# Board of Education Nutley, New Jersey

### November 27, 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, November 27, 2000 at 8:05 p.m. with Mr. Alfred R. Restaino, President, presiding.

### ANNOUNCEMENT OF MEETING:

Mr. Restaino 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 1, 2000. 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: Mrs. Maria Alamo, Mr. John Cafone, Dr. Philip T. Casale, Mr. Joseph C. Pelaia, Mr. Steven P. Picciano and Mrs. Agnes Roncaglio. Late: Mr. Vincent A. Moscaritola (9:06 p.m.) Absent: Mrs. Michele Fleitell. Approximately 100 citizens were present.

### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

Copies of the minutes of the Regular Meeting held on October 23, 2000 at 8:06 p.m. being in the hands of each member, reading of same was dispensed. Dr. Casale moved that the minutes be approved, seconded by Mrs. Roncaglio and unanimously approved by the Board.

### COMMUNICATIONS:

Mr. Sincaglia presented and read the following communications:

- 1. A thank-you note from the Orenstein family for the Board's expression of condolence upon the death of Arlene Orenstein's (high school teacher) mother.
- 2. A memorandum to all district superintendents from the Highland Park Public Schools regarding financial and other problems caused by charter schools.

Mr. Sincaglia noted that Nutley has no charter school students this year so there is no impact on the district.

- 3. A notice from the Essex County School Boards Association of an Essex and Passaic County School Boards Associations Joint Legal Issues Workshop for Board Members to be held on November 30, 2000.
- 4. An invitation from the Township of Nutley to a Holiday Tree Lighting Celebration which will take place on Sunday, December 10, 2000 in front of the middle school.
- 5. A letter from Debra Falanga as follows:

"I am requesting that this letter be read in its entirety at the November 27<sup>th</sup> Board of Education meeting.

"As a parent of an elementary school student in Nutley, I was disconcerted to learn that some students within our town are receiving HALF the art education as others. While researching and educating myself about the art program and curriculum, I was surprised to learn that on paper, it is comprehensive and extensive. Unfortunately, the proficiencies and progress indicators set down in the curriculum are not being met in certain schools due to the lack of a full time teacher and the lack of time issue.

"The disparity and inequity of the time and quality is detrimental to our children. As you are aware, the upcoming ESPA test given in the fourth grade, will have a new section added to test cultural arts education. We want to be assured that all the students in Nutley will be prepared for the test and also receive the hands-on art education as set down in the curriculum and guidelines.

"I hope, as always, that a timely review and solution will be offered to the parents and taxpayers of our town that addresses the disparity and inequality that currently exists within our district. Thank you."

- 6. A letter from Emil J. Donatello regarding ownership of a fence between his property and the Yantacaw School property.
- 7. A memorandum from Capt. Fred Scalera, Nutley Fire Manager, regarding the fact that live Christmas trees are no longer permitted in public buildings under the state fire code.

Mr. Sincaglia indicated that live wreaths are allowed, adding that the principals have been advised of the new regulations.

# SECRETARY'S REPORT:

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

Dr. Casale moved that the Board accept the Report of the Secretary, seconded by Mrs. Alamo. 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 October 31, 2000. (See attached report.)

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

# SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT:

### "Student Awards"

Dr. Serafino remarked that two students will receive music awards for membership in the 2000 All State Chorus and noted that she was very proud of them. She then introduced Mr. Joseph Zarra, high school principal, and Mr. John Vitkovsky, music teacher coordinator.

Mr. Zarra thanked the Board of Education and Dr. Serafino for their continuing support of the arts in the high school. Mr. Zarra congratulated the students and their parents for their outstanding accomplishments. He then introduced Mr. Vitkovsky.

Mr. Vitkovsky explained the procedure for selecting members to all state groups, noting that students from over 400 high schools auditioned for their chorus directors. He noted that separate try outs were done in north and south Jersey and out of 1,300 of the best voices in the state 350 were chosen. He indicated that they performed at the NJEA convention in Atlantic City and gave a magnificent repeat concert at the New Jersey Performing Arts Center in Newark. Mr. Vitkovsky thanked the parents for their presence here this evening and also thanked the Board of Education, Dr. Serafino, Dr. Vivinetto and Mr. Zarra for their sponsorship and support of the all state chorus students. He also congratulated the all state chorus students and Mrs. Bimbi for their accomplishments. Mr. Vitkovsky then introduced Mrs. Kathleen Bimbi, Director of the Choralettes, who assisted in the presentation of awards to the following students who had been chosen for membership in the 2000 All State Chorus:

Vanessa Arnold	Soprano II (2 <sup>nd</sup> year - Senior)	
Jean Rohe	Soprano I (2 <sup>nd</sup> year - Junior)	

Mr. Restaino congratulated the award recipients on behalf of the Board, also giving credit to Mr. Zarra, Dr. Vivinetto and Mrs. Bimbi. He added that the Board has been committed to the arts for some time now.

### **Anti-Smoking Initiatives**

Dr. Serafino introduced Commissioner JoAnne Cocchiola, Department of Public Affairs, and Thomas Restaino, Health Officer.

Commissioner Cocchiola indicated that thanks to the Health Officer the Communities Against Tobacco Coalition received a grant which will pay for anti-smoking assemblies in the high school and Franklin School on December 14 with David Gurliss, the former "Winston Man," giving an inspirational, motivational speech relating how the tobacco companies used him to entice young people to smoke. Commissioner Cocchiola noted that at the end of the assembly there will be some counseling sessions. She invited all the Board members to attend. She thanked Thomas Restaino for his efforts.

Mr. Pelaia thanked Commissioner Cocchiola both for himself and for the Board, adding that this is obviously an area of deep concern to him. He noted that, this year, the Board implemented a new curriculum which emphasizes the dangers of smoking. Mr. Pelaia added that he feels the assemblies will be very helpful for the students, noting that he thinks things work best when there is cooperation between the township officials and the Board.

Mr. Thomas Restaino remarked that a tremendous amount of money will be forthcoming from the tobacco settlements.

Mr. Pelaia stated that he would like Mr. Restaino to attend a meeting he would like to arrange with Mr. Sincaglia to encourage these programs.

Dr. Casale thanked Commissioner Cocchiola and Mr. Restaino for their time, adding that perhaps they could return to discuss other options. He wondered if fifth and sixth graders could be included in the two assemblies since he would like to target the lower grades if possible. Commissioner Cocchiola replied that the program may be too advanced for fifth graders but would possibly be suitable for sixth graders.

Mr. Pelaia requested that if Mr. Restaino attends another meeting he bring information regarding other grades since during the curriculum process it became clear that children are experimenting at lower grades.

Dr. Serafino presented and read the following report:

"Informational Items:

"Elementary parent-teacher conferences were conducted on Wednesday, November 15 and Thursday, November 16

"Report cards for the first marking period were distributed on Friday, November 17

"Spring Garden Holiday Musicale - December 5, at 7:30 p.m.

"Third Half Club Fall Sports Awards Dinner - December 7, at 7:00 p.m.

"Yantacaw Holiday Musicale - December 12, at 7:00 p.m.

"Washington Holiday Musicale - December 13, at 2:00 p.m.

"Nutley High School Yuletide Observance - December 14, at 7:30 p.m.

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

Dr. Serafino indicated that she and Dr. Vivinetto have been working on and discussing with the principals the concerns regarding back packs and their weight. She noted that some textbooks for social studies have been ordered because both seventh and eighth grades are covered with the one book and these books will be kept in the classrooms. Dr. Serafino said that this issue will continue to be addressed with the Academic Committee and with the elementary principals.

# FIRE DRILL REPORT:

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

Oct. Oct.	23	Spring Garden School Franklin School	10:08 a.m.	2 min.
			9:15 a.m.	2 min. 5 secs.
Oct.	3	Lincoln School	9:48 a.m.	1 min. 28 secs.
Oct.	4	Radcliffe School	1:24 p.m.	1 min. 20 secs.
Oct.	10	Nutley High School	1:59 p.m.	2 min. 2 secs.
Oct.	10	Yantacaw School	1:25 p.m.	2 min.
Oct.	11	Lincoln School	9:41 a.m.	1 min. 30 secs.
Oct.	11	Washington School	1:41 p.m.	1 min. 20 secs.
Oct.	13	Franklin School	10:15 a.m.	2 min. 5 secs.
Oct.	13	Spring Garden School	9:32 a.m.	1 min. 45 secs.
Oct.	13	Yantacaw School	10:06 a.m.	1 min. 55 secs.
Oct.	25	Nutley High School	10:04 a.m.	2 min. 20 secs.
Oct.	27	Washington School	2:27 p.m.	1 min. 25 secs.
Oct.	30	Radcliffe School	9:46 a.m.	1 min. 30 secs.

### CAFETERIA REPORT:

Dr. Casale presented the cafeteria report as of October 31, 2000 showing a 2000/2001 budget of \$702,178.00, contractual orders to date of \$202,030.38, leaving funds available of \$500,147.62.

# COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Mrs. Roncaglio, Chairperson of the Academic Committee, reported that the Committee met to begin to address the back pack issue. She noted that the Committee takes this problem very seriously but is talking about the elementary schools and the middle school separately. She indicated that one of the major culprits was the social studies textbook and so 120 additional books were ordered at a cost of \$6,200.

Mrs. Roncaglio explained that it will not be financially feasible to have different sets of books everywhere and so the Committee is looking at long-term solutions such as ordering books that come with workbooks or worksheets that can go home for homework or books with CD Roms. She noted that this will be an ongoing process and Dr. Vivinetto will meet with department heads to get their input and with the principals of the elementary schools. Mrs. Roncaglio added that she would return in a few weeks with more suggestions and solutions.

Mr. Restaino indicated that early this morning a meeting was held to discuss the lacrosse and field situations. He noted that the meeting, attended by Commissioner Tucci, Thomas Pandolfi, members of the administration and the Board, was very fruitful. Mr. Restaino stated that a variety of issues were discussed dealing with the short term and long term and he is more optimistic that within two or three weeks a plan will be devised to address the concerns of the neighbors as well as the lacrosse parents.

Mr. Restaino noted that he hopes to bring this matter to a positive conclusion on the recreation level as well as from the high school athletics standpoint. He added that information would be shared with the public as it is received by the Board.

# HEARING OF CITIZENS (Resolutions Only):

<u>Mrs. Maria Russo</u>, 251 High Street, questioned an item on page 8 of the bill list, a \$7,117.87 payment to Cheerleader & Danzteam, and asked what the payment was for. Mr. Sincaglia responded that the payment was for supplies and new uniforms for the cheerleaders and Cheerleader and Danzteam was the name of the vendor from whom we purchased these items. He added that the uniforms were included in last year's athletic budget and this is paying that bill. Mrs. Russo asked if they are complete uniforms, to which Mr. Sincaglia replied in the affirmative.

### **CERTIFICATION OF MAJOR ACCOUNT FUND STATUS:**

Dr. Casale 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, pursuant to NJAC 6:20-2.13 (e), the Nutley Board of Education certifies that as of October 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:

Dr. Casale presented and moved the adoption of the following resolution, seconded by Mrs. Roncaglio. On a roll call vote the resolution was adopted with Mrs. Alamo, Mr. Cafone, Dr. Casale, Mr. Picciano and Mrs. Roncaglio voting aye and Mr. Pelaia and Mr. Restaino abstaining:

BE IT RESOLVED, That the Board of Education authorizes the payment of bills and mandatory payments in the total amount of \$3,813,284.39 as per the attached Schedule A which have been audited by the Business Office.

# REQUESTS FOR USE OF SCHOOL BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS:

Dr. Casale 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 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.

# LEAVE OF ABSENCE - Teacher:

Mrs. Camille Sains

Dr. Casale 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 a leave of absence without pay for Mrs. Camille Sains from October 18 through November 6, 2000 and from November 9, 2000 through January 2, 2001.

# LEAVE OF ABSENCE - Instructional Aide:

Mrs. Donna Ferraro

Mrs. Alamo 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 approves a leave of absence without pay for Mrs. Donna Ferraro, effective January 16, 2001 through May 4, 2001.

# LEAVE OF ABSENCE - Instructional Aide: Mr. Marcellino Marra

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

112.

BE IT RESOLVED, That the Board of Education approves a leave of absence without pay for Mr. Marcellino Marra, effective January 26, 2001 through May 11, 2001.

# AMENDING RESOLUTION -APPOINTMENT-Athletic Director:

Mr. Angelo Frannicola

Mrs. Alamo 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 resolution, APPOINTMENT-Athletic Director, adopted at the September 25, 2000 meeting, be amended to reflect a change in Mr. Frannicola's starting date to November 28, 2000.

### APPOINTMENT - Athletic:

# Mr. Martin Higgins

Mrs. Alamo 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 Mr. Martin Higgins as assistant boys basketball coach for the 2000/2001 school year at the salary of \$3,774, Step 1, in accordance with the 2000/2001 Athletic Salary Guide.

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

APPOINTMENT - Permanent Unassigned Substitute: Mrs. Laura Reid

Mr. Picciano 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 Mrs. Laura Reid be approved as a permanent unassigned substitute for the 2000/2001 school year, 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.

### <u>APPOINTMENT - Part-Time Aide:</u>

# Mrs. Josephine Schoeber

Mr. Picciano 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 Mrs. Josephine Schoeber be appointed part-time school aide for the 2000/2001 school year at the hourly rate of \$11, Step 1, in accordance with the hourly rate established by the Board of Education.

### <u>APPOINTMENTS - Teacher Substitutes:</u>

Mr. Picciano 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 2000/2001 school year.

### APPOINTMENT - Substitute:

Mrs. Roncaglio 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 substitute be approved for the 2000/2001 school year:

### School Aide

### Tamara Radyuk

### APPOINTMENT - Substitute:

Mrs. Roncaglio 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 substitute be approved for the 2000/2001 school year:

# Transportation

### Nicholas Lucivero

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

#### EXTRA COMPENSATION:

Mrs. Roncaglio 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:

# Administration of the PSAT - October 21, 2000

George Ackerman Elinor Alboum Susan Ames Deborah Caputo Susan Casale Dorothy Dispoto Nicole Errante Darren Groh Judith Hubert Robyn Isgro AnneMarie Kowalski Laura Love Brian McGinley Rita O'Neill-Wilson Marie Peavy Gerald Ryan Patricia Sloan	$\begin{array}{cccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$
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Total \$1,650.76

Payment for Health Dynamics Classes - September, October and November, 2000

	750.00 750.00
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# Total \$1,500.00

# Guidance Program - GPA Review - October 28, 2000

Kathleen Bimbi Linda Fisher Ann Mary Mullane Sharon Romaglia Walter Sautter Anne Starace John Suffren Denis Williams	\$	128.72 128.72 128.72 128.72 128.72 167.36 128.72 128.72
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Total \$1,068.40

Total \$1,840.72

# Mathematics Textbook K-6 - October 28, 2000

Rita Alfaro Grayce Berk Michelle Cristantiello Susan Dingwell Linda Gilroy Marilyn Hannon Cheryl Kozyra Lesslie Licameli Beverly Masullo Lorraine Milunaitis Arlene Nardiello Gail Reilly Deborah Schop Nancy Szura		128.72 128.72 128.72 128.72 128.72 128.72 128.72 128.72 167.36 128.72 128.72 128.72 128.72 128.72 128.72
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Review of English Curriculum, Grades 9-12 - October 28, 2000

Susan Ames	\$ 128.72	
Angela DeCandia-Presuto	128.72	
Dianne DeRosa	186.52	
Hannah Hungler	128.72	
Thomasina Hyland	128.72	
Diane LaPierre	128.72	
Dennis Sasso	128.72	
Carol Shepherd	128.72	
	120.12	

Total \$1,087.56

Review of Language Arts Literacy, K-3 - October 28, 2000

# Total \$1,731.16

Review of Mathematics Curriculum, Grades 9-12, October 28, 2000

Total \$1,473.72

# Science Textbook Review, K-6 - October 28, 2000

Science Textbook Review, K-6 - October 28, 2000 (contd.)

Olga Rombola	\$ 128.72
Phillip Siculietano	128.72

# Total \$1,454.56

Team Teaching - Middle School Concept - October 28, 2000

Total \$1,731.16

Payment for Acting Athletic Director for September, October and November, 2000

Joseph Affinito \$2,845.50

Central Detention Coverage - October, 2000

# High School

AnneMarie Kowalski	\$261.60
Eric Puzio	17.44

# Franklin School

Jennifer Ambrose	52.32
Joseph Capello	34.88
Jennifer Citarella	52.32
Lawrence Mitschow	104.64
Luann Zullo	87.20

Total \$610.40

Saturday Morning Suspensions - October, 2000

High School		
Darren Groh		\$145.80
Franklin School		
Jennifer Citarella		
	Total	\$291.60

SAT Review Classes - October 10, 12, 16, 18, 23, 25, 30, and November 1, 2000

John Suffren	\$ 772.32	
Denis Williams	772.32	

Total \$1,544.64

### Intramurals - September 19-October 30, 2000

John Alessio	\$149.70
Jennifer Citarella	124.75
Edmund Olson	249.50
Luann Zullo	<u>   124.75</u>

Total \$648.70

### TUITION REIMBURSEMENT:

Mr. Cafone 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:

### Name Amount

# Heather Peluso

\$450

# PAYMENT OF STIPENDS:

Mr. Cafone 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 buildings and grounds employees receive stipends of \$317 for the 2000/2001 school year, effective November 1, 2000, as a result of their obtaining their Black Seal licenses:

> Dennis Buesing Dennis DeLorenzo George Francisco

AMENDING RESOLUTION - SPECIAL CLASS PLACEMENT- Educationally Disabled Student:

Mr. Cafone 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 resolution, Special Class Placement-Educationally Disabled Student, approved at the October 23, 2000 Board meeting, be amended to reflect a change in classification, effective date and tuition as follows:

School	No. of <u>Students</u>	<b>Classification</b>	Effective Date	Tuition
Washington Academy Cedar Grove, NJ	1	OHI	10/23/00	\$23,843.04

# SPECIAL CLASS PLACEMENT - Educationally Disabled Students:

Mr. Pelaia 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 authorizes the attendance of students in out-of-district special education classes for the 2000/2001 school year as follows:

School	No. of <u>Students</u>	<b>Classification</b>	Effective Date	Tuition
Children's Institute Verona, NJ	1	Pre-K	11/1/00	\$25,489.80
Essex Valley High School West Caldwell, NJ	1	ED	10/23/00	23,298.84
Washington Academy Cedar Grove, NJ	1 1	SLD ED	10/23/00 11/27/00	23,843.04 20,480.56

# ALLOCATION OF SALARIES - Federally Funded Programs:

Mr. Pelaia 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 personnel listed below, previously appointed to the respective positions, be paid salaries in full or in part from funds of the following Federal programs noted:

### IDEA

Name	Position	Salary	Progra Percen	
Michael Pace Sharon Romaglia Jill Sorensen Janet Ponzoni Maureen Callaghan Lynn Imperiale Stephanie Kucinski Marcellino Marra Yvonne Weiss Elaine Mauro	Teacher Teacher Teacher Instructional Aide Inclusion Aide Inclusion Aide (p/t .5) Inclusion Aide Inclusion Aide Speech Correctionist	\$65,388 80,214 41,517 18,927 17,653 17,653 7,578 15,156 16,404 54,670	50% 10% 50% 100% 100% 100% 14% 100% 3%	(\$32,694) (8,021) (9,464) (2,122) (1,640)
IDEA Preschool				
Elaine Mauro	Speech Correctionist	54,670	39%	(21,321)

# <u>TITLE IV IASA</u>

Lisa Markman	S.A.C.	48,211	26%	(12,535)
TITLE I IASA				
Deborah Caputo Kimberly Algieri Sheryl Holly Kristine Adubato Lisa Fitzgerald Virginia Santiglia Lynn Mosior Kelli Cerniglia Karen Beckmeyer Josephine Mleziva	Teacher (p/t .5) Teacher (p/t .5) Secretary	$\begin{array}{c} 19,130 \\ 18,556 \\ 17,600 \\ 15,089 \\ 2,009 \\ 31,244 \\ 18,180 \\ 15,089 \\ 2,050 \\ 26,920 \end{array}$	100% 100% 100% 100% 100% 100% 100% 100%	Eff. 9/12/00 Eff. 9/26/00 Eff. 10/24/00 Thru 10/2/00 Eff. 10/24/00 Thru 10/2/00 6 (3,365)

### <u>COMPREHENSIVE ANNUAL FINANCIAL REPORT/AUDIT:</u>

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

WHEREAS, the district has prepared the Comprehensive Annual Financial Report for the 1999/2000 school year, and

WHEREAS, the audit of the financial records of the school district for the 1999/2000 school year has been made, according to the requirements of Title 18A, by the firm of Lerch, Vinci & Higgins, and

WHEREAS, copies of a synopsis of this audit have been made available to the public,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Board of Education accepts the 1999/2000 Comprehensive Annual Financial Report and the report of the independent auditors, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board approves the Corrective Action Plan as per Schedule D responding to the recommendations of the auditor and that a copy of the Corrective Action Plan be submitted, as required, to the County Superintendent of Schools.

### TRANSFER OF FUNDS:

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 transfers in the 2000/2001 General Fund Budget be confirmed as follows:

#### From

То

Account 10-000-100-561	\$ 13,558	Account 11-110-100-101	\$ 62,000
Account 11-120-100-101	200,000	Account 11-190-100-106	2,000

# <u>From</u>

25,000
5,000
65,000
5,242

\$313,800

	Account 11-201-100-101	2,200
	Account 11-204-100-101	44,000
	Account 11-213-100-101	54,000
	Account 11-213-100-106	700
	Account 11-215-100-106	3,300
	Account 11-240-100-101	2,500
	Account 11-999-100-562	24,000
	Account 11-999-100-566	34,500
	Account 11-999-216-100	4,200
	Account 11-999-217-600	100
	Account 11-999-218-105	2,500
•	Account 11-999-219-104	6,000
	Account 11-999-240-105	18,000
	Account 11-999-290-100	10,000
	Account 11-999-290-330	40,000
	Account 12-140-100-730	3,700
	Account 12-402-100-730	100

То

\$313,800

# ACCEPTANCE OF NOTICE OF ADDITIONAL FUNDING - Chapter 192 - 2000/2001 School Year:

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 accepts notice of additional funding for Chapter 192 in the amount of \$1,331 for the 2000/2001 school year.

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

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 confirms receipt of funding from the Bloomfield Board of Education as lead agency for School to Career Grant in the amount of \$257.44.

APPROVAL OF EMPLOYMENT AGREE-MENT AND SALARY - 2000/2001 School Year - Assistant Superintendent of Schools:

Dr. James Vivinetto

Mr. Cafone presented and moved the adoption of the following resolution, seconded by Dr. Casale. On a roll call vote the resolution was adopted with Mrs. Alamo, Mr. Cafone, Dr. Casale, Mr. Pelaia, Mrs. Roncaglio and Mr. Restaino voting aye and Mr. Picciano abstaining:

BE IT RESOLVED, That the Board of Education approves the Employment Agreement with Dr. James Vivinetto, Assistant Superintendent of Schools, for the period July 1, 2000 through June 30, 2001, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board approves a salary for Dr. James Vivinetto in the amount of \$122,500 for the 2000/2001 school year.

### APPOINTMENT - Head Custodian:

### Mr. Dennis Buesing

Mrs. Alamo 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. Dennis Buesing as an elementary head custodian for the 2000/2001 school year, effective January 1, 2001, at the annual salary of \$32,237 (3-7) and a stipend of \$460 (prorated) for fireman's duties which are in accordance with the 2000/2001 Buildings and Grounds Employees Salary Guide.

### EXTRA COMPENSATION:

Dr. Casale 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 following be paid extra compensation in the amount indicated for services rendered:

Acting Manager of Buildings and Grounds - October and November, 2000

Philip Nicolette

\$1,056.81

### HEARING OF CITIZENS:

<u>Mrs. Pamela Batchelder-Mitchell</u>, 42 Raymond Avenue, indicated that several months ago a petition was presented by the Yantacaw School community to rename the school the John H. Walker Elementary School and she requested that the Board again consider this petition to honor what Mr. Walker stood for and what his memory stands for.

Mr. Restaino replied that he can not give a concrete answer since throughout the community there was a lot of thought given regarding renaming the Yantacaw School or the middle school. He indicated that he hoped the Board would discuss this at the Conference Meeting to be held on December 11 in order to bring closure to this matter. <u>Mrs. Manuella Meehan</u>, 93 Hopper Avenue, related information regarding a situation at the Lincoln School playground and expressed her concerns for the safety of the children. She noted that 300 children are on the playground at lunch time with only three aides for supervision. She requested that more school aides be employed to watch over the children.

Mrs. Meehan also indicated her apprehension over the fact that she had found out a sexual offender was a Lincoln School parent and asked if the Board had taken any steps to increase security. She asked questions regarding procedures and notifications involved when dealing with this type of situation.

Mr. Restaino responded that this is the first time he has heard of some of these things.

Dr. Serafino explained that at this point there is no formal notification but the appropriate law enforcement officials will be contacted to determine what our obligations are regarding disclosure. She indicated that she would confer with counsel and then respond to Mrs. Meehan.

Dr. Serafino indicated that with regard to Megan's Law in general districts are notified only at a certain level of offense. She explained that with a Tier 1 offense only the police department is notified; with Tier 2 the police and appropriate school personnel of schools within a certain radius of where the person works and lives are notified; and with Tier 3 the school community is also notified as well as people living in the same area as the offender.

Dr. Serafino continued by explaining that there are very stringent rules regarding confidentiality and disclosure of any information but she assured Mrs. Meehan that the longer she has been in the field of education the more the safety of children is her number one priority.

With regard to the playground issue, Dr. Serafino indicated that she will have Dr. Vivinetto discuss procedures with Dr. Mutch, report his findings to her and she will, in turn, discuss this with the Board and if the Board feels there is a need to appoint an additional aide, that will be done.

Mr. Picciano asked Mrs. Meehan whom she had received a letter from regarding the Megan's Law violator. Mrs. Meehan replied that she had not been sent a letter; there was one circulating among the school parents. She noted that a letter was given to all parents last week limiting the time that could be spent on the playground. Mrs. Meehan stated that she had been devoting her lunch hour every day to standing outside the playground and keeping watch. She commented that she felt volunteers should be allowed to help watch over the children.

A citizen from Whitford Avenue asked a question regarding tuition reimbursement and where this category could be found in the budget. Mr. Sincaglia replied that if a teacher took a course, he/she is reimbursed but also, some payments are to institutions and conferences where teachers are going for training which has been approved by the Superintendent and

which will go towards the 100 hours of training teachers must take. He noted that this is nothing new but the frequency may have increased. Mr. Sincaglia indicated that there is a program in the budget called "Professional Development" but there are a couple of different places in the budget where this could be found but the 100-hour component does not show up specifically.

Mrs. Barbara Bochese, 50 Cedar Street, read the following statement:

"I am taking this opportunity to have you address the following:

"1. I am not aware that the Nutley lunch program is in the business to make a profit or established as a retail food service business. Clearly, the prices charged at the middle school are set to make a profit. The wholesale cost for a can of Snapple was quoted to me by a wholesaler at \$.38-.40 per can. When the Franklin Middle School sells the same can for \$1.10 where does the profit go? When a bag of chips sells for \$.45 and down the street you can buy the same bag for \$.25 at a retail store who is already making a profit at \$.25, where does the profit go? When a Twix bar sells for \$.90 and down the street it sells for \$.65, where does all this money go? I could list many other costs including French fries at \$1.00 or a soft pretzel sold at \$.85. If half of the students, or approximately 250 children buy food items that have any approximate profit margin of \$.75 per child over the course of the year there stands to be a conservative estimate of \$34,000 profit per year per cafeteria. That is a lot of money not accounted for. Please answer the following questions:

- "1. Who sets the prices for these items and on what basis do you set pricing?
- 2. How do you account for all of the cash collected from each cafeteria?
- 3. What is your actual cafeteria/food service budget?
- 4. Do you bid out these wholesale services/who currently does the purchasing and what wholesalers do you use?

"Finally, the costs for food items at the Franklin Middle School are too high and clearly are over inflated and a burden to the parents who give their children money for lunch every day.

"2. Recently, I sent a letter to Mr. Zarra, Principal of Nutley High School regarding the NJ State Department of Education mandate that if a district requires a specific gym uniform, the district must provide it and may not require parents to purchase the uniform. I also asked him to look into a teachers ability to deduct grade points from a student who does not wear the maroon Nutley tshirt and gym shorts that I have always assumed was a district requirement. To my satisfaction, Mr. Zarra assured me that, in-

deed, Nutley does not require a specific gym uniform and that no gym teacher can deduct points from students for not wearing this specific gym uniform. A student must wear a suitable replacement. I do not believe I am alone in not understanding that my child can wear a "suitable replacement" and I cannot find anything in the middle school handbook that defines exactly what a child can and cannot wear. I request that this board send a letter to clarify exactly what is requested and/or acceptable as a gym uniform so that Nutley parents can make an educated decision on what they have to or will purchase for their children. I will also assume that teachers are not deducting points from student's grades for wearing clothes from home.

"3. The disparity between elementary schools has been ongoing. Just this past September, I questioned this Board on the inequitable distribution of kindergarten children and their subsequent class size from Yantacaw School as it compares to Spring Garden School. Yantacaw School did not follow the past practice used to split classes, as has been the standard used since 1992. However, this past standard was used to not split Spring Garden School's kindergarten. This district still applies different standards or practices for different schools. It is my understanding that elementary school children at Yantacaw and Lincoln School have full-time art teachers, whereas Spring Garden School and Radcliffe School have to split an art teacher. How much actual teaching time is given to each child in each specialized area? Do all children receive the same amount of teaching time for all special areas in all of the elementary schools? How is this equitable? Why the disparity?

"4. Currently, there exists no policy on class size. The practice of deciding how many children are to be placed in a class is at the sole discretion of the Superintendent. With that in mind, and based on the fact that I came to this Board and questioned the disparity between Yantacaw and Spring Garden School kindergarten class sizes, I ask once again, that this Board finally create a written policy on class size. Please respond accordingly.

"5. Referring to my letter dated June 26<sup>th</sup> which was submitted to this Board on that date and included in the minutes of the June Board meeting, I once again ask for a clear definitive answer/response to the following two points:

- "1. This School Board's relationship to the Third Half Club.
- 2. The district's guidelines or a written policy on adequate supervision on field trips and at lunch."

Mr. Sincaglia stated that last year, far from the Board of Education making a profit it subsidized the food service program as it has done every year since long before he was hired in 1986. He noted that last year the subsidy was approximately \$153,000. Mr. Sincaglia remarked that money is needed for overhead, which is the cost of paying salaries and benefits of cafeteria personnel

Mr. Sincaglia indicated that some years ago the Board and administration investigated privatization but the Board decided it did not want to do it since it felt it did not wish to go in this direction. Mr. Sincaglia stressed that there is no profit being made in the cafeteria program but there is a significant Board subsidy. He explained that the prices Mrs. Bochese was concerned about help keep the subsidy to a manageable level. He added that the Board sets the prices and that is the financial situation we are in.

Mr. Sincaglia noted that the district is a very long way from seeing a profit in the cafeteria program and that has never been its desire. He added that we are not even close to breaking even.

Dr. Serafino commented that with regard to the gym suit matter, as clarified by Mr. Zarra, as long as what is worn is appropriate there is no problem. She added that the gym uniform is preferred but not required but students will not be marked off if they do not have the uniform.

Dr. Serafino noted that the Board is looking at class size but at the time the classes were formed for kindergarten, the appropriate numbers were there at Yantacaw School. She indicated that we have implemented a new reading/language arts program at the elementary level and the Board agreed we would form additional sections at two of the other elementary schools, Radcliffe and Spring Garden and this is working out beautifully.

Dr. Serafino stated that the Board will look at class size reduction for first and second grade next year but we have to proceed cautiously with that since we are in need of facilities and can not offer all the programs we would like to with the number of classrooms that we have. Dr. Serafino also noted that with regard to class size, it is a past practice, not a policy. She added that she would love to see smaller class sizes for the primary grades, and hopefully we will be able to implement that next September.

Dr. Serafino also explained that having the class size issue included in Board policy could mean having trailers outside the schools right now because we don't have the facilities. She noted that after we receive our five-year plan and have the bond referendum, at that point we would be able to have the facilities we need not only with regard to classrooms but also lunchroom facilities as well. Dr. Serafino mentioned that the number of students staying for lunch continues to increase as many more mothers work to provide for their families.

Dr. Serafino noted that the issue of field-trip supervision is being studied and the Policy Committee is proceeding through the policy book, meeting monthly and making progress. She indicated that Mrs. Alamo chairs the Policy Committee and has been proceeding nicely.

Dr. Serafino indicated that an additional lunch time aide was added at each elementary school last year but if the numbers continue to increase, this may have to be done again. Mr. Restaino stated that with regard to the Third Half Club issue, the Board accepted the public apology which they had placed in the newspaper. Mr. Restaino noted that the Board does not sanction the Third Half Club but will continue to have a relationship with them. Mrs. Bochese asked if a Board representative was appointed for the Third Half Club to which Mr. Restaino replied in the affirmative, stating that it was Mr. Pelaia.

<u>Mrs. Debra Falanga</u>, 48 North Spring Garden Avenue, stated that her concerns regarding the district's art program were not hers alone. She presented letters from 150 parents which she accumulated in only four days after the PTO meeting. She indicated that everyone is concerned about the lack of art education that, specifically, the Spring Garden School children are receiving. Mrs. Falanga said that the parents would like the Board to address concerns regarding the ESPA test and preparation for it, asking how Spring Garden School will meet the requirements.

### Mr. Moscaritola entered

Dr. Serafino stated that at one time there was an art teacher for each elementary school as well as physical education teachers, music teachers and librarians for each school. This was reduced to four teachers for the five elementary schools but one half a music teacher and an additional physical education teacher were reinstituted. Dr. Serafino noted that in the budget requests an additional art teacher was requested but this has not been able to be done because of fiscal constraints. She hopes that the Board will see that enrollments have gone up and will consider an art teacher for each elementary school.

<u>Mrs. Lisa Nicastro</u>, 35 San Antonio Avenue, questioned why if a parent has time to watch a playground for an hour, that parent does not bring their child home for lunch. She suggested that in order to protect all the children there should be a blanket rule that unless a person is employed by the Board or has school business, no other adults should be allowed on a school playground. Mrs. Nicastro also said that she feels everyone should take a step back and realize that the aides have a difficult time as they can't be everywhere.

Mr. Restaino indicated that everyone is concerned about the safety and well being of our children and the aide situation will be investigated.

Mrs. Russo remarked that since her name seems to be brought into most conversations dealing with privatization she wants it to be known that she is not and never has been in favor of it. She indicated that there are ways to save money on food purchases for the schools and having inflated prices on certain items will not keep the budget intact. Mrs. Russo also stated that she feels school lunches are reasonably priced but the cost of extras are inflated and would like costs for our students to be minimized. Mr. Restaino noted that it was a unanimous decision of the Board against privatization.

<u>Mrs. Nicoletta Ciccollela</u>, Lincoln School special education aide, spoke in support of the teachers, aides and principal, stating they all do a difficult job well and suggesting that if a parent has the time the parent should take the child home for lunch.

<u>Mrs. Chris Carlo</u>, 57 Spruce Street, questioned if the parents are at the school because of the letter being circulated. Mr. Restaino stated that the administration will look into this so that the matter is adequately addressed. Mrs. Meehan stated that she feels the school aides are doing a good job but more of them are needed.

Mr. Picciano questioned if the Board had finally accepted the apology of the Third Half Club since he was not present and had not accepted any apology.

Mrs. Bochese stated that she wished to go on record as questioning the disparity between art programs, noting that she does not feel it is in the best interests of the children to be treated differently. She indicated that the Board has received letters from 150 Spring Garden School parents which state this is unacceptable and asking the Board to make a decision or policy that every school have the same amount of teachers.

Mrs. Falanga thanked Dr. Serafino for her explanation of Mrs. Falanga's request but indicated she did not feel it was a real answer. She asked what she should tell the 150 parents who had written letters. Dr. Casale remarked that if Mrs. Falanga would wait until the portion of the meeting to take place under "New Business," she would have the answer to her question.

<u>Mr. Carl Gardner</u>, 226 Park Avenue, asked what the Board has done regarding a new scoreboard and lighting. Mr. Restaino replied that the Board has explored a number of avenues. Mr. Moscaritola stated that he can not get into specifics at this time but he will be receiving a proposal very shortly which will include two new scoreboards and monies over a period of five years. He added that the proposal should be received and hopefully approved by the Board by the next Board meeting.

#### OLD BUSINESS:

None

### NEW BUSINESS:

Dr. Casale made a motion to hire an additional art teacher immediately so that each school will have one, seconded by Mr. Moscaritola and unani-

mously approved by the Board after Mr. Picciano received assurances that the Superintendent will look into the matter of parity in class schedules.

Mr. Pelaia noted that this had been discussed at the last Conference Meeting and the Superintendent had agreed to look into the matter.

Mr. Moscaritola stated that he felt the matter of specialist teaching positions should be discussed at the next meeting.

Mr. Restaino announced that in order to accommodate basketball and recreation programs the Board will hold its monthly meetings in a variety of places. He stated that the next meeting may be held in the Franklin School auditorium and suggested that people call the Board office or check the local papers to determine the exact location.

Dr. Serafino indicated that the Yantacaw School PTO dedicated a plaque to Mr. Walker, adding that he still touches the future. She also said that she thinks of him daily and recalls something from the past.

### **ADJOURNMENT:**

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

Presid

Se¢retary

12/18/00

Date