



## MINUTES

### THOMASTON BOARD OF EDUCATION REGULAR MEETING

Monday, September 12, 2022 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, Secretary Heather Patchell, Treasurer Steven Carr, Matthew VanOrmer, Sarah Ethier, Frank Treglia, Marie Eldridge, Beth Campbell, Superintendent Francine Coss**
- 1.3. Student Representatives in Attendance: **Nathan Marsh and Delaney Jose** (*Delaney arrived at 7:12pm.*)
- 1.4. Administrators in Attendance: John Perrucci, Gianni Perugini, Kristin Bernier, Jessica Bedosky, Jonathan Kozlak
- 1.5. Administrators in Attendance Virtually: Andrea Peters
- 1.6. Others in Attendance: Steve Foss, Jennifer Samela, Cheyenne Clark, Diane Aniki, David and Becky Shypinka, Erica Terlizzi, Julia Kunic, Susan Heiland, Geoff Dobos, Patrick Hyres, Jose Ortiz, Tim Ferris, Christopher O’Keefe, Connor Foss, Karen Payne

### 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)*

---

**Matthew VanOrmer motioned and Steven Carr seconded** to approve the agenda with the removal of the scrivener's error in red text after agenda item 10.8.1.1. Specifically, "Vote per Policy 3260-Business/Non-Instructional Operations, Sales and Disposal of Books, Equipment and Supplies to acknowledge the Superintendent's authorization of the disposal of a steamer at Thomaston High School as presented." The Board of Education voted on this action last month and the action is not related to any item on this month's agenda.

Discussion: None

Opposed: None

Abstain: None

Motion Carried: 9-0-0

#### 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 or complaints against any employee of the Board of Education, regardless of whether or not the employee is identified in the presentation by name.*

#### 5. Approval of Minutes ▲

*(Bylaws of the Board 9326 – Minutes)*

##### 5.1. Regular Board of Education Meeting Minutes - August 15, 2022

**Marie Eldridge motioned and Matthew VanOrmer seconded** to approve the Regular Board of Education Meeting Minutes dated August 15, 2022 as presented.

[Discussion Link](#)

Opposed: None

Abstain: None

Motion Carried: 9-0-0

##### 5.2. Special Meeting of the Board of Education Meeting Minutes - August 16, 2022

**Marie Eldridge motioned and Matthew VanOrmer seconded** to accept/approve the Special Board of Education Meeting Minutes dated August 16, 2022 as presented.

Discussion: None

Opposed: None

Abstain: None

Motion Carried: 9-0-0

#### 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. Jennifer Samela, 2022-2023 Paraprofessional of the Year , Thomaston Public Schools

6.2. Cheyene Clark, 2022-2023 Teacher of the Year, Thomaston Public Schools

6.3. Diane Aniki, 2022 Education Partner of the Year, Thomaston Education Enrichment Fund

6.4. Response Team - Black Rock School Blue Wing Flood

6.4.1. Spencer Luthy, District Lead Custodian, Thomaston Public Schools

- 
- 6.4.2. Timothy Ferris, Custodian - Thomaston High School
  - 6.4.3. Connor Foss, Summer Custodian - Thomaston High School
  - 6.4.4. Christopher O'Keefe, Custodian - Thomaston High School
  - 6.4.5. Craig Lefebvre, Head Custodian - Thomaston Center School
  - 6.4.6. Patrick Hyles, Custodian - Thomaston Center School
  - 6.4.7. Brian McCarthy, Custodian - Black Rock School
  - 6.4.8. Nicolas Dumont, Custodian - Black Rock School
  - 6.4.9. Geoffrey Dobos, Senior I.T. Technician - Thomaston Public Schools
  - 6.4.10. Jose Ortiz, Information Technology - Thomaston Public Schools
  - 6.4.11. Cheyenne Clark, Grade 1 Teacher
  - 6.4.12. Jennifer DePalma, Grade 1 Teacher
  - 6.4.13. Julia Kunic, Grade 1 Teacher
  - 6.4.14. Erica Terlizzi, Grade 1 Teacher
  - 6.4.15. Kelsey Murzak, Special Education Teacher - Black Rock School
  - 6.4.16. Karen Payne, Special Education Teacher - Black Rock School
  - 6.4.17. Jennifer Babb, Art Teacher - Black Rock School
  - 6.4.18. Diana Brandt, Music Teacher - Black Rock School
  - 6.4.19. Susan Heiland, Reading Interventionist - Black Rock School
  - 6.4.20. Jonathan Kozlak, Principal - Black Rock School
  - 6.4.21. Glenn Clark, Superintendent of Highways, Thomaston Department of Public Works
  - 6.4.22. Aaron Heller, Thomaston Department of Public Works
  - 6.4.23. David Shypinka, Thomaston Department of Public Works
  - 6.4.24. Mark Famiglietti, Thomaston Department of Public Works

## 7. Presentations ▲▲▲

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

- 7.1. 2022 Smarter Balanced Scores - Thomaston Public Schools , Jessica Bedosky, Director of Curriculum, Instruction and Assessment

## 8. Student Representatives Report ▲▲▲

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

- 8.1. September 2022

## 9. Chairperson's Report ▲▲▲

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

- 9.1. 2022 CABA Board Recognition Award Application

**Marie Eldridge motioned and Matthew VanOrmer seconded to accept/approve the CABA Board Recognition Award Application as presented.**

Discussion: None

Opposed: None

Abstain: None

Motion Carried: 9-0-0

---

9.2. Parliamentary Procedure for Boards of Education Webinar - Wednesday, September 28, 2022  
- 12:00-1:15 pm (Virtual)

**10. Superintendent's Report** ▲▲▲

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

10.1. Correspondence

10.1.1. Superintendent

- 10.1.1.1. Letter of Approval to Michael Pavano, Doctoral Candidate - University of Cumberlands and Dr. Luke Smith, Dissertation Chair - University of the Cumberlands regarding research study: "Alternative School Leadership: Effective Transformational Leadership Practices to Improve School Climate"
- 10.1.1.2. Thank You Letter to Gianni Perugini, District Safety Coordinator, Thomaston Public Schools, regarding August 15, 2022 Board of Education Regular Meeting Presentation
- 10.1.1.3. Thank You Letter to Bill Zima, Director of Implementation, Marzano Academies regarding August 15, 2022 Regular Board of Education Meeting Presentation
- 10.1.1.4. Invitation to Kathy Mannion, Junior Achievement, for Open House at Black Rock School and Thomaston Center School
- 10.1.1.5. Invitation to Brendan McDonald, Thomaston Cub Scout Pack 364, for Open House at Black Rock School and Thomaston Center School
- 10.1.1.6. Invitation to Joseph Aniki, Thomaston Parks and Recreation, for Open House at Black Rock School and Thomaston Center School
- 10.1.1.7. Invitation to Jessica Fedorich, Thomaston Town-Wide Parent Teacher Association (PTA), for Open House at Black Rock School and Thomaston Center School
- 10.1.1.8. Results of Residency Hearing - August 18, 2022 - Student A
- 10.1.1.9. Residency Determination Letter - Student B
- 10.1.1.10. Residency Hearing Notice - Student B
- 10.1.1.11. Residency Determination Letter - Student C
- 10.1.1.12. Residency Hearing Notice - Student C
- 10.1.1.13. Residency Determination Letter - Student D
- 10.1.1.14. Residency Hearing Notice - Student D
- 10.1.1.15. Letter from Superintendent Coss to Eric Watley, Branch Manager, SanDow Construction, Regarding Approval of Change Order for Thomaston Center School Gym Ceiling Project
- 10.1.1.16. Thank You Card from Renee Wojtczak, Physical Education Teacher, Thomaston Center School, and Family to the Thomaston Board of Education
- 10.1.1.17. EdAdvance 2022-2023 Member District Calendar
- 10.1.2. Connecticut Association of Boards of Education (CABE) - None
- 10.1.3. Connecticut Association of Public Schools Superintendents (CAPSS) - None

- 
- 10.1.4. United States Department of Education (USDE)
    - 10.1.4.1. Office for Civil Rights Fiscal Year 2021 Annual Report
    - 10.1.4.2. New Guidance Helps Schools Support Students with Disabilities and Avoid Discriminatory Use of Discipline
  - 10.1.5. Department of Public Health (DPH)
    - 10.1.5.1. Evaluations for Existing Active Radon Mitigation Systems in Connecticut Public Schools
  - 10.1.6. Connecticut State Department of Education (CSDE)
    - 10.1.6.1. Process for Requesting COVID-19 Self-Test Kits and PPE for Students and Staff in Connecticut
    - 10.1.6.2. 2021-2022 Educational Financial System
    - 10.1.6.3. Approval of Acadience RAN, aimswebPlus RAN, Amira Learning, mClass RAN and mClass Vocabulary Reading Assessments
    - 10.1.6.4. Ten Things You Can Do to Renew District Curricula this Summer
    - 10.1.6.5. Teacher of the Year Program Booklet and Correspondence
    - 10.1.6.6. Student Assessment News - September 2, 2022

## 10.2. Reports

- 10.2.1. 2022-2023 Thomaston Public Schools COVID-19 Positivity and Vaccination Rate Report
- 10.2.2. Administrator Reports
  - 10.2.2.1. September 2022
  - 10.2.2.2. Curriculum Guides - Thomaston Public Schools
    - 10.2.2.2.1. Introduction to Spanish - Grades 7 & 8
    - 10.2.2.2.2. Spanish I - Grade 9
    - 10.2.2.2.3. Spanish II - Grades 10 - 12
    - 10.2.2.2.4. Spanish III - Grade 11

**Marie Eldridge motioned and Matthew VanOrmer seconded to accept/approve the curriculum guides as presented.**

[Discussion Link](#)

Opposed: None

Abstain: None

Motion Carried: 9-0-0

- 10.2.3. 2022-2023 Enrollment Report (*NOTE: Registrations/transfers occurring after June 1st will be included in the September report*)
    - 10.2.3.1. September 1, 2022
  - 10.2.4. Thomaston Center School Ceiling Project Update
  - 10.2.5. Thomaston Center School Tennis Court Project Update
  - 10.2.6. Little Bears University 2022-2023 Family Handbook - Thomaston Public Schools
- ## 10.3. Contracts

---

10.3.1. State Education Resource Center & the Thomaston Board of Education - CT-SEDS  
(Connecticut Special Education Data System) - 2022-2023 School Year

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 Fund-Raisers

10.5.1.3.1. Collection of Class Dues - Class of 2023 - THS

10.5.1.3.2. Sales of Bear Ware & School Items - Class of 2023 - THS

10.5.1.3.3. Sales of Nutmeg Spices - Class of 2023 - THS

10.5.1.3.4. Pasta Heaven Fundraiser - Class of 2023 - THS

10.5.1.3.5. Bowling Tournament - Student Council - THS

10.5.1.3.6. Homecoming Concessions/Parking/Donations - Student Council -  
THS

10.5.1.3.7. St. Jude Math-a-thon - Black Rock 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

10.6.1.1. Jonathan McIsaac, Classroom Teacher - Thomaston High School \*August 26, 2022

10.6.1.2. Sharon Taylor-DiFederico, Preschool Classroom Teacher - Black Rock School  
\*August 29, 2022

10.6.1.3. Jason Roberts, Social Studies Classroom Teacher - Thomaston High School\*August  
26, 2022

10.6.1.4. Rachel Giannettino, School Counselor - Black Rock School\*August 26, 2022

10.6.1.5. Flor Rodriguez, Substitute Paraprofessional (Temp/Per Diem) - Black Rock School  
September 1, 2022

10.6.1.6. (Updated/Revised) Flor Rodriguez, Substitute Paraprofessional (Temp/Per Diem) -  
Black Rock School\*September 1, 2022

10.6.1.7. Samantha Brostek, full-time Paraprofessional - Thomaston Center  
School\*September 1, 2022

10.6.1.8. Conner Croke, Building Substitute Teacher (Temporary/Per Diem) - Thomaston  
High School\*August 31, 2022

10.6.1.9. Rachel Bip, full-time Paraprofessional - Black Rock School\*September 1, 2022

10.6.1.10. (Updated/Revised) Rachel Bip, full-time Paraprofessional - Black Rock  
School\*August 31, 2022

10.6.1.11. Lisa Baldelli, Speech Language Pathologist - Thomaston Public Schools\*August 31,  
2022

10.6.2. Transfer/New Assignments

- 
- 10.6.2.1. Marissa Santopietro, from full-time Paraprofessional (Instructional) to full-time Paraprofessional NAEYC Qualified Paraprofessional- Black Rock School\*August 29, 2022
  - 10.6.2.2. Haleigh Cichowicz, from Building Substitute, Thomaston High School to full-time Paraprofessional - Black Rock School\*August 29, 2022
  - 10.6.2.3. (Updated/Revised) Haleigh Cichowicz, from Building Substitute, Black Rock School to full-time Paraprofessional - Thomaston Center School\*August 29, 2022
  - 10.6.2.4. Jessica Fedorich, from Building Substitute, Thomaston High School to full-time Paraprofessional - Black Rock School\*August 29, 2022
  - 10.6.2.5. Amanda Behuniak, from Long Term Substitute Family and Consumer Science Teacher (per diem) to Family and Consumer Science Classroom Teacher\*August 26, 2022
  - 10.6.3. Reassignment - None
  - 10.6.4. Resignations
    - 10.6.4.1. Colby Skilton, Paraprofessional - Thomaston High School\*June 16, 2022
  - 10.6.5. Retirement - None
  - 10.6.6. Termination - None
  - 10.6.7. Non-Renewals - None
  - 10.6.8. Stipends - 2022-2023
    - 10.6.8.1. (letter rescinded) Michael Watson, Grade 7 Team Leader
    - 10.6.8.2. Michael Watson, Grade 8 Team Leader

**Marie Eldridge 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: 9-0-0

10.6.9. Family and Medical Leave Act (FMLA)

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

10.6.9.1. Employee B

10.6.10. Interns and Student Teachers

10.6.10.1. Lauren Busk- Intern - Black Rock School

10.6.10.2. Alexis Lee - Intern - Black Rock School

*(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

*(Policy 3260 Business/Non-Instructional Operations Sales & Disposal of Books, Equipment & Supplies)*

10.8.1. Disposal of Books - Black Rock School

---

10.8.1.1. Response Letter from Superintendent Coss to Nicole Sul, Preschool Coordinator

~~Vote per Policy 3260 – Business/Non-Instructional Operations Sales & Disposal of Books, Equipment & Supplies to acknowledge the Superintendent’s authorization of the disposal of a steamer at Thomaston High School as presented.~~

This motion has been removed per the motion to amend the agenda by **Matthew VanOrmer** - agenda item # 3.

## 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. August 2022 Business Manager’s Report

11.1.1.1. 2022-2023 Budget Table Without Encumbrances

11.1.1.2. 2022-2023 Budget Table With Encumbrances

11.1.1.3. 2021-2023 Grant Report

11.1.1.4. 2022-2023 Projection

11.1.1.5. 2022-2023 Transfer

11.1.1.6. Expenditures

11.1.1.6.1. \$811,287.13

**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 for June 2022 and July 2022.**

[Discussion Link](#)

This motion has been edited per the motion to amend the agenda by **Marie Eldridge**:

**Marie Eldridge motioned and Matthew VanOrmer seconded** to amend the motion to reflect the approval of the Business and Finance Report and Expenditures per Policy 3432/3433 Business/Non-Instructional Operations - Budget & Expense Report/Annual Financial Statement as presented for August 2022.

Discussion: None

Opposed: None

Abstain: None

Motion Carried: 9-0-0

### 11.2. Policy Committee

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

11.2.1. Presentations - None

11.2.2. Discussion Items - None

11.2.3. First Read - None

11.2.4. Second Read - None

11.2.5. Action Items

11.2.5.1. Policy 3281 - School Fundraisers

11.2.5.2. Policy 3542.43 - Food Service - Charging Policy



---

**Matthew VanOrmer motioned and Marie Eldridge seconded** to accept/approve Policy 3281 and Policy 3542.43 as presented.

Discussion: None

Opposed: None

Abstain: None

Motion Carried: 9-0-0

## **12. Adjournment**

**Matthew VanOrmer motioned and Marie Eldridge seconded** to adjourn the meeting.

**Chairperson Roxy Fainer** adjourned the meeting at 7:51pm.