

Board of Education
Nutley, NJ

March 29, 2001

The Special 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 Thursday, March 29, 2001 at 7:05 p.m. with Mr. Alfred R. Restaino, Jr., 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), and NJSA 18A:22-11 and 22-12, proper notice of this Special Meeting was made on March 13, 2001. Said Notice was:

1. Published in The Nutley Sun on March 22, 2001.
2. Posted at the entrance of the Board Office.
3. Mailed or delivered, and/or telephoned to The Nutley Sun, the Star Ledger, the North Jersey Herald & News, and the Nutley Journal.
4. Mailed or delivered, and/or telephoned to the Nutley Township Clerk.

"The purpose of this meeting is:

1. Conduct the Public Hearing on the 2001-2002 school budget.
2. Adopt the 2001-2002 school budget.
3. Conduct the regular monthly business that would normally come before the Board of Education.

"Formal action will be taken."

FLAG SALUTE:

The meeting was opened with Mr. Restaino leading the Board members and citizens in the Pledge of Allegiance to the American flag.

CALL OF ROLL:

The other members present at roll call were: Mr. John Cafone, Dr. Philip T. Casale, Mrs. Michele Fleitell, Mr. Vincent A. Moscaritola, Mr. Joseph C. Pelaia, and Mrs. Agnes Roncaglio. Late: Mr. Steven P. Picciano (7:28 p.m.). Absent: Mrs. Maria Alamo. Approximately 35 citizens were present.

Mr. Pelaia, Chairman of the Budget Committee, stated that Mr. Sincaglia and the Budget Committee worked long and hard to come up with a budget lower than 5 or 6 percent. He indicated that this budget adds additional staff, maintains the new staff members added during this past fiscal year and supports the purchase of \$350,000 worth of new textbooks throughout our district. He noted that despite the fact that 700 students have been added to our district within the last decade, the tax increase has been held to an average of one percent for each of the past four years.

Mr. Pelaia thanked members of the committee and added that he felt this was a win-win budget that was fiscally responsible and educationally sound.

PRESENTATION OF 2001/2002 BUDGET:

Mr. Sincaglia indicated that next year's budget is an attempt to keep pace with our continued enrollment growth and curriculum needs. He noted that 753 pupils since 1990-91 have been added to the district, which is approximately the amount of students at Radcliffe and Washington Schools combined.

Mr. Sincaglia explained that the new budget would retain the additional staff hired this past year which consisted of three additional kindergarten sections, one full-time art teacher, and a full-time athletic director. He noted that these were unbudgeted items this year and they needed to be accounted for in next year's budget.

Mr. Sincaglia stated that the Board hopes to add two teachers to the Franklin Middle School, an additional teacher-technician who could teach part-time in the CISCO program, a full and part-time teacher for special education, and hopes to upgrade a part-time nurses' aide to a full-time position at the high school. He noted that the new positions will cost about \$195,000.

Mr. Sincaglia noted that the textbook appropriation is quite significant. He said that the textbook budget will be over \$351,000. The Board will spend over \$25,000 from extra money and about \$30,000 from current funds. He said in all we will purchase over \$400,000 worth of textbooks for next year's use. He noted that this is the greatest amount the Board ever spent on textbooks; the normal amount is usually less than \$200,000.

Mr. Sincaglia indicated that there are three additional items: tuition costs for special education students, heating costs and an increase in our health insurance premiums, which are taking their toll on next year's budget.

Mr. Sincaglia commented that the Board received additional state aid in the amount of \$193,027 that is allowed to be used now. He noted that the Board was using that to pay for numerous items that would have come out of next year's budget including two new school buses, one of which is a wheelchair van.

Mr. Sincaglia remarked that even with those additions the overall budget came in \$96,000 below the state cap and would reflect a one-percent tax increase in the school tax rate which amounts to \$85 per household.

Mr. Sincaglia said that Nutley compares very well to the rest of Essex

County with respect to cost per pupil. Mr. Sincaglia indicated that Nutley's cost per pupil is \$7,787, almost \$1,000 less than the state average of \$8,758.

Mr. Sincaglia indicated that Nutley spends \$211 per pupil on extra-curricular activities which is \$51 above the state average. He stated that it's based on giving kids more opportunities.

Mr. Sincaglia said that our ratio of pupils to teacher and administrators is above the state average. He indicated that we are not overloaded with teachers and are not too heavy with administrators.

Mr. Picciano entered

Mr. Sincaglia noted that Nutley's pupil performance indicators remain high with consistent performance well above the state average, adding that scores tend to rank with districts more affluent than we are. He explained that Nutley is a "DE" district and our scores compare, in many cases, with "GH" districts. Mr. Sincaglia stated that the district gets solid results at low costs.

Mr. Sincaglia explained that taxes are heavily influenced by state aid. He stated that state aid picks up about 15%, and all other sources about 4%. Mr. Sincaglia commented that bills have to be paid and the biggest source of payment comes from local funds.

Mr. Sincaglia indicated that the budget book and budget that the Board legally advertised were scheduled to be amended because of the changes made by the Board at the Conference Meeting on March 12, at which time the Board indicated that they planned to add back some of the textbooks and one additional teaching position.

Mr. Sincaglia thanked the people on his staff who assisted in the production of the booklet including but not limited to Mrs. Cucuzza, Mrs. Mleziva and Mr. Presuto.

Mr. Sincaglia reminded everyone that the school election day was April 17 and he hopes everyone will study the issues and vote. He stated that anyone with questions should feel free to call his office.

Mr. Restaino thanked Mr. Sincaglia, Mr. Presuto, Mr. Pelaia and members of the Budget Committee for putting together a quality budget.

HEARING OF CITIZENS (Agenda Items Only):

Mrs. Marge Fuccello, 29 Colonial Terrace, questioned if the part-time person in the nurses' office was an aide, secretary or nurse.

Dr. Serafino stated that the part-time person in the nurses' office is an aide.

Mrs. Chrys Carlo, 57 Spruce Street, asked for confirmation on the amount the budget would increase the tax dollars per household.

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Mr. Sincaglia confirmed that the tax increase would be \$85 per household.

Dr. Steven Greco, 248 Vreeland Avenue, questioned why Nutley compares HSPT scores to "GH" and "I" districts but there is no comparison to those districts as far as what colleges the children attend.

Dr. Serafino stated that the HSPT and other tests are taken by every pupil in every community while each family's situation as far as affordability for college might differ. She also suggested that he call the Guidance Department and get a list of schools the students were accepted into and which schools they chose to attend.

Mrs. Fleitell indicated that most of the time other districts do not share that information.

Mr. Picciano noted that to judge school against school you might want to look at the New Jersey State Report Card and New Jersey Magazine.

Mrs. Rosemary Vella, 80 McKinley Street, questioned the comparison between test scores and socioeconomic status.

Mr. Sincaglia responded that there is a definite correlation between academic achievement and socioeconomic status and our students do achieve extremely well in spite of the fact that we don't spend as much per student as other districts do.

Mr. John Codomo, 416 Chestnut Street, stated that some other districts might do better than Nutley on SAT testing because the districts might be able to afford the Princeton Review Classes.

Mrs. Marge Fuccello, 29 Colonial Terrace, asked if any elementary guidance counselors would be added to the budget.

Dr. Casale claimed it was discussed that the Board was going to add an elementary Student Assistance Counselor (SAC).

Ms. Brenda Sherman, 10 Vine Street, asked if there was a report on scholarships available to the students.

Dr. Serafino responded yes, and she should check with the Guidance Department.

ADOPTING BUDGET FOR THE 2001/2002 SCHOOL YEAR:

Dr. Casale presented and moved the adoption of the following resolution, seconded by Mr. Pelaia:

WHEREAS, the Board of Education of the Township of Nutley adopted a tentative budget for the 2001/2002 school year on March 2, 2001, and

WHEREAS, said tentative budget was properly advertised on March 22, 2001, and

WHEREAS, the Public Hearing on the budget was conducted on March 29, 2001,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Board of Education hereby adopts the official budget for the 2001/2002 school year in the following amounts:

General Fund	\$37,462,618
Special Revenue Fund	997,223
Debt Service	<u>159,896</u>
Total Budget	\$38,619,737 of which

the following amount shall be raised by local tax levy:

General Fund	\$31,081,333
Debt Service	<u>144,349</u>
Total	\$31,225,682

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board also requests approval of the statutory Growth Limitation Adjustment for changes in enrollment in the amount of \$351,349 and excess special education costs in the amount of \$16,686, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Secretary be authorized to place on the ballot at the Annual School Election to be held on April 17, 2001 the proposal to approve the General Fund tax levy portion of the 2001/2002 school budget. (The complete budget for 2001/2002 is attached as APPENDIX I.)

The resolution was unanimously adopted.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Copies of the minutes of the Regular Meeting held on February 26, 2001 at 8:10 p.m. and the Special Meeting held on March 2, 2001 at 7:00 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.

Dr. Casale left the meeting

COMMUNICATIONS:

Mr. Sincaglia presented and read the following communications:

1. A letter from the Essex County Board of Chosen Freeholders inviting the Board to a ceremony renaming the softball field in Yantacaw Park to John Henry Walker Memorial Softball Field in his honor.

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2. A letter from the Crew Booster Association inviting the Board to a memorial naming an "eight shell" in honor of Mr. John Walker.
3. A notice from the Essex County Educational Services Commission rescheduling a meeting from February 22, 2001 to March 1, 2001.
4. A letter from Kevin Serio responding to the Board's decision denying the application for approval for the Independent Wrestling Federation fundraiser.

SECRETARY'S REPORT:

Mr. Sincaglia presented the Report of the Secretary as of February 28, 2001. (See attached report.)

Mrs. Fleitell moved that the Board accept the Report of the Secretary, seconded by Mr. Pelaia. On a roll call vote the resolution was unanimously adopted.

TREASURER'S REPORT:

Mr. Sincaglia presented the Report of the Treasurer of School Moneys as of February 28, 2001. (See attached report.)

Mr. Moscaritola moved that the Board accept the Report of the Treasurer of School Moneys, seconded by Mr. Pelaia. On a roll call vote the resolution was unanimously adopted:

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT:

Dr. Serafino presented and read the following report:

"Informational Items"

"Testing Dates:

Terra Nova	-	Gr. K-7	-	April 2-6
BSIP	-	Gr. 8	-	April 2-6
Terra Nova	-	Gr. 9, 10	-	April 3-6
HSPT Field Test	-	Gr. 11	-	April 6

"World Language Honor Society Induction, Nutley High School, April 5 at 7:30 p.m.

"CAT Open House - April 7, 2001

"Third quarter report cards will be distributed on Thursday, April 12, 2001

"Schools Closed - April 13 - Good Friday

"Presentations of the 2001/2002 Budget will be made on:

Monday,	April 9	Yantacaw School
Tuesday,	April 10	Lincoln School
Wednesday,	April 11	Franklin Middle School

"Attached is the student enrollment chart as of February 28, 2001

"School Board Election - April 17"

FIRE DRILL REPORT:

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

Feb.	1	Lincoln School	1:42 p.m.	1 min. 31 secs.
Feb.	1	Franklin School	2:10 p.m.	1 min. 58 secs.
Feb.	1	Yantacaw School	8:45 a.m.	1 min. 25 secs.
Feb.	1	Washington School	2:20 p.m.	1 min. 24 secs.
Feb.	2	Lincoln School	9:51 a.m.	1 min. 32 secs.
Feb.	2	Yantacaw School	8:40 a.m.	1 min. 35 secs.
Feb.	7	Radcliffe School	12:46 p.m.	1 min. 22 secs.
Feb.	7	Washington School	2:35 p.m.	1 min. 20 secs.
Feb.	8	Franklin School	1:20 p.m.	2 min. 05 secs.
Feb.	8	Spring Garden School	10:13 a.m.	1 min. 30 secs.
Feb.	13	Spring Garden School	2:15 p.m.	1 min. 20 secs.
Feb.	15	Radcliffe School	10:45 a.m.	1 min. 27 secs.
Feb.	15	Nutley High School	1:58 p.m.	2 min. 40 secs.
Feb.	16	Nutley High School	10:03 a.m.	1 min. 45 secs.

CAFETERIA REPORT:

Mr. Pelaia presented the cafeteria report as of February 28, 2001 showing a 2000/2001 budget of \$702,178.00 contractual orders to date of \$443,103.97, leaving funds available of \$259,074.03.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Mrs. Roncaglio reported that they had an Academic Committee meeting tonight and felt, although she would not go into detail, it was an extremely productive meeting with the Superintendent, Assistant Superintendent and the High School Principal.

Mrs. Roncaglio read the following memo from Sharon Ramaglia for the students that do not always get recognition:

"On Tuesday, March 20th, four students from the Nutley High School School-to-Career Transition program will be presenting at a conference

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entitled: Reach Out, Speak Out: Achieving Empowerment. The conference is sponsored by the New Jersey Department of Education. The School-to-Career Transition Program is a model for the state. The students have been involved in the program under the supervision of Sharon Romaglia.

"Each student presenting will be involved in the General Session of the conference. The students are Michael Nevin, Kevin Riccio, Carly Roncaglio and Nicole Weiss. Mr. Robert Gordon requested student participation from Nutley. Mr. Gordon, who was assigned to Nutley by the DOE, recognized the efforts that these students have made in the areas of Transition and Self-Advocacy. He felt that their participation would be an asset to this year's program."

HEARING OF CITIZENS (Resolutions Only):

None

CERTIFICATION OF MAJOR ACCOUNT FUND STATUS:

Mrs. Fleitell 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 February 28, 2001, 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. Fleitell 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 payment of bills and mandatory payments in the total amount of \$3,630,188.16 as per the attached Schedule A which have been audited by the Business Office.

REQUESTS FOR USE OF SCHOOL BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS:

Mrs. Fleitell 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.

RESIGNATION - Teacher:

Mrs. Angela M. DeCandia-Presuto

Mrs. Fleitell 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 accepts the resignation of Mrs. Angela DeCandia-Presuto, high school teacher, effective April 2, 2001.

RETIREMENT - Assistant Maintenance:

Mr. Joseph Luzzi

Mrs. Fleitell 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 accepts the retirement of Mr. Joseph Luzzi, assistance maintenance, effective August 1, 2001.

RETIREMENT - Custodian:

Mr. Albert Thibault

Mrs. Fleitell 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 accepts the retirement of Mr. Albert Thibault, custodian, effective September 1, 2001.

LEAVE OF ABSENCE - Teacher:

Mrs. Camille Sains

Mrs. Fleitell 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 family leave of absence without pay for Mrs. Camille Sains, effective March 12, 2001 through April 30, 2001.

LEAVE OF ABSENCE - Secretary:

Mrs. Elaine Casale

Mr. Picciano presented and moved the adoption of the following resolution:

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tion, seconded by Mrs. Roncaglio. On a roll call vote the resolution was unanimously adopted:

BE IT RESOLVED, That the Board of Education approves a family leave of absence without pay for Mrs. Elaine Casale, effective March 12, 2001 through June 30, 2001.

APPOINTMENTS - Teacher Substitutes:

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.

APPOINTMENTS - Substitutes:

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 following substitutes be approved for the 2000/2001 school year:

Secretarial/Clerical

Corinne DeGennaro

Secretarial/School Aide

Karen Homyak

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:

Self-Assessment Steering Committee - Special Education - March 3, 2001

Susan Furnari	\$ 128.72
Katherine Flannery	128.72
Carol Gurney	128.72
Lisa Markman	128.72
Marietta O'Brien	128.72

Self-Assessment Steering Committee -
Special Education - March 3, 2001 (contd.)

Stephen Parigi	128.72
Sharon Romaglia	128.72
Phillip Siculietano	\$ 128.72
Michelle Syme	128.72
Rosanna Tangorra	128.72
Marisa Tusche	<u>128.72</u>

Total \$1,415.92

Basic Skills Curriculum Review
March 3, 2001

Susan Casale	\$ 128.72
Raymond Chapman	167.36
Denise Cleary	128.72
Susan Gesumaria	128.72
Walter King	128.72
Marilyn Testa	128.72
Patricia Trainor	<u>128.72</u>

Total \$ 939.68

Review of English Curriculum Grades 9-12 -
March 3, 2001

Susan Ames	\$ 128.72
Dianne DeRosa	186.52
Linda Fisher	128.72
Hannah Hungler	128.72
Thomasina Hyland	128.72
Diane LaPierre	<u>128.72</u>

Total \$ 830.12

Review of Mathematics Curriculum Grades 9-12
March 3, 2001

Elinor Alboum	\$ 128.72
Toby D'Ambola	186.52
Nancy Foglio	128.72
Richard Koegel	128.72
Leann Martin	128.72
John Suffren	128.72
Donald Tobey	128.72
Vincent Turturiello	128.72
Rosemary Vivinetto	<u>128.72</u>

Total \$1,216.28

Literature/Media Connection Course Development
Committee - February 28, 2001

Cynthia DeBonis	\$ 48.27
Loretta Douglas	48.27
Tracy Egan	48.27

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Literature/Media Connection Course Development
Committee - February 28, 2001 (contd.)

Judith Hardin	\$ 48.27
Walter King	48.27
Paul Kocum	48.27
Jacqueline Meloni	<u>62.76</u>
	\$352.38

Health Dynamics Classes - Month of March, 2001

Rose Cioffi	\$250.00
Latanya Williams	<u>250.00</u>
Total	\$500.00

After School Library - February, 2001

Susan Ames	\$ 99.80
Carol Shepherd	<u>49.90</u>
Total	\$149.70

CPR In-Service - February 2, 6, and 7, 2001

Katherine Flannery	Total \$104.59
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Spring Sports Physical Examination
February 14 and March 7, 2001

Rose Cioffi	\$112.63
Nicole Errante	48.27
Katherine Flannery	80.45
Eric Puzio	112.63
Virginia Reilly	48.27
Gerald Ryan	<u>96.54</u>
Total	\$498.79

Central Detention Coverage - February, 2001

High School

Michael Christadore	\$ 17.44
Jeri Cohn	34.88
Eric Puzio	174.40

Franklin School

Jennifer Ambrose	52.32
Jennifer Citarella	34.88
Gina Marie Masino	34.88
Lawrence Mitschow	<u>87.20</u>

Total	\$436.00
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Saturday Morning Suspensions - February, 2001High School

Darren Groh	\$ 72.90
Eric Puzio	72.90

Franklin School

Becky Pandolfi	<u>72.90</u>
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Total	\$218.70
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Intramurals - February 2, 2001 - February 28, 2001

Jennifer Citarella	\$ 99.80
Kenneth Ferriol	74.85
Lawrence Mitschow	<u>149.70</u>

Total	\$ 324.35
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Technology Team - February 26, 2001 - March 2, 2001

Robert Presuto	\$ 49.90
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Acting Manager of Buildings and Grounds - February, 2001

Philip Nicolette	\$ 750.00
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TUITION REIMBURSEMENT:

Mrs. Roncaglio presented and moved the adoption of the following resolution, seconded by Mr. Picciano. 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>
Thomas Gargiulo	\$ 420
Darren Groh	450
Carol Gurney	900
Walter King	450
Susan LaReau	450
Paula Lee	450
Maria Papaleo	450
Christopher Rosati	900
Sally Ann Marino Ryder	450
Carol Von Achen	<u>900</u>

Total	\$5,820
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SPECIAL CLASS PLACEMENT - Educationally Disabled Students:

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

<u>School</u>	<u>No. of Students</u>	<u>Classification</u>	<u>Effective Date</u>	<u>Tuition</u>
Felician School Lodi, NJ	1	MDM	2/28/01	\$ 8,901.20
Child Development Center Bloomfield, NJ	1	ED	3/19/01	\$10,249.66
Washington Academy Cedar Grove, NJ	1	ED	3/26/01	\$ 9,476.08

TRANSFER OF FUNDS - SCHOLARSHIP FUND:

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

WHEREAS, A scholarship fund was established in the memory of Amy Bonnadonna, a Nutley High School pupil, at the request of her father, Mr. Ronald Bonnadonna, a faculty member at Nutley High School, and

WHEREAS, the purpose of said scholarship fund is to provide assistance to Nutley High School pupils who intend on pursuing post-high school studies at an accredited college or school in the field of art education or visual design, and

WHEREAS, said scholarship fund has received donations from various individuals and organizations, and

WHEREAS, the funds of said scholarship fund are on deposit in the Nutley High School checking account which is under the control of the Nutley Board of Education, and

WHEREAS, it is the desire of Mr. Bonadonna to place the scholarship fund under the auspices of Nutley UNICO, and

WHEREAS, the purpose of the scholarship fund will remain the same, and

WHEREAS, the Nutley Board of Education desires to respect the wishes of Mr. Bonnadonna with respect to the scholarship fund in memory of his daughter,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, That the moneys on deposit in the Nutley High School account for the Amy Bonnadonna Memorial

Scholarship be transferred to Nutley UNICO to allow them to administer the scholarship fund.

APPROVAL OF CURRICULUM PROGRAM

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

BE IT RESOLVED, That the Board of Education approves the Team Teaching and Middle School Concept curriculum presented at the March 12, 2001 Conference Session.

ACCEPTANCE OF NOTICE OF APPROVAL - DISTRICT PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT PLAN

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

BE IT RESOLVED, That the Board of Education accepts Notice of Approval of the District Professional Development Plan for the 2001/2002 school year.

ADOPTION OF REGULATIONS:

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

BE IT RESOLVED, That the Board of Education adopts the following Regulations:

Regulation #2100 (2460)	Special Education	Schedule D-1
Regulation #2100 (2460.1)	Special Education - Identification, Location and Referral	Schedule D-2
Regulation #2100 (2460.7)	Special Education - Free and Appropriate Public Education	Schedule D-3

JOINT TRANSPORTATION AGREEMENT - Bloomfield Board of Education:

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

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BE IT RESOLVED, That the Nutley Board of Education approves a Joint Transportation Agreement with the Bloomfield Board of Education to provide transportation for one special education student from Bloomfield to the Palisades Learning Center, Paramus on Nutley bus Route #11, effective November 30, 2000 through June 30, 2001 at a per diem cost of \$42.* (Subject to approval of the County Superintendent of Schools.)

*An additional charge of \$10 per diem will be added for each additional student on an established route.

TRANSPORTATION CONTRACT:

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

BE IT RESOLVED, That the Nutley Board of Education approves Transportation Contract #3 PAR with a parent to provide transportation for one special education student from Nutley to the Allegro School, Cedar Knolls, NJ effective November 1, 2000 through January 4, 2001 at a cost of \$34 per day. (Subject to approval of the County Superintendent of Schools.)

TRANSFER OF FUNDS:

Mr. Pelaia 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 Mr. Cafone, Mrs. Fleitell, Mr. Moscaritola, Mr. Pelaia, Mrs. Roncaglio and Mr. Restaino voting aye and Mr. Picciano abstaining.

BE IT RESOLVED, That transfers in the 2000/2001 General Fund Budget be confirmed as follows:

<u>From</u>		<u>To</u>	
Account 11-999-100-566	\$ 10,000.00	Account 11-215-100-101	\$ 2,000.00
Account 11-999-262-100	9,700.00	Account 11-999-100-562	19,500.00
Account 11-999-270-514	6,000.00	Account 11-999-216-100	900.00
Account 12-999-210-730	2,400.00	Account 11-999-230-100	2,500.00
Account 12-999-270-734	6,200.00	Account 11-999-261-100	5,000.00
Account 13-422-100-101	4,200.00	Account 11-999-270-600	700.00
Account 20-436-400-731	19.25	Account 11-999-290-500	4,500.00
Account 20-437-100-610	<u>1,750.00</u>	Account 12-999-260-730	2,100.00
		Account 12-999-290-730	1,300.00
	\$ 40,269.25	Account 20-436-200-600	19.25
		Account 20-437-100-101	700.00
		Account 20-437-100-500	350.00
		Account 20-437-223-500	<u>700.00</u>
			\$ 40,269.25

FIRM TRANSPORTATION GAS DELIVERY BIDS:

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

WHEREAS, bids for firm transportation gas deliveries were advertised on March 8, 2001, and

WHEREAS, sealed bids were publicly opened and read aloud on March 22, 2001 at 2:00 p.m. in the office of the Secretary/Business Administrator, and

WHEREAS, the following bid was received in the following amount:

	<u>Nominal Bid Contract Price</u>
Amerada Hess Corporation Woodridge, NJ	7.969

and,

WHEREAS, the Board has determined that the bid price is excessive,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education rejects the bid of Amerada Hess Corporation.

ESTABLISH DATE FOR REORGANIZATION MEETING OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION:

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

BE IT RESOLVED, That the reorganization meeting of the Board of Education be held on Monday, April 30, 2001 at 7:30 p.m. in the Radcliffe School Multi-Purpose Room.

MEMORIAL:

Mrs. Helen G. Clement

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

WHEREAS, it is with a sense of deep sorrow and regret that the Nutley Board of Education records the death of Mrs. Helen G. Clement on March 11, 2001, and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Clement was employed in September, 1939 as a business teacher and in 1963 as a guidance counselor in the Nutley

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Public Schools and had a distinguished educational career until her retirement in July, 1986, and

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

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Board of Education of the Township of Nutley extends deepest sympathy to the members of her family, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That this resolution be made a part of the minutes of this meeting and a copy sent to the members of her family.

Dr. Serafino indicated that she had worked with Mrs. Clement and remembers her fondly as a dedicated business teacher and guidance counselor and sends her sympathy to her family.

APPROVAL OF AGREEMENT FOR ARCHITECTURAL SERVICES:

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

BE IT RESOLVED, That the Board authorizes the President and Secretary to enter into a contract with DCM Architecture, Inc. (DCM), of Cherry Hill, NJ for architectural work in connection with additions, rehabilitation and restoration of Nutley school facilities; said additions, rehabilitation and restoration to be determined by the Board, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That said contract provides that DCM receive compensation in the amount of 6.9% of the construction cost budget which exists at such time a referendum is approved.

Mr. Picciano stated that he was very happy with DMR and will continue to support them.

Mr. Restaino stated he was of the opinion that DCM is a highly qualified firm but over a year ago the Board chose DMR and he is satisfied with DMR.

ACCEPTANCE OF NOTICE OF ADDITIONAL FUNDING - Chapter 193 - 2000/2001 School Year:

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

BE IT RESOLVED, That the Board of Education accepts notice of additional funding for Chapter 193 in the amount of \$3,557 for the 2000/2001 school year.

APPROVAL OF SUBMISSION OF AMENDMENT APPLICATION -
IASA (Title I) - FY2001 :

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

BE IT RESOLVED, That the Board of Education approves the submission of the amendment application for IASA FY2001 (Title I portion).

HEARING OF CITIZENS:

Dr. Steven Greco, 248 Vreeland Avenue, asked about the potential agreement with the Coca-Cola Bottling Company regarding the lights and the scoreboard in the Oval.

Mr. Moscaritola responded that there was no agreement at this point and they were still in negotiations.

Mr. Restaino added that some of the things Dr. Greco inquired about, the Board was not at liberty to discuss at this time.

Mr. Picciano referred to an article that he sent to the Board members regarding the pros and cons of having soda vending machines in the schools.

Mrs. Rosemary Villa, 80 McKinley Street, asked why there was dissension on the voting of the architect and does the Board go out to bid for the architect. She also asked if the architect is going to do the work before the referendum is passed or wait until after the referendum is passed.

Mr. Sincaglia responded that the architect is a professional service that is not subject to the bidding statutes.

Mr. Restaino stated that this architect, as well as any other architect, indicated that they were going to do pre-referendum services which was included in the price.

Mr. Sincaglia noted that schematics need to be prepared before we can tell people what the referendum is going to be. He also added the percentage for this architect was below the other architect but felt the important thing is that the Board feel comfortable with the architect.

Mrs. Villa also asked if the Board has a policy on how they handle a child if they make threats towards other children.

Dr. Serafino said the procedure followed is that the principal immediately notifies Dr. Vivinetto. Dr. Vivinetto and the principal call the guidance counselor, student assistance counselor (SAC) and the juvenile officer. The principal, guidance counselor, student assistance counselor (SAC) and the juvenile officer meet with the child and the child's parents to determine the degree of threat and if there is any danger to other students or the student himself/herself. If necessary, the school psychologist will be called to speak to the child. She stated that we do not automatically suspend or expel unless the child brings a weapon to school or if the assessment is that the child is a threat to other children. Based on the recommendation of these professionals, along with the juvenile officer, the next step will be determined.

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Mr. Jack Magnifico, 25 Chestnut Street, stated that something has to be done to address the heavy back pack situation for our children. He suggested that there be a dress code in the schools. He also questioned if the aftercare program affected the school budget.

Mr. Magnifico also commented on the policemen in the building as doing more harm than good to the students.

Mrs. Roncaglio responded that the back pack situation was addressed at the junior high level by purchasing a set of social studies books that stayed in the classroom so the children could keep a book at home. She stated that although this is not where the only problem is, this is very costly and books need to be replaced before they are duplicated. She also mentioned another alternative could be purchasing the books on CD Rom.

Mr. Restaino stated that the entire Board will have to look into the police officer situation and weigh the pros and cons.

Mrs. Fleitell noted that she agrees with Mr. Magnifico.

Mr. Picciano responded by reading the following statement:

"The reason why I changed my family plans tonight is that I have become aware of an acute problem dealing with violence in our schools.

"What constitutes violence?

"Violence may take the form of words, i.e. name calling, swearing at someone, shouting insults, threatening to hurt someone, or actions, i.e., hitting, shouting, tripping, grabbing, kicking, stabbing, shooting, robbing/stealing by force or threat. In the case I am aware of at one of our elementary schools this week, a child was threatening to kill someone on a list (a list that was verbalized) to one student and included names of at least two other classmates.

"One might say that children use words like "kill" and really don't mean it or that they meant to say 'I am going to get you!'

"This may or may not be the case, but are we to be so naïve and ignorant of what is happening locally (Nutley) and nationally that we do not have a zero tolerance policy for violence.

"A policy that should be consistent throughout our district.

"A policy that is structured with levels of violence and appropriate levels of disciplinary actions and accountability for students and the parents of students who commit acts of violence.

"A policy that counsels students but separates the counseling from the disciplinary actions.

"A policy that protects our students, our teachers, administrators, and all members of the educational community.

"A policy that delivers a firm message but a fair policy that enables students the opportunity for counseling.

"A policy that is based on an educational philosophy of pro-active behavior management.

"A policy that prescribes a plan of action that must be followed by all administrators and staff.

"A policy that does not need two days to be complete or one that can be activated immediately.

"Unfortunately the Nutley School District does not have such a policy or it is not actively followed.

"The actions of this past week allowed me an opportunity to see how important such a policy is to the welfare of our students.

"Detective, Superintendent, Principal and Parents -- none of whom are licensed psychologist or child psychologist.

"Why? If the threat was deemed insurmountable the first day or were they not sure of their findings?

"Were classmates at risk?

"Should the student be removed from the school until deemed emotionally fit by a psychologist?

"Could the student have acted upon the threat the next day?

"Those are questions that we need to answer individually and collectively.

"They are questions that must be answered for the safety and welfare of all parties.

"The old adage sticks and stones will hurt my bones but words will never do is ALL so wrong today and needs to be addresses.

"I am appealing to this Board of Education, Dr. Serafino, and Dr. Vivinetto to establish a policy to protect our students."

Dr. Steven Greco, 248 Vreeland Avenue, asked why some of our athletic teams have been practicing at 5:30 - 6:00 in the morning on school days.

Dr. Serafino responded that she will discuss this with Mr. Zarra and the athletic director.

Mr. Restaino commented that he personally was not aware of the early morning practices. He stated that he being a former coach is not opposed to early practices on occasion because he thinks it instills some discipline, but not necessarily during a school day.

Mrs. Fleitell stated that she was not opposed to a one day early practice since they do not have as much practice in the afternoon, if any.

Dr. Greco commented that he felt there was a bit of hypocrisy between the letter read regarding the Independent Wrestling Federation and the Board allowing the Third Half Club of Nutley to use the gymnasium. Dr. Greco stated that he felt the Third Half Club is a lot worse than the WWF.

Mr. Restaino responded by stating he is a member of the Third Half Club but he is not always thrilled with what every organization that he belongs chooses to do. He felt the Third Half Club recognizes that they made mistakes and apologized for their mistakes and they do a lot of good things for the community.

Ms. Mary Perotta, 11 Speer Place, she stated that she is a high school teacher who commended Mr. Zarra, Mr. Catrambone and Mr. Affinito for setting such a high standard of moral behavior. She noted that they are very visible to the children and the children feel comfortable to go to them with complaints. She feels this is a beginning and feels more peaceful because of their interaction with the children.

Mrs. Maria Russo, 251 High Street, questioned the Board on the fact that all Board members did not know about early morning practices. She also reiterated the fact that the Board needs a policy on discipline especially with the violence occurring in the schools. She suggested that one Board member come forward in a motion form so this may be accomplished immediately.

Mr. Moscaritola said that he felt it was ironic that she was on the Board and in charge of the Policy Committee for three years. He stated that he and Mr. Pelaia put forth a motion to spend \$15,000 to have the policy reviewed and brought up to state code and statute. He also stated that in three years no more than five policies were brought forth.

Mrs. Russo replied that the policy book sitting in front of Mr. Picciano is outdated and the draft of the new policy book is ready for adoption but this Board failed to adopt it. Mrs. Russo continued to debate the completion of the book.

Mr. Pelaia commented that he was certainly aware of the early morning practices for the ice hockey team, but was not aware of the practice schedule for the other teams. He indicated that ice hockey practices are at 5:30 a.m. due to the availability of ice time and time to get back to the district. He felt that a coach should not be judged for having early practices without the opportunity to state the reason. Mr. Pelaia said that he would support the coach if he felt the reason was valid.

Mrs. Roncaglio said that it was her recollection that the last meeting on the policy book with Mrs. Russo was in the fall before she decided not to run for the Board. She stated that at that time it was agreed that the book be divided among the committee and everybody had the areas they were responsible for. She indicated that since that time she, Mrs. Alamo and Mr. Picciano have had several meetings and have gone through approximately 30% of the policy book. Mrs. Roncaglio then asked Mr. Picciano to verify the percentage of the book reviewed.

Mr. Moscaritola left the meeting

Mr. Restaino noted that there was a Policy Committee meeting scheduled for Monday evening and indicated that the items brought forward tonight will be discussed.

Mrs. Russo replied that she would like to clarify that when the Board contracted Strauss Esmay Associates to do the revisions to the policy book, the Board had a presentation from that company and it was explained that the draft that is ready was supposed to go back within 60 to 90 days so they could send in another draft policy book. The full Board voted to approve this draft policy book and then take individual steps in certain policies. She stated that when new members came on board it was decided that they go through the book page by page. She said that she assumed after she left the Board someone else would put it forward and just adopt it.

Mrs. Russo also noted that she did plan on running for the Board up to March 5th of that year and she was working on the policy book up until that time.

Mr. John Codomo, 416 Chestnut Street, reiterated the fact that a policy on violence needs to be done.

OLD BUSINESS:

None

NEW BUSINESS:

Mr. Picciano stated that he would like to make a motion whereby a new violence policy relevant to words, threats and actions is adopted immediately.

Mr. Restaino recommended that the Policy Committee, which is meeting on Monday, April 2, begin this process.

Mr. Pelaia stated that the Board should communicate to this committee that this issue be given top priority.

Mr. Restaino stated that he did not think a motion was necessary. He said he will, as well as the Superintendent, indicate to the Chairperson of the Policy Committee that on Monday this will be the only topic of discussion.

Mrs. Fleitell commented that serious issues were discussed tonight, but things have to be kept in perspective to the district and community. She stated that they should not make policies for emotional reasons. She thinks they should make policies for objective and intelligent reasons. She commented that we do not want to create a police state in Nutley or a circumstance where children are afraid to be children.

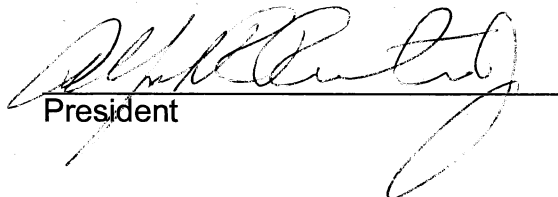
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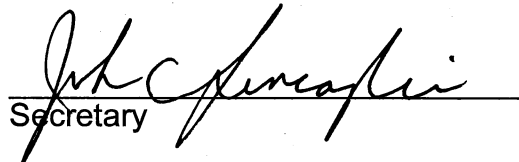
Mr. Pelaia questioned if prior to Mrs. Alamo becoming Chairperson of the Policy Committee did the Committee in that incarnation complete the review of all the policies that it set out to do. He also asked if the policy book was ready for adoption by the Board.

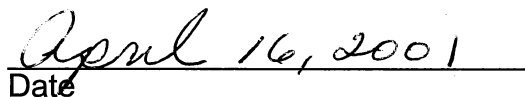
Mr. Sincaglia responded that the Committee did not complete a full review of all the policies. He stated that this is not a short-term project and if this policy book was adopted without a full review it could be subject to flaws.

ADJOURNMENT:

There being no further business to come before the Board, on a motion made by Mr. Pelaia, seconded by Mrs. Roncaglio, the meeting adjourned at 9:36 p.m.


President


Secretary


Date

March 29, 2001