



MINUTES

THOMASTON BOARD OF EDUCATION BUDGET WORKSHOP

Thursday, March 12, 2026 at 6:00 p.m. Thomaston High School - Learning Commons

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 at least one hour before the meeting starts.

(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.

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:

Nathan Vieira, Chairperson
Cara Files
Amy Sedgwick
Larry Duffany

Sarah Ethier, Vice Chairperson
Francine Coss, Superintendent
G Wilmont Hungerford, Student Representative
Lucas Koval, Student Representative
Tyler Veronesi, Student Representative

Tanya Galpin, Secretary
Marissa McGee Treasurer
Anthony Kepler
Roxy Fainer

1. Establishment of a Quorum and Call to Order

(Bylaws of the Board 9325.1 - Quorum)

- 1.1. Chairperson Nathan Vieira called the meeting to order at 6:06 p.m.
1.2. Board Members in Attendance: Chairperson Nathan Vieira, Vice Chairperson Sarah Ethier, Secretary Tanya Galpin, Treasurer Marissa McGee, Cara Files, Roxy Fainer, Superintendent Francine Coss
1.3. Board Member in Virtual Attendance: Larry Duffany
1.4. Board Member Absent: Amy Sedgwick, Anthony Kepler
1.5. Student Representatives Absent: G Wilmont Hungerford, Lucas Koval, Tyler Veronesi (the student representatives were not required to attend)
1.6. Administrators in Attendance: Kristin Bernier, Jonathan Kozlak, Cristina Kingsbury, Attallah Roundtree, Pamela Nascimento
1.7. Other in Attendance: Rich Sileo, George Seaborne, Mike Madow, Jack DeOliveira, Adam Silverman, Geoffrey Dobos, Doctor Michael Watson, Michelina Stanley

2. Pledge of Allegiance

3. Welcome the Thomaston Board of Selectmen and Thomaston Board of Finance

4. Enter into Executive Session for the Purpose of Negotiations with Respect to Collective Bargaining - Entered into Executive Session at 6:06p.m.

Sarah Ethier motioned to move into Executive Session for the Purpose of Negotiations with respect to Contract Negotiations inviting Superintendent Coss, Business Manager Attallah Roundtree, members of the Thomaston Board of Selectmen and members of the Thomaston Board of Finance and others as identified by the Board of Education and Tanya Galpin seconded.

Discussion: None

Opposed: None

Abstain: Nathan Vieira

Motion Carried: 6-0-1

5. Exit Executive Session/Enter into Public Session - Exit Executive Session at 6:27p.m.

Roxy Fainer motioned to authorize Superintendent Coss to take any action necessary with respect to what was discussed in executive session and Marissa McGee seconded.

Discussion: None

Opposed: None

Abstain: Nathan Vieira

Motion Carried: 5-0-1 (Larry Duffany was not heard remotely casting a vote on the motion; therefore, his vote was not included in the final count)

6. [2026–2027 Operating Budget and Capital Presentations](#)
[\(Policy 3110 – Business/Non-Instructional Operations – Budget: Planning\)](#)
[\(Policy 3120 – Business/Non-Instructional Operations – Preparation of Budget Document\)](#)
[\(Policy 3150 – Business/Non-Instructional Operations – Adoption of Budget\)](#)
 - 6.1. [2026–2027 Thomaston Public Schools Education Budget PowerPoint](#)
 - 6.2. [Central Office Narrative](#)
 - 6.3. [Technology Narrative](#)
 - 6.4. [Emergency Management Narrative](#)
 - 6.5. [Pupil Services and Medical Services Narrative](#)
 - 6.6. [Curriculum, Instruction and Assessment Narrative](#)
 - 6.7. [Thomaston High School and PATHS and Athletics Narrative](#)
 - 6.8. [Thomaston Center School Narrative](#)
 - 6.9. [Black Rock School Narrative](#)

An [audio recording](#) of Ms. Roundtree’s presentation is available and a [written transcript](#) of the presentation is also available.

7. [2026–2031 Capital](#)
 - 7.1. [Thomaston High School](#)
 - 7.2. [Thomaston Center School](#)
 - 7.3. [Black Rock School](#)
 - 7.4. [Technology](#)

As there were no changes to the Capital Budget, no presentation was made.

8. [Questions and Discussion](#)

At the request of the Board of Finance, submitted the day before this meeting and after this meeting agenda was posted, certain links in this agenda will be updated and made available on the webpage.

Thomaston’s initial FY 2026–2027 budget proposal reflected a 7.34% increase. The Board of Education subsequently recommended a reduced increase of 3%. Prior to reaching the final 1.98% increase, the budget reflected a 2.40% increase. However, on March 11th, the BOF respectfully suggested that the BOE revisit the budget in order to reduce their expenditures in the amount of \$100,000. Through careful planning and strategic review, the budget was further refined to a 1.98% increase while maintaining continuity in the educational experience for both students and staff.

Key adjustments contributing to this reduction included strategic staffing adjustments, reductions in account lines associated with school projects due to the ongoing feasibility study, reductions in account lines based on FY25 actual expenditures, and cost offsets within the health benefits line resulting from the finalized Anthem rate adjustment of 11.9%. These adjustments reflect a thoughtful and responsible approach to fiscal management while continuing to support the district’s educational mission and operational needs.

Roxy Fainer motioned and Tanya Galpin seconded to approve the revisions to the 2026–2027 operating budget and the 2026–2031 Capital Budget as presented.

Discussion: None

Opposed: None

*Abstain: **Nathan Vieira***

Motion Carried: 6–0–1

9. **Adjournment**

Tanya Galpin motioned and Sarah Ethier seconded to adjourn the meeting.

Discussion: None

Opposed: None

*Abstain: **Nathan Vieira***

Motion Carried: 6–0–1

Chairperson Nathan Vieira adjourned the meeting at 7:09p.m