

NUTLEY BOARD OF EDUCATION OPEN PUBLIC MEETING MINUTES May 7, 2024

Announcement of Meeting – 6:30 PM

Meeting Notice

Mr. Ferraro

In compliance with Chapter 231, Public Law 1975 entitled Open Public Meetings Act, adequate notice of this meeting had been provided as specified in the Act. Proper notice of this Open Public Meeting was provided in the notice of May 1, 2024. Said notice was posted at the entrance of the Board of Education offices, mailed to the Nutley Township Clerk, sent to TapInTo Nutley, advertised in the Star Ledger on May 3, 2024 and posted on the district website.

Flag Salute

Mr. Ferraro

Mr. Ferraro led the community in the Flag Salute.

Call of Roll

Ms. Greco

Present:

Mr. Balsamo
Mr. Battaglia
Mrs. Danchak-Martin
Dr. D'Elia
Mr. Friginals
Mr. Kucinski
Mrs. Quirk
Mr. Scotti
Mr. Ferraro

Also Present:

Mr. Kent Bania, Superintendent
Mrs. Janine Loconsolo, Asst. Superintendent
Ms. Karen Greco, Director of Communications
Ms. Jeanette Makus, State Monitor
Mr. Scott Eveland, Board Attorney
Mr. Ray Sarinelli, CPA, Nisivoccia Advisory

Reports as follows:

1. Presentation: 24-25 Budget

Mr. Bania

Mr. Bania presented the 24-25 budget.

Hearing of Citizens

We now come to the portion of our meeting where we allow members of the public to address the board. In this section we allow comments on reports, resolutions, and all school – related matters.

Our Board regulations (#0167) allot 20 minutes for these communications. Each person shall be limited to three minutes and we ask you to try to stay within this requirement. Speakers may speak more than once only after all others wishing to speak on a topic have been heard.

All statements will be directed to me as the chairperson and no one may address board members individually.

Please be reminded that if your statement is: Too lengthy, abusive, obscene, irrelevant or redundant, your participation may be terminated. Comments concerning district employees and/or students will not be responded to.

Please remember to state your name and address each and every time you address the board.

For questions where the board may not have immediate answers, the board will take information and respond to you at an appropriate time.

Does anyone have any comments?

Community members came to the microphone and made public statements at the May 7th portion of the meeting.

Ms. Jeanette Makus, State Monitor spoke to the crowd and introduced herself.

Public comment continued at the May 16th portion of the meeting.

FINANCE - Resolution 1

Mr. Battaglia motioned to move finance items 5-6 on May 7th and they were unanimously approved.

Mr. Kucinski motioned to table Finance Resolutions 1-4 and recess the meeting. It was seconded by Mr. Battaglia and unanimously passed to continue the meeting on May 16th at 6:30PM.

At the continuation of the meeting on Thursday, May 16th, after public comment, a motion to move Finance items 1-4 was made by Mr. Battaglia. Mr. Balsamo, Mr. Battaglia, Mrs. Danchak-Martin, Dr. D'Elia, Mr. Kucinski, Mrs. Quirk, Mr. Scotti and Mr. Ferraro voted yes. Mr. Fraginals voted no.

1. Adoption of the FINAL BUDGET as approved by the Interim Executive County Superintendent

WHEREAS, the Nutley Board of Education adopted a TENTATIVE budget on March 25th, 2024, and submitted it to the Executive County Superintendent of Schools for approval, and

WHEREAS, the TENTATIVE budget was approved by the Executive County Superintendent of Schools on April 23rd, 2024, and

WHEREAS, the TENTATIVE budget was advertised in the legal section of the Star Ledger, TapIntoNutley, and the district website on May 3rd, 2024, and

WHEREAS, the FINAL BUDGET was presented to the public during a public hearing held in the Nutley High School Auditorium, Nutley, NJ, on May 7th, 2024.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that in consideration of the above, the Board of Education hereby adopts the following FINAL Budget for SY2024-2025:

	General Fund	Special Revenue	Debt Service	TOTAL
2024-2025 Total Expenditures	\$ 81,111,496	\$5,369,737	\$ 3,224,490	\$ 89,705,723
Less: Anticipated Revenues	\$ 15,622,595	\$5,369,737	\$ 894,490	\$ 21,886,822
Taxes to be Raised	\$65,488,901	- 0 -	\$ 2,330,000	\$ 67,818,901

2. Use of BANKED CAP

BE IT RESOLVED that the Nutley Board of Education includes in the proposed budget the adjustment for banked cap in accordance with N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-10.1(b). The district has fully exhausted all eligible statutory spending authority and must increase the base budget in the amount of \$ 592,082.00 for the purpose of maintaining a thorough and efficient educational program. The district intends to complete said purposes by June 2024.

3. Adjustment for ENROLLMENT

BE IT RESOLVED that the Nutley Board of Education includes in the final budget the adjustment for enrollment in the amount of \$ \$931,896.00 . The district intends to utilize this adjustment for supplies and materials necessary for the additional students.

4. Adjustment for HEALTH CARE COSTS

BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education includes in the final budget the adjustment for increased costs of health benefits in the amount of \$ 485,791.00 . The additional funds will be used to pay for the additional increases in health benefit premiums.

5. MAXIMUM TRAVEL

Pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-7.3, a board of education must establish a maximum dollar limit for travel expenditure, as defined in N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-7.1 et seq.,

BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education includes in the tentative budget a maximum travel expenditure in the amount of \$20,250.00 for SY2024-2025. The maximum travel

expenditure amount for SY2023-2024 is \$101,780.00, of which, \$21,809.86 has been spent and \$2,173.04 is encumbered as of May 7th, 2024.

6. TRAVEL AND RELATED EXPENSE REIMBURSEMENT

WHEREAS, The Board of Education recognizes school staff and Board members will incur travel expenses related to and within the scope of their current responsibilities and for travel that promotes the delivery of instruction or furthers the efficient operation of the school district;

AND, N.J.A.C. 6A:23A Subchapter 7 requires Board members to receive approval of these expenses by a majority of the full voting membership of the Board and staff members to receive prior approval of these expenses by the Superintendent of Schools and a majority of the full voting membership of the Board;

AND, a board of education may establish, for regular district business travel only, an annual school year threshold of \$1500 per staff member or district board of education member where prior Board approval shall not be required unless this annual threshold for a staff member is exceeded in a given school year (July 1 through June 30);

AND, travel and related expenses not in compliance with N.J.A.C. 6A:23A Subchapter 7 but deemed by the board of education to be necessary and unavoidable as noted on the approved Board of Education Out-of-District Travel and Reimbursement Forms;

NOW BE IT RESOLVED, the Board of Education approves all travel not in compliance with N.J.A.C. 6A:23A Subchapter 7 as being necessary and unavoidable as noted on the approved Board of Education Out-of-District Travel and Reimbursement Forms; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Board of Education includes in the tentative budget travel and related expense reimbursements in accordance with N.J.A.C. 6A:23A Subchapter 7, to a maximum expenditure of \$ 20,250.00 for all staff and board members for SY2024-2025.

The School Business Administrator/Board Secretary shall track and record these costs to ensure that the maximum amount is not exceeded.

1. PERSONNEL AGENDA REPORT

Dr. D'Elia moved Personnel #1 on May 7th. It was seconded by Mr. Kucinski and was unanimously approved.

BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education approve the Personnel Agenda Report dated May 7, 2024.

A . Employment

1. **Mr. Kent Bania**, Superintendent of Schools, recommends the Board of Education approve the following appointments of **Certificated District Staff**, effective for the dates listed below, and, in some cases, pending NJ. PL. 2018.c.5 as designated below.

1.	Makus, Jeanette	State Monitor	\$96/hr Not to exceed 32 hrs/week	DIST	5/6/24	5/4/25	As per contract of May 6th 2024
2.	Polanco, Belgica	Acting Business Administrator		DIST	5/7/24	TBD	

B. Resignations

1. **Mr. Kent Bania**, Superintendent of Schools, recommends the Board of Education approve the following **resignations** for the dates listed below.

1.	Employee #4205	Employee	DIST	Resignation Effective 6/29/24
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Old Business

New Business

Mr. Ferraro motioned to recess and continue the meeting on May 16th at 6:30PM. Mr. Kucinski seconded it and it unanimously was approved.

Adjournment

This document is subject to additions, withdrawals and modifications without notice.