. Educator Evaluation and Support Plan (EESP) Flexibility Adoption and Amendment Request Checklist 2020-2021
       - 10.1.1.23. Letter from Superintendent Coss to AFSCME President to Cancel MOA
       - 10.1.1.24. Insights and Solutions - Effective School Solutions - October 2020
       - 10.1.1.25. A Message Regarding J.T., et al v. DeBlasio, et al. Class Action Complaint
       - 10.1.1.26. Letter of Commendation from Superintendent Coss to Maureen Laplante - Guidance Secretary -

School Counseling Center - Thomaston High School

10.1.1.27. ED165 Report - Thomaston Public Schools - Certified October 9, 2020

10.1.2. Connecticut Association of Boards of Education (CABE)

10.1.2.1. CABE Letter Regarding Proposals Submitted by Thomaston Board of Education

10.1.2.2. CABE Liaison Newsletter - October 2020

10.1.3. Connecticut Association of Public Schools Superintendents (CAPSS)

10.1.4. U.S. Department of Education

10.1.4.1. Questions and Answers for K-12 Public Schools in the Current COVID-19 Environment

10.1.5. Connecticut State Department of Education (CSDE)

10.1.5.1. Sample Template - Message to Families - Confirmed COVID-19 Case in School

10.1.5.2. Sample Template - Message to Families - Cancellation of Classes

10.1.5.3. Department of Public Health Statement on Fall Sports

10.1.5.4. Memo on Mask Wearing

10.1.5.5. Professional Support Series - Series 15

10.2. Reports, Contracts and General Information

10.2.1. Reports

10.2.1.1. Administrator Reports -October 2020

10.2.1.2. Enrollment - October 1, 2020

10.2.1.2.1. Distance Learning Enrollment - October 5, 2020

10.2.1.3. Distance Learning Report

10.2.1.3.1. Efforts Towards Improvement of Instructional Experience for Distance Learners - Superintendent Francine Coss

10.2.1.3.2. Class Sizes and Class Location for Restricted, Full In-Person Model - Superintendent Francine and the Thomaston Administrative Council

10.2.2. Contracts

10.2.2.1. Memorandum of Agreement - Thomaston Board of Education and the Thomaston Education Association - Social Media Coordinator Stipend Position

10.2.2.2. State Education Resource Center (SERC) and Thomaston Public Schools District - Memorandum of Understanding - July 1, 2020 - December 31, 2020

10.2.2.3. American School for the Deaf - Student Tuition Agreement - July 1, 2020 - June 30,2021

10.2.2.4. Children's Therapy Services - Physical and Occupational Therapy Services

10.2.2.5. ACES - Summer School Program- July 6, 2020 - July 29, 2020

10.2.2.6. ACES - Student Agreement - 2020-2021

10.2.2.7. Memorandum of Agreement - Thomaston Board of Education and AFSCME Local Union 1303-97 - Waiver of Health and Dental Insurance

10.2.2.8. Todd Bendtsen Business Manager - Thomaston Public Schools - July 1, 2020 - June 30, 2021

10.2.2.9. Memorandum of Agreement - Thomaston Board of Education and AFSCME Local 1303-97 - COVID-19 Personal Protective Equipment Health Supply Inventory Stipend Position

10.2.3. General Information

10.2.3.1. Fund-Raisers

10.2.3.1.1. St. Jude Math-a-Thon - Black Rock School

10.2.4. Personnel (Policy 4112/4212 - Personnel - Certified/Non-Certified Appointment and Conditions of

Employment)

10.2.4.1. New Hires

10.2.4.1.1. Noah Hulton - Building Substitute Teacher(temporary) - Thomaston Center School

10.2.4.1.2. Marissa Mendoza - Building Substitute Teacher - Thomaston High School

10.2.4.1.3. Jessica Thier - Special Education Paraprofessional - Thomaston High School

10.2.4.1.4. Megan Guay - Regular Part-Time Custodial Position (temporary position) - Thomaston Center School

10.2.4.1.5. Michael Duggan - Regular Part-Time Custodian(temporary position) - Thomaston High School

10.2.4.1.6. Emily Dominioni - Family and Consumer Science - Thomaston High School

10.2.4.1.7. Amanda Greco - Building Substitute Teacher - PK-3 (temporary/per diem)

10.2.4.1.8. Kristen Callahan - Special Education Paraprofessional - Pupil Personnel Services

10.2.4.2. Transfers/New Assignments

10.2.4.2.1. Jade Morey - Paraprofessional - Preschool - Grade 3 - Black Rock School

10.2.4.2.2. Remote Teaching Assignment

10.2.4.2.2.1.1. Shana Marques - Thomaston High School - From Remote Social Worker to In-Person Social Worker - Effective October 13, 2020

10.2.4.2.2.1.2. Jennifer Irazabal - Black Rock School - From In-Person Mathematics Interventionist to Grade 2 Remote Teacher - Effective October 13, 2020

10.2.4.3. Retirements

10.2.4.3.1. Carol Hanson - Paraprofessional - Black Rock School - Effective October 14, 2020

10.2.4.4. Resignations

10.2.4.4.1. Bethany Preli - Registered Behavioral Technician - Black Rock School - Effective September 18, 2020

10.2.4.5. Renewals

10.2.4.6. Stipends

10.2.4.6.1. Steven Sauve - Boys Soccer Coach - Thomaston Middle School

10.2.4.6.2. John Long - Varsity Field Hockey Coach - Thomaston High School

10.2.4.6.3. Jennifer Ewart - Varsity Girls Soccer Coach - Thomaston High School

10.2.4.6.4. Mark Olsen - Varsity Cross Country Coach - Thomaston High School

10.2.4.6.5. Kayla Marble - Cross Country Coach- Thomaston Middle School

10.2.4.6.6. Bob Stack - Field Hockey Coach- Thomaston Middle School

10.2.4.6.7. Raymond Rabuska - Girls Soccer Coach- Thomaston Middle School

10.2.4.6.8. Ernie LeClair - Assistant Girls Soccer Coach - Thomaston High School

10.2.4.6.9. Suzanne Kowalski - Assistant Field Hockey Coach - Thomaston High School

10.2.4.6.10. Martin Giroux - Boys Varsity Soccer Coach - Thomaston High School

10.2.4.6.11. Stephen Malo - Social Media Coordinator - Thomaston High School

10.2.4.6.12. Margaret Protzmann - Grade 6 Co-Team Leader - Thomaston Center School

10.2.4.6.13. Laura Miller - Grade 6 Co-Team Leader - Thomaston Center School

David Colavecchio 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.

Abstentions: None

Discussion: None

Motion Carried: 7-0-0

10.2.4.7. Family and Medical Leave Act (FMLA) *(Policy 4152.6/4252.6 – Personnel--Certified/Non-Certified Personal Leaves Family and Medical Leave Act)* - None

10.2.4.8. Interns and Student Teachers *(Policy 1212 – Community Relations – School Volunteers)* - None

10.2.4.9. Field Trips (out of state) (Policy 6153 - Instruction Field Trips - Secondary Schools) - None

Chairperson Beth Campbell inquired on the status of the 7th/8th grade Field trip for the 2020-21 school year. **Superintendent Coss** addressed **Beth Campbell's** question and will provide the Board with information once she looks into this.

10.2.4.10. Policy 3260 Business/Non-Instructional Operations Sales & Disposal of Books, Equipment & Supplies - None

11. Committee Reports ▲ *(Bylaws of the Board 9132 – Standing Committees and Bylaws of the Board 9133 - Special Committees/Advisory Committees)*

11.1. AD-HOC Committee Meeting

11.1.1. Summary of Committee Actions - Jessica Bedosky, Director of Curriculum, Instruction and Student Assessment

11.1.2. September 29, 2020 Meeting Agenda

11.1.2.1. *Discussion: Under the vision of Ms. Jessica Bedosky, Director of Curriculum, Instruction, and Student Assessment, the Board will communicate clearly the goals and expectations for the district, staff, and students with an emphasis on high achievement for all students in the district.*

11.1.3. October 5, 2020 Meeting Agenda

11.1.3.1. *Discussion: The collaboration of this committee and Ms. Jessica Bedosksy, Director of Curriculum, Instruction, and Student Assessment, to come up with several SMART goals that address the achievement goals in a previous meeting held on September 29, 2020. The board will set the vision.*

Roxy Fainer motioned and Matthew VanOrmer seconded to accept / approve the Ad Hoc Achievement Committee Vision and Goals as presented by the Ad-Hoc Committee and identify both as evidence that the Board clearly communicates the goals and expectations for the district, staff, and students with an emphasis on high achievement for all students in the district.

Abstentions: None

Discussion: YouTube link

Motion Carried: 7-0-0

11.2. Business Manager Report

11.2.1. September Business Report

11.2.1.1. 2020-2021 Budget Table Without Encumbrances

11.2.1.2. 2020-2021 Budget Table With Encumbrances

11.2.1.3. 2020-2022 Grant Report

11.2.1.4. 2020-2021 Transfers

11.2.1.5. Expenditures

11.2.1.5.1. September -2020-2021 Fiscal Year: $1,611,507.13

Roxy Fainer motioned and Matthew VanOrmer seconded to accept / approve the Business and Finance Report and Expenditures per Policy 3432/3433 Business/Non-Instructional Operations - Budget & Expense Report/Annual Financial Statement as presented.

Abstentions: None

Discussion: None

Motion Carried: 7-0-0

11.3. Policy Committee *(Policy 2231 – Administration/Policy and Regulation Systems)*

11.3.1. Presentations

11.3.1.1. Jessica Bedosky - Director of Curriculum, Instruction, and Student Assessment - Thomaston Public Schools

11.3.1.1.1. CABE Policy 4115.01 - Evaluation and Support Program

11.3.1.1.2. Thomaston's Public Schools Policy 4115 - Evaluation and Support Program

11.3.1.2. Andrea Peters - Director of Pupil Services - Thomaston Public Schools

11.3.1.2.1. Policy 4000.1- Title IX

11.3.1.2.2. CABE Policy 5145.5 - Title IX

11.3.1.2.3. Thomaston Public Schools Policy 5145.44 - Title IX

11.3.2. Discussion Items

11.3.2.1. Propose Changes to Policy 0200

11.3.2.1.1. Current Policy

11.3.2.1.2. Proposed Changes - Marked Up Copy

11.3.2.1.3. Proposed Changes - Clean Copy

11.3.2.2. Board of Education Members Volunteers - School Sports/Coaches

11.3.2.2.1. Policy #1212 Community Relations - School Volunteers

11.3.2.2.2. Bylaws of the Board #9270 Conflict of Interest

11.3.2.2.3. Bylaws of the Board #9271 Code of Ethics

11.3.2.3. Electronic Board of Education Meetings - CABE Background Information for Policy Review

11.3.2.3.1. CABE Sample Bylaws of the Board #9321.2 Electronic Board of Education Meetings

11.3.2.3.2. Bylaws of the Board #9326.1 Taping/Recording Board Meetings

11.3.2.3.3. Bylaws of the Board #9327 Meetings - Electronic Communications Among Board Members

11.3.2.4. COVID-19 Public Event Posters

11.3.3. Read Items - None

11.3.4. First Read - None

11.3.5. Second Read

11.3.5.1. Policy 6159 - Individualized Education Program/Special Education Program - marked up copy

11.3.6. Action Items - None

12. Item Added to Agenda Per David Colavecchio: Mask Breaks

David Colavecchio motioned and Sarah Ethier seconded to direct the administrators of Thomaston High School to set forth a consistent policy regarding instilling mask breaks.

After further discussion regarding this topic, **David Colavecchio** withdrew the motion.

Discussion :YouTube Link

13. Item Added to Agenda Per David Colavecchio: Adding Board Member Comment to future BOE agendas.

This topic will be discussed at the next Policy Committee Meeting on November 9th.

Discussion: https: YouTube Link

14. Executive Session for the Purpose of Strategy and Negotiations with Respect to Pending Litigation

Roxy Fainer motioned and Matthew VanOrmer seconded at 8:11 p.m. to enter into the Executive Session for the purpose of strategy and negotiations with respect to pending litigation inviting Francine Coss, Superintendent of Schools, Andrea Peters, Director of Pupil-Personnel Services and Attorney Johanna G. Zelman, Law Firm of FordHarrison.

Abstentions: None

Discussion: None

Motion carried: 7-0-0

15. Exit Executive Session at 8:39 p.m.

16. Executive Session for the Purpose of Evaluation of the Superintendent of Schools and for the purpose of confidential negotiations related to the extension of the contract of the Superintendent of Schools through June 2023

Roxy Fainer motioned and Matthew VanOrmer seconded to enter into the Executive Session at 8:40 p.m. for the Purpose of Evaluation of the Superintendent of Schools and for the purpose of confidential negotiations related to the extension of the contract of the Superintendent of Schools through June 2023 in accordance with Policy 2400, inviting Francine Coss, Superintendent of Schools.

Abstentions: None

Discussion: None

Motion Carried: 8-0-0

17. Exit Executive Session at 10:07 p.m.

Roxy Fainer motioned and Matthew VanOrmer seconded to accept the goals established for Superintendent Coss for the school year 2020-2021 as presented by the Board.

Motion Carried: 7-1-0

David Colavecchio : Nay

Roxy Fainer motioned and Frank Treglia seconded to extend the contract of the Superintendent of Schools through June 2023 and to a 2% raise in her salary and no other changes.

Motion Carried: 7-1-0

David Colavecchio: Nay

18. Adjournment

Matthew VanOrmer motioned to adjourn and Frank Treglia seconded to adjourn the meeting.

Chairperson Beth Campbell adjourned the meeting at 10:23 p.m.