



MINUTES

THOMASTON BOARD OF EDUCATION REGULAR MEETING

Monday, February 9, 2026 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 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 7:06p.m
- 1.2. Board Members in Attendance: **Chairperson Nathan Vieira, Vice Chairperson Sarah Ethier, Treasurer Marissa McGee, Secretary Tanya Galpin, Cara Files, Larry Duffany, Anthony Kepler, Superintendent Francine Coss**
- 1.3. Board Member Absent: **Roxy Fainer**
- 1.4. Board Member in Virtual Attendance: **Amy Sedgwick**
- 1.5. Student Representative in Attendance: **G Wilmont Hungerford**
- 1.6. Student Representatives Absent: **Tyler Veronesi, Lucas Koval** *(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)*
- 1.7. Administrator in Attendance: **Andrea Peters**
- 1.8. Others in Attendance: **Patricia and James, 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)

Larry Duffany motioned and Tanya Galpin seconded to accept the agenda dated February 9, 2026 as presented.

Discussion: None

Opposed: None

Abstain: **Nathan Vieira**

Motion Carried: 7-0-1

4. Public Participation ▲▲▲ (to be read aloud by the Board Chairperson prior to soliciting public comment) – NONE

(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. Speakers will not receive a verbal reply to public comment during a meeting. The written response will be linked to the minutes of the meeting during which the comments were made and the same response will be linked to the agenda of the next Regular Meeting of the Board of Education under "Chairperson Report."

5. Approval of Minutes ▲

(Bylaws of the Board 9326 – Minutes)

5.1. Regular Meeting Minutes – January 12, 2026

Larry Duffany motioned and Marissa McGee seconded to accept the Regular Meeting Minutes dated January 12, 2026 as presented.

Discussion: None

Opposed: None

Abstain: **Nathan Vieira**

Motion Carried: 7-0-1

5.2. [Thomaston Board of Education Budget Workshop Minutes – January 26, 2026](#)

Larry Duffany motioned and Marissa McGee seconded to accept the Thomaston Board of Education Budget Workshop Minutes dated January 26, 2026 as presented.

Discussion: None

Opposed: None

Abstain: **Nathan Vieira**

Motion Carried: 7-0-1

6. Recognitions

(Policy 1170 – 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)

6.1. Student Shout-Out

6.1.1. [Rotary Student of the Month – January 2026 – Chloe Simoes](#)

6.1.2. [Students of the Month – January 2026](#)

Grade 12: Chloe Simoes

Grade 8: Aiden Wood

Grade 4: Hannah Donahue

Kindergarten: Caleb Stpierre

Grade 11: Samantha Lee

Grade 7: Owen Dobos

Grade 3: Jocelyn Tortorici

Preschool: Maya Buturla

Grade 10: Kayla Kapusta

Grade 6: Isabella VanOrmer

Grade 2: Ian Blakeslee

Grade 9: Benjamin Bellemare

Grade 5: Nella Romot

Grade 1: Ellie Brandt

6.1.3. [February 2026 Staff Spotlight: Keri Rozzi – Grade 5 Teacher, Thomaston Center School](#)

7. Presentations – None

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

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. Feasibility Study Update

9.3. BOE Contact Form Discussion

9.4. Referendum Committee

No action taken on Referendum Committee Discussion

9.5. [Two Year Board of Education Meeting Calendar – 2028 and 2029](#)

Tanya Galpin motioned and Marissa McGee seconded to accept the Two Year Board of Education Meeting Calendar – 2028 and 2029 as presented.

Discussion: Due to audio recording issues, the discussion has been summarized – **Nathan Vieira** advised the Board that the calendar is subject to change and was submitted at this time to meet required deadlines. Any future revisions will be presented to the Board for review and approval or rejection.

Opposed: None

Abstain: **Nathan Vieira**

Motion Carried: 7-0-1

9.6. Preschool Lottery – Andrea Peters – Director of Pupil Services

(Policy 5111 – Admissions/Placement Withdrawal)

9.6.1. Populating Preschool Roster through the Lottery Process

9.6.2. [Results of Preschool Lottery](#)

The lottery drawing was conducted by Andrea Peters, Director of Pupil Services. Ms. Peters explained the lottery process to the audience and to those viewing the live stream. Student numbers were randomly drawn from a bowl. The first 15 students selected are guaranteed a Pre-K3 seat for the upcoming school year. All remaining students will be placed on the waitlist.

10. Superintendent's Report

(Policy 2131 – Administration – Superintendent of Schools)

10.1. Correspondence

10.1.1. From Superintendent

10.1.1.1. ParentSquare Correspondence from Superintendent – Posts/Alerts

10.1.1.1.1. Sex Offender Notification, January 9, 2026 at 12:23PM EST

10.1.1.1.2. 2-Hour Delay – TODAY – January 12, 2026 at 6:08AM EST

10.1.1.1.3. Change in Status: SCHOOL IS CLOSED TODAY, January 12, 2026 at 7:46AM EST

10.1.1.1.4. CLOSED Tomorrow – January 13, 2026 at 12:07PM EST

10.1.1.1.5. School will be OPEN TOMORROW – January 14, 2026 at 10:33AM EST

10.1.1.1.6. Saturday Activities at Thomaston Schools – CANCELED (1/17/26), January 17, 2026 at 6:45AM EST

10.1.1.1.7. SUNDAY Activities at Thomaston Schools – CANCELED (1/18/26), January 17, 2026 at 8:45PM EST

- 10.1.1.8. Adult and Continuing Education Newsletter – January 2026, January 20, 2026 at 6:02PM EST
- 10.1.1.9. Board of Education Workshop, January 26, 2026 at 5:02PM EST
- 10.1.1.10. Schools are CLOSED SUNDAY (1/25/26) and MONDAY (1/26/26), January 24, 2026 at 7:55PM EST
- 10.1.1.11. Thank You and Parking Limitations at/around Schools, January 26, 2026 at 1:16PM EST
- 10.1.1.12. 3-HOUR DELAY TOMORROW – Tuesday, January 27, 2026, January 26, 2026 at 5:57PM EST
- 10.1.1.13. CHANGE IN STATUS School is CANCELED – January 27, 2026, January 27, 2026 at 8:53AM EST
- 10.1.1.14. 3-Hour Delayed Opening TODAY – January 28, 2026 at 5:30AM EST
- 10.1.1.15. Update on Thomaston Center School and THANK YOU! January 30, 2026 at 1:21PM EST
- 10.1.1.16. 2026.01.31 Board of Education Happenings, January 31, 2026 at 2:19PM EST
- 10.1.1.17. We Appreciate Our School Counselors! February 2, 2026 at 9:02AM EST

Larry Duffany motioned and Marissa McGee seconded to acknowledge the Superintendent's correspondence per Policy 2131 as presented.

Discussion: None

Opposed: None

Abstain: **Nathan Vieira**

Motion Carried: 7-0-1

- 10.1.2. To Superintendent/Board of Education

- 10.1.2.1. [Effective School Solutions – January Insights & Solutions – Understanding Teen Apathy](#)
- 10.1.2.2. [2024-2025 District Data Report – EdAdvance – Thomaston Public Schools](#)

10.2. Reports

- 10.2.1. General Reports- None

- 10.2.2. Administrator Reports

- 10.2.2.1. [February 2026](#)

- 10.2.3. Residency – None

([Policy 5118-Nonresident Attendance/Tuition Students](#))

- 10.2.4. Student Discipline

([Policy 5144-Discipline](#))

- 10.2.4.1. Expulsion Hearing Notice – Student VIII

- 10.2.4.2. Rescheduled Expulsion Hearing Notice – Student VIII

- 10.2.5. Homeschooling

([Policy 61723-Home Schooling](#))

- 10.2.5.1. Superintendent's Acknowledgement to Homeschool – Student C

- 10.2.5.2. Superintendent's Acknowledgement to Homeschool – Student D

- 10.2.5.3. Superintendent's Acknowledgement to Homeschool – Student E

- 10.2.5.4. Superintendent's Acknowledgement to Homeschool – Student F

- 10.2.6. Enrollment Report

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

- 10.2.6.1. [February 2, 2026](#)

- 10.2.7. Personnel

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

- 10.2.7.1. New Hires

- 10.2.7.1.1. Izaiah Ortiz, regular, full-time, second shift, Custodian II, District-Wide*January 12, 2026

- 10.2.7.1.2. Kim Randalot, Teacher, Family & Consumer Science, Thomaston High School*February 2, 2026

- 10.2.7.2. Transfer/New Assignment/Reassignment – None

- 10.2.7.3. Resignations – None

- 10.2.7.4. Retirements – None

- 10.2.7.5. Terminations/Non-Renewals

- 10.2.7.5.1. Non-Renewals – Pursuant to Connecticut General Statute Section 10-151, the Thomaston Board of Education directs the Superintendent of Schools to take any and all actions related to the non-renewal process.

Larry Duffany motioned and Marissa McGee seconded to direct the Superintendent of Schools, pursuant to Connecticut General Statute Section 10-151, to take any and all actions related to the non-renewal process, specifically, but not limited to communicating such actions to the Board of Education and authorizes the Superintendent of Schools to respond on behalf of the Board of Education to any recommendations for non-renewal and/or requests for hearings, if required by law, or for other data which may be forthcoming from a teacher and/or his/her representative pursuant to applicable provisions of Connecticut General Statute Section 10-151; and further move that the Superintendent of Schools be directed that any response to a request for a hearing, if a hearing is required by law, indicate that such hearing is to be before the Board of Education.

Discussion Link

Opposed: None

Abstain: **Nathan Vieira, Tanya Galpin**

Motion Carried: 6-0-2

- 10.2.7.6. Stipends - 2025-2026

- 10.2.7.6.1. Kelsey Murzak - Early Act Club Co-Advisor - Black Rock School

Larry Duffany motioned and Cara Files 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: Due to audio recording issues, the discussion has been summarized - Cara Files stated her son and nephew participate in the after-school program, and they genuinely have enjoyed making cards for senior citizens, hanging posters with positive messages around BRS, and taking a field trip to the high school to work on activities with the Interact Club. Cara appreciates the school district for creating a program that intentionally fosters positive character traits and civic-mindedness in students at the elementary level.

Opposed: None

Abstain: **Nathan Vieira**

Motion Carried: 7-0-1

10.2.7.7. Family and Medical Leave Act (FMLA)

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

10.2.7.7.1. Employee O

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 – February 4, 2026

11.1.1. January 2026 Business Manager's Report

11.1.2. Expenditures for the Month: \$2,537,817

11.1.3. 2026-2027 Special Education, Related Services and Equipment Rates

Marissa McGee motioned and Tanya Galpin seconded to accept the 2026-2027 Special Education, Related Services and Equipment Rates as presented.

Discussion: None

Opposed: None

Abstain: **Nathan Vieira**

Motion Carried: 7-0-1

Marissa McGee motioned and Tanya Galpin seconded to accept the Business and Finance Report and Expenditures per Policy 3432/3433 Business/Non-Instructional Operations - Budget & Expense Report/Annual Financial Statement as presented for January 2026.

Discussion: None

Opposed: None

Abstain: **Nathan Vieira**

Motion Carried: 7-0-1

11.2. Policy Committee – February 2, 2026

(Policy 2231-Administration/Policy and Regulation Systems)

12. Executive Session

12.1. Enter into Executive Session for the purpose of the Leadership Team's to discuss their progress on established goals and objectives and provide targeted informal feedback to the Superintendent about her effectiveness vis-à-vis the previously established goals and objectives and invite Superintendent Francine Coss.

12.2. Policy 2400

Sarah Ethier motioned and Marissa McGee seconded to enter into Executive Session at 8:24p.m. for the purpose of the Leadership Team to discuss their progress on established goals and objectives and provide targeted informal feedback to the Superintendent about her effectiveness vis-à-vis the previously established goals and objectives.

Discussion: None

Opposed: None

Abstain: **Nathan Vieira**

Motion Carried: 6-0-1 (Amy Sedgwick was not heard remotely casting a vote on the motion; therefore, her vote was not included in the final count)

13. Exit Executive Session/Enter into Regular Session – 8:50p.m.

No action taken on matters discussed in the Executive Session.

14. Adjournment

Larry Duffany motioned and Sarah Ethier seconded to adjourn.

Discussion: None

Opposed: None

Abstain: Nathan Vieira

Motion Carried: 7-0-1

Chairperson Nathan Vieira adjourned the meeting at 8:50p.m.