

Board of Education  
Nutley, New Jersey

September 27, 1999

The Regular Meeting of the Board of Education of the Township of Nutley, New Jersey was held in the Radcliffe School Multi-Purpose Room, 379 Bloomfield Avenue, on Monday, September 27, 1999 at 8:02 p.m. with Mr. Vincent A. Moscaritola, President, presiding.

#### ANNOUNCEMENT OF MEETING:

Mr. Moscaritola 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 May 3, 1999. 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 Mr. Pelaia 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: Mr. John Cafone, Dr. Philip T. Casale, Mrs. Michele Fleitell, Mr. Joseph C. Pelaia, Mr. Alfred R. Restaino, Jr., Mrs. Agnes Roncaglio and Mrs. Maria Russo. Absent: Mr. Steven P. Picciano. Approximately 32 citizens were present.

Mrs. Russo commented that Mr. Picciano was absent this evening because he had to attend Back-to-School Night where he is employed.

#### APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Copies of the minutes of the Regular Meeting held on August 30, 1999 at 8:39 p.m. being in the hands of each member, reading of same was dispensed. Mr. Pelaia moved that the minutes be approved, seconded by Mr. Restaino and unanimously approved by the Board.

#### COMMUNICATIONS:

Mr. Sincaglia presented and read the following communications:

1. A thank-you note from Joe Luzzi (maintenance employee) for the Board's expression of concern during his recent illness.

2. A notice from the Nutley-Belleville Columbus Day Committee regarding parade information.
3. A notice from the Essex County School Boards Association regarding an Educational Leaders Dinner to take place on September 29, 1999.
4. A letter from FamE, Nutley Drama Booster Club, thanking the Board for the use of some equipment for the Festival in the Park which took place on September 12.
5. A notice from the Essex County School Boards Association regarding a General Membership Meeting to be held on October 13, 1999, the topic to be "Dealing with School Violence."
6. A letter from the Essex County School Boards Association enclosing its 1999-2000 calendar.

#### SECRETARY'S REPORT:

Mr. Sincaglia presented the Report of the Secretary as of August 31, 1999. (See attached report.)

Mrs. Russo moved that the Board accept the Report of the Secretary, seconded by Mrs. Fleitell. 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 August 31, 1999. (See attached report.)

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

#### SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT:

Dr. Serafino presented and read the following report:

"The 1999/2000 school year started in a positive and efficient manner. Please remember the following dates:

Tuesday,	September 28	Spring Garden School PTO Open House - 7:30 p.m.
Thursday,	September 30	Washington School PTO Open House - 7:30 p.m.
Tuesday,	October 5	Nutley High School College and Career Fair 7:00-8:30 p.m.
Wednesday,	October 6	Franklin School PTO Open House - 7:30 p.m.
Thursday,	October 7	Lincoln School PTO Open House - 7:30 p.m.

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Monday,	October 11	Columbus Day - School Closed
Wednesday,	October 13	Nutley High School PTO Open House - 7:30 p.m.
Monday-Friday	October 18-22	Hearing Screening Week

"Attached is the student enrollment chart as of September 15, 1999"

Dr. Serafino noted that as of tomorrow the district will have 4,000 students, adding that the enrollment continues to increase. She thanked the Board for its approval of the girls' softball athletic trip in March and commended the Board for the creation of the fourth first grade class at Washington School. She noted that this speaks well for the Board's concern regarding the education of students in this community, adding that the average class size went from 25 to 19.

#### COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Mr. Cafone, Chairman of the Priorities Committee, reported that the Committee met with the Superintendent on September 23 and the outgrowth of that meeting is the addendum resolution being presented for approval tonight which lists two additional new priorities, Review of business education curriculum (7-12) and Review of physical education requirement for student athletes.

Mr. Restaino, Chairman of the Athletic Committee, noted that this week, Thursday, Friday and Saturday, the Board has approved inclusion of night athletics at the Oval for girls' soccer, boys' soccer and football, adding that lights will be utilized. Mr. Sincaglia indicated that the football team will be practicing under the lights tomorrow and the band on Wednesday evening.

Dr. Casale, Chairman of the Insurance Committee, indicated that he and Mr. Sincaglia had attended their first meeting with the Board as a member of the Joint Insurance Fund (JIF) and they were informed that the Board must adopt a resolution naming someone to attend the JIF meetings as the official Board representative.

Mr. Pelaia moved that the Board designate Dr. Philip Casale as its representative to JIF, seconded by Mrs. Fleitell and unanimously approved by the Board.

Mr. Moscaritola, Chairman of the Ad Hoc Residency Committee, indicated that the third phase of the residency notification process had concluded with approximately 43 families not responding. He explained that according to Board policy it is now the Superintendent's responsibility to contact these people and give them until Friday to comply, after which the disenrollment process would begin.

#### HEARING OF CITIZENS (Resolutions Only):

None

#### CERTIFICATION OF MAJOR ACCOUNT FUND STATUS:

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:

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BE IT RESOLVED, That, pursuant to NJAC 6:20-2.13 (e), the Nutley Board of Education certifies that as of August 31, 1999, 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. 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 payment of bills and mandatory payments in the total amount of \$1,867,829.59 as per the attached Schedule A which have been audited by the Business Office.

#### REQUESTS FOR USE OF SCHOOL BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS:

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

BE IT RESOLVED, That the Board of Education approves the requests for the use of school buildings and grounds (Schedule B), provided they conform to the rules and regulations set by the Board of Education.

#### RESIGNATION - Athletic:

Mr. James Santana

Mr. Cafone 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. James Santana as assistant wrestling coach.

#### AMENDING RESOLUTION - Leave of Absence - Guidance Counselor:

Mrs. Sherrie M. Tolve

Mr. Cafone 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 resolution, Leave of Absence-Guidance Counselor-Mrs. Sherrie M. Tolve, adopted at the August 30, 1999 Board Meeting be amended to reflect a change in a childrearing leave to September 21, 1999 through June 30, 2000 with the provision that she notify the Superintendent of further intentions no later than April 1, 2000.

APPROVAL OF EMPLOYMENT AGREEMENT AND SALARY - 1999/2000 School Year - Assistant Superintendent of Schools:

Mr. John Walker

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

BE IT RESOLVED, That the Board of Education approves the Employment Agreement with Mr. John Walker, Assistant Superintendent of Schools, for the period July 1, 1999 through June 30, 2000, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board approves a salary for Mr. John Walker in the amount of \$121,107 for the 1999/2000 school year.

APPOINTMENT - Athletic:

Mr. Darren Groh

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

BE IT RESOLVED, That the Board of Education appoints Mr. Darren Groh as assistant boys' soccer coach for the 1999/2000 school year effective September 28, 1999, at the salary of \$3,830, Step 2, in accordance with the 1999/2000 Athletic Salary Guide.

APPOINTMENTS - Teacher Substitutes:

Mrs. Russo presented and moved the adoption of the following resolution, seconded by Mrs. Roncaglio. 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 1999/2000 school year.

APPOINTMENTS - Substitutes:

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

BE IT RESOLVED, That the following substitutes be approved for the 1999/2000 school year:

Secretarial

Ann Marie Olivo

Secretarial/Aide

Linda Marie Jernick

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Cafeteria

Concetta Valenza

Custodial

Eugene LaVacca

EXTRA COMPENSATION:

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

BE IT RESOLVED, That the following personnel be paid extra compensation in the amounts indicated for services rendered:

School to Career - NJBISEC Conference -  
May 4, 1999

MaryLou Dowse	\$ 25.00
Jill Freedman	25.00
Susan Scerbo	25.00
Joyce Wood	<u>25.00</u>
Total	\$100.00

School to Career - WPIN In-Service - May 24, 1999

James Mauro	\$30.97
Susan Scerbo	30.97
Ann Starace	<u>30.97</u>
Total	\$92.91

School to Career - Summer Workshops  
July, 1999

Michael Christadore	\$ 743.28
Gloria Dorfman	743.28
Theresa Hrubash	743.28
Nancy Kehayes	1,852.42
James Mauro	1,022.01
Thomas McCrohan	743.28
Ann Mary Mullane	743.28
Arlene Orenstein	743.28
Sharon Romaglia	929.10
Susan Scerbo	2,134.31
Ann Starace	<u>1,269.77</u>
Total	\$11,667.29

Inclusion Workshop - August 30, 1999

Beverly Apple	\$ 61.94
Kent Bania	61.94
Robyn Burns	61.94
Donna Cocco	61.94
Sally Magin	61.94

Inclusion Workshop - August 30, 1999 (contd.)

Helen Doyle-Marino	\$ 61.94
Tracy McCormick	61.94
Carol Shepherd	61.94
Phillip Siculietano	61.94
Pamela Steinginga	<u>61.94</u>

Total	\$619.40
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Computer Workshop - August 30, 31 and September 1, 1999

Michele Ferraro	\$ 333.30
Jill Freedman	500.00
Lorraine Restel	500.00
Camille Sains	500.00
John Schwarz	<u>500.00</u>

Total	\$2,333.30
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Summer Employment - Summer Youth Employment Training Program (SYETP) - through August 15, 1999

Carmine D'Aloia	\$ 829.00
Kevin Smyth	<u>1,161.38</u>

Total	\$1,990.38
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Summer Employment - Athletic Director - August 20, 24, 25, 26 and 31, September 1 and 2, 1999

Joseph Affinito	\$1,691.34
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Summer Employment - August 30 and 31, 1999

Suzanne Peters	\$359.12
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Summer Employment - Preparation of New Radcliffe School Library - August 20, 23, 24, 25, 26 and 27, 1999

Camille Sains	\$1,300.74
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Summer Employment - Transition - Workshops/In-Service June 28 through August 25, 1999

Sharon Romaglia	\$1,238.80
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Summer Employment - Cooperative Work Study - July 23, 24, 28, 29 and 30, July 1, 22 and 27, August 3, 16, 17 and 25, 1999

William Farkas	\$2,167.90
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Summer Employment - Guidance Counselors - September 1 and 2, 1999

Kathryn Comune	\$ 731.34
Judith Hubert	847.34

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Summer Employment - Guidance Counselors -  
September 1 and 2, 1999

James Mauro	\$ 780.28
Susan Scerbo	794.28
Anne Starace	<u>794.28</u>

Total \$3,947.52

Summer Employment - Guidance Coordinator - July 6  
and 19, August 4, 10, 30 and 31, September 3, 1999

Judith Hubert	\$1,300.74
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Summer Employment - Librarians - August 30 and 31,  
September 1, 2 and 3, 1999

Beverly Apple	\$ 691.50
Mary Austin	765.28
Maria Gernitis	571.90
Susan Rooney	765.28
Camille Sains	621.62
JoAnn Tropicano	1,828.35
Louise Walk	<u>420.00</u>

Total \$5,663.93

Summer Band Camp - August 16-20, 1999

Michael Cundari	\$1,416.59
Dennis McPartland	1,416.59
Dana Melillo	610.65
Eric Robertshaw	400.00
Juan Ruz	<u>600.00</u>

Total \$4,443.83

Fall Sports Physical Examinations - June 16, August 4  
and September 11, 1999

Nicole Errante	\$ 185.82
Katherine Flannery	123.88
Andrew Linfante	216.97
Gerald Ryan	123.88
Patricia Scullen	201.31
Patricia Tarczynski	123.88
Lawrence Tuorto	<u>92.91</u>

Total \$1,068.65

LONGEVITY PAY:

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

BE IT RESOLVED, That the following longevity payments be authorized, effective October 1, 1999:



Lottie Alama	\$ 630 (1/2)	(15 years)
Mary Appel	630 (1/2)	(15 years)
Charles Dunscombe	1,305	(15 years)
Barbara Formichella	2,610	(20 years)
Sharon Larcara	1,260	(15 years)
Virginia Santiglia	630 (1/2)	(15 years)
Bernadette Santoriello	1,260	(15 years)
Arleen Slott	1,260	(15 years)
Susan Tole	1,260	(15 years)

#### CHANGE IN TRAINING LEVEL:

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

BE IT RESOLVED, That the following employee be advanced to the proper level of the salary guide in accordance with Board of Education Regulations, said teacher having completed the necessary college courses to qualify for such advancement, retroactive to September 1, 1999:

<u>To M.A.</u>	<u>Step</u>	<u>Salary</u>
Tracy McCormick	9	\$43,664

#### TUITION REIMBURSEMENT:

Mr. Pelaia presented and moved the adoption of the following resolution, seconded by Dr. Casale. 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>
Annemarie Carollo	\$ 420
Christopher Chern	840
Patricia Keating	420
Lisa Markman	420
Tracy McCormick	420
Julianne Philp	140
Richard SanFillipo	420
Jill Szura	420

Total \$3,500

#### SPECIAL CLASS PLACEMENT - Educationally Disabled Students:

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

BE IT RESOLVED, That the Board of Education authorizes the attendance of students in out-of-district special education classes for the 1999/2000 school year as follows:

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<u>School</u>	<u>No. of Students</u>	<u>Classification</u>	<u>Effective Date</u>	<u>Tuition</u>
C.P. Center Belleville, NJ	1	MD	9/13/99	\$32,412.24
Forest Glen School Bloomfield, NJ	1	SLD	9/8/99	7,500.00

#### ADOPTION OF REVISED REGULATION - Special Education:

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 adopts the following revised regulation:

Regulation #2100 (#2460R)	Special Education	Schedule D
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#### TRANSFER OF FUNDS:

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 transfers in the 1999/2000 General Fund Budget be confirmed as follows:

<u>From</u>		<u>To</u>	
Account 11-999-291-260	\$900	Account 11-240-100-610	\$200
		Account 12-999-400-450	600
		Account 12-999-400-610	<u>100</u>
			\$900

#### CONFIRMATION OF RECEIPT OF FUNDING - School to Career Grant:

Mrs. Roncaglio 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 confirms receipt of funding from the Bloomfield Board of Education as lead agency for School to Career Grant in the amount of \$11,860.20.

#### AGREEMENT WITH ESSEX COUNTY EDUCATIONAL SERVICES COMMISSION - Nonpublic School Technology Initiative Program - 1999/2000 School Year:

Mrs. Roncaglio 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 enter into an Agreement with the Essex County Educational Services Commission whereby the Commission will administer the Nonpublic School Technology Initiative Program for nonpublic schools located within the Township of Nutley for the 1999/2000 school year, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Nutley Board of Education pay 5% of the allocation for the Nonpublic School Technology Initiative Program to the Commission to cover the Commission's cost for administering said Program.

MEMORIAL:

Miss Mary Jane Gallagher

Mrs. Fleitell presented and moved the adoption of the following resolution, seconded by Mr. Pelaia 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 Miss Mary Jane Gallagher on September 9, 1999, and

WHEREAS, Miss Gallagher was employed in September, 1960 as a physical education teacher in the Nutley Public Schools and had a distinguished educational career until her retirement in January, 1983, and

WHEREAS, Miss Gallagher 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.

Mrs. Fleitell remarked that Miss Gallagher was a teacher when she attended high school and was always there to support the students. Mrs. Fleitell added that Miss Gallagher will be sorely missed.

Dr. Serafino indicated that she was a teacher with Miss Gallagher at the high school, noting that Miss Gallagher was a fine, dedicated teacher and she regrets that she passed away.

RETIREMENT - Teacher:

Mrs. Patricia Scullen

Mrs. Fleitell presented and moved the adoption of the following resolution, seconded by Mrs. Russo and unanimously approved by the Board:

BE IT RESOLVED, That the Board of Education accepts the retirement of Mrs. Patricia Scullen, high school nurse, effective January 1, 2000.

RETIREMENT - Teacher:

Mrs. Angela Maguire

Mrs. Roncaglio presented and moved the adoption of the following resolution, seconded by Mrs. Russo and unanimously approved by the Board:

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BE IT RESOLVED, That the Board of Education accepts the retirement of Mrs. Angela Maguire, elementary school nurse, effective January 1, 2000.

LEAVE OF ABSENCE - Teacher:

Mrs. Mary K. Balitsos

Mr. Cafone 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 leave of absence without pay for family leave for Mrs. Mary K. Balitsos from September 24, 1999 through October 15, 1999.

AMENDING APPOINTMENT -  
Non-Tenured Staff:

Mrs. Joyce Cunningham

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

BE IT RESOLVED, That the appointment of Mrs. Joyce Cunningham as a part-time teacher, approved at the June 28, 1999 Board meeting, be amended to reflect a full-time position, at an annual salary of \$36,661, B.A.-6½ in accordance with the 1999/2000 Teachers' Salary Guide.

REAPPOINTMENT - Instructional Aide:

Mrs. Gloria Yanuzzelli

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

BE IT RESOLVED, That the Board of Education approves the reappointment of Mrs. Gloria Yanuzzelli as an instructional aide, effective September 28, 1999, for the 1999/2000 school year at the annual salary of \$20,856, Step 15, in accordance with the 1999/2000 Secretarial Salary Guide.

APPOINTMENT - Permanent  
Unassigned Substitute:

Mr. Michael J. Gagliardi

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

BE IT RESOLVED, That Mr. Michael J. Gagliardi be appointed as a permanent unassigned substitute for the 1999/2000 school year, effective September 28, 1999, at the rate of \$75 per day and fringe benefits which include State Health Benefits and dental plans.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That this candidate met the district's requirement for the permanent unassigned substitute position which is the possession of a County Substitute certificate.

APPOINTMENT - Buildings and Grounds  
Employee:

Mr. Don Barlow

Dr. Casale 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 appoints Mr. Don Barlow as a buildings and grounds employee for the 1999/2000 school year, effective September 28, 1999 at the annual salary of \$25,500 (2-3) which is in accordance with the 1999/2000 Buildings and Grounds Employees Salary Guide. (Hired on a 90-day probationary period.)

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board approves the application for emergency hiring as per the state criminal review procedure.

APPOINTMENT - Instructional Aide:

Ms. Melissa Rosamilia

Dr. Casale 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 Ms. Melissa Rosamilia be appointed as an instructional aide, effective September 28, 1999, for the 1999/2000 school year at the annual salary of \$14,878, Step 7, in accordance with the 1999/2000 Secretarial Salary Guide.

APPOINTMENT - Part-Time Aide:

Mrs. Michele Ferdinando

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 Mrs. Michele Ferdinando be appointed part-time school aide, effective September 28, 1999 through June 30, 2000 at the hourly rate of \$10.60, Step 1, in accordance with the hourly rate established by the Board of Education.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board approves the application for emergency hiring of Michele Ferdinando as per the state criminal review procedure.

APPOINTMENTS - Part-Time Aides:

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

BE IT RESOLVED, That the part-time aides listed below be appointed for the 1999/2000 school year at the salaries indicated in accordance with the hourly rate established by the Board of Education:

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<u>Name</u>	<u>Step</u>	<u>Hourly Rate</u>
Geralynn Dwyer	1	\$10.60
Barbara Polito	1	10.60
Linda Rafanello	1	10.60
Catherine Serio	1	10.60
Kim Sposato	1	10.60
Bridget Vicchiariello	1	10.60
Joanne Witczak	1	10.60

APPOINTMENTS - Custodial Substitutes:

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

BE IT RESOLVED, That the Board of Education appoints the following as custodial substitutes for the 1999/2000 school year:

Glenn Farese  
Joseph McPhee  
Byron Powell  
Daniel Russomano  
Walter Tice

and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board approves the applications for emergency hiring as per the state criminal review procedure.

AMENDING RESOLUTION - Adoption of Priorities-1999/2000:

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

BE IT RESOLVED, That the Addendum - Adoption of Priorities-1999/2000, adopted at the August 30, 1999 Board Meeting, be amended to reflect two New Priorities as listed below:

- . Review of business education curriculum (7-12)
- . Review of physical education requirement for student athletes

Mr. Pelaia commented that he was pleased to see the physical education requirement listed as a new priority since members of the community have been talking about this for some time and this would allow student athletes to gain a study hall or take another course. He added that he is also happy that the original list of priorities includes the review of the chemical health curriculum with a strong anti-smoking component.

ACCEPTANCE OF NOTICE OF ADDITIONAL FUNDING - Chapter 193 - 1999/2000 School Year:

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 Board of Education accepts notice of additional funding for Chapter 193 for the 1999/2000 school year in the amount of \$1,726.

#### HEARING OF CITIZENS:

Mrs. Debra Falanga, 48 North Spring Garden Avenue, expressed her concerns regarding the grading system and asked what action would be taken during the school year to effect changes. Mr. Moscaritola replied that this issue has already been addressed, noting that not many people have appeared at Board meetings expressing concern.

Dr. Serafino noted that we have addressed this matter several times over the past 30 years, adding that a change has been made with minuses having been added. She stated that Nutley has always prided itself on its high academic standards. Dr. Serafino further noted that Board policy states that the Superintendent is the decision-maker regarding grading and this change was her recommendation. She also indicated that she wants to see how this new grading policy works this year before even considering any other changes.

Mrs. Gail Kline, 28 North Spring Garden Avenue, read the following statement:

"As everyone is aware, modest changes to the grading system became effective this school year. Remarkably, the Nutley school system did not collapse, anarchy did not reign in the classroom, and learning is still taking place throughout the district. However, to my knowledge, the status of the numerical grade equivalents on transcripts and report cards has still not been revealed.

"In addition, although we have asked to address the Board and the Superintendent regarding our findings on the College Survey Ms. Celli and myself completed, we have not done so. We are still waiting to be contacted by the appropriate source. Ms. Celli addressed the Board last school year and asked to review the findings with all the Board members and Dr. Serafino at a special meeting. Mr. Moscaritola at a later time suggested the Academic Committee meet with us. When we were interviewed by the press regarding the survey, we decided the appropriate method for encouraging meaningful dialogue would be to discuss the results first with the board and the superintendent, then the press. Therefore, we asked that the article not be printed. We would prefer to take this approach, if possible.

"Since many Board members are unaware of what colleges mean by 'recalculation,' we believe that a discussion of our findings is valuable. There are Board members under the impression that colleges will take the numerical grade from a transcript and recalculate it to their own alphabetic scale. Our findings will clearly explain the process that many colleges use when reviewing transcripts.

"Our survey also addressed the information colleges indicated was necessary to include on the High School Profile in order to evaluate a students transcript adequately. Ms. Celli presented these results to Ms. Hubert, the Guidance Coordinator for the High School. There has been no follow up on this project either.

"In summary, we hope the following questions can be answered tonight:

1. Has the high school transcript for this year been altered to include the numerical grade equivalents?
2. Will the high school report card also have numerical grade equivalents?
3. Are the middle school report card and transcript also being modified?
4. When can we meet with the Board and Superintendent to discuss the findings of the College Survey?
5. What changes have been made to the High School Profile to reflect the data we received from the colleges?

"Dr. Serafino: Can you update us?"

Dr. Serafino responded "yes" to question #1, "no" to questions 2 and 3, and "question mark" to questions 4 and 5. She noted that Mr. Walker would contact Ms. Hubert regarding the survey. Dr. Serafino also indicated that numerics will be on the high school transcript but not the report card and all report cards have been revised to incorporate the new grading system.

Mrs. Russo asked if the "no" to question #2 was a permanent "no" until completion of this school year or was that response given just because it hasn't been done yet. Dr. Serafino replied that the decision was made to not put numerics on the high school report card, adding that nothing is ever a permanent "no."

Mrs. Russo indicated that her understanding was that numerics would be put on the transcripts and also the report cards, adding that she would have to refer to her notes on this matter.

Mrs. Roncaglio stated that she thought there was a report from the high school principal whereby he thought there might be some benefit for the sake of continuity but it was not the Board's feeling or the Superintendent's. She indicated that the report card tells the community how the students are doing and the transcript goes to colleges.

Mrs. Russo noted that based on reports she has received, there is no documentation about these meetings. She further stated that she was concerned about the fact that there is often a need for report cards to be sent to colleges and felt numerics belonged on them as well. Mr. Pelaia said that this Board receives many reports and there would be no need for a Board of Education if we adopted everything put in front of us. He added that nowhere in his memory is there a recollection about the Board or Superintendent ever adopting that position.

Mrs. Russo indicated that she would like to know why the Superintendent chose to put numerics only on the transcripts. Dr. Serafino responded that it was done because that is what goes to colleges and because of the recalculation of GPA by some of the schools.

Mrs. Diana Powell McGovern, 68 Edgewood Avenue, read the following statement:

"I am just one of the many, many, parents of school age children who was dismayed and outraged at the suggestion that the 6<sup>th</sup> grade classes be moved into Franklin School. I can think of no reason that would possibly benefit the children by such a move. In fact, it sounds like this suggestion was made for pure and simple budgetary reasons, and without thought to the risks/benefits associated with placing such young children in that environment.



"First, some of the sixth grade children if placed there would be as young as 11 years old. These children, who legally would not be old enough to be left alone in most instances, would then be asked to walk, not the usual few blocks to their neighborhood elementary schools, but up to two miles from their homes. Further, the eighth graders may be as old as 14 years old and are vastly different from the 11-year-old sixth graders. Obviously children in this period of their life go through many changes physically and emotionally. By sending sixth graders to the middle school we are encouraging an even faster entry into the teen years - and all that that brings with it - dating, the threat of alcohol and drugs and other types of peer pressure.

"Childhood is preciously short, why do we want to shorten it that much sooner and force our sixth graders into a high school environment?

"While I understand that this proposal was suggested as a way to accommodate the spacial needs of the full day kindergarten mandate, surely this Board of Education is responsible enough and creative enough to work out a solution that does not sacrifice quality education for an easy bottom line remedy."

Mrs. McGovern noted that she is asking the Board to reach out to parents in districts with the 6-7-8 configuration and see what their feelings are, adding that she is hearing that all the things she is concerned about are problems. She asked whether the Board would consider parents' opinions in the review of other districts, to which Mr. Moscaritola answered in the affirmative, adding that nothing has been finalized yet.

Mrs. McGovern asked if a Board committee had been formed yet. Dr. Serafino stated that certainly, we would never want to make a recommendation of this type without including parents as well. She noted that we have just started to talk about it and the 6-7-8 configuration is only an option, one of many. She explained that an architect is doing a feasibility study.

Dr. Serafino stated that she has spoken with the PT Council on this matter and plans to attend all of the executive meetings of the PTOs next month to inform them of what is happening and to listen to what they have to say. She reassured Mrs. McGovern that this issue will be looked at very closely.

Mr. Pelaia requested a copy of the statement read by Mrs. McGovern.

Mrs. Fleitell remarked that as both a Board member and parent, such a decision would never be made without a great deal of parental input, adding that this is not simply a budgetary decision. She noted that she has been a member of the Facilities Committee for three or four years and has watched the student population increase, adding that this issue must be addressed.

Mrs. Fleitell also said that for many, the decision on the configuration is an educational one. She explained that the middle school we have now is like a mini high school and the children are being moved much too quickly into a high school mentality. Mrs. Fleitell stated that she is not opposed to the 6-7-8 concept, adding that, for her, the parameters are educational.

Mr. Pelaia asked if most of Mrs. McGovern's concerns were with the social aspects.

Mrs. McGovern stated that there is a lot of peer pressure at that age to be the "cool" one in class, not the smart one.

Mr. Pelaia indicated that all aspects of this issue are important - social, financial, educational, etc.

Mrs. Russo noted that with an issue like this there has to be wide-spread communication throughout the community. She added that communication is key. She further noted that the PT Council is open to all parents and the public is welcome at Conference Meetings which are open. Mrs. Russo also stated that the educational, emotional and social needs of each child must be addressed and the community must support this.

Mrs. Russo commented that the concept of a middle school is different than what we know of in Nutley and she encourages everyone to attend these meetings and seek out information, adding that she is not against the 6-7-8 concept.

Mrs. Kline mentioned that the Spring Garden School executive PTO meetings are private and not open to the general membership. Mr. Cafone said that as the newly appointed Board representative to Spring Garden School, it was his understanding that Dr. Parisi had stated that the executive meetings are open to the public.

Mr. Moscaritola stated that he believes Dr. Serafino will address the issue.

#### OLD BUSINESS:

None

#### NEW BUSINESS:

Dr. Casale asked if it would be possible to have display ads published in our local papers to alert the community that night games will be played in the Oval this week. Mr. Don Kelly from the Nutley Journal who was in the audience, replied that it would be a very close call. Mr. Sincaglia stated he would contact the papers the first thing in the morning.

Mr. Moscaritola noted that the Board representative to the Hockey Booster Club would be Mr. Pelaia and the alternate representative would be Mrs. Roncaglio.

Mrs. Russo asked if the material regarding the Quality Assurance Annual Report would be available for the Conference Meeting next month to which Dr. Serafino replied in the affirmative.

#### RESOLUTION TO CLOSE MEETING TO THE PUBLIC:

Mr. Moscaritola asked Mr. Sincaglia to read the following resolution:

WHEREAS, the Board of Education will be discussing matters exempt from public discussion pursuant to N.J.S.A. 10:4-12,

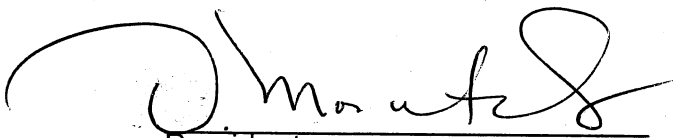
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Board of Education adjourn to closed executive session at this time to discuss collective bargaining matters and other items exempt from public discussion, and

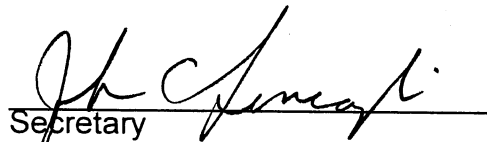
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the results of the discussions will be made public by inclusion on the agenda of a subsequent meeting of the Board of Education, or when the reasons for discussing such matters in closed session no longer exist.

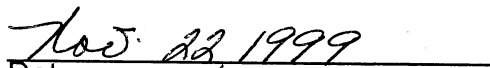
Mrs. Russo moved that the resolution be adopted, seconded by Mrs. Roncaglio and unanimously approved by the Board.

ADJOURNMENT:

The meeting adjourned at 9:03 p.m.

  
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President

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Secretary

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

September 27, 1999