

The Board of Education of the Borough of Essex Fells, in the County of Essex, New Jersey, convened in a Workshop Meeting on February 5, 2020, in the Superintendent's Office of the Essex Fells School. The meeting was called to order by the Board President, Mrs. Kris Huegel, at 7:33 P.M. Mrs. Huegel read the following Statement of Compliance with the Open Public Meetings Act: "In compliance with Chapter 231 of the Laws of 1975, a notice for this meeting was posted at the respective offices of the Essex Fells School on January 7, 2020. Agendas were mailed to the Clerk of the Borough of Essex Fells, the Progress, the Star Ledger, and posted on the district web-site.

I. Call to Order –7:33 P.M.

- The meeting was called to order by the Board President.

II. Roll Call

Mrs. Kris Huegel – President , present

Mrs. Debra Tedesco-Vice President- present

Mrs. Bethany Buccino-present

Dr. Steven LoCascio – present

Mr. Theodore Skopak-present

Also present: Mrs. Michelle V. Gadaleta, Superintendent/Principal; and Mr. Steven J. Lella, Business Administrator/Board Secretary and 2 Staff Members.

III. Flag Salute

- The Board President led the salute to the flag.

IV. Public Comment on Agenda Items Only

- Dr. LoCascio recognized Mrs. Gadaleta for her 10-year anniversary at Essex Fells School and thanked her for all she does.

V. Buildings & Grounds

- Mrs. Gadaleta provided the Board with a quote for baseball/softball field repair and maintenance. Mrs. Gadaleta noted that work was done last spring however the fields are again in poor condition. We can reach out to recreation program, town and West Essex soccer club to see if they would like to split the costs again. The Board discussed.
- Mr. Lella noted that the new phone installation would be taking place on February 17th & 18th and that the new system would be in compliance with Alyssa's Law.
- Mr. Lella noted that the fire inspector conducted an inspection of the buildings in early January. No issues were noted and a clean report will be issued.

VI. Curriculum & Instruction

- Mrs. Gadaleta explained the Seeing Eye Assembly which was coordinated by Ms. Wieczorek.
- Mrs. Gadaleta reported to the Board that the week of February 10th – 14th will be Character Education / Spirit Week. The Student Council will be hosting Spirit Week with daily planned events that will also tie into the 100th Day of School.
- Mrs. Gadaleta informed the Board of the Professional Development which is scheduled for February 18th, which includes NWP, CPR & AED Certification, Essex Fells Police Department and a Legal Update.

VII. Finance

- Mr. Lella provided the Board with an update on the 2020-21 Budget. He and Mrs. Gadaleta have met to review the line by line detail. There will be no enrollment adjustment in the upcoming budget, therefore we will be utilizing available banked cap as needed.

VII. Policy

- None

VII. Old Business / Board Discussion

- Mrs. Gadaleta provided the Board with an illness update. The number of students and staff illnesses have dropped to normal levels for the time of year.
- Mrs. Gadaleta reviewed the BOE Survey questions, the Board discussed.

VIII. New Business / Board Discussion

- Mrs. Gadaleta provided the Board with an update on the 2020-21 Preschool and Kindergarten registrations. The Kindergarten will be very large, with 36 children and the Preschool is at 27, with 1 slot open.
- The Board discussed how summer staff hours are documented and how tasks are monitored.
- Mrs. Gadaleta provided the Board with a copy of a resolution passed by the North Caldwell BOE regarding regionalization. The Board will discuss for the public at the February 19th BOE Meeting.

XI. Meeting Open for Public Comment

- None

XII. Adjournment

At 8:27 P.M. the Board of Education made a motion to adjourn. The next **Regular Meeting** will be held **Wednesday, February 19, 2020 7:30 P.M.** in the Media Center.

Moved by: Dr. LoCascio

Seconded by: Mrs. Tedesco

Ayes: 5

Nays: 0

Respectfully submitted,

Mr. Steven J. Lella
Business Administrator/
Board Secretary