

The Board of Education of the Borough of Essex Fells, in the County of Essex, New Jersey, convened in a workshop meeting on February 6, 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 February 4, 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; and Mr. Steven J. Lella, Business Administrator/Board Secretary.

III. Flag Salute

The President led the flag salute.

IV. Public Comment

- No public comment.

V. Buildings & Grounds

- Mr. Lella informed the Board that he met with a local contractor for some general information regarding mini split AC units for the gymnasium.
- Mr. Lella provided the Board with an updated Boiler Project Timeline.
- Mr. Lella informed the Board that PSE&G was waiting for materials to arrive regarding the Direct Install Program.
- Mr. Lella informed the Board that he was pursuing options to replace certain speakers in the Intermediate Building to work properly with the PA System speakers that had been installed.

VI. Curriculum & Instruction

- Mrs. Gadaleta informed the Board that the LPDC/ScIP responsibilities have merged, and she will discuss with the Staff.
- Mrs. Gadaleta explained to the Board how she will be meeting with each staff member regarding the Mid-year status/progress of each staff members SGO. Mrs. Gadaleta explained that the EFS District is once again recognized as a Rewards School. Mrs. Gadaleta discussed other schools in our peer group and the guidelines used to determine reward school status.
- The Board discussed absenteeism.
- Mrs. Gadaleta updated the Board as to the status of the pre-school and kindergarten registration. She noted a new family will be moving into the district for the 14-15 school year adding 3 students to the enrollment.
- Dr. Nitti asked about the MAP Testing Status. Mrs. Gadaleta responded by stating that all testing is done except for absentee makeups.

VII. Finance

- Mr. Lella provided the Board with an updated Budget Calendar and discussed the current budget status.
- Mr. Lella informed the Board he would be submitting the Semi waiver to the County Office.
- Mr. Lella notified the Board the EFSD has been contacted by the State for their EEO/AA (Equal Employment Opportunity & Affirmative Action) Monitoring Review. This review is a periodic review of contracting processes to ensure vendors/providers are in compliance with State EEO/AA requirements.

VIII. Policy

- Mrs. Gadaleta informed the Board that a QSAC Team Meeting will be scheduled to review the upcoming QSAC procedure. Mrs. Gadaleta explained the process to the Board.

IX. Personnel (Public Items only)

- Mrs. Gadaleta informed the Board she is planning on 2 classes for each grade level for the upcoming 2014-2015 School Year.

X. Old Business/Board Discussion

- NJQSAC was reviewed in Policy.

XI. New Business / Board Discussion

- Mrs. Gadaleta informed the Board that a new BOE Rep would be needed for the District Advisory Committee to replace Mrs. Cirenza, whose Board term had recently ended. The responsibility requires meeting about the implementation of the new teacher evaluation system.
- Mrs. Gadaleta informed the Board that a new family was moving into a rental property in April. Their home has been purchased but is being renovated until December. The Board discussed the current policy in place regarding Residency.
- Not on the current agenda, Mrs. Gadaleta informed the Board that a real estate agent had contacted the district regarding a student moving out of town and if the family could pay to have the student stay in district until he/she graduated. The Board discussed policy.
- Mrs. Gadaleta informed the Board that the PTA would like to research adding a sprinkler system to the EFS grounds and that the PTA would like to present to the Board. The Board discussed what activities/fund raisers the PTA & Foundation had planned.
- Mrs. Gadaleta presented the Board with a calendar revision and options if more school closings due to the weather were to occur.

XII. Public Comment

- No public comment.

XIII. Adjournment

At 9:09 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