

The Conference Meeting of the Board of Education of the Township of Nutley, New Jersey was held in the Board Room, 375 Bloomfield Avenue, on Monday, January 8, 2001 at 7:45 p.m. with Mr. Alfred R. Restaino, President presiding.

ANNOUNCEMENT OF ADEQUATE NOTICE:

Mr. Restaino read the following:

“According to the provisions of the ‘Open Public Meetings Act’ (Chapter 231, P.L. 1975), proper notice of this Conference 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.”

CALL OF ROLL:

The members present at roll call were: Mrs. Maria Alamo, Mr. John Cafone, Mrs. Michele Fleitell, Mr. Vincent A. Moscaritola, Mr. Joseph C. Pelaia, Mrs. Agnes Roncaglio and Mr. Alfred R. Restaino. Absent: Mr. Steven P. Picciano.

1. Dr. Serafino brought up the calendar for 2001/2002 school year and mentioned that it would likely be in the same format as the calendar we have this year. She stated that she would have something in writing to the Board within the next two weeks.

Dr. Serafino also spoke about the 2000/2001 calendar and indicated that if we do not use all the snow days she wanted the Board to consider giving a day off just before or after Memorial Day. There was a discussion about that and the general feeling by the Board was that if there was going to be a day off that the Tuesday after Memorial Day would be the better day. There was also some concern as to when this would be announced and no decision was made on that.

2. There was a discussion concerning the recent inquires about relocating the Board offices and Mr. Sincaglia reported that they looked at a building on East Passaic Avenue and also Washington Avenue.

There were questions about just moving the busses and Mr. Sincaglia noted that the emphasis had been on moving the offices along with the busses. There was considerable discussion regarding this matter and it was suggested that they take a look at moving the office and/or the busses and that could be two separate items and they should proceed on that basis.

3. Dr. Vivinetto spoke about Project Acceleration whereby students in advanced placement and honors courses could get college credit through Seton Hall that would be recognized at many colleges for advanced standing for a nominal fee.

Mrs. Roncaglio made a comment about a concern for students who could not afford this fee and what the Board could do about that.

It was suggested that the Board members review the printed information that Dr. Vivinetto had passed out.

4. Dr. Serafino noted that she had concerns over course offerings next year at the middle school and the high school. It was pointed out that the Board already decided that there would be no shop program next year inasmuch as the room would be changed from a shop into two classrooms.

Dr. Serafino also spoke about eliminating the high school's auto shop since perhaps it does not meet the needs anymore since auto mechanics has become so much more sophisticated in light of computers and cars, etc.

Mr. Restaino said he would like to see a proposal for what would take its place.

5. Dr. Serafino then reported on the fact that the Board really did not take a position with respect to the suggested upcoming band trip. After a brief discussion, all agreed that the trip should proceed.

Dr. Serafino also mentioned that there might be a possible trip to Italy that Mr. Cicchino is running during spring vacation.

6. There was a discussion about the possibility of a memorial for Mr. Walker. Dr. Casale mentioned that there was an upcoming activity called The Walkerthon and was hoping that whatever was going to happen concerning the renaming would take place in conjunction with that. He also noted that the committee in charge headed by Frank Vespa would have no problem with the naming of Yantacaw School as the John Walker Yantacaw School.

Mr. Cafone stated that he had spoken to a number of PTO representatives at Yantacaw School and he had not received one positive response to renaming the school for Mr. Walker. They did want to do something in his memory such as naming the auditorium or an addition that might be built to the school or a park but they did not feel that renaming the school was appropriate. There were a number of reasons given for this, not the least of which was the importance that Mr. Walker himself attached to the name of Yantacaw School and how he would talk to the children about it.

Mr. Retaino noted that there was a need to come to some conclusion on this and felt other discussions were needed.

Mrs. Alamo wanted to know how many PTO members had been spoken to and Mr. Cafone said he contacted many of them and felt it was a significant number but could not say how many.

7. Dr. Serafino said that there was a feeling from a number of people that busses should be provided to the fashion show that was going to be held at the Birchwood Manor. It was noted that this information was not brought forward and we had no idea regarding the cost or conflicts in terms of the sports that evening.

Mr. Moscaritola felt that this was something that we should approve.

RESOLUTION TO CLOSE MEETING TO THE PUBLIC:

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


WHEREAS, the Board of Education will be discussing matters exempt from public discussion pursuant to N.J.S.A. 10:4-12, NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Board of Education adjourn to closed executive session at this time to discuss contract negotiations, personnel matters, and matters of individual privacy, and

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

Mr. Moscaritola moved that the resolution be adopted, seconded by Mr. Pelaia and unanimously approved by the Board.

ADJOURNMENT:

The Conference Meeting adjourned at 8:56 p.m.


Secretary

1/16/01
Date