

Board of Education
Nutley, New Jersey

February 4, 1987

The Special Meeting of the Board of Education of the Township of Nutley, New Jersey, was held in the Board Room, 375 Bloomfield Avenue, on Wednesday, February 4, 1987 at 8:00 p.m., with Mr. Charles W. Kucinski, Jr., President, presiding.

ANNOUNCEMENT OF MEETING:

Mr. Kucinski read the following:

"According to the provisions of the 'Open Public Meetings Act' (Chapter 231, P.L. 1975), proper notice of this Special Meeting was made on January 27, 1987. Said notice was:

1. Posted at the entrance of the Board Office.
2. Mailed or delivered, and/or telephoned to The Nutley Sun, the Newark Star Ledger, the Passaic Herald News, and the Nutley Journal.
3. Mailed or delivered, and/or telephoned to the Nutley Township Clerk.

"The purpose of this meeting is to adopt the tentative budget for the 1987/1988 school year and to adopt a date for the Public Hearing on the tentative budget.

"Formal action may be taken."

CALL OF ROLL:

The other members present at roll call were: Mr. Sam Battaglia, Mrs. Sally Goodson, Mr. Frank V. Hermo, Mr. Charles J. Piro, Mr. Gerard T. Restaino, Mr. Robert J. Rusignuolo and Mrs. Rosalie C. Scheckel. Late: Dr. Anthony N. Baratta (8:16 p.m.). Five citizens were present.

HEARING OF CITIZENS (Agenda Items Only):

Mr. William Dunn, 124 Satterthwaite Avenue, questioned why the budget keeps increasing every year when enrollments are declining but the ratio of teachers remains the same as five years ago. Dr. Fadule responded that five years ago there were 291.5 teaching positions; last year there were 272.5. Nineteen positions were lost over that period of time. For the 1987/88 school year, it is anticipated that six more teaching positions will be eliminated, for a total decrease of 25.

Mr. Piro questioned how many students Nutley has lost over the past five years, to which Dr. Fadule replied approximately 600. Dr. Fadule elaborated that the decrease is spread over the entire school district, so that when you lose students, teaching positions are not always able to be eliminated. The number of special students has increased, and for every eight special education children in a class, the State requires a teaching position.

Mr. Kucinski added that there were unanticipated costs this year, such as insurance. Mr. Sincaglia stated that money had to be taken out of surplus this year because the monies budgeted for insurance were not sufficient to cover costs. He added that another increase is anticipated next year.

Mr. Dunn commented that somehow the Board has to cut back. Mr. Kucinski replied that the Board tries to save and cut back where possible. Certain things are beyond the Board's control. Mr. Sincaglia added that special education students who can't be taught in Nutley have to be sent to other districts, and the going rate for out-of-district placements is \$10,000-\$11,000 per student. We must transport these students as well. This area has grown every year and will likely continue to grow. The tuition rates are determined by the State of New Jersey. Mr. Kucinski commented that the State will often mandate programs but will provide no money. Nutley has lost \$98,000 this year in State aid.

Mr. Dunn also expressed his feelings regarding the fact that Franklin School still has the same number of guidance counselors, and made mention of the high school German courses. Mrs. Scheckel responded that German 3, 4 and 5 is being taught in the same classroom, and the teacher is only teaching half time. She added that there are many other instances such as this where we have cut back. Mr. Kucinski commented that it is very difficult to cut back on the educational program. It is not the same as operating a private business. Dr. Fadule stated that he would be happy to go over statistics with Mr. Dunn with regard to students and teachers.

Mr. Alex Sistarenik, 114 Satterthwaite Avenue, requested a copy of the budget. Mr. Sincaglia explained that what is being adopted tonight has to be submitted to the County Superintendent for review. After the budget is reviewed it is published. Everything will be available prior to the Public Hearing.

Mr. Sistarenik requested information on the number of administrators for the past five years and also asked what type of review the Board does with regard to the budget. Mr. Kucinski explained that in prior years there was a Board Budget Committee. Mr. Restaino then changed this so that the entire Board reviews the budget. The administrators from all the schools submit their requests, and the entire Board goes over them.

Mr. Piro commented that approximately 75% of the budget is salaries, so there is not much available to cut elsewhere. Mr. Kucinski added that the other 25% is closely looked at by every Board member.

Dr. Baratta arrived

Dr. Fadule commented that with regard to administrators, two positions were downgraded and two positions were eliminated. Five years ago there were approximately 25 administrators counting Department Heads.

Mrs. Barbara Sistarenik, 114 Satterthwaite Avenue, questioned why Nutley has an increase in the number of special education students. Dr. Fadule explained that some special education children who used to be educated out of the district have been brought back to Nutley where we feel they will be provided with a better education in a more fiscally responsible manner.

ADOPTION OF TENTATIVE BUDGET:

Mr. Hermo presented and moved the adoption of the following resolution, seconded by Mrs. Scheckel. Upon being put to a roll call vote the resolution was adopted with Dr. Baratta, Mr. Battaglia, Mrs. Goodson, Mr. Hermo, Mr. Piro, Mr. Rusignuolo, Mrs. Scheckel and Mr. Kucinski voting aye and Mr. Restaino voting nay:

BE IT RESOLVED, That the Board of Education hereby adopts a tentative budget for the 1987/1988 school year in the amount of:

| | |
|-----------------|---------------------------|
| Current Expense | \$18,419,410.00 |
| Debt Service | <u>108,091.25</u> |
| Total Budget | \$18,527,501.25, of which |

the following amount shall be raised by local tax levy:

| | |
|-----------------|-------------------|
| Current Expense | \$14,708,910.00 |
| Debt Service | <u>103,599.25</u> |
| Total | \$14,812,509.25 |

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Secretary be authorized to submit this budget to the County Superintendent for approval, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That upon receiving the approval of the County Superintendent the Secretary be authorized to publish the 1987/1988 Budget in The Nutley Sun.

PUBLIC HEARING ON 1987/1988 BUDGET:

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

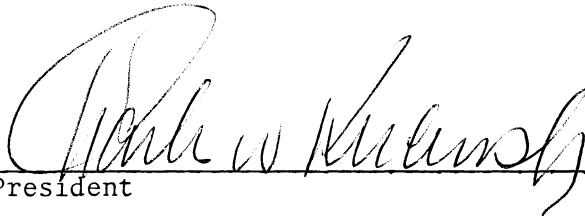
WHEREAS, N.J.S.A. 18A:22-10 requires the fixing of a date, time and place for the holding of a public hearing on the school district budget for the ensuing year,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Board of Education hereby designates Monday, March 9, 1987 at 8:00 p.m. in the regular Board of Education meeting room, 375 Bloomfield Avenue, Nutley, New Jersey as the date, time and place to hold a public hearing on the proposed 1987/1988 school district budget and to act on any other matters that may properly come before the Board at that time, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Secretary of the Board be authorized to advertise said meeting in The Nutley Sun pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:22-11,12.

ADJOURNMENT:

There being no further business to come before the Board, on motion made by Mr. Battaglia, seconded by Mr. Rusignuolo, the meeting was adjourned at 8:23 p.m.



President



Secretary

2/23/87

Date