

**THE PUBLIC SCHOOLS OF ESSEX FELLS, NJ  
BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING**

**WEDNESDAY, MAY 19, 2021**

**REGULAR MEETING – 7:30 P.M. – VIRTUAL**

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 as of January 8, 2021. Agendas were mailed to the Clerk of the Borough of Essex Fells, the Progress, and the Star Ledger.

**I. Call to Order – 7:30 P.M.**

**II. Roll Call**

Mrs. Kris Huegel, President  
Dr. Steven LoCascio, Vice-President  
Mrs. Amanda Haber  
Mr. Raj Mehta  
Mr. Theodore Skopak

**III. Flag Salute**

**IV. Public Comment on Agenda Items Only**

**V. President’s Report**

**VI. Superintendent’s Report**

- ESY and Summer Update
- PK deposit refund request
- Road Forward Committee
- **Negotiations Update**
- End of Year Activities
- Memorial Day Weekend

**VII. Superintendents Resolutions**

**RESOLVED** that the Board of Education approves Superintendent Resolutions #01 – 05

1. **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 6471 for Professional Development:

Staff Member(s): Marco Pannullo  
Event: Unmanned Aircraft General Exam  
Location: Lincoln Park Airport  
Date: 4/30/21  
Cost: \$173.00

Staff Member(s): Michelle Barshay  
Event: Challenging the Deficit Model  
Location: Virtual  
Date: 4/22/21  
Cost: \$0.00

Staff Member(s): Kristen Kowalski  
Event: Cutting-Edge Strategies for 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade  
Location: Virtual  
Date: 5/6/21  
Cost: \$279.00

Staff Member(s): Nicole Criscione  
Event: Strengthening Writing 6-12  
Location: Virtual  
Date: 5/12/21  
Cost: \$149.00

Staff Member(s): Jaclyn Franzi  
Event: Strengthening Your Students' Writing Skills by Teaching Smarter  
Not Harder  
Location: Virtual  
Date: 5/17/21  
Cost: \$149.00

Staff Member(s): Tracie Wieczorek  
Event: Wilson  
Location: Virtual  
Date: 6/3/21  
Cost: \$0.00

Staff Member(s): Monica Craveiro  
Event: Maximize the Power of Google Classroom  
Location: Virtual  
Date: TBD  
Cost: \$279.00

Staff Member(s): Deana Hromoko  
Event: Co-Teaching in Inclusive Classrooms: Effective Whole Group  
Structures and Strategies  
Location: Virtual  
Date: TBD  
Cost: \$149.00

Moved by:

Seconded by:

Ayes:

Nays:



Moved by:

Seconded by:

Ayes:

Nays:

- 2. **RESOLVED** that the Board of Education approves bills and claims for May in the amounts of **\$153,504.10** as certified by the Business Administrator/Board Secretary; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Board of Education approves the payroll for April as certified by the Business Administrator and approved by the Superintendent and Board President in the total amount of \$375,845.66, including \$350,163.60 for the gross payroll, \$5,770.62 for the Board’s share of FICA/Medicare and \$19,911.44 for the State’s share of FICA/Medicare.

Moved by:

Seconded by:

Ayes:

Nays:

- 3. **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 March;

**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:

Seconded by:

Ayes:

Nays:

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

Moved by:

Seconded by:

Ayes:

Nays:

5. **RESOLVED** that the Board of Education accepts and approves, the submission of Alyssa’s Law School Security Grant application and that any costs in excess of the grant will be covered by local funds.

Moved by:

Seconded by:

Ayes:

Nays:

X. **Old Business / Board Discussion**

- Fully Remote Program Update
- Borough of EF Traffic Study for possible new traffic pattern update

XI. **New Business / Board Discussion**

- Tiny Treasures 2021-2022
- COVID19 Guidelines for NJ Public Schools
- Possible BOE Workshop – June 2nd

XII. **Public Comment**

XIII. **Resolution to Enter Executive Session**

**BE IT RESOLVED** that the Board shall enter into executive session immediately following this meeting to discuss legal matters, negotiations and the School Business Administrator’s contract. The items discussed in Executive Session will be disclosed to the public when the need to maintain their confidentiality no longer exists.

Moved by:

Seconded by:

Ayes:

Nays:

XIV. **Adjournment**

**RESOLVED** that this public meeting of the Board of Education be adjourned at \_\_\_ P.M. The next meeting of the Board of Education will be held on **Wednesday, June 16, 2021 at 7:30 P.M.** virtually.

Moved by:

Seconded by:

Ayes:

Nays:

**AGENDA**

**May 19, 2021**

**2020-2021**

<b>Teacher</b>	<b>Section</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>M</b>	<b>F</b>
Mrs. Burger/Ms. Duarte	PS/AM	14	10	4
Mrs. Burger/Ms. Duarte	PS/PM	15	7	8
Mrs. Gann	KG	16	6	10
Ms. Livio/Mrs. Takkel	KL/T	17	8	9
Mrs. Brutman	1B	13	9	4
Mrs. Hromoko	1H	13	10	3
Ms. Mitchell/Mrs. MacKenzie	2M/M	15	7	8
Mrs. Quinn	2Q	14	6	8
Ms. Franzi	3F	16	8	8
Ms. Kowalski/Ms. Wieczorek	3K/W	15	8	7
Mrs. Banek/Mrs. Brzostowski	4B/B	15	7	8
Mrs. Hacker/Ms. Butler	4H/B	15	8	7
Ms. Craveiro/Mrs. Vetere	5C/V	19	8	11
Mrs. Truchel/Ms. Maloney	5T/M	20	9	11
Mrs. Buonomo/Mrs. Criscione	6B/C	16	8	8
Mrs. Christopher/Ms. Myers	6C/M	18	12	6
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>251</b>	<b>131</b>	<b>120</b>
Out-of-District		4		
<b>FINAL TOTALS</b>		<b>255</b>		

\*Total includes 4 out-of-district students.

**Fire Drills: 2020-21**

<b>Month</b>	<b>Fire Drill</b>	<b>Emergency Drill</b>
September	9/21/20	Walkie-Talkie Check 9/18/20
October	10/9/20	Trespassing on Property 10/23/20
November	11/16/20	Emergency Call System Test 11/13/20
December*	12/10/20	*
January	1/12/21	Security Drill 1/13/21
February	2/25/21	Silent Alarm 2/26/21
March	3/12/21	Silent Alarm 3/5/21
April	4/20/21	Shelter in Place 4/14/21
May	5/13/21	Modified Lockdown 5/17/21
June		

\*Drills scheduled prior to remote environment

**HIB / V&V Report**

<b>As of Date of BOE Meeting</b>	9/23/20	10/21/20	11/18/20	12/16/20	1/20/21	2/17/21	3/17/21	4/21/21	5/19/21				
<b>TOTAL # of Reported Incidents</b>	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0				
<b>Number of Unfounded Incidents</b>	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0				
<b>Number of Founded Incidents</b>	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0				
<b>Violence &amp; Vandalism Incidents</b>	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0				

**ESSEX FELLS SCHOOL**  
**DISTRICT MISSION STATEMENT**

The Essex Fells School is a very special public elementary school enrolling boys and girls in preschool through the sixth grades. Pupils enjoy small classes and a total school population of approximately two hundred and fifty.

The size of the school is a wonderful asset as it allows a strong sense of community and offers teachers and pupils many opportunities to form bonds of collegiality, identification and support. It also supports the concept that every adult in the school is responsible for every child.

The comparatively small faculty is also a benefit. The faculty as a whole are the decision-making body on all questions of teaching and learning. Teachers find it easy to share experiences and act consistently across pupils' entire academic program. The combined efforts of the staff work to support a pupil centered approach to education.

Essex Fells teachers are encouraged to try new ideas, to work collaboratively with colleagues, and to participate fully in all aspects of schooling.

The mission of the school is etched in the mortar of the original schoolhouse with the words Studies Pass Into Character.

The primary goals of an Essex Fells education include:

1. Developing in all pupils the capacity to think critically and communicate effectively through a mastery of written and spoken English.
2. Motivating all pupils to recognize and develop their academic abilities in order to build character and to achieve their full potential.
3. Teaching children to value themselves, their peers and their teachers.
4. Establishing a respect for and a strong sense of responsibility to the physical, social, and aesthetic world around them.
5. Nurturing a love of country and a pride in our American heritage and citizenship.
6. Communicating a love of scholarship and continued interest in life-long learning.
7. Ensuring all pupils will achieve the New Jersey Student Learning Standards at all levels.

To secure these common goals, the Essex Fells staff of professional educators recognizes that the collaborative engagement of the children in the learning process is the key to intellectual development. Dedicated teachers create classrooms that are alive with cooperative learning activities and child-centered problem-solving routines. Children are encouraged to explore, to question, to make decisions, and to express opinions in a supportive learning environment. Teachers also model their own commitment to learning by continuing to earn advanced degrees. On-going professional development is acknowledged as the foundation for promoting outstanding pupil achievement.