

The Conference Meeting of the Board of Education of the Township of Nutley, New Jersey was held in the Board Room, 375 Bloomfield Avenue, on Monday, June 17, 1996 at 7:30 p.m. with Mr. Robert J. Rusignuolo, President, presiding.

ANNOUNCEMENT OF ADEQUATE NOTICE:

Mr. Rusignuolo read the following:

"According to the provisions of the 'Open Public Meetings Act' (Chapter 231, P.L. 1975), proper notice of this Conference Meeting was provided in the Notice of June 5, 1996. 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."

CALL OF ROLL:

The members present at roll call were: Mrs. Michele Fleitell, Mr. Charles W. Kucinski, Jr., Mr. Vincent Moscaritola, Mr. Franklin J. Patterson, Mr. Joseph C. Pelaia, Mrs. Maria Russo, Mr. Robert Schweikert, Jr., Mr. Louis F. Williams and Mr. Robert J. Rusignuolo.

1. Dr. Votto thanked Mrs. Serafino and Mr. Cocchiola for their roles as chairs of the two committees that would be presenting reports this evening.

Mrs. Serafino thanked the members of her committee and introduced them. She explained what the committee did over the course of their meetings throughout the year. She explained that the committee eventually decided against the idea of a separate report card for the primary grades and decided to keep things the same for grades 1-6.

A prototype of the revised elementary report card was distributed to Board members and Mrs. Serafino highlighted some of the changes noted which included the designation of the grade "F" meaning "Has not met grade level proficiency" as opposed to the current "Failure."

Mrs. Serafino said that the committee was able to reach a consensus, albeit not unanimous, and that the primary teachers also were in agreement with the committee's recommendations.

Mrs. Serafino presented the minority report prepared by Mrs. Kline and reviewed her concerns as stated therein.

Mr. Kucinski said he was happy to see the committee had addressed certain other items beyond the report card only and felt, also, that the new report card prototype was a good step forward.

Mrs. Russo questioned if the report would include a formal documentation as to the work of the committee in terms of the conclusions for the record. Dr. Votto indicated that the report that the Board had in its possession was complete, however, he said it would be possible to develop a brief narrative to accompany it.

Mrs. Russo stated her concern that it was important to have this information on file since it seems to be revisited from time to time by members of the educational community.

Mrs. Fleitell expressed her thanks to the members of the committee.

Mr. Rusignuolo noted that this has been a matter of concern for a long time and said a lot of work had been done and thanked the committee for its efforts.

Mr. Schweikert remarked that special recognition should go to the four unpaid citizen members of the committee who gave of their time in this effort.

2. Mr. Cocchiola and Mr. Jacone presented the report of the Transcript/PSAT/SAT Review Committee. Included within the report were presentation of a new prototype for the Nutley High School transcript.

Mr. Pelaia asked questions regarding what the main differences were in the new transcript. Mr. Cocchiola noted that one of the key things was the prominence of showing the key to grading.

Mr. Rusignuolo expressed an often-heard concern, "Are we teaching to the test?" (PSAT/SAT). Mr. Cocchiola responded that SAT's are a reality that exists and students must know many things which make up the bulk of the SAT's.

Comments were also made by Mr. Pelaia, Mr. Patterson and Mrs. Fleitell.

Mr. Kucinski moved that 11th grade students take the PSAT during the school day at Board of Education expense, seconded by Mr. Pelaia and unanimously approved by the Board.

Mr. Kucinski then moved that all four recommendations relating to the PSAT be approved by the Board, seconded by Mrs. Russo and unanimously approved by the Board.

RESOLUTION TO CLOSE MEETING TO THE PUBLIC:

Mr. Rusignuolo asked Mr. Sincaglia to read the following resolution:

WHEREAS, the Board of Education will be discussing matters exempt from public discussion pursuant to N.J.S.A. 10:4-12,

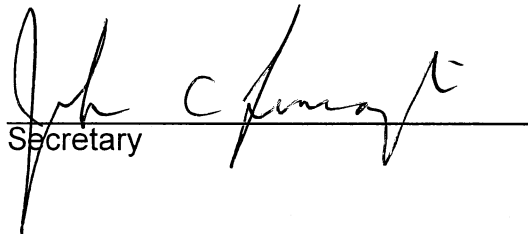
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Board of Education adjourn to closed executive session at this time to discuss personnel matters, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the results of the discussions will be made public by inclusion on the agenda of a subsequent meeting of the Board of Education, or when the reasons for discussing such matters in closed session no longer exist.

The resolution was moved by Mr. Kucinski, seconded by Mrs. Fleitell and unanimously approved by the Board.

ADJOURNMENT:

The meeting adjourned at 8:48 p.m.

  
Secretary

Date

6/24/96