

Board of Education
Nutley, New Jersey

May 9, 1977

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, May 9, 1977, at 7:30 p. m. , with Mr. Walter Lindstrom, President, presiding.

FLAG SALUTE:

The meeting was opened with Mr. Rusignuolo 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 the 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: Mrs. Roy Imhoff, Mr. Carl Perez, Mrs. Bernard Rabinowitz, Mr. Gerard T. Restaino, Mr. Robert Rusignuolo, and Mrs. John Wightman. Absent and excused: Mr. Frank V. Tangorra and Mr. Louis F. Williams. Approximately 15 citizens were present.

NOTICE OF PURPOSE OF MEETING:

Mr. Ramsland read the following notice:

"A Special Meeting of the Board of Education will be held on Monday, May 9, 1977 at 7:30 p. m. in the Board Room, Administration Building, 149 Chestnut Street, Nutley, New Jersey.

"The purpose of this meeting is to adopt a resolution authorizing the filing of an appeal of the budget cut to the Commissioner of Education, to award a bid, and to transact such other business as may properly come before the Board. "

HEARING OF CITIZENS (Agenda Items Only):

Mr. Wayne Binn, 53 Emily Avenue, questioned if the Board should not consider the closing of the Special Education Center before voting on the budget appeal, to which Mr. Lindstrom responded. Mr. Ramsland explained the monies involved in the cost of operation of the Special Education Center compared to the monies allocated in the budget.

Mr. Ronald Kulik, 10 Cleveland Avenue, asked questions with regard to the sale of the Special Education Center and with regard to the budget appeal, to which Mr. Lindstrom replied.

Mrs. Joseph Conway, 10 Paterson Avenue, questioned how the Board could vote to appeal the budget cut when the people have indicated through their votes that they don't want an increase. Mr. Lindstrom explained the Board's feelings regarding the excessive amount of funds the Commissioners had cut. Mrs. Rabinowitz stated that in caucus there had been two separate votes - one on the question of cutting \$60,000 and one on cutting \$245,000. Mr. Restaino explained why he voted as he did.

Mr. Kulik then asked why the Special Education Center is being kept open, and Mr. Lindstrom explained that the Board cannot close the Center without moving the operation somewhere, and it cannot determine where to move it until it has more information regarding a possible restructuring of grade organization. Mr. Restaino then explained how the Planning Committee will be seeking input from various people before bringing all the information to the Board. Mrs. Conway also made comments about who would be selected to assist the Planning Committee, and Mr. Restaino clarified his comments.

Mr. Walter Shaffer, 58 Enclosure, summarized information he had received from the New Jersey School Boards Association with regard to per pupil costs nationally compared with state-wide costs and per pupil costs in Nutley. He also stated that he felt the Board should accept the compromise sought by the Town Commissioners for the \$245,000 reduction in the budget, and that the Board should hold the line on salaries. Mr. Lindstrom explained the difficulties involved in cutting the budget since the school system in Nutley has been run in an extremely economical manner. Mr. Kulik also stated that he feels half the cut can be taken out of teachers' salaries.

Mrs. Conway questioned if the Board has given consideration to improving some of the things which help to have a quality education, such as the grading on report cards. Mr. Fowler replied that no changes have been made as yet.

BUDGET APPEAL:

Mrs. Rabinowitz presented and moved the adoption of the following resolution, seconded by Mrs. Wightman. Upon being put to a roll call vote the resolution was adopted with Mr. Lindstrom, Mrs. Imhoff, Mr. Perez, Mrs. Rabinowitz, Mr. Rusignuolo and Mrs. Wightman voting aye and Mr. Restaino voting nay.

WHEREAS, the question of raising district taxes for the support of the proposed 1977-1978 Nutley School District budget was defeated at the polls on March 29, 1977, and

WHEREAS, the Mayor and Commissioners of the Town of Nutley, after having twice met in consultation with the Board of Education, did, on April 13, 1977, pass a resolution reducing the amount of district taxes to be raised by the amount of \$245,000, and

WHEREAS, said reduced amount was certified to the Essex County Board of Taxation, and

WHEREAS, the Board of Education has again reviewed each budget line item and determined that no line item or combination of same can absorb the proposed reduction, and

WHEREAS, the Nutley Board of Education has determined that a reduction of \$245,000 in its proposed budget is excessive and will result in its inability to provide a thorough and efficient education for the children in the Nutley Public Schools,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Board of Education of the Town of Nutley, New Jersey, having already notified the Mayor and Commissioners within 20 days of certification of district taxes in accordance with the requirements of N. J. S. A. 18A:22-37 and Ch. 131, P. L. 1976, of its intention to appeal the reduction, hereby authorizes the filing of a Petition of Appeal of the \$245,000 reduction in district taxes through established channels to the Commissioner of Education, in accordance with the requirements of N. J. A. C. 6:24-7.2.

Mrs. Wightman and Mr. Perez made statements with regard to their reasons for voting in favor of appealing the budget cut suggested by the Board of Commissioners.

BIDS - Range Hoods:

Mr. Restaino 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 a contract be awarded to Reliable Fire Protection Co., of Englishtown, N. J. for fabrication and installation of range hoods, ducts, blower systems, and automatic fire protection systems in the cafeteria kitchens in Nutley Schools, in accordance with their bid thereon dated May 3, 1977 as follows:

Base Bid	\$11,000
Alternate	<u>3,250</u>
Total Bid	\$14,250

No other bids were received.

OLD BUSINESS:

None

NEW BUSINESS:

Mr. Rusignuolo stated that the Athletic Committee met in the Park Oval to go through it and look over recommendations made by Mr. Jacone. He further stated that they found that the concrete stands on the west side are in need of extensive repair - they are unsafe, and the Athletic Committee requests that two bids be received - one for complete replacement, and one for temporary repair.

Mr. Ramsland commented that he has an appointment with a mason contractor to take a look at it, and he also stated that he is sure it will have to be a bid job. Mr. Rusignuolo also commented that it is not even suitable for sitting. Mr. Perez added that it is a danger for people walking on the stands. Mr. Ramsland commented that this is one of the items of things needed but which are not budget items. Mr. Rusignuolo stated that perhaps they are in such bad condition because of the severe winter that just passed. Mr. Ramsland stated that he would work up specifications and take bids.

ADJOURNMENT:

There being no further business to come before the Board, on motion made by Mr. Perez, seconded by Mrs. Wightman, the meeting was adjourned at 8:30 p. m.

Walter Limbman
President

[Signature]
Secretary

May 23, 78
Date