

The Board of Education of the Borough of Essex Fells, in the County of Essex, New Jersey, convened in a workshop meeting on December 3, 2014, in the Superintendent's Office of the Essex Fells School. The meeting was called to order by Board President Dr. Steven LoCascio at 7:30 P.M. Dr. LoCascio 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 November 25, 2014. 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 – 7:30 P.M.**

**II. Roll Call**

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

Also present: Mrs. Michelle V. Gadaleta, Superintendent/Principal; Mr. Steven J. Lella, Business Administrator/Board Secretary; Mr. Stephen Fogarty and 1 associate; 1 reporter from The Progress and 1 member of the public

**III. Flag Salute**

The President led the flag salute.

**IV. Public Comment**

- None.

**V. President's Report**

- No report.

**VI. Buildings & Grounds**

- Mrs. Gadaleta informed the Board that the building sign had been installed and she thanked the PTA.

**VII. Curriculum & Instruction**

- Mrs. Gadaleta informed the Board that the Language Arts teachers looked into different materials, and will be moving forward with Empowering Writers. Mrs. Gadaleta also explained that professional development will be provided for the staff.

**VIII. Finance**

- Mr. Lella provided the Board with copies of the Audit for review and reviewed the results and explained sections of the Audit.
- Mr. Lella provided the Board with a draft of the Budget Calendar and informed the Board that requests from the staff were due back to the Business Office on December 19<sup>th</sup>. He will be meeting with Mrs. Gadaleta in January for budget review.
- Mrs. Gadaleta explained additional enrollment and that she anticipated no staff reductions.

**IX. Business Resolution**

1. **RESOLVED** that the Board of Education acknowledges receipt of and accepts the Comprehensive Annual Financial Report (CAFR) of the Essex Fells School District and the Auditors' Management Report, prepared by the auditing firm of Samuel Klein and Company for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2014.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Essex Fells Board of Education will file a Corrective Action Plan, as required, regarding the Comprehensive Annual Financial Report for the year ending June 30, 2014.

Moved by: Mrs. D'Alessandro  
Ayes: 5

Seconded by: Dr. Nitti  
Nays: 0

**X. Policy**

- The Board reviewed and discussed policy. Some policy wording will be reviewed further with district's Attorney.
- Discussion:
 

Policy 1522	School-level Planning (Abolished)
Policy 5305	Health Services Personnel (Revised)
Policy/Regulation 5306	Health Services to Nonpublic Schools (Revised)
Policy/Regulation 5308	Student Health Records (Revised)
Policy/Regulation 5310	Health Services (Revised)
Policy 5339	Screening for Dyslexia (New)
Policy/Regulation 5530	Substance Abuse (Revised)
Policy/Regulation 5600	Student Discipline/Code of Conduct (Revised - new rewrite)
Policy 5756	Transgender Students (New)
Policy 8505	Wellness Policy/Nutrient Standards for Meals and Other Foods (Revised - new rewrite)
- Policy/Regulation 5530 & 5600 are to be tabled.

**XI. Personnel (Public Items only)**

- No report.

**XII. Old Business/Board Discussion**

- No report.

**XIII. New Business / Board Discussion**

- The Board will discuss in Executive Session the members that will be on the Negotiations committee.
- Mr. Lella reminded the Board that at the January Re-organization meeting a President & Vice President will be appointed.
- Dr. LoCascio stated he would not be at the December 19<sup>th</sup> meeting.

**XIV. Public Comment**

- A member of the public asked about Board Member involvement in the Audit & Budget.

**XV. Resolution to Enter Executive Session**

The Board convened in Executive Session at 8:23 P.M. to discuss contractual negotiations. The items discussed in executive session will be disclosed to the public when the need to maintain their confidentiality no longer exists.

Moved by: Mrs. D'Alessandro  
Ayes: 5

Seconded by: Dr. Nitti  
Nays: 0

**XVI. Adjournment**

At 10:35 P.M. the Board of Education made a motion to adjourn.

Moved by: Mrs. D'Alessandro  
Ayes: 5

Seconded by: Dr. Nitti  
Nays: 0

Respectfully submitted,

Mr. Steven J. Lella  
Business Administrator/  
Board Secretary