

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

**WEDNESDAY, APRIL 15, 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 March 30, 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**

**VII. 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: Katie McLain  
Event: Out-of-District PARCC Testing  
Location: Whippany, NJ  
Date: 3/23-25/15  
Cost: \$17.49 travel reimbursement (18.8 miles/day x \$0.31 x 3 days)

Staff Member: Candice Fitzgerald  
 Event: Out-of-District PARCC Testing  
 Location: Oakland, NJ  
 Date: 3/23-25/15  
 Cost: \$29.76 travel reimbursement (32 miles/day x \$0.31 x 3 days)

Staff Members: Rosalie Almeida, Stacey Perry  
 Event: Conquer Mathematics – Geometry; Measurement & Data Workshop  
 Location: Fairfield, NJ  
 Date: 4/29/15 (re- scheduled from 3/4/15 due to flood)  
 Cost: \$125 per person

Staff Members: Rosalie Almeida, Laura Brutman, Deana Hromoko  
 Event: Learning to Love Learning - Annual Early Childhood Conference  
 Location: Caldwell University  
 Date: 5/29/15  
 Cost: \$75 per person

Moved by:	Seconded by:
Ayes:	Nays:

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

Essex Fells Recreation Department Summer Camp 2015  
 6/29/15 – 8/4/15 (closed 7/3/15); 8:30am-12:30pm  
 Gymnasium, Fields and Primary Building Classrooms

Kindergarten Daisy Troop Meetings  
 5/15/15 and 6/12/15; 3:10-4:30pm  
 Gymnasium

**Farrell Family Event (copy of homeowner’s insurance received)**  
**4/23/15; 7:00-10:00pm (approximate)**  
**Use of EFS Parking Lot**

Moved by:	Seconded by:
Ayes:	Nays:

**VIII. Business Administrator’s Report**  
 • Budget Review

**IX. Business Resolutions**

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

- 1. **RESOLVED** that the Board of Education approves the bills and claims for April in the total amount of **\$46,146.99** as certified by the Business Administrator/ Board Secretary; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Board of Education approves the payroll for March as certified by the Business Administrator and approved by the Superintendent and Board President in the total amount of \$288,964.68 including \$269,365.84 for the gross payroll, \$4,498.50 for the Board’s share of FICA/Medicare and \$15,100.34 for the State’s share of FICA/Medicare.

Moved by:

Seconded by:

Ayes:

Nays:

- 2. **RESOLVED** that the Board of Education approves the transfer of funds for the month of March as certified by the Business Administrator and authorized by the Superintendent of Schools.

Moved by:

Seconded by:

Ayes:

Nays:

**X. Old Business / Board Discussion**

- STEAM
- Before Care 2015-2016
- Nurse’s Office Construction

**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 contractual negotiations and personnel. 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 of the Board of Education will include the Public Hearing and Adoption of the Final Budget for the 2015-2016 School Year** and will be held on **Wednesday, May 6, 2015** in the Media Center. The next **Regular Meeting** will be held on **Wednesday, May 20, 2015** in the Media Center.

Moved by:

Seconded by:

Ayes:

Nays:

**Enrollment Count: 2014-2015**

Teacher	Section	Total	M	F
Mrs. Quinn/Ms. Burger	PS/AM	13	8	5
Mrs. Quinn/Ms. Burger	PS/PM	13	4	9
Mrs. Gann	KG	15	9	6
Ms. Mitchell/Mrs. Short	KM/S	13	6	7
Mrs. Brutman/Mrs. Hromoko	1B/H	14	9	5
Mrs. Massaro	1M	14	9	5
Ms. McMahon/Ms. Almeida	2M/A	12	5	7
Mrs. Perry	2P	9	4	5
Ms. Cervino	3C	11	6	5
Mrs. Reynolds/Ms. McLain	3R/M	10	5	5
Mrs. Barshay	4B	13	3	10
Mrs. Hacker/Mrs. Calistri	4H/C	11	3	8
Mrs. Banek/Ms. Belmont	5B/B	11	5	6
Ms. Craveiro	5C	12	7	5
Mrs. Buonomo	6B	19	8	11
Ms. Dalton/Mrs. Whitman	6D/W	20	8	12
Total		210	99	111
Out-of-District		4+		
<b>FINAL TOTALS</b>		<b>214</b>	<b>99</b>	<b>111</b>

+ Total includes 4 out-of-district students

**Fire Drills: 2013-2014**

Month	Fire Drill	Emergency Drill
September	9/8/14	Lockdown 9/16/14
October	10/8/14	Shelter in Place 10/2/14
November	11/12/14	Lockdown 11/19/14
December	12/15/14	Lockdown 12/9/14
January	1/29/15	Lockdown 1/20/15
February	2/25/15	Shelter in Place 2/27/15
March	3/11/15	Lockdown 3/13/15
April	4/15/15	
May		
June		

**HIB / V&V Report**

As of Date of BOE Meeting	9/17/14	10/15/14	11/19/14	12/17/14	1/21/15	2/18/15	3/18/15	4/15/15	5/20/15	6/17/15
TOTAL # of Reported Incidents	0	0	0	1	0	0	2	0		
Number of Unfounded Incidents	0	0	0	1	0	0	2	0		
Number of Founded Incidents	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. 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.