

Board of Education
Nutley, New Jersey

February 23, 1998

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 23, 1998 at 8:00 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), 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."

FLAG SALUTE:

The meeting was opened with Mrs. Fleitell 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: Mrs. Michele Fleitell, Mr. Vincent Moscaritola, Mr. Joseph C. Pelaia, Mr. Alfred R. Restaino, Jr., Mrs. Maria Russo, Mr. Robert Schweikert, Jr. and Mr. Louis F. Williams. Absent: Mr. Franklin J. Patterson. Approximately 125 citizens were present.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Copies of the minutes of the Regular Meeting held on January 26, 1998 at 8:00 p.m. being in the hands of each member, reading of same was dispensed. Mr. Williams moved that the minutes be approved, seconded by Mr. Pelaia and unanimously approved by the Board.

Copies of the minutes of the Special Meeting held on February 9, 1998 at 7:00 p.m. being in the hands of each member, reading of same was dispensed. Mr. Williams moved that the minutes be approved, seconded by Mr. Pelaia and unanimously approved by the Board.

PRESENTATION OF AWARDS:

Dr. Votto remarked that Edward J. Bloustein Distinguished Scholars, National Merit Commended Students and National Merit Semifinalists would be recognized this evening for their outstanding performance. He noted that these students, in addition to extraordinary test results on the PSAT, have maintained excellent grades and rank all through Nutley High School and are being accepted to the finest colleges and universities in the country. Dr. Votto congratulated the students and their families for such prideful accomplishments, adding that he looks for their continued success as Nutley has a rich tradition whereby many students preceding these here tonight have gone on to do excellent work in colleges, universities and beyond. He then introduced Mr. Mario Cocchiola, principal of Nutley High School.

Mr. Cocchiola indicated that it is always a pleasure to honor Nutley High School students. He thanked and commended the Board of Education for putting time and effort into this program and he congratulated the students being honored this evening as well as their parents. He wished the students well, adding that he expects the best from them in the future.

Ms. Judith Hubert, Coordinator of Guidance, explained that the Edward J. Bloustein Distinguished Scholars are sponsored by the State of New Jersey and must be in the top 10% of their class with a minimum combined SAT of 1260 or have a class rank of 1, 2 or 3 at the end of their junior year, noting that their average SAT score on the verbal portion is 666 and on the math portion is 683. Ms. Hubert stated that she is proud to honor 18 Nutley High School students who have qualified for this selective award. She congratulated the students on their accomplishments.

Mrs. Fleitell and Mr. Cocchiola presented awards to the following Edward J. Bloustein Distinguished Scholars:

Catherine Bonchonsky	Erin Kahn
Antony Chou	Reshma Mehta
Jason Cofone	Jing-Yu Pan
Rachel Dragos	David Pisciotta
Deana Ferreri	Joanna Ray
Christina Graff	Jamie Rusignuolo
Don Hsiao	Mauro Tucci
Kevin Jackson	Kathy Vernovsky
Jennifer Jinks	Karen Wovkulich

Ms. Hubert noted that the National Merit Commended Students are determined by a nonprofit organization operating without government funding. She noted that more than 1.1 million high school juniors took the PSAT in October 1997 on a national level and to be designated Commended Students must score at or above the 96th percentile. Ms. Hubert further indicated that approximately 35,000 students throughout the country receive this award.

Mrs. Russo and Mr. Cocchiola presented awards to the following National Merit Commended Students:

Jason Cofone
Christina Graff
Eirik Gumeny
Jennifer Jinks

Jing-Yu Pan
David Pisciotta
Joanna Ray
Carla Schubach

Ms. Hubert explained that to be a National Merit Semifinalist one must score in the top 1% of 1.1 million students, adding that 15,000 students nationwide will receive this award this year.

Mr. Williams and Mr. Cocchiola presented awards to the following National Merit Semifinalists:

Reshma Mehta
Mauro Tucci

Ms. Hubert announced that information was received today that both students who were semifinalists are now finalists and will be going into scholarship competitions. Ms. Hubert then congratulated all award recipients on behalf of the Board, administration and high school staff.

Mr. Rusignuolo congratulated all the students on their hard work and efforts as well as their parents for their love, concern and support over the years. He also thanked Mr. Cocchiola and Ms. Hubert for their participation.

Mr. Cocchiola noted that for the first time four Nutley High School students and two alternates would be participating in an academic competition next week, explaining that it is a state-wide competition whose winners can go on to a nationwide competition. Mr. Cocchiola added that he wished the students well.

RECESS MEETING:

Mr. Rusignuolo called a recess at 8:15 p.m.

RESUME MEETING:

The meeting resumed at 8:20 p.m.

COMMUNICATIONS:

Mr. Sincaglia presented and read the following communications:

1. A thank-you note from Beverly Masullo for the Board's expression of sympathy upon the death of her father.
2. Resolutions from the Borough of Palisades Park and the City of Corbin City endorsing Assembly Bill No. 3211 and Senate Bill No. 2243 regarding a supplemental appropriation of \$17.3 million to restore stabilization aid.

Mr. Sincaglia explained that Nutley would be one of the districts affected but he did not foresee much chance of the bills' passage.

3. A notice from the Essex County School Boards Association regarding a School Boards Candidates' Briefing to be held on March 10 at the West Essex Junior High School in North Caldwell.
4. A notice from the Essex County School Boards Association regarding a General Dinner Meeting to be held on February 26.
5. A memorandum from the Essex County Educational Services Commission whereby the regularly scheduled meeting to be held on February 26 has been changed to February 25.
6. A memorandum to School Board Presidents from the Roxbury and Randolph Boards of Education regarding holding a state-wide strategy session on March 5 concerning state aid.

SECRETARY'S REPORT:

Mr. Sincaglia presented the Report of the Secretary as of January 31, 1998. (See attached report.)

Mrs. Fleitell moved that the Board accept the Report of the Secretary, seconded by Mr. Pelaia. 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, 1998. (See attached report.)

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

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT:

Dr. Votto presented and read the following report:

"Informational Items:

"Second quarter report cards were distributed on Friday, January 30, 1998

"Grade 8 Early Warning Test (EWT)

Reading - March 10

Math - March 11

Writing - March 12

"ABC History Fair - Saturday, March 21
Washington School"

Dr. Votto noted that this promises to be a wonderful ABC offering and he thanked them for their interest in the schools and student body.

"Attached is the student enrollment chart as of January 30, 1998"

FIRE DRILL REPORT:

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

Jan.	5	Yantacaw School	2:40 p.m.	1 min. 20 secs.
Jan.	6	Lincoln School	2:00 p.m.	1 min. 35 secs.
Jan.	8	Washington School	2:31 p.m.	1 min. 17 secs.
Jan.	9	Franklin School	2:10 p.m.	1 min. 50 secs.
Jan.	9	Lincoln School	10:15 a.m.	1 min. 42 secs.
Jan.	9	Nutley High School	1:57 p.m.	1 min. 50 secs.
Jan.	9	Yantacaw School	9:06 a.m.	1 min. 40 secs.
Jan.	12	Spring Garden School	10:47 a.m.	1 min. 25 secs.
Jan.	14	Radcliffe School	12:41 p.m.	1 min. 27 secs.
Jan.	20	Franklin School	1:30 p.m.	1 min. 43 secs.
Jan.	20	Radcliffe School	2:32 p.m.	1 min. 20 secs.
Jan.	21	Washington School	8:33 a.m.	1 min. 18 secs.
Jan.	22	Spring Garden School	8:38 a.m.	1 min. 20 secs.
Jan.	27	Nutley High School	10:07 a.m.	2 min. 2 secs.

CAFETERIA REPORT:

Mr. Pelaia presented the cafeteria report as of January 31, 1998 showing a 1997/1998 budget of \$611,977.00, contractual orders to date of \$332,500.31, leaving funds available of \$279,476.69.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Mr. Williams, Chairman of the Budget Review Committee, noted that the Committee met last Thursday to go over the tentative budget for the 1998-99 school year and it is being presented to the Board tonight. He noted that the tentative budget shows an increase of 1.85% over last year and includes the addition of several new positions, those being elementary guidance counselor, computer network technician, computer support teacher, physical education teacher and Special Education inclusion aide. Also added for next year are lacrosse, girls softball and winter color guard. He noted that also included is the completion of computer wiring for the high school and middle school. He indicated that state aid is not significant. Mr. Williams stated that the impact of the budget on the local tax levy will be in the range of 6-7 tax points. On a \$50,000 assessed home there will be an additional \$35 in taxes for 1998.

Mr. Rusignuolo thanked Mr. Williams and the members of the Committee for the work they had done. He also thanked Dr. Votto and Mr. Sincaglia for their contributions. He remarked that the increase in taxes due to the school budget over the past two years was minimal.

Mrs. Fleitell, for the edification of citizens who had just entered the room, reiterated the remarks made by Ms. Hubert relating to the qualifications needed to be named to the various categories of awards presented 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 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 January 31, 1998, 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 Mrs. Fleitell. 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 \$3,265,096.73 as per the attached Schedule A which have been audited by the Business Office.

REQUESTS FOR USE OF SCHOOL BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS:

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 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.

Mrs. Russo mentioned that the date of the History Fair was listed on Schedule B as March 14 and this should be changed to reflect the new date of March 21.

RETIREMENT - Teacher:Mrs. Gloria Zitman

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. Gloria Zitman, teacher, effective July 1, 1998.

RETIREMENT - Maintenance:Mr. Joseph Pojedinec

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 Mr. Joseph Pojedinec, maintenance employee, effective July 1, 1998.

RESIGNATION - Secretary:Mrs. Theresa Cucinello

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 resignation of Mrs. Theresa Cucinello, secretary, effective June 1, 1998.

APPOINTMENT - Athletic:Mr. Michael Christadore

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 Mr. Michael Christadore as assistant baseball coach for the 1997/1998 school year at the salary of \$4,015, Step 4, in accordance with the 1997/1998 Athletic 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:

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

BE IT RESOLVED, That the following substitutes be approved for the 1997/1998 school year:

Secretarial/Clerical Aide

Leesa Hagen

Aide/Cafeteria

Lani Restaino

Aide

Kristen Battaglia
Angela Serio

Custodial

Christopher Jacobs
Vincent Stevens

Bus Aide

Angela Serio

Cafeteria

Claire Kalooky

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 MeetingsArt K-12 - January 10, 1998

Robyn Burns	\$123.88
Mario Cocchiola	165.80
Carl Ohlson	161.08
Hillary Hill Trovato	123.88
Mary A. Pagana	<u>123.88</u>

Total	\$698.52
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Mathematics K-8 - January 10, 1998

Rita Alfaro	\$ 123.88
Ann Bevere	123.88
Lori Ann Cassie	123.88
Denise Cleary	123.88
Rosemary Clerico	123.88
Carmine D'Aloia	165.80
Linda Gilroy	123.88
Scott Keena	123.88
Laura-anne MacMillan	123.88
Eileen Mattone	123.88
Walter Murray	123.88
Jennifer Neri	123.88
Mary Peele	123.88
Gail Reilly	123.88
Kathleen C. Serafino	165.80
Nancy Szura	<u>123.88</u>

Total	\$2,065.92
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Science K-8 - January 10, 1998

Pamela Batchelder-Mitchell	\$ 123.88
Donald Baumann	123.88
Elizabeth Foote	123.88
Carol Gurney	123.88
Geraldine Intiso	123.88
Patricia Isabella	123.88
Tracy McCormick	123.88
Rebecca Olivo	123.88
Becky Pandolfi	123.88
Carol Perrone	123.88
Sally Ann Marino Ryder	123.88
Deborah Schop	<u>123.88</u>

Total	\$1,486.56
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K-12 Music Education - January 10, 1998

Carol Bender	\$123.88
John Calicchio	186.52
Peter D'Angelo	123.88
Dennis McPartland	123.88
Julianne Philp	123.88
Jonathan Schubert	123.88
James Vivinetto	<u>165.80</u>

Total	\$971.72
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Language Arts K-8 - January 29, 1998

Lucy Anello	\$ 46.63
Marilyn Hannon	46.46

Language Arts K-8 - January 29, 1998 (contd.)

Gail Kahn	\$ 46.46
Joan Lightfoot	46.46
Beverly Masullo	46.46
Gail Reilly	46.46
Bernadette Santoriello	46.46
Susan Tole	<u>46.46</u>

Total	\$371.85
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P.A.T. (Primary Academic Talent) - January 14, 1998

Christine Crisson	\$ 46.46
Suzanne Hagert	46.46
Rebecca Olivo	46.46
Niki Vlasakakis	46.46
Carol Von Achen	<u>46.46</u>

Total	\$232.30
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Central Detention Coverage - January, 1998High School

Nicole Errante	\$ 16.79
Carol Shepherd	251.85

Franklin School

Donald Baumann	67.16
Patrick Keating	117.53
Christopher Masullo	33.58
Alisa Rossi	<u>67.16</u>

Total	\$554.07
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Saturday Morning Suspensions - January, 1998High School

Lisa Santosuosso	\$140.34
Carol Shepherd	<u>70.17</u>

Total	\$210.51
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SAT Administration

Jodi Piro	\$92.91
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Mathcounts Competition, New Jersey Institute of Technology - February 7, 1998, 6-1/2 Hours

Evelyn McMullen	\$201.31
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Intramurals - January 5-January 30, 1998

LoriAnn Cassie	\$ 96.04
William Farkas	48.02
Kenneth Ferriol	168.07
Thomas Grant	264.11
Daniel Kimberley	192.08
Rosann Rizzuto	96.04
Walter Sautter	48.02
Janice Schoem	96.04
Diane Williams	<u>360.15</u>

Total \$1,368.57

LONGEVITY PAY:

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 longevity payments be authorized:

Justina Bruno	\$1,160	Eff. March 1, 1998 (20 years)
Deborah Schop	560	Eff. March 1, 1998 (15 years)
Albert Thibault	277	Eff. March 1, 1998 (12 years)

TUITION REIMBURSEMENT:

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

<u>Name</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Catherine Danchak	\$ 450
Mariana Francioso	420
Judith Story	420
Sherrie Tolve	420
Lawrence Tuorto	<u>420</u>

Total \$2,130

SPECIAL CLASS PLACEMENT - Educationally Disabled Students:

Mr. Restaino 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 authorizes the attendance of students at Special Education classes for the 1997/1998 school year as follows:

<u>School</u>	<u>No. of Students</u>	<u>Classification</u>	<u>Effective Date</u>	<u>Tuition</u>
ECLC of Chatham Chatham, NJ	1	MH	2/ 2/98	\$10,890.00
Chancellor Academy Pompton Plains, NJ	1	ED	2/23/98	\$10,508.00
Sawtelle Learning Center Montclair, NJ	* 1	TMR	2/23/98	\$ 6,997.39

*NOTE: This is a change of placement for this student.

PLACEMENT OF OUT-OF-DISTRICT SPECIAL EDUCATION STUDENTS:

Mr. Schweikert presented and moved the adoption of the following resolution, seconded by Mr. Restaino. 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>
South Orange/ Maplewood	1	MRE	Lincoln	12/16/97
Irvington	2	PI	Spring Garden	2/23/98
Belleville	1	PI	Franklin	2/24/98

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

Mr. Schweikert presented and moved the adoption of the following resolution, seconded by Mr. Restaino. 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 1998/1999 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. Russo 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 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 1998/1999 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:

Mrs. Russo 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 transfers in the 1997/1998 General Fund budget be confirmed as follows:

<u>From</u>		<u>To</u>	
Account 11-130-100-101	\$ 19,150	Account 11-204-100-101	\$ 800
Account 11-190-100-610	25,000	Account 11-204-100-106	400
Account 11-999-100-566	19,000	Account 11-230-100-101	3,000
Account 11-999-291-241	62,146	Account 11-240-100-101	2,000
Account 11-999-230-590	3,854	Account 11-999-100-562	9,000
Surplus	<u>165,000</u>	Account 11-999-221-500	100
		Account 11-999-230-340	6,000
	\$294,150	Account 12-999-240-730	1,950
		Account 12-999-290-730	57,600
		Account 12-999-400-450	<u>213,300</u>
			\$294,150

February 23, 1998

**APPROVAL OF SUBMISSION OF APPLICATION - Technology Literacy
Challenge Fund - Round II:**

Mrs. Russo 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 the Board of Education approves submission of application for the Technology Literacy Challenge Fund - Round II in the amount of \$95,000.

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

Mrs. Russo 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 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
Computer Networking	Equipment
Computer Hardware Maintenance	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 and Windows	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	School Furniture
Ventilating Equipment	Auditorium Seating
Floor Repair and Floor Tile	Paint
Installation	Stage Drapery
Carpeting	Photocopiers

ADOPTION OF 1998/1999 TENTATIVE BUDGET:

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 Board of Education hereby adopts a tentative budget for the 1998/1999 school year in the amount of:

General Fund	\$33,348,765
Special Revenue Fund	811,549
Debt Service	<u>178,355</u>
Total Budget	\$34,338,669 of which

the following amount shall be raised by local tax levy:

General Fund	\$29,515,875
Debt Service	<u>163,331</u>
Total	\$29,679,206

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 the Board also requests approval of the statutory Growth Limitation Adjustment for changes in enrollment in the amount of \$129,028 plus Special Education costs in excess of \$40,000 in the amount of \$10,381, in accordance with the Comprehensive Educational Improvement and Financing Act of 1996, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That upon receiving the approval of the County Superintendent, the Secretary be authorized to publish the 1998/1999 budget in The Nutley Sun.

ESTABLISH DATE FOR PUBLIC HEARING ON 1998/1999 SCHOOL DISTRICT BUDGET:

Mr. Williams 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 the Public Hearing on the 1998/1999 budget be held on Monday, March 23, 1998 at 7:00 p.m.

Mr. Williams moved that the Special Board Meeting scheduled for Tuesday, February 24, 1998 be cancelled since it is no longer necessary, seconded by Mr. Pelaia and unanimously approved by the Board.

HEARING OF CITIZENS:

Mrs. Joan Rubino, 48 North Road, questioned what salary was proposed for the new position of Computer Network Technician, to which Mr. Sincaglia replied that it was budgeted in the mid-\$50,000, adding that the salary actually paid will be guided by the person's experience. Mr. Sincaglia also added that the computer network will not be able to operate without this position. Mrs. Rubino then asked why the minimum education requirement is a high school diploma. Dr. Votto remarked that many of the most high-powered technicians today have not gone to college. He noted that we are looking for maximum qualifications and we will see what the market will bear. Mrs. Rubino asked if Mrs. Serafino's computer position would be eliminated. Mr. Sincaglia replied in the negative, adding that Mrs. Serafino's job is not technical in nature. He noted that the technician will make sure the network is operating.

Mrs. Rubino quoted from the minutes of last month's Board meeting with regard to what Mr. SanFillipo had done for the \$1500 he had earned for five days' work during the summer relating to the intramurals program and asked for clarification as to why this work had to take place during the summer. Dr. Votto responded that Mr. SanFillipo met with those people involved in the intramurals program subsequent to his school year as a teacher and most of the meetings had taken place after the contractual year was over. Mrs. Rubino expressed her opinion that she felt the work could be done during the regular school year since Mr. SanFillipo only teaches three periods per day and is basically free from April to June. Mrs. Rubino urged the Board to reconsider and eliminate these five days.

Mrs. Ann Perrone, 48 South Spring Garden Avenue, noted that at the last Board meeting she had distributed a three-page paper on the need for an interscholastic ice hockey program at the high school and following that meeting was invited to meet with Mr. Cocchiola and Mr. Affinito. At that meeting she had presented them with her proposed budget. With regard to the number of people in attendance tonight, Mrs. Perrone indicated that she had wanted to show the Board the support in the community for an ice hockey program. She noted that there is a nice cross section present this evening from first grade to high school students who do play ice hockey at community arenas.

Mrs. Perrone indicated that she is hopeful that in March there will be a meeting with the Athletic Committee to review her proposed budget to see how this could be worked into the athletic program at the high school. Mr. Pelaia thanked everyone for coming to the meeting this evening. He asked Mrs. Perrone to remain after the meeting to schedule a date for the meeting with the Athletic Committee.

Dr. Steven Greco, 248 Vreeland Avenue, asked if Board members have access to personnel files, to which Dr. Votto replied in the negative, adding that in matters of retention or dismissal they might have access and possibly with a reprimand. Dr. Greco then asked who has access, to which Dr. Votto replied the administration and Board members when appropriate. Dr. Greco asked who would write a letter of reprimand, to which Dr. Votto replied the immediate supervisor and if a coach was involved, the Athletic Director.

Dr. Votto then explained that reprimands can be written or oral and can remain in the file in perpetuity or can be removed in an agreed-upon time period. Dr. Greco asked if there is any formula or policy dealing with reprimands. Dr. Votto responded that it depends on the type of reprimand but there is no set number or time table, but there is a notion of increasing discipline which depends on the seriousness of the infraction. Dr. Greco asked if whatever is in writing regarding reprimands in general would be available to the public, to which Dr. Votto replied in the affirmative.

Mrs. Chris Grillo, 203 Satterthwaite Avenue, thanked the Board for taking the time to study the ice hockey issue, adding that it is nice to be a taxpayer and see how open and receptive the Board is being and she added that the interest in ice hockey is there.

Mr. Chris Moore, 194 Hillside Avenue, spoke in support of having an ice hockey program in Nutley since a school-based team is needed for its advantages in assisting students in admission to colleges. Mrs. Fleitell noted that in addition to what was said, she feels the time is good and there is a commitment from the Board that a meeting will be held between the interested hockey people and the Athletic Committee. She added that the Board wants to keep the children in town.

Mr. Cory Slicklen, 36 Hampton Place, remarked that after having attended Board meetings for several years with regard to the lacrosse program he thinks it would be best for the people to be a little patient but to keep plugging along.

Mr. Anthony Pergola, 102 Hawthorne Avenue, mentioned that he had been patient for a couple of years but the Board can see the interest here tonight. He asked how long a time period the Board is talking about. Mr. Rusignuolo noted that the Board is consumed with a number of other issues and is doing the best it can, adding that people are concerned about the cost of things. Mr. Rusignuolo noted that the Board is trying to juggle academics, sports and success in other ways with a budget that is fiscally responsible and is doing the best it can.

Mr. Pelaia noted that he would like the record to reflect that the Athletic Committee wanted to meet with Mrs. Perrone long before this evening and this was set up a few weeks ago and we are just getting the date in place.

Mrs. Perrone stated that the attendance of the people interested in ice hockey is not a show of force; the people are here because no one can see how many children play ice hockey because it is not done through the Recreation Department and they wanted the Board to see how many people are interested.

Dr. Greco remarked that he would bet that at this same time next year the people will be coming for the same purpose and where does that leave the children who miss this opportunity. He noted that it behooves those who represent the public to look into things such as this. Dr. Greco further added that, in his opinion, the Board is spending over \$115,000 for the Assistant Superintendent's position which he feels is not necessary

and some of that money could go towards an ice hockey program. He further added that athletics is one of the most important things to help a student get into college and the students must be given every opportunity.

Mr. Horst Wiedersich, 52 Oak Street, noted that the budget for extra-curricular activities for sports is about \$600,000 but for academics is about \$125,000, adding that he would like to remind the Board what its mandate is.

Mrs. Russo stated that she has been doing research regarding this matter even though she is not a member of the Athletic Committee and it is her understanding that playing as a club team would entail a lot of fiscal responsibility for the parents but if it is a high school program the money will have to go into the budget and she does not know where the Board would find the \$40,000 - \$60,000 to have a high school team. She further remarked that if we as a Board feel the club team can come to fruition, then we as a Board have to commit to it.

Mr. Pelaia stated that, as presented by Mrs. Perrone, there was discussion about the Board accepting money as a gift and Board policy is that we would accept gifts of money for an appropriate purpose and it could be dedicated funds. He also noted that ice hockey could then be part of the high school program but would be funded through a dedicated program by the parents.

Mr. Rusignuolo remarked that there is a meeting scheduled with the Athletic Committee, people from the high school and the club. Mrs. Russo commented that she would like to see that happen as a town sport.

Mrs. Susan Justice, 13 Race Street, noted that there is an after-school program funded by the parents so the parents can look into the future towards a high school ice hockey program. She asked what is the next step, to which Mr. Rusignuolo replied that a meeting has been scheduled.

Mr. Pelaia noted that the Athletic Committee will make a report to the full Board and then, hopefully, this can be acted upon.

Mrs. Rubino indicated that she has no objections to fund raising but does object to donations. She expressed her feeling that a lot of money could be trimmed from the school budget giving the example that the administrators all receive a minimum salary of \$75,000 - \$80,000 per year but the district pays a portion of their professional dues in the total amount of approximately \$14,000 and over \$800 per month is spent on principals who attend Saturday curriculum programs. She noted that the district could save thousands of dollars per year just on that one item, adding that the administrators can afford to pay their own professional dues and work on a Saturday without receiving any pay.

Mrs. Justice remarked that the teachers are doing a wonderful job.

Mr. Pergola commented that he had previously brought up the idea of club possibilities and the program being supported by the parents and had only asked for the Board's blessing and its insurance. He questioned why he had been raising the issue for three years with no success and then people come for the first time and the Board says it will look into the matter.

Mr. Rusignuolo repeated that he had said there would be a meeting and this will be discussed by the appropriate parties. Mr. Pelaia remarked that Mr. Pergola had met with Mr. Affinito and Mr. Cocchiola several months ago and the discussion was reported to the Athletic Committee. He noted that Mr. Pergola was to present a proposal as to how the money would be raised and there is a copy of Mr. Cocchiola's letter to Mr. Pergola but no response was ever received from Mr. Pergola.

Dr. Greco asked why the district could not have volunteer coaches, especially assistant coaches. Dr. Votto replied that the Board and administration were never impressed with that idea. Mr. Schweikert noted that the suggestion was brought up at an Athletic Committee meeting but there were concerns with reliability of volunteers since they are not under contract.

Mr. Steve Danieli, 50 Cedar Street, remarked that statistically, 95% of the students playing hockey in high school do not play hockey in college and the high school experience is as much as some children will receive.

Mrs. Theresa Pascale, 86 Stager Street, noted that any kind of sport helps a student maintain good grades and keeps a student focused.

Mr. Wiedersich asked the status on the hiring of a new Superintendent and asked if the public will be invited to participate. Mr. Rusignuolo replied that there will be some different forums with one for the public to take place on March 5 at 7:30 p.m. in the Franklin School auditorium which will be run by the New Jersey School Boards Association (NJSBA) consultants and at which any interested community members can discuss what they feel is important in the next Superintendent.

Mrs. Russo mentioned that the Board has contracted with the NJSBA to assist in the search for a new Superintendent and three meetings have been held thus far. She noted that NJSBA has sent the Board a composite of the opinions given by the Board on what is wanted in a new Superintendent and she feels a copy of this composite should be available at the various schools so the parents are aware of what the Board has looked at and what the Board feels is necessary in a new Superintendent.

Mr. Rusignuolo indicated that the Board has hired the NJSBA and they will conduct the different forums, adding that certainly, input from the Board is welcome.

Mrs. Fleitell stated that her understanding was that the public would give their opinions and ideas and what they would like to see in a Superintendent regardless of what the Board feels. Mr. Williams remarked that he would rather see the public acting independently of the Board and would like to see the public's input come in cold rather than be influenced by anyone on this Board. Mr. Rusignuolo commented that the NJSBA has a game plan and they are advising the Board as to the process.

Mrs. Kathy Rempusheski, 525 Kingsland Street, noted that she feels the public should be involved and should voice their opinions, adding that as a taxpayer and voter she would like to know how the Board feels on this subject.

Mrs. Perrone indicated, with regard to an ice hockey program, that she never intended it to be 100% pay for play over the next 20 years, adding that other districts started out as play for pay with fund raising being involved. She further noted that they want the program to survive.

Mrs. Russo noted that Mrs. Fleitell and Mr. Williams did not agree with her plan for sharing information on the basic qualities that are looked for in the new Superintendent and in her opinion this would open a door whereby there would not be repetition; the public would come in and enhance certain areas.

Mr. Schweikert commented that one of the issues the Board was trying to get across was they wanted ideas from the public, not by giving the Board's ideas to the public. He added that he feels the sessions should be done independently of each other.

Mr. Rusignuolo noted that what the Board did is a matter of public record and is available to the public. Mr. Pelaia stated that he agrees with Mr. Schweikert that the sessions should be kept independent.

Mr. Pergola commented that he felt the person most qualified to be Superintendent is Mr. Walker.

Mr. Wiedersich noted that Roxbury hired a new Superintendent and the Board held a public meeting at which they introduced the two finalists, and he asked if the Board would consider such a thing. Mr. Rusignuolo replied that all options are being considered at this point.

Mr. Moore remarked that almost every person playing hockey has his/her own equipment.

Mrs. Karen Wlosek, 422 Bloomfield Avenue, commended the Board for the long hours they are spending looking for a new Superintendent, adding that she feels the papers should be available to the public after the meetings have been held.

Mr. Bob Nelson, 94 Mapes Avenue, indicated that he is the president of Nutley Roller Hockey and concurred that the children have the equipment, adding that 25-30% of the roller hockey players also play ice hockey and they are spending the money on equipment and ice time. He suggested putting them into a Nutley program and then they could play for Nutley, adding that it is worthwhile to look into this.

Mr. Rusignuolo replied that the comments are very well taken and appreciated by the Board, repeating that a meeting is scheduled to be held with the Athletic Committee.

Mr. Wiedersich asked if the results of the community survey taken several months ago regarding the opinions of the school system had been publicized as of yet, to which Dr. Votto replied that it is still being worked on.

OLD BUSINESS:

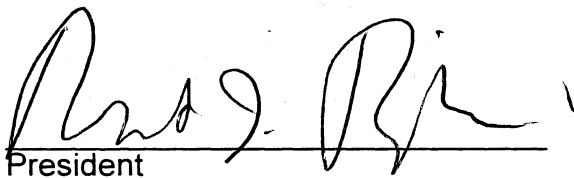
None

NEW BUSINESS:

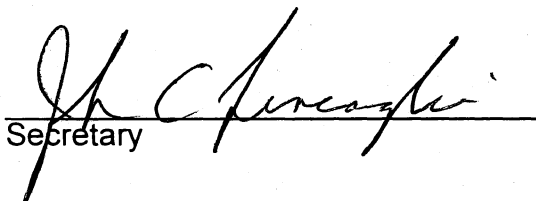
None

ADJOURNMENT:

There being no further business to come before the Board, on motion made by Mr. Pelaia, seconded by Mr. Moscaritola, the meeting was adjourned at 9:28 p.m.



President



Secretary

March 23, 1998

Date