Board of Education Nutley, New Jersey April 11, 1988

The Organization Meeting of the Board of Education of the Township of Nutley, New Jersey was held in the Board Room, 375 Bloomfield Avenue, on Monday, April 11, 1988 at 7:30 p.m., with Mr. John C. Sincaglia, Temporary Chairman, presiding.

ANNOUNCEMENT OF MEETING:

Mr. Sincaglia read the following:

"According to the provisions of the 'Open Public Meetings Act' (Chapter 231, P.L. 1975), proper notice of this meeting of the Board was provided on March 29, 1988. Said Notice was:

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

"The purpose of this meeting is for the Board of Education to reorganize pursuant to NJSA 18A:10-3.

"Formal action will be taken."

FLAG SALUTE:

 $\,$ The meeting was opened with Mr. Hermo leading the Board members and citizens in the Pledge of Allegiance to the American flag.

STATEMENT OF RESULTS OF ANNUAL SCHOOL ELECTION:

Mr. Sincaglia read the following:

"The Annual Election of the legal voters of the School District of the Township of Nutley, in the County of Essex, New Jersey, was held on Tuesday, April 5, 1988 between the hours of 2:30 and 9:00 p.m. and as much longer as was necessary to permit all the legal voters then present at the polling places to vote.

"Voting was conducted at the Washington, Lincoln, Yantacaw, Spring Garden, Radcliffe and Franklin Schools, all in the School District.

"Voting was conducted for the election of three members to the Board of Education for a period of three years and for authorizing the raising of \$15,683,381 in district taxes to support the proposed 1988/1989 Current Expense Budget.

"The results of the election were as follows:

Candidates for 3-year terms

R. Gregory Nicholls	830	votes
Sally Anne Goodson	1343	votes
Anthony N. Baratta	1479	votes
Charles W. Kucinski, Jr.	1417	votes
Joan Rubino	6	votes
Sera Shuster	8	votes
Peter A. Frazza	2 .	votes
Don Politto	1 .	vote

"The candidates elected were:

Sally Anne Goodson, Anthony N. Baratta and Charles W. Kucinski, Jr. for three-year terms.

"The votes for the Current Expense portion of the budget were as follows:

Yes	978	votes
No	848	votes

"The question of the tax levy was approved.

"A copy of this report will be entered in the official minutes of the Board of Education."

ADMINISTRATION OF OATH TO NEW BOARD MEMBERS:

Mr. Sincaglia administered the Oath of Office to Mrs. Sally Anne Goodson, Dr. Anthony N. Baratta and Mr. Charles W. Kucinski, Jr.

CALL OF ROLL:

The members present at roll call were: Dr. Anthony N. Baratta, Mrs. Sally Goodson, Mr. Frank V. Hermo, Mr. Charles W. Kucinski, Jr., Mr. Charles J. Piro, Mr. Robert J. Rusignuolo and Mrs. Rosalie C. Scheckel. Late: Mr. Sam P. Battaglia (7:34 p.m.). Absent: Mr. Gerard T. Restaino. Approximately 30 citizens were present.

Mr. Battaglia entered

ELECTION OF PRESIDENT:

Mr. Sincaglia explained the procedures for the election of officers and then declared nominations open for the office of President.

Mr. Kucinski placed the name of Dr. Anthony N. Baratta in nomination for President, seconded by Mr. Rusignuolo. Mrs. Scheckel then moved that nominations be closed, seconded by Mr. Rusignuolo and unanimously approved.

Mr. Sincaglia conducted a roll call of the Board, and Dr. Baratta was declared unanimously elected as President.

ELECTION OF VICE-PRESIDENT:

Dr. Baratta requested that Mr. Sincaglia conduct the election for the office of Vice-President.

Mr. Piro placed the name of Mr. Sam P. Battaglia in nomination for Vice-President. Mr. Battaglia stated that he appreciated the nomination but felt that since the office is a ceremonial position, other Board members should have the opportunity to be Vice-President. Mr. Battaglia then withdrew his name from nomination for Vice-President.

Mr. Rusignuolo placed the name of Mrs. Rosalie C. Scheckel in nomination for Vice-President, seconded by Dr. Baratta. Mr. Battaglia then moved that nominations be closed, seconded by Mr. Kucinski and unanimously approved.

Mr. Sincaglia conducted a roll call of the Board, and Mrs. Scheckel was declared unanimously elected as Vice-President.

Dr. Baratta then read the following statement:

To: Nutley Board of Education Colleagues
Superintendent of Schools & Central Administration
Nutley School District Students
Administrators & Supervisors
Faculty & Staff of the Nutley School District
Nutley School District Parents
Nutley Citizens

"First, I wish to thank all the members of the Board for electing me to the Office of President. I pledge to conduct this work to the best of my ability.

"During these initial moments, I wish to offer a statement of philosophy, values, intentions and focus--which will serve as my quide in this role.

"The slogan of my re-election campaign, coined by Mr. Joseph Pelaia, a Radcliffe parent and an attorney, was 'BECAUSE THE CHILDREN ARE SO IMPORTANT.' For this reason, we pledge to work diligently to provide them with the best educational program, within the considerable resources of the Nutley School District--both human and material. This

will be our central focus and knowing my Board colleagues, am confident that we shall be in substantial harmony in this regard.

"Second, I wish to convey my respect to our challenger during this election, Mr. R. Gregory Nicholls--for his hard work during his campaign. He conveyed a message that was direct. While we may have differed on several issues, he should know, that I hope I have learned from his message. Parenthetically, I may add--I did not take his candidacy lightly for a moment.

"Third, as President, it will be my role to serve as the catalyst for our Board. Our fundamental purpose is to operate according to our policies, regulations, statutes and priorities. We as Board members will make many decisions, only when we are seated 'en banc' (at this table). I hope to serve as an initiator, stimplator, or motivator for possible Board action. Our decisions will be based upon consensus after due input and research and deliberation from the Office of the School Superintendent and the professionals and staff.

"May I also announce directly that in my judgment the School Superintendent is the key educational leader in our School District. I respect Dr. James Fadule very deeply. He is a person who has been visionary and strong and is tremendously effective 'because the children are so important,' and he works single-purpose on this wave length. Let me add that our Board is strong and there are moments of differences and sometimes sparks. We are a dynamic institution and I pledge we will work as a team for the good of our children.

"Fourth, I wish to convey a message to our citizens about our School District. Our schools belong to all of US. I should like to quickly eliminate any semblance of THEY and WE as a dichotomy of spheres of influence and interests. The pronoun that I wish to internalize and communicate is US. Us is a beautiful pronoun. It represents citizens collectively. It communicates a community of interest. The pronoun us, consists of two letters, i.e., u and s which are part of our nation's name--United States. Us for us also means united souls or united spirits.

"I shall pledge also to work for making our Room of the Board of Education a place of comfortable assembly for every person who attends our sessions. The right of assembly is a precious value of the First Amendment of the U.S. Constitution. I aim to work for this and need all of our help.

"Could we perhaps spend a few minutes in the Board Room before and after meetings, instead of out in the halls or outside-to informally share, exchange, and interact--with each other?

"Fifth, Governor Tom Kean's Partnership Program is important. Could we form or institute a Nutley School Partnership, where we can all work together--at the Board of Education level--because our children are so important?

"Are there educational activities for Partners, such as seminars or topics to help us for our children? Let's use our school facilities for such Partnership Programs. Can we as Partners be excellent role models because our children are so important?

"Sixth, Praise--do we use praise often during the school day in our Nutley School District? One of the most effective human actions or behaviors is the giving of praise. While it costs nothing, is it given frequently? Tonight, could we urge our school community to be generous in praising the various constituents? Would we like to ask our teachers to be more effusive in their praise of our students? Likewise, would we like to see the unusual -- that is students praise teachers directly? Would we like to see more praise by principals and supervisors of teachers and students and staff? Likewise, would we like to know that there is natural praise of principals and supervisors by teachers and students and staff? Would we like to see our School Superintendent and Central Administrators give more praise to all segments of our School District? Likewise, could we imagine the positive effects of reciprocal praise from segments of the School District to the School Superintendent and Central Administrators? Would we like to see the Board of Education praise all segments of the School District? Likewise, would we like to see the Board of Education praised occasionally by the several segments of our School District and the community? And, to conclude this message, would we like to see the School District community praise parents and citizens for their support? Likewise would we flourish more if parents and citizens could be more effusive in their praise of the school system community?

"I have focused on praise as an antidote to criticism. In my Human Relations course at Fordham, a useful book by Marc Robert, Managing Conflict From the Inside Out, indicates HANDLE CRITICISM AS YOU WOULD A LIVE BOMB. Recently a group of prominent behavioral scientists were asked to react in a word or phrase to the concept 'criticism.' Here are some of their responses.

CRITICISM:

- .Never feels good;
- .Is rarely helpful;
- .Usually doesn't work;
- .Irritates, aggravates, and sometimes enrages;
- .Makes people self-conscious and defensive;
- .Precipitates interpersonal conflicts; and
- .Is almost always handled clumsily. (Page 45)

"Pride in Nutley is manifest. Pride and praise for our school community is enervating. May we focus perhaps on increased efforts in our total Human Relations at all levels in our School District--because our children are so important!

"Seventh, would there be any interest in a BPRT, i.e., a <u>Board President's Round Table</u>, that would meet at mutually convenient times--not often, but throughout the school year for

any interested person to simply discuss educational matters on an open agenda format? The Board President would like to see students also invited to participate, share, contribute and learn.

"To conclude, I pledge to work hard for our children, our teachers, staff and administrators, parents and citizens. Last Thursday, five of our Nutley citizens were honored by the Jaycees because of their tremendous service to Nutley. They symbolize the uniqueness of our Town, because we have many many people who serve and care.

"We are fortunate to have hundreds of parents and citizens in our Nutley School District, who work for our children-on countless activities--because our children are so important and yes, precious. On behalf of the Board I thank them and ask their continued service and support.

"I ask your help to assist us your Board of Education to move our excellent school district to even greater heights. God Bless You all and perhaps you may say a prayer for us--as we begin a new School Board year--because our children are so important. Thank you, for your time and attendance at this meeting tonight."

HEARING OF CITIZENS:

Mr. Frank Solimo, 29 Briar Lane, made several comments regarding taxes.

ADOPTION OF SCHEDULE OF MEETINGS:

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

BE IT RESOLVED, That the regular monthly meetings of the Board of Education of the Township of Nutley be held on the fourth Monday of each month, except as noted otherwise, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That, in accordance with the requirements of the Open Public Meetings Act of 1975, the following schedule of meetings for the next twelve months be adopted. (Schedule A)

ADOPTION OF POLICIES:

Mrs. Scheckel 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 of the Township of Nutley hereby adopt for the ensuing year all Bylaws and Policies, Rules and Regulations currently in force.

DEPOSITORY OF ELEMENTARY SCHOOL SAVINGS ACCOUNTS:

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

BE IT RESOLVED, That the Nutley Savings and Loan Association be designated as the official depository for the 1988/1989 school year for individual student savings accounts to which deposits are made through the elementary schools.

DEPOSITORY OF SCHOOL FUNDS - Nutley Savings and Loan Association:

Mr. Battaglia 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 Savings and Loan Association be designated the official depository for the following accounts of the Nutley Board of Education for the 1988/1989 school year, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the following officers of the various accounts be authorized to sign checks drawn on the accounts, effective April 11, 1988:

Board of Education, N.J. Unemployment J Insurance Trust Fund Account J

John C. Sincaglia or Jean Unglaub

School Accounts

Nutley High School

John Jacone or Joseph Cocchiola

Franklin School

Paul Primamore or William B. Shergalis

Lincoln School

Alexander B. Conrad

Spring Garden School

Anthony J. Stivala

Washington School

Rosemarie DiGeronimo

Yantacaw School

John Walker

Radcliffe School

Kathleen Serafino

High School Scholarships

John Jacone or Joseph Cocchiola

Savings Account

DEPOSITORY OF SCHOOL FUNDS - First Fidelity Bank:

Mrs. Goodson 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 First Fidelity Bank be designated as the official depository for the following accounts of the Nutley Board of Education for the 1988/1989 school year, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the following officers of the various accounts be authorized to sign checks drawn on the accounts effective April 11, 1988:

Board of Education General Account

Primary Signatory		Alternate Signatory
Anthony N. Baratta, President	or	Rosalie C. Scheckel, Vice- President
John C. Sincaglia, Secretary	or	Jean Unglaub, Manager of Accounts
David Wilson, Treasurer of School Moneys		
Board of Education Coupon Account		
Primary Signatory		Alternate Signatory
Anthony N. Baratta, President	or	Rosalie C. Scheckel, Vice- President
John C. Sincaglia, Secretary	or	Jean Unglaub, Manager of Accounts
David Wilson, Treasurer of School Moneys		
Board of Education Salary Account		
John C. Sincaglia, Secretary	or	Jean Unglaub, Manager of Accounts
David Wilson, Treasurer of School Moneys		
Board of Education Cash Account		
John C. Sincaglia	or	Jean Unglaub
Board of Education Athletic Account		
John C. Sincaglia	or	Jean Unglaub

Board of Education Cafeteria Account

John C. Sincaglia

or

Jean Unglaub

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the First Fidelity Bank be authorized to accept facsimile signatures of the check signing machine.

INVESTMENT OF FUNDS:

Mrs. Goodson 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 Secretary/Business Administrator, with the approval of the Superintendent of Schools, be authorized to invest surplus funds of the Board of Education and funds which will be available for a determinate period of time in U.S. Government and Agency Securities, Business Savings Accounts of our designated depository, and Certificates of Deposit and Repurchase Agreements of our local banks, and in any other securities designated by law.

APPOINTMENT OF ATTORNEY AND NEGOTIATOR/CONSULTANT:

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

WHEREAS, there exists from time to time a need for legal services and negotiations/consultant services for the Board of Education, and

WHEREAS, funds are available for this purpose, and

WHEREAS, the Public School Contracts Law (Ch. 114, Laws of 1977) provides for the award of contracts for this type of professional service without competitive bidding,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Education of the Township of Nutley as follows:

- 1. The firm of Sills Cummis Zuckerman Radin Tischman Epstein & Gross, P.A. of Newark, NJ is hereby appointed Board attorney and negotiator/consultant for the 1988/1989 school year.
- 2. This contract is awarded without competitive bidding as a professional service under the provisions of the Public School Contracts Law

because said services are of an extraordinary, unspecifiable nature which cannot reasonably be described by written specifications, and require specialized expertise, extensive training, and proven reputation in the field.

APPOINTMENT OF AUDITOR:

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

WHEREAS, there exists a need for an annual audit of school accounts, and

WHEREAS, funds are available for this purpose, and

WHEREAS, the Public School Contracts Law (Ch. 114, Laws of 1977) provides for the award of contracts for this type of professional service without competitive bidding,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Education of the Township of Nutley as follows:

- The firm of Deloitte, Haskins & Sells of Morristown, NJ is hereby appointed auditors for the accounts of the Board of Education for the 1988/1989 school year.
- 2. This contract is awarded without competitive bidding as a professional service under the provisions of the Public School Contracts Law because said services are of an extraordinary, unspecifiable nature, which cannot reasonably be described by written specifications, and require specialized expertise, extensive training, and proven reputation in the field.

APPOINTMENT OF TREASURER OF SCHOOL MONEYS:

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

BE IT RESOLVED, That Mr. David Wilson be appointed Treasurer of School Moneys for the 1988/1989 school year.

TRANSPORTATION CONTRACT - Essex County Educational Services Commission:

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

BE IT RESOLVED, That the President and Secretary of the Board be authorized to enter into a contract with the Essex County Educational Services Commission for transportation of Special Education students during the 1988/1989 school year as may be necessary.

(NOTE: The Commission is not transporting any Nutley students at the present time.)

LEASE OF BOARD PROPERTY TO NUTLEY FREE PUBLIC LIBRARY:

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

BE IT RESOLVED, That the Board of Education leases a portion of its property adjacent to the Township Library to the Trustees of the Free Public Library of the Township of Nutley, for a term beginning May 1, 1988 and terminating April 30, 1989, at a term rental of One Dollar (\$1.00).

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board of Education hereby authorize its officers to execute said lease.

LEASE OF BOARD PROPERTY ON OVERLOOK TERRACE:

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

BE IT RESOLVED, That the Board of Education lease 20 feet of property owned by it, known as Lot Number 14, Block 212, (Overlook Terrace, rear entrance of Spring Garden School playground) on the tax maps of the Township of Nutley, to John Janiec and Mrs. Anne Janiec, his wife, for a term beginning May 1, 1988 and terminating April 30, 1989, at a term rental of One Dollar (\$1.00) in accordance with all requirements specified in the lease.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board of Education hereby authorize its officers to execute said lease.

LEASE OF CHURCH STREET SCHOOL PROPERTY TO NUTLEY HISTORICAL SOCIETY:

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

BE IT RESOLVED, That the Board of Education lease the Church Street School property to the Nutley Historical Society in accordance with the provisions of the lease dated February 14, 1972, for a term beginning May 1, 1988 and terminating April 30, 1989, at a term rental of One Dollar (\$1.00), and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board of Education hereby authorize its officers to execute said lease.

LEASE - 21 Romano Street:

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

BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Education that it hereby lease to Roxana Yang, owner of the property known as 21 Romano Street, Nutley, New Jersey, a strip of land 20 feet in width running along the westerly line of the premises of said lessee for the full width thereof, which said premises are listed as Block 18, Lots 45 and 46 in the tax assessor's books of the Township of Nutley, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That said lease be written for a term commencing May 1, 1988 and terminating April 30, 1989, at a term rental of One Dollar (\$1.00), and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board of Education hereby authorize its officers to execute said lease.

LEASE - 22 Romano Street:

Mrs. Scheckel 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 by the Board of Education of the Township of Nutley, that it hereby lease to Joseph L. and Mary Bernardi, owners of the property known as 22 Romano Street, Nutley, New Jersey, a strip of land 25 feet in width running along the westerly line of the premises of said lessee for the full width thereof, which said premises are listed as Block 18, Lots 78 and 79 in the tax assessor's books of the Township of Nutley, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That said lease be written for a term commencing May 1, 1988 and terminating April 30, 1989, at a term rental of One Dollar (\$1.00), and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board of Education hereby authorize its officers to execute said lease.

OTHER BUSINESS:

Dr. Baratta stated that because the Board is in the midst of negotiations, he would like Mr. Kucinski to remain as Chairman of the Negotiations Committee, and further, he would like to invite Mr. Battaglia and Mrs. Scheckel to remain on the Committee, and he would remain on the Committee himself so that negotiations could proceed uninterrupted. Dr. Baratta then requested that the Board members inform him of their wishes in terms of Committee assignments at their earliest convenience.

Dr. Baratta pointed out that the next meeting of the Board is April 25, and that during that week the community would be honoring retiring Mayor Harry Chenoweth at a dinner. Dr. Baratta expressed the wish that the Board would adopt a resolution that is appropriate for our Mayor.

Mr. Kucinski moved that the Board adopt a resolution honoring Mayor Harry Chenoweth at its April 25 meeting, seconded by Mr. Piro and unanimously approved. Dr. Baratta requested that Mr. Sincaglia prepare an appropriate resolution for Board approval.

Mr. Sincaglia expressed his appreciation to the many election workers who gave of their time on election day to help us give the citizens the right to exercise their franchise. Mr. Sincaglia added that their assistance is really appreciated, and he looks forward to their help in succeeding years.

ADJOURNMENT:

There being no further business to come before the Board, on motion made by Mrs. Scheckel, seconded by Mrs. Goodson, the meeting was adjourned at 8:10 p.m.

President

Secretary

April 11, 1988