

The Board of Education of the Borough of Essex Fells, in the County of Essex, New Jersey, convened in a workshop meeting on March 31, 2015, in the Superintendent's Office of the Essex Fells School. The meeting was called to order by Board President Dr. Steven LoCascio at 7:35 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 March 25, 2015. 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 – 7:35 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; and 2 staff members.

III. Flag Salute

The President led the flag salute.

IV. Public Comment

- No comment.

V. Superintendent's Resolutions

- 1. RESOLVED** that the Board of Education accepts and approves, as recommended by the Superintendent, the Use of Facilities Requests for the following EFFEE Afterschool Enrichment classes:

Yoga with Ms. Cervino, Grades K-4
 Gymnasium, 3:05-4:30pm
 Wednesdays: 4/15, 4/22, 4/29, 5/6, 5/13, 5/20, 5/27, 6/3

NASA Academy of Future Space Explorers, Grades 3-6
 Media Center, 3:25-4:25pm
 Wednesdays: 4/15, 4/22, 4/29, 5/6, 5/13, 5/20, 5/27, 6/3

Karate Program, Grades K-4
 Gymnasium, 3:05-4:30pm
 Thursdays: 4/16, 4/23, 4/30, 5/7, 5/14, 5/21, 5/28, 6/4

Arts & Crafts with Mrs. Barshay, Grades K-6
 Room #109, 3:05-4:30pm
 Thursdays: 4/16, 4/23, 4/30, 5/7, 5/14, 5/21, 5/28, 6/4

Moved by: Dr. Nitti
 Ayes: 5

Seconded by: Mrs. D'Alessandro
 Nays: 0

2. **RESOLVED** that the Board of Education accepts and approves, as recommended by the Superintendent, the submission and payment of attained Quantitative Merit Goals 1 & 2 and Qualitative Merit Goal 2 for Michelle V. Gadaleta for the 2014-2015 school year.

NOTES: See Attachment

Moved by: Dr. Nitti
Ayes: 5

Seconded by: Mrs. D'Alessandro
Nays: 0

3. **WHEREAS**, the Essex Fells Board of Education is desirous to change health care carriers, and

WHEREAS, the Essex Fells Board of Education has received quotations as per the Public School Contracts Law, and

WHEREAS, it was determined that participation in the New Jersey State Employees Benefits Plan (SEHBP) provided for the greatest savings to the Essex Fells Board of Education;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Essex Fells Board of Education participate in the SEHBP effective July 1 2015; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Essex Fells BOE authorizes the School Business Administrator to remit the required signed resolution as provided by the State and is herewith attached as attachment #1.

Moved by: Dr. Nitti
Ayes: 5

Seconded by: Mrs. D'Alessandro
Nays: 0

4. **RESOLVED** that the Board of Education accepts and approves, as recommended by the Superintendent, the appointment of Creative Speech Solutions, LLC, Speech & Language Therapy Services, to cover a maternity leave from on or about April 14, 2015, until June 18, 2015, at the following hours and rates:

- 4 Days per week at \$87/hour
- Evaluations at \$350/evaluation

NOTE: Revised resolution

Moved by: Dr. Nitti
Ayes: 5

Seconded by: Mrs. D'Alessandro
Nays: 0

VI. **Buildings & Grounds**

- Mr. Lella provided the Board with the bid results for the upcoming boiler project. Mr. Lella noted the resolution awarding the contract to C.J. Vanderbeck & Son, Inc.

VII. **Curriculum & Instruction**

- Mrs. Gadaleta discussed the anticipated class sizes with the Board.
- Mrs. Drogin asked about the results of our students using Rosetta Stone. Mrs. Gadaleta stated that West Essex will monitor how EFS 7th graders are performing as a result of using Rosetta Stone vs. a teacher.

VIII. Finance

- Mr. Lella discussed with the Board utilizing banked cap that was expiring if not used in the 2015-16 budget. Mr. Lella provided the Board with information regarding the tax impact of utilizing the banked cap, along with the other districts also utilizing expiring banked cap in their upcoming budgets.
- Mr. Lella provided the members of the Board with the Brown & Brown Benefit Advisors Insurance Consultant Service Proposal for the 2015-16 school year.

IX. Business Resolutions

1. WHEREAS, the Essex Fells Board of Education (hereinafter referred to as the “Board”) advertised for bids for the Boiler Replacement at Essex Fells School (hereinafter referred to as the “Project”); and

WHEREAS, on March 31, 2015, the Board received six (6) bids for the Project, as reflected on the attached bid tabulation sheet; and

WHEREAS, the lowest responsible bid for this Project was submitted by C.J. Vanderbeck and Son, Inc. (hereinafter referred to as “Vanderbeck”) with a base bid in the amount of \$123,150; and

WHEREAS, the bid submitted by Vanderbeck is responsive in all material respects and the Board is desirous of awarding the contract for the Project to Vanderbeck;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board hereby awards the contract for the Boiler Replacement at Essex Fells School to C.J. Vanderbeck and Son, Inc. in a total contract sum of \$123,150 representing a base bid in the amount of \$123,150.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this award is expressly conditioned upon the contractor furnishing the requisite insurance certificate and labor and materials/performance bond as required in the Project specifications, together with an AA201-Project Manning Report, an executed A-101-Standard Form of Agreement Between Owner and Contractor, A-201-General Conditions of the Contract for Construction, as prepared by the Board Attorney, within ten (10) days of the date hereof.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board Attorney is hereby directed to draft the agreement with the successful bidder consistent with this Resolution and with the terms contained in the bid documents approved by the Board for the Project. The Board President and the Board Secretary are hereby authorized to execute such agreement and any other documents necessary to effectuate the terms of this Resolution.

Moved by: Dr. Nitti
Ayes: 5

Seconded by: Mrs. D’Alessandro
Nays: 0

X. Policy

- Policy was tabled for a later meeting.

XI. Personnel (Public Items only)

- No report.

XII. Old Business/Board Discussion

- Mrs. Gadaleta followed up with the staff asking them about the results of their survey for the Before/Aftercare program and if they will attempt to re-work their budget numbers. Mrs. Gadaleta wants to be able to notify the public. It does not appear at this time the staff will be able to offer the program, but the Board would be willing to revisit on a year to year basis based on the response of the community.
- Mrs. Gadaleta heard back from the Borough to schedule a meeting with the Mayor and Chief of Police regarding the drop off and pick up procedures. However the meeting will have to be scheduled after Mrs. Gadaleta has returned from her maternity absence.

XIII. New Business / Board Discussion

- No report.

XIV. Public Comment

- No comment.

XV. Resolution to Enter Executive Session

The Board convened in Executive Session at 8:30 P.M. to discuss the contractual negotiations and non-tenured staffing. The items discussed in Executive Session will be disclosed to the public when the need to maintain confidentiality no longer exists.

Moved by: Mrs. D'Alessandro
Ayes: 5

Seconded by: Dr. Nitti
Nays: 0

The Board exited the Executive Session at 8:50 P.M. and returned to the Workshop Meeting.

Moved by: Mrs. D'Alessandro
Ayes: 5

Seconded by: Dr. Nitti
Nays: 0

XVI. Adjournment

At 8:50 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