

Minutes
THOMASTON BOARD OF EDUCATION
Regular Meeting
 Thomaston Town Hall – Meeting Room One
 Monday, August 17, 2015
 7:00 p.m.

- Members:
- Roxy Fainer, Chairperson
 - Kathleen Freimuth, Vice Chairperson
 - Anne Petrucci, Secretary
 - Alexander Lee, Treasurer
 - Beth Campbell
 - Carol Pettinicchi
 - Rebecca Guay
 - Jennifer McDonald
 - Maureen McMahan
 - Francine Coss, Superintendent

Minutes

Members Present: Roxy Fainer, Kathleen Freimuth, Beth Campbell, Carol Pettinicchi, Anne Petrucci, Rebecca Guay, Jennifer McDonald, Maureen McMahan, and Francine Coss

Members Absent: Jennifer McDonald, Maureen McMahan arrived at 7:08 p.m., Carol Pettinicchi departed early at 7:55 p.m.

Staff Present: Alisha DiCorpo, Director of Curriculum and Instruction

Public Present:

- I. **Establishment of a Quorum and Call to Order:**
 Roxy Fainer established a quorum and called to order the Regular Meeting of the Board of Education at 7:03 p.m.
- II. **Pledge of Allegiance:**
 Roxy Fainer led the Pledge of Allegiance.
- III. **Approval of Agenda:**
 Kathleen Freimuth **MOVED** to **AMEND** the agenda in Section VI.B Personnel to add Raphael Vernado, Physics Teacher, New Hire; Michalina Stanley, 10 Month Secretary, Transfer and Brian LaFontaine, Assistant Girls Cross Country Coach and to add Executive Session after public participation for the purpose of Board Reflection, Superintendent’s Evaluation and goals.

Kathleen Freimuth **MOVED** and Anne Petrucci **SECONDED** to accept/approve the agenda as amended.

<i>Yea</i>	<i>Nay</i>	<i>Abstentions</i>
<i>7</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>0</i>
<i>Motion Carried</i>		

**IV. Presentation:
Technology and Mathematics Curriculum by Alisha DiCorpo, Director of Curriculum**

1. Curriculum Highlights

- Board Mission Statement included in all curriculum documents
- Departmental Philosophy for each department notated
- Summary of the Year Included for Course Studies reference at the HS
- Pacing Guide
- Prioritized CT Core Standards – for primary focus
- Foundational Standards (What students should know prior to new unit implementation)
- Essential Questions and Big Ideas
- Performance Tasks Included in each Unit with Engaging Learning Experiences to hook students
- Common Formative Assessments included throughout
- Instructional Resources included for each unit of study
- Marzano's Effective Teaching Strategies
- 21st Century Skills are Included to Support Technology Implementation in all Classrooms
- Meets the Needs of All Learners
- Focus on New and Foundational Vocabulary Acquisition

2. Review of Curriculum Documents

Ms. DiCorpo shared samples of the Technology and Mathematics curriculum with Board of Education Members

3. Vetting Process

- Checklist of Curriculum Components
- Equip rubric for Mathematics
- Vetting included SERC and the Curriculum Director and occurred on August 11, 2015
- Teachers were asked to add what was missing and make changes aligned to the requirements and resubmit
- Payment will be released to teachers upon approved, vetted curriculum-slated for Friday, August 21, 2015

4. Curriculum Support 2015-2016 School Year

- Mathematics Overview and Preparation-August 24, 2015 September-June-Support During Common Planning Time at each grade level K-12.
- Technology Overview and Preparation-August 24, 2015-October-June After School Support (Meetings)
- Language Arts Overview and Preparation-August 24, 2015-September-June-Support during Common Planning Time at each grade Level-Writing K-8, Reading K-5.
- Formative Assessment Training-October-June After school Support (Meetings)

5. Curriculum Strengths

- Student Centered
- Integration of other subjects included throughout
- Focused in real-world application
- Rigorous
- Differentiated to meet student needs
- Focus on formative assessment
- Review Elementary Curriculum Guide-Showcase of Highlights of Curriculum by Grade Level

6. Additional Curriculum

- Forensic Science offered in Grades 11 and 12
- Unit Designs are in Rigorous Design Template like that of Math and Technology

Discussion:

Board of Education Members applauded **Ms. DiCorpo** on the presentation and for the time and work she and the teachers dedicated to the curriculum.

Kathleen Freimuth made suggested having each grade level complete a survey add the end of each module so they can provide feedback. Additionally, she suggested sending home a parent letter at the beginning of each unit. **Ms. DiCorpo** replied that these were great suggestions.

Kathleen Freimuth asked if all of the units would be on Google Docs. **Ms. DiCorpo** responded to the affirmative and explained that she has been working with the Technology Staff to have a section of the website dedicated to Curriculum.

Roxy Fainer asked about students who do not have the foundational standards/skills that they need? **Ms. DiCorpo** explained that Pupil Services is rolling out remedial resources to align with the common core. Teacher's will pre-teach and monitor students in classrooms and will track struggles through an intervention process while focusing on strategies to support student growth and achievement. Teachers will work collaboratively with Student Services, the Language Arts, Math and Technology coaches to ensure that new student strategies that are deemed effective are added as the curriculum as it is implemented. Areas of weakness that are determined through formative assessment results and summative results will be monitored and adjusted as the curriculum is implemented.

Discussion:

Board of Education Members applauded **Ms. DiCorpo** on the presentation and for the time and work her and the teachers dedicated to the curriculum.

Kathleen Freimuth made suggested having each grade level complete a survey add the end of each module so they can provide feedback. Additionally, she suggested sending home a parent letter at the beginning of each unit. **Ms. DiCorpo** replied that these were great suggestions.

Kathleen Freimuth asked if all of the units would be on Google Docs. **Ms. DiCorpo** responded to the affirmative and explained that she has been working with the Technology Staff to have a section of the website dedicated to Curriculum.

Roxy Fainer asked about students who do not have the foundation standards that they need? **Ms. DiCorpo** explained that Pupil Services is rolling out remedial services and resources to align with the common core. Teacher's will pre-teach and monitor students. The teacher will track struggles and work collaboratively with Student Services. Areas of weakness will be incorporated into the curriculum.

V. Approval of Minutes:

Kathleen Freimuth MOVED and **Anne Petrucci SECONDED** to accept/approve the Regular Meeting minutes dated July 13, 2015 with Amendment of changing Becky Guay to Rebecca Guay.

<i>Yea</i>	<i>Nay</i>	<i>Abstentions</i>
6	0	1
<i>Motion Carried</i>		

Rebecca Guay MOVED and **Anne Petrucci SECONDED** to accept/approve the Budget Committee meeting minutes dated July 13, 2015 as presented.

<i>Yea</i>	<i>Nay</i>	<i>Abstentions</i>
6	0	1
<i>Motion Carried</i>		

Rebecca Guay **MOVED** and Kathleen Freimuth **SECONDED** to accept/approve the Policy Committee meeting minutes dated July 13, 2015 as presented.

<i>Yea</i>	<i>Nay</i>	<i>Abstentions</i>
6	0	1
<i>Motion Carried</i>		

VI. Superintendent's Report:

- A. Student Handbook 2015/2016
- B. Connecticut Community Foundations Grant
- C. Food Service Consultants Contract 2015-2016 School Year
- D. Business Manager's Contract 2015-2016 School Year
- E. Technology Grant
- F. Retention of Records
- G. Enrollment
- H. Administrator Reports
- I. Personnel
 - a. New Hires/Transfers/Resignations
 - *Melissa DiFillippo, School Psychologist, Black Rock School, effective August 6, 2015*
 - *Dina Petraroia, Paraprofessional, Black Rock School, effective August 4, 2015*
 - *Raphael Verndo, Physics Teacher, Thomaston High School, New Hire, effective August 21, 2015*
 - *Michaelina Stanley, 10 Month Secretary to the Director of Curriculum and Assessment, Transfer, effective August 19, 2015*

Kathleen Freimuth **MOVED** and Anne Petrucci **SECONDED** to accept/approve New Hires, Transfers, and Resignations as presented.

<i>Yea</i>	<i>Nay</i>	<i>Abstentions</i>
7	0	0
<i>Motion Carried</i>		

- b. Coaches:
 - *Jeffery Dickau, Varsity Girls Soccer, Fall Sports Season*
 - *Martin Giroux, Varsity Boys Soccer, Fall Sports Season*
 - *Brooke Holway, Varsity Field Hockey, Fall Sports Season*
 - *Mark Olsen, Varsity Cross Country, Fall Sports Season*
 - *Brian LaFontaine, Assistant Cross Country Coach, Fall Sports Season*

Kathleen Freimuth **MOVED** and Anne Petrucci **SECONDED** to accept/approve Coaches as presented.

<i>Yea</i>	<i>Nay</i>	<i>Abstentions</i>
7	0	0
<i>Motion Carried</i>		

Discussion:

Alexander Lee asked if there was an increase in contracted amount for the Business Manager and Food Service Consultants contracts.

Francine Coss explained that there was a slight increase of \$12 per diem for the Business Manager and the Food Service Consultants expense was slightly less than last year due to Marilyn Banche taking on some of the responsibilities.

Alexander Lee asked if the Board of Education should be approving the Business Managers contracts yearly. **Francine Coss** asked if this was something the Board Members would like to do. **Board of Education Members** indicated that they would like to approve the Business Managers employment contract yearly.

Alexander Lee **MOVED** and Kathleen Freimuth **SECONDED** to amend the agenda with an addition to approve the Business Manager and Food Service Consultants Contracts.

<i>Yea</i>	<i>Nay</i>	<i>Abstentions</i>
<i>7</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>0</i>
<i>Motion Carried</i>		

Alexander Lee **MOVED** and Kathleen Freimuth **SECONDED** to approve the Business Manager contract as presented.

<i>Yea</i>	<i>Nay</i>	<i>Abstentions</i>
<i>7</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>0</i>
<i>Motion Carried</i>		

Alexander Lee **MOVED** and Kathleen Freimuth **SECONDED** to approve the Food Service Consultants contract as presented.

<i>Yea</i>	<i>Nay</i>	<i>Abstentions</i>
<i>7</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>0</i>
<i>Motion Carried</i>		

Discussion:

Rebecca Guay asked why Saturday School was included in the Student Handbook.

Francine Coss explained that she had not approved Saturday School, therefore she would have it removed from the Student Handbook. **Board of Education Members** requested that a formal presentation of Saturday School be made at the next Board of Education Meeting.

VII. Committee Reports:

Budget/ Audit Committee

B. Reports:

1. Business Report:

- a. *Technology Grant Application Status*
- b. *Connecticut Community Foundation Grant-2015-2016 School Year*
- c. *School Readiness Grant Allocation*

- b. **Finance Report:**
 - *2014 - 2015 Financials*
 - *2014-2015 Budget Projection*
 - *2015-2016 Budget*
 - *2013-2016 Grant Report*
 - *2015-2016 Transfer Request*

2. **Action Items:**

- a. **Business and Finance Report**
 - *July 2015 Expenditures of \$169,177.22*
 - *July 2015 Transfers \$0.00*

Kathleen Freimuth **MOVED** and Rebecca Guay **SECONDED** to approve/accept the Business Managers Report as presented.

<i>Yea</i>	<i>Nay</i>	<i>Abstentions</i>
7	0	0
<i>Motion Carried</i>		

- b. *Transfer of Funds Between Categories*
 - *Black Rock School Transfer Request of \$8,071.00*

Kathleen Freimuth **MOVED** and Anne Petrucci **SECONDED** to Transfer of Funds between Categories as presented.

<i>Yea</i>	<i>Nay</i>	<i>Abstentions</i>
7	0	0
<i>Motion Carried</i>		

B. Policy Committee

1. **Read Items:**

- *Policy Audit Series 3000 - Business/Non-Instructional Operations - First Read*
- *Policy 4115, Personnel – Certified Evaluation - First Read*
- *Policy 3551, Business/Non-Instructional Operations - No School/No Play Guidelines - Second Read*

2. **Future Agenda Items:**

- *2016/2017 School Year Calendar (agenda as read item in October after Union reviews)_*
- *Policy 6142.101 - Student Nutrition and Physical Activity*
- *Policy 5118 - Students, Nonresident Attendance/Tuition Students*
- *Policy 5118.1 - Students, Homeless Students*

VIII. Public Participation:

Alisha DiCorpo, Director of Curriculum and Assessment thanked Board of Education Members for inviting to present the Technology and Math Curriculum. Additionally, she asked that they approve the Curriculum.

Rebecca Guay **MOVED** and Kathleen Freimuth **SECONDED** to amend the agenda to include the Board of Education approve the Technology and Math Curriculum.

<i>Yea</i>	<i>Nay</i>	<i>Abstentions</i>
<i>7</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>0</i>
<i>Motion Carried</i>		

Rebecca Guay **MOVED** and Kathleen Freimuth **SECONDED** to approve the Technology and Math Curriculum as presented.

<i>Yea</i>	<i>Nay</i>	<i>Abstentions</i>
<i>7</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>0</i>
<i>Motion Carried</i>		

Executive Session:

Kathleen Freimuth **MOVED** and Anne Petrucci **SECONDED** to enter into Executive Session at 8:48 p.m. for the purpose of the Superintendent's Evaluation, Board Reflection and Goals.

<i>Yea</i>	<i>Nay</i>	<i>Abstentions</i>
<i>7</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>0</i>
<i>Motion Carried</i>		

1. The Board of Education Goal Discussion
2. **Francine Coss** exited the Executive Session meeting at 9:40 p.m.

Kathleen Freimuth **MOVED** and Beth Campbell **SECONDED** to exit Executive Session at 10:32 P.M.

<i>Yea</i>	<i>Nay</i>	<i>Abstentions</i>
<i>7</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>0</i>
<i>Motion Carried</i>		

IX. Adjournment:

Kathleen Freimuth **MOVED** and Rebecca Guay **SECONDED** to adjourn the Regular Meeting of the Board of Education at 10:33 P.M.