

Board of Education
Nutley, NJ

February 28, 2000

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, February 28, 2000 at 8:06 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:

Mr. Picciano led 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: Dr. Philip T. Casale, Mrs. Michele Fleitell, Mr. Steven P. Picciano, Mr. Alfred R. Restaino, Jr., Mrs. Agnes Roncaglio and Mrs. Maria Russo. Absent: Mr. John Cafone and Mr. Joseph C. Pelaia.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Copies of the minutes of the Regular Meeting held on January 24, 2000 at 8:10 p.m. and the Special Meeting held on January 31, 2000 at 6:00 p.m. being in the hands of each member, reading of same was dispensed. Mrs. Russo moved that the minutes be approved, seconded by Mrs. Fleitell and unanimously approved by the Board.

PRESENTATION OF AWARDS:

Dr. Serafino welcomed everyone present this evening to a very exciting and prideful event. She extended compliments to all the students, commended scholars and two finalists. Dr. Serafino indicated that she was certain all the parents are very proud as we in the district are proud. She then introduced Mr. Mario Cocchiola, high school principal.

Mr. Cocchiola noted that it is always a pleasure to be part of a program that honors Nutley students. He congratulated the outstanding students being honored this evening as well as their parents. He then introduced Ms. Judith Hubert, guidance coordinator.

Ms. Hubert explained that high-achieving students in the Garden State Scholars program are designated Edward J. Bloustein Distinguished Scholars and are in the top 10% of their class with a minimum SAT of 1260 and first or second in class rank at the end of the junior year. She further noted that these students attained an average of 666 in the verbal portion of the test and 686 in the math portion.

Ms. Hubert, Mr. Cocchiola, Mrs. Russo and Mrs. Fleitell presented awards to the following 2000 Edward J. Bloustein Distinguished Scholars:

Julie Agostini	Jennifer Knobloch
Michael Barlettano	Kristen Lowrey
Vineet Bedi	Swetha Madhavarapu
Marisa Castronova	John Mauro
Drew Chen	Scarlett Morris
Anthony Donzella	Jillian Nardiello
Mary Kate Evans	Frank Penna
Melissa Graff	Terri Pongracz
Kristopher Grossman	Peter Shin
Lisa Hasselbrook	Alexander Vartanian

Ms. Hubert indicated that the Commended Students are sponsored by the National Merit Scholarship Program and 1.1 million students took the PSAT in October of 1998. She commented that Commended Students are in the 95th percentile and out of the 1.1 million students taking the PSAT 34,000 qualified.

Ms. Hubert, Mr. Cocchiola, Mrs. Fleitell and Mrs. Russo presented awards to the following 2000 National Merit Commended Students:

Julie Agostini	Lisa Hasselbrook
Vineet Bedi	Jennifer Knobloch
Drew Chen	Peter LaFountain
Eugene DePersio	Jillian Nardiello
Melissa Graff	Terri Pongracz
Kristopher Grossman	Dolina Viemeister

Ms. Hubert noted that out of the 1.1 million students taking the PSAT 1% in the nation become Finalists.

Ms. Hubert, Mr. Cocchiola, Mrs. Fleitell and Mrs. Russo presented awards to the following National Merit Finalists:

Peter Shin
Alexander Vartanian

Mr. Cocchiola then introduced Mr. Joseph Affinito, Athletic Director.

Mr. Affinito congratulated all the student athletes and their parents for their accomplishments.

Coach James Kelly and Mr. Restaino presented the following football awards:

Daniel Greco	- 1 st Team 1999
	All NNJIL
	Essex County Star Ledger
	Essex County Coaches

- John Porcelli - 1st Team 1999
All NNJIL
Essex County Coaches
- Matthew Francello - 1st Team 1999
All NNJIL
- Nicholas Beckmeyer - 1st Team 1999
All NNJIL
- Christian Helm - 1st Team 1999
All NNJIL
- Thomas Banks - 1st Team 1999
All NNJIL
Essex County Star Ledger

Coach Donald Tobey, Mrs. Fleitell and Mr. Restaino presented the following Girls Soccer Awards:

- Justine Grossman - 1st Team
All NNJIL
NJGSCA All Star
- Megan Oxland - 1st Team
All NNJIL
NJGSCA All Star
- Rachel Fleitell - 1999 NJGSCA
All Star

Coach Edward Annett and Mr. Restaino presented the following Cross Country Awards:

- Michael Dougherty - 1st Team 1999
All NNJIL
Essex County
- Michael Bonchonsky - 1st Team 1999
All NNJIL
- Courtney Kopf - 1st Team 1999
All NNJIL
- Christina Boyle - 1st Team 1999
All NNJIL

Mr. Cocchiola thanked the Board of Education and Dr. Serafino for honoring the outstanding Nutley High School students.

RECESS MEETING:

Mr. Moscaritola declared a recess at 8:30 p.m.

RECONVENE MEETING:

The meeting reconvened at 8:42 p.m.

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COMMUNICATIONS:

Mr. Sincaglia presented and read the following communications:

1. A notice from the Essex County School Boards Association regarding an Essex and Passaic County School Boards Associations Joint Legislative Dinner Meeting to be held on March 1, 2000.
2. A notice from the Morris County School Boards Association regarding a general membership meeting to be held on March 15, 2000, the topic to be Continuing Education - Policy, Negotiations, & Implementation.
3. Two letters from Jack Wagenti regarding school property taxes.
4. A thank-you note from the Carl Ohlson family for the Board's expression of condolence on the death of his mother.
5. A thank-you note from Elaine Carson for the Board's expression of sympathy on the loss of her mother.
6. A thank-you note from Carmela Masucci for the fruit basket sent by the Board during her recent illness.
7. A thank-you note from the John Sincaglia family for the Board's expression of sympathy upon the loss of his wife's mother.
8. A letter from Amanda Walsh expressing support for Washington School teacher Mari Konn.

SECRETARY'S REPORT:

Mr. Sincaglia presented the Report of the Secretary as of January 31, 2000. (See attached report.)

Mrs. Russo moved that the Board accept the Report of the Secretary, seconded by Dr. Casale. On a roll call vote the resolution was unanimously adopted.

TREASURER'S REPORT:

Mr. Sincaglia presented the Report of the Treasurer of School Moneys as of January 31, 2000. (See attached report.)

Mrs. Russo 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. Serafino presented and read the following report:

"Informational Items:

2000 "Second quarter report cards were distributed on Friday, February 4,

"GEPA Test

Science - March 6
 Language Arts - March 7 & 8
 Mathematics - March 9

"GEPA Field Test - March 17

"Science Fair - Saturday, March 18
 Franklin School

"The District-Wide Elementary Music Program will be conducted in the high school auditorium on Tuesday, March 21 at 7:30 p.m.

"The Annual Winter Sports Awards Program will be conducted in the high school auditorium on Wednesday, March 22 at 7:30 p.m.

"Attached is the student enrollment chart as of January 31, 2000"

FIRE DRILL REPORT:

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

Jan.	3	Lincoln School	9:44 a.m.	1 min. 49 secs.
Jan.	3	Nutley High School	10:07 a.m.	2 min. 10 secs.
Jan.	3	Washington School	12:50 p.m.	1 min. 18 secs.
Jan.	3	Yantacaw School	10:15 a.m.	1 min. 30 secs.
Jan.	4	Franklin School	10:30 a.m.	2 min. 9 secs.
Jan.	4	Lincoln School	10:05 a.m.	1 min. 53 secs.
Jan.	4	Spring Garden School	10:06 a.m.	1 min. 30 secs.
Jan.	7	Yantacaw School	2:10 p.m.	1 min. 35 secs.
Jan.	11	Radcliffe School	2:43 p.m.	1 min. 28 secs.
Jan.	12	Franklin School	1:30 p.m.	2 min. 2 secs.
Jan.	12	Radcliffe School	11:01 a.m.	1 min. 37 secs.
Jan.	12	Spring Garden School	2:23 p.m.	1 min. 30 secs.
Jan.	12	Washington School	8:40 a.m.	1 min. 35 secs.

CAFETERIA REPORT:

Mr. Restaino presented the cafeteria report as of January 31, 2000 showing a 1999/2000 budget of \$663,265.00, contractual orders to date of \$364,011.62, leaving funds available of \$299,253.38.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Mr. Restaino, Chairman of the Facilities Committee, indicated that the Committee met last week, the main purpose being to move forward with planning a survey to be distributed to the community dealing with the referendum and giving everyone an opportunity to serve on the committee as recommended by the New Jersey School Boards Association and DMR. He explained that this would afford the opportunity for anyone to participate in the process and voice opinions and the intent was to distribute this questionnaire, along with a cover letter, in back packs and be sent to civic organizations, senior citizen organizations and advertise in the local newspapers. Mr. Restaino noted that the Committee would entertain any suggestions from the Board as it moves forward with this.

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Mr. Restaino also noted that the district is within the time line as presented by Mr. Rosenberg of DMR, noting that the intent is to disseminate the survey within the next week or shortly thereafter. Mr. Restaino thanked the members of the Facilities Committee, Mr. Sincaglia and Dr. Serafino for their assistance.

Mrs. Russo asked if the survey would be mailed to the families of middle and high school students, to which Mr. Restaino replied that it could be possible. Mr. Moscaritola reiterated that the survey would be placed in newspapers.

Mrs. Russo, Chairperson of the Policy Committee, indicated that the Committee has been meeting and moving ahead and she would like to set up a date for the next meeting and continue on a weekly or biweekly basis.

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 Dr. Casale. On a roll call vote the resolution was unanimously adopted:

BE IT RESOLVED, That, pursuant to NJAC 6:20-2.13 (e), the Nutley Board of Education certifies that as of January 31, 2000, 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:

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 authorizes the payment of bills and mandatory payments in the total amount of \$3,638,449.43 as per the attached Schedule A which have been audited by the Business Office.

REQUESTS FOR USE OF SCHOOL BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS:

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 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 - Part-Time Aide:Mrs. Karen Damico

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 the resignation of Mrs. Karen Damico, part-time aide, effective January 28, 2000.

LEAVE OF ABSENCE - Secretary:Mrs. Lillian Lewis

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 a medical leave of absence without pay for Mrs. Lillian Lewis, effective February 23, 2000 p.m. through June 30, 2000.

APPOINTMENTS - Athletic:

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

BE IT RESOLVED, That the Board of Education approves the following athletic appointments for the 1999/2000 school year at the steps as indicated in accordance with the 1999/2000 Athletic Salary Guide:

<u>Sport</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Step</u>	<u>Salary</u>
<u>Lacrosse</u>			
Assistant Coach	Kent Bania	1	\$3,632
<u>Track</u>			
Assistant Coach	Kelli Cerniglia	1	3,632
<u>Softball</u>			
Assistant Coach	Darren Groh	4	4,229
<u>Baseball</u>			
Assistant Coach	Robert Harbison	4	4,229
<u>Crew</u>			
Assistant Coach	Carla D'Agostino	1	3,632

APPOINTMENTS - Teacher Substitutes:

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:

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BE IT RESOLVED, That the teacher substitutes listed on the attached Schedule C be approved for the 1999/2000 school year.

APPOINTMENTS - Substitutes:

Mr. Picciano 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 following substitutes be approved for the 1999/2000 school year:

Secretarial/School Aide/Cafeteria

Diane DeKenipp

Secretarial/School Aide

Diane Morgan

Cafeteria

Giuseppina Armenti

EXTRA COMPENSATION:

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

Business Education Curriculum - January 13 and 27, 2000

Michael Christadore	\$123.88
Gloria Dorfman	123.88
Nancy Kehayes	186.52
Thomas McCrohan	123.88
Ann Mary Mullane	123.88
Arlene Orenstein	<u>123.88</u>

Total \$805.92

Chemical Health Curriculum - January 8, 2000

John Alessio	\$ 123.88
Rita Alfaro	123.88
Irene Aragona	123.88
Susan Dingwell	123.88
Danielle Ferraro	123.88
Katherine Flannery	123.88
AnneMarie Kowalski	123.88
Anna Melnyk	186.52
Luann Zullo	<u>123.88</u>

Total \$1,177.56

Payment for Attendance at Watershed and Meteorological
In-Service - November 29, December 8, 13, 20, 1999,
January 3, 12, 24 and 31, 2000

Maria Andriola	\$ 371.64
Irene Aragona	433.58
Kent Bania	433.58
Grayce Berk	371.64
Donald Baumann	433.58
Donna Cocco	495.52
Danielle Ferraro	495.52
Jainine Gambaro	495.52
Jolinda Griwert	433.58
Patricia Isabella	495.52
Patricia Keating	495.52
Scott Keena	495.52
Frank Libert	433.58
Lesslie Licamelli	495.52
Valerie Martin	495.52
Beverly Masullo	495.52
Marcy McKenzie	495.52
Florence Meyers	495.52
Walter Murray	495.52
Carol Perrone	371.64
Lorraine Restel	495.52
Alisa Rossi	433.58
Lisa Rossi	433.58
Phillip Siculietano	402.61
Kevin Smyth	433.58

Total \$11,427.93

Payment for Conducting Watershed and Meteorological
In-Service - November 29, December 8, 13, 20, 1999,
January 3, 12, 24 and 31, 2000

Gerard Adubato	\$ 704.73
Joseph Bertuzzi	704.73
Frank Comune	805.40
Laura Giangheruso	805.40
Jill Freedman	805.40
Ellen Napoli	805.40
Jill Szura	805.40

Total \$5,436.46

Creating Safe Schools - January 8, 2000

Donald Baumann	\$ 123.88
Michele Cristantiello	123.88
Scott Keena	123.88
Pamela Batchelder-Mitchell	123.88
Walter Murray	123.88
Michael Stoffers	123.88
Joyce Wood	123.88
Joseph Zarra	186.52

Total \$1,053.68

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Language Arts/Reading Textbook Review - January 8 and
27, 2000

Grayce Berk	\$ 221.49
Kenneth Ferriol	46.46
Patricia Griffin	170.34
Geraldine Intiso	123.88
Gail Kahn	170.34
Mari Konn	46.46
Joan Lightfoot	170.34
Valerie Martin	170.34
Beverly Masullo	170.34
Gail Reilly	170.34
Lorraine Restel	170.34
Alisa Rossi	170.34
Sally Ann Ryder	170.34
Deborah Schop	170.34

Total \$2,141.69

Central Detention Coverage - January, 2000

High School

AnneMarie Kowalski	\$100.74
Carol Shepherd	117.53

Franklin School

Patrick Keating	67.16
Lawrence Mitschow	50.37
Patricia Sloan	134.32

Total \$470.12

Saturday Morning Suspensions - December, 1999

High School

Darren Groh	\$140.34
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Franklin School

Patricia Sloan	210.51
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Total \$350.85

Payment for Conducting In-Service for E-Mail - Make-up
Session - January 11, 2000

Lorraine Restel	\$80.54
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Payment for Assisting in the SRA 11 Administration -
January 29, 2000

Juanita Boutin	\$123.88
Raymond Chapman	123.88

Total \$247.76

Intramurals - December 15, 1999 - January 28, 2000

Kenneth Ferriol	\$ 96.04
Scott Keena	120.05
Rosann Rizzuto	72.03
Heather Vonroth	<u>312.13</u>

Total	\$600.25
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LONGEVITY PAY:

Mr. Picciano 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 following longevity payment be authorized:

Robert McDermott	\$193	Eff. March 1, 2000 (10 years)
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TUITION REIMBURSEMENT:

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

<u>Name</u>	<u>Amount</u>
John Alessio	\$ 420
Christopher Chern	840
Linda Fisher	420
Darren Groh	840
Diane LaPierre	420
Paula Lee	840
Andrew Linfante	420
Lisa Markman	420
Christopher Masullo	420
Elaine Mauro	420
Rebecca Olivo	420
Becky Pandolfi	420
Robyn Powell	420
Lorraine Restel	420
Janice Schoem	420
Jill Szura	840
Robert Topolski	420
Heather Vonroth	420
Joseph Zarra	<u>525</u>

Total	\$9,765
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SPECIAL CLASS PLACEMENT - Educationally Disabled Student:

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 authorizes the attendance of a student in out-of-district special education classes for the 1999/2000 school year as follows:

<u>School</u>	<u>No. of Students</u>	<u>Classification</u>	<u>Effective Date</u>	<u>Tuition</u>
Sage Day Rochelle Park, NJ	1	ED	2/7/00	\$13,617.24

AMENDING RESOLUTION - Transportation Contract-Sussex County Regional Cooperative:

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 resolution, Transportation Contract-Sussex County Regional Cooperative, adopted at the January 24, 2000 Board meeting, be amended to reflect 2 students being transported to Windsor Learning Center, Pompton Lakes, NJ (effective February 2, 2000 through June 30, 2000) and 2 students being transported to Chancellor Academy, Pompton Plains, NJ at a total per diem cost of \$238 (this contract terminated the contract with the Passaic County Educational Services Commission).

ESSEX COUNTY EDUCATIONAL SERVICES COMMISSION - Chapter 192/193 and Approval of Contract for Homebound Instruction - 2000/2001 School Year:

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:

WHEREAS, Chapter 192, P.L. 1977 requires the provision of certain auxiliary services to children in nonpublic schools, and Chapter 193 requires the provision of certain services to handicapped children in nonpublic schools,

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That a contract be entered into with the Essex County Educational Services Commission to provide these services during the 2000/2001 school year to students who attend nonpublic schools in Nutley, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the price to be paid to the Essex County Educational Services Commission for these services shall not exceed the amount paid to the Nutley Board of Education by the state to implement this program and

BE IT FURTHER 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 2000/2001 school year.

TRANSPORTATION AGREEMENTS:

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 Secretary be authorized to enter into transportation agreements with contractors, other school districts or the Essex County Educational Services Commission for transportation of Special Education students for the 2000/2001 school year, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That any such agreements be presented for ratification at the next succeeding meeting of the Board of Education.

TRANSFER OF FUNDS:

Mrs. 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 11-140-100-101	\$ 3,000	Account 11-213-100-610	\$ 100
Account 11-213-100-640	100	Account 11-240-100-610	450
Account 11-240-100-640	450	Account 11-999-100-566	25,000
Account 11-999-100-564	5,000	Account 11-999-213-100	4,000
Account 11-999-217-100	3,000	Account 11-999-221-105	2,000
Account 11-999-262-100	17,000	Account 11-999-230-331	<u>10,000</u>
Account 11-999-262-520	5,000		
Account 11-999-270-515	2,000		\$41,550
Account 11-999-270-593	1,000		
Account 11-999-291-260	<u>5,000</u>		
	\$41,550		

MULTI-YEAR EQUITY PLAN:

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

WHEREAS, pursuant to NJAC 6:4-1.1 et seq., all New Jersey school districts must adopt a policy of Equal Educational Opportunity, and

WHEREAS, the Nutley Board of Education adopted such a policy on August 27, 1990, and

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WHEREAS, the New Jersey Department of Education is requiring all New Jersey school districts to develop and submit a multi-year equity plan which is designed to help districts concentrate on identifying and resolving all equity needs affecting schools, pupils or staff, and

WHEREAS, the New Jersey Department of Education requires that the Multi-Year Equity Plan be revised for the years 2000/2003,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Nutley Board of Education authorizes the revision and implementation of the Multi-Year Equity Plan for the Nutley School District for the years 2000/2003.

ADOPTION OF NOTICE OF CLAIM FORM:

Mrs. Fleitell asked for an explanation of the proposed claim form.

Mr. Sincaglia explained that the Board of Education was a member of the Suburban Essex Joint Insurance Fund (JIF) and a meeting was recently held with the JIF attorney who explained that this claim form was adopted by JIF and they recommend that public entities use it. He further explained that if someone were to file a civil action the Board has the right under statute to designate the claim form. Mr. Sincaglia also indicated that the feeling is that this is for the Board's benefit but it has to be adopted by Board resolution.

Mrs. Fleitell asked if the Board had ever had the claim form before to which Mr. Sincaglia replied in the negative, adding that this will require work on the part of attorneys who want to take some action. He noted that this was the recommendation of JIF and there is no work on the district's part.

Mrs. Fleitell questioned if this was brought up by the insurance company to which Mr. Sincaglia responded in the affirmative, explaining that it is used by JIF and at a meeting with the JIF attorney, local attorney James Piro who used to be a Board of Education member, it was strongly recommended that the Board adopt the form.

Mrs. Russo asked who would send out the form. Mr. Sincaglia explained that if someone wants to bring action against the Board the Board has the right, under statute, to require that the claim be submitted on that form, noting that the form to be adopted tonight was the draft presented by JIF.

Mrs. Russo asked if an injured employee would be required to fill out this form to which Mr. Sincaglia replied in the negative, noting that coverage for employee injuries is by workers' compensation insurance.

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

WHEREAS, N.J.S.A. 59:8-6 provides that a public entity may adopt a form to be completed by claimants in connection with notices of claims against the public entity, and

WHEREAS, the Nutley Board of Education deems it advisable and necessary to adopt a Notice of Claim form in the form attached hereto (Schedule D) and made a part hereof,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Nutley Board of Education that the attached Notice of Claim form be and is hereby adopted as the official Notice of Claim form for the Nutley Board of Education, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That all persons making claims against the Nutley Board of Education, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 59:8-1, et seq. (Tort Claims Act), be required to complete the form as a condition of the notice requirements of the Tort Claims Act.

ACCEPTANCE OF NOTICE OF ADDITIONAL SPECIAL EDUCATION AID - 1999/2000 School Year:

Mrs. Fleitell 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 accepts notice of additional special education aid for the 1999/2000 school year in the amount of \$47,841, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That this amount be added to the 1999/2000 General Fund Budget.

APPROVAL OF SUBMISSION OF AMENDMENT APPLICATION - IASA - FY2000:

Mrs. Roncaglio 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 submission of the amendment application for IASA for FY2000.

ESTABLISH DATE FOR PUBLIC HEARING ON 2000/2001 SCHOOL DISTRICT BUDGET:

Mrs. Roncaglio 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 Public Hearing on the 2000/2001 budget be held on Monday, March 27, 2000 at 7:00 p.m.

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

Mrs. Roncaglio 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 Secretary/Business Administrator be authorized to advertise for bids, solicit quotations, purchase by State Contract or recommend for contract renewal the following items/services:

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Air Conditioners
 Alarm System Service/Installation
 Athletic Supplies and Equipment
 Audio Visual Supplies and Equipment
 Auditorium Seating
 Boiler Repair
 Boiler Water Treatment
 Bread and Rolls
 Brick and Masonry Work
 Building Materials
 Calculators
 Carpeting
 Chalkboards/Bulletin Boards
 Commercial Printing
 Computer Hardware Maintenance
 Computer Networking
 Custodial Uniforms
 Door Hardware
 Electrical Supplies
 Electrical Work
 Floor Repair and Floor Tile Installation
 Grounds Supplies and Equipment
 Gym and Classroom Floor Restoration
 Hand and Power Tools
 Heating Plant Modifications

Ice Cream Products
 Industrial Arts Supplies and Equipment
 Internet Service Provider
 Janitorial Supplies
 Locker Refinishing
 Microcomputers and Accessories
 Milk and Dairy Products
 Musical Instruments and Supplies
 Office Furniture and Equipment
 Office Paper
 Paint
 Periodical Subscriptions
 Photocopiers
 Pupil Transportation Vehicles
 Roofing Work
 School Furniture
 School Health Supplies
 School Supplies
 Science Supplies and Equipment
 Sidewalk and Paving Work
 Solid Waste Disposal
 Stage Drapery
 Ventilating Equipment

TESTIMONIAL - Social Worker:

Mrs. Theresa Petti

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

WHEREAS, Mrs. Theresa Petti has tendered her resignation as social worker, effective March 1, 2000 and has signified her intention of retiring from active service, and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Petti has taught in the Nutley Public Schools for a period of twenty-two years, and

WHEREAS, through the years Mrs. Petti has exemplified the finest qualities of her profession at all times,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Board of Education expresses to Mrs. Petti its deep appreciation of her long and faithful service and extends to her its best wishes for continued health and happiness, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That this resolution be made a part of the minutes of this meeting and a copy presented to Mrs. Petti.

Dr. Serafino noted that Mrs. Petti has been in the district for twenty-two years, has worked very hard and will be very much missed. Dr. Serafino wished Mrs. Petti the very best of health and happiness in her retirement.

MEMORIAL:

Mr. Gregory Rhodes

Mr. Restaino 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 Mr. Gregory Rhodes on February 2, 2000, and

WHEREAS, Mr. Rhodes was employed in September, 1971 as a social studies teacher in the Nutley Public Schools and had a distinguished educational career until his retirement in June, 1999, and

WHEREAS, Mr. Rhodes won the admiration and respect of his fellow teachers and the friendship of pupils who came under the influence of his 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 his 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 his family.

Dr. Serafino remarked that Mr. Rhodes' passing was very sad as he had just recently retired last June and was looking forward to many years of a healthy and happy retirement. She noted that she thinks of Mr. Rhodes always with a smile on his face and a big hello. Dr. Serafino indicated that Mr. Rhodes was very much loved by students and colleagues and will be missed. She further commented that her son was a student of Mr. Rhodes' and had a great deal of respect for the man.

Mrs. Fleitell stated that Mr. Rhodes was her daughter's teacher last year and had pleasant things to do and say with the class. She added that she appreciated the work he did for her daughter and the district.

APPOINTMENT - Professional Staff:

Mrs. Donna T. Saitta

Mrs. Fleitell 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 Mrs. Donna T. Saitta as teacher for the 1999/2000 school year effective February 29, 2000, at the annual salary of \$35,728, B.A.-6, in accordance with the 1999/2000 Teachers' Salary Guide.

APPOINTMENT - Professional Staff:

Mrs. Maria Considine

Mr. Picciano 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 appoints Mrs. Maria Considine as school nurse for the 1999/2000 school year effective February 29, 2000, at the annual salary of \$35,728, B.A.-6, in accordance with the 1999/2000 Teachers' Salary Guide.

February 28, 2000

APPROVAL OF SUBMISSION OF AMENDMENT APPLICATION - IDEA/
IDEA Preschool - FY 2000:

Dr. Casale 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 submission of the amendment application for IDEA/IDEA Preschool for FY2000.

ADOPTION OF 2000/2001 TENTATIVE BUDGET:

Mrs. Roncaglio presented and moved the adoption of the following resolution, seconded by Mrs. Fleitell.

BE IT RESOLVED, That the Board of Education hereby adopts a tentative budget for the 2000/2001 school year in the amount of:

General Fund	\$35,962,133
Special Revenue Fund	980,658
Debt Service	<u>166,308</u>
Total Budget	\$37,109,099 of which the

following amount shall be raised by local tax levy:

General Fund	\$29,862,742
Debt Service	<u>152,210</u>
Total	\$30,014,952

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Secretary be authorized to submit this budget to the County Superintendent for approval, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board also requests approval of the statutory Growth Limitation Adjustment for changes in enrollment in the amount of \$547,757 and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That upon receiving the approval of the County Superintendent, the Secretary be authorized to publish the 2000/2001 budget in The Nutley Sun, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board meet on March 8, 2000 at 7:30 p.m. in the Board Conference Room to further review the 2000/2001 tentative budget.

Mrs. Russo commented that she thought this item was to have been done under New Business.

Mr. Restaino made a motion to table the resolution for possible action under New Business, seconded by Dr. Casale and unanimously approved by the Board.

HEARING OF CITIZENS:

None

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OLD BUSINESS:

None

RECESS MEETING:

On motion made by Mrs. Russo, seconded by Mrs. Fleitell and unanimously approved by the Board a five-minute recess was declared at 9:07 p.m.

RECONVENE MEETING:

Mr. Moscaritola reconvened the meeting at 9:15 p.m. Mrs. Russo was not present at this time.

NEW BUSINESS:

Mr. Restaino stated that he has some reservations about adopting the resolution to approve the tentative budget for the 2000/2001 school year, noting that we are trying to be a district responsible fiscally as well as continuing to provide educational programs we are accustomed to.

Mrs. Russo returned at 9:16 p.m.

Mr. Restaino commented that it is important for the Board to take into account the community and taxpayers and try to present a budget that will not affect taxes in any way, shape or form. He added that the district does an outstanding job of doing more with less and everyone should be commended for that. Mr. Restaino said he would like the Board to take another look at this budget.

Mr. Moscaritola remarked that looking back over the tax rate sheet provided by Mr. Sincaglia shows that last year we had an increase of 0.4%, 1.02% the year before and 3.53% the year before that and 0.5% now. He continued by noting that we are down to an increase of three tax points for next year but there is a desire to look more closely at the budget since he would like to look at some items to see if it can be gotten down to having no tax increase at all.

Mr. Restaino noted that he will be in the district a long time as a parent and he would like the Board to look at the budget again.

Mrs. Fleitell asked what the increase will be at this point in time if the budget remains as is to which Mr. Moscaritola replied three tax points or 0.5%. Mr. Sincaglia noted that if the number given to him today by the tax assessor is correct, the increase would be three points which would be the second lowest increase in modern times and this translates to about an additional \$15 per year per dwelling.

Mr. Moscaritola stated that the point is not the \$15 but the fact that we are showing we are very fiscally responsible and he feels the Board should put in a few more hours of studying the budget.

Mrs. Fleitell indicated that as a member of the Athletic Committee she feels that its work was not finished since the Committee never completed pulling out some items that were requested. She added that she wanted the public to know she felt this portion was incomplete and she felt some things could have been cut.

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Mr. Sincaglia reiterated the fact that the budget must be submitted to the County Superintendent by March 6.

Dr. Casale noted that he agreed with Mr. Restaino, adding that he thinks the budget should be looked at by the full Board and any further discussion should include the entire Board.

Mrs. Roncaglio stated that as Chairperson of the Budget Committee she would like to commend Mr. Sincaglia for his hard work, adding that she understands everyone's concerns. She indicated that if everyone would put up their sleeves she would endorse their efforts but does not know how it will be done.

Mr. Sincaglia noted that as he had explained several weeks ago, the budget must be reviewed by the County Superintendent to ensure that it meets the core curriculum budget and other items. He reiterated that this is a tentative budget and the Public Hearing would be the deadline, adding that things can be done in between but preferably not at the last minute. Mr. Sincaglia remarked that there are 1-1/2" of materials that must be submitted with the budget and he needs time to prepare it, reiterating that this is not the final resolution but is essentially what is prepared to give to the public. He noted that there can be an errata sheet in the budget booklet if necessary. Mr. Sincaglia explained that there is a process and expectation that we have a budget book ready by the time the budget ad appears in the paper and this would have to go forward and any changes would not make the book because it could not be produced fast enough.

Mr. Moscaritola indicated that this shows the Board is working with very good dialogue.

Mr. Restaino stated that he is not looking to cut anything; he is looking to possibly find money that may not be utilized this year but he understands there are needs.

Mr. Sincaglia noted that there are two things we are already doing, one of which is the state identified an extra \$47,000 we will receive in state aid and this was added to the resolution this evening. He explained that the district will purchase things with this money that were to have been purchased next year. Mr. Sincaglia also indicated that approximately \$70,000 of textbooks will be purchased this year with money available, adding that, essentially, all replacement textbooks will be purchased this year.

Mr. Sincaglia further added that the Radcliffe School heating plant replacement will be done with this year's money. He noted that a few weeks ago this proposed budget was \$50,000 over cap and it was with a great degree of difficulty that it was brought in under cap. Mr. Sincaglia explained his concern about what will happen next year, noting that he is not an administrator who says we must automatically budget up to cap each year and he does not believe in raising money where it is not needed.

Mr. Sincaglia also indicated that with salary and benefit increases facing the district a great many items had to be eliminated. He explained that the three tax points translate to \$300,000 and it will be hard to eliminate that much money from this budget.

Mr. Picciano stated that his priorities are the children and the quality of education and of the facilities. He commented that the Board wants to cut further monies but money is needed to repair the buildings. Mr. Picciano added that a \$15 cut per family would necessitate the money coming out of someone's program and we still need more money to improve the facilities we have. He indicated that he is confused about what will be done here.

Mr. Moscaritola commented that the Board will be going to the public with a bond referendum which will hopefully take care of many of these things. He noted that Nutley is a bedroom community with nothing to offset the tax base, adding that the Board is here because of the public and questions have to be asked.

Mrs. Russo noted that she agrees with just about everything that was said here but as much as she would like to keep the budget as low as possible she feels it is necessary to keep communication going. Mrs. Russo stated that she feels the Budget Committee should meet for a few minutes since they have the background and then the entire Board could hear a Committee report. She added that she does not want to cut programs and had wanted to speak with Mr. Sincaglia regarding some of the work which needs to be done in the schools.

Mrs. Russo commented that if the Board is looking at so many things to be included in the referendum perhaps it should look at some of the spending for repair work in the schools and incorporate it into the referendum.

Mr. Restaino stated that he would like the Board to take another look at the budget.

Mr. Sincaglia then indicated that the third paragraph of the resolution had to be amended since a part of the wording had been omitted. Mrs. Roncaglio then read the proposed amended wording:

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board also requests approval of the statutory Growth Limitation Adjustment for changes in enrollment and excess costs in special education in the amount of \$547,757, and

Mrs. Roncaglio moved that the amended paragraph be approved, seconded by Mrs. Russo.

ADOPTION OF 2000/2001 TENTATIVE BUDGET:

Mrs. Roncaglio presented and moved the adoption of the following resolution, seconded by Mrs. Fleitell. The vote on the motion was as follows: Mrs. Fleitell, Mr. Picciano, Mrs. Roncaglio and Mrs. Russo voted aye and Dr. Casale, Mr. Restaino and Mr. Moscaritola abstained:

BE IT RESOLVED, That the Board of Education hereby adopts a tentative budget for the 2000/2001 school year in the amount of:

General Fund	\$35,962,133
Special Revenue Fund	980,658
Debt Service	<u>166,308</u>
Total Budget	\$37,109,099 of which the

following amount shall be raised by local tax levy:

General Fund	\$29,862,742
Debt Service	<u>152,210</u>
Total	\$30,014,952

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Secretary be authorized to submit this budget to the County Superintendent for approval, and

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BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board also requests approval of the statutory Growth Limitation Adjustment for changes in enrollment and excess costs in special education in the amount of \$547,757 and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That upon receiving the approval of the County Superintendent, the Secretary be authorized to publish the 2000/2001 budget in The Nutley Sun, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board meet on March 8, 2000 at 7:30 p.m. in the Board Conference Room to further review the 2000/2001 tentative budget.

There was discussion as to whether the vote constituted passage of the resolution since the Board Bylaws state that an abstention is considered a "yes" vote. Mr. Sincaglia stated he was not certain, in this instance, if a simple majority vote of those present would be considered sufficient for adoption or if a majority vote of the full Board was necessary.

Mr. Sincaglia stated that without the Board attorney present he was not certain we have legally done the action but he does know the Board has an obligation to forward the budget to the County Superintendent of Schools by March 6.

Mrs. Russo questioned if the budget could be published in the Nutley Journal in addition to The Nutley Sun to which Mr. Sincaglia replied that it would be somewhat costly, adding that he was not aware of any Board of Education that publishes its budget in more than one paper. He indicated that he felt this would be a waste of money since it is several hundred dollars.

Mr. Sincaglia noted that the business office produces a much more readable and understandable document that anyone is welcome to obtain in any school or office, explaining that the legal ad is just a requirement.

Mrs. Fleitell noted that the Board votes on which newspaper it will use. Mr. Sincaglia agreed, adding that The Nutley Sun is the official newspaper and he does not feel it would serve any purpose to publish the budget in an additional paper.

Mr. Sincaglia indicated that the law states a tentative budget must be submitted to the County Superintendent's office and the deadline is March 6 this year. Submission of the budget to the County Superintendent and its approval by him allows us to advertise so we can have our statutorily required Public Hearing.

Mrs. Russo commented that everyone is in agreement that there must be another meeting and if the Board is obligating itself to take an additional look at the budget any changes can be made at or prior to the Public Hearing. She added that she hoped the Board could move on that.

Mr. Sincaglia remarked that he believes adoption of the tentative budget requires a majority vote of the full Board. He noted that there is a common law doctrine whereby an abstention is determined to be acquiescence to the majority but the question is, is this a majority and if not, he is not certain where the Nutley Board of Education is vis-a-vis the county. Mr. Sincaglia indicated that if the ruling is not favorable, he wondered when the Board would meet again prior to March 6.

Dr. Casale stated that he would feel much more comfortable in working on it this evening as everyone is here.

Mrs. Fleitell indicated that she did not know why this was happening, noting that the Board is trying to give the perception that it has not increased the budget by anything by having a zero tax increase.

Dr. Casale remarked that he feels the Board needs to work more on this and Mrs. Russo asked if Dr. Casale had items he would like eliminated. Dr. Casale replied that he would like to look at certain items and areas that he feels could be cut even if it ends up that this is a bare bones budget which can't be cut.

Mr. Moscaritola asked the Board if it feels completely comfortable with what the Committee has done even though the entire Budget Committee has never met. Mr. Restaino stated that the Board is talking about \$300,000 and getting to a point where it feels comfortable submitting it to the county. He asked who is to say the numbers being submitted can't reflect a deficit of \$300,000 and then the Board could take a look at the budget and do what needs doing.

Mr. Picciano questioned if the Board could look at the budget after it has been sent to the county. Mr. Sincaglia replied that when asked the question ten minutes ago he said the final adoption would take place at the Public Hearing and if the program is changed to any extent at that time the County Superintendent would have to take a look at it. He added that adopting the tentative budget now allows the County Superintendent to review it and allows the Board to meet its statutory requirement.

Mr. Picciano suggested that the Board get to work tonight.

Mr. Sincaglia noted that extra positions in the budget were identified early on, explaining that a great number of part-time aides were added because the Board wanted them even though the money had not been allotted in the budget and he had had to add it in the forthcoming budget. Mr. Sincaglia further noted that the Board cut capital expenditures this year to under \$100,000 and will spend only \$95,000 on capital expenditures next year which translates into not doing a great deal next year. He asked the Board to keep in mind that if we go low the district will be that much further behind with regard to cap next year.

Mr. Sincaglia also mentioned that when the Budget Committee first met and reviewed a big list of requested items the attitude of the Committee was to do all the items but then it was determined cutbacks had to be made.

Mr. Sincaglia noted that historically Nutley is the third lowest spending district in the county, adding that last year salary increases for employees were known but this year negotiations will take place and, also, the district received a rather significant increase in its insurance bill. He explained that if some of the new positions are removed that still does not equal the \$300,000 that is needed to eliminate the three tax points. He noted, further, that \$130,000 is being spent for a series of language arts textbooks.

Mrs. Russo questioned why the tentative budget couldn't be sent to the county and then the Board take a look at it. Mr. Picciano commented that part of the budget is to pay professional administrators to lead the Board and he feels that Mr. Sincaglia has made his position on this matter very clear and Mr. Picciano would have to support him.

Mr. Sincaglia reiterated that he was not certain if an abstention was considered a "yes" vote, noting once again that the vote on the tentative budget is not a final vote.

Mr. Moscaritola asked when a special meeting could be held. Mr. Sincaglia replied that the next meeting could take place on Thursday, March 2.

RECESS MEETING:

On motion made by Dr. Casale, seconded by Mrs. Roncaglio and unanimously approved by the Board the meeting recessed at 10:10 p.m.

RECONVENE MEETING:

The meeting reconvened at 10:23 p.m.

Mr. Sincaglia suggested a draft of a resolution dealing with the adoption of the tentative budget.

ADOPTION OF 2000/2001 TENTATIVE BUDGET:

Mrs. Roncaglio 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. Picciano, Mrs. Roncaglio, Mrs. Russo and Mr. Moscaritola voting aye and Dr. Casale and Mr. Restaino abstaining:

BE IT RESOLVED, That the Board of Education hereby adopts a tentative budget for the 2000/2001 school year in the amount of:

General Fund	\$35,962,133
Special Revenue Fund	980,658
Debt Service	<u>166,308</u>
Total Budget	\$37,109,099 of which the

following amount shall be raised by local tax levy:

General Fund	\$29,862,742
Debt Service	<u>152,210</u>
Total	\$30,014,952

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Secretary be authorized to submit this budget to the County Superintendent for approval, and

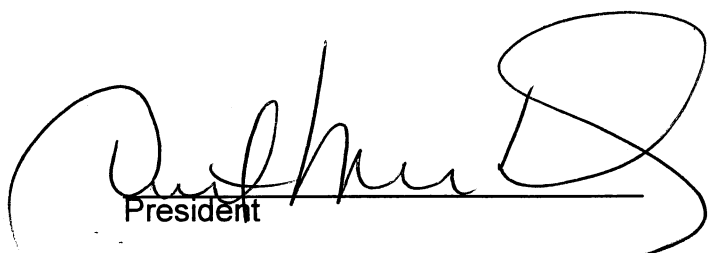
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board also requests approval of the statutory Growth Limitation Adjustment for changes in enrollment and excess costs in special education in the amount of \$547,757, and

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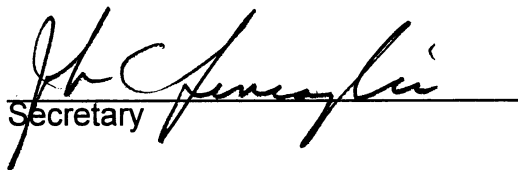
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board meet on March 8, 2000 at 7:30 p.m. in the Board Conference Room to further review the 2000/2001 tentative budget.

ADJOURNMENT:

There being no further business to come before the Board, on motion made by Mrs. Fleitell, seconded by Mrs. Russo the meeting was adjourned at 10:28 p.m.



President



Secretary

March 27, 2000
Date