



## MINUTES

### THOMASTON BOARD OF EDUCATION REGULAR MEETING

Monday, April 17, 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.

#### 2022-2023 Board of Education Goals:

1. Board Members shall respond to invitations within 24 hours.
2. Board Members will attend district events.

#### Members:

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

Francine Coss, Superintendent  
Marie Eldridge  
Delaney Jose, Student Representative  
Nathan Marsh, 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 7:01pm.
- 1.2. Board Members in Attendance: **Chairperson Roxy Fainer, Vice Chairperson David Colavecchio, Sarah Ethier, Matthew VanOrmer, Marie Eldridge, Beth Campbell, Frank Treglia**
- 1.3. Board Members Absent: **Secretary Heather Patchell, Treasurer Steven Carr**
- 1.4. Student Representatives in Attendance: **Delaney Jose**
- 1.5. Student Representative Absent: **Nathan Marsh**
- 1.6. Administrators in Attendance: Gianni Perugini, John Perrucci
- 1.7. Others in Attendance: Alisa Zepecki, Lisa Lavoie, Nathan Kowlaski

*(Bylaws of the Board 9325.1 – Quorum)*

#### 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)*

**David Colavecchio motioned and Matthew VanOrmer seconded to accept/approve the agenda of the Board of Education Meeting dated April 17, 2023 as presented.**

Discussion: None

Opposed: None

Abstain: None

Motion Carried: 7-0-0

#### 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 Residency Hearing Minutes - March 10, 2023

**David Colavecchio motioned and Matthew VanOrmer seconded to accept/approve the Thomaston Board of Education Residency Hearing Minutes dated March 10, 2023 as presented.**

Discussion: None

Opposed: None

Abstain: None

Motion Carried: 7-0-0

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5.2. Thomaston Board of Education Regular Meeting Minutes - March 13, 2023

**David Colavecchio motioned and Matthew VanOrmer seconded to accept/approve the Thomaston Board of Education Regular Meeting Minutes dated March 13, 2023 as presented.**

Discussion: None

Opposed: None

Abstain: 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. March Rotary Student of the Month - Connor Miller

6.2. Students of the Month - March 2022

Grade 12: Connor Miller

Grade 7: Brynn Beaudoin

Grade 2: Ezra Dobos

Grade 11: Nathan Marsh

Grade 6: Vincent O'Brien

Grade 1: Benjamin Mazzarella

Grade 10: Emily Losee

Grade 5: Tessa Hungerford

Kindergarten: Jack Tita

Grade 9: Mackenzie Chasse

Grade 4: Jack Gaudino

Preschool: Walter Lattimer

Grade 8: Samantha Lee

Grade 3: Owen Wood

6.3. March 2023 Staff Spotlight - Alisa Zepecki, Grade 2 Teacher - Black Rock School

6.4. April 2023 Staff Spotlight - Lisa Lavoie, Behavior Analyst - Thomaston Public Schools

## 7. Presentations ▲▲▲

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

7.1. District Attendance/Truancy - Gianni Perugini, Assistant Principal - Thomaston High School

## 8. Student Representatives Report ▲▲▲

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

8.1. April 2023

## 9. Chairperson's Report ▲▲▲

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

9.1. Board Appreciation Month - March 2023 - Thomaston Board of Education Members

9.2. Progress Report on 2022-2023 Goals for the Thomaston Board of Education and the Superintendent of Schools

9.3. Special Meeting of the Board of Education for the purpose of discussing and taking action on the performance and evaluation of the Superintendent of Schools and for the purpose of contract negotiations with the Superintendent of Schools and actions related to the extension of the contract for Superintendent of Schools.

## 10. Superintendent's Report ▲▲▲

*(Policy 2131 – Administration – Superintendent of Schools)*

10.1. Correspondence

10.1.1. Superintendent

10.1.1.1. Results of Residency Hearing - March 10, 2023 - Student M

10.1.1.2. Residency Determination Letter - Student N

10.1.1.3. Result of Residency Determination Letter - Student N

10.1.1.4. Thank You Letters to Pamela Nascimento and Jessica Bedosky for their presentation at the March 13, 2023 Regular Meeting of the Board of Education

10.1.1.5. Letter from Superintendent Coss to Staff Member Regarding the Freezing of Pension Payments

10.1.1.6. Effective School Solutions - MINDBEAT - March 15, 2023

10.1.1.7. Effective School Solutions - March 22, 2023

10.1.1.8. Effective School Solutions - MINDBEAT - March 29, 2023

10.1.1.9. Effective School Solutions - MINDBEAT - April 5, 2023

10.1.1.10. Effective School Solutions - MINDBEAT - April 12, 2023

10.1.1.11. Effective School Solutions - Insights and Solutions - April 2023

10.1.1.12. Exit Interview Thomaston Public Schools Former Staff Member

10.1.1.13. Letter to Thomaston Board of Education Chairperson Roxy Fainer Regarding Superintendent Designee for March 24, 2023

10.1.1.14. Superintendent Response to Request to Homeschool and Notice of Intent to Homeschool Form

10.1.1.15. Follow-Up Letter from Superintendent to Regarding School-Issued Property

10.1.2. Connecticut Association of Boards of Education (CABE) - None

10.1.3. Connecticut Association of Public Schools Superintendents (CAPSS)

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- 10.1.3.1. Revised Inventory of State Mandates in Title 10 Pertaining to School Districts
  - 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. Certification Webinar for Human Resources Staff
    - 10.1.6.2. Prospective Teacher of Color Scholarship
    - 10.1.6.3. Teach Rock Partnership Application for Participation
    - 10.1.6.4. Evidence-based, Scientifically-based, Culturally Responsive Literacy Curriculum Models, Programs and Professional Learning
    - 10.1.6.5. Rollout of Diversity Training: A Guide for Hiring and Recruiting Diverse Educators
    - 10.1.6.6. Emergency Educator Certification Endorsements for the 2023-2024 School Year
    - 10.1.6.7. Modernizing Teacher Certification and Reimagining Performance Evaluation
    - 10.1.6.8. Teacher Certification and Regulation Review Report to the General Assembly
    - 10.1.6.9. Connecticut Regulation Workbook
    - 10.1.6.10. Completion of Teacher Negotiations Act Submission (formerly the ED003)
    - 10.1.6.11. School Safety Resources
    - 10.1.6.12. Payment to Reimbursement Notice for Electronic Grants Management System (eGMS)
    - 10.1.6.13. Financial Literacy and Mathematics and Statistics Awareness
    - 10.1.6.14. Computer Science Professional Learning Action Network (CS Plan)
    - 10.1.6.15. 2023 Fire Service College Fair Flyer
  - 10.2. Reports
    - 10.2.1. 2022-2023 Thomaston Public Schools COVID-19 Positivity and Vaccination Rate
    - 10.2.2. Thomaston Center School Gymnasium Floor Project Update
    - 10.2.3. Black Rock School Blue Wing Flood Update
    - 10.2.4. Town of Thomaston Solar Exploration Timeline
    - 10.2.5. Administrator Reports
      - 10.2.5.1. April 2023
    - 10.2.6. Enrollment Report
      - 10.2.6.1. April 3, 2023
  - 10.3. Contracts
    - 10.3.1. Capitol Region Education Council (CREC) and Thomaston Public Schools Statement of Agreement - Student Services - August 30, 2022 - June 30, 2023
    - 10.3.2. Capitol Region Education Council (CREC) and Thomaston Public Schools Statement of Agreement - Student Services - August 30, 2022 - June 30, 2023
    - 10.3.3. Capitol Region Education Council (CREC) and Thomaston Public Schools Statement of Agreement - Student Services - August 30, 2022 - June 30, 2023
    - 10.3.4. Memorandum of Agreement - Thomaston Board of Education and Thomaston Education Association - Extra Duties - U.S. History - July 1, 2022 - June 30, 2026
    - 10.3.5. Memorandum of Agreement - Thomaston Board of Education and Thomaston Education Association - Extra Duties - World Geography - July 1, 2022 - June 30, 2026
  - 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. Dress Down for Earthquake Relief Fund - Diyanet Center of America - Thomaston High School
        - 10.5.1.3.2. Sale of Customized Cutting Boards - Tech-Ed Department - Thomaston High School
        - 10.5.1.3.3. Middle School Dance - Middle School Student Council - Thomaston High School
        - 10.5.1.3.4. Food Drive for Thomaston Food Pantry - Student Council - Thomaston High School
        - 10.5.1.3.5. Collection of Fees for Pride Summit Field Trip - Gay Straight Alliance Club - Thomaston High School
        - 10.5.1.3.6. Chipotle Fundraiser - Class of 2023 - Thomaston High School
        - 10.5.1.3.7. Farm Fresh Egg Sale - 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 - None
    - 10.6.2. Transfer/New Assignments - None
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10.6.3. Resignations

- 10.6.3.1. Jason Roberts, Social Studies Teacher - Thomaston High School\*March 24, 2023
- 10.6.3.2. Jessica Christolini, Grade 6 Teacher - Thomaston Center School\*April 27, 2023
- 10.6.3.3. Christina Chase, Mathematics Teacher - Thomaston High School\*June 30, 2023
- 10.6.3.4. Gianni Perugini, Assistant Principal - Thomaston High School\*June 30, 2023
- 10.6.3.5. Raymond Rabuska, Chemistry Teacher - Thomaston High School\*June 30, 2023

10.6.4. Retirement - None

10.6.5. Termination

- 10.6.5.1. Christine Pacifico - Kitchen Manager - Thomaston Center School\*April 6, 2023

10.6.6. Non-Renewals - None

**David Colavecchio motioned and Matthew VanOrmer seconded** to move to direct the Superintendent of Schools to take necessary action pursuant to Connecticut General Statutes Section 10-151 and to communicate this action of the Board of Education in writing to any certified staff member being non-renewed and that the Superintendent of Schools be authorized to respond on behalf of the Board of Education to any requests for a hearing, if required by law, or for other data which may be forthcoming from the teacher and/or his/her representative pursuant to applicable provisions of Connecticut General Statutes Section 10-151; and that the Superintendent be directed that any response to a request for a hearing, if a hearing is required by law, indicate that such hearing is to be before the Board of Education.

[Discussion Link](#)

Opposed: None

Abstain: None

Motion Carried: 7-0-0

10.6.7. Stipends - 2022-2023

- 10.6.7.1. Michael Watson - Baseball Junior Varsity Coach
- 10.6.7.2. Seth Murphy - Tennis Boys Varsity Coach
- 10.6.7.3. Bob Stack - Softball - Middle School Coach
- 10.6.7.4. Mark Olsen - Track & Field Varsity Coach
- 10.6.7.5. Kayla Marble - Track & Field Middle School Coach
- 10.6.7.6. Eric Kociszewski - Track & Field Junior Varsity Coach
- 10.6.7.7. Megan Fitzgerald - Tennis Girls Varsity Coach
- 10.6.7.8. Kelly Finlay - Softball Varsity Coach
- 10.6.7.9. Mark Beaudoin - Baseball Varsity Coach

**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.

[Discussion Link](#)

Opposed: None

Abstain: None

Motion Carried: 7-0-0

10.6.8. Family and Medical Leave Act (FMLA) - None

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

10.6.8.1. Employee L

10.6.8.2. Employee M

10.6.9. Interns and Student Teachers - None

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

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. March 2023 Business Manager's Report

- 11.1.1.1. 2023- 2024 Budget
- 11.1.1.2. 2022-2023 Budget Table Without Encumbrances
- 11.1.1.3. 2022-2023 Budget Table With Encumbrances
- 11.1.1.4. 2021-2023 Grant Report
- 11.1.1.5. 2022-2023 Projection
- 11.1.1.6. 2022-2023 Transfer

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11.1.1.7. Recreation Department Building Access and Field Maintenance Gentlemen’s Agreement

**Marie Eldridge motioned and Matthew VanOrmer seconded** to accept/approve recommendation of Budget/Audit Committee to decline the request of the First Selectman to pay for field maintenance/grooming/grass cutting, etc. instead of continuing to uphold the Recreation Department Building Access and Field Maintenance Gentlemen’s Agreement from January 2022, specifically, that the Thomaston Board of Education will continue to uphold the Gentlemen’s Agreement, “Thomaston Public Schools will provide staff to open school buildings to allow building access on weekends for Recreation Department programs and, in turn, the Town of Thomaston will not charge the Board of Education for field maintenance/grooming/ grass cutting, etc.”

[Discussion Link](#)

Opposed: None

Abstain: None

Motion Carried: 7-0-0

11.1.1.8. 2023-2024 Healthy Food Certification Resolutions

**The Thomaston Board of Education voted at the August 21, 2023 Regular Meeting that the August 21st agenda is amended so that the Healthy Food Certification statements can be added to the April 17, 2023 Regular Meeting minutes per the requirement of the state. These statements were not listed on the original April 17, 2023 Board of Education minutes, only the motion was listed.**

The statements are listed below.

Healthy Food Option:

Pursuant to C.G.S. Section 10-215f, the board of education or governing authority certifies that all food items offered for sale to students in the schools under its jurisdiction, and not exempted from the Connecticut Nutrition Standards published by the Connecticut State Department of Education, will comply with the Connecticut Nutrition Standards during the period of July 1, 2023, through June 30, 2024. This certification shall include all food offered for sale to students separately from reimbursable meals at all times and from all sources, including but not limited to, school stores, vending machines, school cafeterias, and any fundraising activities on school premises sponsored by the school or by non-school organizations and groups.

Food Exemptions: for Exemption for Food Items:

The board of education or governing authority will allow the sale to students of food items that do not meet the Connecticut Nutrition Standards provided that the following conditions are met: 1) the sale is in connection with an event occurring after the end of the regular school day or on the weekend; 2) the sale is at the location of the event; and 3) the food items are not sold from a vending machine or school store. An “event” is an occurrence that involves more than just a regularly scheduled practice, meeting, or extracurricular activity. For example, soccer games, school plays, and interscholastic debates are events but soccer practices, play rehearsals, and debate team meetings are not. The “regular school day” is the period from midnight before to 30 minutes after the end of the official school day. “Location” means where the event is being held.

Beverage Exemptions:

The board of education will allow the sale to students of beverages not listed in Section 10-221q of the Connecticut General Statutes provided that the following conditions are met: 1) the sale is in connection with an event occurring after the end of the regular school day or on the weekend; 2) the sale is at the location of the event; and 3) the beverages are not sold from a vending machine or school store. An “event” is an occurrence that involves more than just a regularly scheduled practice, meeting or extracurricular activity. The “school day” is the period from midnight before to 30 minutes after the end of the official school day. “Location” means where the event is being held, and must be the same place as the beverage sales.

**Marie Eldridge motioned and Matthew VanOrmer seconded** to accept/approve the 2023-2024 Healthy Food Certification resolutions as presented

Discussion: None

Opposed: None

Abstain: None

Motion Carried: 7-0-0

**Matthew VanOrmer motioned and David Colavecchio seconded** to approve the 2023-2024 Healthy Food Certification Resolutions as presented at the August 21, 2023 Board of Education Regular Meeting.

Discussion: None

Opposed: None

Abstain: None

Motion Carried: 5-0-0

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11.1.1.9. Expenditures

11.1.1.9.1. \$1,481,672.03

**Marie Eldridge 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 March 2023.**

[Discussion Link](#)

Opposed: **David Colavecchio**

Abstain: **Beth Campbell, Sarah Ethier**

Motion Carried: 4-1-2

11.2. Policy Committee

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

11.2.1. Presentations

11.2.1.1. Policy 3542.43 - Food Service - Charging Policy, Nicole Lefebvre, Food Service Director

11.2.1.1.1. Current Policy - Thomaston Public Schools

11.2.1.1.2. Marked Up Copy

11.2.1.1.3. Clean Copy

**Matthew VanOrmer motioned and David Colavecchio seconded to fast track Policy 3542.43**

Discussion: None

Opposed: None

Abstain: None

Motion Carried: 7-0-0

**Matthew VanOrmer motioned and David Colavecchio seconded to approve Policy 3542.43 as presented.**

[Discussion Link](#)

Opposed: None

Abstain: None

Motion Carried: 7-0-0

11.2.1.2. Policy 5123 - Students - Promotion/Acceleration/Retention, Jessica Bedosky, Director of Curriculum, Instruction and Assessment

11.2.1.2.1. Current Policy - Thomaston Public Schools

11.2.1.2.2. CAFE Sample Policy

11.2.1.2.3. Marked Up Copy

11.2.1.2.4. Clean Copy

11.2.2. Discussion Items

11.2.2.1. Policy 1230 - Community Relations - Booster Clubs, Francine Coss, Superintendent

11.2.2.1.1. Current Policy - Thomaston Public Schools

11.2.2.1.2. CAFE Sample Regulation 1230 Community Relations - Other School-Connected Organizations - Booster Clubs - Organizations

11.2.2.1.3. CAFE Sample Regulation 1230 Community Relations - Other School-Connected Organizations - Parent Organizations and Booster Clubs - Option#1

11.2.2.1.4. CAFE Sample Regulation 1230 Community Relations - Other School-Connected Organizations - Booster Clubs - Organizations - Option #2

11.2.2.1.5. CAFE Sample Regulation 1230 Community Relations - Other School-Connected Organizations - Parent Organizations and Booster Clubs - Option#3

11.2.2.1.6. CAFE Background Information on Policy/Regulation 1230 Booster Groups and Parent Organizations

11.2.2.2. New Proposed Policy and Regulation 3513.1 - Business/Non-Instructional Operations - Energy Conservation - Superintendent Francine Coss and District Lead Custodian Spencer Luthy

11.2.2.2.1. Eliminated Policy and Regulation 3513.1 from 2007 - Thomaston Public Schools

11.2.2.2.2. Proposed Policy and Regulation 3513.1

11.2.2.3. Policy 3281 - School Fundraisers - Superintendent Francine Coss

11.2.2.3.1. Current Policy - Thomaston Public Schools

11.2.3. First Read - None

11.2.4. Second Read - None

11.2.5. Action Item - Policy 6140 - Curriculum

11.2.5.1. Current Policy - Thomaston Public Schools

11.2.5.2. Clean Copy

**Matthew VanOrmer motioned and David Colavecchio seconded to accept/approve Policy 6140 as presented.**

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[Discussion Link](#)

Opposed: None

Abstain: None

Motion Carried: 7-0-0

**12. Enter into Executive Session for the purpose of self-assessment of individual members of the Leadership Team including discussion regarding goal attainment and handling of unanticipated challenges**

*(Bylaws of the Board 9322 - Public and Executive Sessions)*

**12.1. Form 1 - Board of Education Self-Evaluation**

**David Colavecchio motioned and Matthew VanOrmer seconded** to enter into Executive Session at 7:47pm. for the purpose of self-assessment of individual members of the Leadership Team including discussion regarding goal attainment and handling of unanticipated challenges and invite Superintendent Coss.

Discussion: None

Opposed: None

Abstain: None

Motion Carried: 7-0-0

**13. Exit Executive Session/Enter into Regular Session - Exit Executive Session at 10:13pm.**

The Self-Assessment Summary report will be postponed until the Regular Meeting of the Board of Education scheduled for Monday, May 8, 2023.

**14. Adjournment**

**David Colavecchio motioned and Matthew VanOrmer seconded to** adjourn the meeting.

**Chairperson Roxy Fainer** adjourned the meeting at 10:13pm.