



MINUTES
THOMASTON BOARD OF EDUCATION REGULAR MEETING
Thomaston High School Auditorium - Board of Education Members Only
Public May View on YouTube
[Live Link](#)
Monday, September 14, 2020
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:

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 Guerrero
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 7:05pm.
- 1.2. Attendance by Roll Call: **Chairperson Beth Campbell, Vice Chairperson David Colavecchio, Secretary Heather Patchell, Treasurer Roxy Fainer, Frank Treglia, Jennifer Nolan, Matthew VanOrmer, Sarah Ethier**
- 1.3. Board Members Absent: **Salvatore SantaMaria**
- 1.4. Student Representatives: **Isabella Guerrero, McKenna O'Sullivan, and Cesar Velez**
- 1.5. Others in Attendance: The meeting was streamed live on the town of Thomaston YouTube channel.

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*)

Roxy Fainer motioned and David Colavecchio seconded to accept/approve the Regular Meeting Agenda of the Board of Education dated September 14, 2020 as presented.

Abstentions: None

Discussion: None

Motion Carried: 8-0-0

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 Policy requirements and the criteria above shall be read aloud by a Board member during the Board of Education meeting.

4.1. Jessica Coer - 144 Litchfield St

4.1.1. Why can the US History Class (which is a graduation requirement) not be moved to a larger space to accommodate the 26 in person Juniors enrolled in the class in the M/T Cohort during this pandemic? Why are the 26 students, the teacher and the para required to be stuffed into a classroom for 1 hour and 27 min while being seated only 3 feet apart?

4.2. Nicole Rinaldi - 65 Edgewood Ave

4.2.1. My questions and concerns are related to the hybrid plan:

- What are the BOE expectations for instruction during the days students are remote?
- How are teachers supposed to address the needs of in person students and remote students at the same time? I ask this because on the days my children have been remote they have asked questions to their teachers and did not have them answered therefore they could not do their work. I would like to know how you plan on teachers can address the needs of both learners at the same time?
- If this plan continues after the original date to reevaluate I am concerned of the lack of instruction my kids receive. They only received instruction two days a week and they receive two days of assignments. I do not fault the teachers as not giving instruction on the two remote days as they physically can't do two things at once. But I am concerned that Wednesdays are a wasted day with no instruction or assignments from classroom teachers according to the TCS email. So students are receiving only two instructional days of school a week and that is NOT acceptable!
- Will all PD days be held on Wednesdays if this plan continues since classroom teachers have post assignments on Wednesdays ?

Thanks for listening to my concerns and I look forward to a response.

Concerned parent

4.3. Tracy Hungerford - 99 Pleasant View Rd

4.3.1. If we continue with a hybrid schedule through the winter. Will we have snow days, or will snow days be treated like remote learning days since all students have a chromebook? Thank you.

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

- 5.1. Regular Board of Education Meeting Minutes Dated August 17, 2020
- 5.2. Emergency Board of Education Meeting Minutes dated September 5, 2020

Roxy Fainer motioned and David Colavecchio seconded to accept/approve the Board of Education Regular Meeting Minutes dated August 17, 2020 as presented.

Abstentions: None

Discussion: None

Motion Carried: 8-0-0

Roxy Fainer motioned and David Colavecchio seconded to accept/approve the Board of Education Emergency Meeting Minutes dated September 5, 2020

Abstentions: None

Discussion: None

Motion Carried: 8-0-0

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. Chloe Simoes - Thomaston's National Invention Convention Winner - Household Organization and Appliances Industry
- 6.2. Mr. Abbas Hooshmand - Mona Lisa Ristorante

7. Presentations ▲▲▲ (*Bylaws of the Board 9410 – Public Announcement of Accomplishments*)

- 7.1. Mr. Gianni Perugini - Thomaston High School Vice Principal - Self- Introduction
- 7.2. Ms. Jessica Bedosky - Director of Curriculum, Instruction, and Assessment - Thomaston Public Schools - Self Introduction

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. CAFE Letter to Thomaston Board of Education - CAFE Board Members Services and Directory
- 9.2. Meeting in Person - Future Board of Education Meetings

Chairperson Beth Campbell stated that the Board would like to return to in-person meetings, however, there is currently no available public space that can be used at no charge at this time. The reopening of Thomaston Public schools does not permit visitors at this time. Regardless of the location where the meetings are being held, a maximum capacity of only 25 people is allowed. Further discussion will take place at the Special Meeting on September 28th. The Board members would take up half of that capacity. The Opera House is available but at a charge, between \$100-\$200/hour. The September 28th Special meeting will be held in the auditorium similarly as it is this evening. Board members will bring headphones for the feedback in the auditorium.

[Discussion Link](#)

10. Superintendent's Report ▲▲▲ (Policy 2131 – Administration – Superintendent of Schools)

10.1. Correspondence

10.1.1. Superintendent

- 10.1.1.1. Effective School Solutions - August 2020 Issue
- 10.1.1.2. Letter from Superintendent Coss to Thomaston Board of Education - Superintendent Designee Extension
- 10.1.1.3. Letter from Susan Domanico - Director, EdAdvance/Foothills Adult & Continuing Education - Delivering Adult Education Services for Adult Learners
- 10.1.1.4. Residency Determination Letter - Student A
- 10.1.1.5. Effective School Solutions Update
- 10.1.1.6. Letter from Connecticut Department of Labor - Verification on Extension of Timeline of Waiver - AFSCME Local Union and Thomaston Board of Education
- 10.1.1.7. COVID-19 Information on Member Reporting, Leave of Absences and Credited Service
- 10.1.1.8. Effective School Solutions -MindBeat Issue - September 2, 2020
- 10.1.1.9. Effective School Solutions -Insights & Solutions September 2020
- 10.1.1.10. Response Letter to Parent from Superintendent Coss - Letter of Intent to Homeschool - Student A
- 10.1.1.11. Response Letter to Parent from Superintendent Coss - Letter of Intent to Homeschool - Student B
- 10.1.1.12. Response Letter to Parent from Superintendent Coss - Letter of Intent to Homeschool - Student C
- 10.1.1.13. Update on the Impact of the COVID-19 Pandemic on the Reopening of Thomaston Public Schools
- 10.1.1.14. Connecticut Association of Boards of Education (CABE)
- 10.1.1.15. Policy Highlights - August 21, 2020
- 10.1.1.16. Policy Highlights - September 4, 2020

10.1.2. Connecticut Association of Public Schools Superintendents (CAPSS)

- 10.1.2.1. Coronavirus Relief Funds Memo

10.1.3. U.S. Department of Education

- 10.1.3.1. Questions and Answers Regarding the Department's Final Title IX Rule

10.1.4. Connecticut State Department of Education (CSDE)

- 10.1.4.1. Reopening Guidance for Educating Students with Disabilities
- 10.1.4.2. Resolution Amended - School Shortening Year 180 Days
- 10.1.4.3. Resolution - Emergency Educator Certification
- 10.1.4.4. Resolution - Score Waiver Recommendation
- 10.1.4.5. COVID-19 Reopening Considerations for Connecticut K-12 Music Programs
- 10.1.4.6. Hand Sanitizer Letter
- 10.1.4.7. Healthy Adults Healthy Schools
- 10.1.4.8. Professional Support Series for Districts
- 10.1.4.9. Interim Guidance for the Use of Face Coverings in Schools During COVID-19 -

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- Addendum 11
 - 10.1.4.10. Adoption of Flexibilities for Implementing Guidelines for 2020-21 School Year
 - 10.1.4.11. Survey of District Social and Emotional Learning Policies, Programs & Practices
 - 10.1.4.12. Frequently Asked Questions - Reopening K-12 Public Schools
 - 10.1.4.13. Tracking Daily Attendance on Remote Days in 2020-21
 - 10.1.4.14. Update Regarding IDEA Eligibility Extended Until Age 22
 - 10.1.4.15. Return to Learning Playlist for Students and Families
 - 10.1.4.16. Hybrid and Remote Instructions
 - 10.1.4.17. Data Collections to Support Student Data
 - 10.1.4.18. Regaining Connecticut Classrooms - Addendum 12
 - 10.2. Reports, Contracts and General Information
 - 10.2.1. Reports
 - 10.2.1.1. Administrator Reports - September 2020
 - 10.2.1.1.1. Jessica Bedosky - Department of Curriculum, Instruction and Assessment - Director - Pre K Curriculum
 - 10.2.1.1.1.1. Preschool Units
 - 10.2.1.2.1.2. Preschool Learning Targets

Roxy Fainer motioned and David Colavecchio seconded to accept/approve the Pre- K Curriculum as presented.

Abstentions: None

Discussion: None

Motion Carried: 8-0-0

Superintendent Francine Coss expressed her thanks to the preschool teachers who worked extra hours to make sure that this curriculum was written in a timely manner so that it can be implemented this year.

- 10.2.1.2. Distance Learning
- 10.2.1.3. Enrollment Report - September 2020
 - 10.2.1.3.1. Registrations continue to take place. .
- 10.2.2. Contracts
 - 10.2.2.1. Naviance Essentials Solution - 9-1-2020 - 8-31-2021
 - 10.2.2.2. Memorandum of Agreement - Thomaston Board of Education and Local AFSCME Union Local 1303-97 - Secretaries and School Nurses Paid Lunch- 2020-2021 School Year
 - 10.2.2.3. Memorandum of Agreement - Thomaston Board of Education and Local AFSCME Union Local 1303-97 - Paraprofessionals Working Hours
 - 10.2.2.4. TPT School Access Services
 - 10.2.2.5. Megan Payne - Sunbelt Staffing - Speech Language Pathologist - Thomaston Public Schools
 - 10.2.2.6. Memorandum of Agreement - Thomaston Board of Education and Thomaston Education Association - COVID-19 Work Conditions - 2020-2021
 - 10.2.2.7. *General Information*
 - 10.2.2.8. Fund-Raisers
 - 10.2.2.8.1. Thomaston Townwide PTA Proposed Fundraisers/Events for

2020-2021

Superintendent Francine Coss expressed her thanks to the PTA for always submitting their list of fundraisers at the beginning of each school year. They are not obligated to that as they do not need the Board's permission. This helps the schools greatly so that there are no conflicts with fundraisers between the schools and the PTA.

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

10.2.3.1. New Hires

10.2.3.1.1. Hanane Boumghait - Special Education Paraprofessional - Pupil Services

10.2.3.1.2. Donna Alfonzetti - Special Education Paraprofessional - Pupil Services

10.2.3.1.3. Sarah DeMatteis - Long Term Substitute Teacher - Thomaston Center School

10.2.3.1.4. Colby Skilton - Building Substitute - Thomaston High School

10.2.3.1.5. Jennifer Irazabal - K-6 Math Interventionist - Thomaston Public Schools

10.2.3.1.6. Ashlee Lajoie - Long Term Substitute Teacher - Black Rock School

10.2.3.1.7. Crystal Longhi - Building Substitute - Thomaston High School

10.2.3.2. Transfers/New Assignments

10.2.3.2.1. Remote Assignments - 14 Staff Members

10.2.3.3. Retirements

10.2.3.3.1. Barbara Jarvis - Paraprofessional - Thomaston High School - Effective September 1, 2020

10.2.3.4. Resignations

10.2.3.4.1. Terri Rousseau - School to Career Coordinator/Paraprofessional - Effective August 24, 2020

10.2.3.5. Renewals - None

10.2.3.6. Stipends

10.2.3.6.1. 7th Grade Class Advisor - Kayla Policarpio - Thomaston High School

10.2.3.6.2. 7th Grade Team Leader - Kimberly Guerrero - Thomaston High School

10.2.3.6.3. 8th Grade Class Advisor - Megan Kellogg - Thomaston High School

10.2.3.6.4. 8th Grade Team Leader - Megan Kellogg - Thomaston High School

10.2.3.6.5. 9th Grade Class Advisor - Breanna Riollano - Thomaston High School

10.2.3.6.6. 9th Grade Team Leader - Maria Zamora - Thomaston High School

10.2.3.6.7. 10th Grade Class Advisor - Susan Abbott - Thomaston high School

10.2.3.6.8. 10th Grade Team Leader - Susan Abbott - Thomaston High School

10.2.3.6.9. 11th Grade Class Advisor - Jennifer Ewart - Thomaston High School

10.2.3.6.10. 11th/12th Grade Team Leader - Christopher McMullen - Thomaston High School

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- 10.2.3.6.11. 12th Grade Class Advisor - Michelle Dayton - Thomaston High School
 - 10.2.3.6.12. Advanced Placement Coordinator - Stephen Malo - Thomaston High School
 - 10.2.3.6.13. Advisory Coordinator - Aaron Bunel - Thomaston High School
 - 10.2.3.6.14. Assistant Advisory Coordinator - Megan Kellogg - Thomaston High School
 - 10.2.3.6.15. Athletic Director (shared position) - Aaron Bunel and Alex Sconziano - Thomaston High School
 - 10.2.3.6.16. Athletics Coordinator - Preston Soeprasetyo - Thomaston High School
 - 10.2.3.6.17. Band Director - Aaron Bunel - Thomaston High School
 - 10.2.3.6.18. Communications Technology Coordinator - Michelle Dayton - Thomaston High School
 - 10.2.3.6.19. Drama Coach - Breanna Riollano - Thomaston High School
 - 10.2.3.6.20. GSA Advisor - Susan Santovasi - Thomaston High School
 - 10.2.3.6.21. Interact Club Advisor - Raymond Rabuska - Thomaston High School
 - 10.2.3.6.22. Mock Trial - Terri Franzi - Thomaston High School
 - 10.2.3.6.23. National Honor Society - Susan Abbott - Thomaston High School
 - 10.2.3.6.24. Naviance School Site Manager - Breanna Riollano - Thomaston High School
 - 10.2.3.6.25. School Newspaper Advisor - Erica Flanagan - Thomaston High School
 - 10.2.3.6.26. Publicity Coordinator - Bryan Holmes - Thomaston High School
 - 10.2.3.6.27. Special Education program Coordinator - Tammy Dumas - Thomaston High School
 - 10.2.3.6.28. Student Council Advisor (HS) - Terri Franzi - Thomaston High School
 - 10.2.3.6.29. Teacher in Charge - Alex Sconziano - Thomaston High School
 - 10.2.3.6.30. Vocational Coordinator - Michelle Dayton - Thomaston High School
 - 10.2.3.6.31. Web Page Coordinator - Preston Soeprasetyo - Thomaston high School
 - 10.2.3.6.32. Yearbook Advisor - Michelle Dayton - Thomaston High School
 - 10.2.3.6.33. Yearbook Advisor - William Dwan - Thomaston Center School
 - 10.2.3.6.34. Teacher in Charge - Jaimee Hustek - Thomaston Center School
 - 10.2.3.6.35. Choral Director - Kathleen Zitnay - Thomaston Center School
 - 10.2.3.6.36. Band Director - Kathleen Zitnay - Thomaston Center School
 - 10.2.3.6.37. Grade 5 Team Leader - Keri Rozzi - Thomaston Center School
 - 10.2.3.6.38. Web Page Coordinator - Keri Rozzi - Thomaston Center School
 - 10.2.3.6.39. Grade 4 Team Leader - Jennifer McAtee - Thomaston Center

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- School
 - 10.2.3.6.40. District Web Page Coordinator - Geoffrey Dobos - Thomaston Public Schools
 - 10.2.3.6.41. PowerSchool Coordinator - Geoffrey Dobos - Thomaston Center School
 - 10.2.3.6.42. Teacher in Charge - Susan Heiland - Black Rock School
 - 10.2.3.6.43. Kindergarten Team Leader - Beverly Johnson - Black Rock School
 - 10.2.3.6.44. First Grade Team Leader - Diana Jonas - Black Rock School
 - 10.2.3.6.45. Second Grade Team Leader - Jessica Freeman - Black Rock School
 - 10.2.3.6.46. Third Grade Team Leader - Cindy Sabolcik - Black Rock School
 - 10.2.3.6.47. Webpage Coordinator - Paul Biron - Black Rock School

Roxy Fainer motioned and David Colavecchio seconded to acknowledge the Superintendent’s notification of Personnel, specifically, New Hire/ Transfers/Retirements/ Resignations/Renewals/Stipends per Policy 4112/4212 Personnel – Certified/Non-Certified Appointment and Conditions of Employment as presented.

Abstentions: None

Discussion: **Roxy Fainer** inquired on the status of the coaches that were not on the Stipend list. **Superintendent Francine Coss** stated that this list was updated last Wednesday, September 9th, and any coaching positions that came through after September 9th will not be included in this agenda. **Superintendent Coss** stated that she will follow up with Mr. John Perrucci, Thomaston High School principal.

Motion Carried: 8-0-0

- 10.2.3.7. Family and Medical Leave Act (FMLA) (Policy 4152.6/4252.6 – Personnel-- Certified/Non-Certified Personal Leaves Family and Medical Leave)
- 10.2.3.8. Interns and Student Teachers (Policy 1212 – Community Relations – School Volunteers)
 - 10.2.3.8.1. Jessica LeClerc - Student Teacher - Thomaston Center School
 - 10.2.3.8.2. Kathryn Perda - Student Intern - Thomaston Center School
- 10.2.3.9. Field Trips (out of state) (Policy 6153 - Instruction Field Trips - Secondary Schools) - None
- 10.2.3.10. Policy 3260 Business/Non-Instructional Operations Sales & Disposal of Books, Equipment & Supplies - None

11. Committee Reports ▲ (Bylaws of the Board 9132 – Standing Committees)

- 11.1. Business Manager Report
 - 11.1.1. August Business Report
 - 11.1.1.1. 2020-2021 Budget Table Without Encumbrances
 - 11.1.1.2. 2020-2021 Budget Table With Encumbrances
 - 11.1.1.3. 2019-2021 Grant Report
 - 11.1.1.4. 2020-2021 Transfers
 - 11.1.1.5. Expenditures
- August 2020 - 2019-2020 Fiscal Year: \$311,416.12

Roxy Fainer motioned and David Colavecchio 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.

Abstentions: None

Discussion: None

Motion Carried: 8-0-0

- 11.2. Policy Committee (*Policy 2231 – Administration/Policy and Regulation Systems*)
 - 11.2.1. Presentations - None
 - 11.2.2. Discussion Items
 - 11.2.2.1. Thomaston Board of Education Policy 1330 - Use of Facilities
 - 11.2.3. Read Items
 - 11.2.3.1. First Read - None
 - 11.2.3.2. Second Read - None
 - 11.2.4. Action Items
 - 11.2.4.1. Policy 6159 - Individualized Education Program/Special Education Program

Roxy Fainer motioned and David Colavecchio seconded to accept/approve Policy 6159 as presented.

Abstentions: None

Discussion: None

Motion Carried: 8-0-0

**12. Enter Executive Session for the purpose of the self-evaluation of the Thomaston Board of Education Members
Enter Executive Session for the purpose of the extension of contract for Superintendent Francine Coss**

Roxy Fainer motioned and David Colavecchio seconded to move into the Executive Session for the purpose of the self-evaluation of the Thomaston Board of Education members and the extension of contract for Superintendent Francine Coss through June 2023.

Roxy Fainer invited **Superintendent Coss** to enter the executive session with the Board.

Abstentions: None

Discussion: None

Motion Carried: 8-0-0

Enter the Executive Session at 7:47pm.

Roxy Fainer made a motion and David Colavecchio seconded to approve the goals for the Board of Education for the 2020-2021 school year. Specifically, setting up an ADHOC committee under the vision of the Director of Curriculum, Instruction, and Assessment so the Board will have clear expectations of student achievement. The committee will report to the Board at Regular BOE meetings. The ADHOC committee includes: **Roxy Fainer, David Colavecchio, Sarah Ethier & Matt VanOrmer**. In addition to the Regular Board of Education meetings, the Thomaston Board of Education will work with CAFE and look into holding a Board retreat in

2021 to work on leadership skills.

Abstentions: None

Discussion: None

Motion Carried: 8-0-0

Roxy Fainer made a motion and David Colavecchio seconded to table the potential action regarding the extension of contract for **Superintendent Francine Coss** through June 2023 until the October 19th Regular Meeting of the Board of Education.

Abstentions: None

Discussion: None

Motion Carried: 8-0-0

13. Adjournment

David Colavecchio motioned and Roxy Fainer seconded to adjourn the meeting.

Chairperson Beth Campbell adjourned the meeting at 8:51pm.
