

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

**WEDNESDAY, MAY 3, 2023**

**SCHOOL BUDGET PUBLIC PRESENTATION  
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**

- Teacher Appreciation Week May 1<sup>st</sup> – 5<sup>th</sup>
- Senior Service May 16<sup>th</sup> – June 13<sup>th</sup>
- NJSLA
- Earth/Arbor Day

**VII. Business Administrator’s Report**

- 2023-2024 Budget Presentation

**VIII. Business Resolutions**

**RESOLVED** that the Board of Education approves Business Resolution #01-08.

1. **RESOLVED** that the Board of Education, after conducting a public presentation, adopts a school district budget for the FY 2023-2024 School Year as follows:

	Budget	Local Tax Levy
General Fund	\$6,265,425.86	\$5,683,903.86
Special Revenue	\$163,167.50	0.00
Debt Service Fund	<u>\$99,752.00</u>	<u>\$65,836.00</u>
 Total Budget	 \$6,528,345.36	 \$5,749,739.86

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that there should be raised for General Funds \$5,683,903.86 and \$65,836 for Debt Service Funds for the ensuing school year (2023-2024).

Moved by:

Seconded by:

Ayes:

Nays:

2. **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): Rebecca Santin  
 Event: 2023 Anti-Bullying & School Safety Conference  
 Location: Virtual  
 Date: 5/24/23  
 Cost: \$199.00

Moved by:

Seconded by:

Ayes:

Nays:

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

Essex Fells Boy Scouts  
 Meeting Dates: 5/8/23 & 6/5/23 (3:05pm-5:00pm)  
 Gymnasium

Moved by:

Seconded by:

Ayes:

Nays:

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

6<sup>th</sup> Grade Car Wash  
 5/13/23 - 9:00am – 1:00pm  
 Blacktop

Moved by:

Seconded by:

Ayes:

Nays:

- 5. RESOLVED** that the Essex Fells Board of Education hereby approves the submission of a grant application for the Safety Grant Program through the New Jersey Schools Insurance Group’s ERIC NORTH Subfund for the purposes described in the application, in the amount of \$1,000.00 for the period July 1, 2023 through June 30, 2024.

Moved by:

Seconded by:

Ayes:

Nays:

- 6. RESOLVED** that the Essex Fells Board of Education accepts and approves, as recommended by the Superintendent, the approval of Jan Pro Northern NJ for custodial substitute services at the following rates through June 30<sup>th</sup>, 2023:

Regular Service	\$35/hour
Emergency Service (less than 48 hours’ notice)	\$50/hour

Moved by:

Seconded by:

Ayes:

Nays:

- 7. RESOLVED** that the Essex Fells Board of Education accepts and approves, as recommended by the Superintendent, the approval of the below West Essex students for Senior Service for May 16<sup>th</sup> through June 13<sup>th</sup>:

Angie Andrade (Mrs. Quinn)  
John Secoy (Mr. Wallace, Ms. McNish, Mr. Finnegan)  
Sydney Do (Ms. Banek)

Moved by:

Seconded by:

Ayes:

Nays:

- 8. RESOLVED** that the Essex Fells Board of Education accepts and approves, as recommended by the Superintendent, the approval of Kayla Phillip from Caldwell University for Student Observation Hours.

Moved by:

Seconded by:

Ayes:

Nays:

**IX. Old Business / Board Discussion**

- Class III Officer Status

**X. New Business / Board Discussion**

**XI. Meeting Open for Public Comment**

**XII. Adjournment**

**RESOLVED** that this School Budget Public Presentation of the Board of Education be adjourned at \_\_\_ P.M. The next meeting of the Board of Education will be held on **Wednesday, May 17<sup>th</sup> at 7:30 P.M** in the Media Center.

Moved by:

Seconded by:

Ayes:

Nays:

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
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>242</b>	<b>125</b>	<b>117</b>
Out-of-District	*	4		
<b>FINAL TOTALS</b>		<b>246</b>		

\*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	Fire Drill 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	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	Fire Drill 4/26/23	Shelter In Place 4/27/23, 1:18pm (Share 911)
May		Shelter In Place 5/1/23, 2:00pm (Share 911)
June		
July	7/26/22	Silent Alarm – 7/29/22

HIB / V&V Report

As of Date of BOE Meeting	1/4	1/18	2/1	2/15	3/1	3/15	3/29	4/19	5/3						
TOTAL# of Reported Incidents	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0						
Number of Unfounded Incidents	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0						
Number of Founded Incidents	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0						
Violence & Vandalism Incidents	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.