



**MINUTES
THOMASTON BOARD OF EDUCATION
Special Meeting
Budget Workshop
Thomaston High School
Auditorium
Monday, June 12, 2023
5:30p.m.**

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. Call to Order

- 1.1. **Chairperson Roxy Fainer** called the meeting to order at 5:35p.m.
- 1.2. Board Members in Attendance: **Chairperson Roxy Fainer, Vice Chairperson David Colavecchio, Treasurer Steven Carr, Beth Campbell, Frank Treglia, Marie Eldridge, Matthew VanOrmer**
- 1.3. Board Members Absent: **Secretary Heather Patchell, Sarah Ethier**
- 1.4. Student Representatives Absent: **Delaney Jose and Nathan Marsh** (*the student representatives were not required to attend the meeting*)
- 1.5. Administrators in Attendance: Tracy Decker, Todd Bendtsen, Jessica Bedosky
- 1.6. Others in Attendance: Julie Phillips, Renee Wojtczak, Amber Russell, Monica Lattimer, Christina Glick, Kate Williams, Kurt Moffett

2. Thomaston Public Schools 2023-2024 Budget Presentation - Todd Bendtsen and Tracy Decker

- 2.1. Reduction of \$450,000 from Board of Education Town Allocated Budget per Referendum

3. Public Participation ▲▲▲

(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.*
- 3.1. Public comment was accepted in-person or through an online form. Two forms were submitted online and have been addressed outside of the meeting.
 - 3.1.1. Megan Slekis, School Social Worker, Black Rock School
 - 3.1.2. Amanda Wiles, Parent
 - 3.2. Christina Glick, 61 Pleasant View Road, Thomaston, asked the Board if the current contracts for electricians, fire alarms, etc can be relooked at as far as finding cheaper bids. Ms. Glick's question was addressed by **David Colavecchio** and **Superintendent Coss**.
 - 3.3. Julie Phillips, 31 Stoughton Street, Thomaston, thanked the Board for their time and effort that has been put toward the budget process. She stated that the people in town value the small class sizes in the district and to please keep that in mind when teachers resign and those positions are not filled. She stated that people come here for the education system and the time and attention that each teacher puts towards their students. Ms. Phillips does not want the teacher resignations that are not filled to impact the quality of education. Ms. Phillips concerns were addressed by **Superintendent Coss**

3.4. Kate Williams, 329 High Street Extension, Thomaston, shared concerns that the AP classes for Math were no longer being offered. She asked the board if the district would be offering CLEP classes. Ms. Williams' concerns were addressed by **Superintendent Coss**.

4. Action on Thomaston Public Schools 2023-2024 Budget Changes

David Colavecchio motioned and Matthew VanOrmer seconded to accept/approve the adjusted 2023-2024 Operating Budget as presented.

Discussion: None

Opposed: None

Abstain: None

Motion Carried: 7-0-0

5. Adjournment

Beth Campbell motioned and Matthew VanOrmer seconded to adjourn the meeting.

Chairperson Roxy Fainer adjourned the meeting at 5:57p.m.