

Board of Education  
Nutley, New Jersey

May 12, 1997

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, May 12, 1997 at 7:30 p.m. with Mr. Joseph C. Pelaia, Vice-President, presiding.

Mr. Pelaia mentioned that Mr. Rusignuolo's absence was due to the death of his mother-in-law.

ANNOUNCEMENT OF ADEQUATE NOTICE:

Mr. Pelaia 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 Annual Notice of April 28, 1997. 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. Vincent Moscaritola, Mr. Franklin J. Patterson, Mr. Alfred R. Restaino, Jr., Mrs. Maria Russo, Mr. Louis F. Williams and Mr. Joseph C. Pelaia. Late: Mr. Robert Schweikert, Jr. (7:37 p.m.). Absent: Mr. Robert J. Rusignuolo.

1. Dr. Votto introduced Mathematics Coordinator, Mrs. MaryLou Dowse, who presented the report of the General Mathematics Curriculum Committee. Mrs. Russo asked a question regarding pre-algebra.

Mr. Schweikert entered

Mr. Williams asked if this would be eliminating the general mathematics component, to which Mrs. Dowse answered in the affirmative. Additional questions and comments were made by Mrs. Fleitell and Mrs. Russo.

Mr. Williams moved that the Board accept the report of the curriculum committee, seconded by Mr. Moscaritola and unanimously approved by the Board.

Mrs. Dowse then made recommendations for the two new textbooks, the titles of which are Math Matters Book I and Math Matters Book II.

Mrs. Fleitell and Mr. Williams both commented that they thought the textbooks were extremely appropriate for these subjects.

Mr. Williams moved that this item be placed on the agenda at the regular Board meeting, seconded by Mrs. Fleitell and unanimously approved by the Board.

Mr. Pelaia thanked Mrs. Dowse and the members of her committee.

2. Dr. Votto then introduced Miss Florence Carpenter, Chairperson of the Reading Committee. Miss Carpenter presented an overview of the Committee's work this year with particular emphasis on the scope and sequence of the many skills needed for reading instruction. Mr. Pelaia and Mr. Williams both commented on their agreement with the concept of staying with the phonics approach.

Miss Carpenter noted that the Committee was recommending that the 1989 text continue to be used because there seems to be no need to update it in that newer editions have changed very little.

Additional comments were made by Mrs. Russo, Mr. Patterson and Mr. Pelaia.

Mr. Patterson moved that the Board accept the report of the committee, seconded by Mrs. Russo and unanimously approved by the Board.

3. Dr. Votto then asked Spring Garden School Principal Ms. Lucy Anello, who was serving as Co-chair of the Monitoring Committee, to present the information about the district-wide survey.

Ms. Anello explained that it was a requirement to do a community survey at least once every seven years and that the Committee had worked to develop this material. It was noted that there had also been meetings with Mr. Sincaglia to discuss the implementation of sending the survey out to the community and it was hoped this would take place prior to the end of May.

Mr. Patterson moved that the Board authorize the survey, seconded by Mr. Restaino and unanimously approved by the Board.

4. Mrs. Serafino presented a report from the Technology Committee. She noted that the Committee has had seven meetings and at this point was seeking approval to continue to proceed with respect to a wiring plan for the district.

She noted that she, Mr. Williams and Mr. Sincaglia had met with three companies which were well qualified to perform this work and the recommendation was to approve the firm ProMedia of Clifton, NJ which would develop plans and specifications following extensive building walkthroughs and meetings with Committee staff at a cost of \$3,400.

Questions and comments were made by Mrs. Fleitell, Mr. Williams and Mrs. Russo.

Mrs. Fleitell moved that the Board approve a contract with Pro-Media at a cost of \$3,400, seconded by Mr. Moscaritola and unanimously approved by the Board.

RESOLUTION TO CLOSE MEETING TO THE PUBLIC:

Mr. Pelaia 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 recess 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 approved by Mr. Williams, seconded by Mr. Patterson and unanimously approved by the Board.

RECESS MEETING:

The meeting recessed at 8:32 p.m.

RESUME MEETING:

The meeting resumed at 9:23 p.m.

5. Mr. Sincaglia presented information concerning the bid for direct purchase of natural gas and said he was seeking permission to issue the Intent to Award to Norstar, the low bidder.

Mrs. Russo moved that the Board approve the issuance of an Intent to Award to Norstar, seconded by Mr. Williams and unanimously approved by the Board.

6. Mr. Moscaritola read a statement regarding his concern over student residency. Mr. Moscaritola recommended that an ad hoc committee be appointed to study the matter.

Since Mr. Rusignuolo was not present it was agreed that this matter would be held over.

7. Mr. Schweikert raised a concern over wording in the unofficial minutes of the April 28 reorganization meeting. Mr. Sincaglia explained that verbatim comments are put in if Board members or members of the public provide a prepared statement to us at the time of the meeting.

Mr. Schweikert indicated he would be providing additional information so it could be incorporated into the minutes. It was noted that this same privilege was extended to other members if they would provide a prepared statement also with respect to the nominating speeches.

ADJOURNMENT:

On motion made by Mrs. Russo, seconded by Mrs. Fleitell, the meeting adjourned at 9:37 p.m.

  
Secretary

5/14/97  
Date