



THOMASTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS

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THOMASTON CENTER SCHOOL STUDENTS RUN FOR OFFICE

Fifth Graders Experience the Political Process through Connecticut's Kid Governor 2016 Program

Thomaston, CT, October 13, 2016– Grade five students at Thomaston Center School are learning about our political process firsthand through their participation in Connecticut's Kid Governor Program. Connecticut's Kid Governor is a national award-winning statewide civics program for fifth graders created by the Connecticut Public Affairs Network at Connecticut's Old State House in 2015 and is designed to coincide with Election Day in November. Under the direction of Thomaston Center School's fifth grade Social Studies teacher, Mr. Tom Andronowitz, thirty-six fifth graders expressed an interest in becoming Center School's Kid Governor. During the week of October 3, students learned about the campaign issues and platforms of the thirty-six candidates. Students then participated in a primary and voted for six students to go forward with the election process. The six students were eager to share their issues of endangered animals, litter, drug addiction, respect, the importance of exercise, as well as messages of anti-bullying.

As the month progresses, students continue to learn about the political process and state government. Principal Kristin Bernier stated, "This program is a wonderful way for our students to gain experience in the political process and learn about state leadership and legislative issues in Connecticut." From October 17, 2016 through October 25, 2016, the six students will campaign for the Kid Governor's Position through the use of videos and speeches. Other students in the fifth grade will have an opportunity to vote for Thomaston Center School's Kid Governor Nominee. By October 28, 2016, one student from Thomaston Center School will

become the Thomaston Kid Governor Nominee. In turn, the winner in Thomaston will run for Connecticut's Top Spot of Kid Governor for 2016, a prestigious honor for a Connecticut fifth grade student.

For additional information regarding in the Connecticut's Kid Governor Program, please visit the official website at: <http://ct.kidgovernor.org/>



Photo Caption: Thomaston Center School recently held a primary for the 2016 CT Kid Governor Election. Out of thirty-six candidates, six students will campaign to become the nominee in the 2016 Connecticut Kid Governor election.

The six candidates are:

(front row, left to right) Rejhana Aliu, Cierra O'Sullivan, Nathan Marsh

(back row, left to right) Hannah Schmidt, Travis Holder, Nicole Decker

Thomaston Board of Education 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.

-TBOE Policy 0100

Goals and Objectives of the Thomaston Board of Education:

The Thomaston Board of Education believes that all students have a right to an education which is based on standards of excellence, which stresses rigorous demands and which serves to expand students' personal horizons. The Board believes that the education of each student is the shared responsibility of students, parents, faculty, and administrators. The Board also recognizes that students differ in their interests and abilities and therefore the district offers a comprehensive program consisting of a variety of learning experiences. The Board believes that an important function of the school is to prepare students for participation in our American democratic society. The Board seeks to improve the intellectual, emotional, social, and physical capacities of all students. The Board encourages the development of thinking and communication skills, the tolerance of and responsibility for others, and the understanding of varied cultures and life styles. In order to implement this philosophy, recognizing that elementary, middle and high school education are important steps in a lifelong process, the Board of Education establishes the following objectives:

- A. To teach the essential skills traditionally associated with the various disciplines.
- B. To develop the four communication skills of listening, speaking, reading, and writing.
- C. To extend and refine the students' ability to comprehend, interpret, and evaluate printed, visual, and aural material.
- D. To develop critical thinking.
- E. To further the students' development of self-awareness, self-discipline, and self-esteem.
- F. To promote the physical well-being of all students.
- G. To promote creativity and appreciation of the arts, humanities, and sciences.
- H. To encourage students to consider both the alternatives to and the consequences of their actions in the decision making process.
- I. To present career options and to assist students in setting tentative goals.
- J. To help the student appreciate that learning is integrated and continuous.

-TBOE Policy 5010

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If you would like more information about this topic, please contact Kristin Reichelt Bernier at 860-283-3036 or email at kbernier@thomastonschools.org.