

The Board of Education of the Borough of Essex Fells, in the County of Essex, New Jersey, convened in a public session April 20, 2011 in the Media Center of the Essex Fells School. The meeting was called to order by Board President Michele Nitti at 7:31 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 6, 2010. 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 – 7:31 p.m.

II. Roll Call

Mrs. Alison Cirenza – present
Mrs. Birgit Criqui – 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. Michael Davison, Business Administrator/Board Secretary, and 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

The Board President reported that the annual budget mailing flyer has been completed and will be sent to the residents of Essex Fells prior to the school board election.

VI. Superintendent's Report

The Superintendent reported on the following:

NJQSAC results have been reported back to the district. Fiscal Management and Operations both scored 94%, Personnel scored 88%, Instruction/Program 64% and Governance 23%. A District Improvement Plan will be developed in the two areas scoring below 80% for re-submission and corrective action.

MAP testing spring scores show growth in math for 29 students and in reading for 24 students of the 47th graders that took the test. Parents interested in the comparison of winter to spring scores for their individual students may contact the teachers for details.

NJASK testing will be held May 3-6 for grade 6, May 9-12 for grade 3 and 5, and May 9-13 for grade 4. Please be sure students are well rested, eat a nutritious breakfast and are to school no later than 8:30 a.m. to be best prepared for testing.

School is closed on Friday, April 22, 2011.

April 26th is Administrative Assistant's Day. Thank you to Mrs. Leggett and Mrs. Criscuolo for their hard work and dedication to the families of Essex Fells School.

Teacher Appreciation Week is May 2-6. The staff of Essex Fells School proves on a daily basis the commitment they make to our students and the education in Essex Fells. The Superintendent commends them on the professionalism and expertise they bring to school and the community.

The Annual School Board Election will be held on Wednesday, April 27th in the Media Center from 2 p.m.- 9 p.m. Students will all be dismissed from the doors closest to the fields for safety reasons, as Hawthorne

Road will be open to traffic during election hours. EFPD will be present to assist with the safe dismissal of the students.

VII. Superintendent's Resolutions

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

Grade 4 to Essex County Environmental Center, Roseland, NJ – June 10, 2011

Moved by: Mrs. Cirenza
Ayes: 5

Seconded by: Mrs. Criqui
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 Members: Deana Hromoko, Emily Ziccardi
Event: Guided Math
Location: Newark, NJ
Date: 5/17/11
Cost: \$215.00

Moved by: Mrs. Cirenza
Ayes: 5

Seconded by: Mrs. Criqui
Nays: 0

3. **RESOLVED** that the Board of Education accepts, as recommended by the Superintendent, the notification of NJQSAC 2007-2010 results. A district improvement plan will be developed in the two areas scoring below 80% and resubmitted to the state for corrective action.

Moved by: Mrs. Cirenza
Ayes: 5

Seconded by: Mrs. Criqui
Nays: 0

4. **RESOLVED** that the Board of Education accepts and approves, as recommended by the Superintendent, that the administrative internship for Judi Reynolds be extended from January through August 2011.

Moved by: Mrs. Cirenza
Ayes: 5

Seconded by: Mrs. Criqui
Nays: 0

5. **RESOLVED** that the Board of Education accepts and approves, as recommended by the Superintendent, the following student teachers from Caldwell College for the Fall Semester, September 12 – December 16, 2011:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Cooperating Teacher</u>	<u>Hours/Assignment</u>
Victoria DiGirolomo	Debbie Emma	60 hours/semester (5 per week) Field Observation/Teacher Intern
Cheryl Joseph	Rosemarie Haberman	40 hours/semester (3 per week) Field Observation/Teacher Assistant
Stephanie Lima	Laura Brutman	60 hours/semester (5 per week) Field Observation/Teacher Intern

Moved by: Mrs. Cirenza
Ayes: 5

Seconded by: Mrs. Criqui
Nays: 0

6. **RESOLVED** that the Board of Education accepts and approves, as recommended by the Superintendent, the Use of Facilities Request from the Essex Fells Recreation Department to hold the Essex Fells Summer Camp 2011 at the school from June 27 through August 3, 2011.

Moved by: Mrs. Cirenza
Ayes: 5

Seconded by: Mrs. Criqui
Nayes: 0

7. **RESOLVED** that the Board of Education accepts and approves, as recommended by the Superintendent, the Grades K-2 Mathematics Curriculum 2011.

Moved by: Mrs. Cirenza
Ayes: 5

Seconded by: Mrs. Criqui
Nayes: 0

8. **RESOLVED** that the Board of Education confirm and approve the recommendation of the Superintendent authorizing the submission of an amendment to the 2009-2010 IDEA Entitlement Grant for the purpose of carrying forward \$38 from the 2008-2009 grant year.

Moved by: Mrs. Cirenza
Ayes: 5

Seconded by: Mrs. Criqui
Nayes: 0

VIII. **Business Administrator's Report**

The Business Administrator presented samples of the materials which could be used for the district's gutter replacement outside the main office. The consensus of the Board was to use the aluminum material as it is more cost effective and a more durable material.

IX. **Business Resolutions**

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

Special Meeting Minutes	March 2, 2011
Workshop Meeting Minutes	March 2, 2011
Regular Session Minutes	March 23, 2011

Moved by: Dr. LoCascio
Ayes: 5

Seconded by: Mr. Hutchinson
Nayes: 0

2. **RESOLVED** that the Board of Education approves the bills and claims for April 20, 2011 in the total amount of \$83,400.62 as certified by the Business Administrator/Board Secretary; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board of Education approves the payroll for March 2011 as certified by the Business Administrator and approved by the Superintendent and Board President in the total amount of \$264,072.53 including \$245,369.00 for the gross payroll, \$2,031.30 for the Board's share of FICA/Medicare and \$16,672.23 for the State's share of FICA/Medicare.

Moved by: Dr. LoCascio
Ayes: 5

Seconded by: Mr. Hutchinson
Nayes: 0

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

Moved by: Dr. LoCascio
Ayes: 5

Seconded by: Mr. Hutchinson
Nayes: 0

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 February 2011; and

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: Dr. LoCascio
Ayes: 5

Seconded by: Mr. Hutchinson
Nays: 0

5. **RESOLVED** that the Board of Education approves the compensation of poll workers for the Annual School Election at a rate of \$14.29/hr.

Moved by: Dr. LoCascio
Ayes: 5

Seconded by: Mr. Hutchinson
Nays: 0

6. **RESOLVED** that the Board of Education approves the payment of \$157.92 to the Postmaster for the annual budget mailing.

Moved by: Dr. LoCascio
Ayes: 5

Seconded by: Mr. Hutchinson
Nays: 0

X. Old Business / Board Discussion

The Superintendent reviewed correspondence she received from the Board's attorney as it relates to a resident whose property line lies within Essex Fells and the Borough of Caldwell.

XI. New Business / Board Discussion

There was not any New Business discussed.

XII. Meeting Open for Public Comment

No comment.

XIII. Resolution to Enter Executive Session (Personnel)

RESOLVED that the Board shall enter into executive session immediately following this meeting to discuss personnel matters. The matters discussed in executive session will be disclosed to the public when the need to maintain their confidentiality no longer exists. No formal action will be taken.

Moved by: Mrs. Criqui
Ayes: 5

Seconded by: Dr. LoCascio
Nays: 0

XIV. Adjournment

BE IT RESOLVED that this public meeting of the Board of Education be adjourned at 8:55 p.m. The next **Workshop meeting** of the Board of Education will be **Wednesday, May 4, 2011 at 7:30 p.m.** in the Superintendent's Office.

Moved by: Mrs. Cirenza
Ayes: 5

Seconded by: Dr. LoCascio
Nays: 0

Student Enrollment as of 4/20/11:

Teacher	Section	Total	M	F
Mrs. Gann/Mrs. Costello	PS	11	5	6
Mrs. Emma/Mrs. Heaney	KE/H	15	4	11
Mrs. McMahon	KM	15	4	11
Mrs. Massaro/ Ms. Almeida	1M/A	12	6	6
Ms. Mitchell	1M	13	6	7
Mrs. Barshay	2B	20	7	13
Mrs. Brutman/Mrs. Hromoko	2B/H	20	8	12
Mrs. Haberman	3H	13	7	6
Ms. Kerrigan/Ms. Ziccardi	3K/Z	13	6	7
Mrs. Hacker	4H	15	9	6
Mrs. Reynolds/Mrs. Short	4R/S	15	8	7
Mrs. Banek/Ms. McLain	5B/M	17	9	8
Ms. Craveiro	5C	17	5	12
Mr. Brohm	6B	23	10	13
Mrs. Buonomo/Mrs. Whitman	6B/W	24	12	12
TOTALS		243	106	137

2010-2011 Fire Drills:

Month	Fire Drill	Emergency Drill
September	9/16/10	
	9/28/10	
October	10/11/10	
	10/22/10	
November	11/12/10	Lockdown 11/17/10
December	12/13/10	Shelter in Place 12/20/10
January	1/21/11	Lockdown 1/31/11
February	2/14/11	Shelter in Place 2/18/11
March	3/11/11	Lockdown 3/31/11

Respectfully submitted,

Michael Davison
Business Administrator/Board Secretary