

**THE PUBLIC SCHOOLS OF ESSEX FELLS, NJ
BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING**

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 18, 2023

REGULAR MEETING – 7:30 P.M. – MEDIA CENTER

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 4th, 2023. Agendas were mailed to the Clerk of the Borough of Essex Fells, the Progress, and the Star Ledger.

I. Call to Order – 7:30 P.M.

II. Roll Call

Mrs. Amanda Haber, President
Mr. John Toth, Vice-President
Mr. Raj Mehta
Mrs. Caragh Lavoie
Mrs. Jacquelyn Burke

III. Flag Salute

IV. President’s Report

V. Public Comment on Agenda Items Only

VI. Superintendent’s Report

- Letter of Gratitude from Mr. Jason DaCosta
- Counseling Needs
- HIB/Code of Conduct Report
- Curriculum Update

VII. Superintendents Resolutions

RESOLVED that the Board of Education approves Superintendent Resolutions #01 –08.

- 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): Michelle Truchel
Event: Catching Up Students Who’ve Fallen Behind in Reaching and Writing
Location: Virtual

AGENDA

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Date: 2/10/23
Cost: \$279.00

Staff Member(s): Michelle Truchel
Event: Practical Trauma Informed Teaching Strategies to Increase Student
Success

Location: Virtual
Date: 3/20/23
Cost: \$279.00

Staff Member(s): Kristin Gann
Event: Helping Your Struggling Readers Become More Successful
Readers

Location: Virtual
Date: 1/26/23
Cost: \$279.00

Staff Member(s): Laurie Fischer
Event: School Based SLP: Long Disorders vs. Long Differences for
English Language Learners

Location: Virtual
Date: 1/26/23
Cost: \$279.00

Staff Member(s): Enrique Manlapid
Event: NJDOE State Program Approval Council (SPAC) Meeting

Location: Virtual
Date: 2/15/23
Cost: \$0.00

Staff Member(s): Steven Lella
Event: NJASBO Employment & Benefits Issues
Location: Birchwood Manor, Whippany

Date: 1/19/23
Cost: \$135.81

Moved by: Seconded by:

Ayes: Nays:

- 2. **RESOLVED** that the Board of Education accepts and approves, as recommended by the Superintendent, the revised 2023-2024 School Calendar.

Moved by: Seconded by:

Ayes: Nays:

- 3. **RESOLVED** that the Board of Education accepts and approves, as recommended by the Superintendent, the 2023 STEAM Curriculum:

Moved by: Seconded by:
 Ayes: Nays:

- 4. RESOLVED** that the Board of Education accepts and approves, as recommended by the Superintendent, the 2023 Spanish Curriculum:

Moved by: Seconded by:
 Ayes: Nays:

- 5. RESOLVED** that the Board of Education accepts and approves, as recommended by the Superintendent, the 2023 Visual and Performing Arts Curriculum:

Moved by: Seconded by:
 Ayes: Nays:

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

EFRD- Recreation/Travel Baseball
 3/1/23 – 8/1/23
 Monday – Friday (3:15pm – dusk)
 Saturday (8am – dusk)
 Fields

Moved by: Seconded by:
 Ayes: Nays:

- 7. RESOLVED** that the Board of Education accepts and approves, as recommended by the Superintendent, the second reading and adoption of Policy 9205 Communication Between Parents and Staff Members:

Moved by: Seconded by:
 Ayes: Nays:

- 8. RESOLVED** that the Board of Education accepts and approves, as recommended by the Superintendent, the second reading and adoption of Policy 7446 School Security Program:

Moved by: Seconded by:
 Ayes: Nays:

VIII. Business Administrator's Report

- 2023-24 Budget Update

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the financial reports for the months be accepted and shall become a part of the official minutes of this meeting.

Moved by:

Seconded by:

Ayes:

Nays:

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

Moved by:

Seconded by:

Ayes:

Nays:

- 5. **RESOLVED** that the Essex Fells 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 2023-2024 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 2023-2024 school year.

Moved by:

Seconded by:

Ayes:

Nays:

- 6. **WHEREAS**, the Essex Fells BOE is the owner of 8 Media Center Tables and 28 Media Center Chairs; and

WHEREAS, the Essex Fells BOE has determined that there is no educational need for these Media Center Tables and Media Center Chairs; and

WHEREAS, the Essex Fells BOE is desirous to donate these Media Center Tables and Media Center Chairs; and

WHEREAS, the Essex Fells BOE has determined that the HOPE BOE is in need of Media Center Tables and Media Center Chairs;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Essex Fells BOE approves the donation of the Media Center Tables and Media Center Chairs to school districts in need with no compensation to the Essex Fells BOE.

Moved by:

Seconded by:

Ayes:

Nays:

- 7. **RESOLVED** that the Board of Education per the 2021-22 FY Audit approves the following account transfers for June 30th, 2022, as certified by the Business Administrator and authorized by the Superintendent of Schools:

- o \$1,881.11 from account 11-000-291-270 to 12-000-261-730

Moved by:

Seconded by:

Ayes:

Nays:

- 8. **BE IT RESOLVED** that the Essex Fells Board of Education accepts from the Essex Fells PTA a donation of a new Playground at Essex Fells School in the amount of \$76,145.00.

Moved by:

Seconded by:

Ayes:

Nays:

X. Old Business / Board Discussion

- 1st Draft Math Curriculum
- 1st Draft Language Arts Curriculum
- 1st Draft Social Studies Curriculum
- 1st Draft Science Curriculum
- Policy 8601 Pupil Supervision After School Dismissal
- BOE Ethics Training

XI. New Business / Board Discussion

- Policy Discussion:
 - P 1648.11 The Road Forward COVID-19 – Health and Safety (M) (Abolished)
 - P 1648.13 School Employee Vaccination Requirements (M) (Abolished)
 - P 0152 Board Officers (Revised)
 - P 0161 Call, Adjournment, and Cancellation (Revised)
 - P 0162 Notice of Board Meetings (Revised)
 - P & R 2423 Bilingual and ESL Education (M) (Revised)
 - P 2425 Emergency Virtual or Remote Instruction Program (M) (Revised)
 - R 2425 Emergency Virtual or Remote Instruction Program (M) (New)
 - P & R 5200 Attendance (M) (Revised)
 - P 5512 Harassment, Intimidation, or Bullying (M) (Revised)
 - P 8140 Student Enrollments (M) (Revised)
 - R 8140 Enrollment Accounting (M) (Revised)
 - P & R 8330 Student Records (M) (Revised)
 - R 8420.2 Bomb Threats (M) (Revised)
 - R 8420.7 Lockdown Procedures (M) (Revised)
 - R 8420.10 Active Shooter (M) (Revised)
- LinkIt! Data Warehousing Pilot

XII. Public Comment

XIII. Resolution to Enter Executive Session

BE IT RESOLVED that the Board shall enter into executive session immediately following this meeting to discuss personnel 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:

Seconded by:

Ayes:

Nays:

XIV. Adjournment

RESOLVED that this public meeting of the Board of Education be adjourned at ____ P.M. The next workshop meeting of the Board of Education will be held on **Wednesday, February 1st, 2023 at 7:30 P.M.** in the Media Center.

Moved by:

Seconded by:

Ayes:

Nays:

AGENDA

January 18, 2023

2022-2023

Teacher	Section	Total	M	F
Mrs. Burger/Ms. Wiezcorek	PS/AM	14	11	3
Mrs. Burger/Ms. Wiezcorek	PS/PM	14	6	8
Mrs. Focarino/Scoras	KFS	12	7	5
Mrs. Fornini	KF	12	6	6
Mrs. Brutman	1B	15	8	7
Mrs. Gann/Mrs. Hromoko	1GH	15	6	9
Ms. Duarte/Mrs. Takkel	2DT	20	9	11
Mrs. Quinn	2Q	19	7	12
Mrs. Fitzgerald/Mrs. MacKenzie	3FM	14	10	4
Ms. Kowalski	3K	15	11	4
Mrs. Banek	4B	15	6	9
Mrs. Hacker/Mrs. Lodato	4HL	15	6	9
Ms. Butler/Mrs. Brzostowski	5BB	16	9	7
Mrs. Truchel	5T	15	7	8
Mrs. Criscione	6C	16	9	7
Mr. Manlapid/Mrs. Carroll	6MC	15	7	8
TOTAL		242	125	117
Out-of-District	*	4		
FINAL TOTALS		246		

*Total includes 3 out-of-district students and 1 unilateral placement.

1/4/2023

Fire Drills: 2022-2023

Month	Fire Drill	Emergency Drill
August	Fire Alarm System Test 8/1/22 12:25pm with Haig	Silent Alarm & 911 Button Test 8/1/22, 9:35am with Entel/EFPD
September	9/20/22	Shelter In Place 9/22/22, 2:40pm
October	Real Fire Alarm 10/12/22	Shelter In Place 10/24/22, 1:05pm (Share 911 Test)
November	Fire Drill 11/23/22	Shelter In Place 11/28/22, 1:08pm (Share 911 Test)
December	Fire Drill 12/22/22	Bus Evacuation Drill 12/5/22 / Shelter in Place 12/7/22m 9:31am (Share 911)
January	Fire Drill 1/4/23	
February		
March		
April		
May		
June		
July	7/26/22	Silent Alarm – 7/29/22

HIB / V&V Report

As of Date of BOE Meeting	9/7	9/21	10/6	10/19	11/2	11/16	11/30	12/14	1/4	1/18						
TOTAL # of Reported Incidents	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0						
Number of Unfounded Incidents	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0						
Number of Founded Incidents	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0						
Violence & Vandalism Incidents	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0						

ESSEX FELLS SCHOOL
DISTRICT MISSION STATEMENT

The Essex Fells School is a very special public elementary school enrolling boys and girls in preschool through the sixth grades. Pupils enjoy small classes and a total school population of approximately two hundred and fifty.

The size of the school is a wonderful asset as it allows a strong sense of community and offers teachers and pupils many opportunities to form bonds of collegiality, identification and support. It also supports the concept that every adult in the school is responsible for every child.

The comparatively small faculty is also a benefit. The faculty as a whole are the decision-making body on all questions of teaching and learning. Teachers find it easy to share experiences and act consistently across pupils' entire academic program. The combined efforts of the staff work to support a pupil centered approach to education.

Essex Fells teachers are encouraged to try new ideas, to work collaboratively with colleagues, and to participate fully in all aspects of schooling.

The mission of the school is etched in the mortar of the original schoolhouse with the words Studies Pass Into Character.

The primary goals of an Essex Fells education include:

1. Developing in all pupils the capacity to think critically and communicate effectively through a mastery of written and spoken English.
2. Motivating all pupils to recognize and develop their academic abilities in order to build character and to achieve their full potential.
3. Teaching children to value themselves, their peers and their teachers.
4. Establishing a respect for and a strong sense of responsibility to the physical, social, and aesthetic world around them.
5. Nurturing a love of country and a pride in our American heritage and citizenship.
6. Communicating a love of scholarship and continued interest in life-long learning.
7. Ensuring all pupils will achieve the New Jersey Student Learning Standards at all levels.

To secure these common goals, the Essex Fells staff of professional educators recognizes that the collaborative engagement of the children in the learning process is the key to intellectual development. Dedicated teachers create classrooms that are alive with cooperative learning activities and child-centered problem-solving routines. Children are encouraged to explore, to question, to make decisions, and to express opinions in a supportive learning environment. Teachers also model their own commitment to learning by continuing to earn advanced degrees. On-going professional development is acknowledged as the foundation for promoting outstanding pupil achievement.