

Board of Education  
Nutley, New Jersey

February 18, 1974

A Special Meeting of the Board of Education of the Town of Nutley, New Jersey, was held in the Board Room, 149 Chestnut Street on Monday, February 18, 1974, at 7:30 p.m., in order that the present Board of Education may complete pending business prior to the organization of the new Board. Mrs. Thomas E. Jaworek, President, presided.

FLAG SALUTE:

The meeting was opened with Mr. Frank V. Tangorra leading the Board members and citizens in the Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag.

ROLL CALL:

The other members present at roll call were: Mr. John E. Clayton, Jr., Mr. Theodore J. Berger, Mr. Walter Lindstrom, Mrs. Edward M. Popadick, Mr. Frank V. Tangorra, Mr. James M. Piro, Mr. Albert E. Cameron and Mr. Gerard T. Restaino. Approximately 15 citizens.

MINUTES:

Copies of the minutes of the Regular Meeting and Public Hearing held on January 23, 1974, being in the hands of each member, reading of same was dispensed. Mr. Clayton moved that the minutes be approved, seconded by Mr. Piro, and unanimously approved by the Board.

COMMUNICATIONS:

Mr. Ramsland presented and read the following:

1. A letter to Mr. Ramsland from Calvin J. Hurd, President, New Jersey State Board of Education:

"On behalf of the State Board of Education I wish to thank you for your recent comments with respect to the State Board's consideration of energy conservation measures as they relate to public schools. The Board is most appreciative of your interest and concern.

"The unusual nature of the problem and its rather sudden emergence have resulted in Board actions and recommendations that may not have met with the satisfaction of all persons.

"Please be assured that the Board will give careful consideration to your expressions."

2. A letter from Mark W. Hurwitz, Executive Director, New Jersey School Boards Association, with regard to two resolutions as follows:

- a. Resolution concerning the State Board Closing Mandate which expresses the concern and displeasure of local boards with the recent State Board mandate to close public schools in January.

- b. Resolution concerning Education and Fuel Priorities,

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which calls for Federal legislation to specifically include our educational institutions in the list of priority customers under the mandatory allocation program.

3. A notice with regard to the Annual Delegates Meeting on May 11, 1974, Holiday Inn of New Jersey Brunswick, North Brunswick, New Jersey School Boards Association.

4. A letter to the members of the Board of Education from Mr. & Mrs. Michael Menendez:

"Having missed the public budget hearing on January 23, we must admit a certain ignorance of your reasons for the proposed school budget increases. Nevertheless, we feel compelled to express our dissatisfaction.

"Looking through the budget and noting the various increases, we kept saying to ourselves how so many of the budget items are beyond your control. It will certainly cost more to run our house next year; there is no doubt it will cost more to run a school system. And yet we must ask just how much more? We cannot help but think of the school's budgetary problems as an enlarged reflection of the ones we must face ourselves. If we were not to receive a salary increase next year, how would we live with tomorrow's prices on today's salary? Somehow we would. Not as well as we would like, of course, but as long as we had enough for the essential maintenance items, we would do it. Everything else could wait.

"At least part of the trouble seems to be that we in this country have been enjoying such prosperity, with increased expansion and spending year after year, that we have forgotten how not to spend. We have become compulsive buyers, with many of us at times resorting to a credit card budget. Indeed, it can be a painful experience not to spend, not to possess the things that are so tantalizingly placed before us. But must not someone soon realize that the inflationary dog is chasing his own tail?

"We do not pretend to have the knowledge to tell you what budget items should be trimmed. That is your job; we have entrusted you with it. We do observe, though, that 71% of the of the budget is for the Instruction Account. Teachers' salaries, the greatest portion of this account, calls for an increase of \$300,000 for next year. This figure appears to represent 83% of the total proposed increase to Nutley taxpayers. There is no mention of the number of teachers involved, so we cannot determine the average increase per teacher. However, under the same account, salaries for 15 principals and supervisors call for an increase of \$42,000. This represents an average increase of almost \$3,000.

"We in no way question the integrity and conscientiousness of the school board members and anyone else connected with preparing the budget. On the contrary, you are to be commended for your civic spirit. However, we feel the time is right for stabilizing budgets. Student enrollments seem to have leveled off and taxpaying consumers are attempting to kick the spending habit. We will vote NO on February 13, and if the budget is defeated, we hope you will heed the mood of the times."

5. A letter from the Madison Township Board of Education, Mr. Robert K. Stutts, Assistant Superintendent-Board Secretary:

"The Madison Township Board of Education, at its regular meeting held in December, 1973, discussed the annual school

election in regard to the separation of the election of board members and the school budget. The position the Board took was that the election of board members should be held at a time other than the date set for voting on the school budget.

"Our Board is requesting your support to change the law now governing school elections. We ask that you instruct your legislative representative to the N. J. S. B. A. to push this change through that organization. In addition, we are requesting that you write your legislators in the State Government, urging their support. Only through a cooperative effort of all Boards of Education in New Jersey will the necessary change in the present law occur."

6. A letter from Kathleen R. Perkins, 17 Warren Street, Nutley:

"I have received a notice from Radcliffe School that my son, Paul Patrick, is no longer attending the Title I program due to his excellent progress. I would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone involved in this program for the great job they have done with Paul. I can see a great change in his ability to understand basic concepts of sound and math principles.

"I have personally spoken only with Mrs. Hirsch in regard to Title I, after learning of Paul's participation. I found her to be a very competent and concerned teacher and she was very helpful in explaining the program to me and the ways in which I could be helpful to Paul.

"One of the greatest benefits of this program is that the child is never made to feel that he is in any way different than his classmates; on the contrary, his confidence in himself and his abilities has grown.

"Again, I would like to thank all of the special education teachers working with this program and I would like to add that I think the children of Nutley are very lucky to have such a fine school system."

7. A letter to Mr. Anthony Stivala, Director of Special Services; from students of Spring Garden School:

"We (3 of my friends from Spring Garden and I) went Christmas caroling on Saturday the 22nd. We earned 11 dollars and were undecided where to send the money. On Sunday my mother read of the thievery at the school for Special Education. We are sending our money to you in hope that it will help replace what the children have lost.

"Happy New Year!

Margaret Eggert  
Kathy Jones

Eileen Reilly  
Kristi Hoch "

8. A thank you note from the family of Jeff Stewart for the memorial in honoring her memory.

SECRETARY'S REPORT:

Mr. Ramsland presented and read the following report:

"My congratulations to Mrs. Popadick, Mr. Lindstrom, and Mr. Tangorra on their re-election to the Board of Education. The decisiveness of their victory is a clear indication that the citizens of

Nutley do care and do appreciate the self-sacrificing efforts of these three hard working Board members.

"In the five weeks preceding the Annual Board Election last Wednesday, the proposed 1974-75 budget was presented nineteen times to various school, civic, fraternal, and other community organizations. Some 2,350 people saw these presentations in meetings ranging in attendance from 15 to 500. Letters of appreciation to the various organizations which gave time for the budget presentation will be sent this week. A special word of thanks is due all the Board members who gave of their time and talents to bring the message to the community.

"I would like to extend a very sincere 'thank you' to the many fine citizens who served as election workers at the various polling places. Though the turnout was, at times, very heavy, these people worked with diligence and enthusiasm and did an excellent job. They also worked without pay, a real indication of their interest in the Nutley School System.

"I would like to publicly recognize and thank Mrs. Rose Mosior, Cafeteria Director, and the cafeteria workers in the various schools for the fine meal which was prepared for the election workers.

"A word of thanks should also go to the professional, secretarial, and custodial staff of the individual schools who worked throughout the election without extra pay and, among other things, served the dinner to the election workers. The contribution of my own secretarial staff throughout the whole budget-making process was immeasurable. Their reward lies in your approval of the budget.

"Maintenance at the various schools during the past month include the following:

#### Nutley High School

Installed protective mats on the walls of new gym.  
 Repaired leaks in science stockroom sink, graphic arts developing tank, and three circulating pumps; and replaced faucet and damaged soap dispensers.  
 Repaired entrance doors and replaced glass in entrance doors and four classrooms.

#### Franklin School

Replaced two defective gas cocks in Science room.

#### Lincoln School

Repaired leaking univent return line in auditorium.  
 Repaired and insulated frozen univent piping and valves in two classrooms.  
 Repaired damaged window frame and sash from forced entry.

#### Washington School

Modified two tables for use in pre-vocational training program, and installed lighting and power outlets for this program.  
 Repaired two broken water fountains, two leaking drain pipes in kitchen, and cleared drain at kindergarten entrance.  
 Replaced broken windows.

#### Yantacaw School

Replaced large heating coil over auditorium and a return line in gym stockroom.  
 Thawed frozen univent in room 107 and insulated vulnerable piping and valves in this and five other univents.  
 Repaired drain in art room sink.

Spring Garden School

Replaced leaking coil in kindergarten univent.

Completed plumbing and cabinet installation in newly remodeled resource center and started fabrication of four moveable bookcases to be used as room dividers.

Radcliffe School

Replaced mixing valve in shower room, flushometer in boys' court, and safety valve on boiler.

Repaired mud leg on boiler and clogged drains on two toilets.

Replaced broken windows.

Special Education Center

Disconnected all old illuminating gas lines.

Installed new lighting fixtures in office, conference room, and kitchen.

Replaced broken windows.

"Fire drills were as follows:

Jan. 21	Special Education Center	9:45 a.m.	2 min.
Jan. 21	Franklin School	2:30 p.m.	2 min. 3 secs.
Jan. 23	Spring Garden School	1:00 p.m.	1 min. 20 secs.
Jan. 25	Lincoln School	2:57 p.m.	1 min. 41 secs.
Jan. 29	Franklin School	2:42 p.m.	1 min. 56 secs.
Jan. 28	Washington School	8:50 a.m.	1 min. 40 secs.
Jan. 28	Yantacaw School	12:47 p.m.	1 min. 38 secs.
Jan. 29	Special Education Center	1:00 p.m.	1 min. 30 secs.
Feb. 1	Spring Garden School	3:10 p.m.	1 min. 20 secs.
Feb. 11	Washington School	12:50 p.m.	1 min. 50 secs.
Feb. 12	Radcliffe School	3:10 p.m.	1 min. 37 secs.
Feb. 13	Spring Garden School	2:10 p.m.	1 min. 20 secs.
Feb. 13	Lincoln School	2:02 p.m.	1 min. 29 secs.
Feb. 14	Radcliffe School	3:10 p.m.	1 min. 31 secs. "

FINANCIAL REPORT:

Mr. Ramsland presented the financial report as of January 31, 1974, showing total funds available of \$7,386,302.34, contractual orders to date of \$6,788,916.97, leaving a balance of funds available of \$597,385.37.

STATEMENT OF RESULT OF ANNUAL SCHOOL ELECTION:

Mr. Clayton presented and moved the adoption of the following resolution, seconded by Mr. Tangorra, and unanimously approved by the Board:

WHEREAS, the Annual Election of the legal voters of the School District of the Town of Nutley, in the County of Essex, New Jersey, was held on Wednesday, February 13, 1974, between the hours of 2:30 and 9:00 p.m. and as much longer as was necessary to permit all the legal voters then present at the polling places to vote, and

WHEREAS, voting was conducted at the Washington, Lincoln, Yantacaw, Spring Garden, Radcliffe, and Franklin Schools, all in the School District, and

WHEREAS, voting was conducted for the election of three members to the Board of Education for a period of three years and for authorizing the raising of \$5,974,286 in district taxes to support the proposed 1974-1975 Current Expense Budget,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the results of the election be recorded in the minutes as per the attached.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That Walter S. Lindstrom, Frank V. Tangorra, and Mrs. Edward Popadick, be declared elected as members of the Board of Education for three year terms.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT:

Mr. Fowler presented and read the following report:

"We wish to congratulate Mr. Walter Lindstrom, Mrs. Edward Popadick and Mr. Frank Tangorra upon their election to the Board, and thank all other Board members for the part they played in the presentation of the budget.

"Senate Bill 364 was signed into law by Governor Cahill on January 7, 1974 and is now Chapter 364 of the laws enacted by the past session of the Legislature. This law requires that boards of education adopt a salary schedule for full time supervisory or administrative personnel. This law will become effective as of July 1, 1974.

"Mr. John Ball, Nutley High School teacher, has been granted permission to serve on a Middle States Evaluating Committee on April 2, 3, 4, 1974 at Wallington High School, Wallington, New Jersey.

"Permission has been granted for the Nutley High School Cadet Band to participate in the Elks Parade at the annual Elks convention in Wildwood, New Jersey on June 8, 1974. The Elks Lodge will provide the transportation and food.

"On February 14, 1974 Mr. Patrick Antonelli, Nutley school psychologist was a guest speaker for the New Jersey Association for Retarded Children. Mr. Antonelli's topic was 'Dynamic Implications for a Family with a Retarded Citizen.'

"Guidance personnel at both the Franklin School and Nutley High School have been holding joint meetings for the purpose of articulation.

"Dr. Jack Finkelman from the Essex County Child Guidance Clinic has started small group counseling sessions on a weekly basis, with a select group of Nutley High School students. Miss Ann Roos and Mr. Joseph Cocchiola have been representing the Nutley staff at these sessions. The group is made up of 12 or more students (boys and girls) who are reluctant to education and are experiencing socialization difficulties.

"The Nutley High School Dramatics Club, under the direction of Mrs. Thomasina Hyland, presented the play, 'Charlie Brown,' to approximately 2,000 students. The first audience was composed of 600 high school students. On the following day the students at Franklin School were taken to the high school to see the play. The last performance was for an SRO audience of sixth grade students from all the elementary schools. Mrs. Hyland and her players are to be commended for the excellent entertainment they provided Nutley students.

"The Nutley Lions Club has just completed its vision program at the elementary level. Every fourth grade student in the Nutley Public Schools has passed through this screening program. Parents of the children having deviations are notified.

I have been in contact with Mrs. Dorothy Sherwood in reference to setting up talent shows for her senior citizens group."

CAFETERIA REPORT:

Mr. Clayton presented the cafeteria report as of January 31, 1974, showing a cash balance as of July 1, 1973 of \$125.62, total receipts of \$94,009.49, total disbursements of \$77,749.53, leaving a balance of \$16,385.58. Total "A" lunch - 16,635. Milk - 18,855. Free Lunches - 1,643. Reduced Price Lunches - 170. School days - 18.

HEARING OF CITIZENS - Agenda Items Only:

None

APPROVAL OF BILLS & MANDATORY PAYMENTS:

On motion made by Mr. Clayton, seconded by Mr. Piro, and unanimously approved by the Board, bills for goods received and services rendered for February 18, 1974 were approved and payments ratified. (See pages 80a and 80b)

On motion made by Mr. Clayton, seconded by Mr. Lindstrom, and unanimously approved by the Board, bills for mandatory payments for February 18, 1974 were approved and payments ratified (see page 80b).

On motion made by Mr. Clayton, seconded by Mr. Cameron, and unanimously approved by the Board, bills for goods received and services rendered for February 18, 1974 were approved and payments ratified. (See page 80c & 80d).

REQUESTS FOR USE OF SCHOOLS BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS:

Mr. Piro presented and moved the adoption of the following resolution, seconded by Mr. Cameron, and unanimously approved by the Board (see pages 80e, 80f. & 80g).

LEAVE OF ABSENCE - Cafeteria Employee:

Mr. Piro presented and moved the adoption of the following resolution, seconded by Mr. Cameron, and unanimously approved by the Board:

BE IT RESOLVED, That the Board of Education approves a request from Mrs. Anna Kuncitis, cafeteria employee, for a leave of absence for medical reasons for the period from February 8, 1974 through March 31, 1974.

LEAVE OF ABSENCE - Audio-Visual School Aide:

Mr. Cameron presented and moved the adoption of the following resolution, seconded by Mr. Piro, and unanimously approved by the Board:

BE IT RESOLVED, That personal leave of absence be granted Mr. Howard Stein, Audio-Visual School Aide, for the period from February 16, 1974 through May 21, 1974.

LEAVE OF ABSENCE - Teacher:

Mr. Restaino presented and moved the adoption of the following resolution, seconded by Mr. Piro, and unanimously approved by the Board:

BE IT RESOLVED, That maternity leave of absence be granted Mrs. Susan LaReau, a teacher, for the remainder of the 1973-1974 school year, effective March 16, 1974.

APPOINTMENT: Permanent Substitute

Mr. Berger presented and moved the adoption of the following resolution, seconded by Mr. Lindstrom, and unanimously approved by the Board:

BE IT RESOLVED, That Mr. Brian McGinley be appointed a permanent substitute for Mrs. Marie Avolio in the high school for the remainder of the 1973-1974 school year, effective March 1, 1974. *\$8,650 per annum*  
*B.A. (1)*

APPOINTMENT - Teacher:

Mrs. Popadick presented and moved the adoption of the following resolution, seconded by Mr. Lindstrom, and unanimously approved by the Board:

BE IT RESOLVED, That Mrs. Catherine Manning be appointed teacher for the remainder of the 1973-1974 school year, effective March 18, 1974, replacing Mrs. Susan LaReau, Spring Garden School, at a salary agreed upon by the Board of Education and in accordance with the current salary guide. (B.A. - 2)

*\$9,061*

APPOINTMENT - Additions to Substitute List - Teachers:

Mr. Lindstrom presented and moved the adoption of the following resolution, seconded by Mrs. Popadick, and unanimously approved by the Board:

BE IT RESOLVED, That the teacher substitutes listed on the attached sheet be approved for the 1973-1974 school year.

APPOINTMENT - Addition to Substitute List - Secretary:

Mr. Lindstrom presented and moved the adoption of the following resolution, seconded by Mr. Tangorra, and unanimously approved by the Board:

BE IT RESOLVED, That Rosemarie Capobianca be approved as secretarial substitute for the 1973-1974 school year.

APPOINTMENT OF ARCHITECT AND ENGINEER - Special Education Center:

Mr. Tangorra presented and moved the adoption of the following resolution, seconded by Mrs. Popadick, and unanimously approved by the Board:

BE IT RESOLVED, That the Board of Education hereby amends the resolution passed on September 20, 1972 appointing Hamnett, Bouman & Blanche as architects for repair and remodeling of the Special Education Center for a flat fee of \$8,000 to read instead:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Board of Education ratifies the action of its Secretary in engaging the firm of Hamnett, Bouman & Blanche as architects for the repair and remodeling of the Special Education Center, 529 Washington Avenue, for a flat fee of \$4,000, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board of Education ratifies the action of its Secretary in engaging the firm of Bickford & Spaeth Associates as engineers for the repair and remodeling of the Special Education Center, 529 Washington Avenue, for a flat fee of \$4,000.

HEARING OF CITIZENS:

Mrs. D. Rubino, 48 North Road, questioned why the small school vans used for transporting students were not marked as school vehicles. Mr. Ramsland stated that the law requires that any school bus which transports 20 or more students must be marked but that buses which transport less than 20 students may not be so marked. There are a great number of small vehicles transporting students, private schools as well as public and if they were all marked as school buses traffic would be seriously tied up. Mrs. Rubino suggested that possibly the driver should get off the bus and help the youngsters across the street should it be necessary for the bus to stop on the opposite side of the street. Mr. Ramsland pointed out that our routes are set up to pick up and discharge students on their side of the street.

Mr. Restaino read the following statement:

"On Tuesday, February 5, 1974 I returned a phone call to our President. I was asked if it were true that I was having a cocktail party for Tom Testa? I replied in the affirmative. I was then informed that as Board President it was incumbent on her office to inform me that she did not feel this was right. With that I said no one - absolutely no one will ever tell me how to run my personal life.

"I was told that I have to work with board members and this is not done so overtly. My answer to this was that when I help someone it is completely out in the open and not 'under the table'.

"My actions on the board this past year have shown that I consider the merit of the situation and my votes are determined by what is good for our youngsters and tax payers of Nutley. I defy anyone to refute this statement.

"What my family and I choose to do personally is my business and only my business. I informed the Board President that next year I may have a party for another candidate or I may not.

"I have a free will and I intend to exercise my God given right to use this will in any manner I see fit. My integrity has been questioned. (The dictionary definition of integrity is - honesty; sincerity; uprightness). My actions this past year as a board member have been - honest, sincere and upright. I take offense at my personal life having been intruded upon and I say what I do personally within the law is my business and only my business.

"In two years if I choose to run for re-election, the Board President, may at that time if she still feels my personal life comes under her purview, and I have not abided by the New Jersey School Board Code of Ethics, muster her forces to defeat me.

"I am ready now and have always been working 100% with every board member to see that each Nutley youngster receives the finest education possible."

Mrs. Jaworek responded that her only comment would be that she did not tell Mr. Restaino that he could not have a cocktail party but that she felt in view of the fact that she had called and spoken to another board member and told him that in the past it had been the policy of the board not to take a stance favoring one candidate over another. Also, that as members of the school board the board members are more than private citizens and that the board had to live with whoever might be elected and in view of the fact that she had made this comment to a prior board member she felt that she would have been remiss if she had not made the same comment to Mr. Restaino.

Mr. Restaino commented that his statement was complete and that it should answer any questions that anyone might have, but again said that his personal life was his own business.

NEW BUSINESS: None

OLD BUSINESS: None

ADJOURNMENT:

There being no further business to come before the Board, on motion made by Mrs. Popadick, seconded by Mr. Clayton, the meeting was adjourned at 8:00 p. m.

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President

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Secretary

March 27, 1974  
Date Approved

Mr. Ramsland announced that the Organization Meeting of the new Board of Education would begin after a short caucus.