

Board of Education
Nutley, New Jersey

February 27, 1995

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 27, 1995 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 was provided in the Annual Notice of May 2, 1994. Said Notice was:

1. Posted at the entrance to 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 Mrs. Russo 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: Mr. Frank V. Hermo, Mrs. Aileen Hresko, Mr. Charles W. Kucinski, Jr., Mr. Joseph C. Pelaia, Mr. Robert J. Rusignuolo, Mrs. Maria Russo and Mrs. Rosalie C. Scheckel. Absent: Mr. Charles J. Piro. Approximately 80 citizens were present.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Copies of the minutes of the Regular Meeting held on January 23, 1995 at 8:00 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. A letter from Richard A. DiPatri, Deputy Commissioner, Department of Education, responding to a letter sent at the behest of the Board expressing concern about the time frames involved in submitting the budget to the County Superintendent after the receipt of state aid figures.

Mr. Sincaglia noted that this year, unlike prior years, there was ample time to meet the deadlines.
2. A letter and resolution from the Waterford Board of Education expressing its concern regarding the actions of one of the members of the State Board of Education, Dr. Ronald Butcher, in a legal case involving its Board of Education.
3. A thank-you note from Florence Graeven, cafeteria employee, for the Board's expression of concern after she had suffered an injury.
4. A thank-you note from the family of Teresa D'Angelo (Peter D'Angelo's mother) for the Board's expression of sympathy upon her death.
5. A letter from Senator James E. McGreevey responding to a letter from Mr. Sincaglia regarding a constitutional amendment dealing with state mandate, state pay.

Mr. Sincaglia noted that the district's concern was a proposed funding mechanism for the first year only, which was not what the district had in mind.
6. A Notice to Property Owners from the owner of 15 Yantacaw Place regarding the installation of a central air conditioner compressor unit in a side yard less than six feet of property line.
7. A notice from the Essex County/Passaic County School Boards Associations regarding a legislative dinner to be held on March 2, 1995.
8. A letter to Mr. Rusignuolo from Mark Finkelstein, President of the New Jersey School Boards Association, confirming his appointment to the Legislative Committee as of January 20, 1995.
9. A letter from the Cranford Board of Education asking for more time with regard to the budget process.

10. A letter from Mr. & Mrs. Kenneth Polakowski concerning the current grading system.
11. A communication from Rory Moore received this afternoon requesting certain information relative to the budget.

Mr. Sincaglia noted that copies were given to the Board members at the beginning of tonight's meeting.

SECRETARY'S REPORT:

Mr. Sincaglia presented the Report of the Secretary as of January 31, 1995. (See attached report.)

Mrs. Hresko moved that the Board accept the Report of the Secretary, seconded by Mrs. Scheckel. 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 January 31, 1995. (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:

"Attached is the student enrollment chart as of January 31, 1995.

"Second quarter report cards were distributed on Friday, February 3, 1995.

"Grade 8 Early Warning Test(s):

Reading	-	March 7
Math	-	March 8
Writing	-	March 9

"The implementation of district priorities is progressing quite well at this time."

Dr. Fadule explained that over the course of the summer, staff and the Priorities Committee of the Board work on priorities and important curriculum items for the following year. At the August meeting the entire Board approves various priorities for the coming year and that way we have a clear understanding of the mission and purpose for the year, and this is reported on throughout the year.

Dr. Fadule noted that he had just received the grade 11 scores but has no source of comparison with the other districts. He indicated that Nutley did very well again with 98.6% passing the writing portion, 93.5% passing the reading portion and 94.5% passing the math portion. He thanked the staff for their efforts, adding that this is a cumulative effort. He also thanked the parents for their tremendous support and the students who really care about what they are doing. He commented that the excellent results show high achievement.

Mr. Sincaglia reviewed the 1993-94 cost per pupil as noted in the Cost of Education Index and explained how the New Jersey School Boards Association ascertains the figures. He noted that 1993-94 was the first year under the GAAP accounting system, adding that the Cost of Education Index did not formerly count capital outlay expenditures but now includes every piece of equipment over \$500.

Mr. Sincaglia also explained that the Cost of Education Index compares Nutley's dollars spent per pupil to other districts in the state. He indicated that the Nutley cost per pupil for 1993-94 was \$8,013 versus the average per pupil cost in the state of \$8,981 which is \$968 higher per child; the Essex County average cost per child was \$9,231, which is \$1,218 higher per child; low and moderate income districts spent \$8,556 per child or \$543 higher per child; all K-12 districts of comparable size spent \$9,030 per child which was \$1,117 higher; and the North Jersey K-12 districts (Essex, Hudson, Bergen, Passaic and Morris Counties) had an average cost of \$9,334 per child which was \$1,321 higher than Nutley. Mr. Sincaglia mentioned that Nutley's average enrollment was 3,554 children, and if we had spent at the North Jersey average, our budget would have been \$4,694,000 higher.

Mr. Sincaglia added that Nutley is consistently, significantly below every other comparison that could be made. He further noted that Nutley was 16 lowest in cost per pupil out of the 18 districts which were reported (three districts were not listed). Mr. Sincaglia also noted that this information would be included with the budget material.

FIRE DRILL REPORT:

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

Jan. 4	Nutley High School	8:32 a.m.	2 min. 9 secs.
Jan. 4	Nutley High School	2:01 p.m.	2 min. 10 secs.
Jan. 6	Yantacaw School	12:42 p.m.	1 min. 20 secs.
Jan. 13	Franklin School	1:30 p.m.	1 min. 42 secs.
Jan. 13	Lincoln School	1:13 p.m.	1 min. 30 secs.
Jan. 13	Radcliffe School	11:00 a.m.	1 min. 15 secs.
Jan. 13	Radcliffe School	12:55 p.m.	1 min. 12 secs.
Jan. 13	Washington School	12:45 p.m.	1 min. 33 secs.
Jan. 13	Yantacaw School	2:28 p.m.	1 min. 35 secs.
Jan. 17	Franklin School	10:00 a.m.	1 min. 45 secs.
Jan. 17	Lincoln School	1:45 p.m.	1 min. 19 secs.
Jan. 17	Spring Garden School	2:05 p.m.	1 min. 40 secs.
Jan. 23	Washington School	8:39 a.m.	1 min. 23 secs.
Jan. 26	Spring Garden School	8:38 a.m.	1 min. 40 secs.

CAFETERIA REPORT:

Mrs. Hresko presented the cafeteria report as of January 31, 1995 showing a 1994/1995 budget of \$586,900.00, contractual orders to date of \$446,622.28, leaving funds available of \$140,277.72.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Mr. Rusignuolo indicated that last Thursday he had represented Nutley and our legislative district at the New Jersey School Boards Association Legislative Committee meeting. He added that if any Board member has any particular interest, he had additional information.

Mr. Rusignuolo noted that a comprehensive document was prepared by the Department of Education which would have a significant impact on New Jersey education in the future. He recommended that each Board member take the time to review it as it will show what the Department of Education will force each district to do.

Mr. Rusignuolo mentioned that if anyone planning to attend the Essex County/Passaic County School Boards Association legislative dinner to be held this Thursday would like to review the document in order to be able to discuss it with the legislators, they should contact him.

Mrs. Hresko indicated that the new mini-message telecommunications service has been in effect at Radcliffe School for the past three weeks and has been very well received by the parents of the school. She noted that it was done through a grant from the New Jersey Education Association and did not require any taxpayer funds.

Mr. Kucinski read the following statement:

"Ordinarily, I would not bother to challenge or respond to what in most cases is simply someone's personal opinion. However, after reading Mr. Rory Moore's letters to the newspapers, it is evident that his writings are not intended to voice opinion, but rather to mislead and rouse suspicion. His misguided warnings are riddled with innuendo and blatant untruths. Therefore, since Mr. Moore's writings most often address me, I feel that it is my duty to respond and enlighten Mr. Moore on what he obviously knows nothing about.

"Fact 1 - We do NOT pay our custodians \$11,000 for working a 'few hours per week' during the school year only. These part-time custodians average approximately 4 hours a day, five days a week, for twelve months a year.

"Fact 2 - Principals are NOT paid \$186 per hour for Saturday curriculum work. That figure is more than three times what we would pay administrators for Saturday work. What's more, it is public knowledge that this Board negotiated

Saturday pay to administrators completely out of existence for all those hired after November 1, 1993. Three of our existing department coordinators are already affected by this 'no pay for Saturday curriculum development' provision.

"Fact 3 - With respect to pay increases, all of our administrative personnel received increases well under 5%, not at least 5%; some as modest as 2.5%. Not even teachers received 5% increases!

"Fact 4 - All extraordinary income received by the Board is deposited into the school system's regular depository. This relates to State aid, local taxes, tuition payments from other districts, admissions at our football games, rentals of our gymnasiums, and, yes, the money Belleville is paying us for transporting its students. By the way, every dollar of revenue is accounted for and any excess revenue becomes surplus which the Board can use in the following year's budget. In fact, this year we will be using \$525,000 of surplus which reduces our taxes accordingly.

"Fact 5 - The infamous W-2 reconciliation report frequently discussed in the newspaper never did and never will show you how the Board spends school funds. The only things that this one page report will tell you is how many school employees received a W-2, how much the total wages paid were and how much tax was withheld. Anyone wishing to know how our school board's money is spent needs only to look at our budget statement, the monthly expenditure report of the Board Secretary, or the New Jersey School Boards Association's Cost of Education Index (which, by the way, will show you just how little Nutley spends in comparison to other districts in the State of New Jersey.

"Fact 6 - It has been suggested that we eliminate all positions with assistant and vice in its title. If anyone is keeping track, there has not been a vice-principal at Franklin School for some time now. Even the custodial staff, through attrition, has been cut by two positions this year, and our cafeteria staff is down by four positions in the past several years.

"Fact 7 - Neither the Township of Nutley, nor the Nutley Board of Education pays for the after school program initiated through the efforts of our former colleague, Sally Goodson. This pay-as-you-go program is paid for by the parents who utilize the services of teachers to supervise their children after school hours. Initially, the program was administered by PTA's, but as the program grew in popularity, it became more than the PTA could handle. That's when Commissioner Cocchiola stepped forward and allowed the program to run under the auspices of the Township, at zero cost to the tax-

payers; at zero cost to the school board. It is difficult to understand why anyone would criticize a program that is bringing such a vital and critical service to our citizens at absolutely no cost to anyone but those that are using the program.

"To summarize, and I repeat, I certainly don't mind someone criticizing me, this budget, the school system or any decision that this Board may have rendered. I do mind, however, when someone deliberately points an accusatory finger without researching the facts, purposely broadcasts misinformation and distorts the truth primarily to further their own hidden agenda. 'Arrogant ignorance. There is no greater flaw in humanity.'

"Mr. Moore, in my opinion, is obviously not a conscientious objector at all, but a small mind with a major chip on his shoulder."

HEARING OF CITIZENS (Resolutions Only):

Mrs. Eva Pfuhler, 345 High Street, asked what is a Calculator Workshop as listed in resolution #7. Dr. Votto responded that Franklin School and high school teachers participated in a workshop run by a college professor dealing with graphic calculator technology.

Ms. Ursula Brylinski, 410 Chestnut Street, commented that she was pleased that the Board is approving the computer curriculum and asked what the time frame for implementation was and if the expenditure would be listed as a capital outlay in next year's budget. Dr. Votto noted that there is a five-year turn around in purchasing of equipment and approximately \$125,000 is allocated in next year's budget for computers.

CERTIFICATION OF MAJOR ACCOUNT FUND STATUS:

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, pursuant to NJAC 6:20-2.13(e), the Nutley Board of Education certifies that as of January 31, 1995, 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 over-expended 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 year. (Major accounts are General Fund and Debt Service.)

BILLS AND MANDATORY PAYMENTS:

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 authorizes the payment of bills and mandatory payments in the total amount of \$2,894,185.77 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.

APPOINTMENT - Security Guards:

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 personnel be appointed as part-time security guards for the 1994/1995 school year at the hourly rate of \$16:

Richard Marks
Philip Nicolette

APPOINTMENTS - Teacher Substitutes:

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 teacher substitutes listed on the attached Schedule C be approved for the 1994/1995 school year.

APPOINTMENTS - Substitutes:

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 substitutes be approved for the 1994/1995 school year:

Custodial

Dennis DeLorenzo
Michael Sibia

Secretarial/Clerical/School Aide

Theresa Brancaccio

Bus Aide

Theresa Brancaccio
Elena Lombardo

EXTRA COMPENSATION:

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 personnel be paid extra compensation in the amounts indicated for services rendered:

Curriculum Development Committee Meetings

Calculator Workshop - December 7, 1994

Elinor Alboum	\$ 46.46
Ann Bevere	46.46
Denise Cleary	46.46
Paula Cofone	46.46
Toby D'Ambola	46.46
Susan Gesumaria	46.46
Richard Koegel	46.46
Evelyn McMullen	46.46
Mary Peele	46.46
Deborah Pinto	46.46
Carol Rizzo	46.46
Arleen Slott	46.46
Kevin Smyth	46.46
John Suffren	46.46
Donald Tobey	46.46
Sherrie Tolve	46.46
Vincent Turturiello	46.46
Judith Winick	46.46

Total \$836.28

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Computer Education K-8 - January 7, 1995

Pamela Batchelder-Mitchell	\$ 123.88
Denise Cleary	123.88
Michele Cristantiello	123.88
Susan Dingwell	123.88
Elizabeth Foote	123.88
Janice Gibson	123.88
Elaine Karsnak	123.88
Nancy Kehayes	123.88
Maureen Lazur	123.88
James Mauro	123.88
Rebecca Olivo	123.88
Eileen O'Mara	123.88
Stephen Parigi	123.88
Lorraine Restel	123.88
Sally Ann Ryder	123.88
Kathleen Serafino	186.52
Patricia Sloan	123.88
JoAnn Tropiano	123.88
Carol VanWagenen	61.94
James Vivinetto	165.80
Ellen Ziobro	<u>123.88</u>

Total	\$2,644.10
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Parenting - January 7, 1995

Rita Alfaro	\$ 123.88
Kathleen Bimbi	123.88
Alexander Conrad	165.80
Rosemarie DiGeronimo	165.80
Patricia Fischer	123.88
Carol Gurney	123.88
Janet Jelenski	123.88
Laura Love	123.88
Beverly Masullo	123.88
Margaret Murray	123.88
Arlene Nardiello	123.88
Becky Pandolfi	123.88
Susan Quigley	123.88
Walter Sautter	123.88
Deborah Schop	123.88
Anne Starace	161.08
Patricia Tarczynski	123.88
Carol VanWagenen	61.94
John Walker	<u>165.80</u>

Total	\$2,454.74
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Social Studies - K-8 - January 7, 1995

Frank Comune	\$ 161.08
Christine Crisson	123.88
Marilyn Hannon	123.88
Carol-Ann Harris	123.88
Mary Haveron	123.88
Patrick Keating	123.88
Scott Keena	123.88
Joan Lightfoot	123.88
Marianne Marcantonio	123.88
Edmund Olson	123.88
Debra Parigi	123.88
Carol Perrone	123.88
Gail Reilly	123.88
Linda Scarola	123.88
Nancy Szura	<u>123.88</u>

Total	\$1,895.40
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Chemical Health - DFSCA Grant - January 7, 1995

Elinor Alboum	\$ 123.88
Arlene Baldino	123.88
Justina Bruno	123.88
Mary Jo Chagnon	123.88
Laura Curry	123.88
David D'Olivo	123.88
Katherine Flannery	123.88
Marie Forgino	123.88
Jainine Gambaro	123.88
Tracy Kempczynski	123.88
Sharon Larcara	123.88
Andrew Linfante	123.88
Ann Mary Mullane	123.88
Dorothy Mutch	161.08
Rae Nardone	123.88
Harriet Sabates	123.88
Arleen Slott	123.88
Marilyn Testa	123.88
Patricia Trainor	123.88
Joseph Zarra	<u>165.80</u>

Total	\$2,556.72
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Nutley Achievement Test (NAT) - January 28, 1995

Anne Bevere	\$ 61.94
Justina Bruno	61.94
Rachel Daly	61.94
Rosemarie DiGeronimo	93.26
Patricia Fischer	61.94
Jainine Gambaro	61.94
Janice Gibson	61.94

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Nutley Achievement Test (NAT) - January 28, 1995
(contd.)

Linda Gilroy	\$ 61.94
Mary Haveron	61.94
Geraldine Intiso	61.94
Catherine Kinney	61.94
Beverly Masullo	61.94
Evelyn McMullen	61.94
Jacqueline Meloni	61.94
Arlene Nardiello	61.94
Becky Pandolfi	61.94
Mary Peele	61.94
Carol Perrone	61.94
Lorraine Restel	61.94
Sally Ann Ryder	61.94
Arleen Slott	61.94
Nancy Szura	61.94
Carol VanWagenen	61.94
Andrea Zak	<u>61.94</u>

Total \$1,517.88

SAT Preparation Classes - January 7 and 21, 1995

Miriam Kirsten	\$185.82
John Suffren	<u>185.82</u>

Total \$371.64

Central Detention Coverage, January, 1995

High School

Carol Shepherd	\$285.43
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Franklin School

Jacqueline Meloni	151.11
Deborah Pinto	33.58
Mary Peele	33.58
John Schwarz	33.58
Patricia Sloan	<u>16.79</u>

Total \$554.07

Saturday Morning Suspensions - January, 1995

High School

Anne Marie Kowalski	\$ 70.17
Carol Shepherd	<u>140.34</u>

Total \$210.51

Intramurals - November 3-December 22, 1994

Laura Curry	\$ 24.01
Susan Dingwell	96.04
David D'Olivo	120.05
William Farkas	168.07
Janice Gibson	48.02
Mary Haveron	72.03
Scott Keena	72.03
Edmund Olson	168.07
Howard Strouse	120.05
Lori Ann Vitaletti	48.02
Diane Williams	<u>240.10</u>

Total \$1,176.49

CHANGE IN TRAINING LEVEL:

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 employee be advanced to the proper level of the salary guide in accordance with Board of Education Regulations, said teacher having completed the necessary college courses to qualify for such advancement, to be retroactive from September 1, 1994:

<u>To M.A.+15</u>	<u>Step</u>	<u>Salary</u>
Maureen Lazur	11	\$44,168

APPROVAL OF CURRICULUM PROGRAM:

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

Mrs. Russo read the following statement:

"In regard to the Computer Curriculum, I would like to thank Mrs. Serafino and the entire Committee for the revision of our present Computer Curriculum, in which the Committee's work was completed and presented at our February 13 meeting.

"The Curriculum is of sound educational philosophy, 'computer integrated instruction in all disciplines.' However, three areas remain vague and fall short:

1. Specific objectives
2. A well defined system or standard

3. What imperical data warrants lowering the district standard of proficiency since the 1990 curriculum.

"I am not confident that the scope and direction of these revisions are aggressive enough to prepare our children for the 21st century and effectively utilize all our existing resources."

Mrs. Russo suggested a Parent Observation of Micro-computers Day whereby the two one session days could be used for computer observation by parents.

Mr. Battaglia noted that Mrs. Russo's concerns would be taken under consideration when the Academic Committee meets.

On a roll call vote the resolution was unanimously adopted:

BE IT RESOLVED, That the Board of Education approves the K-8 Computer Curriculum presented at the February 13, 1995 Conference session.

ADOPTION OF POLICIES (First Reading):

Mrs. Russo 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 adopts the following policies (first reading):

Schedule D-1	Special Education
Schedule D-2	Pupil Records (revisions only)

Mr. Sincaglia noted that boards of education are required to provide services to Special Education students from three years of age to 21 years of age, but the policy in Schedule D-1 states birth to 21 years of age. He added that this would be changed to three years to 21 years of age for the second reading.

JOINT TRANSPORTATION AGREEMENT:

Mrs. Russo 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 Belleville Board of Education for Belleville to provide transportation for one Nutley Special Education student to Felician School, Lodi, NJ on Belleville bus route #1401, effective September 1, 1994 through June 30, 1995 at a cost to the Nutley Board of Education of \$14 per diem. (Subject to approval of the County Superintendent of Schools.)

INDEPENDENT CHILD STUDY TEAMS, INC.:

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

BE IT RESOLVED, That the Nutley Board of Education approves Independent Child Study Teams, Inc. to provide examination and classification services pursuant to Chapter 193 for the 1995/1996 school year for all eligible children who attend nonpublic schools located in the Township of Nutley.

ESSEX COUNTY EDUCATIONAL SERVICES COMMISSION - Chapter 192/193, P.L. 1977:

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

WHEREAS, Chapter 192, P.L. 1977 requires the provision of certain auxiliary services to children in nonpublic schools, and Chapter 193 requires the provision of certain services to handicapped children in nonpublic schools,

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That a contract be entered into with the Essex County Educational Services Commission to provide these services during the 1995/1996 school year to students who attend nonpublic schools in Nutley, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the price to be paid to the Essex County Educational Services Commission for these services shall not exceed the amount paid to the Nutley Board of Education by the State to implement this program.

TRANSPORTATION AGREEMENTS:

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

BE IT RESOLVED, That the Secretary be authorized to enter into transportation agreements with contractors, other school districts, or the Essex County Educational Services Commission for transportation of Special Education students for the 1995/1996 school year, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That any such agreements be presented for ratification at the next succeeding meeting of the Board of Education.

TRANSFER OF FUNDS:

Mr. Pelaia 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 1994/1995 General Fund budget be confirmed as follows:

<u>From</u>		<u>To</u>	
Account 11-130-100-101	\$ 2,350	Account 11-110-100-101	\$ 700
Account 11-230-100-101	5,000	Account 11-204-100-101	100
Account 11-999-218-104	2,000	Account 11-204-100-106	250
Account 11-999-219-104	1,000	Account 11-205-100-101	350
Account 11-999-240-105	2,000	Account 11-212-100-106	200
Account 11-999-260-100	10,000	Account 11-213-100-101	250
Account 11-999-260-520	4,525	Account 11-220-100-320	500
Account 11-999-290-290	7,425	Account 11-999-100-566	13,000
Account 12-999-400-450	<u>1,475</u>	Account 11-999-218-800	100
	\$35,775	Account 11-999-230-100	50
		Account 11-999-230-590	12,600
		Account 11-999-270-593	6,200
		Account 12-999-260-730	<u>1,475</u>
			\$35,775

ACCEPTANCE OF NOTICE OF ADDITIONAL FUNDING - Chapter 192 - 1994/1995 School Year:

Mr. Pelaia 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 additional funding for Chapter 192 for the 1994/1995 school year in the amount of \$651.

ACCEPTANCE OF NOTICE OF APPROVAL OF REVISED APPLICATION - Chapter 1 - FY95:

Mr. Pelaia 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 approval of the revised FY95 Chapter 1 application to reflect additional carry-over funds in the total amount of \$3,781.

**AUTHORIZATION TO ADVERTISE FOR BIDS, SOLICIT QUOTATIONS
OR PURCHASE BY STATE CONTRACT:**

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

BE IT RESOLVED, That the Secretary/Business Administrator be authorized to advertise for bids, solicit quotations, purchase by State Contract or recommend for contract renewal the following items/services:

Roofing Work	Door Hardware
Electrical Work	Boiler Water Treatment
Locker Refinishing	Solid Waste Disposal
Micro Computers and Accessories	Athletic Supplies and
Typewriter Maintenance	Equipment
School Furniture	Janitorial Supplies
Pupil Transportation Vehicles	Electrical Supplies
Industrial Arts Supplies and	Custodial Uniforms
Equipment	School Health Supplies
Science Supplies and Equipment	Commercial Printing
Office Furniture and Equipment	Office Paper
Audio Visual Equipment	Periodical Subscriptions
Musical Instruments and	Alarm System Service/
Supplies	Installation
Sidewalk and Paving Work	Boiler Repair
Replacement Doors	Building Materials
School Supplies	Chalkboards/Bulletin Boards
Milk and Dairy Products	Grounds Equipment
Ice Cream Products	Heating Plant Modifications
Bread and Rolls	Hand and Power Tools
Brick and Masonry Work	Air Conditioners
Gym Floor Restoration	Ball Field Restoration
Ventilating Equipment	Auditorium Seating
Floor Repair and Floor Tile	Bleacher Refurbishing
Installation	Paint

TRANSFER OF UNEXPENDED BALANCE - 1995/1996 Budget:

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

BE IT RESOLVED, That the Board of Education transfer the unexpended balance of \$111,313 in the Capital Projects Fund to the Debt Service Fund for the 1995/1996 budget.

ADOPTION OF 1995/1996 TENTATIVE BUDGET:

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

BE IT RESOLVED, That the Board of Education hereby adopts a tentative budget for the 1995/1996 school year in the amount of:

General Fund	\$30,397,160
Special Revenue Fund	605,249
Debt Service	<u>208,403</u>
Total Budget	\$31,210,812 of which

the following amount shall be raised by local tax levy:

General Fund	\$26,997,114
Debt Service	<u>88,738</u>
Total	\$27,085,852

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

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That upon receiving the approval of the County Superintendent, the Secretary be authorized to publish the 1995/1996 budget in The Nutley Sun.

APPOINTMENT - Election Workers:

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

BE IT RESOLVED, That the Board of Education hereby appoints the Judges of Elections, Inspectors of Elections and Clerks of Elections as listed below for the Annual School Election to be held on Tuesday, April 18, 1995 between the hours of 2:30 p.m. and 9:00 p.m., and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That election officials be paid \$5.77 per hour for all hours worked pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:14-8, 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. Angela Bongiovanni, Clerk
Mrs. Dorothy Campanella, Clerk
Mrs. Geraldine Carlucci, Clerk
Mrs. Antoinette Frese, Clerk

Yantacaw School III

Mrs. Sylvia Hamburger, Judge
Mrs. Mary Mosca, Inspector
Mr. Willard Bell, Clerk
Mrs. Viola Greco, Clerk
Mr. Jerome Hamburger, Clerk
Miss Susan Mosca, Clerk

Radcliffe School

Mrs. Donna Bolcato, Judge
 Miss Carol Tangorra, Inspector
 Mrs. Julia F. Ersfeld, Clerk
 Mrs. Frances Karolski, Clerk
 Mrs. Ann Mallen, Clerk
 Mrs. Lucille Martino, Clerk
 Mrs. Concetta Zemanek, Clerk

Washington School

Mrs. Annmarie Nicolette, Judge
 Mrs. Palma Bartell, Inspector
 Mr. Anthony Argenziano, Clerk
 Mrs. Joann Bain, Clerk
 Mrs. Margaret Cullari, Clerk
 Mrs. Marilyn Weiss, Clerk

Franklin School

Mr. James Carr, Judge
 Mrs. Louise Iovino, Judge
 Mr. John Clark, Clerk
 Mrs. Ann Koster, Clerk
 Mr. Joseph Pierz, Clerk
 Mrs. Louise Sammartine, Clerk
 Mrs. Mildred Torsiello, Clerk

Spring Garden School

Mrs. Dorothy Greengrove, Judge
 Mr. Karl Greene, Inspector
 Mrs. Sarah Clark, Clerk
 Mr. Floyd Davenport, Clerk
 Mrs. Carolyn Foresta, Clerk
 Mrs. Valerie Kuchta, Clerk
 Mrs. Diane Wilson, Clerk

Yantacaw School II

Mrs. Anne Lynne Eisenfelder, Judge
 Mrs. Jeanne VanSteen, Inspector
 Mrs. Louise Beck, Clerk
 Mrs. Marion Iafrate, Clerk
 Mrs. Grace Spahr, Clerk
 Mr. Philip Spahr, Clerk

and

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

Mrs. Eileen Poiani, Judge	Lincoln School
Mrs. Donna Bolcato, Judge	Radcliffe School
Mr. James Carr, Judge	Franklin School
Mrs. Anne Lynne Eisenfelder, Judge	Yantacaw School II
Mrs. Sylvia Hamburger, Judge	Yantacaw School III
Mrs. Annmarie Nicolette, Judge	Washington School
Mrs. Dorothy Greengrove, Judge	Spring Garden School

ESTABLISH DATE FOR PUBLIC HEARING ON 1995/1996 SCHOOL
 DISTRICT BUDGET:

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

BE IT RESOLVED, That the public hearing on the 1995/
 1996 budget be held on Monday, April 3, 1995 at 7:30 p.m.

February 27, 1995

APPOINTMENT - Athletic:Mr. Andrew Linfante

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 Board of Education approves the appointment of Mr. Andrew Linfante as Assistant Track Coach for the 1994/1995 school year, at the salary of \$3,208 - Step 1 in accordance with the 1994/1995 athletic salary guide.

LEAVE OF ABSENCE - Teacher:Mr. Joseph Mulley

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 Board of Education approves a medical leave of absence without pay for Mr. Joseph Mulley for the period March 1, 1995 through June 30, 1995.

HEARING OF CITIZENS:

Mrs. Pfuhler questioned if any determination had been made regarding the voting boxes and pizza parties tied in to the Board election. Mr. Battaglia replied that he had not heard if the PTA's would be running the functions. Mr. Pelaia noted that his understanding, in speaking to the President of the PT Council, was that there would not be a function like that this year.

Mr. Kenneth Polakowski, 66 Edison Avenue, expressed his concerns about the grading system in Nutley, disagreeing with the numerical standard used to determine the letter grade and disagreeing with any grading system on the kindergarten to third grade level. He noted that he feels the curriculum is excellent, as is the staff, but feels a more thorough evaluation of the grading system is needed.

Mrs. Scheckel noted that the grading system was a district priority in 1983-84, 1987-88 and early in the 1990's and explained the time frame of items which become priorities. Mr. Battaglia indicated that Mr. Polakowski's letter to the Board would be taken under advisement.

Mr. Rusignuolo mentioned that the priorities which are suggested come from the administration, teachers, parents and Board members. He added that the Board accepts Mr. Polakowski's suggestion to include the grading system in the broad-based consideration of the priorities, adding that this has been reviewed every few years.

Mrs. Marie Griner, 67 Vreeland Avenue, asked the Board to address the surplus of the budget. Mr. Sincaglia indicated that what was not in the newspaper article regarding surplus was that there already is a regulation which prohibits a board from having a surplus larger than 7-1/2% of the budget. He noted that last year, we had a 5.7% surplus or \$1,666,000, and he estimated that a year from now it would be down to 4.7% - 5%. Mr. Sincaglia further noted that the state is calling things surplus which really are not, explaining that we have a restricted unemployment account which can not be used for anything else, including the interest. That amount of \$340,000 will now be counted as surplus.

Mr. Sincaglia also noted that the district used surplus to reduce taxes, put a boiler in a school, install an elevator in the middle school and pay half the cost for the track at DeMuro Park. He explained that if surplus becomes too great, it is used for a specific project or for tax relief such as was done this year.

Mr. John Russo, 272 High Street, questioned exactly what is being used in surplus. Mr. Sincaglia replied that of the \$1,666,000 surplus, \$525,000 would be appropriated to reduce the tax increase.

Mr. Harold Widdig, Maple Place, expressed his concerns about the increasing property taxes and the fact that this may cause him to move from the town.

Mrs. Gail Kline, 28 North Spring Garden Avenue, stated that self esteem is critical for social, emotional and intellectual development and stress has a very negative impact on self esteem. She expressed her concerns about the grading system for young children and requested the Board and administration to take a long look at it.

Mr. Charles Terry, 87 Myrtle Avenue, questioned if a towns-person could obtain a copy of the report of the last Priorities Committee meeting dealing with grading. Mr. Battaglia replied that he was not certain there is a report and suggested that he check with the Board office.

Mrs. Barbara Bochese, 50 Cedar Street, indicated that she is the parent of an average fifth grade child at Spring Garden School and is unhappy with the grading system. She added that the success of the children should be considered when determining the grading system. She suggested that the parents be polled as to what they think of the grading system. Mrs. Bochese added that if another committee is formed to study the grading system, she would like to see parents from outside the system included.

Mrs. Aggie Roncaglio, 46 Howard Place, expressed her feelings that children are not helped by lowering standards and self esteem begins in the home. She noted that teachers have expressed the same philosophy.

Mrs. Catherine Rempusheski, 525 Kingsland Street, questioned if there is anything in writing which says why this grading system is the one we should have. She added that she felt the parents of the children who attend the schools and the taxpayers should have more input. She asked if this decision was made by the Board members only. Mr. Battaglia explained that the Superintendent comes to the Board with his philosophy on how the district should be run, adding that it takes five Board member votes to make a new policy.

Mrs. Rempusheski indicated that she sees nothing wrong with going to a nongrade system for younger children, adding that she feels a committee should be formed with the parents involved, and she volunteered to serve on any such committee.

Mrs. Russo mentioned that when she received Mr. Polakowski's letter, she looked at the policy, adding that she feels a simple explanation of why this is working better should be given.

Mr. Russo stated that he feels the Priorities Committee should be considering this area at least to re-state why the current system is adequate.

Mrs. Concetta Kettler, 152 Coeyman Avenue, read from a pamphlet of the National Association for the Education of Young Children whereby one of their major concerns is grading, and they feel the appropriate practice is no letter or number grades through the primary years.

Mrs. Kline noted that when she wrote her original letter, Mr. Hermo asked if the children are learning to read and do math and do they feel good about themselves. Mrs. Kline expressed her feeling that the grading system increases the pressures on the children and we should figure out how to make the children feel good about themselves through the school day.

Ms. Brylinsky noted that it is obvious that there are a lot of concerned parents present, but what she sees happening is things are becoming adversarial. She added that she would like to see a survey sheet.

Mr. Rusignuolo commented that what started out as a conversation about the grading system went to a questioning of the sensitivities of the people who instruct our children. He noted that our teachers are sensitive to the needs of our youngsters and we have wonderful teachers and people throughout the school system and a Board that cares and the children are very well served.

Mr. Polakowski noted that the teachers are given the same tools to work with as the parents and the teachers are doing a good job. He added that he would also volunteer for any committee that would be established.

Mrs. Pat Wilcox, 11 Lake Street, commented that high school children can handle more pressure than a younger child, adding that the younger children have a lot of stress. She noted that there is a lot more to learn than just academics and learning has to be fun.

Mrs. Rempusheski stated that she was not knocking the teaching staff as her six year old child has learned a lot, but she has had teachers say to her that they do not want to put grades on papers.

Mr. Terry questioned how the district alerts colleges about the differences in the grading standards when a junior in high school applies. Dr. Votto replied that colleges really don't care about numerical grades; they are interested in the SAT's and class rank. He added that the grade point average is only compared within the same school.

Mr. Rusignuolo noted that he had chaired the committee ten or 15 years ago when the Board wrote to numerous colleges and asked them specifically if they looked at the grading system and the answer was no, and that offered us no reason to change.

Mrs. Mary Jane Emde, Nutley High School guidance counselor, indicated that transcripts that go out to colleges have a grading key stating what our grades mean.

Dr. Fadule noted that over the years the major portion of the committees which have analyzed the grading system consisted of our teachers, and when the decision was made to change from "Satisfactory, Unsatisfactory, Needs Improvement," this was done after a long study by the committee. He added that parents were on the committee, but it consisted mostly of teachers, and they were an integral part of this.

Mrs. Denise Restaino, 158 Beech Street, stated that the Board was hearing from a lot of parents with children just entering the school system and they are not happy with the grading system. She added that if the Board did not keep the newer parents happy, they would move on.

Mrs. Griner commented that perhaps the students should have some input and maybe there is a middle ground.

OLD BUSINESS:

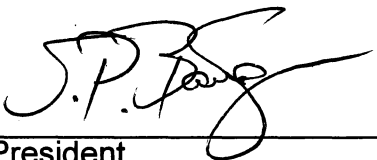
None

NEW BUSINESS:

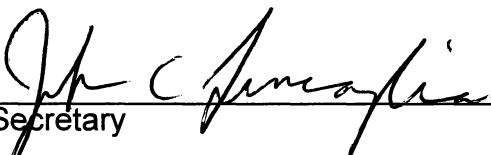
None

ADJOURNMENT:

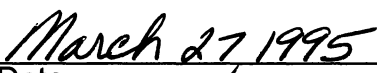
There being no further business to come before the Board,
on motion made by Mr. Kucinski, seconded by Mr. Pelaia, the
meeting was adjourned at 9:38 p.m.



President



Secretary



Date