

Board of Education
Nutley, New Jersey

February 1, 1988

The Regular Meeting of the Board of Education of the Township of Nutley, New Jersey, was held in the Board Room, 375 Bloomfield Avenue, on Monday, February 1, 1988 at 8:00 p.m., with Mr. Frank V. Hermo, President, presiding.

ANNOUNCEMENT OF MEETING:

Mr. Hermo read the following:

"According to the provisions of the 'Open Public Meetings Act' (Chapter 231, P.L. 1975), proper notice of this Regular Meeting of the Board was provided in the Notice of January 27, 1988. Said Notice was:

1. Posted at the entrance of the Board Office.
2. Telephoned and mailed to The Nutley Sun, the Newark Star Ledger, the Passaic Herald News and the Nutley Journal.
3. Telephoned and mailed to the Nutley Township Clerk.

"Formal action will be taken."

ADJOURN MEETING:

Mr. Hermo stated that in deference to the large group present this evening, he would ask for a motion to adjourn the meeting to the Radcliffe School gymnasium.

Mr. Battaglia moved that the meeting adjourn to the Radcliffe School gymnasium, seconded by Mrs. Goodson, and unanimously approved by the Board. The meeting adjourned at 8:02 p.m.

RECONVENE MEETING:

The meeting reconvened in the Radcliffe School gymnasium at 8:17 p.m.

FLAG SALUTE:

The meeting was opened with Dr. Baratta leading the Board members and citizens in the Pledge of Allegiance to the American flag.

CALL OF ROLL:

The other members present at roll call were: Dr. Anthony N. Baratta, Mr. Sam P. Battaglia, Mrs. Sally Goodson, Mr. Charles W. Kucinski, Jr., Mr. Charles J. Piro and Mr. Robert J. Rusignuolo. Late: Mrs. Rosalie C. Scheckel (9:21 p.m.) Absent: Mr. Gerard T. Restaino. Approximately 425 citizens were present.

PRESENTATION OF AWARDS:

Dr. Fadule introduced Mr. John Jacone, Principal of Nutley High School, stating that we are honoring tonight those youngsters who had excelled in athletics.

Mr. Jacone thanked the Board of Education for conducting these ceremonies each year to award youngsters who have achieved above and beyond making an athletic team. Mr. Jacone added that tonight we are honoring youngsters who had excelled in the fall sports program. Mr. Jacone then introduced Mr. Thomas Gallucci, Athletic Director, who commented that we are proud of the students and coaches who represent us in the N.N.J.I.L. Mr. Gallucci introduced Mr. Charles Piro, Chairman of the Athletic Committee, who, together with the coaches of the various sports, presented awards to the following athletes:

Football - Coach Peter LaBarbiera presented an award to Thomas Corino, 1st Team 1987 - All Essex County - Linebacker.

Boys Soccer - Coach Ciro Violante presented an award to John Geltrude - 1st Team 1987 - All N.N.J.I.L., All Area Herald News, All Essex County Coaches Association, All Essex County Star Ledger.

Girls Soccer - Coach Anna Melnyk presented an award to Nicole Linfante - 1st Team 1987 - All N.N.J.I.L.

Tennis - Coach Vincent Turturiello presented awards to Nicole McDonald - 1st Team 1987 - All N.N.J.I.L. and Ortenzia Corino - 1st Team 1987 - All N.N.J.I.L.

N.N.J.I.L. Champions - Girls Tennis Team - Coach Vincent Turturiello also presented awards to Emily Bock, Ortenzia Corino, Dana Lee, Nicole McDonald, Daniella Pignataro, Francesca Pignataro, Melissa Salvato, Kirsten Sandberg and Dinh Tran.

Mr. Hermo expressed the Board's admiration for all the athletes.

COMMUNICATIONS:

Mr. Sincaglia presented and read the following communications:

1. A note of appreciation from Mr. Vincent Turturiello for the Board's expression of sympathy on his mother's death.
2. A letter from Mr. Gino Giua, Manager of Buildings and Grounds, announcing his intention to retire as of August 31, 1988 after forty years of service to the school district.
3. A letter from Mr. Guy C. Vander Vliet, Assistant Superintendent/Secretary of the Piscataway Township Schools, regarding the April 5 date of the school election and asking that the State Board of Education revise the election calendar so the election is held on April 12.
4. A thank you note from the family of Florence Carpenter for the Board's expression of sympathy.

Dr. Fadule presented and read the following communication:

5. A letter from Barbara Heiser in support of the present kindergarten program and indicating the enthusiasm it had generated in both her children.

SECRETARY'S REPORT:

Mr. Sincaglia presented the Report of the Secretary as of December 31, 1987. (See attached report.)

TREASURER'S REPORT:

Mr. Sincaglia presented the Report of the Treasurer of School Moneys as of December 31, 1987. (See attached report.)

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT:

Dr. Fadule presented and read the following report:

"It is with great pleasure that the Nutley School District announces that the Franklin School Mathematics Program has been cited as one of the most exemplary programs in the Nation. The following schools were selected from a study funded by the United States Department of Education and conducted by the Northeast Regional Exchange which is based in New England.

Lawton Elementary School
Ann Arbor, Michigan

Franklin Middle School
Nutley, New Jersey

Huron High School
Ann Arbor, Michigan

Rufus King High School
Milwaukee, Wisconsin

Stuyvesant High School
New York, New York

North Carolina School of Science
and Mathematics
Durham, North Carolina"

Dr. Fadule indicated that Nutley's teachers and principals work extremely hard to provide the best education possible.

Dr. Fadule introduced Mr. Paul Primamore, Principal of Franklin School. Mr. Primamore stated that the Franklin School people are proud of their achievement, adding that the school was specifically singled out for having raised standardized test scores, for having high expectations and for having a guidance staff which carefully monitors student placement and parent communication as well as teachers who are active participants in the redesign of the curriculum. Mr. Primamore added that the entire educational community and all of Nutley should share in this honor as this is a tribute to the educational process that exists in Nutley, and shows that we must be doing something right.

Mr. Primamore requested that the following teachers present stand to be recognized: Mrs. Mary Peele, Mrs. Deborah Ann Pinto, Mrs. Denise Vill'Neuve and Miss Judith Winick. Mr. Primamore also made mention of the contributions of Mr. Herbert Sauter, Mr. Joseph Mulley, Mrs. Margaret Murray, Mr. James Cummings and Mr. William Shergalis.

Dr. Fadule stated that on January 11, 1988, the school district held curriculum articulation activites, at which time he looked at some of the topics for which we have been criticized in recent times, and he spoke with the staff about these particular items to see how they felt. The topics are as follows:

1. Curriculum Development System - Dr. Fadule explained that Nutley has a system which has as its basic objective maximizing the input of staff. The principals and teachers work together to develop curriculum. He explained that the teachers rewrote the entire math program. He further explained that every student in New Jersey must take the High School Proficiency Test and pass it to receive a diploma. He added that all New Jersey school districts are classified in terms of socio-economic factors from Categories A-J. Those districts in Category A are urban schools and those in Category J are the wealthiest districts. Nutley is a G district, which is seventh out of ten in terms of socio-economic factors. Thirty districts in New Jersey are in the G classification, and last year, of the ninth grade students taking the HSPT in math, Nutley was first out of those thirty.

Also, last year, when the students took the HSPT in reading, only one student in the entire Nutley High School did not pass that test, which represented a passing rate of 99.3%. Dr. Fadule added that Nutley's Iowa test scores are excellent. Three years ago, Nutley was one of eight schools in New Jersey to receive a special commendation for improved College Board scores. Nutley also has one of the finest records in college acceptances, and all of this relates back to the question of high standards and high expectations for our children. The number of scholarships our students receive is high.

Dr. Fadule further explained that he questioned the staff on the entire matter of curriculum development. Because Nutley encourages its teachers and principals to participate in this, they have written the math and kindergarten programs, as well as constructing the Nutley Math Achievement Test.

Dr. Fadule also commented that there have been criticisms of the Saturday curriculum sessions, stressing that the staff completely supports the curriculum development system.

2. The Homework Concept - Dr. Fadule explained that homework reinforces the instruction in the classroom every day and gives youngsters a sense of structure and discipline as well as good study habits. Homework is found to be a very healthy thing. Dr. Fadule added that the rule of thumb can be varied by the teacher. One assignment in language arts and one in arithmetic are usually given. Homework on the weekends is based on the principle that if homework is important from Monday through Thursday, it is also important on Friday. Dr. Fadule stated that in his opinion, the homework given for weekends is not excessive.

With regard to vacations, Dr. Fadule explained that if there is a five-day vacation, a student is out of school for nine days including weekends. When children are away from learning for an extended period of time, regression occurs. To try to reduce some of the regression, Nutley has a policy which essentially gives homework for the two weekends. The district does not want the homework to be oppressive and nonproductive, but we believe it is meaningful. Dr. Fadule explained that he questioned the teachers, and on the whole, the teachers and principals agree with the homework concept.

3. The Matter of Stress - Dr. Fadule stated that some critics say the children are burned out, and he took this matter to the teachers and checked it out very carefully. As far as our staff is concerned, we are definitely not burning out the children.

4. Kindergarten Program - Dr. Fadule explained that about seven years ago, a balanced kindergarten program was set up whereby twenty minutes out of three hours are formal. The

critics feel this program is oppressive. Dr. Fadule stated that he checked attendance records with teachers, and the children are not getting sick from the program. The whole idea is to make learning fun for the children, and our teachers and principals, who are closest to this every day, do not find this program oppressive. Dr. Fadule stressed that if it was thought for one moment that these programs hurt our children, they would never be allowed.

Mrs. Goodson commented that she has observed the kindergartens, and the children appear to be extremely excited about learning. Mrs. Goodson stated her belief that the kindergarten program not only stimulates children intellectually, but also promotes a well-balanced child, and she supports the efforts on behalf of our students.

Mr. Hermo commented that the President's State of the Union address singled out the State of New Jersey and Governor Kean for fostering education. Mr. Hermo feels that Dr. Fadule and the staff are doing an excellent job, and he congratulated them on the recognition they brought to Nutley.

Dr. Baratta stated that he is a Professor of Education at Fordham University and is Chairman of the Department of Curriculum and Teaching. He further stated that he is now Co-Project Manager of a City of New York, New York State program to keep K-3 youngsters in a city system in Manhattan in school, and the qualification for these 60 youngsters is they must be absent from school in the previous year at least 40 days, and unfortunately, there are many in those circumstances.

Dr. Baratta commented that he has observed the kindergarten programs in New York and knows the difference between that and Nutley's program. We in Nutley are fortunate. He stressed that a curriculum is the foundation of a school system experience. Dr. Baratta stated that he had observed several Nutley kindergartens and saw pupils bright, well-adjusted, free to speak and explain their experiences, motivated and ready to begin their long journey in school. He added that the teachers in Nutley are dedicated, many are parents, they are very serious, highly professional, and they provide a significant and important resource to the kindergarten.

Dr. Baratta also stated that our principals are caring leaders who follow the policies of the Board and the administration. He also said that on balance, our parents are concerned and supportive. As an educator, he is very proud to see that Nutley's academic program in kindergarten is as advanced a program as there is in the United States, and he feels this is a tremendous plus for our system. He concluded by saying that he would not remain on the Board if he thought our system was harming the youngsters. He further stated that he has learned a great deal being on the Board, and he proudly proclaims to his classes and colleagues that he is

on the Board in Nutley, and he feels that the kindergarten program is only the beginning of a tremendous program throughout the school system.

Mr. Kucinski stated that on a few occasions he had taken the time to observe the kindergarten program personally, and he thanked the principals and kindergarten teachers for their help and support in our program. He also stated that when he visited the kindergartens, he noticed excitement for learning, an eagerness to participate, and a light and happy atmosphere. Our children are having fun learning. He added that his only regret is that his daughters did not have the opportunity to go through the academic kindergarten. He thanked the principals and teachers for a job well done.

Mr. Rusignuolo stated that he was very happy to see so many people in attendance this evening. He believed the audience was more representative of our fine community than those few who have attacked the Board recently. He further stated that he has continuously supported high standards and high expectations and does not believe we are hurting our children in any way. Mr. Rusignuolo also expressed his pride and support of the administration, teachers and staff, stating that they care about our youngsters and are doing a wonderful job.

FIRE DRILL REPORT:

Fire drills held during the months of October, November, December and January were as follows:

Oct. 5	Yantacaw School	9:00 a.m.	2 min. 3 secs.
Nov. 16	Nutley High School	10:35 a.m.	2 min. 18 secs.
Dec. 7	Yantacaw School	9:40 a.m.	1 min. 42 secs.
Dec. 16	Washington School	11:25 a.m.	1 min. 20 secs.
Dec. 17	Radcliffe School	1:15 p.m.	1 min. 12 secs.
Dec. 18	Franklin School	10:00 a.m.	2 min. 25 secs.
Dec. 21	Yantacaw School	2:57 p.m.	1 min. 38 secs.
Jan. 12	Washington School	8:35 a.m.	1 min. 30 secs.
Jan. 19	Franklin School	2:40 p.m.	1 min. 45 secs.
Jan. 19	Nutley High School	1:13 p.m.	2 min. 14 secs.
Jan. 19	Spring Garden School	12:37 p.m.	1 min. 20 secs.

CAFETERIA REPORT:

Mr. Battaglia presented the cafeteria report as of December 31, 1987 showing a cash balance as of July 1, 1987 of (\$3,454.16), total receipts of \$131,080.52, total disbursements of \$124,678.72, leaving a cash balance of \$2,947.64. Total "A" lunch - 11,744. Total milk sold - 9,685.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Dr. Baratta, Athletic Committee member, praised Mr. Piro, Chairman of the Athletic Committee, for his leadership regarding

the recently held Hall of Fame Dinner which honored outstanding former Nutley High School athletes.

Mrs. Goodson thanked the P.T.A.'s for sending schedules of events to all Board members, adding that she found this very helpful.

HEARING OF CITIZENS (Resolutions Only):

None

BILLS AND MANDATORY PAYMENTS:

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

BE IT RESOLVED, That the Board of Education authorize the payment of bills and mandatory payments in the total amount of \$1,610,173.58 as per the attached Schedule A which have been audited by the Business Department.

REQUESTS FOR USE OF SCHOOL BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS:

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

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

RETIREMENT - Manager of
Buildings and Grounds:

Mr. Gino Giua

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

BE IT RESOLVED, That the Board of Education accept the retirement of Mr. Gino Giua, Manager of Buildings and Grounds, effective September 1, 1988.

Mr. Kucinski stated that he had known Mr. Giua for forty years, adding that he would be missed.

Dr. Fadule remarked that to say that Mr. Giua has served the district long and well is an understatement, and we will hate to see him leave.

LEAVE OF ABSENCE - Teacher:Ms. Suzanne Hagert

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

BE IT RESOLVED, That the Board of Education approve a childrearing leave of absence for Ms. Suzanne Hagert, Radcliffe School teacher, effective January 27, 1988 through June 30, 1988, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That any request for an extension of this leave must be submitted to the Superintendent of Schools on or before April 1, 1988.

APPOINTMENT - Permanent
Unassigned Substitute:

Miss Theresa Hrubash

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

BE IT RESOLVED, That Miss Theresa Hrubash be approved as a permanent unassigned substitute, retroactive to January 5, 1988, for the 1987/1988 school year at the rate of \$48.00 per day and fringe benefits which include Blue Cross-Blue Shield and dental plans.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That Miss Hrubash meets the district's requirements for the permanent unassigned substitute position which is the possession of a County substitute certificate.

APPOINTMENT - School Aide:Mrs. Irene Montanari

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

BE IT RESOLVED, That the Nutley Board of Education approve the appointment of Mrs. Irene Montanari as part-time school aide for the 1987/1988 school year, effective January 13, 1988, at Step 1.

APPOINTMENT - Transportation:Mrs. Caroline Rupert

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

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BE IT RESOLVED, That the Board of Education approve the appointment of Mrs. Caroline Rupert as a bus driver for the remainder of the 1987/1988 school year, effective January 1, 1988 at the hourly rate of \$6.50 (2-3, van) or \$6.90 (3-3, bus), which is in accordance with the 1987/1988 transportation salary guide.

APPOINTMENTS - Teacher Substitutes:

Mr. Kucinski 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 teacher substitutes listed on the attached Schedule C be approved for the 1987/1988 school year.

APPOINTMENT - Buildings and
Grounds Substitute:

Mr. Gerardo A. Blasi

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

BE IT RESOLVED, That the following buildings and grounds substitute be approved for the 1987/1988 school year:

Gerardo A. Blasi

CHANGES IN TRAINING LEVELS:

Mr. Kucinski 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 following personnel be advanced to the proper level of the salary guide in accordance with Board of Education regulations, said teachers having completed the necessary college courses to qualify for such advancement, to be effective February 1, 1988:

<u>To M.A.+30</u>	<u>Step</u>	<u>Salary</u>
Mary Conlon	Max.	\$42,511
Mari Konn	13½	32,187
 <u>To M.A.+15</u>		
John Calicchio	14	31,331
Dianna Rimshnick	9	13,191
Patricia Tarczynski	11	28,199

<u>To B.A.+30</u>	<u>Step</u>	<u>Salary</u>
Rosemary DeRosa	11	\$26,538
 <u>To B.A.+15</u>		
Ellen Wolf	7	22,331

EXTRA COMPENSATION:

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

BE IT RESOLVED, That the following teachers be paid extra compensation in the amounts indicated for services performed:

Classroom Coverage:

Ann Beaton	\$ 15
Thomas Cusick	15
Maria DiPaolo	30
James Landy	30
Charles Martin	15
Michael Pace	60
Patricia Sloan	15
Total	\$180

Central Detention Coverage - December, 1987:

Joseph Affinito	\$ 10
Donald Baumann	60
Ronald Bonadonna	40
John Calicchio	30
Carol-Ann Harris	10
Teresa Kinloch	10
Paul Kocum	20
Dominick LoPresti	20
Jacqueline Meloni	10
Carol Shepherd	50
Total	\$260

Central Detention Coverage - Saturday Morning(s) - December, 1987:

Ronald Bonadonna	\$ 93.00
Maria DiPaolo	46.50
Total	\$139.50

TEXTBOOK APPROVAL - Basic Algebra:

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

BE IT RESOLVED, That the Board of Education approve the use of the following textbook in the Basic Algebra I Course, for the 1988/1989 school year:

BASIC ALGEBRA

Authors, Richard G. Brown, Geraldine D. Smith,
Mary P. Dolciani
Publisher, Houghton Mifflin Company

TRANSFER OF FUNDS:

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

BE IT RESOLVED, That transfers in the 1987/1988 Current Expense budget be confirmed as follows:

<u>From</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>To</u>
Account 211	\$4,000	Account 215

NOTICE OF ADDITIONAL FUNDING - Chapter 193 - 1987/1988 School Year:

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

BE IT RESOLVED, That the Board of Education accept notice of additional funding for Chapter 193 for the 1987/1988 school year in the amount of \$840.

E.C.I.A. CHAPTER I CARRY-OVER FUNDS FOR FY 88:

Dr. Baratta 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 Nutley Board of Education authorize the Superintendent of Schools to apply for \$10,549 in E.C.I.A. Chapter I carry-over funds for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1988.

APPLICATION FOR FLOW-THROUGH FUNDS - Part B, P.L. 94-142, FY 89:

Dr. Baratta 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 Board of Education approve the application for flow-through funds for Part B, P.L. 94-142 in the amount of \$108,640 for FY 89.

APPLICATION FOR FLOW-THROUGH FUNDS - Part B, P.L. 99-457, FY 89:

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

BE IT RESOLVED, That the Board of Education approve the application for flow-through funds for Part B, P.L. 99-457 in the amount of \$7,980 for FY 89.

VOCATIONAL EDUCATION FUNDING - P.L. 98-524, FY 89:

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

BE IT RESOLVED, That the Nutley Board of Education authorize submission of application for funds under the provisions of P.L. 98-524, FY 1989 for the following projects:

<u>Program Area</u> <u>Line Control</u>	<u>Project Title</u>	<u>Total</u> <u>Amount</u>
B 221	Marketing/Distributive Education II	\$ 1,800
F 201	Cooperative Office Education	2,284
H 820	Cooperative Industrial Education II	3,726
	Disadvantaged	
H 920	Cooperative Industrial Education I	4,527
H 661	Cooperative Industrial Education	3,321
	Special Needs	
H 860	Cooperative Industrial Education	1,253
	Special Needs	
	Total	\$16,911

TUITION STUDENT - Communication Handicapped Class:

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

BE IT RESOLVED, That one student from Harrison be permitted to attend the Communication Handicapped Class at Spring Garden School on a tuition basis, effective January 14, 1988.

AUTHORIZATION TO ADVERTISE FOR BIDS - Asbestos Removal, Clean-up and Reinsulation - Franklin School:

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

BE IT RESOLVED, That the Secretary/Business Administrator be authorized to advertise for bids for asbestos removal, clean-up and reinsulation at Franklin School.

Mrs. Scheckel entered

ESTABLISHING DATE, TIME AND PLACE FOR DRAWING OF NAMES FOR POSITION ON BALLOT FOR ANNUAL SCHOOL ELECTION:

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

WHEREAS, N.J.S. 18A:14-13 (as amended) requires boards of education to conduct a drawing for position on the ballot for the Annual School Election within 48 hours subsequent to 4:00 p.m. of the last day for filing petitions for the Annual School Election at the regular meeting place of the board of education, and

WHEREAS, Thursday, February 11, 1988 at 4:00 p.m. is the last day for filing petitions for the Annual School Election,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Board of Education of the Township of Nutley establish Thursday, February 11, 1988 at 4:30 p.m. in the Board Conference Room as the date, time and place for drawing for position on the ballot for the Annual School Election to be held on April 5, 1988.

ESTABLISH DATE FOR PUBLIC HEARING ON 1988/1989 SCHOOL DISTRICT BUDGET:

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

BE IT RESOLVED, That the Public Hearing on the 1988/1989 budget be held on Monday, March 14, 1988 at 7:30 p.m.

ANNUAL SCHOOL ELECTION:

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

BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Education of the Township of Nutley, in the County of Essex, New Jersey, that voting machines be used at the Annual School Election to be held on Tuesday, April 5, 1988, between the hours of 2:30 p.m. and 9:00 p.m., and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board of Education hereby authorize its Secretary to request from the Essex County Board of Elections the use of its voting machines, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board of Education hereby authorize its Secretary to notify the Township Clerk, Township of Nutley, that the last day to register for the Annual School Election will be Monday, March 7, 1988, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board of Education authorize its Secretary to publish the necessary legal advertisement and to have the necessary notices printed for the Annual School Election.

APPOINTMENT - Election Workers:

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

BE IT RESOLVED, That the Board of Education hereby appoint the Judges of Elections, Inspectors of Elections and Clerks of Elections for the Annual School Election to be held on Tuesday, April 5, 1988, between the hours of 2:30 p.m. and 9:00 p.m., to be as follows, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Secretary/Business Administrator be authorized to appoint additional or substitute workers as may be needed.

Lincoln School

Mrs. Eileen Poiani, Judge
Mrs. Lillian D. Martin, Inspector
Mrs. Margaret Ambro, Clerk
Mr. Henry Anzovino, Clerk
(4:30-9:00 p.m.)

Yantacaw School II

Mrs. Anne Lynne Eisenfelder, Judge
Mrs. Shirlee Kutzner, Inspector
Mrs. Louise Beck, Clerk
Mrs. Camille Carter, Clerk
Mrs. Terri Purpura, Clerk
Mrs. Jane Zwirek, Clerk

Radcliffe School

Mrs. Frances Williams, Judge
 Mrs. Lillian Lewis, Inspector
 Mrs. Filomena Coldebella, Clerk
 Mrs. Carol Cook, Clerk
 Mrs. Cecilia Menonna, Clerk
 Mrs. Betty Catrambone, Clerk
 (3:30-9:00 p.m.)
 Mrs. Virginia DeBenedetto, Clerk
 (7:00-9:00 p.m.)

Franklin School

Mrs. Barbara Avagliano, Judge
 Mrs. Doris Popadick, Inspector
 Mr. John Clark, Clerk
 Mr. William Crawford, Clerk
 Mr. Victor Hesse, Clerk
 Mrs. Lee Rae O'Brien, Clerk
 Miss Margaret Mostica, Clerk
 (5:00-9:00 p.m.)

Spring Garden School

Mrs. Gladys Cordts, Judge
 Mr. Karl Greene, Inspector
 Mr. Floyd Davenport, Clerk
 Mrs. Daisy Hughes, Clerk
 Mrs. Valerie Kuchta, Clerk
 Mr. Ralph Quelch, Clerk

Yantacaw School II (cont'd.)

Mrs. Peggy Windheim, Clerk
 (5:00-9:00 p.m.)

Yantacaw School III

Mrs. Sylvia Hamburger, Judge
 Mrs. Judith O'Rourke, Inspector
 Mr. Willard Bell, Clerk
 Mrs. Anthony Greco, Clerk
 Mrs. Malvina Hoffman, Clerk
 Mrs. Anne L. Margulies, Clerk
 Mrs. Madeline Williamson, Clerk
 Mr. Alan Branigan, Clerk
 (2:30-7:00 p.m.)
 Mr. Michael Schop, Clerk
 (6:00-9:00 p.m.)
 Mrs. Grace Spahr, Clerk
 (5:00-9:00 p.m.)

Washington School

Mr. John Peddieson, Judge
 Mrs. Eleanor Pope, Inspector
 Mr. Michael Koren, Clerk
 Mr. John Pope, Clerk
 Mrs. Marilyn Weiss, Clerk

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the following persons be designated to open the election:

Mrs. Eileen Poiani, Judge	Lincoln School
Mrs. Frances Williams, Judge	Radcliffe School
Mrs. Barbara Avagliano, Judge	Franklin School
Mrs. Anne Lynne Eisenfelder, Judge	Yantacaw School II
Mrs. Sylvia Hamburger, Judge	Yantacaw School III
Mr. John Peddieson, Judge	Washington School
Mrs. Gladys Cordts, Judge	Spring Garden School

JOB DESCRIPTIONS - Buildings and Grounds Employees:

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

BE IT RESOLVED, That job descriptions for buildings and grounds employees as noted in Schedules D-1, D-2, D-3, D-4, D-5 and D-6 be approved.

HEARING OF CITIZENS:

Mrs. Marie Bigley, 217 Nutley Avenue, spoke as a representative of the Nutley kindergarten teachers. She explained that at the articulation meeting it was unanimously agreed that the kindergarten program should remain exactly as it is. She then described a typical kindergarten session. Mrs. Bigley added that the teachers have not heard of any case of school pressure causing stress in a child, and stated that to offer less would be a dis-service to the children.

Mrs. Barbara Pascal, 297 Highfield Lane, mentioned that for any child who may have a problem, the school district has a special education program. She added that there is always someone willing to listen and help any child.

Miss Rose DiGeronimo, Principal of Washington School, stated that she has seen no evidence of stress in the kindergarten children, adding that the Alpha kindergarten program was created by two kindergarten teachers. Miss DiGeronimo stated that a child is never retained in kindergarten because they are unable to read. Nothing prevents a child from going on to first grade unless there is a consultation with the parents, teacher and principal. The cause of a retention would be an overall lack of growth.

Mrs. Linda Sharf, 45 Ackerman Street, voiced her strong support of the kindergarten program, adding that the children can only benefit from it.

Dr. Richard Marcus, 25 High Street, expressed his strong support for the kindergarten program, adding that he had moved to Nutley because of its fine school system. He also stated that Nutley has one of the finest special education departments in the state.

Mrs. Mary Ellen Merritt, 553 Prospect Street, explained her reasons for writing her letter to The Nutley Sun criticizing the kindergarten program. She commended Mr. Battaglia, Board representative to the Spring Garden School P.T.A., for his willingness to listen. She commented that with such a turn-out this evening, the critics would not speak out. She stressed that she feels there is still a need for the parents to request a meeting with the Board to discuss their concerns with the kindergarten program.

Mrs. Merritt then commented that she feels the homework policy is oppressive and that another questionnaire should be sent to parents to determine their feelings. She further stated her objections to giving increased homework during vacations. Mrs. Merritt also commented that the school day has been lengthened but questioned whether academics have taken the place of any creative activities. Mr. Hermo replied that Mrs. Merritt should discuss her concern with the administrator or her school's Board representative.

Mr. Alex Conrad, Principal of Lincoln School, stated that the Nutley School System is well known and highly respected throughout the State of New Jersey because of its sound educational programs, and one of the reasons is the kindergarten program.

Mr. Conrad read from a report by William J. Bennett, U.S. Secretary of Education, entitled "First Lessons, A Report on Elementary Education in America" as follows:

"...Should it be mainly a place for creative play, or formal instruction, or both? According to a survey by Educational Research Service, 62.6 percent of kindergarten programs focus primarily on academic and social preparation for first grade. 49.6 percent of school districts list policies for teaching reading in kindergarten 'for those ready and able.' Only 11.2 percent of elementary school principals answered 'none or low' when asked where academics rank among their priorities for kindergarteners."

Mr. Conrad further stated that Nutley has a balanced program - creative play and formal instruction. Mr. Conrad concluded by saying that the children are happy, they are learning, and parents can feel confident that the children are receiving a solid foundation.

Mrs. Peggy Rucinski, 125 Church Street, urged that the Alpha kindergarten program not be destroyed. She suggested that parents who have children with problems should find out what will work for their child.

Miss Barbara Hirsch, Director of Special Services, stressed that the development of each child is a concern. She explained that five years ago, the Child Study Team, in conjunction with Dr. Fadule, developed a kindergarten screening program for youngsters who would enter kindergarten because of a concern with individual differences. Less than 5% of the children screened do not come up to par, and individual programs are adapted for those youngsters.

Mr. Angelo Frannicola, 5 Fairfax Court, stated that Nutley is a well-known school system and urged the Board not to spoil the success it has achieved with the kindergarten program.

Mr. Joseph Pelaia, 104 Mountainview Avenue, stated that there is no doubt of the success of the kindergarten program. The only issue is, is there stress associated with it? Mr. Pelaia commented that he does not see the stress, adding that people should be very specific when making charges or suggestions. He urged the people critical of this program to also keep an open mind.

Dr. Barry Prystowsky, Nutley School Physician, voiced his opinion that, on the whole, the kindergarten program is a very good one, adding that if a child is having a problem, the system does deal with individuals. He also added that it is the professionals' job to help children deal with stress.

Mrs. Ann Donahue, 42 Daily Street, stated that she feels the program and curriculum in Nutley are very good. She further stated that what Mrs. Merritt had proposed was to have an open forum where people could express their concerns. There was no intent to cause bad feelings or to tear anything down.

Mrs. Aileen Hresko, 50 Valley Road, spoke of the high property taxes in town and her willingness to pay them to have the excellent school system that we have. She added that the only way to have an excellent school system is to keep standards high. She further stated that people who had questions or problems voiced their concerns, but, until now, the people who were happy with the programs never came out to be heard.

Mr. Battaglia commented that he was elected to his position and would listen to the people and would look at things with an open mind. He urged those present tonight to support the budget at the upcoming election.

Mr. John Walker, Principal of Yantacaw School, stated that he was speaking on behalf of the Nutley school children. He pointed out that concerns should start with the teacher and go to the principal, adding that he has yet to hear any concern on the matter from any Yantacaw School parent.

Mr. Joseph Zarra, 20 Fernwood Terrace, expressed his support of the existing kindergarten program.

Mrs. Colleen Williams, 36 Newman Avenue, urged the Board to keep the high standards and said that the school has been responsive to the needs of the children.

Mr. Anthony Scafaria, 94 Brookdale Avenue, liked the present program but would support the idea of being able to discuss the issues.

Mr. Hermo apologized for perhaps being somewhat liberal in his interpretation of the clock as it related to time for various speakers. He thanked everyone for coming this evening and wished to reassure all who have concerns that, by going through channels, their problems would be addressed. He extended an invitation to all to come to future meetings and speak, assuring everyone that the Board would listen to their concerns.

OLD BUSINESS:

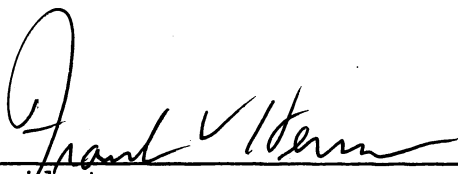
None

NEW BUSINESS:

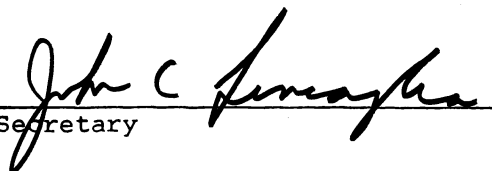
None

ADJOURNMENT:

There being no further business to come before the Board, on motion made by Mr. Battaglia, seconded by Mr. Kucinski, the meeting was adjourned at 10:30 p.m.



President



Secretary

3/1/88

Date