



## MINUTES

### THOMASTON BOARD OF EDUCATION REGULAR MEETING

Monday, November 10, 2025 at 7:00 p.m. Thomaston High School Auditorium Entrance – Door #2

This meeting can be attended in-person by the public or viewed live/recorded on the [Board of Education YouTube Channel](#). If school or afterschool/evening activities are canceled: The Board of Education meeting will be held virtually only (no in-person meeting). If the meeting is virtual-only and public comment is on the agenda, comments must be emailed to [mstanley@thomastonschools.org](mailto:mstanley@thomastonschools.org) at least one hour before the meeting starts.  
([Bylaws of the Board 9322 – Public and Executive Sessions](#) and [Bylaws of the Board 93261 – 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.

#### 2025-2026 Board of Education Goals:

1. By June 2026, the Thomaston Board of Education will adopt a districtwide curriculum alignment policy requiring that all English Language Arts (ELA) curriculum documents in grades PreK–12 explicitly identify connections to the Portrait of a Graduate (POG) competencies, as evidenced by formally approved curriculum maps that include POG indicators and a documented review process.
2. By June 2026, the Thomaston Board of Education will adopt a family-school communication policy that streamlines districtwide messaging practices as evidenced by published protocols and parent school climate survey results.

#### Members:

Roxy Fainer, Chairperson  
Beth Campbell  
Sarah Ethier  
Larry Duffany

Matthew VanOrmer, Vice Chairperson  
Francine Coss, Superintendent  
G Wilmont Hungerford, Student Representative  
Lucas Koval, Student Representative  
Tyler Veronesi, Student Representative

Tanya Galpin, Secretary  
Steven Carr, Treasurer  
Anthony Kepler  
Nathan Vieira

### 1. Establishment of a Quorum and Call to Order

([Bylaws of the Board 93251-Quorum](#))

- 1.1. **Chairperson Roxy Fainer** called the meeting to order at 7:05p.m.
- 1.2. Board Members in Attendance: **Chairperson Roxy Fainer, Vice Chairperson Matthew VanOrmer, Treasurer Steven Carr, Secretary Tanya Galpin, Sarah Ethier, Larry Duffany, Anthony Kepler, Beth Campbell, Nathan Vieira, Superintendent Francine Coss**
- 1.3. Student Representatives in Attendance: **G Wilmont Hungerford and Lucas Koval**
- 1.4. Student Representatives Absent: **Tyler Veronesi** (*only two students are scheduled to attend each board meeting, as part of a rotating system designed to provide all student representatives the opportunity to participate*)
- 1.5. Administrators in Attendance: Kristin Bernier, Andrea Peters, David Vecca, Jonathan Kozlak
- 1.6. Others in Attendance: Dr. Michael Watson, Richard Sileo, Marissa McGee, Craig Lefebvre, Attorney Dan Murphy, Attorney Steve Sedor, Attorney Kenneth Weinstock, Attorney Mark Sommaruga, Attorney Kimberly Catala, Attorney Julia Wilde, Attorney Rebecca Santiago, Attorney Nicholas Grello, Chip and Tracy Hungerford, Amy Sedgwick, Michelina Stanley, Makenzie Chasse

### 2. Pledge of Allegiance

### 3. Approval of Agenda ▲

([Bylaws of the Board 9325.2-Order of Business](#) and [Policy 1205-Participation by the Public/Agenda Format/Preparation and Dissemination](#))

**Steven Carr motioned and Nathan Vieira seconded to approve the agenda dated November 10, 2025 as presented.**

Discussion: **Matthew VanOrmer** motioned to change agenda item 11.2 to add two motions, specifically:

1. **Vote to permit Policy 5141.25 – Students with Special Health Care Needs be “fast tracked” by 2/3 vote of the members present at tonight’s Board of Education meeting.**
2. **Vote to accept/approve the changes to Policy 5141.25 – Students with Special Health Care Needs as presented.**

**and Nathan Vieira seconded.**

Opposed: None

Abstain: None

Motion Carried: 9-0-0

### 4. Public Participation ▲▲▲ (to be read aloud by the Board Chairperson prior to soliciting public comment)

([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 Board of Education employee regardless of whether or not the employee is identified by name.
- Speakers are asked to express themselves in a civil manner, with due respect for the dignity and privacy of others who may be affected by their comments. While it is not the Board's intent to stifle public comment, speakers should be aware that if their statements violate the rights of others under the law of defamation or invasion of privacy, the speaker may be held legally responsible. Speakers unsure of the legal ramifications of what they are about to say are urged to consult first with their legal advisor.

NOTE: Per the August 2016 Policy Committee Meeting, responses to speakers will be in the form of a written letter from the Board Chairperson and that letter will be attached to the minutes of the next Regular Board of Education meeting; speakers will not receive a verbal reply to public comment during a meeting. Responses are also attached to the next Regular Meeting agenda under Chairperson Correspondence.

### Mr. Rich Sileo – 198 Babbit Road

Mr. Sileo serves on the Steering Committee for the Feasibility Study. He shared that recent progress updates are available on the town's website. The second community workshop will be held on Thursday, November 13th at 6:30p.m. in the high school cafeteria. Mr. Sileo stated that everyone in town is welcome to attend, especially Board of Education members, faculty and staff.

### Mr. Nathan Vieira – 131 Humiston Circle

Mr. Vieira submitted a written public comment that was read during the meeting. Mr. Vieira's comment can be found [here](#).

## 5. Approval of Minutes ▲

(Bylaws of the Board 9326 – Minutes)

### 5.1. [Regular Meeting Minutes – October 20, 2025](#)

**Steven Carr motioned and Beth Campbell seconded** to approve the Regular Meeting Minutes dated October 20, 2025 as presented.

Discussion: None

Opposed: None

Abstain: None

Motion Carried: 9-0-0

### 5.2. [Special Meeting Minutes – November 5, 2025](#)

**Steven Carr motioned and Beth Campbell seconded** to approve the Special Meeting Minutes dated November 5, 2025 as presented.

Discussion: None

Opposed: None

Abstain: None

Motion Carried: 9-0-0

## 6. Recognitions ▲

### 6.1. Student Shout-Out

6.1.1. [Rotary Student of the Month – October 2025 – Brianna Ronalter](#)

6.1.2. [Class S State Champs – Thomaston High School Boys Cross Country Team](#)

Jackson DiDonato

Matthew Johnson

Ted Valero

G Wilmont Hungerford

Jacob Lee

Beau Kociszewski

Braden Walker

Coaches: Eric Kociszewski and Mark Olsen

### 6.2. Staff Shout-Out

6.2.1. [November 2025 Staff Spotlight: Craig Lefebvre – Lead Custodian Thomaston Center School](#)

## 7. Presentations ▲▲▲

(Bylaws of the Board 9125 – Attorney)

### 7.1. Biennial Appointment of Board Attorney

(Bylaws of the Board 9125 – Attorney)

7.1.1. [Attorney Daniel Murphy, Attorney Steven Sedor, Attorney Kenneth Weinstock – Kainen, Escalera & McHale](#)

7.1.2. [Attorney Mark Sommaruga, Attorney Kimberly Catala – Pullman & Comely](#)

7.1.3. [Attorney Julia Wilde and Attorney Julie Fay – Shipman & Goodwin](#) Attorney Rebecca Santiago presented with Attorney Julia Wilde

7.1.4. [Attorney Nicholas Grello – Zangari Cohn Cuthbertson Duhl & Grello, PC](#)

**Matthew VanOrmer motioned and Tanya Galpin seconded** to appoint the Board of Education Attorney from Zangari, Cohn and Grello for the next biennial period.

[Discussion Link](#)

Opposed: **Larry Duffany, Beth Campbell, Nathan Vieira, Sarah Ethier, Tanya Galpin**

Abstain: None

Motion Failed: 4-5-0

**Nathan Vieira motioned and Sarah Ethier seconded** to appoint the Board of Education Attorney from Shipman and Goodwin for the next biennial period.

Discussion: None

Opposed: **Steven Carr, Matthew VanOrmer, Roxy Fainer**

Abstain: None

Motion Carried: 6-3-0

**Nathan Vieira motioned and Sarah Ethier seconded** to appoint the Special Education Attorney from Shipman and Goodwin for the next biennial period.

Discussion: None

Opposed: None  
Abstain: None  
Motion Carried: 9-0-0

## 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. [Progress Report on 2025-2026 Goals for the Thomaston Board of Education and the Superintendent of Schools](#)
- 9.2. EdAdvance Board of Directors Meeting – November 6, 2025
- 9.3. [Response to Public Comments – October 20, 2025 Regular Meeting](#)
- 9.4. Board Member Term Rules, Cathy Dupont, Thomaston Town Clerk
- 9.5. Recognition of Outgoing Board of Education Members
  - 9.5.1. Beth Campbell
    - 9.5.1.1. Current Term: November 19, 2019 – November 18, 2025
    - 9.5.1.2. Continuous Member Since: November 11, 2013
  - 9.5.2. Steven Carr
    - 9.5.2.1. Current Term: November 19, 2019 – November 18, 2025
    - 9.5.2.2. Continuous Member Since : November 16, 2021
  - 9.5.3. Frank Treglia
    - 9.5.3.1. Current Term: November 16, 2021 – November 16, 2027
    - 9.5.3.2. Not Continuous Member Since: November 17, 2015
  - 9.5.4. Matthew VanOrmer
    - 9.5.4.1. Current Term: November 19, 2019 – November 18, 2025
    - 9.5.4.2. Continuous Member Since: November 17, 2019

## 10. Superintendent's Report ▲▲▲

(Policy 2131 – Administration – Superintendent of Schools)

- 10.1. Correspondence
  - 10.1.1. From Superintendent Policy 2131
    - 10.1.1.1. [To Board of Education Chairperson Roxy Fainer: Superintendent Designee \(11/24/2025 – 12/5/2025\)](#)
    - 10.1.1.2. [2025-2026 Education Enrichment Fund Mini Grant Applications – Letters of Approved Funding](#)
    - 10.1.1.3. [2025-2026 Education Enrichment Fund Mini Grant Applications – Letters of Regret](#)
    - 10.1.1.4. ParentSquare Correspondence from Superintendent – Posts/Alerts
      - 10.1.1.4.1. Sex Offender Status Notification, October 23, 2025 at 8:30AM EST
      - 10.1.1.4.2. Pie and Cookie Dough Pick Up Times, October 24, 2025 at 5:13PM EST
      - 10.1.1.4.3. Wishing You a Safe and Happy Halloween! October 31, 2025 at 2:47PM EST
      - 10.1.1.4.4. Governor Lamont Statement on Federal Court Ruling on SNAP, October 31, 2025 at 3:58PM EST

**Steven Carr motioned and Larry Duffany seconded to acknowledge the Superintendent's correspondence per Policy 2131 as presented.**

Discussion: None

Opposed: None

Abstain: None

Motion Carried: 9-0-0

- 10.1.2. To Superintendent/Board of Education
  - 10.1.2.1. [Student Assessment News – October 2025](#)
  - 10.1.2.2. [EdAdvance Annual Report 2024-2025](#)
- 10.2. Reports
  - 10.2.1. General Reports
    - 10.2.1.1. [Exploring Technology Curriculum Guide](#)

**Steven Carr motioned and Nathan Vieira seconded to accept/approve the Exploring Technology Curriculum Guide as presented.**

Discussion: None

Opposed: None

Abstain: None

Motion Carried: 9-0-0

- 10.2.2. Administrator Reports
  - 10.2.2.1. [November 2025](#)
- 10.2.3. Residency
  - (Policy 5118-Nonresident Attendance/Tuition Students)
  - 10.2.3.1. Rescheduled Residency Hearing Notice – Student II
  - 10.2.3.2. Residency Determination Letter – Student IV
- 10.2.4. Student Discipline

[\(Policy 5144-Discipline\)](#)

10.2.4.1. Expulsion Recommendation Cancellation Notice – Student III

10.2.4.2. Expulsion Hearing Notice – Student V

10.2.5. Homeschooling – None

[\(Policy 6172-3-Home Schooling\)](#)

10.2.6. Enrollment Report

[\(Policy 5112-Age of Attendance\)](#)

10.2.6.1. [November 3, 2025](#)

10.2.7. Personnel

[\(Policy 4112/4212-Certified/Non-Certified Appointment and Conditions of Employment\)](#)

10.2.7.1. New Hires – None

10.2.7.2. Transfer/New Assignment/Reassignment

10.2.7.2.1. Gabrielle Malick, Paraprofessional, Black Rock School, extension of workday\*August 27, 2025

10.2.7.2.2. Attallah Roundtree, Business Manager, work adjustment hours, from 8 hours to 24 hours per week\*October 21, 2025

10.2.7.2.3. Sophia Squatriglia, from full-time Special Education Paraprofessional to full-time General Education Paraprofessional/Lunch Monitor, Thomaston Center School\*November 17, 2025

10.2.7.2.4. Edward Stack, from district wide Custodian to Black Rock School Custodian\*November 17, 2025

10.2.7.2.5. Kaitlin Suckley, Paraprofessional, Black Rock School, extension of workday\*August 27, 2025

10.2.7.2.6. Sara Walker, Paraprofessional, Black Rock School, extension of workday\*August 27, 2025

10.2.7.3. Resignations

10.2.7.3.1. Carol Cuomo-Lewia, Family and Consumer Science Teacher, Thomaston High School  
\*December 4, 2025

10.2.7.4. Retirements – None

10.2.7.5. Terminations/Non-Renewals – None

10.2.7.6. Stipends – 2025-2026

10.2.7.6.1. Carol Cuomo-Lewia – Family Career & Community Leaders of America Advisor,  
Thomaston High School

10.2.7.6.2. Megan Fitzgerald – Early Act Club Co-Advisor, Black Rock School

10.2.7.6.3. Rachel Pelletier – Early Act Club Co-Advisor, Black Rock School

10.2.7.6.4. David Vecca – District School Climate Coordinator, Thomaston Public Schools

10.2.7.6.5. Fall Coaches

10.2.7.6.5.1. Jeffrey Hepp – Boys Soccer Coach – Middle School

**Steven Carr motioned and Nathan Vieira seconded to acknowledge the Superintendent's notification of Personnel per Policy 4112/4212 Personnel – Certified/Non-Certified Appointment and Conditions of Employment as presented.**

Discussion: None

Opposed: **Beth Campbell**

Abstain: None

Motion Carried: 8-1-0

10.2.7.7. Family and Medical Leave Act (FMLA) – None

[\(Policy 4152.6/4252.6-Personal Leaves Family and Medical Leave Act\)](#)

10.2.7.8. Interns and Student Teachers – None

[\(Policy 1212-School Volunteers\)](#)

10.2.8. Field Trips – None

[\(Policy 6153- Field Trips – Secondary Schools\)](#)

10.2.9. Sales and Disposal of Books, Equipment and Supplies – None

[\(Policy 3260-Sales & Disposal of Books, Equipment & Supplies\)](#)

## 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](#) – November 5, 2025

11.1.1. [October 2025 Business Manager's Report](#)

11.1.2. Expenditures for the Month: \$751,276.98

**Steven Carr motioned and Nathan Vieira seconded to approve the Business and Finance Report and Expenditures per Policy 3432/3433 Business/Non-Instructional Operations – Budget & Expense Report/Annual Financial Statement as presented for October 2025.**

[Discussion Link](#)

Opposed: None

Abstain: None

Motion Carried: 9-0-0

11.2. [Policy Committee](#) – November 10, 2025

[\(Policy 2231-Administration/Policy and Regulation Systems\)](#)

*Per the Bylaws 9311 of the Thomaston Board of Education, policies will be adopted or amended after consideration at 2 regular meetings of the Board of Education, unless by vote of 2/3 of the members present at a Board of Education meeting, the Board permits a “fast tracking” of the policy adoption or amendment.*

**Matthew VanOrmer** moved that the Policy Committee’s proposed amendments to Policy 5141.25 – Students with Special Health Care Needs be permitted for “fast tracking” by 2/3 vote of the members present at tonight’s Board of Education meeting and **Nathan Vieira** seconded.

Discussion: None

Opposed: None

Abstain: None

Motion Carried: 9–0–0

**Matthew VanOrmer** moved to accept/approve the changes to Policy 5141.25 – Students with Special Health Care Needs as presented and **Nathan Vieira** seconded .

Discussion: None

Opposed: None

Abstain: None

Motion Carried: 9–0–0

## **12. Adjournment**

**Steven Carr** motioned and **Nathan Vieira** seconded to adjourn.

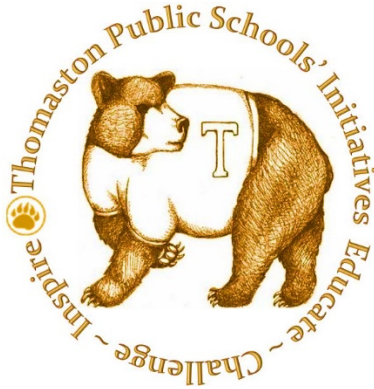
Discussion: None

Opposed: None

Abstain: None

Motion Carried: 9–0–0

**Chairperson Roxy Fainer** adjourned the meeting at 8:11p.m.



**Thomaston Board of Education**

185 Branch road  
Thomaston, CT 06787  
860-283-3053

Roxy Fainer, Chairperson  
Matthew VanOrmer, Vice-Chairperson  
Tanya Galpin, Secretary  
Steven Carr, Treasurer  
Beth Campbell  
Sarah Ethier  
Anthony Kepler  
Larry Duffany  
Nathan Vieira

Mr. Rich Sileo  
198 Babbit Road  
Thomaston, CT 06787  
[rich.sileo@gmail.com](mailto:rich.sileo@gmail.com)

**DELIVERED VIA ELECTRONIC MAIL**

**November 17, 2025**

Dear Mr. Sileo,

Thank you for offering public comment during the Thomaston Board of Education Regular Meeting on November 10, 2025. This letter is a public acknowledgement of your public comment and will be linked to both the minutes of the aforementioned meeting and the agenda of the next Regular Meeting of the Thomaston Board of Education.

Your comment was summarized in the minutes of the November 10, 2025 meeting, specifically:

*Mr. Sileo serves on the Steering Committee for the Feasibility Study. He shared that recent progress updates are available on the town's website. The second community workshop will be held on Thursday, November 13th at 6:30p.m. in the high school cafeteria. Mr. Sileo stated that everyone in town is welcome to attend, especially Board of Education members, faculty and staff.*

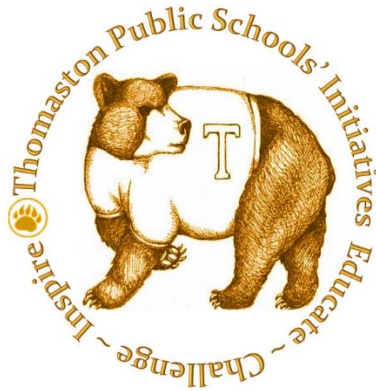
Thank you for sharing this information with the Board of Education and the audience at the meeting and thank you again for taking the time to provide public comment to the Board of Education.

Sincerely,

Ruthann Fainer  
Thomaston Board of Education Chairperson

Cc: Thomaston Board of Education





**Thomaston Board of Education**

185 Branch road  
Thomaston, CT 06787  
860-283-3053

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Mr. Nathan Vieira  
131 Humiston Circle  
Thomaston, CT 06787

**DELIVERED VIA ELECTRONIC MAIL**

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Dear Mr. Vieira,

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Your comment was summarized in the minutes of the October 20, 2025 meeting, specifically:

*Mr. Vieira submitted a written public comment that was read during the meeting. Mr. Vieira's comment can be found [here](#).*

Thank you for sharing this information with the Board of Education and the audience at the meeting and thank you again for taking the time to provide public comment to the Board of Education.

Sincerely,

Ruthann Fainer  
Thomaston Board of Education Chairperson

Cc: Thomaston Board of Education