

The Board of Education of the Borough of Essex Fells, in the County of Essex, New Jersey, convened in a workshop session on February 7, 2018, in the Superintendent's office of the Essex Fells School. The meeting was called to order by the Board President, Mrs. Shani Drogin, at 7:31 P.M. Mrs. Drogin 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 24, 2018. 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 – 7:31 P.M.

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

II. Roll Call

- Mrs. Bethany Buccino - present
- Mrs. Shani Drogin, President – present
- Mrs. Kris Heugel – Vice President - present
- Dr. Steven LoCascio, – present
- Mrs. Debra Tedesco – absent

Also present: Mrs. Michelle V. Gadaleta, Superintendent/Principal; and Mr. Steven J. Lella, Business Administrator/Board Secretary; 1 staff member; 3(1 arrived at 7:40 pm) members of the public; 1 reporters from The Progress; 2 BOE Attorneys (arrived at 7:45 pm).

III. Flag Salute

- The Board President led the salute to the flag.

IV. Public Comment

- None

V. Buildings Grounds

- Mr. Lella informed the Board that the pressure leak on the sprinkler system that had caused the fire alarm to go off had been fixed. HAIG reconnected the sprinkler system to the fire alarm. Adi has not seen the pressure drop and will continue to monitor.
- Mr. Lella noted to the Board the resolution to the DOE for the submission of documents for the summer Buildings & Grounds projects. Asbestos testing was also done last week.
- Mrs. Gadaleta updated the Board as to the Use of Facility request by the EFFEE for enrichment during Tiny Treasures reserved time.
- The Board reviewed the WEFC use of facilities request and a possible fee. The recreation program is also going to look into quotes for new baseball field dirt mix and re-edging of the fields.

VI. Curriculum & Instruction

- Mrs. Gadaleta informed the Board that the district would be celebrating Character Education Week with activities for the children. The Student Council came up with some nice ideas and Mrs. Gadaleta was looking forward to a positive week.
- Mrs. Gadaleta updated the Board as to the very good turnout last week for the Pre-School/Kindergarten registration. For the 28 Pre-School slots there were 37 children registered which included 13 new families to EFS. Mrs. Gadaleta anticipates 9 families being placed on the waitlist. The Board discussed the idea of growing the program.
- Mrs. Gadaleta informed the Board that the Instrumental Music Program will expand from 3-6 grades with assistance from the Foundation. Everyone is very excited.
- Mrs. Gadaleta updated the Board that the new lunch/recess program began this week and has been pretty successful thus far among the children and staff.

VII. Finance

- Mr. Mr. Lella provided the Board with an update to the 2018-19 Budget. The Governor's Budget Address has been moved back to March 13th, which might change the budget submission due date.
- Mr. Lella informed the Board that the Cadillac Tax, which is part of the Affordable Care Act, will be delayed from 2020 to 2022.
- Mrs. Gadaleta and Mr. Lella provided the Board with information regarding 2016 Census Data which is being used for the 2018-19 Title I Allocation, which the district has been refusing. Census data from 2016 shows 19 children in Essex Fells living under the poverty level. The district does not agree we should be accepting funds.

VIII. Policy

- Mrs. Gadaleta discussed and explained policy to the Board. The Board decided to table the policy discussion until the next meeting as to provide the Board Members further time to review. In regards to the Residency Policy (P5111) the Board agrees on the 61st day tuition will be charged.

IX. Personnel

- Mrs. Gadaleta discussed personnel as it related to the building of the 2018-19 Budget. Additional paraprofessionals will be included while staffing is anticipated to remain the same.

X. Superintendent's Resolutions

RESOLVED that hat the Board of Education approves Superintendent Resolutions #01-05.

1. **RESOLVED** that the Board of Education accepts and approves, as recommended by the Superintendent, the payment of the following travel related expenses in accordance with the travel policy 6471 for Professional Development:

Staff Member(s): Steven J. Lella
 Event: NJASBO Workshops
 Location: Rockaway, NJ
 Date: 1/17/18, 2/13/18, 3/20/18, 4/12/18, 5/10/18,
 Cost: \$100 per workshop; \$500 total
 Mileage: \$11.48 each; \$57.40

Staff Member(s): Steven J. Lella
 Event: NJSIG – ERIC North Subfund Meeting
 Location: Bridgewater, NJ
 Date: 2/8/18
 Cost: \$0
 Mileage: \$19.75 + tolls

Staff Member(s): Steven J. Lella
 Event: Essex County Association of School Business Officials
 Location: Belleville, NJ
 Date: 9/27/17, 10/18/17, 11/8/17, 12/15/17, 1/17/18, 2/14/18, 3/21/18, 4/18/18, 5/23/18
 Cost: \$200

Staff Member(s): Susan FitzGibbon
 Event: Reed Academy
 Location: 25 Potash Road, Oakland, NJ
 Date: 1/16-1/30/2018 – 11 days
 Cost: \$0
 Mileage: \$170.50

Staff Member(s): Jeanine Whitman
Event: PMT Training
Location: Reed Academy
Date: 1/16/18
Cost: \$0
Mileage: \$10.04

Staff Member(s): Sara Christopher, Noell Gomez
Event: Developing Engineering Design Challenges Training
Location: West Essex Middle School
Date: 1/26/18
Cost: \$0

Staff Member(s): Laura Quinn, Jeanine Whitman
Event: Play & Language: The Roots of Literacy Workshop
Location: Crowne Plaza Englewood
Date: 2/9/18
Cost: \$214.13 total per person (\$199.99 fee + \$14.14 mileage)

Staff Member(s): Jeanine Whitman
Event: Reducing Anxiety & Disruptive Behavior in the Classroom Workshop
Location: Honor Ridge Academy, Clark, NJ
Date: 2/23/18
Cost: \$0
Mileage: \$14.01

Staff Member(s): Lauren Geleailen, Kristen Kowalski
Event: Success for All NJEC 2018 Workshop
Location: Ramapo College of New Jersey
Date: 3/12/18
Cost: \$125.00

Staff Member(s): Judi Reynolds
Event: Executive Function, ADHD and Stress in the Classroom Workshop
Location: Sheraton Parsippany Hotel
Date: 3/22/18
Cost: \$205.51 total (\$199.99 fee + \$5.52 mileage)

Staff Member(s): Michelle Barshay, Lauren Geleailen (wait listed)
Event: Annual Conference, Bergen County Special Services
Location: Educational Enterprises, Paramus
Date: 3/23/18
Cost: \$0

Staff Member(s): Dorotea Banek, Jaclyn Franzi, Susan Hacker
Event: Google Classroom to Enhance Student Learning Workshop
Location: Wilshire Grand Hotel, West Orange
Date: 4/11/18
Cost: \$249.00 per person

Moved by: Dr. LoCascio Seconded by: Mrs. Huegel

Ayes: 4 Nays: 0

2. **RESOLVED** that the Board of Education accepts and approves, as recommended by the Superintendent, the revised 2018-2019 school calendar.

Moved by: Dr. LoCascio Seconded by: Mrs. Huegel
 Ayes: 4 Nays: 0

3. **RESOLVED** that the Board of Education accepts and approves, as recommended by the Superintendent, the following observation for a student from County College of Morris:

Michelle Sperrazza – Preschool Observation
 Cooperating Teachers – Laura Quinn, Marisa Burger
 2/9/18 – One Hour Observation

Moved by: Dr. LoCascio Seconded by: Mrs. Huegel
 Ayes: 4 Nays: 0

4. **RESOLVED** that the Board of Education accepts and approves, as recommended by the Superintendent, the following addition to the list of field trips for the 2017-2018 school year:

High Point, NJ State Park

Moved by: Dr. LoCascio Seconded by: Mrs. Huegel
 Ayes: 4 Nays: 0

5. **RESOLVED** that the Board of Education accepts and approves, as recommended by the Superintendent, the contract for nursing services with Bayada Home Health Care, Inc. from February 1, 2018 to June 30, 2018.

Moved by: Dr. LoCascio Seconded by: Mrs. Huegel
 Ayes: 4 Nays: 0

XI. Business Resolutions

RESOLVED that the Board of Education approves Business Resolutions #01-03.

1. **RESOLVED** that the Board of Education accepts the minutes of the following meetings:

Workshop Meeting Minutes 12/6/17

Moved by: Dr. LoCascio Seconded by: Mrs. Huegel
 Ayes: 4 Nays: 0

2. **RESOLVED** that the Board of Education approves the submission of the following Special Education Medicaid Initiative (SEMI) Program Waiver to the Essex County Office of Education:

WHEREAS, NJAC 6A:23A-5.3 provides that a school district may request a waiver of compliance with respect to the district’s participation in the Special Education Medicaid Initiative (SEMI) program for the 2018-2019 school year, and

WHEREAS, the Essex Fells Board of Education desires to apply for this waiver due to the fact that it projects having fewer than 40 Medicaid eligible classified students,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Essex Fells Board of Education hereby authorizes the Chief School Administrator to submit to the Executive County Superintendent of Schools in the County of Essex an appropriate waiver of the requirements of NJAC 6A23A-5.3 for the 2018-2019 school year.

Moved by: Dr. LoCascio Seconded by: Mrs. Huegel
 Ayes: 4 Nays: 0

- 3. **BE IT RESOLVED** that the Essex Fells Board of Education approve the submission of all applicable documents to the Department of Education Facilities for project #1400-050-18-1000, Toilet Room, Classroom & Misc. Renovations.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this Board in accordance with N.J.S.A.18A:18A-9 authorize the School Business Administrator/Board Secretary to advertise and receive competitive bids for the following purchase of goods and/or services:

Essex Fells School – Toilet Room, Classroom & Misc. Renovations

Moved by: Dr. LoCascio Seconded by: Mrs. Huegel
 Ayes: 4 Nays: 0

XII. Public Comment

- Mrs. Marsh stated that the WEFC will coordinate with the recreation department to refurbish the fields in the place of a fee payment to the BOE for the use of fields. The Board was appreciative.
- Mr. Todd Norton made a request for pre-school placement in the 2018-19 school year. Mrs. Gadaleta explained the procedures regarding returning families, the lottery and the wait list.

XIII. Resolution to Enter Executive Session

The Board convened in Executive Session at 8:15 P.M. to discuss personnel, negotiations and legal matters. The items discussed in executive session will be disclosed to the public when the need to maintain their confidentiality no longer exists.

Moved by: Dr. LoCascio Seconded by: Mrs. Huegel
 Ayes: 4 Nays: 0

XIV. Adjournment

BE IT RESOLVED that this public meeting of the Board of Education be adjourned at 10:27 pm. The next **Workshop Meeting** will be held on **Wednesday, March 7, 2018**, at 7:30 P.M. in the Media Center. The next **Regular Meeting** will be on **March 21, 2018**.

Moved by: Dr. LoCascio Seconded by: Mrs. Huegel
 Ayes: 4 Nays: 0

Respectfully submitted,

Mr. Steven J. Lella
Business Administrator/
Board Secretary