



MINUTES

THOMASTON BOARD OF EDUCATION SPECIAL MEETING

Thursday, February 15, 2024 at 1:15 p.m. Thomaston Town Hall, Meeting Room One

*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.

2023-2024 Board of Education Goals:

1. The Board will evaluate the Superintendent based on the effectiveness of her leadership in implementation and achievement of the district goals.
2. The Board will participate in biannual professional development provided by CAFE to improve the collaborative leadership team with the Superintendent to focus on priorities around high achievement for all students in the district.

Members:

Roxy Fainer, Chairperson
Tanya Galpin, Secretary
Sarah Ethier
Frank Treglia

Francine Coss, Superintendent
Beth Campbell
Megan Campbell, Student Representative
Landen Galpin, Student Representative

Matthew VanOrmer, Vice Chairperson
Steven Carr, Treasurer
Anthony Kepler
Nathan Vieira

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 1:24 p.m.
- 1.2. Members in Attendance: **Chairperson Roxy Fainer, Vice Chairperson Matthew VanOrmer, Sarah Ethier, Frank Treglia, Superintendent Francine Coss**
- 1.3. Members Absent: **Tanya Galpin, Nathan Vieira, Anthony Kepler, Beth Campbell, Steven Carr**
- 1.4. Student Representatives Absent: **Megan Campbell, Landen Galpin** (*the student representatives were not required to attend the meeting*)
- 1.5. Others in Attendance: Parents of Student D, Student D, Cristina Kingsbury, Aaron Bunel, Attorney Nicholas Grello

2. Anticipated Executive Session

- 2.1. Confidential Student Matter - Student D

Roxy Fainer and Matthew VanOrmer seconded that the Board enter Executive Session at 1:24p.m. to discuss a matter involving a student that would likely result in the disclosure of public records or the information contained therein as described in Connecticut General Statutes Section 1-210, subsections (b)(2), (11) and (17). Only those invited by the Board may be present in the Executive Session. The Board invites the following individuals into executive session: Student D, The Parents of Student D, Cristina Kingsbury, Thomaston High School Principal, Aaron Bunel, Thomaston High School Assistant Principal, and Attorney Nicholas Grello as the Board's procedural advisor and **Matthew VanOrmer seconded**.

Discussion: None

Opposed: None

Abstain: None

Motion Carried: 4-0-0

Exit Executive Session at 3:08 p.m.

Roxy Fainer motioned the Student will be expelled from attendance at Thomaston Public Schools for a period of one (1) calendar year commencing on February 16, 2024 through February 15, 2025.

- During the period of expulsion, the Student will be provided with an alternative educational opportunity.
- During the period of expulsion, the Student may not be present in school or on school grounds within the district or at school-sponsored activities, whether on or off school grounds, during any portion of the period of expulsion without the express written consent of the Superintendent of Schools or her designee.

The parent of the Student may apply for early readmission to the PATHS High School one (1) week prior to April 1, 2024 for early readmission on April 1, 2024.

Readmission will be based on whether, The Student and the parent of the Student agree to the specific criteria set forth below.

- The specific criteria are the following:
 - Upon re-entry to school, the Student must hand in his cell phone to the main office on a daily basis.
 - The Student will limit technology on his Chromebook for only educational purposes.
 - The Student must participate in a form of therapy agreed to by the Administration in advance of commencement of such therapy. Proof of attendance must be provided to the high school principal.
 - The Student must participate in meetings with district staff/administration as requested by the Superintendent of Schools or her designee.
 - The Student will have access to the hallways in the PATHS High School restricted as determined by the high school principal or her designee.

If the Student is permitted readmission, upon his return to school the Student must comply with the following through the end of the period of expulsion (February 15, 2025):

- The Student will attend school on a regular basis and complete all work and homework assignments in a timely manner as stated in his IEP.
- The Student will continue to engage in therapy through a period determined by his therapist. Documentation of consistent attendance and participation in therapy must be provided directly to the high school principal by the therapist.

If the Student is readmitted to the PATHS High School, if at any time during the period of expulsion he violates any Board policy or the specific criteria and requirements set forth above, the Board may reinstate the expulsion without a subsequent hearing. If the expulsion is reinstated, the Student will remain expelled for the period through February 15, 2025. **Matthew VanOrmer seconded.**

Discussion: None

Opposed: None

Abstain: None

Motion Carried: 4-0-0

3. Adjournment

Roxy Fainer motioned and Sarah Ethier seconded to adjourn the meeting.

Chairperson Roxy Fainer adjourned the meeting at 3:14 p.m.