



MINUTES  
THOMASTON BOARD OF EDUCATION  
REGULAR MEETING

Thomaston High School Auditorium  
Monday, June 10, 2019  
7:00 p.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.

---

**Members:**

Rebecca Guay, Chairperson  
Beth Campbell, Vice Chairperson  
Heather Patchell, Secretary  
David Colavecchio, Treasurer  
Francine Coss, Superintendent

Roxy Fainer  
Maureen McMahon  
Jennifer Nolan  
Scott Theriault  
Frank Treglia

**Student Representative 2018-2019**

Erin Fainer

**Student Representatives 2019-2020**

Jacob Field  
Isabella Guerrero  
McKenna O'Sullivan

---

**1. Establishment of a Quorum and Call to Order**

*(Bylaws of the Board 9325.1 – Quorum)*

- 1.1. **Chairperson Rebecca Guay** called the meeting to order at 7:06 p.m.
- 1.2. **Board member in attendance:** Chairperson Rebecca Guay, Heather Patchell, Superintendent Francine Coss, Roxy Fainer, Scott Theriault and Frank Treglia
- 1.3. **Board member absent:** Beth Campbell, David Colavecchio, Maureen McMahon, and Jennifer Nolan
- 1.4. **Others in attendance:** Eric Martin, John Perrucci, Kristin Bernier, Hedy Kelley, Chip Hungerford, Krystal Thornton, Kristen Stadalnik, and Mackenzie Pelletier

**2. Pledge of Allegiance**

- 2.1. **Chairperson Rebecca Guay** led the pledge of allegiance.

**3. Swearing in New Student Representatives – Erin Fainer ▲▲**

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

**4. 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, June 10, 2019 as presented.**

**Scott Theriault motioned and Frank Treglia seconded to accept/approve the Regular Meeting Agenda of the Board of Education, June 10, 2019 as presented.**

**Roxy Fainer motioned and Heather Patchell seconded to amend the Regular Meeting Agenda item number 7.4 to include Erin Fainer to the Thomaston Student of the Month Audio Visual Volunteers.**

**Discussion: None**

**Vote: Motioned carried**

Yes	No	Abstain
5	0	0

**5. 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:

- 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.

**6. Approval of Minutes ▲**

(Bylaws of the Board 9326 – Minutes)

6.1. Regular Board of Education Meeting Minutes dated May 13, 2019

**Vote to accept/approve the Regular Board of Education Meeting Minutes dated May 13, 2019 as presented.**

**Scott Theriault motioned and Heather Patchell seconded to accept/approve the Regular Meeting Agenda of the Board of Education, May 13, 2019 as presented.**

**Discussion: None**

**Vote: Motioned carried**

Yes	No	Abstain
5	0	0

**7. 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)

- 7.1. National Invention Convention
  - 7.1.1. Alexander Thornberg – Grade 11, Certificate and Medal Winner
- 7.2. Thomaston Rotary Student of the Month
  - 7.2.1. June – Daniel Paul
- 7.3. Thomaston Public Schools Student of the Month Recipients - June
  - 7.3.1. Alexandra Houle – Grade 11
  - 7.3.2. Rachel Foell – Grade 10
  - 7.3.3. Olivia Grenier – Grade 9
  - 7.3.4. Nathan Kowalski – Grade 8
  - 7.3.5. Justin Dorso – Grade 7
  - 7.3.6. Mackenzie Pelletier – Grade 6
  - 7.3.7. Samantha Armstrong – Grade 5
  - 7.3.8. Emily Thornton – Grade 4
  - 7.3.9. Ava Nicosia – Grade 3
  - 7.3.10. AJ Stadalnik – Grade 2
  - 7.3.11. Tessa Hungerford – Grade 1
  - 7.3.12. Jasmine Malik – Kindergarten
- 7.4. Thomaston Student of the Month Audio Visual Volunteers
  - 7.4.1. Patrick Chesanek
  - 7.4.2. Marina Dauti
  - 7.4.3. Naime Gilani
  - 7.4.4. Megan Guay
  - 7.4.5. Shay Murphy
  - 7.4.6. Alexander Nolan

**8. Presentations ▲**

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

- 8.1. Curriculum Guides – Eric Martin

**Vote to accept/approve Curriculum Guides as presented.**

**Scott Theriault motioned and Heather Patchell seconded to accept/approve Curriculum Guides as presented.**

**Discussion: None**

**Vote: Motioned carried**

Yes	No	Abstain
5	0	1

**9. Student Representatives Report ▲**

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

**10. Chairperson’s Report ▲▲▲**

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

- 10.1. 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Applicants for Vo-Ag, Technical or Private High Schools 2019-2020

- 10.2. New England Association of Schools and Colleges, Inc. Letter – Continued Accreditation
- 10.3. Board Member Roles
  - 10.3.1. Bylaw 9010 – Bylaws of the Board – Limits of Authority
- 10.4. So You Want to be a Board Member
- 10.5. July 2019 Board of Education Regular Meeting Reminder

## 11. Superintendent's Report ▲▲▲

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

- 11.1. State of Connecticut Board of Education Memorandum – Perkins V: Today's Skills – Tomorrow's Careers – May 16, 2019
- 11.2. State of Connecticut Board of Education Memorandum – Summer Learning for Students – May 28, 2019
- 11.3. State of Connecticut Department of Education Memorandum: Next Generation Accountability – Measuring Arts Access – May 21, 2019
- 11.4. State of Connecticut Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection, Division of Emergency Management and Homeland Security: Partnering to Prevent School Attacks
- 11.5. Letters of Correspondence
  - 11.5.1. Senator John Piscopo
  - 11.5.2. Senator Henri Martin
- 11.6. Administrator Reports
- 11.7. Enrollment Report – May 31, 2019
- 11.8. Thomaston Public Schools – News for Staff – May 2019
- 11.9. Personnel

*(Policy 4112/4212 Personnel – Certified/Non-Certified Appointment and Conditions of Employment)*

- 11.9.1. New Hires/Transfers/Retirements/Resignations
  - 11.9.1.1. Diane Aniki, Head Nurse, ESY, Thomaston Public Schools
  - 11.9.1.2. Kimberly-Ann Seeger, New Hire, Library Media Specialist, Black Rock School, August 23, 2019
  - 11.9.1.3. Julia Peck, Elementary Classroom Teacher, Grade 1, Black Rock School, August 23, 2019
  - 11.9.1.4. Aimee Turner, Resignation, Director of Pupil, Personnel Services, June 28, 2019
  - 11.9.1.5. Nanette Maturi, Extended School Year Paraprofessional, Thomaston Public Schools
  - 11.9.1.6. Debra Green, Extended School Year, Paraprofessional, Thomaston Public Schools,
  - 11.9.1.7. Jessica Murphy, Extended School Year, Paraprofessional, Thomaston Public School
  - 11.9.1.8. Amanda Serenson, Extended School Year, Teacher, Thomaston Public Schools
  - 11.9.1.9. Sarah White, Extended School Year, Teacher, Thomaston Public Schools

**Vote to acknowledge Superintendent's notification of New Hire/Transfers/Retirements/Resignations per Policy 4112/4212 Personnel – Certified/Non-Certified Appointment and Conditions of Employment as presented.**

**Scott Theriault motioned and Frank Treglia seconded** to acknowledge Superintendent's notification of Schedule K/Coach Positions per Policy 4112/4212 Personnel – Certified/Non-Certified Appointment and Conditions of Employment as presented

**Discussion: None**

**Vote: Motioned carried**

Yes	No	Abstain
5	0	0

11.9.2. Hire of New Director of Pupil, Personnel Services

**Vote to direct the Superintendent of Schools to hire the Director of Pupil-Personnel Services in accordance with the Recruitment and Selection of the Director of Pupil-Personnel Services Plan, district hiring practices, and the Professional Agreement between the Thomaston Board of Education and the Thomaston School Administrators Association.**

**-OR-**

**Vote to hold a Special Meeting of the Board of Education on Thursday, June 20, 2019 for the purpose of hiring the Director of Pupil-Personnel Services.**

**Roxy Fainer motioned and Scott Theriault** to direct the Superintendent of Schools to hire the Director of Pupil-Personnel Services in accordance with the Recruitment and Selection of the Director of Pupil-Personnel Services Plan, district hiring practices, and the Professional Agreement between the Thomaston Board of Education and the Thomaston School Administrators Association.

**Discussion:** *Roxy Fainer* stated that the motion was made as a member of the committee, and that the committee has followed the policies in place and that the Board should approve the motion.

**Vote: Motioned carried**

Yes	No	Abstain
5	0	0

**12. Committee Reports ▲**

(Bylaws of the Board 9132 – Standing Committees)

**12.1. Budget/Audit Committee**

(Policy 3430 – Business/Non-Instructional Operations – Periodic Financial Reports)

- 12.1.1. 2018-2019 Budget Table without Encumbrances
- 12.1.2. 2018-2019 Budget Table with Encumbrances
- 12.1.3. 2018-2020 Grant Report
- 12.1.4. 2018-2019 Transfers

**Vote to accept/approve the 2019-2020 Thomaston Board of Education Budget as updated during the Town Meeting of June 6, 2019.**

**Roxy Fainer motioned and Scott Theriault seconded** to accept/approve the 2019-2020 Thomaston Board of Education Budget as updated during the Town Meeting of June 6, 2019.

**Discussion:** *Superintendent Coss* explained that the budget that the Board of Education

approved was reduced by one hundred sixty-thousand dollars (160,000) as of the Town Meeting on June 6, 2019. **Superintendent Coss** explained for further clarification, in the Business Report under the finance section it explains where the funds were cut or where an adjustment in revenue or savings, based on the judgement of the Board of Finance. Superintendent also stated there is an assumption that the Board of Education would save on the electricity cost at Thomaston High School due to the LED bulbs, a reimbursement threshold of excess cost would be increased, and also an update to the PATHS tuition formula. Therefore, that update was considered additional revenue. In order to complete the rest of the one hundred sixty-thousand (160,000), the Board had to make a cut to the budget. The cut of the new position of the social worker, however since this report was written and the Board acknowledged the hire of two (2) new staff members, Superintendent Coss is confident that the cut to the social worker position can be re-cooped through the reduction in cost of the two (2) new hires.

**Roxy Fainer** asked what the excess cost percentage increase to.

**Superintendent Coss** replied sixty-seven and a half (67.5%).

**Superintendent Coss** explained that the LED savings calculation was made on the three (3) electric bills that have been received since the bulbs were installed. That calculation is the assumed annual savings.

**Chairperson Rebecca Guay** asked if the bills were for January, February and March 2019.

**Superintendent Coss** agreed.

**Vote: Motioned carried**

Yes	No	Abstain
5	0	0

**Vote to accept/approve Transfer of Membership Interest of Transportation Contract Resolution as presented**

**Scott Theriault motioned and Frank Treglia seconded** accept/approve Transfer of Membership Interest of Transportation Contract Resolution as presented.

**Discussion: Roxy Fainer** asked if phrasing the resolution is going to hold the interest accountable to the contract.

**Superintendent Coss** stated that the resolution will acknowledge that the Board expect that but the business deal is based on the letter that states that the Chief Operation Officer of the bus company is assuring that the contract will be held.

**Roxy Fainer** asked if the letter that was sent have any legal standing if the company were to try renege on the contract.

**Superintendent Coss explained** that the contract states if they bus company were to sell their business or sell their interest, the Board would have to approve.

**Scott Theriault** stated that he believes the bus company will continue to have the same employees and equipment.

**Superintendent Coss** stated that was a promise for the duration of the contract.

**Vote: Motioned carried**

Yes	No	Abstain
5	0	0

**Vote 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.**

**Scott Theriault motioned and Roxy Fainer 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.

**Discussion: None**

**Vote: Motioned carried**

Yes	No	Abstain
5	0	0

**12.2. Policy Committee ▲**

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

**12.2.1. Presentations – None**

**12.2.2. Action Items**

**12.2.2.1. Policy 6146 – Instruction Graduation Requirements – Updated Policy Change**

**Vote to accept/approve, in accordance with Policy 9311, the hastening of the typical policy approval process for Policy 6146 only.**

**Roxy Fainer motioned and Scott Theriault seconded** to accept/approve, in accordance with Policy 9311, the hastening of the typical policy approval process for Policy 6146 only.

**Discussion: None**

**Vote: Motioned carried**

Yes	No	Abstain
5	0	0

If two-thirds of the Board members present vote in favor of the above-listed motion, then:

**Vote to accept/approve Policy 6146 as presented.**

**Scott Theriault motioned and Roxy Fainer seconded** to accept/approve Policy 6146 as presented.

**Discussion: None**

**Vote: Motioned carried**

Yes	No	Abstain
5	0	0

If less than two-thirds of the Board members present vote in favor of the above-listed motion, then:

No action at this time.

12.2.3. Read Items

12.2.3.1. 1<sup>st</sup> Read Policy Audit Series 6000

12.2.4. Discussion Items – None

**13. Enter Executive Session for the purpose of Evaluation of the Superintendent**

(Bylaws of the Board 9322 – Public and Executive Sessions)

(Policy 2400 – Administration/Evaluation of the Superintendent)

**Vote to move into Executive Session and invite Superintendent Coss for the purpose of Evaluation of the Superintendent.**

**Scott Theriault motioned and Frank Treglia seconded to move into Executive Session and invite Superintendent Coss for the purpose of Evaluation of the Superintendent at 8:01 p.m.**

**Discussion: None**

**Vote: Motioned carried**

Yes	No	Abstain
5	0	0

**14. Exit Executive Session**

14.1. The Board exited Executive Session at 8:22 p.m.

**15. Adjournment**

**Vote to adjourn.**

**Scott Theriault motioned and Roxy Fainer seconded to adjourn the meeting at 8:22 p.m.**

**Discussion: None**

**Vote: Motioned carried**

Yes	No	Abstain
5	0	0

The meeting was adjourned at 8:49 p.m.