

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

**WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 16, 2020
PUBLIC MEETING
7:30 P.M. – Remote Meeting**

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 7, 2020. Agendas were mailed to the Clerk of the Borough of Essex Fells, the Progress and the Star Ledger, and posted on the district’s web-site.

I. Call to Order

II. Roll Call

- Mrs. Kris Huegel, President
- Mrs. Bethany Buccino, Vice-President
- Dr. Steven LoCascio
- Mr. Raj Mehta
- Mr. Theodore Skopak

III. Flag Salute

IV. Public Comment on Agenda Items

V. President’s Report

VI. Superintendent’s Report

- School Closing/Re-opening
- Holiday Travel

VII. Superintendent’s Resolutions

RESOLVED that the Board of Education approves Superintendent Resolutions # 01 – 3.

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): Marco Pannullo
Event: Drone Training
Location: Lincoln Park Airport
Date: 12/2/20
Cost: \$0.00

Staff Member(s): LeeAnne Smith
Event: LDA Science to Practice
Location: Virtual
Date: 1/21 & 1/22/21
Cost: \$355.00

Staff Member(s): Tracie Wieczorek
Event: Wilson Implementation Meeting 2
Location: Virtual
Date: 1/7/21
Cost: \$0.00

Staff Member(s): Lisa Massaro
Event: Dyslexia Conference
Location: Virtual
Date: 3/4/21
Cost: \$289.00

- 2. RESOLVED** that the Board of Education accepts and approves, as recommended by the Superintendent, the second reading and adoption of the following Bylaws/Policies/Regulations:

P 1648.05 Remote Learning Policy
P 9205 Communication between Parents and Staff Members

Moved by: Seconded by:

Ayes: Nays:

- 3. RESOLVED** that the Board of Education accepts and approves, as recommended by the Superintendent, the service agreement between the Board of Education and eForensix, LLC.

Moved by: Seconded by:

Ayes: Nays:

VIII. Business Administrator’s Report

- 2021-22 Budget Calendar

IX. Business Resolutions

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

AGENDA

December 16, 2020

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

Special Meeting Minutes	9/14/20
Special Executive Session Minutes	9/14/20
Regular Meeting Minutes	9/23/20

Moved by:	Seconded by:
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Ayes:	Nays:
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- 2. **RESOLVED** that the Board of Education approves an additional bills and claims for December in the amounts of \$149,220.31 as certified by the Business Administrator/ Board Secretary; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board of Education approves the payroll for November as certified by the Business Administrator and approved by the Superintendent and Board President in the total amount of \$380,063.46, including \$355,163.16 for the gross payroll, \$5,916.30 for the Board’s share of FICA/Medicare and \$18,984.00 for the State’s share of FICA/Medicare.

Moved by:	Seconded by:
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Ayes:	Nays:
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- 3. **WHEREAS**, the Board of Education has received the Reports of the Board Secretary (Secretary) and the Custodian of School Monies (Treasurer) for the months of October and November;

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 knowledge, no major account or fund has been over expended in violation of 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 and November as certified by the Business Administrator and authorized by the Superintendent of Schools.

Moved by:

Seconded by:

Ayes:

Nays:

5. RESOLVED that the Board of Education per the 2019-20 FY Audit approves the following account reclassification for June 30th, 2020, as certified by the Business Administrator and authorized by the Superintendent of Schools:

- o \$2,040.00 from account 20-005-100-420-050 to 20-005-200-500-050
- o \$4,750.00 from account 20-001-400-732-050 to 20-220-400-450-050
- o \$44,400.00 from account 20-001-400-732-050 to 20-000-400-731-050
- o \$42,297.00 from account 11-190-100-610-050-04 to 12-120-100-731
- o \$4,897.00 from account 11-000-261-420 to 12-000-400-450-050

Moved by:

Seconded by:

Ayes:

Nays:

X. Old Business / Board Discussion

- NJDOH Risk Matrix
- 2021-2022 EFS School Calendar

XI. New Business / Board Discussion

- Negotiations

XII. Meeting Open for 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 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

BE IT RESOLVED that this public meeting of the Board of Education be adjourned. The **Reorganizational Meeting** will be held remotely on **Wednesday, January 6, 2020 at 7:30 P.M.**

Moved by:

Seconded by:

Ayes:

Nays

2020-2021

Teacher	Section	Total	M	F
Mrs. Burger/Ms. Duarte	PS/AM	14	10	4
Mrs. Burger/Ms. Duarte	PS/PM	14	6	8
Mrs. Gann	KG	16	6	10
Ms. Livio/Mrs. Takkal	KL/T	16	8	8
Mrs. Brutman	1B	13	9	4
Mrs. Hromoko	1H	13	10	3
Ms. Mitchell/Mrs. MacKenzie	2M/M	13	5	8
Mrs. Quinn	2Q	15	6	9
Ms. Franzi	3F	16	8	8
Ms. Kowalski/Ms. Wiczorek	3K/W	15	8	7
Mrs. Banek/Mrs. Brzostowski	4B/B	15	7	8
Mrs. Hacker/Ms. Butler	4H/B	14	8	6
Ms. Craveiro/Mrs. Vetere	5C/V	19	8	11
Mrs. Truchel/Ms. Maloney	5T/M	20	9	11
Mrs. Buonomo/Mrs. Criscione	6B/C	19	9	10
Mrs. Christopher/Ms. Myers	6C/M	19	12	7
TOTAL		250	129	122
Out-of-District		4*		
FINAL TOTALS		255		

*Total includes 4 out-of-district students.

Fire Drills: 2020-21

Month	Fire Drill	Emergency Drill
September	9/21/20	Walkie-Talkie Check 9/18/20
October	10/9/20	Trespassing on Property 10/23/20
November	11/16/20	Emergency Call System Test 11/13/20
December*	12/10/20	Fire Drill Lesson 12/15/20
January		
February		
March		
April		
May		
June		

*Drills scheduled prior to remote environment

HIB / V & V Report

As of Date of BOE Meeting	9/23/20	10/21/20	11/18/20	12/16/20						
TOTAL # of Reported Incidents	0	0	0	0						
Number of Unfounded Incidents	0	0	0	0						
Number of Founded Incidents	0	0	0	0						
Violence & Vandalism Incidents	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. Insuring 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.