

The Board of Education of the Borough of Essex Fells, in the County of Essex, New Jersey, convened in a workshop meeting on March 2, 2016, in the Superintendent's Office of the Essex Fells School. The meeting was called to order by Board President, Mrs. D'Alessandro at 7:30 P.M. Mrs. D'Alessandro 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 January 6, 2016. 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. Carol D'Alessandro, President – present
 Mrs. Shani Drogen, Vice President – present
 Mrs. Kris Huegel – present
 Dr. Steven LoCascio – absent
 Dr. Michele Nitti – present

Also present: Mrs. Michelle V. Gadaleta, Superintendent/Principal; Mr. Steven J. Lella, Business Administrator/Board Secretary.

III. Flag Salute

The President led the flag salute.

IV. Public Comment

- No comment.

V. Superintendent's Report

- No Report

VI. Buildings Grounds

- Mr. Lella informed the Board that the recent storm damaged the roof on the shed. Mr. Sulistyo and Mr. Santiago will repair the damage, but quotes will be obtained for a full repair.

VII. Curriculum & Instruction

- Mrs. Gadaleta reported to the Board that Camp Mason and the West Essex Move Up Day are in conflict in June 2016. Mrs. Gadaleta reviewed this with West Essex June 6th, 2015. West Essex has offered to have a day where West Essex 7th graders will take around EFS 6th graders. Mrs. Gadaleta also noted that there is a conflict in June 2017. The only other available Camp Mason dates are during PARCC testing and Memorial Day Week which doesn't allow for use of all the programs and facilities. The Board discussed and Mrs. Gadaleta will review other possible camps.
- Mrs. Gadaleta shared with the Board the events of tomorrow's professional development day.
- Mrs. Gadaleta informed the Board that the district will be celebrating Read Across America this week and that Friday author Diane deGroat would be visiting the district.

VIII. Finance

- Mr. Lella provided the Board with a summary of the 2016-17 Budget based on the State Aid Revenues.
- Mrs. Gadaleta briefly spoke about the number of students we pay Aide in Lieu of Transportation for.

IX. Policy

- The Board discussed policy.

X. Personnel (Public Items only)

- Mrs. Gadaleta informed the Board that there would be an Executive Session at the next meeting to discuss the BA's contract for the 2016-17 school year.
- Mrs. Gadaleta informed the Board she is planning for a second BSI position for 2016-17.

XI. Old Business/Board Discussion

- Mrs. Gadaleta informed the Board that the Out of District placement was accepted by Reed Academy, however we were disputing an administrative fee that was being charged that was not initially presented.
- Mrs. Gadaleta reported there was no update on the status of the 2015-16 Calendar case.

XII. New Business / Board Discussion

- Mrs. Gadaleta informed the Board that the EFPD had requested to use the school over spring break for training.
- Mrs. Gadaleta informed the Board that the addendum to the Superintendent contract had been approved by the County Office. It will be open for public discussion at the March 16, 2016 meeting.
- Mrs. Gadaleta reported to the Board that some parents had challenged the selection process for the AM & PM Pre-school placements. The parents thought it should be done by a lottery. The Board discussed options for the future.
- The teachers on home instruction have been spending additional time planning and are needing more time to prepare. They requested compensation for a 30 minute prep time per week.
- The EFTA had requested if 5 to 10 minutes of additional compensation could be provided for those on parking lot duty on Friday afternoons. The Board did not feel that was necessary.

XIII. Public Comment

- No comment.

XIV. Adjournment

At 9:53 P.M. the Board of Education made a motion to adjourn.

Moved by: Dr. Nitti Seconded by: Mrs. Drogin

Ayes: 4 Nays: 0

Respectfully submitted,

Mr. Steven J. Lella
Business Administrator/
Board Secretary