



MINUTES

THOMASTON BOARD OF EDUCATION SPECIAL MEETING (Virtual)

Thursday, October 1, 2026 at 5:30 p.m.

The meeting will be recorded and can be viewed 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.

2026-2027 Board of Education Goals:

1. By June 2027, 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 2027, 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
Mark Winzler, Interim Superintendent
Zachary Brostek, Student Representative
Dustin Galpin, Student Representative

Tanya Galpin, Secretary
Marissa McGee Treasurer
Rebecca Shypinka (appointed; not yet sworn in)
[Vacant]

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 5:31p.m.
- 1.2. Board Members in Attendance: Chairperson Nathan Vieira, Vice Chairperson Sarah Ethier, Secretary Tanya Galpin, Cara Files, Larry Duffany, Amy Sedgwick
- 1.3. Board Member Absent: Marissa McGee
- 1.4. Student Representatives Absent: Dustin Galpin, Zachary Brostek (*the student representatives were not required to attend this meeting*)
- 1.5. Others in Attendance: Michelina Stanley

2. Pledge of Allegiance

3. Filling Board of Education Vacancy for Matthew VanOrmer per Policy 9221

(Bylaws of the Board 9221-Filling Vacancies)

- 3.1 Rebecca Shypinka
- 3.2 Potential Nominee from the Floor

Cara Files nominated Rebecca Shypinka to fill the vacancy of Matt VanOrmer on the Board of Education and Tanya Galpin seconded.

[Discussion Link](#)

Opposed: None

Abstain: None

Motion Carried: 6-0-0 : Chairperson Vieira conducted a roll call of the votes

4. Adjournment

Tanya Galpin motioned and Amy Sedgwick seconded to adjourn the meeting.

Discussion: None

Opposed: None

Abstain: None

Motion Carried: 6-0-0

Chairperson Nathan Vieira adjourned the meeting at 5:40p.m.