

The Board of Education of the Borough of Essex Fells, in the County of Essex, New Jersey, convened in a Regular Public Meeting held in the Media Center on September 21, 2022. The meeting was called to order by the Board President, Mrs. Amanda Haber, at 7:31 P.M. Mrs. Haber 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 as of January 5, 2022. Agendas were mailed to the Clerk of the Borough of Essex Fells, the Progress, and the Star Ledger.

**I. Call to Order – 7:31 P.M.**

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

**II. Roll Call**

Mrs. Amanda Haber, President-Present  
Mr. John Toth, Vice-President-Present  
Mrs. Kris Huegel-Absent  
Mr. Raj Mehta-Present  
Mr. Theodore Skopak-Present

Also present: Dr. Michelle V. Gadaleta, Superintendent/Principal; Mr. Steven J. Lella, Business Administrator/Board Secretary; 2 Staff Members and 1 Member of the Public.

**III. Flag Salute**

- The Board President led the salute to the flag.

**IV. President's Report**

Good evening!

Thank you for joining us. I want to congratulate the whole team at EFS for a successful school opening. The parents were invited to get an idea of the year that's been planned at the open house evening. It was a great time to meet the staff and learn about the expectations and curriculum. The teachers put together thoughtful and creative presentations to make the evening educational and enjoyable.

The school looked wonderful and the facilities improvements were evident.

The students are prepared for a successful year ahead.

**V. Public Comment on Agenda Items Only**

- None

**VI. Superintendent's Report**

- Dr. Gadaleta reported that school had re-opened smoothly and thanked the staff.
- Dr. Gadaleta noted that the Back to School Night was very well attended.
- Dr. Gadaleta shared that we had just completed school picture day this week.
- Dr. Gadaleta informed the Board that NJ Start Strong Testing would begin this week. Make ups will be next week.
- Dr. Gadaleta explained the SEL program.
- The Board reviewed the Superintendent's resolutions.

**VII. Superintendents Resolutions**

**RESOLVED** that the Board of Education approves Superintendent Resolutions #01 –09.

- 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): Laura Quinn  
 Event: 3 Stages of Learning Numbers & Operations in Base Ten  
 Location: Conquer Math  
 Date: 10/14/22  
 Cost: \$170.00

Staff Member(s): Laura Quinn  
 Event: Operations and Algebraic Training  
 Location: Conquer Math  
 Date: 1/31/23  
 Cost: \$170.00

Staff Member(s): Rory Duarte  
 Event: 3 Stages of Learning Numbers & Operations in Base Ten  
 Location: Conquer Math  
 Date: 10/14/22  
 Cost: \$170.00

Staff Member(s): Rory Duarte  
 Event: Operations and Algebraic Training  
 Location: Conquer Math  
 Date: 1/31/23  
 Cost: \$170.00

Staff Member(s): Rosalie Takkell  
 Event: 3 Stages of Learning Numbers & Operations in Base Ten  
 Location: Conquer Math  
 Date: 10/14/22  
 Cost: \$170.00

Staff Member(s): Rosalie Takkell  
 Event: Operations and Algebraic Training  
 Location: Conquer Math  
 Date: 1/31/23  
 Cost: \$170.00

Staff Member(s): Steven Lella  
 Event: Monthly Association of School Business Officials  
 Location: Nanina's In the Park, Belleville, NJ  
 Date: 9/28/22, 10/19/22, 11/16/22, 12/9/22, 1/18/23, 2/15/22, 3/29/22,  
 4/26/22, 5/24/22  
 Cost: \$300.00

Staff Member(s): Steven Lella  
 Event: Lockdown Active Shooter Training  
 Location: Maggiano's Hackensack NJ

Date: 10/6/22  
Cost: \$0.00

Staff Member(s): Rebecca Santin  
Event: Harassment, Intimidation, and Bullying (HIB) Training Program  
Fall 2022

Location: American Legion, Toms River, NJ

Date: 9/27/22

Cost: \$221.02

Staff Member(s): LeeAnn Smith

Event: Special Education Roundtable

Location: West Orange, NJ

Date: 9/27/22, 10/18/22, 11/15/22, 12/19/22, 1/17/23, 2/14/22, 3/14/22,  
4/18/22, 5/16/22, 6/13/22

Cost: \$41.36

Staff Member(s): LeeAnn Smith

Event: LDA Learning Disabilities Summit

Location: Virtual

Date: 10/11/22 & 11/04/22

Cost: \$29.00

Staff Member(s): Michelle Barshay

Event: Dyslexia Early Intervention: Practical Strategies for Intercepting  
and Correcting Reading Difficulties Grades K-6

Location: Virtual

Date: 12/2/22

Cost: \$279.00

Staff Member(s): Lisa Massaro

Event: Dyslexia Early Intervention: Practical Strategies for Intercepting  
and Correcting Reading Difficulties Grades K-6

Location: Virtual

Date: 11/29/22

Cost: \$279.00

Staff Member(s): Katie McNish

Event: NJECC

Location: Virtual/ Montclair State University

Date: 9/16/22, 10/21/22, 11/18/22, 12/9/22, 1/20/23, 2/10/22, 3/7/22,  
4/21/22, 5/19/22, 6/8/22

Cost: \$0.00

Staff Member(s): Marco Pannullo

Event: NJECC

Location: Virtual/ Montclair State University

Date: 9/16/22, 10/21/22, 11/18/22, 12/9/22, 1/20/23, 2/10/22, 3/7/22,  
4/21/22, 5/19/22, 6/8/22

Cost: \$0.00

Staff Member(s): Enrique Manlapid

Event: NJSLs Mathematics Implementation Supports Committee  
Workshop

Location: Virtual

Date: 9/22/22

Cost: \$0.00

Staff Member(s): Laurie Fischer  
 Event: Building Language Comprehension Prek-2  
 Location: Morris-Union Junction Commission  
 Date: 11/29/22  
 Cost: \$156.28

Moved by: Mr. Toth                      Seconded by: Mr. Skopak

Ayes: 4                                      Nays: 0

2. **RESOLVED** that the Board of Education accepts and approves, as recommended by the Superintendent, the Use of Facilities Request extension for the following:

PTA Meetings - Media Center 8:45-9:45am  
 Dates: 9/22/22, 10/13/22, 11/3/22, 12/1/22, 1/5/23, 2/2/22, 3/2/22, 4/6/22, 5/4/22, 6/1/22

Moved by: Mr. Toth                      Seconded by: Mr. Skopak

Ayes: 4                                      Nays: 0

3. **RESOLVED** that the Board of Education accepts and approves, as recommended by the Superintendent, the Use of Facilities Request extension for the following:

6<sup>th</sup> Grade Carwash - Blacktop  
 10/1/22 – 8:30am – 12:30pm

Moved by: Mr. Toth                      Seconded by: Mr. Skopak

Ayes: 4                                      Nays: 0

4. **RESOLVED** that the Board of Education accepts and approves, as recommended by the Superintendent, the Use of Facilities Request extension for the following:

Daisy Girl Scout Troop (1<sup>st</sup> grade) – Gymnasium  
 10/7/22, 11/4/22, 12/2/22, 1/6/23, 2/3/23, 3/3/23, 4/21/23, 5/12/23  
 6/2/23  
 3:05pm – 4:15pm

Moved by: Mr. Toth                      Seconded by: Mr. Skopak

Ayes: 4                                      Nays: 0

5. **RESOLVED** that the Board of Education accepts and approves, as recommended by the Superintendent, the Use of Facilities Request for the following:

EFFEE - Fall 2022 Enrichment Programs  
 10/18/22 – 12/22/22  
 Gymnasium & Classrooms

Moved by: Mr. Toth                      Seconded by: Mr. Skopak

Ayes: 4                                      Nays: 0



**IX. Business Resolutions**

**RESOLVED** that the Board of Education approves Business Resolutions #01-05.

1. **RESOLVED** that the Board of Education accepts the minutes of the following meeting(s):

Regular Meeting Minutes	8/17/22
Executive Session Minutes	8/17/22
Special Meeting Regular Meeting Minutes	8/24/22

Moved by: Mr. Toth                      Seconded by: Mr. Skopak

Ayes: 4                                      Nays: 0

2. **RESOLVED** that the Board of Education approves bills and claims for September in the amounts of \$40,306.61 and \$283,768.10 as certified by the Business Administrator/Board Secretary; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Board of Education approves the payroll for August as certified by the Business Administrator and approved by the Superintendent and Board President in the total amount of \$80,752.90 including \$75,148.05 for the gross payroll, \$3,566.99 for the Board’s share of FICA/Medicare and \$2,037.86 for the State’s share of FICA/Medicare.

Moved by: Mr. Toth                      Seconded by: Mr. Skopak

Ayes: 4                                      Nays: 0

3. **RESOLVED** that the Board of Education approves the transfer of funds for the month of July as certified by the Business Administrator and authorized by the Superintendent of Schools.

Moved by: Mr. Toth                      Seconded by: Mr. Skopak

Ayes: 4                                      Nays: 0

4. **RESOLVED** that the Board of Education approve appropriating additional fiscal year 2022 Extraordinary Aid funding to the 2022-23 school budget in the amount of \$70,523 to line account 11-120-100-101-01; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Essex Fells Board of Education acknowledges that it did not include an estimated Extraordinary Aid payment in the 2021-22 school budget and received an award of Extraordinary Aid in the amount of \$70,523; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that NJAC 6A:23A2.13(d)6 provides that a district Board of Education may, at any time without commissioner approval, appropriate surplus generated from state revenue such as Extraordinary Aid, that has been excluded from the excess surplus calculation in the prior year.

Moved by: Mr. Toth                      Seconded by: Mr. Skopak

Ayes: 4                                      Nays: 0

