



MINUTES
THOMASTON BOARD OF EDUCATION SPECIAL MEETING
Tuesday, March 5, 2024 at 12:00 p.m. Thomaston Town Hall, Meeting Room One

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 CABE 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. **Vice Chairperson Matthew VanOrmer** called the meeting to order at 1:06 p.m.
- 1.2. Members in Attendance: **Vice Chairperson Matthew VanOrmer, Sarah Ethier, Frank Treglia, Superintendent Francine Coss**
- 1.3. Members Absent: **Chairperson Roxy Fainer, Treasurer Steven Carr, Secretary Tanya Galpin, Nathan Vieira, Anthony Kepler, Beth Campbell**
- 1.4. Student Representatives Absent: **Megan Campbell, Landen Galpin** (*the student representatives were not required to attend the meeting*)
- 1.5. Others in Attendance: Parent of Student C, Student C, Aaron Bunel, Andrea Peters, Attorney Nicholas Grello, and Attorney Daniel Murphy. The Parents of Student B and the attorney for Student B waived rights to be at the meeting

2. Executive Session for Confidential Student Matter - Student C

Matthew VanOrmer motioned and Frank Treglia seconded that the Board enter Executive Session at 1:07p.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 C, the Parent of Student C, Aaron Bunel, Thomaston High School Assistant Principal, Andrea Peters, Director of Pupil Personnel Services, Superintendent Francine Coss, Attorney Daniel Murphy and Attorney Nicholas Grello as the Board's procedural advisor.

Discussion: None

Abstain: None

Opposed: None

Motion Carried: 3-0-0

- 2.1. Exit Executive Session at 1:21 p.m.

Matthew VanOrmer motioned and Sarah Ethier seconded that the Board adopt in its entirety the document received and discussed in Executive Session concerning Student C dated March 5, 2024, and that pursuant to the terms of that document and Connecticut General Statutes Section 10-233d, the Board shall expel Student C, as discussed in executive session, from attendance at Thomaston High School for the period from February 5, 2024 - February 4, 2025. During the period of expulsion,

an alternative educational opportunity shall be offered to Student C consistent with the document received and discussed in Executive Session. Additionally, early readmission shall be in accordance with the document received and discussed in Executive Session. The expulsion shall be a part of Student C's cumulative educational record, to be expunged in accordance with the document received and discussed in Executive Session. The document entitled Stipulation Expulsion Agreement shall constitute the written communication to the parties regarding the Board's decision.

Discussion: Attorney Daniel Murphy and Attorney Nicholas Grello both stated that early readmission does not apply as stated in the motion. There are no conditions for early return. Reference should be made to the Stipulated Expulsion Agreement.

Abstain: None

Opposed: None

Motion Carried: 3-0-0

Matthew VanOrmer motioned and Sarah Ethier seconded to adjourn at 1:31 p.m.

3. Executive Session for Confidential Student Matter - Student A

Student A's Hearing is continued at the request of Student A's attorney.

Matthew VanOrmer motioned and Sarah Ethier seconded to reconvene the meeting at 1:31 p.m.

4. Executive Session for Confidential Student Matter - Student B

Matthew VanOrmer motioned and Sarah Ethier seconded that the Board enter Executive Session at 1:32p.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: Aaron Bunel, Thomaston High School Assistant Principal, Andrea Peters, Director of Pupil Personnel Services, Superintendent Francine Coss, Attorney Daniel Murphy and Attorney Nicholas Grello as the Board's procedural advisor.

Discussion: None

Abstain: None

Opposed: None

Motion Carried: 3-0-0

4.1 Exit Executive Session at 1:48 p.m.

Matthew VanOrmer motioned and Sarah Ethier seconded that the Board adopt in its entirety the document received and discussed in Executive Session concerning Student B dated March 5, 2024, and that pursuant to the terms of that document and Connecticut General Statutes Section 10-233d, the Board shall expel Student B, as discussed in executive session, from attendance at Thomaston High School for the period from February 5, 2024 - February 4, 2025. During the period of expulsion, an alternative educational opportunity shall be offered to Student B consistent with the document received and discussed in Executive Session. Additionally, early readmission shall be in accordance with the document received and discussed in Executive Session. The expulsion shall be a part of Student B's cumulative educational record, to be expunged in accordance with the document received and discussed in Executive Session. The document entitled Stipulation Expulsion Agreement shall constitute the written communication to the parties regarding the Board's decision.

Discussion: None

Abstain: None

Opposed: None

Motion Carried: 3-0-0

5. Adjournment

Matthew VanOrmer motioned and Sarah Ethier seconded to adjourn the meeting.

Matthew VanOrmer adjourned the meeting at 1:50 p.m.