

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

**WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 18, 2015
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 October 22, 2015. 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 – 7:30 P.M.

II. Roll Call

Mrs. Carol D'Alessandro, Vice-President
Mrs. Shani Drogin
Mrs. Kris Huegel
Dr. Steven LoCascio, President
Dr. Michele Nitti

III. Flag Salute

IV. Public Comment on Agenda Items Only

V. President's Report

VI. Superintendent's Report

- Parent Academy - 11/11/15
- Parent Visitation – 11/16/15
- Assessment Bill A-3079

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): Michelle V. Gadaleta
Event: Various Conferences
Location: Various
Dates: 8/28/15, 9/30/15, 10/9/15, 10/15/15, 10/22/15, 10/23/15, 10/26/15
Cost: \$40.58 mileage

Staff Member(s): Nicole Aramando, Sarah Fernandes
Event: Tienet User Group Meeting
Location: Courtyard Marriott, Whippany, NJ
Date: 11/20/15
Cost: \$0

Staff Member(s): Jaclyn Franzi, Susan Hacker
Event: Inclusion Classes – Numbers & Operations: Fractions
Location: Conquer Math, Fairfield, NJ
Date: 11/30/15
Cost: \$135 per person

Staff Member(s): Jackie Castellano, Michelle V. Gadaleta
Event: NJ MLP Team Talk
Location: Orange Township BOE
Date: 12/1/15
Cost: \$0

Staff Member(s): Marisa Burger, Laura Quinn
Event: Observation
Location: Monarch Montessori School, Little Falls, NJ
Date: 12/2/15
Cost: \$0

Staff Member(s): Michelle Barshay, Jaclyn Franzi
Event: Powerful Strategies to Help Struggling Readers
Location: Best Western Plus, Fairfield, NJ
Date: 12/7/15
Cost: \$239 per person

Staff Member(s): Jackie Castellano
Event: Google Administrators Console Training
Location: 28 West Grand Avenue, Montvale, NJ
Date: 12/8/15
Cost: \$295

Staff Member(s): Katie MacKenzie
Event: Help Your Students Develop Self-Regulation Skills to Improve Behavior
and Increase Learning
Location: Crowne Plaza Hotel, Fairfield, NJ
Date: 1/5/16
Cost: \$239

Staff Member(s): Deana Hromoko
Event: Assistive Tech Tools to Support Dyslexia & Reading Disabilities
Workshop
Location: ETTC Bergen County, Paramus, NJ
Date: 1/7/16
Cost: \$75

- 5. **RESOLVED** that the Board of Education accepts and approves, as recommended by the Superintendent, the submission of the NCLB (No Child Left Behind) application for Fiscal Year 2016 to the County Office of Education and accepts the grant award in the amount of \$20,545.

Title I	\$17,808	
Title IIA	2,737	
Title III	<u>237</u>	refusal
Total Funds Accepted	\$20,545	

Moved by: _____ Seconded by: _____

Ayes: _____ Nays: _____

- 6. **RESOLVED** that the Board of Education accepts and approves, as recommended by the Superintendent, a two-hour speech/language pathology observation for the following student from Marywood University, Scranton, PA:

Madison Emma – Student Intern
 Mary Hybl – Cooperating Teacher
 Date of observation: TBD

Moved by: _____ Seconded by: _____

Ayes: _____ Nays: _____

VIII. Business Administrator’s Report

- Audit / December 2nd Workshop

IX. Business Resolutions

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

- 1. **RESOLVED** that the Board of Education accepts the minutes of the following meetings:

Regular Meeting Minutes	9/16/15
Workshop Meeting Minutes	10/7/15

Moved by: _____ Seconded by: _____

Ayes: _____ Nays: _____

- 2. **RESOLVED** that the Board of Education approves the bills and claims for November in the total amount of **\$125,973.41** 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 \$295,158.90 including \$275,299.70 for the gross payroll, \$5,343.72 for the Board’s share of FICA/Medicare and \$14,515.48 for the State’s share of FICA/Medicare.

Moved by:

Seconded by:

Ayes:

Nays:

- 3. **RESOLVED** that the Board of Education approves the transfer of funds for the months of September & October as certified by the Business Administrator and authorized by the Superintendent of Schools.

Moved by:

Seconded by:

Ayes:

Nays:

- 4. **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;

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:

- 5. **WHEREAS**, N.J.S.A. 18A:18B-1, *et seq.*, enables school districts to cooperate with each other to make the most efficient use of their powers and resources on a basis of mutual advantage in the areas of insurance and self-insurance and related services; and

WHEREAS, the Essex Fells Board of Education desires to secure protection, services, and savings relating to insurance and self-insurance for itself and its departments and employees; and

WHEREAS, the Essex Fells Board of Education finds that the best and most efficient way of securing this protection and services is by cooperating with other school districts across the State of New Jersey;

WHEREAS, the Essex Fells Board of Education, under its obligations as a member of the New Jersey School Insurance Group does allow for safety inspections of its properties, to pay contributions in a timely fashion and to comply with the bylaws and standards of participation of this Group.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THE ESSEX FELLS BOARD OF EDUCATION THAT the Essex Fells Board of Education joins with other school districts in organizing and becoming members of the New Jersey Schools Insurance Group; and

THAT, by adoption and signing of this resolution, the Board of Education is hereby joining the New Jersey School Insurance Group in accordance with the terms of the attached Indemnity and Trust Agreement for the following types of insurance:

- Property
- EDP
- General Liability
- Umbrella/Excess
- Equip Breakdown
- Crime/Bonds
- Automobile Liability
- Errors Omissions
- Auto Physical Damage
- Workers' Compensation

Moved by:

Seconded by:

Ayes:

Nays:

X. Old Business / Board Discussion

- Dress Code Survey Update/Policy 5511
- Policy 5756 - Transgender
- Pick-up Pattern Plan/Letter
- End-of-Year Character Ed Trip/Party
- 2015-2016 Calendar Case Report
- Contracted Speech Services Case Update
- Sidewalk Quotes

XI. New Business / Board Discussion

- 2016-2017 Calendar Draft

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 the Superintendent’s Contract. 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, December 2, 2015** in the Superintendent’s Office. The next **Regular Meeting** will be held on **Wednesday, December 16, 2015** in the Media Center.

Moved by:

Seconded by:

Ayes:

Nays:

Enrollment Count: 2015-2016

Teacher	Section	Total	M	F
Mrs. Quinn/Ms. Burger	PS/AM	13	6	7
Mrs. Quinn/Ms. Burger	PS/PM	12	7	5
Mrs. Gann/Ms. Almeida	KG/A	18	9	9
Ms. Mitchell	KM	17	7	10
Mrs. Brutman	1B	15	9	6
Mrs. Massaro/Mrs. Hromoko	1M/H	16	9	7
Ms. McMahon	2M	14	9	5
Mrs. Roberts/Ms. Brower	2R/B	14	9	5
Ms. Cervino/Mrs. MacKenzie	3C/M	10	4	6
Mrs. Reynolds	3R	10	3	7
Mrs. Barshay/Ms. Franzi	4B/F	11	5	6
Mrs. Hacker	4H	11	5	6
Mrs. Banek	5B	11	3	8
Ms. Craveiro/Mrs. Fitzgerald	5C/F	12	2	10
Mrs. Buonomo/Mrs. Whitman	6B/W	11	5	6
Ms. Dalton	6D	10	5	5
Total		205	97	108
Out-of-District		4+		
FINAL TOTALS		209	97	108

+ Total includes 4 out-of-district students

Fire Drills: 2015-2016

Month	Fire Drill	Emergency Drill
September	9-15-15	Lockdown 9-10-15
October	10-27-15	Lockdown 10-22-15
November	11/2/15	
December		
January		
February		
March		
April		
May		
June		

HIB / V&V Report

As of Date of BOE Meeting	9/16/15	10/21/15	11/18/15					
TOTAL # of Reported Incidents	0	0	0					
Number of Unfounded Incidents	0	0	0					
Number of Founded Incidents	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 Core Curriculum Content 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.