

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

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 29, 2023

WORKSHOP 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 March, 21st, 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

- Class III Officer Status – Shared Services Agreement
- Parent/Teacher Conferences
- Spring Break April 7-16
- NJSLA May 1-12
- Safety Team Meeting
- JPV One Year Memorial Celebration 3/31

VII. Buildings & Grounds

- Lift Installation
- HVAC Audit
- Tractor Door
- Playground Modifications

VIII. Curriculum & Instruction

- SEL Screener
- Start Strong Discontinuation

IX. Finance

- 2021-22 Audit Review
- 2023-24 Budget Review
- April Bills List

X. Personnel

- Kindergarten Leave Replacement

XI. Policy

- R 2330 Homework
- R 5200 Attendance

XII. Superintendent's Resolutions

RESOLVED that the Board of Education approves Superintendent Resolutions #01–02.

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): Laurie Fischer
Event: NJSHA
Location: Long Branch, NJ
Date: 4/20/23
Cost: \$309.43

Staff Member(s): Patricia Pakonis
Event: A Practical Approach to Classroom Management and Discipline
(Grades 3-6)
Location: Virtual
Date: TBD
Cost: \$145.00

Staff Member(s): Patricia Pakonis
Event: Restorative Discipline – Help Your Students Improve their Behavior
& Strengthen Their Learning (Grades K-12)
Location: Virtual
Date: TBD
Cost: \$159.00

Staff Member(s): Patricia Pakonis
Event: Decrease Attention-Getting and Tantrum Behaviors – Practical
Solutions (Grades PK-2)
Location: Virtual
Date: TBD
Cost: \$159.00

Staff Member(s): Marco Pannullo
 Event: Best Practices for Deploying Apple Products & Managing MAC Software Updates Featuring SAP
 Location: Virtual
 Date: 4/5/23 & 4/19/23
 Cost: \$0.00

Moved by: Seconded by:

Ayes: Nays:

2. RESOLVED that the Board of Education accepts and approves, as recommended by the Superintendent, the appointment of Nicole Axentiou as Kindergarten Maternity Leave Teacher, BA Step 5, for the 2022-2023 school year at a prorated salary of \$17,875.50 beginning April 3rd, 2023 through June 30th, 2023, pending the usual criminal history and background check for new hires.

Moved by: Seconded by:

Ayes: Nays:

XIII. Old Business / Board Discussion

- NJQSAC
- 2022-2023 Calendar Revisions/ Emergency Days

XIV. New Business / Board Discussion

- Blackboard K12/Finalsite
- NJDOE/Rutgers Autism Study

XV. Public Comment

XVI. 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:

XVII. Adjournment

RESOLVED that this public meeting of the Board of Education be adjourned at ____ P.M. The next meeting of the Board of Education will be held on **Wednesday, April 19, 2023 at 7:30 P.M.** in the Media Center.

Moved by: Seconded by:

Ayes: Nays:

AGENDA

March 29, 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 Alarm System Test 8/1/22 12:25pm with Haig | Silent Alarm & 911 Button Test 8/1/22, 9:35am with Entel/EFPD |
| February | Fire Drill 2/10/23 | Shelter In Place 2/24/23, 1:56pm with EFPD |
| March | Fire Drill 3/21/23 | Lockdown 1:09pm with EFPD thru Share 911 |
| 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 | 2/1 | 2/15 | 3/1 | 3/15 | 3/29 | | |
|--------------------------------|-----|------|------|-------|------|-------|-------|-------|-----|------|-----|------|-----|------|------|--|--|
| TOTAL # of Reported Incidents | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | | |
| Number of Unfounded Incidents | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | | |
| Number of Founded Incidents | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | | |
| Violence & Vandalism Incidents | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 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.