

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

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 16, 2022

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 5th, 2022. 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
Mrs. Kris Huegel
Mr. Raj Mehta
Mr. Theodore Skopak

III. Flag Salute

IV. President’s Report

V. Public Comment on Agenda Items Only

VI. Superintendent’s Report

- American Education Week
- Staff Years of Service Recognition
- District Grading Expectations
- 6th Grade vs. Faculty Volleyball Game
- Happy Thanksgiving

VII. Superintendents Resolutions

RESOLVED that the Board of Education approves Superintendent Resolutions #01 –03.

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 Lella
Event: NJASBO
Location: Whippany, NJ

Date: 11/17/22
Cost: \$135.81

Staff Member(s): Jessica Lodato
Event: Strengthening Your Special Needs Student's Executive
Functioning Skills
Location: Virtual
Date: 11/28/22
Cost: \$279.00

Staff Member(s): Danielle Butler
Event: NJSLs Grade 5 Numbers & Fractions Part 1
Location: Conquer Math
Date: 12/1/22
Cost: \$170.00

Staff Member(s): Danielle Butler
Event: NJSLs Grade 5 Numbers & Fractions Part 2
Location: Conquer Math
Date: 1/5/23
Cost: \$170.00

Staff Member(s): Danielle Butler
Event: NJSLs Grade 5 Numbers & Fractions Part 3
Location: Conquer Math
Date: 2/1/23
Cost: \$170.00

Staff Member(s): Danielle Butler
Event: NJSLs Grade 5 Measurement & Data
Location: Conquer Math
Date: 3/6/23
Cost: \$170.00

Staff Member(s): Danielle Butler
Event: NJSLs Grade 5 Geometry
Location: Conquer Math
Date: 3/30/23
Cost: \$170.00

Staff Member(s): Rosalie Takkel
Event: Special Education: Accelerate Progress for Students with IEP's by
Making the Best Use of Differentiation, Accommodations
Location: Virtual
Date: 12/2/22
Cost: \$179.00

Staff Member(s): Jaclyn Carroll
Event: Help Your Students Who Struggle with Mathematics

Location: Virtual
 Date: 12/7/22
 Cost: \$279.00

Staff Member(s): Katie MacKenzie
 Event: Motivation, Mindset and Grit: Practical, Proven Strategies to Increase Learning

Location: Virtual
 Date: 12/8/22
 Cost: \$159.00

Staff Member(s): Jessica Lodato
 Event: Cutting Edge Strategies for Fourth Grade Students

Location: Virtual
 Date: 12/16/22
 Cost: \$279.00

Staff Member(s): Candice Fitzgerald
 Event: Practical Strategies for Differentiating Instruction: Making the Most of Student Choice and Small Instructional Groups, Grades 3-6

Location: Virtual
 Date: 1/5/23
 Cost: \$159.00

Staff Member(s): Marco Pannullo

Event: TECHSPO 23
 Location: Atlantic City, NJ
 Date: 1/25/23 – 1/27/23
 Cost: \$829.20.00

Moved by: _____ Seconded by: _____

Ayes: _____ Nays: _____

2. **RESOLVED** that the Board of Education accepts and approves, as recommended by the Superintendent, the appointment of Padraic Finnegan, Health/Physical Education teacher, BA, Step 1, at the salary of \$57,235 which will be prorated, for the 2022-23 school year beginning on or about December 23, 2022, pending the usual criminal history and background check for new hires.

Moved by: _____ Seconded by: _____

Ayes: _____ Nays: _____

3. **RESOLVED** that the Board of Education accepts and approves, as recommended by the Superintendent the appointment of, Padriac Finnegan, Substitute Teacher for the school year 2022-2023, pending the usual criminal history, background check and county approval.

Moved by:

Seconded by:

Ayes:

Nays:

VIII. Business Administrator’s Report

- November 8th Board of Education Election Results
- January 2023 – BOE President and Vice President Appointment
- 2021-2022 Audit Update
- 2023-2024 Budget

IX. Business Resolutions

RESOLVED that the Board of Education approves Business Resolutions #01-04.

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

Regular Meeting Minutes	October 19, 2022
Executive Session Minutes	October 19, 2022

Moved by: Seconded by:

Ayes: Nays:

- 2. RESOLVED** that the Board of Education approves bills and claims for November in the amount of \$217,020.64 as certified by the Business Administrator/Board Secretary; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board of Education approves the payroll for October as certified by the Business Administrator and approved by the Superintendent and Board President in the total amount of \$348,837.37 including \$325,997.52 for the gross payroll, \$5,871.13 for the Board’s share of FICA/Medicare and \$16,968.72 for the State’s share of FICA/Medicare.

Moved by: Seconded by:

Ayes: Nays:

- 3. WHEREAS**, the Board of Education has received the Reports of the Board Secretary (Secretary) and the Custodian of School Monies (Treasurer) for the Month of August, September & October;

WHEREAS, in compliance with N.J.A.C.6A:23-2.11(c)3, the Secretary has certified that as of the date of the reports, no budgetary line-item account, in accordance with the minimum chart of accounts as established by the New Jersey Department of Education, has obligations and payments which in total exceed the amount appropriated by the Board of Education;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that in compliance with N.J.A.C.6A:23-2.11(c)4, the Board of Education certifies that, after review of the Secretary’s monthly financial report, and upon consultation with the appropriate district officials, to the

best of its N.J.A.C.6A:23-2.11(c)4, and that sufficient funds are available to meet the district’s financial obligations for the remainder of the year; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that pursuant to P.L. 2004 C73, the Board certifies that after review of the Secretary’s monthly financial report and certification, that there are no budgetary transfers that cumulatively exceed 10% that would require the approval of the Commissioner of Education; and

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 October as certified by the Business Administrator and authorized by the Superintendent of Schools.

Moved by:

Seconded by:

Ayes:

Nays:

X. Old Business / Board Discussion

- Graduation Date 2024
- Roof Update
- Class III Officer
- Policy 9205 Communication Between Parents and Staff Members
- Handle with Care Contract

XI. New Business / Board Discussion

- 1st Draft Health/Physical Education Curriculum
- 1st Draft Social Studies Curriculum

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, November 30, 2022 at 7:30 P.M.** in the Media Center.

Moved by:

Seconded by:

Ayes:

Nays:

AGENDA

November 16, 2022

2022-2023

Teacher	Section	Total	M	F
Mrs. Burger/Ms. Wiezcorek	PS/AM	15	12	3
Mrs. Burger/Ms. Wiezcorek	PS/PM	14	6	8
Mrs. Focarino	KF1	12	7	5
Mrs. Fornini	KF2	13	7	6
Mrs. Brutman	1B	15	8	7
Mrs. Gann/Mrs. Hromoko	1GH	15	6	9
Ms. Duarte/Mrs. Takkell	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		244	127	117
Out-of-District		3		
FINAL TOTALS		247		

*Total includes 3 out-of-district students.

8/29/2022

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		
December		
January		
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										
TOTAL # of Reported Incidents	0	0	0	0	0	0										
Number of Unfounded Incidents	0	0	0	0	0	0										
Number of Founded Incidents	0	0	0	0	0	0										
Violence & Vandalism Incidents	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.