

The Board of Education of the Borough of Essex Fells, in the County of Essex, New Jersey, convened in a public session on February 15, 2012 in the Media Center of the Essex Fells School. The meeting was called to order by Board President Michele Nitti at 7:32 P.M. Dr. Nitti read the following Statement of Compliance with the Open Public Meetings Act: "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 on May 4, 2011. Agendas were mailed to the Clerk of the Borough of Essex Fells, the Progress, the Star Ledger, and posted on the district web-site."

I. Call to Order – 7:32 P.M.

II. Roll Call

Mrs. Alison Cirenza – present
 Mrs. Carol D'Alessandro – present
 Mr. Peter Hutchinson – present
 Dr. Steven LoCascio, Vice-President – present
 Dr. Michele Nitti, President – present

Also present: Mrs. Michelle V. Gadaleta, Superintendent/Principal, Mr. Ernie Turner, Business Office Consultant, 1 teacher, and several members of the public.

III. Flag Salute

The President led the salute to the flag.

IV. Public Comment

No public comment.

V. President's Report

VI. Student Body Liaison Report to the Board of Education

Luke Pryor was the Student Body Liaison.

VII. Superintendent's Report

The Superintendent discussed the Preschool for 2012-2013 and the boiler exhaust sound.

VIII. Superintendent's Resolutions

1. **RESOLVED** that the Board of Education accepts and approves, as recommended by the Superintendent, the following field trip:

Kindergarten to Mayo Performing Arts Center, Morristown – 3-19-12

Moved by: Dr. LoCascio
 Ayes: 5

Seconded by: Mrs. Cirenza
 Nays: 0

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 9250 for Professional Development:

Staff Member: Sara Dalton
 Event: Life, Cells, and Genetics Workshop
 Location: MSU
 Date: 2/24/12
 Cost: \$100

Staff Member: Jeanine Whitman
 Event: Keys to Ensuring your School is Compliant in Section 504 Workshop
 Location: Toms River, NJ

Date: 3/9/12* (date change)
 Cost: \$75 plus \$77.70 mileage/transportation; total - \$152.70

Staff Members: Susan Hacker, Deana Hromoko, Judi Reynolds
 Event: Practical Strategies to Implement the New Common Core Math
 Standards Workshop
 Location: Best Western Plus, Fairfield, NJ
 Date: 3/20/12
 Cost: \$219.00 per person

Staff Members: Laura Brutman, Kelly Mitchell
 Event: Writing Strategies That Work Workshop
 Location: Holiday Inn, Parsippany, NJ
 Date: 3/20/12
 Cost: \$225 per person

Staff Member: Linda Costello
 Event: Nonfiction Writing Units of Study Workshop
 Location: Renaissance Woodbridge Hotel, Iselin, NJ
 Date: 3/23/12
 Cost: \$0

Staff Member: Michelle Gadaleta
 Event: Bullying – Breaking the Trend Workshop
 Location: Barnabas Health Corp., West Orange, NJ
 Date: 3/30/12
 Cost: \$75

Staff Member: Beth Mahaney
 Event: Learning & the Brain Workshop
 Location: Alfred J. Lerner Hall, NYC
 Date: 4/19/12
 Cost: \$249 plus \$40 mileage/transportation; total - \$289.00

Moved by: Dr. LoCascio
 Ayes: 5

Seconded by: Mrs. Cirenza
 Nays: 0

3. **RESOLVED** that the Board of Education accepts and approves, as recommended by the Superintendent, the 2012-2013 school calendar.

Moved by: Dr. LoCascio
 Ayes: 5

Seconded by: Mrs. Cirenza
 Nays: 0

4. **RESOLVED** that the Board of Education accepts and approves, as recommended by the Superintendent, the second reading of the following bylaws and policies:

Bylaw 0168	Recording Board Meetings
Policy 5519	Dating Violence at School (new)
Policy 6424	Emergency Contracts
Policy 6472	Tuition Assistance (new)
Policy 8505	School Nutrition
Policy 9180	School Volunteers - tabled

Moved by: Dr. LoCascio
 Ayes: 5

Seconded by: Mrs. Cirenza
 Nays: 0

5. **RESOLVED** that the Board of Education accepts and approves, as recommended by the Superintendent, the movement on the salary guide for the following staff member, effective February 1, 2012:

Nina Buonomo BA+15 to MA+15 Step 11

Moved by: Dr. LoCascio
Ayes: 5

Seconded by: Mrs. Cirezza
Nays: 0

6. **RESOLVED** that the Board of Education accepts and approves, as recommended by the Superintendent, the Maternity/Disability Leave of Absence for Deana Hromoko to begin on or about April 16 to October 19, 2012, using 25 sick days (April 16 to May 18) and unpaid leave of absence (May 21 to October 19).

NOTES: Letter attachment

Moved by: Dr. LoCascio
Ayes: 5

Seconded by: Mrs. Cirezza
Nays: 0

7. **RESOLVED** that the Board of Education accepts and approves, as recommended by the Superintendent, the following additions to the substitute list for the 2011-2012 school year:

Erin Valenzano Teacher @ \$70/day

NOTE: Resume attached

Moved by: Dr. LoCascio
Ayes: 5

Seconded by: Mrs. Cirezza
Nays: 0

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

- Third Grade Brownie Meeting Media Center, 3:15-4:30pm - 3/9/12 and 4/20/12
- PTA/CPR Class with Pemstar (for parents), Media Center, 6:00-9:00pm - 3/6/12
- Girl Scout Dance Clinic, Gym, 9:00am – 12:30pm - 3/31/12
- Girl Scout Father/Daughter Dance, Gym, 4:00-9:00pm - 4/19/12
- EFRD, Baseball/Softball, Fields, M-F 3:30pm - dusk; Sat. 9:00am - 6:00pm
- EFRD, Volleyball Clinic, Gym, 4:45pm – 7:30pm, 2/20/12 – 3/30/12 (pending no prior approved use)
- Mother's Day Flower Sale, Gym, 8:30am-3:00pm – 5/11/12

Moved by: Dr. LoCascio
Ayes: 5

Seconded by: Mrs. Cirezza
Nays: 0

9. **RESOLVED** that the Board of Education accepts and approves, as recommended by the Superintendent, the following items purchased by the Essex Fells Recreation Department for use and storage at the school:

- 1 portable pitcher's mound
- 2 steel drag mats

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board thanks the EFRD for use by Essex Fells School of this Recreation Department equipment.

Moved by: Dr. LoCascio
Ayes: 5

Seconded by: Mrs. Cirezza
Nays: 0

IX. Business Administrator's Report

The Interim Business Administrator reported on the following:

- Boiler situation
- Insurance Claim – Former Superintendent
- Safety Grant Application
- Flexible Spending Accounts

X. Business Resolutions

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

Workshop Minutes	1/4/12
Regular Meeting Minutes	1/18/12
Executive Session Minutes	1/18/12

Moved by: Dr. LoCascio
Ayes: 5

Seconded by: Mrs. Cirenza
Nays: 0

2. **RESOLVED** that the Board of Education approves the bills and claims for February 15, 2012 in the total amount of \$78,929.00 as certified by the Interim Business Administrator/Board Secretary; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board of Education approves the payroll for January 2012 as certified by the Interim Business Administrator and approved by the Superintendent and Board President in the total amount of \$256,113.81 including \$238,908.83 for the gross payroll, \$2,295.89 for the Board's share of FICA/Medicare and \$15,937.69 for the State's share of FICA/Medicare.

Moved by: Dr. LoCascio
Ayes: 5

Seconded by: Mrs. Cirenza
Nays: 0

3. **RESOLVED** that the Board of Education approves the transfer of funds for the month of December 2011 as certified by the Interim Business Administrator and authorized by the Superintendent of Schools.

Moved by: Dr. LoCascio
Ayes: 5

Seconded by: Mrs. Cirenza
Nays: 0

4. **WHEREAS**, the Board of Education has received the Reports of the Interim Board Secretary (Secretary) and the Custodian of School Monies (Treasurer) for the month of December 2011; and

WHEREAS, in compliance with N.J.A.C.6A:23-2.11(c)3, the Interim 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 Interim 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 Interim 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: Dr. LoCascio
Ayes: 5

Seconded by: Mrs. Cirenza
Nayes: 0

5. **WHEREAS**, The New Jersey School Boards Association Insurance Group (NJSBAIG) Board of Trustees approved proposed amendments to its Bylaws at a public meeting on October 19, 2011 in accordance with Article IX(C) of the current NJSBAIG Bylaws; and

WHEREAS, the current NJSBAIG Bylaws require for the proposed amendments to be approved by member school districts; and

WHEREAS, seventy-five percent (3/4) of the member school districts must approve the proposed amendments within one hundred eighty (180) days of the hearing on the amendments;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that at a regular meeting of the Essex Fells Board of Education held on the 15th day of February 2012, the Board does hereby approve the proposed amendments to the NJSBAIG Bylaws.

NOTE: Attachments – Member Letter, Bylaw Change Summary, Bylaws

Moved by: Dr. LoCascio
Ayes: 5

Seconded by: Mrs. Cirenza
Nayes: 0

6. **RESOLVED** that the Board of Education approves a lease with the Essex County Board of Elections to provide the use of school facilities for voting on the following dates:

Tuesday, June 5, 2012	Primary Election Day	6:00am – 8:00pm
Tuesday, November 6, 2012	General Election Day	6:00am – 8:00pm

NOTE: Polling Place Use Agreement attachment

Moved by: Dr. LoCascio
Ayes: 5

Seconded by: Mrs. Cirenza
Nayes: 0

7. **RESOLVED** that the Board of Education approves Amendment #1 to the Fiscal Year 2011 NCLB Title IIA in the amount of \$754.00.

Moved by: Dr. LoCascio
Ayes: 5

Seconded by: Mrs. Cirenza
Nayes: 0

8. **RESOLVED** that the Board of Education approves the submission of the following Special Education Medicaid Initiative (SEMI) Program Waiver to the Essex County Office of Education:

WHEREAS, NJAC 6A:23A-5.3 provides that a school district may request a waiver of compliance with respect to the district's participation in the Special Education Medicaid Initiative (SEMI) program for the 2012-13, and

WHEREAS, the Essex Fells Board of Education desires to apply for this waiver due to the fact that it projects having fewer than 40 Medicaid eligible classified students,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Essex Fells Board of Education hereby authorizes the Chief School Administrator to submit to the Executive County Superintendent of Schools in the County of Essex an appropriate waiver of the requirements of NJAC 6A23A-5.3 for the 2012-2013 school year.

Moved by: Dr. LoCascio
Ayes: 5

Seconded by: Mrs. Cirenza
Nays: 0

XI. Old Business / Board Discussion

The Board discussed the following items:

- Aftercare
- EFTA Negotiations
- Revised 2012-2013 school calendar

XII. New Business / Board Discussion

No new business.

XIII. Meeting Open for Public Comment

There was a question on the Flexible Spending Account.

XIV. Adjournment

The public meeting of the Board of Education was adjourned at 8:32 P.M. The next **Workshop meeting** of the Board of Education will be **Wednesday, March 7, 2012 at 7:30 P.M.** in the Superintendent's Office, and the next **Regular meeting** of the Board of Education will be **Wednesday, March 21, 2012 at 7:30 P.M.** in the Media Center.

Moved by: Dr. LoCascio
Ayes: 5

Seconded by: Mrs. Cirenza
Nays: 0

Student Enrollment: 2011-2012

Teacher	Section	Total	M	F
Mrs. Gann/Ms. Almeida-AM	PS	7	4	3
Mrs. Emma	KE	12	5	7
Ms. McMahon/Ms. Almeida-PM	KM/A	12/14*	6/7*	6/7*
Mrs. Massaro	1LM	14	5	9
Ms. Mitchell	1KM	12	3	9
Ms. Belmont	2B	13	7	6
Mrs. Brutman/Mrs. Short	2B/S	13	7	6
Mrs. Haberman	3H	19	7	12
Mrs. Reynolds/Mrs. Hromoko	3R/H	19	7	12
Mrs. Barshay(Mrs. Quinn)/Ms. Ziccardi	4B/Z	12	7	5
Mrs. Hacker	4H	13	8	5
Mrs. Banek	5B	14	8	6
Ms. Craveiro/Ms. McLain	5C/M	14	7	7
Mrs. Buonomo	6B	15	6	9
Ms. Dalton/Mrs. Whitman	6D/W	14	6	8
TOTALS		203	93	110

*PM only

Fire Drills: 2011-2012

Month	Fire Drill	Emergency Drill
September	9-12-11	Lockdown 9-16-11
October	10-18-11	Evacuation to Bleachers 10-25-11
November	11-16-11	Shelter in Place 11-28-11
December	12-20-11	Lockdown 12-22-11
January	1-25-12	Lockdown 1-30-12
February		
March		
April		
May		
June		

Harassment, Intimidation & Bullying Report

As of Date of BOE Meeting	11/16/11	12/7/11	1/18/12	2/15/12	3/21/12	4/18/12
TOTAL # of Reported Incidents	6/2	2	2	0		
Number of Unfounded Incidents	6/2	2	2	0		
Number of Founded Incidents	0	0	0	0		

Respectfully submitted,

Mr. Mark Resnick
Interim Business Administrator/
Board Secretary