

Board of Education
Nutley, New Jersey

October 27, 1997

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, October 27, 1997 at 8:02 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), proper notice of this Regular 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.

"Formal action will be taken."

CALL OF ROLL:

The other members present at roll call were: Mrs. Michele Fleitell, Mr. Vincent Moscaritola, Mr. Franklin J. Patterson, Mr. Joseph C. Pelaia, Mr. Alfred R. Restaino, Jr., Mrs. Maria Russo, Mr. Robert Schweikert, Jr. and Mr. Louis F. Williams. Approximately 30 citizens were present.

FLAG SALUTE:

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

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Copies of the minutes of the Regular Meeting held on September 22, 1997 at 8:08 p.m. being in the hands of each member, reading of same was dispensed. Mrs. Fleitell moved that the minutes be approved, seconded by Mr. Restaino and unanimously approved by the Board.

COMMUNICATIONS:

Mr. Sincaglia presented and read the following communications:

1. A thank-you note from Joan Zaccheo for the Board's expression of sympathy upon the death of her mother.
2. A thank-you note from Brian McGinley and Kathleen and Gene McCormack for the Board's expression of condolence upon the death of their father.
3. A thank-you letter from John C. Griwert for the football tickets sent by the Board.

SECRETARY'S REPORT:

Mr. Sincaglia presented the Report of the Secretary as of September 30, 1997. (See attached report.)

Mr. Williams moved that the Board accept the Report of the Secretary, seconded by Mr. Restaino. 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 September 30, 1997. (See attached report.)

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

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT:

Dr. Votto presented and read the following report:

"Informational Items:

"Every Open House in the district has been conducted. The Administration and many Board members carried the message of priorities, accomplishments and high standards to the public. Appreciation was expressed to the PTOs and staff whose diligence made the evenings successful.

"Quality Assurance Annual Report"

Dr. Votto explained that this is required by the Department of Education and addressed all of the required school level objectives, assessment testing in grades 4, 8 and 11, facilities update, educational areas involving curriculum committee action and mandated programs.

Dr. Votto noted that the Quality Assurance Annual Report represents wonderful work on the part of the entire school community and will satisfy every monitoring indicator. Dr. Votto congratulated the students for achieving so well, the teachers for teaching so well and the Board of Education for providing all the resources necessary to effectuate such a fine and comprehensive program.

"Report cards for the first marking period will be distributed on November 12.

"Schools will be closed for the NJEA Convention on Thursday, November 13 and Friday, November 14.

"Elementary parent-teacher conferences will be held on Wednesday, November 19 and Thursday, November 20.

"Attached is the student enrollment chart as of:
September 30, 1997
October 15, 1997"

FIRE DRILL REPORT:

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

Sept. 5	Radcliffe School	9:25 a.m.	1 min. 7 secs.
Sept. 5	Spring Garden School	10:36 a.m.	1 min. 27 secs.
Sept. 10	Washington School	9:00 a.m.	1 min. 20 secs.
Sept. 10	Yantacaw School	9:06 a.m.	1 min. 45 secs.
Sept. 12	Franklin School	10:15 a.m.	1 min. 57 secs.
Sept. 12	Lincoln School	11:10 a.m.	1 min. 38 secs.
Sept. 16	Lincoln School	12:42 p.m.	1 min. 45 secs.
Sept. 16	Nutley High School	9:22 a.m.	1 min. 30 secs.
Sept. 17	Spring Garden School	1:50 p.m.	1 min. 20 secs.
Sept. 18	Franklin School	2:18 p.m.	1 min. 48 secs.
Sept. 19	Yantacaw School	2:12 p.m.	1 min. 25 secs.
Sept. 24	Radcliffe School	2:15 p.m.	1 min. 23 secs.
Sept. 25	Washington School	2:04 p.m.	1 min. 30 secs.
Sept. 29	Nutley High School	10:08 a.m.	2 min. 5 secs.

CAFETERIA REPORT:

Mr. Pelaia presented the cafeteria report as of September 30, 1997 showing a 1997/1998 budget of \$611,977.00, contractual orders to date of \$116,278.72, leaving funds available of \$495,698.28.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Mr. Moscaritola, Chairman of the Ad Hoc Residency Committee, indicated that the Committee had met again with the Board attorney present and he felt things were moving in a very positive direction. He again invited members of the public with information regarding residency to call either himself or Mr. Sincaglia. Mr. Moscaritola noted that he would keep the Board apprised of Committee activities.

Mrs. Russo, Chairperson of the Policy Committee, noted that the Committee is moving along with the review of policies and would be meeting in November with the company hired to assist the Committee.

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 Mrs. Fleitell. 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 September 30, 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. Moscaritola 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 authorizes the payment of bills and mandatory payments in the total amount of \$3,156,810.62 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 Mr. Pelaia. 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.

APPOINTMENT - Cafeteria:

Mrs. Christine Rizzi

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 the appointment of Mrs. Christine Rizzi as a cafeteria employee for the 1997/1998 school year, effective October 8, 1997, at the hourly rate of \$9.27 (1-1) which is in accordance with the 1997/1998 Cafeteria Salary Guide.

APPOINTMENTS - Teacher Substitutes:

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 teacher substitutes listed on the attached Schedule C be approved for the 1997/1998 school year.

APPOINTMENTS - Substitutes:

Mr. Williams 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 following substitutes be approved for the 1997/1998 school year:

Secretarial

Lori Ann Marchione

Secretarial/School Aide

Marisa Ciance

Secretarial/School Aide/Bus Aide

Anne Sedor

School Aide/Cafeteria/Bus Aide

Concetta DeLuca

School Aide/Cafeteria

Michele DiAntonio

Cafeteria

Janice Aiello
Geraldyn Dwyer
Patricia Miller
Jennie Stevens

Custodial

Frank Marando, Jr.

EXTRA COMPENSATION:

Mr. Williams 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 following personnel be paid extra compensation in the amounts indicated for services rendered:

Curriculum Development Committee MeetingsInstructional Theory into Practice (ITIP) -
September 6, 1997

Danielle Christy	\$ 123.88
Gloria Dorfman	123.88
Carmelo Gallico	123.88
Patricia Isabella	123.88
Maria Papaleo	123.88
Lisa Rossi	123.88
Peggy Rucinski	123.88
Lisa Santosuosso	123.88
Maureen Tracy	123.88
Heather Vonroth	123.88
Louise Walk	<u>123.88</u>

Total \$1,362.68

Introduction to Computers - September 20, 1997

Danielle Christy	\$ 123.88
Carmine D'Aloia	186.52
Gloria Dorfman	123.88
Carmelo Gallico	123.88
Patricia Isabella	123.88
Kathryn Koribanick	123.88
Dennis McPartland	123.88
Maria Papaleo	123.88
Lisa Rossi	123.88
Peggy Rucinski	123.88
Lisa Santosuosso	123.88
Jonathan Schubert	123.88
Kathleen Serafino	186.52
Maureen Tracy	123.88
Heather Vonroth	123.88
Louise Walk	<u>123.88</u>

Total \$2,107.36

Central Detention Coverage - September, 1997High School

Michael Christadore	\$ 33.58
Nicole Errante	50.37
Lisa Santosuosso	100.74
Carol Shepard	33.58

Franklin School

Patrick Keating	16.79
Christopher Masullo	83.95
Alisa Rossi	<u>100.74</u>

Total	\$419.75
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Radcliffe School Secretary - September 9-15, 1997

Lola Pospisil	\$352.10
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Summer Band Camp - August 18-22, 1997

Dennis McPartland	\$1,158.48
Kelly Wisneski	1,158.48
Dana Melillo	<u>484.91</u>

Total	\$2,801.87
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Summer Employment - Band Director - July and August, 1997

Dennis McPartland	\$1,533.02
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Summer Weight Room, June 23 - August 20, 1997

Richard SanFillipo	\$324.13
Christopher Strumolo	<u>540.23</u>

Total	\$864.36
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LONGEVITY PAY:

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

BE IT RESOLVED, That the following longevity payments be authorized:

Dolores Dwyer	\$1,160	Eff. Nov. 1, 1997 (15 years)
Richard Polukort	387	Eff. Nov. 1, 1997 (10 years)

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CHANGE IN TRAINING LEVEL:

Mr. Restaino 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 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, 1997. Upon conclusion of negotiations, the salary and step will be adjusted in accordance with the 1997/1998 Teachers' Salary Guide.

<u>To B.A.+30</u>	<u>Step</u>	<u>Salary</u>
Patricia Isabella	6	\$36,666

TUITION REIMBURSEMENT:

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

<u>Name</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Rosemary Clerico	\$ 420
Kathleen Cullity	420
Thomas Gargiulo	420
Jerilyn Margulies	375
Carol VonAchen	<u>420</u>
	\$2,055

ADOPTION OF FIVE-YEAR PLAN: CURRICULUM DEVELOPMENT AND EDUCATIONAL SERVICES:

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

APPROVAL OF SCHOOL-LEVEL OBJECTIVES - 1997/1998 School Year:

Mr. Schweikert presented and moved the adoption of the following resolution, seconded by Mr. Moscaritola. Upon being put to a roll call vote the resolution was adopted with Mrs. Fleitell, Mr. Moscaritola, Mr. Patterson, Mr. Pelaia, Mr. Restaino, Mr. Schweikert, Mr. Williams and Mr. Rusignuolo voting aye and Mrs. Russo abstaining:

BE IT RESOLVED, That the Board of Education approves the School-Level Objectives contained in Schedule E for the 1997/1998 school year pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:7A-1 et seq. and N.J.A.C. 6:8-4 et seq.

PLACEMENT OF OUT-OF-DISTRICT SPECIAL EDUCATION STUDENTS:

Mrs. Russo 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 approves the placement of out-of-district Special Education students from the following districts in the following classifications for the 1997/1998 school year:

<u>District</u>	<u>No. of Students</u>	<u>Classification</u>	<u>School</u>	<u>Effective Date</u>
Belleville	1	MRE	Lincoln	10/6/97

TRANSFER OF FUNDS:

Mr. Patterson 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 transfers in the 1997/1998 General Fund budget be confirmed as follows:

<u>From</u>		<u>To</u>	
Account 11-204-100-101	\$ 4,000	Account 11-201-100-610	\$ 150
Account 11-217-100-101	4,000	Account 11-205-100-101	10,000
Account 11-999-100-565	30,000	Account 11-213-100-101	20,000
Account 11-999-217-100	5,000	Account 11-230-100-101	3,200
Account 11-999-291-260	10,000	Account 11-999-100-562	22,500
Account 13-422-100-101	<u>4,150</u>	Account 11-999-221-390	200
	\$57,150	Account 12-999-220-730	<u>1,100</u>
			\$57,150

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ACCEPTANCE OF NOTIFICATION OF GRANT AWARD - IASA - FY 98:

Mr. Patterson 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 accepts notification of grant award for IASA for FY 98 in the following amounts:

Title I	\$114,618
Title II	11,890
Title IV	19,291
Title VI	<u>15,610</u>
Total	\$161,409

MEMORIAL:Mrs. Theresia Lenyuk

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

WHEREAS, it is with a sense of deep sorrow and regret that the Nutley Board of Education records the death of Mrs. Theresia Lenyuk on September 25, 1997, and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Lenyuk had served the Nutley Public Schools as a buildings and grounds employee for eleven years prior to her retirement in 1986, and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Lenyuk won the respect of all those with whom she came in contact for her dedication to the Nutley School District,

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

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

Dr. Votto remarked that he was told that Mrs. Lenyuk was a very dedicated and committed employee who loved Franklin School. He added that she would be missed.

AGREEMENT WITH EDUCATION ASSOCIATION OF NUTLEY - 1997-2000:

Mr. Patterson presented and moved the adoption of the following resolution, seconded by Mrs. Fleitell:

BE IT RESOLVED, That the Board of Education approves the Memorandum of Agreement with the Education Association of Nutley encompassing the terms and conditions of employment for teachers and secretaries for the period July 1, 1997 through June 30, 2000.

Mr. Schweikert then made a motion to table the resolution until a decision is made as to how the job action taken by the Education Association of Nutley would be handled with respect to payment for club meetings which did not take place. He noted that he felt the Board should not proceed and the teachers should not get paid for these activities until this issue is decided since the students had suffered for a month and paying the teachers for non-existent club activities would be a disservice to the students and taxpayers.

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 recess to closed executive session at this time to discuss negotiations, 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. Patterson, seconded by Mrs. Russo and unanimously approved by the Board.

RECESS MEETING:

The meeting was recessed at 8:24 p.m.

RESUME MEETING:

The meeting resumed at 8:56 p.m.

Mr. Schweikert indicated that he would, with reservations, reluctantly withdraw his motion to table the resolution.

AGREEMENT WITH EDUCATION ASSOCIATION OF NUTLEY - 1997-2000:

Mr. Patterson presented and moved the adoption of the following resolution, seconded by Mrs. Fleitell. Upon being put to a roll call vote the resolution was adopted with Mrs. Fleitell, Mr. Patterson, Mr. Restaino, Mrs. Russo, Mr. Schweikert and Mr. Rusignuolo voting aye. Mr. Moscaritola, Mr. Pelaia and Mr. Williams abstained, explaining that they did so pursuant to law:

BE IT RESOLVED, That the Board of Education approves the Memorandum of Agreement with the Education Association of Nutley encompassing the terms and conditions of employment for teachers and secretaries for the period July 1, 1997 through June 30, 2000.

Mr. Schweikert stated that an abstention is a vote. Mr. Sincaglia responded that due to the School Ethics Law it is not a vote and he had discussed this situation with the Board attorney and her judgment was that this situation should be handled the same way as other matters requiring Board members to abstain.

Mrs. Russo noted that according to Board policy abstentions are "no" votes. Mr. Sincaglia responded that he did not agree with Mrs. Russo, noting that he had researched this issue very carefully. He further added that Board policies are out of date with respect to the Ethics Law. Mr. Sincaglia reiterated that the Board attorney had advised him that an abstention from voting was correct in this type of instance.

APPROVAL OF SALARY GUIDES - 1997 - 2000:

Mr. Restaino presented and moved the adoption of the following resolution, seconded by Mr. Patterson. Upon being put to a roll call vote the resolution was adopted with Mrs. Fleitell, Mr. Patterson, Mr. Restaino, Mrs. Russo, Mr. Schweikert and Mr. Rusignuolo voting aye. Mr. Moscaritola, Mr. Pelaia and Mr. Williams abstained, explaining that they were abstaining from voting pursuant to law:

BE IT RESOLVED, That the following salary guides be approved for the school years 1997/1998, 1998/1999 and 1999/2000:

Teachers	Schedules F-1, F-2, F-3
Secretaries	Schedules G-1, G-2, G-3

HEARING OF CITIZENS:

Mrs. Penny Harvey, 30 Columbia Avenue, mentioned that she had sent a letter to the Board regarding a situation with a student at Radcliffe School and asked what would be done about it. She added that the school principal had called her today and she felt threatened by what she had been told. Dr. Votto responded that he is not allowed to discuss this in public but would speak with her tomorrow.

Mrs. Barbara Bochese, 50 Cedar Street, discussed her concerns with regard to the Quality Assurance Annual Report (QAAR) with a performance level for children mentioned at 70%. She asked if the district is asking the children to work harder or will they work to the 70%. She added that her concern is that we are not asking our children to achieve beyond what we expect from them. Mrs. Bochese further noted that Mrs. Serafino feels that Radcliffe School can work at 80% and asked why one elementary school would be treated differently than the other four.

With regard to community and parent involvement mentioned in the QAAR, Mrs. Bochese asked how the extended day program could be included when it is no longer run by the district but by the town. She also mentioned that the Board's community survey was not a valid research survey and was open ended. Mrs. Bochese asked who tabulated the survey.

Mrs. Bochese also noted that the district has a school-based planning team comprised of students, parents and principals and one of the parents is the secretary to a school. She indicated that she had never been asked to be involved in the school-based planning team, adding that if the parents are hand selected, the answers will also be hand selected. Mrs. Bochese further stated that as a parent and community member she has some grave concerns about this report.

Dr. Votto replied that the 70% of students indicated in the report is culled directly from the State Department of Education model, and as can be seen from the results of the preceding year, our youngsters scored much higher - most in the 90th percentile, adding that if the district does not meet the standard the state must be shown why not.

Dr. Votto noted that, with regard to the school-based planning teams, they do meet with a great degree of regularity. He further noted that with respect to the community survey, the narrative points out that there were nearly 900 responses and the survey was mailed to almost every household in the district. He noted that about 8% responded to the survey and the results of the survey were tallied in house. Dr. Votto also stated that the results have been made available to the public and he offered to elaborate on this subject next week with Mrs. Bochese if she so desired. Mrs. Bochese suggested that in the future the entire parent population be involved as the district could be brought other ideas by parents, adding that the district is keeping itself completely away from the parent population.

Dr. Votto indicated that the mention of the extended day program refers to last year's activities during which they used our facilities. Mrs. Russo commented that at the time the school level objectives were presented to this Board we did agree that we would try to make school-level planning teams more broad based.

OLD BUSINESS:

Mr. Williams commented that his family had recently suffered a terrible loss with the death of his son-in-law compounded by the fact that his daughter was expecting triplets. He expressed the deep appreciation of his daughter and himself to Board members, administration, staff, PTOs and the community for the kind words, deeds, support and prayers.

Mr. Williams noted that it is a sad time only to be eased with the passing of time, adding that last week his daughter gave birth to his three newest grandchildren. He further said that the family will start anew but it will be easier because of having a community such as this. He again thanked everyone.

Mrs. Russo requested that she be given a copy of the report prepared by the company approved to do a comprehensive survey on technology. Mr. Williams remarked that the next meeting of the Technology Committee would take place on November 8 at which time the full committee will finalize its report and Mrs. Russo's receiving it beforehand may be premature. Mrs. Russo responded that she is referring to the report to be prepared by the company, not the committee, adding that she would like to see that report before the Technology Committee report. Mr. Williams indicated that the report will describe the lay out and physical make up of this plan and many other elements will be added.

Mr. Sincaglia noted that he and Mrs. Serafino and, upon occasion, Mr. Williams have met a number of times with ProMedia and they will present a plan to move the district onto the Internet including the infrastructure needed. He indicated that this is very complicated and without the company to explain things, it will be almost meaningless to someone other than a technical expert. Mr. Sincaglia stated that ProMedia would meet with us on November 10 and if Mrs. Russo does not hear the big picture from them it will not be meaningful. He added that they developed a physical plan for us. Mrs. Russo repeated that she would still like to receive a copy of this information. Dr. Votto noted that he would see that she receives a copy.

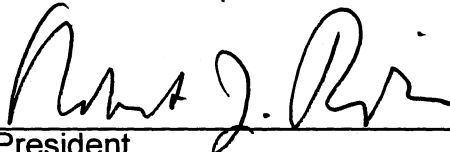
Mrs. Russo asked for the complete breakdown with regard to the community survey. Dr. Votto remarked that everything in the narrative was culled from the data.

NEW BUSINESS:


None

ADJOURNMENT:


There being no further business to come before the Board, on motion made by Mrs. Fleitell, seconded by Mr. Moscaritola, the meeting was adjourned at 9:18 p.m.



President



Secretary



Date