

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

**MONDAY, JULY 14, 2025**

**SPECIAL PUBLIC MEETING**

**8:30 A.M. – SUPERINTENDENT’S OFFICE**

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 July 10th, 2025. Agendas were mailed to the Clerk of the Borough of Essex Fells, the Progress, and the Star Ledger.

**I. Call to Order**

**II. Roll Call**

- Mrs. Amanda Haber, President
- Mrs. Jacquelyn Burke, Vice-President
- Mrs. Caragh Lavoie
- Mr. Raj Mehta
- Mr. Christopher Pisacane

**III. Flag Salute**

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

**V. President’s Report**

**VI. Superintendent’s Report**

**VII. Superintendent’s Resolutions**

**RESOLVED** that the Board of Education approves Superintendent Resolutions #01–03.

- 1. RESOLVED** that the Board of Education accepts and approves, as recommended by the Superintendent, the appointment of Veronica Matullo, Kindergarten Teacher, BA+15, Step 4, for the 2025-2026 school year, at the at the salary of \$65,010.00, pending the usual criminal history and background check for new hires.

Moved by:

Seconded by:

Ayes:

Nays:

- 2. **RESOLVED** that the Board of Education accepts and approves, as recommended by the Superintendent, the Affirmative Action Team to conduct the needs assessment and development of the Comprehensive Equity Plan for the 2025-2026 School Year.

Moved by:

Seconded by:

Ayes:

Nays:

- 3. **RESOLVED** that the Board of Education accepts and approves, as recommended by the Superintendent, the submission of the IDEA application for Fiscal Year 2023-2024 to the County Office of Education and accepts the grant award in the amount of \$61,284.

Basic	\$56,216.00
Preschool	<u>\$4,020.00</u>
Total	\$60,236.00

Moved by:

Seconded by:

Ayes:

Nays:

**VIII. Public Comment**

**IX. Adjournment**

**BE IT RESOLVED** that this public meeting of the Board of Education be adjourned. The next Regular Meeting of the Board of Education is scheduled for Wednesday, August 13th at 7:30 P.M.

Moved by:

Seconded by:

Ayes:

Nays:

**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.