



MINUTES

THOMASTON BOARD OF EDUCATION REGULAR MEETING

Monday, February 13, 2023 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 7:02p.m.
- 1.2. Board Members in Attendance: **Chairperson Roxy Fainer, Secretary Heather Patchell, Sarah Ethier, Matthew Vanormer, Marie Eldridge, Beth Campbell, Frank Treglia, Superintendent Francine Coss**
- 1.3. Board Members Absent: **Vice Chairperson David Colavecchio, Treasurer Steven Carr**
- 1.4. Student Representatives in Attendance: **Delaney Jose, Nathan Marsh**
- 1.5. Administrators in Attendance: Jessica Bedosky, Kristin Bernier, Jonathan Kozlak, Gianni Perugini, John Perrucci
- 1.6. Others in Attendance: Amanda Behuniak, The Ariola Family, Rachel Donahue, Alissa and Dan Banks, The Saghafi Family, Martin Ariola, Tasman Banks, Colten Chasse, Autumn Dodge, Mason Hawley, Hunter Knapp, Emily Mazzarella, Britta Saghafi, Jennifer McAtee, Susan Larson, Nathan Kowalski, Senator Henri Martin, Representative John Piscopo

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)

Marie Eldridge motioned and Matthew VanOrmer seconded to accept/approve the agenda of the Board of Education Meeting dated February 13, 2023 as presented.

Discussion: None

Opposed: None

Abstain: None

Motion Carried: 7-0-0

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/complaints against any employee of the Board of Education, regardless of whether or not the employee is identified by name.

5. Approval of Minutes ▲

(Bylaws of the Board 9326 – Minutes)

5.1. Thomaston Board of Education Regular Meeting Minutes - January 9, 2023

Marie Eldridge motioned and Matthew VanOrmer seconded to accept/approve the Thomaston Board of Education Regular Meeting Minutes dated January 9, 2023 as presented.

Discussion: None

Opposed: None

Abstain: None
Motion Carried: 7-0-0

5.2. Thomaston Board of Education Residency Hearing Minutes - January 18, 2023

Marie Eldridge motioned and Matthew VanOrmer seconded to accept/approve the Thomaston Board of Education Residency Hearing Minutes dated January 18, 2023 as presented.

Discussion: None
Opposed: None
Abstain: None
Motion Carried: 7-0-0

5.3. Thomaston Board of Education Residency Hearing Minutes - January 18, 2023

Marie Eldridge motioned and Matthew VanOrmer seconded to accept/approve the Thomaston Board of Education Residency Hearing Minutes dated January 18, 2023 as presented.

Discussion: None
Opposed: None
Abstain: None
Motion Carried: 7-0-0

5.4. Thomaston Board of Education Budget Workshop Minutes - January 30, 2023

Marie Eldridge motioned and Matthew VanOrmer seconded to accept/approve the Thomaston Board of Education Budget Workshop Minutes dated January 30, 2023 as presented.

Discussion: None
Opposed: None
Abstain: None
Motion Carried: 7-0-0

5.5. Thomaston Board of Education Special Meeting Minutes - January 31, 2023

Marie Eldridge motioned and Matthew VanOrmer seconded to accept/approve the Thomaston Board of Education Special Meeting Minutes dated January 31, 2023 as presented.

Discussion: None
Opposed: None
Abstain: None
Motion Carried: 7-0-0

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. Students of the Month - January 2022

Grade 12: Connor Foss	Grade 7: Dustin Galpin	Grade 2: Madeline Pappas
Grade 11: Velia Russman	Grade 6: Carter Ethier	Grade 1: Austin Bernaitis
Grade 10: Natalja Collaku	Grade 5: Kyla Lahey	Kindergarten: Colin Sayers
Grade 9: Wil Hungerford	Grade 4: Kate Mazzarella	Preschool: Cataleya Lopez
Grade 8: Ethan Ranney	Grade 3: Landon Massaro	

6.2. February 2023 Staff Spotlight - Jennifer Irazabal, Math Instructional Coach - Black Rock School and Thomaston Center School

6.3. 2022 Thomaston Fire Prevention Poster Contest Winners - Logan Meyer (Grade 4) and Jack Donahue (Grade 5)

6.4. Hearst Foundation United States Senate Youth Program Delegate - Cierra O'Sullivan - Grade 11

7. Presentations ▲▲▲

7.1. Thomaston Center School Enrichment Program Legislative Proposal - L.E.A.P. (Learning Enrichment Academic Program)

Enrichment Group Members		
Martin Ariola - Grade 5	Autumn Dodge - Grade 5	Britta Saghafi - Grade 6
Tasman Banks - Grade 6	Jack Donahue - Grade 5	Michael Waters - Grade 5
Henderson Busk - Grade 6	Mason Hawley - Grade 5	Susan Larson - Reading Interventionist
Colten Chasse - Grade 6	Hunter Knapp - Grade 6	Jennifer McAtee - Math Interventionist
Spencer Dobos - Grade 6	Emily Mazzarella - Grade 6	

7.2. CABE Resolution - Posting of Nutritional Value of School Lunches and Breakfasts

Beth Campbell motioned and Sarah Ethier seconded to accept/approve the CABE Resolution, Posting of Nutritional Value of School Lunches and Breakfasts, as presented, and in support of the Thomaston Center School Learning Enrichment Academic Program Students Proposed Legislation Connecticut House Bill 6030, An Act Concerning the Nutritional Value of School Lunches and Breakfasts.

Discussion: None

Opposed: None

Abstain: None

Motion Carried: 7-0-0

8. Student Representatives Report ▲▲▲

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

8.1. February 2023

9. Chairperson's Report ▲▲▲

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

9.1. EdAdvance Board of Directors Meeting Report

9.2. Progress Report on 2022-2023 Goals for the Thomaston Board of Education and the Superintendent of Schools

9.3. Wamogo Agricultural Education Advisory Committee Appointment of Amy McKenna

Marie Eldridge motioned and Beth Campbell seconded to accept/approve the appointment of Amy McKenna to the Wamogo Agricultural Education Advisory Committee

Discussion: None

Opposed: None

Abstain: None

Motion Carried: 7-0-0

10. Superintendent's Report ▲▲▲

(Policy 2131 – Administration – Superintendent of Schools)

10.1. Correspondence

10.1.1. Superintendent

10.1.1.1. Holiday Card to Superintendent Francine Coss from the Effective School Solutions Team

10.1.1.2. Effective School Solutions - January 2023 Insights and Solutions

10.1.1.3. Effective School Solutions - MINDBEAT - January 11, 2023

10.1.1.4. Effective School Solutions - MINDBEAT - January 18, 2023

10.1.1.5. Effective School Solutions - MINDBEAT - January 25, 2023

10.1.1.6. Effective School Solutions - MINDBEAT - February 2023

10.1.1.7. Effective School Solutions - MINDBEAT - February 1, 2023

10.1.1.8. Effective School Solutions - MINDBEAT - February 8, 2023

10.1.1.9. Northwestern Connecticut Legislative Breakfast Flyer EdAdvance - January 19, 2023

10.1.1.10. Fourth Annual Lt. Governor's Computing Challenge - Free Virtual Computing Lessons

10.1.1.11. Thank You Letter to Samantha Gaboury Regarding Monetary Donation to Offset Student Lunch Balances for Thomaston Public Schools - January 5, 2023

10.1.1.12. Thank You Letter to Samantha Gaboury Regarding Monetary Donation to Offset Student Lunch Balances for Thomaston Public Schools - January 19, 2023

10.1.1.13. Thank You Letter to Jodi Burton Regarding Monetary Donation to Offset Student Lunch Balances for Thomaston Public Schools - January 19, 2023

10.1.1.14. Thank You Letter to Samantha Gaboury Regarding Monetary Donation to Offset Student Lunch Balances for Thomaston Public Schools - February 9, 2023

10.1.1.15. Thank You Letter to Superintendent Coss Regarding Monetary Donation to Offset Lunch Balances for Thomaston Public Schools

10.1.1.16. Letter from Charles Rowland, Assistant Principal and Director of Agricultural Education, Wamogo High School regarding the Agricultural Education Advisory Committee

10.1.1.17. Letter to Charles Rowland, Assistant Principal and Director of Agricultural Education, Wamogo High School regarding the Agricultural Education Advisory Committee from Superintendent Coss

10.1.1.18. Letter Invitation to the February 13, 2023 Regular Meeting of the Board of Education to the Students of the Thomaston Center School Learning Enrichment Academic Program (LEAP) from Superintendent Coss

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- 10.1.1.19. Letter Invitation to the February 13, 2023 Regular Meeting of the Board of Education to Representative John Piscopo from Superintendent Francine Coss in Regards to the L.E.A.P. Presentation
 - 10.1.1.20. Letter Invitation to the February 13, 2023 Regular Meeting of the Board of Education to Senator Henri Martin from Superintendent Francine Coss in Regards to the L.E.A.P. Presentation
 - 10.1.1.21. Letter from Superintendent Coss to the Members of the Thomaston Board of Education Regarding an Update on the Black Rock School Blue Wing Asbestos Abatement Project and Waiver on Bid Requirements
 - 10.1.1.22. Letter of Expulsion - Student A
 - 10.1.1.23. Results of Expulsion Hearing - Student A
 - 10.1.1.24. Residency Hearing Results - Student G
 - 10.1.1.25. Residency Hearing Result - Student H
 - 10.1.1.26. Residency Hearing Result - Student I
 - 10.1.1.27. Residency Determination Letter - Student J
 - 10.1.1.28. Residency Hearing Notice - Student J
 - 10.1.1.29. Residency Determination Letter - Student K
 - 10.1.1.30. Residency Hearing Notice - Student K
 - 10.1.1.31. Residency Determination Letter - Student L
 - 10.1.1.32. Residency Hearing Notice - Student L
 - 10.1.1.33. Residency Determination Letter - Student M
 - 10.1.1.34. Residency Hearing Notice - Student M
 - 10.1.1.35. Letter from Robert Norton, Thomaston Fire Marshall, to Superintendent Francine Coss in Regards to the Fire Call at Thomaston High School on February 3, 2023
 - 10.1.2. Connecticut Association of Boards of Education (CABE)
 - 10.1.2.1. 2023 State Agenda
 - 10.1.2.2. 27th Annual CABE Leadership Awards
 - 10.1.3. Connecticut Association of Public Schools Superintendents (CAPSS)
 - 10.1.3.1. Public Policy Agenda and Blueprint Update 2023
 - 10.1.4. United States Department of Education (USDE)
 - 10.1.4.1. New Fact Sheet - Title VI Protection and Discrimination Based on Shared or Ethnic Characteristics
 - 10.1.4.2. Special Education Cost Grant (SEECG)and One-Time Data Collection For Special Education Costs
 - 10.1.5. Department of Public Health (DPH) - None
 - 10.1.6. Connecticut State Department of Education (CSDE)
 - 10.1.6.1. Student Assessment News - Performance Matters - January 2023
 - 10.2. Reports
 - 10.2.1. 2022-2023 Thomaston Public Schools COVID-19 Positivity and Vaccination Rate
 - 10.2.2. Thomaston Center School Gymnasium Floor Project Update
 - 10.2.3. Black Rock School Blue Wing Flood Update
 - 10.2.4. Administrator Reports
 - 10.2.4.1. February 2023
 - 10.2.4.2. Child Nutrition Program Administrative Review Overview Report - Thomaston Public Schools - January 2023
 - 10.2.4.3. Library Media Curriculum Guide - Grades 4-6

Beth Campbell motioned and Matthew Vanormer seconded to accept/approve the Library Media Curriculum Guide (Grades 4-6) as presented.

Discussion: None

Opposed: None

Abstain: None

Motion Carried: 7-0-0

- 10.2.4.4. Human Growth and Development - Grade 11-12

Beth Campbell motioned and Matthew VanOrmer seconded to accept/approve the Human Growth and Development Guide (Grades 11-12) as presented.

Discussion: None

Opposed: None

Abstain: None

Motion Carried: 7-0-0

- 10.2.4.5. Thomaston Public Schools Food Service Program Handbook (last updated January 2016)

Beth Campbell motioned and Matthew VanOrmer seconded to accept/approve the Thomaston Public Schools Food Services Program Handbook as presented.

Discussion: None

Opposed: None

Abstain: None

Motion Carried: 7-0-0

- 10.2.5. Enrollment Report - February 1, 2023
 - 10.2.5.1. February 1, 2023
 - 10.2.5.2. 2022-2023 Special Education Enrollment Projection Report
- 10.3. Contracts
 - 10.3.1. Transportation Services - All Star Transportation - July 1, 2023 - June 30, 2028
 - 10.3.2. Human Resources Generalist - Thomaston Public Schools - July 1, 2023 - June 30, 2026
 - 10.3.3. Superintendent - Thomaston Public Schools - July 1, 2022-June 30, 2025
 - 10.3.4. Environmental Consulting Services Underground Storage Tank Removal Planning and Oversight - Thomaston Center School and Thomaston High School
 - 10.3.5. Environmental Consulting Services Underdrain Design - Thomaston Center School
- 10.4. Grants
 - 10.4.1. Interdistrict Cooperative Grant Application - Litchfield Performing Arts - Litchfield Jazz Camp - Summer 2023
 - 10.4.2. School Readiness - Competitive Enrollment-Based - 2023
- 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 Fundraisers
 - 10.5.1.3.1. Middle School Activity Night - Business Club - Thomaston High School
 - 10.5.1.3.2. St. Patrick's Candy Grams - Business Club - Thomaston High School
 - 10.5.1.3.3. Class Dues - Class of 2025 - Thomaston High School
 - 10.5.1.3.4. Penny Wars - Women in STEM Club - Thomaston Center School
 - 10.5.1.3.5. Penny Wars - Women in STEM Club - Thomaston High School
 - 10.5.1.3.6. Bottle Drive - Business Club - Thomaston High School
 - 10.5.1.3.7. Dress Down Week - School and Community - Thomaston High 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. Barbara Lee, Building Substitute Teacher (temporary) - Thomaston High School*January 9, 2023
 - 10.6.1.2. Theresa Tortorici, Long-Term Substitute, Special Education (per diem)*January 30, 2023
 - 10.6.2. Transfer/New Assignments
 - 10.6.2.1. Temporary Assignment Light Duty-Theresa Gambino, Custodian II - Thomaston High School*January 9, 2023 through Date to be Determined
 - 10.6.2.2. Temporary Assignment Light Duty-Debra Green, Paraprofessional - Thomaston High School*January 9, 2023 through Date to be Determined
 - 10.6.2.3. Annie Clement, from Substitute Paraprofessional to Full Time Paraprofessional - Thomaston Center School*January 3, 2023
 - 10.6.2.4. Melissa Bentley, from Substitute Paraprofessional to Full Time Paraprofessional - Black Rock School *January 3, 2023
 - 10.6.2.5. Susan Larson, Reading Interventionist - Afterschool/Grant-Funded (temp/per diem) - District*January 9, 2023 (not to exceed 209 work hours)
 - 10.6.2.6. Temporary Assignment-Wendy Thomas, Full-Time Paraprofessional - Thomaston High School to Full-Time (10 Month) Secretary - Main Office - Thomaston High School*January 9, 2023 through Date to be Determined
 - 10.6.2.7. Rachel Bip, from Full-Time Paraprofessional - Black Rock School to Full-Time (12 Month) Secretary - Pupil Services - Pupil Personnel Services*January 30, 2023
 - 10.6.2.8. Temporary Assignment-Margaret Protzmann, from Intervention Teacher to English/Language Arts Teacher - Thomaston High School*January 30, 2023 through Date to be Determined
 - 10.6.2.9. Temporary Assignment-Cassandra Jordan, from 5.0 hour Paraprofessional at Black Rock School to Temporary 7.5 hours Paraprofessional at Black Rock School*February 6, 2023 through February 16, 2023

- 10.6.2.10. Richard Revere, from Paraprofessional - Thomaston Center School to Classroom Paraprofessional at Thomaston High School (PATHS)*February 6, 2023
- 10.6.2.11. Jade Morey, from Paraprofessional - Thomaston High School (PATHS) to Paraprofessional at Thomaston Center School*February 6, 2023
- 10.6.3. Reassignment - None
- 10.6.4. Resignations
 - 10.6.4.1. Sarah Norck, Full-Time (10 Month) Secretary - Thomaston High School*January 20, 2023
 - 10.6.4.2. Clifford Saccoccio, English/Language Arts Teacher - Thomaston High School*February 1, 2023
- 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. Megan Kellogg - In-District Regional Reflection Reviewer - Thomaston Public Schools
 - 10.6.8.2. Cheyenne Clark - In-District Regional Reflection Reviewer - Thomaston Public Schools
 - 10.6.8.3. Susan Larson - In-District Regional Reflection Reviewer - Thomaston Public Schools
 - 10.6.8.4. Kathleen Zitnay - In-District Regional Reflection Reviewer - Thomaston Public Schools

Matthew VanOrmer motioned and Heather Patchell 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: 7-0-0

- 10.6.9. Family and Medical Leave Act (FMLA) - None
(Policy 4152.6/4252.6 – Personnel – Certified/Non-Certified Personal Leaves Family and Medical Leave Act)
- 10.6.10. Interns and Student Teachers
(Policy 1212–Community Relations–School Volunteers)
 - 10.6.10.1. Student Teacher - Erin Fainer, Mathematics (Cooperating Teacher: Mark Olsen)*January 18, 2023
- 10.7. Field Trips
(Policy 6153 - Instruction Field Trips - Secondary Schools)
 - 10.7.1. Breakers Mansion, Newport, Rhode Island , Junior Class - Thomaston High School - May 12, 2023

Marie Eldridge motioned and Matthew Vanormer seconded to accept/approve the Newport Rhode Island Trip to visit Breakers Mansion as presented.

Discussion: None

Opposed: None

Abstain: None

Motion Carried: 7-0-0

- 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 Technology Equipment
 - 10.8.1.1. Response Letter from Superintendent Coss to Jose Ortiz, Information Technology Department, District

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. January 2023 Business Manager's Report
 - 11.1.1.1. 2023- 2024 Budget
 - 11.1.1.2. 2022-2023 Budget Table Without Encumbrances
 - 11.1.1.3. 2022-2023 Budget Table With Encumbrances
 - 11.1.1.4. 2021-2023 Grant Report
 - 11.1.1.5. 2022-2023 Projection
 - 11.1.1.6. 2022-2023 Transfer
 - 11.1.1.7. Expenditures
 - 11.1.1.7.1. \$1,030,864.44

Marie Eldridge motioned and Matthew VanOrmer 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 for January 2023.

Discussion: None

Opposed: None
Abstain: None
Motion Carried: 7-0-0

11.2. Policy Committee

(Policy 2231–Administration/Policy and Regulation Systems)

11.2.1. Presentations

- 11.2.1.1. New Proposed Policy and Regulation 3513.1 - Business/Non-Instructional Operations - Energy Conservation - Superintendent Francine Coss and District Lead Custodian Spencer Luthy
 - 11.2.1.1.1. Eliminated Policy and Regulation 3531.1 from 2007 - Thomaston Public Schools
 - 11.2.1.1.2. Proposed Policy and Regulation 3531.1

11.2.2. Discussion Items

- 11.2.2.1. Policy 3281 - School Fundraisers - Superintendent Francine Coss
 - 11.2.2.1.1. Current Policy - Thomaston Public Schools
- 11.2.2.2. CAFE Policy 4118.12 Freedom of Speech
- 11.2.2.3. CAFE Policy 6159.1 Teacher Aides

11.2.3. First Read - Policy 6140 - Curriculum - Jessica Bedosky, Director of Curriculum, Instruction and Assessment

- 11.2.3.1. Current Policy - Thomaston Public Schools
- 11.2.3.2. Clean Copy

11.2.4. Second Read - None

11.2.5. Action Items - Policy 5145.511 - Sexual Abuse Prevention and Education Program - Jessica Bedosky, Director of Curriculum, Instruction and Assessment

- 11.2.5.1. Clean Copy

Matthew Vanormer motioned and Marie Eldridge seconded to accept/approve Policy 5145.511 as presented.

Discussion: None

Opposed: None

Abstain: None

Motion Carried: 7-0-0

12. Adjournment

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

Chairperson Roxy Fainer adjourned the meeting at 7:39p.m.