

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

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 19, 2020

**PUBLIC 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 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. Debra Tedesco, Vice-President
Mrs. Bethany Buccino
Dr. Steven LoCascio
Mr. Theodore Skopak

III. Flag Salute

IV. President's Report

V. Public Comment on Agenda Items Only

VI. Superintendent's Report

- BOE Survey Results
- Staff Professional Development – 2/18/20
- SRO Meeting with Mayor and Chief of Police
- Color A Smile Donation
- 2019-2020 Enrollment Update

VII. Superintendent's Resolutions

RESOLVED that the Board of Education approves Superintendent Resolutions #01 – 06.

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): Kristen Kowalski
Event: Conquer Mathematics
Location: Pompton Plains, NJ
Date: 2/26/20
Cost: \$210.00

Staff Member(s): Lauren Brzostowski
Event: NJ Council for Exceptional Children Conference
Location: Ramapo College
Date: 3/16/20
Cost: \$125.00

Staff Member(s): Nicole Criscione
Event: Centenary University Literary Conference
Location: Hacketstown, NJ
Date: 3/18/20
Cost: \$69.50 Total (Fee = \$45.00; Mileage = \$24.50)

Staff Member(s): Nicole Criscione, Kimberly Trafford
Event: What's New in Children's Literature Workshop
Location: West Orange, NJ
Date: 3/27/20
Cost: \$279.00 per person

Staff Member(s): Laurie Fischer
Event: Improve Social Emotional Learning & Productivity Conference
Location: Parsippany NJ
Date: 4/30/20
Cost: \$177.69 Total (Fee = \$169.99; Mileage = \$7.70)

Staff Member(s): Tracie Wiczorek
Event: Wilson Reading System Introductory Course
Location: Banyan School, Fairfield, NJ
Date: 5/5-7/20
Cost: \$600.00

Staff Member(s): Marisa Burger
Event: Restorative Practices in the Classroom Workshop
Location: Wilshire Grand Hotel, West Orange, NJ
Date: 5/14/20
Cost: \$279.00

Ayes: Nays

Moved by: Seconded by:

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

EFFEE Spring Enrichment
 Monday – Wednesday: 3/24/20-5/28/20
 3:05-4:40pm (one class on Tuesdays 7:30-8:30am)
 Various Classrooms

EFRD – Summer Camp
 Monday – Friday: 6/25/20-7/31/20
 8:30am-Noon
 Gymnasium, Fields, Classrooms

Moved by: Seconded by:

Ayes: Nays:

- 3. RESOLVED** that the Board of Education accepts and approves, as recommended by the Superintendent, the 2020-21 School Calendar.

Moved by: Seconded by:

Ayes: Nays:

- 4. RESOLVED** that the Board of Education accepts and approves, as recommended by the Superintendent, the following addition to the 2019-20 Field Trips List:

Yogi Berra Museum and Learning Center

Moved by: Seconded by:

Ayes: Nays:

- 5. RESOLVED** that the Board of Education accepts and approves, as recommended by the Superintendent, the following addition to the List of Substitutes for the 2019-2020 school year, at \$90/day, pending the usual criminal history and background check:

Marla Kearney Teacher

Moved by: Seconded by:

Ayes: Nays:

6. RESOLVED that the Board of Education accepts and approves, as recommended by the Superintendent, the generous donation of \$300.00 by Sheila Allen Styles and the Content Family to Essex Fells School.

Moved by:

Seconded by:

Ayes:

Nays:

VIII. Business Administrator’s Report

- 2020-21 Budget Development
- Special Education Medicaid-Initiative (SEMI) Acceptance Letter

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 meetings:

Reorganizational/Workshop Minutes	1/7/20
Executive Session Minutes	1/7/20
Regular Meeting Minutes	1/22/20
Executive Session Minutes	1/22/20

Moved by:

Seconded by:

Ayes:

Nays:

2. RESOLVED that the Board of Education approves bills and claims for February in the amount of \$172,204.54 as certified by the Business Administrator/ Board Secretary; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board of Education approves the payroll for January as certified by the Business Administrator and approved by the Superintendent and Board President in the total amount of \$356,236.29 including \$331,940.85 for the gross payroll, \$4,744.56 for the Board’s share of FICA/Medicare and \$19,550.88 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 December;

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

Moved by:

Seconded by:

Ayes:

Nays:

X. Old Business / Board Discussion

- Field Maintenance
- Phone Installation
- Regionalization/Consolidation

XI. New Business / Board Discussion

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 Student Privacy. 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 next **Workshop Meeting** will be held on **Wednesday, March 4, 2020 at 7:30 P.M.** in the Superintendent’s Office. The next **Regular Meeting** will be held on **Wednesday, March 18, 2020 at 7:30 P.M.** in the Media Center.

Moved by:

Seconded by:

Ayes:

Nays:

2019-2020

Teacher	Section	Total	M	F
Mrs. Quinn/Ms. Duarte	PS/AM	15	8	7
Mrs. Quinn/Ms. Duarte	PS/PM	14	6	8
Mrs. Gann/Mrs. Takkel	KG/T	13	9	4
Ms. Livio	KL	13	10	3
Mrs. Brutman	1B	15	9	6
Ms. Mitchell/Mrs. Hromoko	1M/H	15	7	8
Ms. Burger	2B	16	8	8
Mrs. Fitzgerald/Mrs. MacKenzie	2F/M	17	9	8
Ms. Kowalski/Ms. Wieczorek	3K/W	15	8	7
Mrs. Massaro	3M	13	6	7
Mrs. Banek/Ms. Franzi	4B/F	20	10	10
Mrs. Hacker/Mrs. Brzostowski	4H/B	21	9	12
Ms. Craveiro/Mrs. Vetere	5C/V	20	12	8
Mrs. Truchel/Mrs. Criscione	5T/C	18	9	9
Mrs. Buonomo/Ms. Myers	6B/M	15	9	6
Mrs. Christopher	6C	16	11	5
TOTAL		256	140	116
Out-of-District		2*		
FINAL TOTALS		258		

*Total includes 2 out-of-district students.

AGENDA

February 19, 2020

Fire Drills: 2019-20

Month	Fire Drill	Emergency Drill
September	9/11/19	Lockdown 9/13/19
October	10/15/19	Evacuation Drill 10/4/19
November	11/15/19	Lockdown/Shelter in Place 11/18/19
December	12/10/19	Lockdown 12/19/19
January	1/15/20	Shelter in Place 1/24/20
February		
March		
April		
May		
June		

HIB / V & V Report

As of Date of BOE Meeting	9/18/19	10/16/19	11/20/19	12/18/19	1/22/20	2/19/20
TOTAL # of Reported Incidents	0	0	1	0	0	0
Number of Unfounded Incidents	0	0	1	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. 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.