

Board of Education
Nutley, New Jersey

March 23, 1998

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 23, 1998 at 7:08 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 27, 1998. Said Notice was:

1. Published in The Nutley Sun on March 19, 1998.
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 1998-99 school budget.
2. Adopt the 1998-99 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. Rusignuolo 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. Franklin J. Patterson, Mr. Joseph C. Pelaia, Mr. Alfred R. Restaino, Jr., Mrs. Maria Russo and Mr. Robert Schweikert, Jr. Absent: Mr. Louis F. Williams. Approximately 50 citizens were present.

PRESENTATION OF 1998/1999 BUDGET:

Mr. Rusignuolo commented that he was extremely proud to present this year's proposed budget which represents the lowest tax impact on the community in more than 20 years and has been accomplished with continued success in all academic indicators. He thanked Dr. Votto, Mr. Sincaglia and Mr. Williams, Chairman of the Budget Review Committee, for all their hard work.

Dr. Votto remarked that he was proud of what is being presented this evening and he asked Mr. Moscaritola to say a few words in the absence of Mr. Williams.

Mr. Moscaritola stated that on behalf of Mr. Williams and the Budget Review Committee, he feels an excellent job has been done in putting the budget together with the assistance of Dr. Votto, Mr. Walker and Mr. Sincaglia, the staff, both professional and non-professional and administrators, and he thanked everyone involved for their assistance.

Mr. Sincaglia noted that this budget will have the best tax impact in over 20 years and the 1998-99 budget will be the second consecutive budget showing an increase of under 2%, adding that last year the increase was .73% which was significantly aided by a sharp decrease in health insurance costs. He indicated that the increase this year is 1.85% which will have a desirable effect on the local tax rate which will go up by just over 1%, explaining that it is the lowest percent and cents increase in the 80s and 90s.

Mr. Sincaglia mentioned that new things have been added to this budget, all of which will benefit the student body. He explained that a technology plan was approved by the Board and accepted by the state whereby all the schools will be wired for the computer network, adding that this work began this year. He noted that the elementary libraries have been wired as well as the first and second floors of Franklin School, most of the annex, main office wing, science wing and music wing of the high school. Mr. Sincaglia noted that E-rate applications have been submitted and we hope to receive our share and, hopefully, will complete the hook up before the end of this year and be operational before the school year ends.

Mr. Sincaglia further noted that for next year funds will be provided to complete the wiring for the rest of the middle school and high school and all rooms and offices will be wired by next year. He indicated that 67 computers will be purchased next year, 60 of which will be for use of students, teachers and guidance personnel. He indicated that there will be high-speed access to the Internet through a wide area network, adding that if the Technology Literacy Grant is approved, fifth and sixth grade classrooms can be added. He noted that this would be a nice enhancement for elementary schools.

Mr. Sincaglia mentioned that two new positions had to be established; one is a computer support teacher who will deal primarily with elementary schools in demonstrating how to make the best and most productive use of new technology and will also work with teachers to show fascinating ways to get computers into the curriculum and this

is a skill that needs to be learned. He continued by noting that a network technician will also be hired to manage the computer network, adding that this is very complex and we need someone with a lot of technical expertise to minimize down time. Mr. Sincaglia noted that this will be a critical position and it is absolutely necessary to have that type of person.

Mr. Sincaglia also stated that we will have an elementary guidance counselor, noting that the professional staff is very pleased that this will become a reality. He indicated that the substance awareness coordinator's position will be maintained as will full-time nurses in every elementary school. He also noted that class enrollments require another physical education teacher and an inclusion aide for Special Education purposes, doing one-to-one work with a student.

Mr. Sincaglia remarked that with regard to extra-curricular activities the Board has decided to field a lacrosse team next year on the j.v. level and a freshman softball team will start next week and will be included for next year. He indicated that the Board will also fund a program known as winter color guard which will allow students to continue in that activity after football season has ended.

Mr. Sincaglia indicated that two new school buses will be purchased to replace those with excessive mileage. He also noted that suspended ceilings will be installed which will provide better lighting and less energy use and this will also make it easier to wire computers; there will be roofing work at the Washington School and high school; some fire doors will be replaced at several schools and windows will be replaced at Franklin and Yantacaw Schools and anything going on now will be maintained.

Mr. Sincaglia then reviewed the budget booklet, noting that the main source for funds is local taxes since state aid still pays for only a small amount of our cost - a little over 8%. He noted that what the district received in 1991-92 is what we will get for next year but in 1991-92 we had considerably less pupils than now. He added that in 1991-92 the per-pupil amount paid was \$822 and for 1998-99 that amount is less than \$700 per pupil. Mr. Sincaglia noted that the district would have received almost \$500,000 more in state aid if funding had remained at the same per-pupil level.

Mr. Sincaglia mentioned that the lion's share of state aid is going to the Abbott districts and the four special needs districts in this county are East Orange, Orange, Newark and Irvington, adding that they get more state aid than we spend from all the sources of money we get. He explained that the lowest Abbott district is receiving \$8,274 per pupil and we don't even spend \$8,000 per pupil in our regular program and our only significant source of revenue is the local property tax. Mr. Sincaglia also noted that the only thing we can do as a school district is try to utilize the spending of your money in an efficient manner. He indicated that the Board has consistently demonstrated that and wants to continue that.

Mr. Sincaglia stated that the tax increase will be \$.06 on the dollar and will mean \$30 more in taxes next year for a home assessed at \$50,000.

Mr. Sincaglia then discussed expenditures, noting that the overwhelming proportion (about 80%) is for personnel costs. He explained that the budget is increasing by 1.85% and we will absorb a significant increase in health insurance costs but in spite of all this, Nutley maintains control of its costs. Mr. Sincaglia noted that the average cost per pupil in Essex County was almost \$11,000, in the state was a little under \$10,000 and in Nutley was under \$9,000. He indicated that we would have spent an additional \$3.9 million more had we spent at the state K-12 average and to spend at the county average we would have spent an additional \$8 million. Mr. Sincaglia noted that Nutley is 23% under the county average on a per-pupil basis and we have been doing this year after year. He indicated that this is how Nutley handles itself and what we do and spend is indicative of how we are managing the taxpayers' money.

Mr. Sincaglia mentioned that Nutley has more pupils per teacher and per administrator and is tied with East Orange, adding that we have less teachers per pupil than all the other districts and are below the state average and the same is true of administrators other than Montclair. He noted that the state average is about 15 below ours. He noted that the Governor visited Nutley about two years ago and said we do a good job without spending a lot of money. He further stated that New Jersey Monthly mentioned the same thing a year later and that record is true today.

Mr. Sincaglia indicated that the results we achieve on mandated state tests such as the EWT place us comfortably among higher socioeconomic districts and our students are clearly among the best in the "DE" group. He also noted that the Star Ledger rated our high school fifth out of 53 comparable schools. Mr. Sincaglia stated that one can not find a district with our fiscal record who can match our pupil performance.

Mr. Sincaglia further indicated that with regard to last year's EWT, our percent of students passing was higher than the average for even the "J" districts which are the highest socioeconomic districts, adding that our mean scores were between the "I" and "J" districts in reading and between the "GH" and "I" districts in math and writing.

Mr. Sincaglia also noted that our percent of pupils scoring at the highest level was better than the average of the "GH" districts. He explained that some of the districts in the "GH" group were Cedar Grove, Montclair, West Orange, Paramus, Parsippany, Waldwick and Wayne. Included in the "I" districts are Caldwell, Glen Ridge, South Orange-Maplewood, Verona, Creskill, East Brunswick, Livingston, Madison, New Providence, Randolph and Tenaflly. Mr. Sincaglia further noted that "J" districts include Millburn, Bedminster, Franklin Lakes, Mountain Lakes and Upper Saddle River.

Mr. Sincaglia noted that this demonstrates how well our pupils are really doing, noting that not one school in our "DE" category with more than 100 pupils taking the EWT had a higher number of pupils scoring at Level 1, concluding that we are doing a very good job. Mr. Sincaglia commented that these results do not mean that we can't improve - there is always room for improvement and we always continue to strive for that. He thanked the members of his staff for their assistance in the development of the budget.

Mr. Sincaglia remarked that next month, on April 21, the voting public will get its chance to vote on the budget for 1998-99, noting that the support this community has given is responsible for our success. He added that the decision of what happens on the tax levy is in the hands of the citizens and it is their decision, commenting that he hopes the right decision is made. He thanked everyone for listening.

Dr. Votto thanked Mr. Sincaglia for a wonderful job and for all his efforts. He also thanked the Board for its direction and guidance during this month. He further thanked Mr. Walker and the members of the Budget Review Committee for monitoring the academic side regarding all budgetary requirements.

Mr. Rusignuolo noted that Mr. Sincaglia gave a wonderful presentation which was crystal clear and easy to understand. He indicated that the district is accomplishing wonderful things at a reasonable cost. On behalf of the Board, he thanked Mr. Sincaglia and everyone involved, adding that, hopefully, the public will continue to support the budget.

HEARING OF CITIZENS (Agenda Items Only):

None

Mr. Sincaglia noted that the budget published in the newspaper was submitted before the County Superintendent approved it. He explained there were two minor changes which are reflected in the vote tonight. He explained that we received an additional \$662 in Debt Service aid but there was a typographical error in the amount of \$200 which meant a gain of \$462 and this is reflected in tonight's resolution. He also noted that the numbers in the budget booklet reflect those changes.

ADOPTING BUDGET FOR THE 1998/1999 SCHOOL YEAR:

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:

WHEREAS, the Board of Education of the Township of Nutley adopted a tentative budget for the 1998/1999 school year on February 23, 1998, and

WHEREAS, said tentative budget was properly advertised on March 19, 1998, and

WHEREAS, the Public Hearing on the budget was conducted on March 23, 1998,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Board of Education hereby adopts the official budget for the 1998/1999 school year in the following amounts:

General Fund	\$33,348,765
Special Revenue Fund	811,549
Debt Service Fund	<u>178,555</u>
Total Budget	\$34,338,869 of which

the following amount shall be raised by local tax levy:

General Fund	\$29,515,875
Debt Service	<u>162,869</u>
Total	\$29,678,744

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Secretary be authorized to place on the ballot at the Annual School Election to be held on April 21, 1998 the proposal to approve the General Fund tax levy portion of the 1998/1999 school budget. (The complete budget for 1998/1999 is attached as APPENDIX I.)

Mr. Pelaia remarked that Mr. Sincaglia had done a wonderful job, adding that he was proud of the fact that the Budget Review Committee had come back with a budget which does not include any bonding for the technology plan. He also made note of the fact that while Nutley had received 8% of its budget in state aid, Bloomfield had received 13%, Belleville 30% and Montclair 14%.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Copies of the minutes of the Regular Meeting held on February 23, 1998 at 8:00 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. Moscaritola and unanimously approved by the Board.

COMMUNICATIONS:

1. A thank-you note from John D'Angelo, custodian, for the Board's expression of concern relating to his serious surgery.
2. A thank-you note from Dolores Dwyer, bus driver, for the flowers received from the Board after her surgery.
3. A thank-you note from Bernadette Santoriello, teacher, for the Board's expression of sympathy on the death of her father.

4. A letter from William S. Garofalo in support of an ice hockey program.
5. A reminder from Joe Pelaia, President, Essex County School Boards Association, of the rescheduled General Dinner Meeting which took place on February 26, 1998.
6. Letters from the City of Absecon and the Township of Millstone urging support of Assembly Bill No. 1143 asking for a supplemental appropriation to restore stabilization and growth limit reduction aid.
7. A memorandum from the Essex County Educational Services Commission regarding a special meeting to be held on March 5 to discuss their budget.
8. A notice from Carl Anlas, Municipal Engineer, indicating there was an application for a permit to do some work in the park near Yantacaw School and the Third River. He noted that it did not impact on our property.
9. An Action Advisory from the New Jersey School Boards Association regarding opposition to Assembly Bill No. A-179 which, in its opinion, would seriously compromise school boards' ability, in collective bargaining, to impose a "last, best offer" after all negotiations avenues have failed.
10. A letter and resolution from Anthony E. Just, Sr., Mayor of Secaucus, urging change in the current system of school funding.
11. A notice from Lucille C. Simonian, Municipal Clerk, dealing with the fact that the Township will pass an ordinance to expand the senior citizens class zoning district.
12. A memorandum from the Academic Booster Club inviting the Board to the Nutley History Fair which took place on March 21.

SECRETARY'S REPORT:

Mr. Sincaglia presented the Report of the Secretary as of February 27, 1998. (See attached report.)

Mrs. Russo 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 February 28, 1998. (See attached report.)

Mr. Moscaritola moved that the Board accept the Report of the Treasurer of School Moneys, seconded by Mr. Restaino. 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 24, at 7:30 p.m.

"The Annual Winter Sports Awards Program will be conducted in the high school auditorium on Wednesday, March 25, at 7:30 p.m.

"Third quarter report cards will be distributed on Thursday, April 9, 1998

"Testing Dates:

TAP	- Gr. 10	- April 7,8
EWT	- Gr. 9	- April 7,8,9
ITBS	- Gr. K-7	- April 13-17

"Scholls Closed - April 10 - Good Friday

"Foreign Language Honor Society Induction, Nutley High School, April 14 at 7:30 p.m.

"CAT Open House - April 18, 1998

"ABC Nutley Science Fair (K-6) - Franklin School, April 18, at 12:00 noon

"Presentations of the 1998/1999 Budget will be made on:

Tuesday,	March	31	Radcliffe School
Wednesday,	April	1	Yantacaw School
Tuesday,	April	7	Spring Garden School
Wednesday,	April	8	Washington School
Thursday,	April	9	Lincoln School

"School Board Election - April 21

"Attached is the student enrollment chart as of February 27, 1998"

FIRE DRILL REPORT:

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

Feb.	2	Franklin School	10:15 a.m.	1 min. 58 secs.
Feb.	2	Lincoln School	10:03 a.m.	1 min. 25 secs.
Feb.	2	Nutley High School	1:57 p.m.	1 min. 59 secs.
Feb.	2	Radcliffe School	12:41 p.m.	1 min. 22 secs.
Feb.	2	Spring Garden School	2:06 p.m.	1 min. 40 secs.
Feb.	2	Yantacaw School	10:47 a.m.	1 min. 25 secs.
Feb.	3	Lincoln School	9:30 a.m.	1 min. 32 secs.
Feb.	6	Yantacaw School	2:37 p.m.	1 min. 30 secs.
Feb.	9	Franklin School	1:24 p.m.	1 min. 40 secs.
Feb.	9	Radcliffe School	2:55 p.m.	1 min. 21 secs.
Feb.	10	Washington School	2:52 p.m.	1 min. 15 secs.
Feb.	13	Spring Garden School	2:17 p.m.	1 min. 20 secs.
Feb.	26	Washington School	8:45 a.m.	1 min. 40 secs.
Feb.	27	Nutley High School	8:31 a.m.	2 min. 5 secs.

CAFETERIA REPORT:

Mr. Pelaia presented the cafeteria report as of February 27, 1998 showing a 1997/1998 budget of \$611,977.00, contractual orders to date of \$382,893.10, leaving funds available of \$229,083.90.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Mr. Pelaia, Chairman of the Athletic Committee, reported that the Committee had met with a group of ice hockey boosters on March 16 and the feasibility of the program was discussed, with other issues remaining to be discussed. Mr. Pelaia explained that if an ice hockey program were to be initiated, the district would have to join the NJHIL by March 31 at a cost of \$200. He further noted that this does not necessarily mean the district will be fielding an ice hockey team.

Mr. Pelaia further noted that the discussion with the ice hockey proponents was positive and investigative and this will continue and shortly the Committee will have a response and recommendations to the Board.

Mr. Pelaia moved that the Board appropriate \$200 for membership in the NJHIL, seconded by Mr. Moscaritola. On a roll call vote the resolution was unanimously adopted.

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. Russo. 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, 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. Russo. 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 \$3,123,849.17 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. 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 - Teacher:

Miss Marie M. Lopa

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 accepts the retirement of Miss Marie M. Lopa, teacher, effective July 1, 1998.

RETIREMENT - Teacher:

Mrs. Diane Williams

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 accepts the retirement of Mrs. Diane Williams, teacher, effective July 1, 1998.

RESIGNATION - Athletic:Mr. William Farkas

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 accepts the resignation of Mr. William Farkas as assistant football coach.

RESIGNATION - Athletic:Miss AnneMarie Kowalski

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 accepts the resignation of Miss AnneMarie Kowalski as assistant girls basketball coach.

LEAVE OF ABSENCE - Teacher:Mrs. Kelly Wisneski

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 childrearing leave of absence for Mrs. Kelly Wisneski, music teacher, from March 25 through June 30, 1998 with the provision that she notify the Superintendent of Schools of further teaching intentions no later than April 1, 1998.

LEAVE OF ABSENCE - Teacher:Mr. Joseph Mulley

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 Mr. Joseph Mulley effective December 1, 1997 through March 31, 1998.

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.

APPOINTMENT - Substitutes:

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

Secretarial/Aide

Anita Tedesco

Custodial

Lawrence Boscaino

EXTRA COMPENSATION:

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

Curriculum Development Committee MeetingsArt K-12 - February 7, 1998

Robyn Burns	\$123.88
Anne Laudadio	123.88
Carl Ohlson	161.08
Hillary Hill Trovato	<u>123.88</u>
Total	\$532.72

Mathematics K-8 - February 7, 1998

Rita Alfaro	\$ 123.88
John Calicchio	165.80
LoriAnn Cassie	123.88
Danielle Christy	123.88
Denise Cleary	123.88
Rosemary Clerico	123.88
Donna Cocco	123.88
Carmine D'Aloia	165.80
Linda Gilroy	123.88
Scott Keena	123.88
Laura-anne MacMillan	123.88
Eileen Mattone	123.88
Tracy McCormick	123.88
Marcy McKenzie	123.88

Mathematics K-8 - February 7, 1998 (contd.)

Jennifer Neri	\$ 123.88
Mary Peele	123.88
Carol Perrone	123.88
Gail Reilly	123.88
Bernadette Santoriello	123.88
Kathleen C. Serafino	165.80
Nancy Szura	123.88
James Vivinetto	165.80
Heather VonRoth	<u>123.88</u>

Total	\$3,016.92
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Science K-8 - February 7, 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
Jeanne Neilley	123.88
Rebecca Olivo	123.88
Becky Pandolfi	123.88
Sally Ann Marino Ryder	123.88
Deborah Schop	<u>123.88</u>

Total	\$1,362.68
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K-12 Music Education - February 7, 1998

Carol Bender	\$123.88
Kathleen Bimbi	123.88
Peter D'Angelo	123.88
Dennis McPartland	123.88
Julianne Philp	123.88
Jonathan Schubert	123.88
John Vitkovsky	<u>161.08</u>

Total	\$904.36
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Critical Thinking - February 7, 1998

Rachel Daly	\$123.88
Jill Freedman	123.88
Patricia Keating	123.88
Maureen Tracy	123.88
Niki Vlasakakis	123.88
Louise Walk	<u>123.88</u>

Total	\$743.28
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Spring Sports Physical Examinations - February 25
and March 4, 1998

AnneMarie Kowalski	\$139.37
Sharon Larcara	139.37
Patricia Scullen	108.40
Patricia Tarczynski	<u>108.40</u>
Total	\$495.54

Central Detention Coverage - February, 1998

High School

Raymond Chapman	\$ 16.79
Nicole Errante	16.79
Carol Shepherd	167.90

Franklin School

Patrick Keating	151.11
Alisa Rossi	<u>117.53</u>

Total	\$470.12
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Saturday Morning Suspensions - February, 1998

High School

AnneMarie Kowalski	\$ 70.17
Carol Shepherd	<u>70.17</u>

Total	\$140.34
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Intramurals - February 3 - February 27, 1998

LoriAnn Cassie	\$ 72.03
William Farkas	24.01
Kenneth Ferriol	120.05
Thomas Grant	216.09
Daniel Kimberley	144.06
Edmund Olson	264.11 (1/6-2/27/98)
Rosann Rizzuto	72.03
Walter Sautter	48.02
Diane Williams	<u>288.12</u>

Total	\$1,248.52
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LONGEVITY PAY:

Mr. Restaino 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 following longevity payments be authorized:

Lawrence T. Koster	\$ 207	Eff. April 1, 1998 (12 years)
Sally Ann Ryder	1,290	Eff. April 1, 1998 (25 years)

TUITION REIMBURSEMENT:

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

<u>Name</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Gail Kahn	\$420

SPECIAL CLASS PLACEMENT - Educationally Disabled Student:

Mr. Restaino 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 attendance of a student 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>
Essex High School Clifton, NJ	1*	ED	3/16/98	\$8,733.90

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

APPROVAL OF CONTRACT - Essex County Educational Services Commission - Homebound Instruction - 1998/1999 School Year:

Mr. Restaino 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 Nutley Board of Education enters into a contract with the Essex County Educational Services Commission to provide homebound instruction for public school students in hospital/rehabilitation facilities outside of Nutley for the 1998/1999 school year.

JOINT TRANSPORTATION AGREEMENT:

Mr. Schweikert 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 Nutley Board of Education approves a joint transportation agreement with the Belleville Board of Education to provide transportation for one Special Education student from Belleville to Franklin School, Nutley, NJ on Nutley bus route #3, effective February 24, 1998 through June 30, 1998 at a cost to the Belleville Board of Education of \$20 per day (\$10 one way). (Subject to approval of the County Superintendent of Schools.)

TEXTBOOK APPROVAL:

Mr. Schweikert 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 use of the following textbooks:

EnglishSpeech for Effective Communication

Rudolph F. Verderber
Publisher, Holt, Rinehart and Winston,
1999, New York, New York

Fine and Industrial ArtsSmall Gas Engines

Alfred C. Roth
Publisher, Goodheart-Willcox Company,
1998, Tinley Park, Illinois

TRANSFER OF FUNDS:

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

<u>From</u>		<u>To</u>	
Account 11-130-100-101	\$16,100	Account 11-230-100-101	\$ 3,000
		Account 11-240-100-101	700
		Account 11-999-100-562	700
		Account 11-999-213-100	500
		Account 11-999-219-390	<u>11,200</u>
			\$16,100

APPROVAL OF PROPOSED BY-LAWS - New Jersey School Boards Association Insurance Group:

Mrs. Russo 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 proposed by-laws of the New Jersey School Boards Association Insurance Group.

ACCEPTANCE OF NOTICE OF APPROVAL - IASA Carry-Over Funds - FY 97:

Mrs. Russo 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 accepts notice of approval for carry-over funds for IASA FY 97 in the following amounts:

Title I	\$ 3,625
Title II	665
Title IV	7,359
Title VI	<u>32</u>
	\$11,681

ACCEPTANCE OF NOTICE OF APPROVAL FOR CARRY-OVER FUNDS - IDEA-B and IDEA-B Preschool - FY 97:

Mrs. Russo 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 accepts notice of approval for carry-over funds for IDEA-B for FY 97 in the amount of \$1,081 and IDEA-B Preschool for FY 97 in the amount of \$384.

CONFIRMATION OF APPROVAL OF SUBMISSION OF REVISED BUDGET AND NOTIFICATION OF GRANT AWARD - Carl D. Perkins Vocational and Applied Technology Act - FY 98:

Mr. Patterson 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 confirms the approval of the submission of the revised budget and notification of grant award for FY 98 for the Carl D. Perkins Vocational and Applied Technology Act in the amount of \$11,059.

SCHEDULING BOARD MEETINGS - Executive Sessions:

Mr. Patterson 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 will hold the following meetings in Executive Session for the purpose of considering applications for the position of Superintendent of Schools with all meetings to be held in the Board Conference Room at Radcliffe School:

March 31, 1998	6:00 p.m.
April 1, 1998	4:30 p.m.
April 4, 1998	10:00 a.m.

Mr. Rusignuolo explained that Executive Session means closed session.

ESTABLISH DATE FOR REORGANIZATION MEETING OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION:

Mr. Patterson 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 reorganization meeting of the Board of Education be held on Monday, May 4, 1998 at 7:30 p.m.

MEMORIAL:

Mrs. Edna May Kistler Haley

Mr. Pelaia presented and moved the adoption of the following resolution, seconded by Mrs. Fleitell 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. Edna May Kistler Haley on March 4, 1998, and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Haley was employed in September, 1949 as an elementary teacher in the Nutley Public Schools and had a distinguished educational career until her retirement in June, 1982, and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Haley won the admiration and respect of her fellow teachers and the friendship of pupils who came under the influence of her understanding and capable teaching,

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 Mrs. Haley worked long and hard for the district, mostly at Lincoln School and she would be missed.

APPROVAL OF CALENDARS - 1998/1999 School Year:

Mr. Restaino 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. Pelaia, Mr. Restaino, Mr. Schweikert and Mr. Rusignuolo voting aye and Mr. Moscaritola and Mrs. Russo voting nay:

BE IT RESOLVED, That the Board of Education adopts the following attached calendars for the 1998/1999 school year:

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

Dr. Votto indicated that he would appreciate publicity by the newspapers regarding the school calendar.

EXTENDED LEAVE OF ABSENCE - Teacher: Mrs. Maureen A. Lazur

Mrs. Fleitell 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 Mrs. Maureen A. Lazur be granted an extension of her childrearing leave of absence for the 1998/1999 school year with the provision that she notify the Superintendent of Schools of further teaching intentions no later than April 1, 1999.

EXTENDED LEAVE OF ABSENCE - Teacher: Mrs. Kathryn J. Zintel

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 Mrs. Kathryn J. Zintel be granted an extension of her childrearing leave of absence for the 1998/1999 school year with the provision that she notify the Superintendent of Schools of further teaching intentions no later than April 1, 1999.

**AMENDING CONTRACT - Transportation
Employee:**

Mrs. Sara Cardell

Mr. Pelaia 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 contract for Mrs. Sara Cardell, transportation employee, be amended to include an hourly rate of \$11.68 as school bus driver.

FIRM TRANSPORTATION GAS DELIVERY BIDS:

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

WHEREAS, bids for firm transportation gas deliveries were advertised on February 26, 1998, and

WHEREAS, sealed bids were publicly opened and read aloud on March 19, 1998 at 2:00 p.m. in the office of the Secretary/Business Administrator, and

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

	<u>Nominal Bid Contract Price</u>
Allenergy Middlesex, NJ	\$3.419
Amerada Hess Corporation Woodbridge, NJ	3.362
Columbia Energy Services Cedar Knolls, NJ	3.435
Conectiv Energy Iselin, NJ	3.400
Energis Resources Edison, NJ	3.429
Gasmark/UGI Energy Services, Inc. Valley Forge, PA	3.343
New Jersey Natural Energy Wall, NJ	3.417
PG&E Energy Trading Cedar Knolls, NJ	3.378
South Jersey Energy Company Folsom, NJ	3.441

and

WHEREAS, the bid of Gasmark/UGI Energy Services, Inc. appears to meet all specifications,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Board of Education awards the contract for firm transportation gas delivery to Gasmark/UGI Energy Services, Inc., Valley Forge, PA at their low nominal bid contract price of \$3.343.

REVISED FACILITY MAINTENANCE PLAN - 1996-2000:

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

BE IT RESOLVED, That the Board of Education approves the revised Facility Maintenance Plan, 1996-2000.

HEARING OF CITIZENS:

Dr. Steven Greco, 248 Vreeland Avenue, questioned what the Board policy is with regard to a teacher taking a personal day to go to another paying job, asking if that was allowed under the contract. Dr. Votto explained that it is called discretionary personal leave as per past practice and that is without pay. He noted that this request must be approved by the Superintendent.

Mrs. Cheryl Kozyra, 361 Chestnut Street, referred to a letter she sent to Board members regarding converting the Board Conference Room to a school library. Mr. Rusignuolo replied that the Board is reviewing the matter. Mr. Moscaritola, Facilities Committee Chairman, remarked that a Committee meeting is scheduled for tomorrow and the issue will be discussed at the meeting.

Mrs. Russo noted that the present library is already being wired for technology purposes but the Board is well aware of the overcrowding. Mrs. Russo also noted that she sees two main drawbacks to the proposal: the doors are open to the general public and it has to fit into the entire scheme of things. She added that the Facilities Committee is meeting to look at the entire district.

Mrs. Kozyra stated that Radcliffe School should be given specific consideration since the other schools have art and music rooms. Mrs. Russo responded that in other years the other schools have also suffered.

Mrs. Fleitell indicated that a Facilities Committee meeting will take place tomorrow and it is one of many meetings over the course of the year. She noted that the Board recognizes the overcrowdedness of the district and wants to be sure every school in the district has appropriate facilities for art, music, etc. She added that Mrs. Kozyra's request will be considered.

Mrs. Gail Kline, 28 North Spring Garden Avenue, asked how many elementary guidance counselors would be hired for next year. Dr. Votto replied that there will be one counselor pending approval of the budget. Mrs. Kline questioned whether a program has been developed for a counselor to service over 2000 children. Dr. Votto stated that the administration is looking at a schedule of one school per day, knowing that this is an excessive load. He noted that the Board has considered this for ten years and now we have the opportunity to perhaps employ the first one. He also commented that more counselors may be added in the future if this succeeds and the district has the wherewithal to fund it.

Mrs. Barbara Bochesse, 50 Cedar Street, remarked that we keep discussing the increase in enrollment, the Facilities Committee keeps meeting and at Spring Garden School the music room is about the size of a closet. She asked whether the Board would be presenting a proposal which outlines what will be done. Mr. Rusignuolo responded that because the Committee has been meeting regularly the Committee will have a report in the near future.

Mr. Moscaritola explained that there will be a full report for the Board to review, noting that the Committee ordered an additional five-year enrollment plan bringing us up to 2003. He noted that the Committee is looking at all music and art rooms and is looking to help each and every school.

Mrs. Joan Toscano, 84 Evergreen Avenue, indicated that she had heard the Board was thinking of changing the school starting date to September 1 instead of after Labor Day. Mr. Rusignuolo replied that this was voted on this evening. Dr. Votto indicated that the Board had wrestled with this issue and finally adopted this with the thought that it was the best we could come up with in light of the late Labor Day holiday. He noted that the Board also considered the fact that it is conceivable that the students will be off for 11-12 weeks prior to September 1.

Mrs. Toscano stated that she felt the parents should have been notified about this a year in advance so that people could properly plan their vacations and other activities. Dr. Votto stated that people have to make plans early for the February and April vacations. He added that just about every district in the state completes the adoption of the calendar at this time of the year. Mr. Rusignuolo noted that the Board had discussed this on prior evenings, noting that it is a problem because of the way the calendar falls and adding that he hoped most families are not affected.

Mrs. Toscano wondered why only the nine Board members decide the school calendar. Mr. Rusignuolo responded that the nine people who vote on this happen to be the nine people elected to vote on such things knowing that not everyone will always be happy with decisions that are made. Dr. Votto mentioned that the students will get out of school four days earlier than if school started after Labor Day, adding that Project Graduation requires that graduation be held on a specific date or severe penalties are paid. He also noted that he felt adding days at the end of the year is not educationally sound. He further commented that this has been discussed with the PTOs and the newspaper will publish the calendar. Mr. Rusignuolo stated that one of the other factors involved is that many districts in Essex County will be starting at the same time as Nutley.

Mr. Lou Viccarello, 68 Passaic Avenue, remarked that the resolution dealing with the calendar was not even listed on the agenda and expressed his concerns with the calendar as it was adopted and adding that he felt public input should have been accepted. Mr. Rusignuolo explained that some items are considered as addenda since decisions are not made until the Conference Meeting immediately preceding the Board meeting. Dr. Votto noted that the Board did weigh all considerations, adding that a calendar is adopted at this time every year.

Mrs. Kline remarked that she is confused about the nature of the EWT, adding that the newspaper made it sound as if barely anyone in the state of New Jersey is competent. Mr. Sincaglia explained that there are three categories: do not pass, minimally competent and clearly competent. He noted that Nutley had just short of 50% of the test takers in Level 1 which is clearly competent and when compared with other "DE" districts, our results were the best in that group and much better than many of the high socioeconomic districts. He also explained that to be in Level 1 a student must be clearly competent in each of the three segments.

Dr. Vivinetto, Franklin School principal who was present in the audience, indicated that the number of students reaching Level 1 exceeded 75% if not better in certain areas, explaining that an individual child could be very strong in language arts but weaker in math. Dr. Vivinetto also noted that, regarding Level 2, it was found that the majority of the students were something like 15 points away from the cut off for Level 1. He concluded by stating that our students had done an excellent job and our results were wonderful.

Mr. Patterson noted that the day after the test results were published in the Star Ledger a correction was printed, adding that they had our most recent year being the lowest score and the preceding year being the higher. He further indicated that even though the correction was made, many people may not have seen it.

Mrs. Kozyra questioned if the Board has considered the Town and Country homes when estimating population projections. Mr. Sincaglia explained that when the enrollment report was done it was decided to look at things without including the Town and Country property. He noted that the Board had done an earlier assessment for an impact statement dealing with the Town and Country property which showed something over 200 children coming into the school system but predictions could not be made as to what schools they would be attending although there would undoubtedly be an impact on two elementary schools.

Mrs. Bochesse questioned if the Superintendent had not recommended the redistricting of the entire district. Dr. Votto replied that is one of the possibilities with Mr. Sincaglia answering that grade reorganization was also discussed. Dr. Votto indicated that the projections are in hand and a report will be forthcoming in the not too distant future, adding these are painful times but the Board has been enlightened about class size, keeping it rather low.

Mrs. Sue Ann Baker, 150 Beech Street, with regard to the EWT, remarked that approximately one half of the 95.6% passing the test are minimally competent. Mr. Sincaglia noted that the test results have to be looked at to see how all three segments intersect. Mrs. Baker questioned how Nutley relates to other districts ratio wise. Dr. Votto indicated that the best districts (such as Millburn) probably have 30-40% that are not competent, adding that Nutley's ranking is very high.

Mrs. Anna O'Reilly, 76 Race Street, expressed her disapproval with the starting date for school and asked if enough parents are not happy with the calendar, could it be changed. Mr. Rusignuolo explained that the decision has been made by the Board so the calendar will go into effect. He noted that the administration will reach out through the schools to see that word of the calendar gets out. Mr. Schweikert asked if there was a possibility that notification could be sent home with the students, to which Dr. Votto replied that is a possibility.

OLD BUSINESS:

Mrs. Russo noted that last August a priority was set to look at the overall format of the high school transcript and this recommendation went to a committee to start the revamping of the high school transcript. She indicated that the number grade is not on the transcript and is a key indicator regarding grades. She stated that the number grade would only enhance the students' overall appearance. Mrs. Russo commented that she is not questioning whether we should change any of the numerical values for the grade.

Mrs. Russo moved that the Board commence looking into placing a number on the high school transcript, seconded by Mr. Schweikert.

Mr. Pelaia questioned whether Mrs. Russo was talking about replacing or adding to, to which Mrs. Russo replied that she is saying replacing. Mr. Rusignuolo indicated that he felt Mrs. Russo was out of order since the Board has processes it goes through and the Board has discussed these kinds of things numerous times, adding that if changes haven't been made, it is for a reason and we can't subvert the activities of the committee.

Mr. Schweikert commented that Mrs. Russo is now proposing that we bring this to a vote. Dr. Votto stated that according to our own policy, this would have to be a recommendation of the Superintendent. He noted that process is crucial in this development but does not preclude a high school committee from convening. Dr. Votto further noted that numerics at the high school could be a forerunner of numerics in the elementary schools and it is a broad-based initiative that has to be looked at in the full spectrum. Dr. Votto also said that he had spoken with two directors of admission this week and they said our transcripts do not harm our students.

Mr. Pelaia questioned where we stand procedurally, stating that as far as adding a number grade, he has an open mind. He noted that his thoughts were to add the number grade to the letter grade and have both, feeling that would be a reasonable approach. He remarked that he would like more input from the administration.

Mr. Rusignuolo stated that he rules the motion and second out of order as it is supposed to be a recommendation of the Superintendent.

Mr. Pelaia moved that the Superintendent look into the matter of incorporating numerics on the high school transcript and report back to the Board. Dr. Votto replied that his response would be that he would like feedback from the high school as well as the entire staff and then he would be prepared to make a recommendation. (Note: There was no call for a second to this motion.)

Mr. Schweikert noted that he would like the recommendation to be brought to the Board by the next meeting as it will be his last meeting and adding that in August of 1995 he had brought his feelings to the Priorities Committee that this issue be discussed. Mrs. Russo indicated that this Committee did not make a recommendation to not do this and questioned the status of her motion.

Mrs. Fleitell commented that she would like clarification on Mrs. Russo's motion since she does not have enough information about what Mrs. Russo wants to do, exactly, adding that this is too important to toss before the Board without having a discussion.

Mrs. Russo remarked that there is no down side to putting numerical grades on the transcript and indicated that she was reaffirming her original motion.

Mr. Moscaritola made a motion to table Mrs. Russo's motion, seconded by Mr. Pelaia.

Mr. Moscaritola then asked if the motion could be amended. Mr. Sincaglia replied that a motion should not be tabled for an indefinite period of time.

Mr. Moscaritola amended his motion to table Mrs. Russo's motion for one meeting, seconded by Mr. Pelaia.

Mrs. Russo then read the following statement dealing with the technology curriculum:

"I have spent much time since becoming a Board member in understanding curriculum - seminars, workshops, reading, discussing with educators. As Board members we set policy as guides for our administrators to run our schools. We also adopt curricula and courses of study for each year.

"I have adopted a check list for myself when adopting a curriculum or curriculum revision which I use to determine my vote and questions such as:

"Is this curriculum -

1. a written plan outlining the subject the student is to learn?
2. are there varied experiences offered covering content, values, skills sequenced for ongoing learning?

3. is there a scope and sequence ie: introduction, review, reinforcement in sequential manner to insure instruction and learning proceeds in a developmental process?
4. is there a 'plan' (set of rules) which enhances the probability that the purpose of the sequential plan of learning is attained?
5. is there an assessment of what is learned?

"This plan should ultimately assure me that the school district uniformly provides instruction to all students.

"Curriculum Guides are effective tools when:

1. monitored by instructional leaders
2. used by all staff
3. relevant to students' present and future needs
4. foundations of instructional programs, not limitations
5. answers educational needs of students and community
6. in-service training for appropriate implementation and utilization of curriculum.

"Upon explaining my views somewhat I hope you will now be able to more fully understand the questions and, obviously, the responsibility that we have in the Computer Education Curriculum.

"1st of 2 facts - on August 25, 1997 we adopted courses for grades K-12 as we do each year. The last page says K-6 All Elementary Schools - Computer Education; Grade 7 - Computer Applications; Grade 8 - Computer Keyboarding/Word Processing.

"2nd - We have 'Computer Education Curriculum' K-8"

Making reference to the Computer Education Curriculum K-8, Mrs. Russo asked several questions related to how we are evaluating skill proficiencies at various grade levels.

"The philosophy is great but what I have said here tonight clearly indicates that we as a Board must look closely at what we say we want to do and what we are actually doing.

Referring to the portion of the Curriculum stating "skills necessary to utilize the computer as a tool," Mrs. Russo made the following remarks:

- "1. We could not have our children look up words in a dictionary if we did not teach them the alphabet and to make our students more proficient in utilizing the dictionary we teach them the skill of using the guide words at the top.

2. We teach multiplication and division only after teaching addition and subtraction.
3. We teach various musical instruments but we first have to teach musical notes.

"The point is who is responsible to teach these skills in our curriculum, 'our plan,' a set of directions that specifies articulation which will enhance the probability that the stated purpose of this plan of learning is attained.

"Are we accountable to our community, our students? I think not, especially when at the high school level mandated for graduation is Keyboarding, a computer application with 13 proficiencies, with at least 5 - 7 which should be mastered by Grade 7."

Mrs. Russo then read several of the proficiencies required to pass Keyboarding.

"There are many various educational outlooks on technology which have been shared by the various committees in the past few years, with no definitive surveys done as to what is best. I suggest an ad hoc committee of Board members which should be utilized to come forth and present additional information in order that we can formulate a Board decision and a definitive action plan for accountability of our course offerings to all our students and the needs of this community.

"As a parent of a fourth grader I am aware that my child has not received regularly assigned work from grades 1-4 and I ask what is the word processing software for the district at this level.

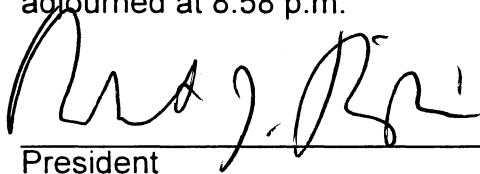
"Before making a motion that we form this committee, which I will gladly chair, I would like to ask any parent in the audience for comments on what I have just said re: ongoing computer education."

NEW BUSINESS:

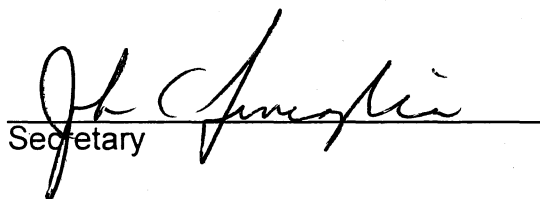
None

ADJOURNMENT:

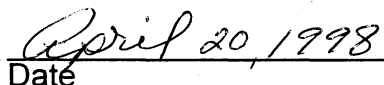
There being no further business to come before the Board, on motion made by Mr. Pelaia, seconded by Mrs. Russo, the meeting was adjourned at 8:58 p.m.



President



Secretary



Date

March 23, 1998