

Board of Education  
Nutley, New Jersey

March 24, 1997

The Special Meeting of the Board of Education of the Township of Nutley, New Jersey was held in the Board Room, 375 Bloomfield Avenue, on Monday, March 24, 1997 at 7:00 p.m. with Mr. Robert J. Rusignuolo, President, presiding.

ANNOUNCEMENT OF MEETING:

Mr. Rusignuolo read the following:

"According to the provisions of the 'Open Public Meetings Act' (Chapter 231, P.L. 1975) and NJSA 18A:22-11 and 22-12, proper notice of this Special Meeting was made on February 28, 1997. Said Notice was:

1. Published in The Nutley Sun on March 20, 1997.
2. Posted at the entrance of the Board Office.
3. Mailed or delivered, and/or telephoned to The Nutley Sun, the Star Ledger, the North Jersey Herald & News and the Nutley Journal.
4. Mailed or delivered, and/or telephoned to the Nutley Township Clerk.

"The purpose of this meeting is:

1. Conduct the Public Hearing on the 1997-98 school budget.
2. Adopt the 1997-98 school budget.
3. Conduct the regular monthly business that would normally come before the Board of Education.

"Formal action will be taken."

FLAG SALUTE:

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

ROLL CALL:

The other 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. and Mr. Louis F. Williams. Approximately 75 citizens were present.

## PRESENTATION OF 1997/1998 BUDGET:

Dr. Votto thanked the Board members and Budget Review Committee Chairman Frank Patterson for their hard work and Mr. Sincaglia for his knowledgeable and comprehensive efforts.

Mr. Patterson, Chairman of the Budget Review Committee, thanked Mr. Kucinski, Mr. Moscaritola and Mr. Williams for their dedication and time as members of the Committee. He also thanked Dr. Votto for his help and cooperation as well as all the teachers and administrators who assisted in the budget process.

Mr. Sincaglia noted that the proposed 1997/1998 budget has the lowest budget increase in memory and certainly in the last 20 years with an increase of less than 1% which is below the state's imposed budget cap by \$264,123. He indicated that the district has been below the cap for the last six years at a cumulative amount of over \$1.2 million. Mr. Sincaglia also noted that for 1997/1998 the budget is up by .73 of 1% or less than \$250,000 but provides maintenance of existing programs and some key additions such as full-time nurses at all schools which became a reality last month. He added that for the remainder of this school year we are hiring a part-time substance awareness coordinator and next year this will be a full-time position.

Mr. Sincaglia further noted that 64 new computers will be purchased with over \$220,000 spent for computers and related items utilizing state aid designated for this purpose but which was part of the cap, not extra money. He further explained that these state aid funds amount to \$160,000 with one third of the amount mandated to be spent for equipment, adding that the district will purchase equipment, software and supplies.

Mr. Sincaglia indicated that 3,800 pupils are on roll which is an increase of over 500 students since the beginning of the decade and an average increase of over 80 pupils per year since the 1990/1991 school year. He added that the state estimates that the district will have over 4,000 students next year, but he does not agree with that estimate.

Mr. Sincaglia explained that the budget is composed of revenues and appropriations with revenues coming from property taxes, state or federal aid and other minor sources. Mr. Sincaglia indicated that state aid increased approximately 10% from last year but we are \$150,000 worse off than 11 years ago. He further noted that the increased state aid follows four consecutive years of decreases which came to about 28%, adding that the district is back at the 1995/1996 point in state aid.

Mr. Sincaglia noted that this year we received \$657 per pupil in state aid but with the enrollment we have now, we would have been eligible for just over \$1 million if we were funded at the 1992/1993 level. He further noted that some years ago, state aid constituted 13-15% of the budget which would make an enormous difference to taxpayers if that continued. He explained that most of the budgets of the urban districts are supported by state aid assistance. Mr. Sincaglia also indicated that Belleville receives 300% more in state aid than Nutley and Bloomfield receives 64% more.

With regard to appropriations, Mr. Sincaglia mentioned that personnel costs for salaries and benefits occupy about 80% of our budget which is to be expected in a service-oriented school district and he then explained the changes made in where certain expenses were charged.

Mr. Sincaglia stated that we will be replacing windows in six classrooms at Spring Garden School, the Lincoln School gym and half of the Franklin School gym. He noted that, hopefully, this is the beginning of a project at Spring Garden and Franklin Schools where we will go further since they are very old windows. Mr. Sincaglia also noted that roofing work will be done at Franklin School, sidewalk improvements at a few schools and fire alarm upgrades. He noted that Franklin School is 71 years old and is newer than every elementary school except Radcliffe School. He added that the buildings have to be maintained and require capital expenditures and maintenance expenditures. Mr. Sincaglia indicated that the district's operation and maintenance costs are admirable.

Mr. Sincaglia noted that tonight the Board would be awarding bids for fire doors and buses and these items would normally have been capital expenditures in next year's budget. He explained that a decrease in health benefits costs of 19% made it possible to purchase these items now.

Mr. Sincaglia indicated that districts' spending habits are published annually by the Department of Education in the Comprehensive Spending Guide and also in the Cost of Education Index. He noted that Nutley ranks third lowest in the county of the K-12 districts, adding that our extra-curricular costs are above the K-12 average. He noted that in the ratio of pupils to teachers, Nutley is in second place which means we have less staff per child than all but one district and less administrators than all but one district. He remarked that Nutley is not inflated with extra staff; our spending and staffing are low but our staff does a wonderful job of educating the children.

Mr. Sincaglia stated that the state data regarding cost per pupil does not include all costs in the calculations; it does not include transportation and tuition. He noted that Nutley is 27% below the average cost per pupil in Essex County and 13% below the average K-12 district in the state, adding that every year Nutley does very well in these comparisons.

With regard to the October, 1995 HSPTs, Mr. Sincaglia indicated that Nutley tied for second place in Essex County in the percent of students passing the eighth grade EWT. He added that Nutley ranks right up with the highest socioeconomic districts in any comparison that can be found and this has happened for the past three years.

Mr. Sincaglia further noted that Nutley was 32 points above the New Jersey average in the SATs and 43 points above comparable "DE" districts. He indicated that Nutley was in the mid to high 90th percentile on the IOWAs. Mr. Sincaglia also mentioned that the State Department of Education and the state legislature provided money for academic

achievement awards and the district received \$60,000 because of our testing performance and was one of only six districts in the county to receive this award. He noted that one would be hard pressed to find a district doing as well academically at our cost, adding that many spend much more and don't measure up to us. He mentioned that Nutley students, on standardized tests, score as well as districts in much higher socioeconomic categories.

Mr. Sincaglia asked if the district is providing a thorough, efficient and quality education for our students, stating that the answer is "yes," noting that the support of a community makes it possible for a school system to provide a quality education. He added that the budgets having passed since 1990 are an example of community support. He concluded by stating that if everyone looks at the big picture he is certain that the right decision will be made regarding the vote on the budget.

Mr. Rusignuolo thanked Mr. Sincaglia for his fine budget presentation. He also thanked Mr. Patterson, Chairman of the Budget Review Committee, as well as the Committee members and all Board members who supported the process and the goal of coming in with the lowest increase possible. He also thanked the administrators, teachers and staff who responded to the Board's request to get the most out of the resources that we have.

Mr. Rusignuolo noted that in the past year the Star Ledger published the report card results furnished by the Department of Education and the district achieved at or near the top when compared to both similar and much wealthier districts at a cost lower than most. He stated that the Board understands the plight of the taxpayers and has tried to respond with an increase of just 0.73% which is the lowest in years. He thanked everyone for their contributions to the effort and asked that they support the budget on April 15.

#### HEARING OF CITIZENS (Agenda Items Only):

Mr. Rory Moore, 22 Essex Street, asked if the district had not received the \$160,000 from the state, would the computers be purchased. Mr. Sincaglia responded that the computers would have been purchased in any event but when the state aid came in, local funds were reallocated. He added that the district must develop a comprehensive plan regarding use of the computers during the school year.

Mr. Moore asked if a committee has been appointed yet to develop the plan, to which Dr. Votto replied in the negative. Mr. Moore then volunteered to serve on the committee at no cost to the district.

Mrs. Agnes Roncaglio, 46 Howard Place, noted that she has never made any secret of her admiration for the school system and staff. She commended everyone who put their time and effort into developing a budget where the increase is less than 1% and she encouraged her friends, family and everyone to vote "yes" on the budget.

Miss Virginia Fazzi, 95 Joerg Avenue, commended Mr. Patterson and his Committee for bringing forth a very fair and good budget for the entire school system.

Mrs. Sera Shuster, 462 Chestnut Street, questioned where in the budget it reflects the amount of money the district earned on the buses. Mr. Sincaglia referred her to the correct page, adding that the \$80,000 received in transportation fees from other districts last year was the figure he had given her months ago.

Mr. Moore commented that the district does not have a comprehensive technology plan. Mr. Sincaglia corrected Mr. Moore, stating that this was not what he had said. Mr. Sincaglia reiterated his statement that one of the requirements of the state aid being given for the computers was that all districts will be required to submit for state approval a Distance Learning Network Plan to be developed during the 1997/1998 school year and to be implemented in the 1998/1999 school year. Mr. Sincaglia repeated his statement that the district does have a plan which will have to pass state monitoring, and it will do so.

Mr. Moore asked if software could be considered a piece of equipment. Mr. Sincaglia replied that it could be because it is something which will be maintained.

Mr. Moore remarked that he did not see girls' freshman softball in the budget and questioned why not. Dr. Votto replied that this was addressed at the last Board meeting, adding that if the numbers dictate, he was sure the Board would consider adding it. Mr. Rusignuolo cautioned Mr. Moore against asking a series of questions when one of his questions was being answered. He added that if the time comes where the number of girls interested in freshman girls' softball increases, he was certain the Board would take another look at the program.

Mr. Moore noted that OBC was losing its public access channel and asked if the district would have a media class. Dr. Votto noted that the Technology Committee is meeting and will make a recommendation on this.

Mr. Anthony Pergola, 102 Hawthorne Avenue, asked what Dr. Votto meant in his statement, "If the numbers dictate." Dr. Votto replied that he meant if the number of girls interested in trying out for a freshman team is great enough, that would dictate the Board's taking another look at a freshman softball team.

#### ADOPTING BUDGET FOR THE 1997/1998 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:

WHEREAS, the Board of Education of the Township of Nutley adopted a tentative budget for the 1997/1998 school year on February 24, 1997, and

WHEREAS, said tentative budget was properly advertised on March 20, 1997, and

WHEREAS, the Public Hearing on the budget was conducted on March 24, 1997,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Board of Education hereby adopts the official budget for the 1997/1998 school year in the following amounts:

General Fund	\$32,171,750
Special Revenue Fund	853,747
Debt Service Fund	<u>184,305</u>
Total Budget	\$33,209,802 of which

the following amount shall be raised by local tax levy:

General Fund	\$28,633,379
Debt Service	<u>181,319</u>
Total	\$28,814,698

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Secretary be authorized to place on the ballot at the Annual School Election to be held on April 15, 1997 the proposal to approve the General Fund tax levy portion of the 1997/1998 school budget. (The complete budget for 1997/1998 is attached as Appendix 1.)

#### APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Copies of the minutes of the Regular Meeting held on February 24, 1997 at 8:02 p.m. being in the hands of each member, reading of same was dispensed. Mrs. Russo moved that the minutes be approved, seconded by Mr. Kucinski and unanimously approved by the Board.

#### COMMUNICATIONS:

Mr. Sincaglia presented and read the following communications:

1. A letter from the Township of Millburn apologizing for sending in error an earlier letter and resolution regarding urging the state legislature to place on the 1997 ballot a proposed amendment to the state constitution.

#### SECRETARY'S REPORT:

Mr. Sincaglia presented the Report of the Secretary as of February 28, 1997. (See attached report.)

Mrs. Fleitell moved that the Board accept the Report of the Secretary, seconded by Mr. Kucinski. 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 February 28, 1997. (See attached report.)

Mrs. Russo 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. Votto presented and read the following report:

"Informational Items:

"The District-Wide Elementary Music Program will be conducted in the high school auditorium on Tuesday, March 25, at 7:30 p.m.

"The Annual Winter Sports Awards Program will be conducted in the high school auditorium on Wednesday, March 26, at 7:30 p.m.

"Schools Closed - March 28 - Good Friday

"Testing Dates:

HSPT - Gr. 11 - April 8, 9, 10  
EWT 9 - Gr. 9 - April 8, 9, 10  
TAP - Gr. 10 - April 8, 9

"Third quarter report cards will be distributed on Friday, April 11, 1997.

"CAT Open House - April 12, 1997

"Nutley Science Fair (K-6) - Franklin School, April 12, at 12:00 noon

"Presentations of the 1997/1998 Budget will be made on:

Tuesday,	April 1	Radcliffe School
Wednesday,	April 2	Yantacaw School
Tuesday,	April 8	Spring Garden School
Wednesday,	April 9	Washington School
Thursday,	April 10	Lincoln School

"School Board Election - April 15

"Attached is the student enrollment chart as of February 28, 1997."

FIRE DRILL REPORT:

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

Feb. 3	Franklin School	1:15 p.m.	1 min. 52 secs.
Feb. 3	Franklin School	1:45 p.m.	1 min. 38 secs.
Feb. 3	Yantacaw School	2:08 p.m.	1 min. 38 secs.
Feb. 5	Lincoln School	1:45 p.m.	1 min. 10 secs.
Feb. 5	Nutley High School	10:07 a.m.	1 min. 58 secs.
Feb. 5	Radcliffe School	2:12 p.m.	1 min. 20 secs.
Feb. 5	Spring Garden School	1:47 p.m.	1 min. 30 secs.
Feb. 11	Spring Garden School	8:40 a.m.	1 min. 10 secs.
Feb. 12	Radcliffe School	8:45 a.m.	1 min. 15 secs.
Feb. 12	Washington School	8:35 a.m.	1 min. 32 secs.
Feb. 24	Lincoln School	10:45 a.m.	1 min. 20 secs.
Feb. 24	Nutley High School	1:58 p.m.	2 min. 5 secs.
Feb. 24	Yantacaw School	11:17 a.m.	1 min. 30 secs.
Feb. 26	Washington School	2:31 p.m.	1 min. 30 secs.

CAFETERIA REPORT:

Mr. Pelaia presented the cafeteria report as of February 28, 1997 showing a 1996/1997 budget of \$613,018.00, contractual orders to date of \$374,802.46, leaving funds available of \$238,215.54.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Mr. Rusignuolo reported that the Personnel Committee met during the past week and some of the items discussed will be included on the agenda this evening.

HEARING OF CITIZENS (Resolutions Only):

None

CERTIFICATION OF MAJOR ACCOUNT FUND STATUS:

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, pursuant to NJAC 6:20-2.13(e), the Nutley Board of Education certifies that as of February 28, 1997, 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 General Fund and Debt Service.)



BILLS AND MANDATORY PAYMENTS:

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 authorizes the payment of bills and mandatory payments in the total amount of \$3,206,673.54 as per the attached Schedule A which have been audited by the Business Office.

REQUESTS FOR USE OF SCHOOL BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS:

Mr. Moscaritola 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 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.

RETIREMENT - Washington  
School Principal:

Miss Rosemarie DiGeronimo

Mr. Moscaritola 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 accepts the retirement of Miss Rosemarie DiGeronimo, Washington School principal, effective July 1, 1997.

Mrs. Russo indicated that it was a special pleasure to attend Washington School, adding that Miss DiGeronimo had the admiration of the faculty. She wished Miss DiGeronimo well in her retirement.

RETIREMENT - Teacher:

Mrs. Lillian Domenick

Mr. Moscaritola 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 accepts the retirement of Mrs. Lillian Domenick, teacher, effective July 1, 1997.

Mr. Williams noted that his children had the privilege of having Mrs. Domenick who has done an outstanding job. He wished her well.

RETIREMENT - Teacher:Mrs. Gertrude Reddington

Mrs. Fleitell 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 accepts the retirement of Mrs. Gertrude Reddington, teacher, effective July 1, 1997.

RETIREMENT - Cafeteria:Mrs. Geraldine Iacullo

Mrs. Fleitell 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 accepts the retirement of Mrs. Geraldine Iacullo, cafeteria employee, effective July 1, 1997.

LEAVE OF ABSENCE - Teacher:Mrs. Maria Torretti

Mrs. Fleitell 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 approves a medical leave of absence without pay for Mrs. Maria Torretti from March 18 through June 30, 1997.

APPOINTMENTS - Teacher Substitutes:

Mr. Williams presented and moved the adoption of the following resolution, seconded by Mr. Moscaritola. 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 1996/1997 school year.

APPOINTMENTS - Substitutes:

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

BE IT RESOLVED, That the following substitutes be approved for the 1996/1997 school year:

Clerical/School Aide/Cafeteria

Janice Aiello

Clerical/School Aide

Judy Lee Pugliese

EXTRA COMPENSATION:

Mr. Williams presented and moved the adoption of the following resolution, seconded by Mr. Moscaritola. 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 MeetingsGeneral Mathematics (7-12) - February 8, 1997

Elinor Alboum	\$123.88
Anne Bevere	123.88
Paula Cofone	123.88
Toby D'Ambola	123.88
Carol Rizzo	123.88
Arleen Slott	123.88
Rosemary Vivinetto	<u>123.88</u>

Total	\$867.16
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Health Education (K-8) - February 8, 1997

Gerard Adubato	\$ 108.40
Rita Alfaro	123.88
Noreen Baris	123.88
John Calicchio	186.52
Mario Cocchiola	165.80
Susan Dingwell	123.88
Katherine Flannery	61.94
Carlos Folleco	123.88
Elizabeth Foote	123.88
Barbara Formichella	123.88
AnneMarie Kowalski	100.65
Rebecca Olivo	123.88
Olga Rombola	123.88
Nancy Szura	123.88
Patricia Tarczynski	123.88
James Vivinetto	<u>165.80</u>

Total	\$2,027.91
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P.A.T. (Primary Academic Talent - February 4, 1997

Suzanne Hagert	\$ 61.94
Barbara Hirsch	46.63
Joyce Healy	61.94
Rebecca Olivo	61.94
Niki Vlasakakis	61.94
Carol VonAchen	<u>61.94</u>
Total	\$356.33

Reading (K-8) - February 8, 1997

Lucy Anello	\$ 165.80
Justina Bruno	123.88
Florence Carpenter	161.08
Michele Cristantiello	123.88
Dianne DeRosa	165.80
Rosemarie DiGeronimo	165.80
Patricia Fischer	123.88
Marilyn Hannon	123.88
Hannah Hungler	123.88
Geraldine Intiso	123.88
Gail Kahn	123.88
Joan Lightfoot	123.88
Beverly Masullo	123.88
Eileen Mattone	123.88
Walter Murray	123.88
Rae Nardone	123.88
Gail Reilly	123.88
Bernadette Santoriello	123.88
Susan Tole	<u>123.88</u>
Total	\$2,516.68

Technology Implementation - February 8, 1997

George Ackerman	\$ 123.88
Joseph Affinito	123.88
Beverly Apple	123.88
Mary Austin	123.88
Denise Cleary	123.88
Rosemary Clerico	123.88
Carmine D'Aloia	165.80
Linda Fisher	123.88
Jainine Gambaro	123.88
Maria Gernitis	123.88
Scott Keena	123.88
Nancy Kehayes	123.88
Arlene Orenstein	123.88
Stephen Parigi	123.88
Bernice Paschal	123.88
John Schwarz	123.88
Kathleen Serafino	186.52

Technology Implementation - February 8, 1997 (contd.)

Carol Shepherd	\$ 123.88
JoAnn Tropiano	123.88
Zelda Walch	<u>123.88</u>
Total	\$2,582.16

Critical Thinking - February 8, 1997

Theresa Barbagallo	\$ 123.88
Carol Bender	123.88
Robyn Burns	123.88
Lori Ann Cassie	123.88
Donna Cocco	123.88
Sally Ann Marino Ryder	123.88
Michele Syme	123.88
Carol VonAchen	123.88
Jenifer Wilson	<u>123.88</u>
Total	\$1,114.92

SAT Review Classes - February 6, 11, 13, 27,  
March 6 and 13, 1997

Dianne LaPierre	\$ 557.46
John Suffren	<u>557.46</u>
Total	\$1,114.92

Central Detention Coverage - February, 1997High School

Carol Shepherd	\$184.69
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Franklin School

Patrick Keating	117.53
Christopher Masullo	<u>100.74</u>

Total	\$402.96
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Saturday Morning Suspensions - February, 1997High School

Lawrence Tuorto	\$70.17
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Classroom Coverage - January 28, 1997

Thomas Cusick	\$22.79
Sharon Romaglia	<u>22.79</u>

Total	\$45.58
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Spring Sports Physical Examinations -  
February 1 and 8, 1997

Katherine Flannery	\$108.40
Sharon Larcara	147.11
Patricia Scullen	<u>108.40</u>
Total	\$363.91

Winter In-Service Course - Macintosh Computer II  
January 8, 15, 22, 29 and February 5, 1997

Rosemary Clerico	\$ 402.70
Camille Lofrano	402.70
Stephen Parigi	402.70
Lorraine Restel	<u>402.70</u>
Total	\$1,610.80

Intramurals - February 2-28, 1997

William Farkas	\$120.05
Kenneth Ferriol	120.05
Carlos Folleco	120.05
*Thomas Grant	456.19
Daniel Kimberley	96.04
Janice Schoem	<u>72.03</u>
Total	\$984.41

\*Includes dates from January 2 - February 28, 1997.

LONGEVITY PAY:

Mr. Kucinski 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 following longevity payments be authorized:

John Coffey	\$145	Eff. Apr. 1, 1997 (10 years)
Donald DiGiovine	870	Eff. Apr. 1, 1997 (20 years)

TUITION REIMBURSEMENT:

Mr. Kucinski 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, in accordance with existing employment agreements, the following personnel receive reimbursement for tuition expenses:

Catherine Danchak  
Judith Story

\$420  
420

ABOLISH POSITION:

Summer Enrichment  
Program Director

Mr. Kucinski 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 abolish the position of Summer Enrichment Program Director.

SPECIAL CLASS PLACEMENT - Educationally Disabled Student:

Mr. Schweikert 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 attendance of a student at Special Education classes for the 1996/1997 school year as follows:

<u>School</u>	<u>No. of Students</u>	<u>Classification</u>	<u>Effective Date</u>	<u>Tuition</u>
Windsor School Pompton Lakes, NJ	1	NI	3/10/97	\$10,671.50

TEXTBOOK APPROVAL:

Mr. Schweikert 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 use of the following textbook:

Science

Science Insights  
Exploring Matter and Energy  
Publisher, Addison Wesley Publishing Company  
1997, Reading, MA

APPROVAL OF CURRICULUM PROGRAM:

Mr. Schweikert 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 K-8 Health Education Curriculum presented at the March 10, 1997 conference session.

Mrs. Russo commented that Mr. Calicchio and his committee had done an excellent job in curriculum development for the health program. Mrs. Russo added that she would like to see the computer software used listed in the references as we go along as there would be easier access for teachers.

ADOPTION OF FIVE-YEAR PLAN: Curriculum Development and Educational Services:

Mrs. Russo 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 adopts the Five-Year Plan: Curriculum Development and Educational Services as per Schedule D.

APPROVAL OF CALENDARS - 1997/1998 School Year:

Mrs. Russo 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 adopts the following attached calendars for the 1997/1998 school year:

- School Calendar - Schedule E
- Calendar for Twelve-Month Employees - Schedule F

TRANSFER OF FUNDS:

Mrs. Russo 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 1996/1997 General Fund budget be confirmed as follows:

<u>From</u>		<u>To</u>	
Account 11-201-100-106	\$ 300	Account 11-201-100-101	\$ 300
Account 11-402-100-100	1,500	Account 11-402-100-500	1,500
Account 11-402-100-800	4,000	Account 11-999-100-562	15,000
Account 11-999-230-590	5,000	Account 11-999-290-100	1,000
Account 11-999-290-290	6,450	Account 12-999-100-730	2,350
Account 11-999-290-330	1,000	Account 12-999-240-730	1,850
Account 13-422-100-101	<u>3,750</u>		
	\$22,000		<u>\$22,000</u>



**ESTABLISH DATE FOR REORGANIZATION MEETING OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION:**

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

BE IT RESOLVED, That the reorganization meeting of the Board of Education be held on Monday, April 28, 1997 at 7:30 p.m.

**FIRE DOOR REPLACEMENT BIDS:**

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

WHEREAS, bids for fire door replacements (5 pairs) were advertised on February 27, 1997, and

WHEREAS, sealed bids were publicly opened and read aloud on March 18, 1997 at 11:00 a.m. in the office of the Secretary/Business Administrator, and

WHEREAS, the following bid was received in the following amount:

C & M Door Controls, Inc.	\$20,650
Carteret, NJ	

and

WHEREAS, the bid of C & M Door Controls, Inc. appears to meet all specifications,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Board of Education awards the contract for fire door replacements (5 pairs) to C & M Door Controls, Inc., Carteret, NJ at their low bid price of \$20,650.

**APPOINTMENT - Substance Awareness Coordinator:**

**Miss Lisa Santosuosso**

Mr. Moscaritola 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 appoints Miss Lisa Santosuosso as Substance Awareness Coordinator for the 1996/1997 school year, effective March 25, 1997, at the annual salary of \$18,875, M.A.-6 (.5) in accordance with the 1996/1997 Teachers' Salary Guide.

March 24, 1997

Mrs. Fleitell noted that she feels this is a welcome addition to the staff.

APPOINTMENT - Athletic Director:

Mr. Joseph Affinito

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

BE IT RESOLVED, That the Board of Education approves the appointment of Mr. Joseph Affinito as Athletic Director for the 1996/1997 school year, effective April 1, 1997, at the annual stipend of \$9,000.

AMENDMENT TO I.A.S.A. APPLICATIONS:

Mr. Patterson 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 amendments to the I.A.S.A. application for FY 97 Title IV and the carry-over application for FY 96 Title IV.

PUPIL TRANSPORTATION VEHICLE BIDS:

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

WHEREAS, bids for a 1997 Type I 39 Passenger School Bus were advertised on February 20, 1997, and

WHEREAS, sealed bids were publicly opened and read aloud on March 11, 1997 at 11:00 a.m. in the office of the Secretary/Business Administrator, and

WHEREAS, the following bid was received in the following amount:

Jersey Bus Sales, Inc. Bordentown, NJ	\$46,084	\$49,484 (Alternate)
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and

WHEREAS, the bid of Jersey Bus Sales, Inc. appears to meet all specifications,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Board of Education awards the contract for a 1997 Type I 39 passenger school bus to Jersey Bus Sales, Inc., Bordentown, NJ at their alternate bid price of \$49,484.

PUPIL TRANSPORTATION VEHICLE BIDS:

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

WHEREAS, bids for a 1997 Type II 8 Passenger + 2 Wheelchairs School Bus were advertised on February 20, 1997, and

WHEREAS, sealed bids were publicly opened and read aloud on March 11, 1997 at 11:00 a.m. in the office of the Secretary/Business Administrator, and

WHEREAS, the following bids were received in the following amounts:

		<u>Alternate</u>
Arcola Bus Sales Corp. Carlstadt, NJ	\$33,842	\$36,637
Jersey Bus Sales, Inc. Bordentown, NJ	\$34,173	\$36,673
Wolfington Body Co., Inc. Mount Holly, NJ	\$39,984	\$39,984

and

WHEREAS, the bid of Arcola Bus Sales Corp. did not meet the specifications, and

WHEREAS, the bid of Jersey Bus Sales, Inc. appears to meet all specifications,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Board of Education rejects the bid of Arcola Bus Sales Corp. for failure to meet specifications and awards the contract for a 1997 Type II 8 passenger + 2 wheelchairs school bus to Jersey Bus Sales, Inc., Bordentown, NJ at their alternate bid price of \$36,673.

HEARING OF CITIZENS:

Mr. David DelPolito, 87 Evergreen Avenue, asked how the appointment of Mr. Affinito as Athletic Director came about. Dr. Votto noted that the position was advertised, the candidates were interviewed and Mr. Affinito was selected. Dr. Votto further noted that Mr. Affinito is very knowledgeable and has been a successful part of the teaching and coaching staffs for over three decades and he was pleased to have Mr. Affinito appointed.

March 24, 1997

Mr. Moore asked what was on the bill from American Express which was listed as a Business Office Supply. Mr. Sincaglia explained that it included the annual fee as well as the fee for on-line services with America On Line (AOL). He further explained that AOL would not accept a Board of Education purchase order so the payment is made through American Express. He added that this is a monthly expense.

Mr. Moore asked if the amount listed for Bell Atlantic is a monthly fee, to which Mr. Sincaglia replied in the affirmative. Mr. Moore then questioned the payment to Dr. Votto in the amount of \$300. Mr. Sincaglia explained that was reimbursement to him of his payment for disability insurance, adding that he (Mr. Sincaglia) also receives such reimbursement according to contract.

Mr. Moore questioned if it was not true that over 60 students were interested in participating in a freshman softball team. Dr. Votto indicated that he would check into this.

Mr. Pergola noted that he had met today with Mr. Zarra, Mr. Affinito and Mr. Walker regarding ice hockey and Mr. Zarra had promised a survey would be done. Mr. Pergola commented that last month he was told the matter would be referred to the school attorney and he asked whether anything had been done. Dr. Votto explained that the high school administration would have to make a recommendation to him and the Athletic Committee. Mr. Pergola asked if he could get a copy of any policies or procedures dealing with sports. Dr. Votto replied that there is an athletic handbook and Mr. Pergola could have a copy.

Mr. Pergola then asked questions regarding busing of athletes to and from games, why volunteer coaches are not allowed, why teams can not join as independents and why parents can not pay or raise money for the ice hockey program. Dr. Votto replied that he will check into these matters. Mr. Rusignuolo thanked Mr. Pergola for his time and interest.

Mr. Kenneth Moore, 194 Hillside Avenue, asked what determines whether there is enough interest after a survey is made. Dr. Votto replied that if the numbers show interest, the next step is dealing with finances. Mr. Moore asked if the finances would be handled through donations. Dr. Votto indicated that is a separate issue, explaining that the survey will go to the Athletic Committee and then to the full Board but the survey is the prime mover in all of this. Mr. Kucinski noted that the same process would be taking place with the softball team.

Mr. Pergola stated that when finances are mentioned, he knows that other schools do not budget one dime toward the ice hockey program but in Nutley there are 30 parents willing to play a sport which is not in the budget. Mr. Rusignuolo noted that even if no finances were involved the Board still has to consider the issue. He added that the high school people will do a survey and come to the Athletic Committee with a recommendation. Mr. Pergola commented that ice hockey used to be in this town and asked if it is still listed on the books. Mr. Rusignuolo responded that once it is eliminated it is no longer a sport.

Mrs. Nancy Weinstein, 51 Hastings Avenue, suggested that Mr. Pergola get his facts together and meet with the PTOs of each school and possibly come to some meetings. Mr. Rusignuolo noted that this would be a later consideration.

Mrs. Weinstein expressed approval of the hiring of a substance abuse coordinator because of her concern for drug use which is increasing in the town. Mrs. Fleitell commented that at the Conference Meeting it was noted that the correct terminology is substance awareness coordinator which means we are dealing with prevention as well as intervention.

Mr. Rory Moore mentioned that he was told that the Advanced Foods course was being terminated in the high school and asked if this was correct. Dr. Votto replied that this was under consideration, adding that there may be priorities in other academic areas that will transcend that.

Mr. Vince Cucuzza, 478 Chestnut Street, remarked that he works in technology and wonders if the .73% increase in the budget is sufficient for the needs of the children and whether more funds should be added to the budget. Mr. Rusignuolo commented that there are years when we blame the state for its lack of support in state aid and, thus, the budget shows a greater increase than the Board would like, but this year we would like to pass the savings on to the taxpayers.

#### OLD BUSINESS:

Mr. Kucinski expressed his interest in the Board's looking at its policy concerning non-resident pupils, adding that he would like to see the Board move faster on reviewing this policy. Mr. Rusignuolo replied that some work is being done on this. Mrs. Russo questioned what committee was involved with this matter. Mr. Rusignuolo responded that there was no committee per se, just Board members interested in attending Board meetings in other communities.

Mrs. Russo mentioned that she keeps bringing up the issue of policy review, looking at the policies in a pro-active way, adding that we know there is an increase in enrollment and two developments lurking in Nutley and Clifton which could affect enrollment, plus there is a school choice act pending in the legislature. Mrs. Russo further noted that we have a policy called "Unlawful Students," adding that we should be able to identify whether all of our students clearly belong in Nutley. Mrs. Russo also remarked that she understands Mr. Rusignuolo attended something dealing with re-registration of students and asked if he was going to share the information with the Board.

Mr. Rusignuolo replied that he had spoken with Mr. Sincaglia and Dr. Votto about our current practices and what they are observing regarding ongoing efforts and the number of students coming in to the district as well as what they perceive the real problem to be. He added that he is not yet ready to appoint a committee to study the situation but is doing some preliminary work.

Mr. Schweikert indicated that he is Chairman of the Policy Committee and would like to ask for a meeting of the Committee, adding that he understands a committee chairman has to request a meeting of a committee. Mr. Rusignuolo noted that there also has to be a need for a meeting.

Mr. Kucinski remarked that he had spoken with Dr. Votto and informed him that he felt the people doing the residency investigations were doing an excellent job. Dr. Votto noted that last year, after residency investigations of approximately 40 students, 17 were removed from the schools.

Mr. Rusignuolo indicated that if there are three illegal students in our schools it does not mean it is three times the average cost per pupil to our taxpayers. He added that Bloomfield has committed \$9,000 or more for the re-registration of all students but we feel we have an effective system here and Bloomfield is modifying their policy to become more like Nutley. Mr. Rusignuolo also noted that in terms of a need to have a policy to do better than we do, he is not certain of this need.

Mr. Kucinski stated that he raised this issue because he thought that things were a little loose. Mr. Rusignuolo indicated that he would inform the Board by the next meeting what can be done regarding a Policy Committee meeting.

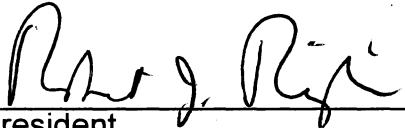
#### NEW BUSINESS:

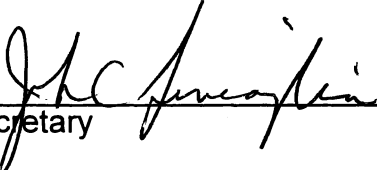
Mr. Kucinski mentioned that the county has done an outstanding job in refurbishing the girls' softball field at Yantacaw Park and he feels a letter should be written acknowledging their involvement.

Mr. Sincaglia noted that putting together a 70-page budget involves many staff members and he thanked everyone for their assistance.

#### ADJOURNMENT:

There being no further business to come before the Board, on motion made by Mr. Kucinski, seconded by Mr. Moscaritola, the meeting was adjourned at 8:24 p.m.

  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 President

  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 Secretary

4/14/97  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 Date