

Board of Education
Nutley, New Jersey

August 31, 1992

The Regular Meeting of the Board of Education of the Township of Nutley, New Jersey was held in the Nutley High School Cafeteria, 300 Franklin Avenue, on Monday, August 31, 1992 at 8:00 p.m., with Mr. Sam P. Battaglia, President, presiding.

ANNOUNCEMENT OF MEETING:

Mr. Battaglia 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 Notices of August 21, 1992 and August 27, 1992. Said Notice was:

1. Posted at the entrance of the Board Office.
2. Mailed to The Nutley Sun, the Star Ledger, the North Jersey Herald & News and the Nutley Journal.
3. Mailed to the Nutley Township Clerk.

"Formal action will be taken."

FLAG SALUTE:.

The meeting was opened with Mr. Kucinski 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: Mrs. Sally Goodson, Mr. Frank V. Hermo, Mrs. Aileen Hresko, Mr. Charles W. Kucinski, Jr., Mr. Charles J. Piro, Mr. Robert J. Rusignuolo and Mrs. Rosalie C. Scheckel. Absent: Mr. John G. Griwert. Approximately 65 citizens were present.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Copies of the minutes of the Regular Meeting held on July 27, 1992 at 8:01 p.m. being in the hands of each member, reading of same was dispensed. Mr. Kucinski moved that the minutes be approved, seconded by Mrs. Scheckel and unanimously approved by the Board.

COMMUNICATIONS:

Mr. Sincaglia presented and read the following communications:

1. Three resolutions from the Wayne Township Public Schools which they had adopted in June, one expressing their opposition to Initiative and Referendum, one seeking the return of mandated pension costs for payment by the state under the Quality Education Act and one opposing extension of health benefits to retired members of the PERS.
2. A resolution from the Wayne Board of Education opposing Assembly Bill 1541 which could mandate transportation by school districts along hazardous routes with no funding mechanism.
3. A calendar of events from the Essex County School Boards Association for the 1992-93 school year.
4. A thank-you note from Stephen Hayes for his retirement gift.
5. A notice from the Essex County Educational Services Commission canceling a meeting that had been scheduled for August 27, 1992 and rescheduling the meeting for August 25, 1992.
6. A letter from Peter Carter, Essex County Superintendent of Schools, indicating that the district's adopted objectives for the 1991-92 school year had been met.
7. A thank-you note from Mary Conlan for her retirement gift.
8. A letter from Christine Henry regarding the Spring Garden School third grade issue.
9. Mr. Battaglia read the following letter from John Griwert regarding the third grade Spring Garden School problem:

"Unfortunately, at the time of the August 31st Board of Education meeting, I will be out of state, and, therefore, unable to attend. Accordingly, I have asked the President to read this letter into the record.

"I take great offense at the accusations made in the letter sent to all of the Spring Garden School parents by the third grade parents. To say the Spring Garden School has no representation on the Board is absurd.

"Regardless of where the Board members reside, I assure you that they represent every parent, child and resident of Nutley to the best of their ability.

"I serve with eight dedicated people who give freely, and I do mean freely as we receive no compensation whatsoever, of their time to try to insure that Nutley maintains a quality educational system.

"Many of the members of the Board do not even have children in the school system, yet they continue to serve out of a sense of civic duty and because they care about Nutley and its children. When I ran for, and was elected to, the Board, I had no children in the system. I ran because I spent many years as an educator and believed that my input could be valuable to the system. I still hold that belief.

"The implication that I have not represented Spring Garden School both saddens and offends me. I have taken time out of my business day and my personal day to meet and/or speak with not only Spring Garden parents, but parents from the various Nutley schools. I have listened. I have brought your concerns to the Board. I have been personally thanked by some Spring Garden parents for my interest and involvement. I have represented you and all Nutley residents to the best of my ability, and without regard to any special interests. I do not represent Dr. Fadule. I represent the people of Nutley.

"I must assume that you are dissatisfied with my appointment as the representative from the Board to Spring Garden School, and would ask that if this is the case you speak to Mr. Battaglia, and I will work with him to accommodate a switch in representatives. If this is not the case, I will be more than happy to continue in that capacity.

"Rest assured that either way I will continue to represent Spring Garden and every other school in Nutley during my tenure on the Board."

SECRETARY'S REPORT:

Mr. Sincaglia presented the Report of the Secretary as of July 31, 1992. (See attached report.)

Mrs. Scheckel moved that the Board accept the Report of the Secretary, seconded by Mrs. Goodson. On a roll call vote the resolution was unanimously adopted.

TREASURER'S REPORT:

Mr. Sincaglia presented the Report of the Treasurer of School Moneys as of July 31, 1992. (See attached report.)

Mrs. Scheckel moved that the Board accept the Report of the Treasurer of School Moneys, seconded by Mr. Kucinski. On a roll call vote the resolution was unanimously adopted.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT:

Dr. Fadule presented and read the following report:

"The 1991/1992 school year was one made memorable by the diligent efforts of our students, staff and Board of Education.

"As in the past, indications of academic success regarding the Nutley Achievement, IOWA, and HSPT tests revealed that our students are continuing to achieve quite well. Particularly pleasing was the fact that our 7th grade students had a very fine year in the Johns Hopkins Talent Search in the mathematics and verbal areas. Nutley athletes and musicians continued to distinguish themselves with numerous awards. Of particular note was the winning of State Championships in softball and girls' track. Our girls' soccer team also won the Essex County Championship in the fall.

"Graduating seniors fulfilled every requirement exceptionally well regarding the extensive HSPT testing program. In the SAT's, however, results actually dropped and must be considered a matter of concern. Our 11th grade students also scored exceptionally high in the second administration of the 11th grade HSPT "due notice test" where they finished 1st in mathematics, 2nd in reading, and 1st in writing among the thirty high schools in our district factor group! Franklin School's eighth grade students passed the HSPT 'early-warning' test in numbers greater than last year's fine performance. Our hearty congratulations go to the faculty and students who participated in these phases of State testing.

"Additional positive and revealing information pertaining to students proceeding to higher education and the scholarships they received, are reflected in the following pages (see attached). It is important to note that 84.9% of students will be going on to higher education and they have been offered a total of \$470,371 in scholarship awards. They will be attending an excellent array of quality academic institutions throughout our nation.

"Curriculum development in Critical Thinking Skills, K-8 Physical Education, K-12 Library Skills, and K-12 Music Education was done in depth. Other important curriculum studies involved computer education, elementary school science, K-6 handwriting and mathematics education.

"As we begin the 1992/1993 academic year, our school community can be certain that our excellent staff will continue its commitment to the development of our students."

Dr. Fadule reported on college admissions of the class of 1992 and annual testing results. He commented that the Iowa test resulted in very fine scores.

Dr. Fadule indicated that the HSPT grade 11 "early warning" test resulted in a tie for second place in reading, first place in math and first place in writing when compared with similar districts in the state.

Dr. Fadule mentioned that Nutley's SAT scores increased by a total of 21 points for verbal and math, and he was most pleased with the results. He expressed his appreciation to everyone concerned.

"Comments pertaining to the annual vandalism report."

Mr. Sincaglia explained that the district is required to submit a report on violence, vandalism and substance abuse to the County Superintendent each year. He added that in 1991-92, Nutley had 58 such incidents at a cost of \$2,387 to the district.

FIRE DRILL REPORT:

Fire drills held during the month of July were as follows:

July 10	Nutley Summer School	8:30 a.m.	1 min. 50 secs.
July 13	Yantacaw School	10:00 a.m.	1 min. 8 secs.
July 17	Nutley Summer School	11:00 a.m.	1 min. 30 secs.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Mrs. Hresko indicated that the Priorities Committee had met within the past month and set the priorities for the district for the coming year. She then reviewed the proposed priorities.

HEARING OF CITIZENS (Resolutions Only):

None

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CERTIFICATION OF MAJOR ACCOUNT FUND STATUS:

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 with Mrs. Goodson, Mr. Hermo, Mrs. Hresko, Mr. Kucinski, Mr. Piro, Mr. Rusignuolo, Mrs. Scheckel and Mr. Battaglia voting aye:

BE IT RESOLVED, That, pursuant to NJAC 6:20-2.13(e), the Nutley Board of Education certifies that as of July 31, 1992, after review of the Secretary's monthly financial report (Appropriations section) and upon consultation with the appropriate district officials, to the best of its knowledge no major account or fund has been overexpended in violation of NJAC 6:20-2.13(b) and that sufficient funds are available to meet the district's financial obligations for the remainder of the fiscal year. (Major accounts are Current Expense, Capital Outlay, Debt Service.)

BILLS AND MANDATORY PAYMENTS:

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 Board of Education authorizes the payment of bills and mandatory payments in the total amount of \$1,535,230.01 as per the attached Schedule A which have been audited by the Business Office.

REQUESTS FOR USE OF SCHOOL BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS:

Mr. Kucinski presented and moved the adoption of the following resolution, seconded by Mrs. Hresko 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 of Education.

REAPPOINTMENTS - Instructional Aides:

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 instructional aides listed below be reappointed for the 1992/1993 school year at the salaries indicated in accordance with the 1992/1993 secretarial salary guide:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Group/Step</u>	<u>Salary</u>
Luzzi, Donna	4- 7½	\$12,959
Martino, Josephine	4-Max.	19,531
Paolino, Audrey	4-14	16,402
Pecora, Christine	4-13	15,857
Ponzoni, Janet	4- 5	11,650
Ritacco, Kathleen	4- 9	13,742
Yanuzzelli, Gloria	4- 8	13,220

REAPPOINTMENTS - Part-Time Aides:

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 part-time school aides listed below be appointed for the 1992/1993 school year at the salaries indicated in accordance with the hourly rate established by the Board of Education:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Step</u>	<u>Hourly Rate</u>
Berardi, Michele	2	\$8.85
Carson, Elaine	2	8.85
Cordasco, Diana Lynn	2	8.85
Cucuzza, Madeline	2	8.85
DeFrank, Patricia	2	8.85
DiEdwardo, Sara	2	8.85
Fenwick, Janet	2	8.85
Krupka, Joann	2	8.85
Lewis, Denise	2	8.85
Linfante, Phyllis	2	8.85
Marsella, Gail	2	8.85
Mascola, Geraldine	2	8.85
Montanari, Irene	2	8.85
Morris, Deborah	2	8.85
Rizzo, Vincenza	2	8.85
SanGiovanni, Beverly	2	8.85
Sollitto, Catherine	2	8.85
Tesei, Lesley	2	8.85
Tritto, Mary Jean	2	8.85
Vespoli, Ann	2	8.85
Zaccheo, Joan	2	8.85

APPOINTMENTS - Professional Staff:

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 by the Board of Education that the personnel listed below be appointed for the 1992/1993 school year, effective September 1, 1992:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Degree</u>	<u>Step</u>	<u>Salary</u>
Debra Lanuto	B.A.+30	7	\$16,135 (part time)
Laura-anne MacMillan	B.A.	6	29,728
Evelyn MacMullen	B.A.	6	14,864 (part time)

APPROVAL OF SUBSTITUTE RATES - 1992/1993 School Year:

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

BE IT RESOLVED, That the following substitute rates be approved for the 1992/1993 school year:

Clerical

Part-Time Aides	\$6.65 per hour
Instructional Aides	7.20 per hour
Clerk Typists	7.70 per hour
Secretaries	8.35 per hour

Custodial

Base Rate	\$8.65 per hour
Black Seal License Rate (with previous Nutley experience)	9.50 per hour

<u>Cafeteria</u>	\$6.50 per hour
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Transportation

Bus Attendant	\$6.50 per hour
Van Driver	7.85 per hour
Bus Driver	8.55 per hour*

*If driving a vehicle with a capacity of 30 or more, the driver shall receive an additional 75¢ per hour.

Teacher

Per Diem	\$60.00 per day
Permanent Substitute	65.00 per day plus benefits
10 Consecutive Days in Same Assignment	\$75.00 per day
Certified Teacher after 20 Days in Same Assignment	1/200 of 1st step on B.A. Guide
Homebound Instruction	\$18.00 per hour

APPOINTMENTS - Teacher Substitutes:

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 teacher substitutes listed on the attached Schedule C be approved for the 1992/1993 school year.

APPOINTMENTS - 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 following substitutes be approved for the 1992/1993 school year:

Secretarial/Clerical

Jo-Ann Aromando	Rose LaFaso
Sharon Basista	Laura Lardieri
Louise G. Beck	Mildred Marandola
Mary Bellucci	Josephine Mleziva
LuAnn Calicchio	Evelyn T. Pelaia
Nancy Cascarano	Ann Perrone
Patricia Cerankowski	Annette Pucci
Debra Chapman	Linda Rafanello
Diane D'Aloia	Mary Ritacco
Karen Damico	Victoria Rubulotta
Antoinette Frannicola	Geraldine Safonte
Karen Greco	Josephine Sarno
Phyllis Horuzy	Alexis Vitetta
Adeline Janusz	Peggy Windheim
Sandy Kantor	Gloria Zangari

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Aides

Louise G. Beck	Rose LaFaso
Sharon Basista	Laura Lardieri
Mary Bellucci	Mildred Marandola
Linda Buel	Josephine Mleziva
Nancy Cascarano	Annette Pucci
Debra Chapman	Linda Rafanello
Karen Damico	Victoria Rubulotta
Phyllis Horuzy	Josephine Sarno
Adeline Janusz	Peggy Windheim
Sandy Kantor	

APPOINTMENTS - Transportation Substitutes:

Mrs. Hresko 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 following transportation substitutes be approved for the 1992/1993 school year:

Drivers

Robert Algieri	Gerald Polito
Barbara Bartell	Rosanne Romano
RoseAnn D'Amato	Joseph Masucci
Eugene McCormack	Fred Scalera

Aides

Rosalie Alongi	Judy Wilson
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EXTRA COMPENSATION:

Mrs. Hresko 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 paid extra compensation in the amounts indicated for services rendered:

Elementary Science Curriculum - June 25, 26,
29 and 30, 1992

Lawrence Jinks	\$439.04
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Preparation of Priorities Report

Mary Jane Emde	\$162.54
Patricia Griffin	162.54
Jacqueline Meloni	189.63
Deborah Schop	162.54
Diane Slater	<u>162.54</u>

Total	\$839.79
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Cheerleading Committee

Elinor Alboum	\$ 87.45
Mary Lou Dowse	114.89
Mariana Francioso	<u>114.89</u>

Total	\$317.23
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Summer Employment - 3-1/2 Days - August 4, 5, 6 and 7 (1/2), 1992

Raymond Kohere	\$1,169.60
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Summer Employment - 5 Days - July 8, 16, 22, 24 and 29, 1992

Richard SanFillipo	\$1,261.15
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Right-to-Know Coordinator Activities - July and August, 1992

Donald Baumann	\$291.50
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TUITION STUDENTS:

Mrs. Hresko 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 approves enrollment of students, on a tuition basis, pursuant to the collective bargaining agreement between the Nutley Board of Education and the Education Association of Nutley:

<u>Number of Students</u>	<u>Grade Level</u>
1	11
1	3
1	2
1	1

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SPECIAL CLASS PLACEMENT - Atypical Students:

Mr. Hermo 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 hereby authorizes its Superintendent of Schools to assign classified handicapped children to education programs according to how they can best achieve success in learning, in accordance with the rules and regulations pursuant to Title 18A, Chapter 46, N.J. Statutes, and Title 6, Chapter 28, N.J. Administrative Code, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board of Education authorizes the attendance of Nutley students at the Special Education classes for the 1992/1993 school year, as per the attached Schedule D.

PLACEMENT OF OUT-OF-DISTRICT SPECIAL EDUCATION STUDENTS:

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:

BE IT RESOLVED, That the Board of Education approves the placement of out-of-district special education students from the following districts in the following classifications for the 1992/1993 school year:

<u>District</u>	<u>No. of Students</u>	<u>Classification</u>	<u>School</u>
Belleville	1	NI	Franklin
Cedar Grove	1	MH	Lincoln
	2	Pre-Sch. Hdcp.	Lincoln
Harrison	1	NI	Washington
	1	NI	Spring Garden
	1	NI	Nutley High
	1	Pre-Sch. Hdcp.	Lincoln
Irvington	3	NI	Washington
	1	Pre-Sch. Hdcp.	Lincoln
Lyndhurst	1	PI	Nutley High
Passaic	1	NI	Spring Garden

CURRICULUM APPROVAL:

Mr. Hermo 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 curriculum as described in the district selected course guides, courses of study, curriculum guides and program material be adopted for use in the Grades K-12 of the Public Schools of Nutley for the 1992/1993 school year. (Schedule E)

1991/1992 LOCAL DISTRICT PLANNING MODEL:

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

BE IT RESOLVED, That the Nutley Board of Education accepts the County Superintendent's report entitled "1991/1992 Local District Planning Model" at its public meeting on August 31, 1992.

1992/1993 LOCAL DISTRICT PLANNING MODEL:

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

BE IT RESOLVED, That the Nutley Board of Education submits its "1992/1993 Local District Planning Model" at its public meeting on August 31, 1992. (Schedule F)

JOINT TRANSPORTATION AGREEMENT:

Mr. Rusignuolo 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 Board of Education approves a joint transportation agreement with the Rutherford Board of Education to provide transportation for two special education pupils from Rutherford to the Community High School, Westwood, NJ on Nutley bus route #6, effective September 1, 1992 through June 30, 1993 at a cost to the Rutherford Board of Education of \$50 per day. (Subject to approval of the County Superintendent of Schools.)

JOINT TRANSPORTATION AGREEMENT:

Mr. Rusignuolo 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 Board of Education approves a joint transportation agreement with the East Rutherford Board of Education to provide transportation for one special education pupil from East Rutherford to the Stepping Stones School, Livingston, NJ on Nutley bus route #14, effective September 1, 1992 through June 30, 1993 at a cost to the East Rutherford Board of Education of \$65 per day. (Subject to approval of the County Superintendent of Schools.)

Mr. Piro questioned how the cost is determined, to which Mr. Sincaglia responded.

TRANSFER OF FUNDS:

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 transfers in the 1992/1993 Current Expense budget be confirmed as follows:

	<u>From</u>	
Account 00-530		\$2,500
	<u>To</u>	
Account 00-620		\$2,000
Account 10-730		<u>500</u>
		\$2,500

APPROVAL OF SUBMISSION OF APPLICATION - Chapter 2 - P.L. 100-297 - 1992/1993 School Year:

Mrs. Goodson 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 approves submission of application for Chapter 2, P.L. 100-297, for the 1992/1993 school year in the amount of \$19,603.

ACCEPTANCE OF APPROVAL OF APPLICATION - ESSIA, Chapter 1 - 1992/1993 School Year:

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 Board of Education accepts approval for ESSIA, Chapter 1 program application for the 1992/1993 school year in the amount of \$219,573.

ACCEPTANCE OF NOTICE OF ALLOCATION - P.L. 101-392 (Vocational) - FY 93:

Mrs. Scheckel 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 accepts notice of allocation for P.L. 101-392 (Vocational) for FY 93 in the amount of \$8,802.

APPROVAL OF SUBMISSION OF APPLICATION - Dwight D. Eisenhower Mathematics and Science Education Act (IKE) - 1992/1993 School Year:

Mrs. Scheckel 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 the Board of Education approves the submission of an application for funds for the Dwight D. Eisenhower Mathematics and Science Education Act (IKE) for the 1992/1993 school year in the amount of \$9,688 (Public - \$8,466.89, Nonpublic - \$1,221.11).

APPLICATION FOR FUNDS - Drug Free Schools and Communities Act, P.L. 99-570 - 1992/1993 School Year:

Mrs. Scheckel 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 the Board of Education approves the application for funds for Drug Free Schools and Communities Act, P.L. 99-570, for the 1992/1993 school year in the amount of \$21,945.27 (Public - \$19,179.20, Nonpublic - \$2,766.07).

AMENDMENT TO CHANGE ORDER:

Mrs. Scheckel 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 amends Change Order #1 with the ABC Construction Co. for asbestos abatement work from \$5,500 to \$4,900.

MEMORIAL:

Mr. Louis Phillips

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

WHEREAS, it is with a sense of deep sorrow and regret that the Nutley Board of Education records the death of Mr. Louis Phillips on August 9, 1992, and

WHEREAS, Mr. Phillips had served the Nutley Public Schools as a buildings and grounds employee for thirty-one years prior to his retirement in 1977, and

WHEREAS, Mr. Phillips won the respect of all those with whom he came in contact for his dedication to the Nutley School District,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Board of Education of the Township of Nutley extends deepest sympathy to the members of his family, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That this resolution be made a part of the minutes of this meeting and a copy sent to the members of his family.

ADOPTION OF PRIORITIES - 1992/1993:

Mrs. Hresko 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 approves the following priorities for the 1992/1993 school year:

Continuing Priorities

Review the high school 1992 Middle States evaluation report and make appropriate recommendations for improvement

The development of the K-12 critical thinking skills' faculty inservice program

Review and interpret the results of the 1991/1992 State Proficiency Testing Program (Early-Warning 8, HSPT 9, and Due-Notice 11, tests)

The implementation of the K-12 library skills curriculum

The implementation of the K-12 music education curriculum

The implementation of the K-8 physical education curriculum

The development of the K-12 chemical health education
faculty inservice program

New Priorities

Review the K-8 mathematics education curriculum and make
appropriate recommendations for improvement

Review the Nutley Achievement Test Program (reading,
writing, and mathematics) and make appropriate recommen-
dations for improvement

Review the middle school science curriculum and make
appropriate recommendations for improvement

Other Important Curriculum Related Items

Inservice training for K-12 faculty in computer education
development

Inservice training for K-12 faculty in mathematics
education (IKE grant)

A review of the scope and sequence of learning activities
in the kindergarten program

The development of the Instructional Theory into Practice
(ITIP) inservice program

Inservice training in science education for elementary
school faculty

A review of textbook materials for grade 3 social studies,
K-6 spelling and handwriting

APPOINTMENT - Special Education
Teacher:

Mrs. Sharon Silverberg

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

BE IT RESOLVED, That the Board of Education approves
the appointment of Mrs. Sharon Silverberg as a Special
Education teacher for the 1992/1993 school year,
effective September 1, 1992, at the salary rate of
\$35,965, M.A.-9.

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APPOINTMENTS - Permanent Unassigned Substitutes:

Mr. Hermo 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 be approved as permanent unassigned substitutes for the 1992/1993 school year at the rate of \$65 per day and fringe benefits which include State Health Benefits and dental plans:

Christopher Chern	Linda Scarola
Marie Forgino	Richard Schubach
Pamela Franschman	Enrica Valentini
Salvatrice Lombardo	Andrea Vangieri
Arthur Melville	Lori Ann Vitaletti
Kathleen J. Price	

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That these candidates met the district's requirement for the permanent unassigned substitute position which is the possession of a County Substitute Certificate.

Mrs. Scheckel read the following statement:

"To Spring Garden Third Grade Parents:

"The Board, individually and collectively, has for the past six weeks listened to your concerns, discussed them with you, and read the articles, letters and interviews that were published in the papers about the concern for your children as they enter 3rd grade.

"We have also discussed the matter among ourselves, with the administration, with our friends and neighbors, with teachers in Nutley and other school systems, with colleagues at the office, and even with Board members from other districts.

"We have taken your concerns seriously and have not ignored you. Please listen to us, as we have listened to you. All of us are parents. Our children either have gone through the Nutley school system; are in the system now, or are about to begin. We understand that you care about your children and that you fear that your children will be harmed somehow by attending third grade at Spring Garden School. That can't happen -- Please listen, as we have listened to you.

"You seem to have presented us with a three pronged issue:

1. the fact that the class will be self-contained
2. the number of children in the class
3. and the fact that there are four children who are 'classified'

"The class will be self-contained. You demand team teaching and deem it your right and your children's right. I think you have misunderstood the concept of team teaching as grouping. Indeed some children may well have the same teacher all day long, depending on his placement. Those children in effect, were in a self-contained class. Given a good teacher and the support of their families, children will learn whether in a self-contained class or grouped homogeneously and changing classes.

Number of Children

"Do you think that we the citizens of Nutley can afford to support classes of 12 or 13 students? If we divide this class into two groups, we have two classes of 13 - that is an impossible elementary class size!

"You are concerned that the special needs children will be a burden...on the teacher? on the other children? Your special classified children will be 'grouped' by ability for reading and math, getting their special help, (sometimes in a group of 3-5 students!) and leaving the teacher with an aide and 23 children for reading and 25 for math. You are demanding two teachers for these subjects for a class of 11 and one of 12; or two classes of 12 and 13. Don't you think every teacher, every parent, every administrator would like to see such small classes for everyone?

"Can you imagine the tax consequences granting your wishes and observing the domino effect throughout all the schools? We would have to hire many more teachers immediately!

"During the morning hours all of your children will have the benefit of a smaller class, a teacher and an aide; the whole class will be together for the balance of the day, because of one extra child, an aide will be in your class.

"The aide will be able to free the teacher to teach and be able to reinforce learning with other groups when the teacher is busy with others. This, ladies and gentlemen will be a real team and your children will get the benefit of the team approach you are looking for.

"Please remember that all of us Board members - the 4 who live in the Yantacaw district, the 2 in Washington, 2 in Radcliffe and 1 in Lincoln school area represent all of you -- all of the children, all of the parents, and all of the taxpayers in Nutley, no matter where they live. Our role is to set policy, and see that it is implemented by the administrators and faculty. We must observe the recommendations of the Superintendent, about what is educationally sound, and we must represent all of Nutley in a fiscally responsible way.

"Please give this system a chance. It worked before; it will work for your children if you allow it to work. Encourage your children, help them all you can, and permit us to help them. Please don't discourage them before the school year starts. Professionals helping every step of the way, and everyone else doing what he can will make this a productive, satisfying year for all.

"Sometimes, even when caring, concerned parents like yourselves request something that you believe is in the best interest of your children, the answer for many reasons must be no. Please work with us, not against us, for your children's good."

HEARING OF CITIZENS:

Mr. Joseph Gugel, 159 High Street, read the following letter which he had sent to Dr. Fadule regarding the Spring Garden School third grade issue:

"Thank you for permitting my wife and me to participate in the discussions regarding staffing the Spring Garden self-contained Third Grade Class. My wife and I heard several new ideas, from each side, which we had not considered. We understand and appreciate the advantages a full time aide would bring to this class.

"However, I would like to reiterate our key concerns:

1. Group Segregation - Children working on their work books will be distracted by the children receiving instruction, and vice versa. Can you imagine how difficult it will be to work on yesterday's lesson while another group is reading a new story? I know I would find it most difficult to concentrate under these circumstances. I can't imagine subjecting an 8 year old to this distracting environment.
2. Multiple Teachers Multiple Classrooms - Every other class in the Nutley School System, above third grade, is given the advantage of multiple teachers and multiple classrooms. It is highly unlikely that this class would, other wise, receive this benefit until 7th grade.

"Below, I have outlined 4 creative solutions, presented by the parents, which, I believe, would be acceptable compromises to the two class two teacher solution, first proposed. In each scenario, the second classroom would, only, be used during math and reading instruction.

1. 1 teacher full time 1 teacher half time, in a separate classroom
2. 1 teacher full time 1 teacher for 2 hours, in a separate classroom

3. 1 teacher full time 1 aide full time, who is hired to teach 2 hours per day, in a separate classroom
4. 1 teacher full time 1 aide full time, with a non-participating teacher present in a second classroom with the aide and children. The teacher would utilize this time to perform his or her administrative tasks.

"The administration and the parents each have their experts. I understand, eleven parents, in this class, are themselves educators. Each group of experts has rendered an opinion based on experience and instinct, not on hard facts! When dealing with concepts, there will always be disagreement among the experts. In this instance, it is reasonable to assume that, most if not all, the experts are in error to some degree. By Dr. Votto's own admission, there is no firm data supporting the current teacher/aide approach, being proposed, was previously successful. Why then, must the school administration gamble with these children?

"As an engineer, I am educated and trained to design conservatively, incorporating sufficient tolerance to minimize component stress and failure, and to do this in such a way that a failure doesn't precipitate failures in remaining systems. We call this 'fail safe'. All we parents are asking of the Nutley School System, is to be a little conservative with our children's education. This is an uncommon situation demanding a creative solution. If we are to err, let us do so in favor of our children.

"I have outlined several approaches which are compromises to the two teacher two class approach. I sincerely hope you will utilize one of these 'fail safe' solutions for our children."

Mrs. Kathleen Serafino, Radcliffe School principal, stated that the same situation occurred at Radcliffe School a year prior to her becoming principal where students were in a contained class from third through fifth grades. She added that she and Dr. Fadule had monitored the progress of the children as they went through the grades, and it had worked very well.

Mrs. Maria Russo, 251 High Street, questioned if there were parent volunteers at Radcliffe School during that time, to which Mrs. Serafino replied in the affirmative, but not in grades 3-5.

Mr. Steve Danieli, 50 Cedar Street, read the following statement:

"The standard teaching method in all Nutley Elementary Schools for Grades 3-6 is shared-teaching with a minimum of two teachers, with children grouped by abilities, in separate classrooms, for Math and Reading.

"The Board of Education will implement, in only Spring Garden School's 3rd Grade class, a self-contained program where two Math and Reading groups will be alternately taught by one classroom teacher and assisted by an aide in one classroom.

"This (alternative) method of instruction is not equal to the method afforded any other Grades 3-6 district-wide. It implies less than full periods of teacher availability for Math and Reading, less teaching flexibility, less immediate 'feedback' monitoring, and a less than conducive classroom environment for concentration and written work production. Also, unlike their peers district-wide, our children will not be exposed to the social and practical experience of moving from classroom to classroom for Math and Reading. Less education...less availability...less flexibility...less concentration...less experience... simply less for only our children!

"For the last three months Spring Garden's 3rd grade parents have repeatedly been told that the 'self-contained' class concept will work. Dr. Fadule expects us to accept his assurances that separate treatment is 'equal' treatment without any supporting statistical information or explanation. We are not willing to gamble four years of our children's academic futures on his speculation. We want equal educational opportunities, we are entitled to it, and we demand it!

"We are asking this Board to establish a new policy guideline for singular classes. This policy should afford a singular class the same educational opportunities as all classes Grades 3-6, via the hiring of a part-time teacher, regardless of class size.

"The School Board, comprised of elected officials of the Community, are charged with the responsibility of hiring the best qualified candidate to be our leading educator, but they are further entrusted with the responsibility of independently questioning and reviewing the management and policy decisions of our Superintendent. When and where these policy decisions conflict with the moral values and/or civil rights of our town, resulting in arbitrariness and discrimination, it is the obligation of our Board, on behalf of all taxpayers, to question and challenge those policies.

"The school year is fast approaching, but there is still time to change the policy affecting this one singular class. We are asking that this be a permanent policy change, to ensure that this class and all future singular classes receive equal methods of educational instruction.

"We believe a parent's concern for their child's education should be considered with the highest regard. We are firmly resolved not to abandon our efforts to seek a resolution that will provide for, and protect, the equal educational opportunities for all children of this district, present and future."

Mrs. Barbara Bochese, 50 Cedar Street, expressed her feeling that the children are not receiving the same education and opportunities. She indicated that no substantiating documents were produced to support the claim that the Radcliffe School students functioned well when they became seventh graders. She commented that it is their children's futures that are being gambled with.

Mr. John Russo, 272 High Street, commented that with the salaries that are paid with the support of taxpayers, the district could afford a part-time teacher. He expressed his opinion that what is being offered the Spring Garden third grade is not the same as is offered to others. He suggested abolishing the Nutley Achievement Tests, which he felt were meaningless, as this would make money available. He added that he felt the SAT's were the only meaningful test, and Nutley only ranks with the national average even though we are spending more money.

Mrs. Maria Russo stated her concern that these parents would not receive any answers as she felt had happened to her with regard to a cheerleading situation.

Mrs. Joan Rubino, 48 North Road, questioned if the car provided to Dr. Fadule as a condition of his employment is still utilized as a back-up vehicle. Mr. Sincaglia replied that in an emergency it can be used. He added that there was a change in the licensing requirements, and we no longer have the flexibility for this 1985 vehicle. Mr. Battaglia commented that this was an agreement made years ago.

Mrs. Dee Komar, 37 Oakley Terrace, asked the Board to immediately institute a new policy for the third grade class, and she stated that she trusts the part-time teacher will be available on Wednesday when school begins.

Mr. Stivala assured the parents that the members of the professional staff are concerned about the third grade children as well as the other 300 students in Spring Garden School. He indicated that he was deeply concerned about the atmosphere that may permeate Spring Garden School. He stressed that the third grade class will receive the very best education that can be offered at Spring Garden School.

Mr. Stivala further expressed his feeling that it would be counterproductive for parents to be in the class every day. He added that he had the training and experience to evaluate the progress of the class and the teacher has the experience and dedication to do her very best. He indicated that he was confident the children would receive a very fine education in that class. He asked that the parents consider the education of the 26 children in the class and the other 300 children in the school.

Mr. Tony Russo, 14 Cadmus Street, expressed his support for the Spring Garden parents.

Mrs. Sera Shuster, 462 Chestnut Street, expressed her concern about the fumes from the school buses parked in the Radcliffe School lot.

Mrs. Diane Rhodes, 117 Coeyman Avenue, stated that the parents have to be involved in their children's education. She asked why the Board could not decide this evening to change its policy.

Mrs. Ann Marie Sytnyk, 69 Oakley Terrace, commented that it was time for the parents to remind the Board that they are also voters.

Mrs. Bochese indicated that she had taken offense to Mr. Stivala's and Mrs. Scheckel's statements, adding that the parents are very concerned about their children, and if they have to go beyond this Board, they will go further. She reiterated that the parents are asking for nothing more than what every other child in the district receives. She added that a letter was being sent to Commissioner Ellis for his review.

Mrs. Hresko mentioned that the parents had already sent a letter to the County Superintendent, and he had replied that the children would receive a thorough and efficient education in the arrangement the Board and administration have recommended. She stressed that every third grader in Nutley learns from the same curriculum, uses the same textbooks and takes the same tests, but the district does not dictate the method the teacher uses to teach. She added that her child had 28 children in her reading class. Mrs. Hresko indicated that if an exception is made for Spring Garden School, it would have to be done for every school in Nutley.

Mrs. Linda Grossman, 410 Prospect Street, expressed her agreement with Mrs. Hresko's statement that if one class has 12-15 students, then all parents would want this, and the taxpayers could not afford this. She added that the Board must look at the entire picture for the town. Mrs. Grossman then stated that her child had attended Radcliffe School, and the school buses parked in the lot were not a problem.

Mrs. Christine Henry, 67 Brookdale Avenue, commented that if other Spring Garden children had not been allowed to go to other schools, the class size would have reached 30.

Mrs. Mary Anna Damchik, 33 Mapes Avenue, questioned why a teacher could not be transferred from elsewhere in the district to Spring Garden School.

Mr. Jerry Sytnyk, 69 Oakley Terrace, commented that he had not seen creativity or flexibility in this situation by the administration and the Board.

Mrs. Komar stated that with regard to Mr. Stivala's comments, the developmental age of elementary school children is such that, generally, they all like school, and they trust that the adults in their lives will do what is right for them. She mentioned that the administration has the power to change the educational opportunities of the children, and the parents are asking for one full-time and one part-time teacher, and that is why a policy change was requested.

OLD BUSINESS:

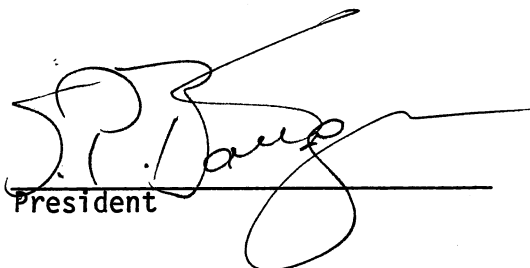
None

NEW BUSINESS:

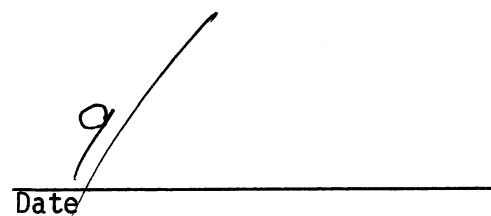
None

ADJOURNMENT:

There being no further business to come before the Board, on motion made by Mr. Kucinski, seconded by Mr. Rusignuolo, the meeting adjourned at 9:43 p.m.


President


Secretary


Date