

Board of Education  
Nutley, New Jersey

April 26, 1976

The Regular Meeting of the Board of Education of the Town of Nutley, New Jersey, was held in the Board Room, 149 Chestnut Street, on Monday, April 26, 1976, at 8:00 p.m., with Mr. Walter Lindstrom, President, presiding.

FLAG SALUTE:

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

ANNOUNCEMENT OF ADEQUATE NOTICE:

Mr. Lindstrom read the following notice:

"As required by the 'Open Public Meetings Act' (Chapter 231, P.L. 1975), notice of this meeting was provided to the public and press at least 48 hours in advance by:

- "1. Posting at the entrance of the Board offices.
- "2. Mailed or delivered to The Nutley Sun, the Newark-Star Ledger, and the Passaic Herald-News, and
- "3. Delivered to the Nutley Town Clerk."

ROLL CALL:

The other members present at roll call were: Mr. Carl Perez, Mrs. Edward M. Popadick, Mrs. Bernard Rabinowitz, Mr. Gerard T. Restaino, Mr. Robert Rusignuolo, Mrs. John Wightman, and Mr. Louis F. Williams. Absent and excused: Mr. Frank V. Tangorra. Approximately 35 citizens were present.

MINUTES:

Copies of the minutes of the Special Meeting held on March 15, 1976, at 7:30 p.m., being in the hands of each member, reading of same was dispensed. Mrs. Popadick moved that the minutes be approved, seconded by Mr. Perez, and unanimously approved by the Board.

Copies of the minutes of the Regular Meeting held on March 15, 1976, at 8:30 p.m., being in the hands of each member, reading of same was dispensed. Mr. Perez moved that the minutes be approved, seconded by Mrs. Rabinowitz, and unanimously approved by the Board.

COMMUNICATIONS:

Mr. Ramsland presented the following communications:

1. A letter to Mr. Lindstrom, President, from Mrs. V. Spirito:

"Not only as a parent but as an advisor for the 8th grade Junior Raider cheering squad, I would like to present to the Board some suggestions for their consideration:

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'1. That we expand our varsity cheering squad to 18 and also add a JV squad, and

'2. That we use a different selection process.

"My daughter had anticipated trying out for a position on the cheering squad for a long time and was not eligible until the end of her sophomore year in order to make the team as a junior. This year 8th graders and freshmen became eligible, and one 8th grader and 4 freshmen made the varsity squad and will in all practically be on the team for 3-4 years. Is it really fair to allow that many positions on a varsity squad to be taken away from upperclassmen? I also cannot understand how 8th grade girls are eligible for a varsity cheering squad, or any other squad, while still attending Junior High School and have not as yet entered into Nutley High School. The results this year allow only 4 positions to be open next year, and there will now be four grades competing for those 4 positions.

"I would like to recommend or suggest that we increase our varsity squad to 18 in number, and also have a JV cheering squad to allow more girls to become involved in something that is very sought after and desired in Nutley.

"Theoretically, each year there will be 14 positions open, but it seems more likely -- after a parent has spent approximately \$150 - \$175 on equipment needed in order to be a cheerleader -- that once a girl is selected, she will remain on the squad through the remainder of her high school years.

"In order to avoid this overly competitive situation, why can we not allow more girls to become involved in cheering since there are many more twirlers and flagbearers on their respective squads than there are cheerleaders.

"Also, I would like to recommend that we revise our selection process, as every year there are many parents who call the school and are very unhappy with the results of the scoring. Surely, we can select a new process of scoring that will satisfy not only the administration but the girls and their parents as well. I understand that this year there were only three judges when usually there are five.

"I hope that we can cast away the belief that Nutley is prejudiced against girls, and as a result make many girls in Nutley happy and not only a few."

2. A letter from Sig Bogdanowicz, Manager, American Legion Post #70:

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"I appreciate the courtesy that was extended to me by the members of the Board of Education on Monday, March 15, 1976 in allowing me to present my request for the use of the Park Oval for baseball games during the 1976 season.

"When I accepted the position as manager of the American Legion Post #70 of Nutley, one of my responsibilities is to arrange for a field to be used as the homefield for the games scheduled for this season. There are three fields in the town of Nutley that are suitable for Legion baseball games and they are the Nutley Park Oval, Flora Loudon Park and Owens Field off Park Avenue. Each one of the fields that I surveyed has advantages and disadvantages which had to be evaluated.

"As you are well aware, the field off Park Avenue (Owens Field) is presently undergoing extensive construction to make the area available for recreation facilities. At the moment the possibilities of a field being completed so baseball games could be played does not look promising.

Therefore, I cannot make arrangements for the use of Owens Field as a home field, because of the uncertainties in the construction programs. (Weather can set the program back a few days).

"The Flora Loudon Park has been used in the past for our games, but the field has disadvantages which I would like to present to you.

- "1. The drainage of the field is very poor. After heavy rains which we experience during May and June, the infield and outfield around second base are inundated resulting in postponement of the game. This could continue for several days.
- "2. Parking facilities in the area is a problem when Little League games are being played.
- "3. With part of the field set aside for Farm team play of the Central Little League, this could present a problem if both fields are in use. The problem occurs because the farm team members can interfere with the older players or vice versa. An injury could result from a collision between the older and younger players. This is what I think should be avoided.

"I realize that the Park Oval is used for the High School's commencement exercise and probably by the Junior High School. It is for these special days that the stands used for the football games are installed on the east side of the field. Prior to 1972, the stands were dismantled after graduation exercise and the field was made available for baseball and softball games.

"During the past few years, the stands at the Oval were left in position until the completion of the football season. This then prevents scheduling any baseball games at the field. It seems odd to me that a field which is centrally located in town with parking facilities and accessible for many of our citizens, is made unavailable for our youngsters' sports programs during the summer months.

"As I have mentioned earlier in my letter, I would like the Board of Education members to review my request for the use of the Park Oval. It should also be made available for other programs that the town Recreation Department may schedule for the kids during the summer months.

"I would appreciate a reply so that I can schedule my games for this season."

3. A letter from David R. Ballou, Chairman, Bicentennial Ball Committee:

"In order to bring you and everyone connected with the above project up to date, I would like to advise you of the following preceding events.

"In October, 1974, I agreed to put on a Bicentennial Ball for the Town of Nutley. I stated at an open meeting that the only place in Nutley to have such an event would be the town Oval. I was instructed, as a starting point, to contact Mr. Ramsland of the Nutley Board of Education.

"I, along with others concerned, decided upon a tent and/or tents, a fancy dress ball, and a cocktail-dance by definition. In November, 1974, I called your office and spoke to Mrs. Houston, who informed me that no dates were known thus far in advance for June, 1976. She, however, suggested that I call Mr. Ramsland near the end of the school year.

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"In May, 1975, I met with Mr. Ramsland and went over the general project. After defining the event as a 'cocktail-dance,' permission for a date in June, 1976, was once again not met, due to incidents such as snow dates, etc. The only concern was 'would having the tents up in the Oval damage the grass?' I said that to my knowledge the tents would not, but stated that we would get a letter to that effect from the tent company once it was settled. At the end of the meeting, it was suggested that I come back when the calendar was in better shape. I then asked Mr. Ramsland if there was anything more I should do, but his answer was simply 'no.' It was at this time that I contacted tent companies, caterers, possible members of the committee, etc. However, the professional companies could not help us until we had a firm date for the ball, since their calendars were also in the process of being set.

"In October, 1975, I once again met with Mr. Ramsland during which time I again stated that I would get a letter from the tent company concerning the grass. Any problems that arised from this would, in turn, be discussed with Mr. Frank Cocchiola, Commissioner of Parks. During our meeting, Mr. Ramsland also advised me that I would need to hire school security.

"As a result of this meeting, a date of June 26 was set. On the basis of this firm date, I was able to proceed to work further with the tent and table people, the caterer, the orchestra, etc. Plans could also be discussed with Bill Searle, who was in charge of merchandizing the tickets to guarantee a minimum attendance of 500 people.

"Since I travel a great deal in my business, I was somewhat slow in getting all bases. Due to business of her own, in addition, I was unable to pass this duty on to my wife. During the first part of January, I was also informed that suddenly someone realized that 'cocktail-dance' or 'dinner-dance' (as it was then being thought of as) meant that liquor would be sold and served in the Oval during the party. I was informed that perhaps the ball, should, therefore, not be allowed.

"At this point, I contacted Carl Perez, a member of the Board, who presented the problem to his colleagues. I asked Mr. Perez if he could check out this situation for me. I advised him if his investigation proved true, he should then present our case to the Board without making a prescedent. The Board, would in effect make a formal decision on this matter. Mr. Perez telephoned me later that day to report that he had spoken to someone at the Board (who I assumed was Mr. Ramsland) who, in turn, stated that the problem was true and being further researched. Mr. Perez told me he would let me know any further results, upon my return from a business trip.

"When I returned, however, I called Mr. Perez. He reported to me that there was no problem with the liquor, but their only concern was the grass. I told him that I had asked for a letter of assurance from the Green Tent Company (with whom I was meeting in order to measure the Oval) and would send it to him when I received it along with our other documents.

"A possible problem with the caterer arose concerning the projected need for advancing the date of the Ball by one week to Saturday, June 18. My wife then contacted Mr. Ramsland and explained the problem to him, asking about the possible availability of June 18, should it prove necessary. At this time, my wife (since I was on business on the West Coast) spoke to Mrs. Houston. However, instead of answering our question, Mrs. Houston was extremely rude. My wife simply stated that she was only a messenger boy and could not directly answer for me. (My wife could have just hung up on her.) In my opinion, she could have, instead of being so rude, simply asked my wife to call her upon my return.

"At this point, I would like to bring to your attention the fact that in all of my contact with the office of the Board, I have never been asked

to appear before them. I, myself, never thought to ask to do so, for I assumed I was dealing with the correct party; namely, Mr. Ramsland. I knew that it was necessary for me to supply certain documents to the Board, but no urgency seemed to prevail.

"On Saturday, March 27, 1976, I received a call from Mr. Perez, who stated that someone on the Board was making 'waves' about the liquor in the Oval. I told him that this was already approved and no problem existed. He, then, suggested that I appear before the Board, the Ball would have to be cancelled, since there was no way we could delay any further. On Sunday, I again reminded Mr. Perez about his suggestion; however, he felt that whoever he had spoken to about this problem, had not yet contacted all the members of the Board.

"This brings me to the present ... 4 a.m., April 2, the first time in a very hectic schedule that I have been able to give this my attention. It is, therefore, obvious that a delay until the end of April will result in the cancellation of the Nutley Bicentennial Ball, since we are already down to the wire for tickets, programs, etc.. We need your immediate attention, even if only to say 'sorry.'

"I offer my apologies to the members of the Board, if I have offended anyone. I believed that I was following all correct procedures. All possible efforts are being made to make this Ball a 'once in a life-time' party. Everyone connected with this event is quite excited. They would like to see all their help and assistance put to use. NOW PUSH COMES TO SHOVE. WE NEED YOUR HELP IN GIVING A FORMAL APPROVAL AT ONCE... Thank you."

4. A letter from Frank A. Cocchiola, Town Commissioner, Department of Parks & Public Property:

"In response to a request from Mr. Tex Ballou, who is a member of the Bi-Centennial Committee, this is to inform you that if a tent is erected on the oval for a town wide Bi-centennial Ball, the Parks Department will be responsible for filling in all the holes and making necessary repairs to the area after the tent has been removed."

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Mr. Ramsland indicated that he replied to Mr. Ballou's letter pointing out the inaccuracies contained therein. To this reply Mr. Ballou responded with the following letter.

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5. A letter from David Ballou, Chairman, Bicentennial Ball Committee:

"This afternoon I received a letter from Mr. Ramsland which demands an immediate answer.

"First and foremost, please let me state at once that I had no intention of - or thought of embarrassing Mr. Ramsland nor any member of the Board with my letter. It was an attempt, having been told that I could not speak to the Board until the end of April, to place the facts from my point of view before the Board in time for anyone so interested to contact me for further information - before a meeting I expected to be held this last Monday. The deadlines involved with the plans for the Ball required that it be resolved at this meeting. I delivered these letters for there was no time to mail them.

"At the end of his letter, Mr. Ramsland states that a form should have been filled out with a date. Until this last Saturday, and then only by accident, I did not know that such a form existed and was required. No one at the administration office mentioned it. The letter speaks of this form as though everyone should know about it - ... I did not.

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"I will not attempt to answer Mr. Ramsland's letter item by item for we are in disagreement with our 'facts.' I will only say, though I composed the letter in the early hours of the morning, that the letter was researched through all of my notes of the past years in order to put a calendar form to it. I did not dream up the date of June 26, 1976 as given for the ball. It was given to me. I did tell Mr. Ramsland that the tent would be up for a period of three to four days depending upon when it would be erected and when it could be struck. The statement was made that Nutley police, at that time offered by the Mayor, would not be allowed within the oval - school property - and that we would be required to have school security within the oval. It was understood and agreed. Mr. Ramsland did ask for a plan of the tent within the oval - that was delayed until we had the tent people in Nutley.

"This could go on and on for I do feel that my statements are accurate from my understanding of what was being said. Mr. Ramsland was very cooperative in all things and very careful to explain the reasons a date could not be set. All in all the 'history' was meant to let all those concerned know the amount of work that had been put into the plans for the Ball and that no attempt was being sprung on the Board with no discussions with the Office of Administration.

"I live here now. I wanted to do something that I thought would be very special for the Town. I have no interest in embarrassing anyone. I do not want the members of the Board, for whom I have great respect, to be placed in an awkward position. Due to the problem of time created by contracts, etc., involved in executing the Ball - tickets, publicity, catering, etc., (though it is sad) I withdraw my request for the use of the oval for the Bicentennial Ball. I shall announce that all plans for the event have been cancelled and will take all responsibility for the cancellation upon myself.

"Once again, I apologize - particularly to Mr. Ramsland - for any embarrassment this project may have caused."

#### SECRETARY'S REPORT:

Mr. Ramsland presented and read the following report:

"Though it does not quite make up for our loss in State Aid, we have received a check for \$250.93 from the Belleville-Nutley Tuberculosis Association. This Association has in the past, underwritten our annual tuberculosis testing program. It has now been disbanded, and its assets were divided between the Belleville and Nutley Boards of Education.

"Due to a change in the Consumer Price Index, the rate of reimbursement for lunches served in our cafeterias has been increased approximately 2%. The new rates for paid lunches are 18.5¢, reduced price lunches, 67.3¢, and for free lunches, 77.3¢.

"Arbor Day ceremonies have been scheduled for Friday, April 30, at all our elementary schools and the Special Education Center. The Town's Shade Tree Commission has donated a tree for each of these locations, to be planted during the ceremonies.

"Pursuant to a complaint by one of the defeated candidates in the recent Board of Education election, charging the Board with a violation of the election statutes, a hearing was conducted by a representative of the Commissioner of Education in the offices of the County Superintendent of Schools on April 15, 1976. A decision by the Commissioner is expected shortly.

"The count on window replacements during the past month is down to 28. This is not cause for rejoicing, but it is somewhat

encouraging. Plumbing repairs totalled 20 separate items, most of which are the result of aging pipes and fixtures. Some, however, were snaking out clogged drains and waste lines. Among the more mentionable items retrieved was a girls gym suit.

"Exterior doors and fire doors received a heavy concentration of attention this past month. Two exterior doors were replaced and twenty were repaired and reinforced. Welding was also required on four broken door frames. A number of minor carpenter and roof repairs were also made.

"Fire drills were held at the various schools during the months of March and April:

Mar. 11	Franklin School	1:40 p.m.	1 min. 45 secs.
Mar. 12	Washington School	9:50 a.m.	1 min. 30 secs.
Mar. 15	Lincoln School	1:30 p.m.	1 min. 17 secs.
Mar. 19	Radcliffe School	10:30 a.m.	1 min. 22 secs.
Mar. 22	Washington School	12:50 p.m.	1 min. 30 secs.
Mar. 22	Spring Garden School	1:49 p.m.	1 min. 20 secs.
Mar. 23	Nutley High School	12:56 p.m.	2 min. 30 secs.
Mar. 23	Lincoln School	1:33 p.m.	1 min. 16 secs.
Mar. 26	Franklin School	2:00 p.m.	1 min. 50 secs.
Mar. 30	Yantacaw School	1:13 p.m.	1 min. 55 secs.
Apr. 6	Spring Garden School	1:18 p.m.	1 min. 30 secs.
Apr. 7	Radcliffe School	2:35 p.m.	1 min. 23 secs.
Apr. 13	Washington School	12:50 p.m.	1 min. 25 secs.
Apr. 13	Spring Garden School	2:04 p.m.	1 min. 20 secs.
Apr. 14	Special Education Center	1:00 p.m.	2 mins.
Apr. 14	Lincoln School	3:00 p.m.	1 min. 28 secs.
Apr. 15	Yantacaw School	9:52 a.m.	1 min. 20 secs.
Apr. 15	Radcliffe School	10:45 a.m.	1 min. 24 secs."

#### FINANCIAL REPORT:

Mr. Ramsland presented the financial report as of March 31, 1976, showing total funds available of \$8,825,046.56, contractual orders to date of \$7,867,294.81, leaving a balance of funds available of \$957,751.75.

#### SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT:

Mr. Fowler presented and read the following report:

"Mrs. Ann Felice, art teacher at Yantacaw School, developed an art demonstration for the Mothers Club of that school. The intent was to show parents how they might work with their own children in developing art projects.

"The Nutley Bicentennial Committee has announced the winners of the essay and art contests titled, 'Life in 2076.' This has been one more attempt by the schools to foster town-wide programs. The winners in the various classifications are as follows:

#### Essays

Grades 1 through 5	-	Glenn Fabricatore, Holy Family School
Grades 6 through 8	-	John Rabinowitz, Franklin School
Grade 12	-	John Cafone, Nutley High School

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Art

Grades 1 through 5

- Jill Cocchiola and Julie Bernhardt,  
Yantacaw School

Grades 6 through 8

- Lydia Bruno,  
Franklin School

"Mrs. Phyllis Walsh, music teacher at Franklin School, is to be commended for her excellent work in conducting the All North Jersey Junior High School Chorus which was held at Franklin School on Sunday, April 4, 1976.

"The teachers who submitted mini-grant proposals are to be commended for their attempt to develop new programs that will better educate the children of this community.

"We have received approval of our Title IVB application. The \$2,998.00 grant will be used to purchase equipment to be used in the Franklin School reading laboratory, planned for the 1976-1977 school year.

"Promotion and graduation dates for the 1975-1976 school year are as follows:

June 16, 1976	Nutley High School	6:30 p.m.
June 17	Nutley High School rain date	
June 17	Franklin School	9:30 a.m.
June 18	Franklin School rain date	
June 23	Yantacaw School	2:00 p.m.
June 18	Washington School	2:00 p.m.
June 22	Spring Garden School	1:30 p.m.
June 21	Radcliffe School	2:00 p.m.
June 14	Lincoln School	1:15 p.m.

"The students of Nutley High School displayed a great deal of interest in the Career Awareness Program held in the high school building on April 13, 1976. Representatives from 53 vocations were present to meet with students.

Mr. Herbert Sauter and his committee for safety education are to be commended for the excellent course of study they have developed. This will be fully implemented during the next school year.

"The Nutley High School girls basketball team won the North II Group IV sectional championship. They lost in the semi-finals of the state championship. Mrs. Cheryl Restaino and the members of the team are to be commended for this outstanding record.

"Miss Laura Liloia, a Nutley High School student, has been selected to participate in the 'America's Youth in Concert.' This program provides an opportunity for the students selected to perform under the direction of outstanding conductors in the United States and Europe during the summer of 1976.

"Franklin School's annual music festival was held on March 16, 1976. A variety of choral and instrumental selections were presented for the parents.

"The following three Nutley High School students have been selected for membership in the All State Chorus: Lois Brouillard, Marion Kiwor and Laura Liloia.



"Frank Capalbo, a member of the Nutley High School freshman class, has been selected for membership in the All State Orchestra. This is Frank's second successive year to be honored. Last year he was named conductor of the orchestra representing junior high schools of the state.

"The annual Human Relations Ethnic Festival will be held in the high school on April 28. This is an attempt to create an awareness of the varied backgrounds of people in this country."

"We are pleased to announce that on May 7, 1976 the annual Music and Arts Festival will be held at Nutley High School. The art display will be open to the entire community during the hours 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. The music department will plan a program for the evening. Once again, we invite the public to attend.

"Mrs. Lucy Gillies and Mrs. Mary Whelan are with us this evening to present Nutley's test results in the most recent administered state assessment program.

"We are most happy to have Miss Norma Fernandez, a foreign exchange student from Argentina, with us this evening. Miss Fernandez has volunteered to tell us of some of her experiences as a student at Nutley High School."

#### CAFETERIA REPORT:

Mr. Restaino presented the cafeteria report as of March 31, 1976, showing a cash balance as of July 1, 1975 of \$794.90, total receipts of \$152,057.78, total disbursements of \$124,263.32, leaving a balance of \$28,589.36. Total "A" lunch - 23,771. Total milk sold - 23,290. Free lunches - 3,671. Reduced price lunches - 814. Senior Citizen lunches - 118. School days - 23.

#### HEARING OF CITIZENS - (Agenda Items Only):

Mrs. D. Rubino, 48 North Road, raised questions regarding the elimination of ten teaching positions, whether enrollment in Nutley had decreased, and what was the teaching population ten years ago? Mr. Fowler responded. Mrs. Rubino and Mrs. Conway questioned the superintendent as to what a social promotion consisted of. Mr. Fowler responded.

Mr. G. Jack Natale, 18 Hudson Street, raised questions concerning textbook adoptions to which Mr. Lindstrom, Mr. Fowler and Mrs. Rabinowitz replied.

#### BILLS & MANDATORY PAYMENTS:

Mr. Restaino presented and moved the adoption of the following resolution, seconded by Mrs. Popadick. On a roll call vote the resolution was unanimously approved:

BE IT RESOLVED, That the Board of Education authorizes the payment of bills and mandatory payments in the total amount of \$802,204.96, as per Schedule A which have been audited by the Business Department.

#### REQUESTS FOR USE OF BUILDINGS & GROUNDS:

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

BE IT RESOLVED, That the Board of Education approves the requests for the use of school buildings and grounds (Schedule B), provided they conform to the rules and regulations set by the Board.

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RESIGNATION - Custodial:

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

BE IT RESOLVED, That the resignation of Domenick Falduto, Franklin School custodian, be accepted, effective June 30, 1976.

RESIGNATIONS - Teachers:

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

BE IT RESOLVED, That the resignations of the following teachers be accepted, effective June 30, 1976:

Mrs. Christine M. Affinito	elementary (from leave of absence)
Mrs. Joan Gengaro	high school foreign languages (from leave of absence)
Mrs. Heather Wolfarth	high school social studies

LEAVES OF ABSENCE - Teacher:

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

BE IT RESOLVED, That Miss Maria Domaradsky be granted an extension of her medical leave of absence for the remainder of the 1975-1976 school year, effective April 1, 1976.

LEAVE OF ABSENCE - Teacher:

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

BE IT RESOLVED, That Mrs. Joan Dondero, teacher, be granted an extension of her maternity leave of absence for the 1976-1977 school year.

LEAVE OF ABSENCE - Teacher:

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

BE IT RESOLVED, That Mrs. Linda Schalin, teacher, be granted a maternity leave of absence, effective May 1, 1976, for the remainder of the 1975-1976 school year, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That Mrs. Linda Schalin be granted an extension of her maternity leave of absence for the 1976-1977 school year.

LEAVE OF ABSENCE - Teacher:

Mrs. Rabinowitz presented and moved the adoption of the following resolution, seconded by Mrs. Wightman, and unanimously approved by the Board:

BE IT RESOLVED, That Mrs. Anna Marie Zimny, teacher, be granted a maternity leave of absence, effective, June 1, 1976, for the remainder of the 1975-1976 school year, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That Mrs. Anna Marie Zimny be granted an extension of her maternity leave of absence for the 1976-1977 school year.

RETIREMENT - Custodial:

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

BE IT RESOLVED, That the retirement of Carmen DeStefano, Nutley High School custodian, be accepted, effective July 31, 1976.

ELIMINATION OF TEACHING POSITIONS:

Mrs. Rabinowitz presented and moved the adoption of the following resolution, seconded by Mr. Perez. On a roll call vote the resolution was unanimously approved:

WHEREAS, because of the decrease in enrollment and the return to teaching of several tenure teachers for the 1975-1976 school year, and

WHEREAS, the Board of Education of the Town of Nutley hereby authorizes the elimination of nineteen teaching positions from the school staff,

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the authorized number of teachers appointed as of most recent date where possible be notified by the Secretary-Business Administrator on or before April 30, 1976 of the elimination of their positions.

APPOINTMENTS - Additions to Substitute List - Secretaries:

Mrs. Wightman presented and moved the adoption of the following resolution, seconded by Mrs. Rabinowitz. On a roll call vote the resolution was unanimously adopted:

BE IT RESOLVED, That the following be approved as secretarial substitutes for the remainder of the 1975-1976 school year:

Mrs. Sandra Kunz

Mrs. Virginia Turturiello

APPOINTMENTS - Additions to Substitute List - Teachers:

Mrs. Wightman presented and moved the adoption of the following resolution, seconded by Mr. Rusignuolo. On a roll call vote the resolution was unanimously adopted:

BE IT RESOLVED, That the additional teacher substitutes listed on the attached Schedule C, Eighth Supplement, be approved for the 1975-1976 school year.

APPOINTMENT - WORK EXPERIENCE STUDENT, at Learning Resource Center:

Mrs. Wightman presented and moved the adoption of the following resolution, seconded by Mr. Rusignuolo. On a roll call vote the resolution was unanimously adopted:

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BE IT RESOLVED, That Miss Karen Bernardi, Work Experience Student at Nutley High School, be approved as part-time clerical assistant at the Learning Resource Center, effective April 8, 1976 through June 18, 1976. (Step 1 - Summer Student Secretarial Help)

APPOINTMENT - Statewide Testing Program:

Mrs. Wightman presented and moved the adoption of the following resolution, seconded by Mrs. Rabinowitz. On a roll call vote the resolution was unanimously adopted:

BE IT RESOLVED, That Mrs. Lucy Gillies be appointed Statewide Test Coordinator for the compilation and other requirements necessitated by State law in the Statewide Testing Program for the 1975-1976 school year; at a salary agreed upon by the Board of Education. (\$700)

ADOPTION OF SAFETY EDUCATION COURSE OF STUDY, GRADES K-6:

Mr. Rusignuolo presented and moved the adoption of the following resolution, seconded by Mr. Perez. On a roll call vote the resolution was unanimously adopted:

WHEREAS, the Committee for Safety Education has submitted to the Board of Education for adoption a safety curriculum guide, grades Kindergarten through Sixth Grade,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the course of study for Safety Education, Grades K-6, be adopted, effective for the 1976-1977 school year.

TEXTBOOK ADOPTION - Social Studies:

Mr. Rusignuolo presented and moved the adoption of the following resolution, seconded by Mrs. Rabinowitz. On a roll call vote the resolution was unanimously adopted:

BE IT RESOLVED, That the textbook, Problems of Democracy, Political, Social, Economic; Dunwidde, William E., Ginn and Company, 1974, be adopted for use for the 1976-1977 school year.

TEXTBOOK ADOPTION - Typing:

Mr. Rusignuolo presented and moved the adoption of the following resolution, seconded by Mrs. Popadick. On a roll call vote the resolution was unanimously adopted:

BE IT RESOLVED, That the textbook, Typing 300, Rowe, John L.; Lloyd, Alan C.; and Winger, Fred E., McGraw-Hill Book Company, 1973, be adopted for use for the 1976-1977 school year.

TEXTBOOK ADOPTION - Social Studies:

Mr. Rusignuolo presented and moved the adoption of the following resolution, seconded by Mrs. Popadick:

BE IT RESOLVED, That the Seventh Grade Social Studies textbook, This is Our World, O'Hern, James; Silver Burdett Company, 1975, be adopted for use for the 1976-1977 school year.

Under discussion on the motion, Mr. Williams made the following comments:

"I was originally going to abstain from the voting with respect to this book, however I feel I must be more definitive and so I am going to vote no.

"I have given this matter much consideration, because there is more involved than the book per se.

"There are the children who will be using the book, the teachers who will be using the book, the teachers and administrators who have reviewed the book and last but not least the publishers of the book.

"I have read this book. I have read the book keeping in mind that it is advertised and marketed as a seventh grade book. Upon completion of my review I was somewhat dismayed.

"In my opinion, and these are my personal opinions, I think the book has the following faults as a textbook:

- (A) Disjointed subject matter
- (B) A reading level I feel overall is lower than 7th grade level.
- (C) Over utilization of colloquial English
- (D) Injection of authors opinions

"These are faults that I feel are detrimental to a textbook, they might not be faults in a novel.

"We are becoming more and more concerned with reading and the ability of our youngsters to verbally communicate in an intelligent fashion. I feel this book does not address these concerns.

"I realize that textbooks are a tool which are placed in the teacher's hands for his/her use in imparting knowledge and understanding.

"I feel our teachers can and will make the necessary compensations to overcome the faults in this book. It is unfortunate that they have to be asked to do this.

"There has been a great deal of time and effort on the part of our teachers in seeking an updated textbook for this course. Their diligence is to be commended.

"I believe the fault in this whole situation lies with the publishers.

"My impressions with respect to a meeting with the publisher's representatives may be interpreted as 'take it or leave it'.

"I feel the publishers must be strongly reminded that there are educational systems such as ours which are striving to maintain a high standard of education and thus require materials of high standard, not excerpts from 'Welcome Back Kotter'.

"I feel this book does not add anything to the Nutley School System curriculum."

After further comments by Mr. Restaino, Mrs. Rabinowitz, and Mr. Lindstrom, Mr. Rusignuolo withdrew his motion and Mrs. Popadick withdrew her second. The Chairman then declared that the motion was dead.

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NUTLEY MINI-GRANTS:

Mrs. Popadick presented and moved the adoption of the following resolution, seconded by Mr. Perez. On a roll call vote the resolution was unanimously adopted:

WHEREAS, local funds have been approved in the 1975-1976 budget to establish mini-grants for staff members presenting innovative educational ideas,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Nutley mini-grants listed below be approved for the 1975-1976 school year:

Career Resource Center	\$390	Mr. Jack Drury Nutley High School
Living Laboratory-Biological Science	\$400	Mr. Daniel N. Kimberley Mr. Lawrence Jinks Nutley High School
Ancient History Museum Experience	\$400	Mrs. Beth Stein Nutley High School
Math Mini Lab.	\$550	Miss Patricia Andriola Mrs. Bernice Paschal Miss Jacqueline Petitti Miss Irene Weyer Mrs. Barbara Kirk Mrs. Dorothy Mutch Mrs. Ann Zimny Mrs. Mary Ellen Downey Miss Jerilyn Margulies Mrs. Judith Story Yantacaw School
Oral History of Nutley	\$150	Mrs. Nancy Lee Lincoln School
Career or Occupational Exploration	\$230	Miss Loretta Douglas Mrs. Margaret Murray Franklin School
VEC News Program	\$225	Mr. James S. Vivinetto Franklin School
Teaching Skills for (I. C.) Students	\$400	Mrs. Michelina MacGregor Mrs. Marilyn Sandberg Mr. Joseph Statile Mr. Ronald Vassallo Nutley High School
Auditory and Visual Experiences for the Younger Child	*\$	Mrs. Gilda Schwartz Mrs. Linda Tissot Miss Linda Gilroy Miss Joyce Loeffler Miss Mari Konn Miss Jennifer Pucci Washington School

\* Requesting \$400 - award not yet definite



PLACEMENT OF SPECIAL EDUCATION STUDENT:

Mrs. Popadick presented and moved the adoption of the following resolution, seconded by Mrs. Wightman. On a roll call vote the resolution was unanimously adopted:

BE IT RESOLVED, That in accordance with the requirements of Chapter 46 of Title 18A, New Jersey Education Statutes, the Board of Education of the Town of Nutley authorizes the attendance of an additional Nutley student at Special Education classes for the 1975-1976 school year, at the annual rate shown and effective on the date indicated, as follows:

<u>School</u>	<u>Classification</u>	<u>Tuition Per Pupil</u>	<u>Effective Date</u>
N. J. Association for Children with Learning Disabilities - Early Childhood Learning Center Paramus, N. J.	N.I.	\$2,900.00	January 5, 1976

TRANSPORTATION - Special Education Student:

Mrs. Popadick presented and moved the adoption of the following resolution, seconded by Mrs. Rabinowitz. On a roll call vote the resolution was unanimously adopted:

BE IT RESOLVED, That the Board of Education authorizes its Secretary-Business Administrator to enter into a contract with [REDACTED] to provide transportation for a Nutley Special Education Student to New Jersey Association for Children with Learning Disabilities - Early Childhood Learning Center, Paramus, New Jersey, at a per diem cost of \$5.68. (1/5/76 thru 6/30/76)

BOARD OF EDUCATION SPONSORSHIP OF NUTLEY HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS AT ALL-STATE MUSIC PROGRAMS:

Mrs. Popadick presented and moved the adoption of the following resolution, seconded by Mr. Ruscignuolo. On a roll call vote the resolution was unanimously adopted:

WHEREAS, Board of Education sponsorship of four Nutley High School All-State Chorus and Orchestra members in performance in All-State Programs has been requested,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the following high school students be approved for sponsorship at Board of Education expense for lodging, meals and transportation to perform for the New Jersey Education Association Convention in Atlantic City, November, 1976, and in Newark, New Jersey, Symphony Hall, November, 1976:

Lois Brouillard	All-State Chorus member
Marion Kiwor	All-State Chorus member
Laura Liloia	All-State Chorus member
Frank Capalbo	All-State Orchestra member

POLICY REVISION - Smoking and Alcoholic Beverages:

Mr. Perez presented and moved the adoption of the following resolution, seconded by Mrs. Popadick. On a roll call vote the resolution was unanimously adopted:

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WHEREAS, existing Board Policy prohibits the consumption of alcoholic beverages in any part of a school building, and

WHEREAS, said policy does not presently cover school grounds,

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That Section 1041.1, par. 12 of the Boards' policies, which presently reads:

"All laws regarding public assemblies must be strictly complied with. Smoking or the consumption of alcoholic beverages in any part of the school building is absolutely prohibited."

be amended to read as follows:

"All laws regarding public assemblies must be strictly complied with. Smoking in any place of public assembly in any school building is absolutely prohibited. The sale, possession, or consumption of any form of alcoholic beverages in or on any part of the school buildings or grounds is absolutely prohibited."

Mr. Perez stated that he was in favor of the use of the Oval for the Bicentennial Ball since it would have been a once in a lifetime event, and had it come to a vote, he would have voted yes. Unfortunately, it will not be held and Nutley will lose by it.

Mrs. Rabinowitz commented that she was completely in agreement with Mr. Perez since it was a once in a lifetime function.

#### RETENTION OF A SPECIAL EDUCATION STUDENT BEYOND AGE 20:

Mr. Perez presented and moved the adoption of the following resolution, seconded by Mrs. Rabinowitz. On a roll call vote the resolution was approved by a vote of 6 to 2 with Mrs. Popadick and Mr. Williams casting the dissenting votes.

BE IT RESOLVED, That the Board of Education will accept, for the 1976-1977 school year only, [REDACTED], who has completed the program at the training center in Nutley and who has or will have attained the age of 20 years prior to June 30, 1976, on the condition that the costs to the Nutley Board of Education for such retention, on a pro-rata basis, shall be borne by his parents.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That this authorization shall not extend past June 30, 1977, nor shall it be considered a precedent for similar authorization in future years.

Mrs. Popadick read the following statement:

"I fully understand the situation at hand, I have been through similar experiences of 'no programs - no openings - waiting lists', but I fail to understand and accept the reasoning of this magic 'one extra year' or more as requested by the parents, to retain their son in our special education trainable classes after attaining 20 years of age during the school year and graduating. Schools are for the purpose of education and as in this case, the 'training of the retarded', not a holding place for students so that money may be acquired for a non-public school program. By law, the Nutley Board of Education has fulfilled its obligation as it has been doing for many years, and even before it became a law. Now the parents of this one particular adult, admittedly ask for an additional year or more and have offered to pay tuition, in order for the Special Young Adults Group to raise more money for their program.

"Since the parents of this student have expressed the willingness to pay for tuition and transportation to the Nutley Board of Education -- would it not be wiser and much more beneficial for this same money to be used as 'seed money' to help establish the Special Young Adults program on a sound financial basis? [REDACTED] as President, and [REDACTED] as Secretary of the Special Young Adults, who happen to be the requesting parents, I should think you would have a vested interest in the Special Young Adults, and would, therefore, agree to this theory and enroll your son upon his graduation from the school program.

"Last year this same group of parents, plus the parents of the 1975 graduates, made the same request for an extension of time in the school program, although not offering to pay tuition. They have since started their own Special Young Adults program. Graduates from 1975 are in the Special Young Adults program. I do commend some of the parents for actively trying to do something for the graduated students who for one reason or another are not in other programs and I will continue to help them in any way that I can. It is through the combined efforts and cooperation of the special education parents that programs have, can and will be started to fulfill a richer life for their children. However, this should be done by all and not just a few of the parents. If not, how can you expect other people not directly involved to become interested and continue with their support?

"Our classes in Nutley for the trainable retarded are conducted to train the retarded students in the basic skills of the individual student's ability to reach his potential and to prepare the students toward their 'next step' in life after graduation. This 'next step' is the parents' responsibility in the same manner as the so called normal child's graduation from high school. However, our school social worker has tried to help the parents of the special education graduates with the initiation of this 'next step', by holding a meeting with the parents and the representatives from Department of Mental Retardation, Department of Rehabilitation and Social Security - the agencies concerned and responsible for the graduates 'next step programs'. Incidentally, these programs were started as pilot projects for the retarded by the Essex unit and with tuition paid by the parents. Also with the Supplemental Social Security Income the graduates qualify as 'handicapped' and thereby receive monthly checks which could be used toward tuition to help defray expenses of those enrolled in the Special Young Adults program.

"As a mother of a retarded son who graduated from our Nutley special education trainable classes and as an active member for over 25 years and a Board of Director member of Essex Unit, New Jersey Association for Retarded Citizens with an interest in working for programs and the improvement of these programs for all retarded citizens, and as the unit's representative on the State Residential and Institutional Care Committee, and the Chairman of the units 'Over 20 Committee', which is particularly concerned with programs for the retarded adults, I cannot totally accept the actions and thinking of these few parents. Some of these parents are 'dues paying' members of Essex Unit and receive literature, but are not active members. They should be directing their energies with the thousands of other members seeking state and national legislation for more and better programs. I have seen all of the programs we now have from their beginnings and I will continue to work actively to start more programs and improve programs now in existence. This is what these parents should have been doing and still can (begin to) do instead of just playing on the sympathy of the Nutley Board of Education, the Town Commissioners and the townspeople.

"At the present time there are two main avenues available for the graduated young adult - the Occupational Center of Essex County Sheltered Workshop and the Activity Center. Our graduates are recommended for acceptance into these programs according to their ability. Unfortunately, there is a waiting list for the Activity Center on South Harrison Street in East Orange. This program was started as a pilot project by Essex Unit and is now funded by the State which includes tuition and provides transportation.

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Although there is room for more clients, the State has cut back on the funding which has caused the waiting list. However, when I checked through Department of Mental Retardation recently, there were no Nutley names on the waiting list. I have been after the parents to register their retarded adult with the Department of Mental Retardation and get their name on the waiting list so that we can have pressure for the restoration of the 'cutback' and also for additional funding to expand the program and eliminate the waiting list. The Occupational Center of Essex County on Lakeside Avenue in Orange is accepting clients through Department of Rehabilitation. Also for clients unfamiliar with public transportation, a new program has been initiated to help the individual client learn to use public transportation between his home and Occupational Center of Essex County.

"In short, the Nutley Board of Education has fulfilled its obligation by law and now it is time for the graduated young adults to become the responsibility of other agencies geared to their particular needs. As a Nutley Board of Education member, I have pledged to work for the best education of all children in our Nutley Schools. I am interested in what is best for the student, not just what is convenient for the family.

"This situation is not unique to Nutley, it is the same concern throughout the country. On April 8, 1976, I attended a combined meeting of the Essex Unit and the parents of the John F. Kennedy, Newark students. Bernard L. White, Deputy Director of N. J. State Division of Mental Retardation spoke to us about the programs offered and the status of each program. Even if the income tax is passed - it would not financially help Department of Mental Retardation as the tax money is earmarked for schools, property tax relief and reimbursement to communities. But we did hear about other possibilities to explore for programs for the retarded adult. It was also emphasized that the parents had to get the ball rolling and the professionals would help by their supportive information and advice. A committee is being formed and a meeting will be called soon to get the 'ball rolling'. I volunteered to be on the committee and I would welcome the Nutley special education parents to join this committee.

"Therefore, I intend to vote 'no' for retaining in a 'holding position' any student for another year, especially where there are other programs in existence."

Mr. Williams read the following statement:

"There is no question that our system can accomodate this one youngster. There is no question that this youngster is in need of specialized help. There is no question that this youngster would benefit from specialized help and association with his peers.

"The answers to these questions are self-evident. There are also facilities available for this youngster.

"There are other questions however that the Board must address with respect to this situation and its effect on the entire Nutley School System.

"By agreeing to this request, I feel the Board is setting precedent. This precedent is being set in an area of education that is comparatively new, very complex, highly specialized, costly and wrought with deep emotion.

"In setting this precedent the Board is faced with two alternatives.

"First the Board must now be prepared to consider future requests on an individual selective basis, in which case reasons for denial will have to be evaluated and could appear arbitrary, especially the ability to pay. This will be a difficult alternative to follow.



"The second alternative is simply honor all requests regardless of age or ability to pay.

"I feel the reasons presented in this request do not warrant the action the Board is taking, especially in light of the potential ramifications.

"There is one last question that has yet to be answered and that is: How far does the Board's responsibility extend and how far does the Board commit the public's support?.

"I am voting no on this item, because I feel the Board of Education and the citizens of Nutley have fulfilled their obligation and they have fulfilled it in an exceptional manner. Before we embark into an area of prerogatives many questions must be answered, and many plans formulated."

#### BIDS FOR SUPPLIES AND EQUIPMENT FOR THE 1976-1977 SCHOOL YEAR:

Mr. Perez presented and moved the adoption of the following resolution, seconded by Mr. Rusignuolo. On a roll call vote the resolution was unanimously adopted:

WHEREAS, bids were received on Tuesday, April 13, 1976 at 2:30 p.m. for the following supplies and equipment: Athletic and Physical Education, Audio Visual, Home Economics, Industrial Arts, Library, Mechanical Drawing and Science, and

WHEREAS, attached as per Schedule D is a list of those companies that submitted said bids,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Board of Education hereby authorizes its Secretary to award contracts to the lowest bidders, provided the items requested meet or are equal to specifications.

#### BIDS FOR MAGAZINES AND PERIODICALS:

Mr. Perez presented and moved the adoption of the following resolution, seconded by Mrs. Rabinowitz. On a roll call vote the resolution was unanimously adopted:

WHEREAS, bids were received on Thursday, March 18, 1976 at 2:30 p.m. for magazines and periodicals for the 1976-1977 School Year,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Board of Education hereby awards the contract for magazines and periodicals for the 1976-1977 School Year to The Turner Subscription Agency, Inc., New York, New York, in the amount of \$3,769.66.

Note: There were no other bidders.

Mrs. Gillies and Mrs. Whelan reported on Nutley's test results in the State Assessment Program, followed by a question and answer period.

#### HEARING OF CITIZENS:

Mr. J. Natale questioned whether the Board had reached a decision with regard to the purchase of band uniforms, to which Mr. Lindstrom replied. Mr. Natale commented how well the band had performed on their recent trip to Disney World, to which Mr. Perez questioned how many students participated and how many were unable to attend.

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Mrs. Rubino, Mrs. Conway, Mrs. Noblock and Mrs. Cullari expressed their feelings on the decision made by the Board of Education with regard to permitting [REDACTED] to attend the program at the Special Education Center even though he has or will have attained the age of 20 years prior to June 30, 1976.

OLD BUSINESS:

None

NEW BUSINESS:

None

ADJOURNMENT:

There being no further business to come before the Board, on motion made by Mrs. Popadick, seconded by Mr. Perez, the meeting was adjourned at 10:40 p.m.

Walter Lindstrom

President

[Signature]

Secretary

May 24, 1976

Date