

# MINUTES THOMASTON BOARD OF EDUCATION REGULAR MEETING

Monday, June 9, 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.

(Bylaws of the Board 9322 - Public and Executive Sessions and Bylaws of the Board 9326.1 - Taping/Recording Board Meetings)

In case of school cancellation or cancellation of afterschool/evening activities: this meeting will NOT be held in person, it will be held virtually. Public comment, if posted on the agenda, can be made up to one (1) hour before the start of the meeting by emailing comments to <a href="mailto:mstanley@thomastonschools.org">mstanley@thomastonschools.org</a>

#### **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.

#### 2024-2025 Board of Education Goals:

- . The establishment of a comprehensive strategy to improve English Language Arts growth in Thomaston Public Schools.
  - 2. The establishment of a comprehensive strategy to address bullying in Thomaston Public Schools.

#### Members:

Roxy Fainer, Chairperson Beth Campbell Sarah Ethier Frank Treglia Matthew VanOrmer, Vice Chairperson Francine Coss, Superintendent Megan Campbell, 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 9325.1 - Quorum)

- 1.1. **Chairperson Roxy Fainer** called the meeting to order at 7:04p.m
- 1.2. Board Members in Attendance: Chairperson Roxy Fainer, Vice Chairperson Matthew VanOrmer, Secretary Tanya Galpin, Treasurer Steven Carr, Frank Treglia, Sarah Ethier, Nathan Vieira, Beth Campbell, Anthony Kepler (joined virtually @ 7:33p.m. and joined in person @ 7:40p.m.), Superintendent Francine Coss
- 1.3. Board Members Absent: None
- 1.4. Student Representatives in Attendance: Megan Campbell, Lucas Koval, Tyler Veronesi
- 1.5. Administrators in Attendance: Cristina Kingsbury, David Vecca
- 1.6. Others in Attendance: Tracy Decker, Heidi Laus, Isabella VanOrmer, Julie Duggan, Emily Mazzarella, Erti Shkrepi, Emily Morton, Carter Ethier, Steven Ethier, Jackson Ethier, Joyce DiPietro, Arthur Quinn, Ellen Davidson, Michele Giannelli, Sherry Dudonis, So Cheng, Kathleen Mazzarella, Nancy and Bob Galpin, Michael Glick, Doreen French, Wil Hungerford, Karen Turner, Tim Titus, Debbie Schriver, Erica Koval, Heather Patchell, Larry Duffany, Carrie Veronesi, Cheryl Morton, Cindy DeLong, Krista Semanoff, Robert Galpin, Brian Mazzarella, Nicole Rinaldi, Michelle Desrosiers, Jennifer Guerin, Jess LoRusso, Kathryn L., Trish Koval, Katelyn Riggs, Karen St.Jean, Jen Chasse, Amy Sedgwick, Julie Ingham, Makenzie Chasse, Michelina Stanley

## 2. Pledge of Allegiance

- 3. Moment of Silence Daniel Grecco, Jr.
- 4. Approval of Agenda 🔺

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

Steven Carr motioned and Nathan Vieira seconded to accept/approve the agenda dated June 9, 2025 as presented.

Discussion: **Matthew VanOrmer** motioned to amend the agenda by moving agenda item 12 – Committee Reports to above agenda item 5 – Public Participation - AND to add a motion under agenda item number 12.2.1 to approve the reduced cuts of \$25,000 to the 2025-2026 Thomaston Board of Education Operating budget and **Nathan Vieira** seconded.

Opposed: None Abstain: None

Motion Carried: 8-0-0

## 5. Committee Reports 🔺

(Bylaws of the Board 9132 - Standing Committees and Bylaws of the Board 9133 - Special Committees/Advisory Committees)

- 5.1. Achievement Committee May 29, 2025
- 5.2. <u>Budget Audit Committee</u> June 4, 2025
  - 5.2.1. May 2025 Business Manager's Report

Expenditures for the Month: \$836,045.14

Steven Carr motioned and Nathan Vieira seconded to accept/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 May 2025.

<u>Discussion Link</u> Opposed: None Abstain: None

Motion Carried: 8-0-0

**Matthew VanOrmer motioned and Nathan Vieira seconded** to approve the reduced cuts of \$25,000 to the 2025-2026 Thomaston education budget as presented.

Discussion: None

Opposed: Beth Campbell

Abstain: None Motion Carried: 7-1-0

5.3. Policy Committee - June 9, 2025

(Policy 2231-Administration/Policy and Regulation Systems)

5.3.1. Policy 7230.2 Indoor Air Quality

Matthew VanOrmer motioned and Steven Carr seconded to accept/approve Policy 7230.2 as presented.

Discussion: None Opposed: None Abstain: None Motion Carried: 8-0-0

5.3.2. Policy 6146 Graduation Requirements

Matthew VanOrmer motioned and Steven Carr seconded to accept/approve Policy 6146 Graduation Requirements as presented.

Discussion: None Opposed: None Abstain: None

Motion Carried: 8-0-0

5.3.3. Policy 4316 Conduct on School Property - Personnel

Matthew VanOrmer motioned and Steven Carr seconded to accept/approve Policy 4316 Conduct on School Property - Personnel as presented.

<u>Discussion Link</u> Opposed: None Abstain: None

Motion Carried: 8-0-0

5.3.4. Policy 5316 - Conduct on School Property - Students

**Matthew VanOrmer motioned and Steven Carr seconded** to accept/approve Policy 5316 - Conduct on School Property - Students as presented.

<u>Discussion Link</u> Opposed: None Abstain: None

Motion Carried: 8-0-0

6. Approval of Minutes ▲

(Bylaws of the Board 9326 - Minutes)

6.1. Regular Meeting Minutes - May 12, 2025

Steven Carr motioned and Nathan Vieira seconded to accept/approve the Regular Meeting Minutes dated May 12, 2025 as presented.

Discussion: None Opposed: None Abstain: None Motion Carried: 8-0-0

6.2. Special Meeting Minutes - May 14, 2025

Steven Carr motioned and Nathan Vieira seconded to accept/approve the Special Meeting Minutes dated May 14, 2025 as presented.

Discussion: None Opposed: None

Abstain: None Motion Carried: 9-0-0

## 6.3. Special Meeting Minutes - May 21, 2025

Steven Carr motioned and Nathan Vieira seconded to accept/approve the Special Meeting Minutes dated May 21, 2025 as presented.

Discussion: None Opposed: None Abstain: None

Motion Carried: 9-0-0

#### 7. Recognitions A

(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)

7.1. May Rotary Student of the Month - Emma Desrosiers

7.2. Students of the Month - May 2025

Grade 12: Emma Desrosiers Grade 11: Maddison Lentz Grade 10: Haley Morton Grade 9: Violet Alvey Grade 8: Tess Harkness Grade 7: Kyla Lahey Grade 6: Vivian Porter Grade 5: Rocco Rinaldi Grade 4: Grace Thibault Grade 3: Hailey Peck Grade 2: Aurora Pelletier Grade 1: Leah Campanale

Kindergarten: Vada Blakeslee Preschool: Savanna Wenzloff 7.3. June Rotary Student of the Month - Megan Campbell

7.4. Students of the Month - June 2025

Grade 11: Samantha Dorlini Grade 12: Megan Campbell Grade 10: Christina Spina Grade 9: Carmello Segui Grade 8: Adrianna Fonti Grade 7: Benjamin Prahm Grade 6: Trinity Smolkis Grade 5: Christian Pappas Grade 4: Jordyn Thornton Grade 3: Victorio Saverino Grade 2: Zackary Chouinard Grade 1: Norah Hennessey

Kindergarten: Reagan Fayer Preschool: Louie Rodriguez

7.5. Student Shout-Outs

## 7.5.1. 2025 Challenge to Educational Citizenship Award - Thomaston High School Student Council

Officers: Emily Morton - President - Grade 12 Erti Shkrepi - Vice President - Grade 12

Alyssa O'Brien - Secretary - Grade 11 - Alyssa submitted the nomination for this recognition

Javden Duong - Treasurer - Grade 12

Will Hungerford and Tyler Veronesi - Grade 11 - Fundraising Committee Brianna Ronalter and Makenzie Chasse - Grade 11 - Activity Committee

Megan Campbell and Emma Desrosiers - Grade 12 - Community Service Committee Gwyneth Romanzi - Grade 12 and Perla Puprriqi - Grade 11 - Publicity Committee

Mason Allen - Grade 12 Madison Decker - Grade 10 Activity: Fundraising: Justin Dionne - Grade 12 Grace Hungerford - Grade 11

Briana Belanger - Grade 10 Francesco Treglia - Grade 12 Leila Wiles - Grade 10 Skylar Wain - Grade 10

Community Service: Gianna Goodrow - Grade 9 Publicity: Aylin Lahey - Grade 9

> Samantha Lee - Grade 10 Grace LeVasseur - Grade 12 Gracie Marble - Grade 11 Haley Morton - Grade 10 Sandra Puprrigi - Grade 10 Madison Nevers - Grade 11 Christina Spina - Grade 9 Liliana VanOrmer - Grade 12

7.5.2. Acknowledgement of Task Force Members for Ongoing Contributions and Support - Grade 5.

Mackenzie Behuniak Caleb Frohloff Aiden Kimmer Christian Pappas Evan VanDyke Makala Bernard Billie Gavnor Eva Lobert Lillian Pasquella Isabella VanOrmer Collin Boyd Ava Gentle Kennysha Louis Adelina Pellot Samuel Walker Elise Williams Piper Chasse Rocco Rinaldi David Gilmore Kaylani Marble Scarlett Clark Paisley Glick Nathaly McDonald-Sosa Kellan Robbins Owen Wood

Brody Conlon Leon Gonzalez Rvan McGee Lilv Shea Jack Davidson Piper Melisky Kailyn Smith Owen Hawley Cody Deland Grace Hornby Thomas O'Brien Emmalynn Smolkis Connor Fletcher Harlan Hotchkiss Spencer Pages Brady Tita

7.5.3. Thomaston High School Halo Award Nominees (AND WINNER!)- Grease Production

Best Stage Management - Aiden Delaney - Grade 9 - 2025 Halo Award Winner

Best Hair and Make Up - Brianna Maille - Grade 11

Best Performance in a Leading Male Role in a Classical Musical Role - Matthew Paolino - Grade 12

Best Performance in a Featured Female Role in a Musical - Christina Spina - Grade 10

Best Running Crew - The Run Crew - Jacob Caviasca, Dusin Galpin, Ellye Losee, Ava Nicosia, Aiden Delaney, Kayla Kapusta, Collin Moser, Carmello Segui - Grade 9

- 7.5.4. Class of 2025 Graduates
- 7.5.5. Outgoing Board of Education Student Representative Megan Campbell
- 7.5.6. Audiovisual Services Thomaston Board of Education Meetings Makenzie Chasse
- 7.5.7. Connecticut Association of Boards of Education (CABE) Student Leadership Awards
  Grade 12: Emily Morton Grade 12: Erti Shkrepi Grade 8: Carter Ethier Grade 8: Emily Mazzarella
- 7.6. Staff Shout-Outs
  - 7.6.1. June 2025 Staff Spotlight: Tracy Decker, Business Manager, Thomaston Public Schools
- 8. Presentations 🔺 🛕 None

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

9. Student Representatives Report A A

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

# 10. Chairperson's Report 🔺 🛦 🔺

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

- 10.1. Progress Report on 2024-2025 Goals for the Thomaston Board of Education and the Superintendent of Schools
- 10.2. Thomaston 150th Anniversary Committee Update Tanya Galpin, Committee Chairperson
- 10.3. Response to Public Comments at the May 12, 2025 Regular Meeting of the BOE
- **10.4.** Finalized Results of the 2024-2025 Board of Education Self-Evaluation and the 2024-2025 Superintendent Evaluation May 12, 2025 Regular Meeting

**Steven Carr motioned and Nathan Vieira seconded** to formally approve the finalized results of the 2024–2025 Board of Education Self-Evaluation and the 2024–2025 Superintendent Evaluation, as completed during the Executive Sessions of the May 12, 2025 Regular Meeting

Discussion: None Opposed: None Abstain: None

Motion Carried: 9-0-0

10.5. Appointment of One (1) BOE Member to Join the PDEC Committee: **Tanya Galpin, Matthew VanOrmer, Nathan Vieira Vote** to approve the appointment of either **Tanya Galpin** or **Matthew VanOrmer** or **Nathan Vieira** as the One (1) BOE Member to join the PDEC Committee.

At the meeting, Nathan Vieira and Matthew VanOrmer decided to take their names out of consideration for this.

**Matthew VanOrmer motioned and Nathan Vieira seconded** to approve the appointment of **Tanya Galpin** as the one board member to join the PDEC committee.

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

10.6. Swearing in of 2025-2026 Student Representatives

Grade 12: G Wilmont Hungerford Grade 12: Lucas Koval Grade 12: Tyler Veronesi

10.7. Superintendent of Schools Monthly Report

10.7.1. June 2025 Monthly Report - Summary of Actions Taken as They Relate to Policy 2400

**Steven Carr motioned and Nathan Vieira seconded** to accept/approve the Superintendent of Schools' submission of a monthly report to support her progress in reaching the measurable areas of responsibility per Policy 2400 per the action taken by the Board of Education during the December 9, 2024 Regular Meeting.

Discussion: None Opposed: None Abstain: None

Motion Carried: 9-0-0

10.8. Per December 9, 2024 Board of Education action: Discussion regarding the continuation of the Superintendent of Schools Monthly Reports in 2025-2026.

**Steven Carr motioned and Nathan Vieira seconded** to continue the Superintendent of Schools Monthly Reports in 2025-2026.

**Discussion Link** 

Opposed: **Roxy Fainer, Matthew VanOrmer, Tanya Galpin, Beth Campbell, Anthony Kepler, Nathan Vieira, Frank Treglia, Sarah Ethier** Abstain: None

Motion Carried: 1-8-0 motion failed: discontinue the Superintendent of Schools Monthly Reports in 2025-2026.

10.9. Senior Prank Investigation Report

## 11. Superintendent's Report 🔺 🛦 🔺

(Policy 2131 – Administration – Superintendent of Schools)

- 11.1. Correspondence
  - 11.1.1. From Superintendent
    - 11.1.1.1 Thank You Letter to Valentin Collazo
    - 11.1.1.2. Thank You Letter to Tess Harkness
    - 11.1.1.3. Thank You Letter to Emily Morton
    - 11.1.1.4. Thank You Letter to Britta Saghafi
    - 11.1.1.5. Thank You Letter to Jennifer Zarrilli
    - 11.1.1.6. Shout Out Letters May 12, 2025 Recognition
    - 11.1.1.7. Superintendent Contract Extension Request
      - 11.1.1.7.1. ParentSquare Correspondence from Superintendent Posts/Alerts
      - 11.1.1.7.2. Happy Mother's Day Thomaston! May 11, 2025 at 9:01AM EST
      - 11.1.1.7.3. Bus 80 for TCS/BRS Delayed, May 12, 2025 at 3:21PM EST
      - 11.1.1.7.4. Francine Coss sent an update about Bus 80 for TCS/BRS Delayed, May 12, 2025 at 3:24PM EST
      - 11.1.1.7.5. It's National Speech and Language Pathologist Day! May 18, 2025 at 9:00am EST

Nathan Vieira motioned and Steven Carr seconded to acknowledge the Superintendent's correspondence per Policy 2131 -

Administration - Superintendent of Schools as presented.

Discussion: None Opposed: None Abstain: None

Motion Carried: 9-0-0

- 11.1.2. To Superintendent/Board of Education
  - 11.1.2.1.1. Summer and Mental Health: Creating a Summer Safety Plan
  - 11.1.2.1.2. Student Assessment News May 2025
  - 11.1.2.1.3. Effective School Solutions Middle School Behavior Management Strategies
- 11.2. Reports
  - 11.2.1. General Reports None
  - 11.2.2. Administrator Reports
    - 11.2.2.1. June 2025
    - 11.2.2.2. School Climate Report
    - 11.2.2.3. District Goals Reports
      - 11.2.2.3.1. Black Rock School
      - 11.2.2.3.2. Thomaston Center School
      - 11.2.2.3.3. Thomaston High School
      - 11.2.2.3.4. Pupil-Personnel Services
      - 11.2.2.3.5. Curriculum, Instruction and Assessment
    - 11.2.2.4. Thomaston Public Schools New Certified Staff Mentor Program Jennifer Preuss, Director, Curriculum, Instruction and Assessment

**Steven Carr motioned and Nathan Vieira seconded** to accept/approve the Thomaston Public Schools New Certified Staff Mentor Program as presented.

<u>Discussion Link</u> Opposed: None

Abstain: None

Motion Carried: 9-0-0

11.2.2.5. 2025-2026 Thomaston Public Schools Staff Handbook

11.2.2.5.1. Current Version

11.2.2.5.2. Marked Up Copy 11.2.2.5.3. Clean Copy

Steven Carr motioned and Nathan Vieira seconded to accept/approve the 2025-2026 Thomaston Public Schools Staff Handbook as presented.

#### **Discussion Link**

Based on the discussions at this meeting and the Policy Committee meeting held earlier this evening, the motion above has been revised to correct an error in the handbook. The policy previously stated a ten-day window for submitting assignments, but the correct timeframe

Steven Carr motioned and Nathan Vieria seconded to accept/approve the 2025-2026 Thomaston Public School Staff Handbook with the revisions on page 9, amending the 10 days to 5 days.

Discussion: None Opposed: None Abstain: None

Motion Carried: 9-0-0

11.2.2.6. 2025-2026 Thomaston Public Schools Parent-Student Handbook

11.2.2.6.1. Current Version 11.2.2.6.2. Marked Up Copy 11.2.2.6.3. Clean Copy

Nathan Vieira motioned and Steven Carr seconded to accept/approve the 2025-2026 Thomaston Public Schools Parent-Student

Handbook as presented.

Discussion: None Opposed: None Abstain: None

Motion Carried: 9-0-0

11.2.2.7. 2025-2026 Thomaston Public Schools All-Hazards School Security and Safety Plan

Nathan Vieira motioned and Steven Carr seconded to accept/approve the 2025-2026 Thomaston Public Schools All-Hazards School Security and Safety Plan as presented.

## **Discussion Link**

Due to the discussion that occurred, the motion had to be amended to remove Roxy Fainer as a parent representative and Daniela Ouellete as a parent representative since neither have children in the schools.

Steven Carr motioned and Nathan Vieira seconded to accept/approve the 2025-2026 Thomaston Public Schools Parent-Student Handbook with the correction of removing Daniella Ouellette and **Roxy Fainer** from the plan as parent representatives.

Opposed: None Abstain: None

Motion Carried: 9-0-0

## 11.2.2.8. School Climate Coordinator Job Description

**Steven Carr motioned and Nathan Vieira seconded** to approve the School Climate Coordinator job description as presented. Discussion Link

Following a question raised by **Sarah Ethier** during the discussion, the meeting was briefly paused at 8:53p.m. to allow **Superintendent Coss** to retrieve the necessary information from her office. The meeting resumed at 8:55 p.m.

Opposed: Sarah Ethier Abstain: Nathan Vieira Motion Carried: 7-1-1

As a result of the discussion regarding the stipend amount, an additional motion was introduced.

Frank Treglia motioned and Nathan Vieira seconded to approve the school climate job description with a maximum stipend amount of

Discussion: None Opposed: Sarah Ethier

Abstain: None

Motion Carried: 8-1-0

11.2.3. Residency - None

(Policy 5118 - Students - Nonresident Attendance/Tuition Students)

11.2.4. Student Discipline - None

(Policy 5144 Students - Discipline)

11.2.5. Homeschooling - None

(Policy 6172.3 - Instruction - Home Schooling)

11.2.6. Enrollment Report

(Policy 5112 Students - Age of Attendance)

11.2.6.1. June 2, 2025

11.2.6.2. 2024-2025 Enrollment Projection Report (Spring Update) - New England School Development Council (NESDEC)

11.3. Personnel (\*Denotes Effective Date)

(Policy 4112/4212 - Personnel - Certified/Non-Certified Appointment and Conditions of Employment)

11.3.1. New Hires

11.3.1.1. Diane Riedl, part-time Paraprofessional, Black Rock School\*May 29, 2025

- 11.3.2. Transfer/New Assignment/Reassignment None
- 11.3.3. Resignations
  - 11.3.3.1. Lisa Baldelli, Speech Language Pathologist, Black Rock School\*June 11, 2025
  - 11.3.3.2. Connor Foss, part-time Custodian, Thomaston Public Schools\*May 16, 2025
  - 11.3.3.3. Taylor Tardy, full-time Paraprofessional, Thomaston High School\*June 12, 2025
- 11.3.4. Retirements

11.3.4.1. Diane Riedl, part-time Paraprofessional, Black Rock School\*May 30, 2025

- 11.3.5. Terminations/Non-Renewals None
- 11.3.6. Stipends 2024-2025
  - 11.3.6.1. Christine Golino 504 Coordinator Thomaston High School
  - 11.3.6.2. Jaimee Hustek 504 Coordinator Thomaston Center School
  - 11.3.6.3. Steve Malo 504 Coordinator Thomaston High School
  - 11.3.6.4. Rachel Pelletier 504 Coordinator Black Rock School
  - 11.3.6.5. Breanna Riollano 504 Coordinator Thomaston High School

**Steven Carr motioned and Nathan Vieira seconded** to acknowledge the Superintendent's notification of Personnel, specifically, New Hires/Transfers/New Assignments/Reassignment/Resignations/Retirements /Terminations/Non-Renewals/Stipends per Policy 4112/4212 Personnel – Certified/Non-Certified Appointment and Conditions of Employment as presented.

Discussion: None Opposed: None Abstain: None

Motion Carried: 9-0-0

11.3.7. Family and Medical Leave Act (FMLA) - None

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

11.3.8. Interns and Student Teachers - None

(Policy 1212-Community Relations-School Volunteers)

11.3.9. Field Trips

(Policy 6153-Instruction - Field Trips - Secondary Schools)

11.3.10. Washington D.C. and Gettysburg, Pennsylvania - Grade 8 - March 31, 2026 - April 3, 2026

Steven Carr motioned and Nathan Vieira seconded to accept/approve the Washington D.C. and Gettysburg, Pennsylvania Field Trip - Grade 8 - March 31, 2026 - April 3, 2026 as presented.

<u>Discussion Link</u> Opposed: None Abstain: None

Motion Carried: 9-0-0

11.3.11. Sales and Disposal of Books, Equipment and Supplies - None

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

**12. Public Participation**  $\land$   $\land$  (to be read aloud by the Board Chairperson prior to soliciting public comment)

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 ramification 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 the form of a written letter from the Board Chairperson and that letter will be attached to the

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 in meeting minutes; speakers will not receive a verbal reply to public comment during a meeting.

#### Ms. Beth Campbell, 21 Edwin Lane, Thomaston

**Ms. Campbell** is a parent of a high school senior who expressed her disappointment with the outcome of the recent senior prank investigation. She described the prank as positive in nature and extended an apology to the senior class. **Ms. Campbell** emphasized that the event could have served as a meaningful opportunity for students not typically involved in sports or extracurricular activities to participate in a shared experience. She made it clear to the Board that she is dissatisfied with the results of the investigation.

## Ms. Julie Ingham, 70 Elm Street, Thomaston

Ms. Ingham expressed appreciation for the Board members' dedication and the time they commit to their six-year terms and subcommittee work. She encouraged Board members to engage more actively during meetings as residents, as this could increase community participation and help parents feel more connected. During the recent budget process, Ms. Ingham noted that some officials became defensive when concerns were raised about salaries and positions. She clarified that these concerns are not personal but relate to roles and financial sustainability. Residents have raised objections to salaries for certain Board of Education and town positions, and while some finance committee members listened, others did not, contributing to two failed budget referendums. She emphasized that many residents and parents are concerned about the high salaries and benefits for the superintendent and central office staff, which are difficult to sustain in a small district like Thomaston. Ms. Ingham shared positive feedback from a local teacher who values working in a small district despite potentially higher salaries elsewhere.

## Nathan Vieira, 131 Humiston Circle, Thomaston

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

#### 13. Establish Board of Education Goals for the 2025-2026 School Year

- 13.1. Thomaston Public Schools Strategic Plan 2025-2030
- 13.2. Data-Based Proposed Goals for 2025-2026

**Steven Carr motioned and Nathan Vieira seconded** to establish the Board of Education Goals for the 2025-2026 School Year as specified.

**Discussion Link** 

**Steven Carr motioned and Nathan seconded** to establish for the Board of Education goals for the 2025-2026 School Year as goal one and goal two presented.

**Discussion Link** 

**Steven Carr** amended the motion to be inclusive of the superintendent goals as goal one and goal two as presented and **Nathan Vieira** second.

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

## 14. Establish the Superintendent of Schools goals for the 2025-2026 School Year

14.1. Data-Based Proposed Goals for 2025-2026

Vote to establish the Board of Education Goals for the 2025-2026 School Year as specified.

The vote for this motion was included in agenda item #13

## 15. Enter Executive Session for the purpose to discuss the extension of the contract for the Superintendent of Schools

**Steven Carr motioned and Nathan Vieira seconded** to enter into Executive Session at 9:17p.m. and inviting **Superintendent Francine Coss** for the purpose to discuss the extension of the contract for the Superintendent of Schools.

Discussion: None Opposed: None Abstain: None

Motion Carried: 9-0-0

# 16. Exit Executive Session/Enter into Regular Session - 11:12pm.

**Steven Carr motioned and Matthew VanOrmer seconded** to extend the Superintendent's contract for one year.

Discussion: None

Opposed: Sarah Ethier, Beth Campbell, Nathan Vieira, Tanya Galpin

Abstain: None

Motion Carried: 5-4-0

## 17. Adjournment

**Steven Carr motioned and Matthew VanOrmer seconded** to adjourn the meeting.

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

**Chairperson Roxy Fainer** adjourned the meeting at 11:14p.m.