

**TO ALL BOARD OF EDUCATION MEMBERS:**

The Regular Meeting of the Board of Education of the Township of Union will be held on Tuesday, December 18, 2007 at 7:00 p.m. at Union High School, North Third Street, Union, New Jersey.

The regular meeting of the Board of Education of the Township of Union was held at Union High School Library, North Third Street, Union, New Jersey on Tuesday, December 18, 2007 at 7:00 p.m. pursuant to notice sent to each board member.

PRESENT AT ROLL CALL: Mrs. Linda Gaglione, Mr. Steven Helmstetter, Mrs. Versie McNeil, Mr. Francis Perkins, Mrs. Judy Salazar and Mr. Gary Abraham, President

ABSENT AT ROLL CALL: Mr. Manuel Figueiredo, Mr. Anthony Manochio, Mr. Steve Ruhl

Mrs. Salazar led the board and audience members in the Pledge of Allegiance.

The secretary read the statement required under the "Open Public Meetings Act", a copy of which is on file in the office of the secretary

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Moved by Mrs. McNeil, seconded by Mr. Helmstetter, that the minutes of the worksession of November 13, 2007

AYE: Mrs. Gaglione, Mr. Helmstetter, Mrs. McNeil, Mrs. Salazar and Mr. Abraham

NAY: None

ABSTAIN: Mr. Perkins

MOTION WAS CARRIED

Moved by Mrs. McNeil, seconded by Mr. Helmstetter, that the minutes of the regular meeting of November 20, 2007 be adopted:

AYE: Mrs. Gaglione, Mr. Helmstetter, Mrs. McNeil, Mr. Perkins, Mrs. Salazar and Mr. Abraham

NAY: None

ABSTAIN: None

MOTION WAS CARRIED

## COMMUNICATIONS:

## REQUEST FOR FINANCIAL SUPPORT – JULES

Gail Jules a 10<sup>th</sup> grade student at Union High School submitted a letter dated November 26, 2007, requesting financial support for participation in People to People Leadership Summit.

## REQUEST FOR UNPAID FAMILY LEAVE – JOHNSON

Helen Johnson, part time bus aid submitted a letter dated November 20, 2007 requesting unpaid family leave for the period November 6, 2007 through February 6, 2008.

## LETTER OF RESIGNATION – GOERLICH

James A. Goerlich, Turf Consultant, submitted a letter of resignation dated November 1, 2007, effective December 1, 2007.

## THANK YOU NOTE – AXELROD

Judy Axelrod submitted a thank you note for sympathy basket.

## CORRESPONDENCE – SUPLEE, CLOONEY &amp; COMPANY

Suplee Clooney & Company, Certified Public Accountants, submitted a letter dated December 1, 2007.

## LETTER OF RESIGNATION – SALERNO

Joseph D. Salerno, School Psychologist, submitted a letter of resignation dated December 1, 2007, effective February 1, 2008.

## REQUEST FOR UNPAID FAMILY LEAVE – CARLIN

Anthony Carlin, custodian at Hannah Caldwell School, submitted a letter requesting unpaid family leave for the period December 11<sup>th</sup>, 2007 through March 7<sup>th</sup>, 2008.

## REQUEST FOR UNPAID FAMILY LAVE – DUERR

Kathy Duerr, teacher at Franklin School, submitted a letter dated December 3, 2007, requesting unpaid family leave for the period January 18<sup>th</sup> through April 8<sup>th</sup>, 2008.

## LETTER OF RESIGNATION – WILLS

Maryanne G. Wills, part time bus driver, submitted a letter of resignation for the purpose of retirement dated December 10, 2007, effective January 1, 2008.

## LETTER OF RESIGNATION – ENDRZEJEWSKI

Robert A. Endrzejewski, Network Supervisor submitted a letter of resignation, effective January 11, 2008.

### SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Dr. Jakubowski stated that prior to giving his Superintendent's Report he would like to begin by apologizing to the community for the conditions of the parking lots on Monday. He stated that he took full responsibility for the miscommunication that occurred and although the sidewalks and walkways were taken care of by the building custodians, the parking lots certainly were not in the condition they should have been. Dr. Jakubowski assured the public that this will not happen again. He said that he did not return telephone calls of all the individuals who called him regarding this issue but he did want everyone to know that he did listen to all the concerns of the public.

Dr. Jakubowski gave his Superintendent's Report a copy of which is appended to these minutes.

Dr. Jakubowski said that he wanted to take a moment, although it was not Mrs. Lombardi's last meeting, he wanted to mention that Mrs. Lombardi, Assistant Superintendent of Curriculum and Supervision will also be retiring in the end of January and although certainly next month, the board will honor Mrs. Lombardi, he wanted to make mention of everything that she has done. Dr. Jakubowski wished Mrs. Lombardi the best of everything.

### COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC ON THE AGENDA

Mr. Donnarumma asked if Mr. Endrzejewski was resigning his position. Mr. Abraham said that Mr. Endrzejewski has taken a new position. Mr. Donnarumma asked if the board had anyone to replace him. Mr. Abraham said that the letter of resignation was just received today and there has not been an opportunity to start the process of looking for a replacement.

### EDUCATION/STUDENT DISCIPLINE COMMITTEE:

Moved by Mrs. McNeil, seconded by Mrs. Salazar that the following resolutions be adopted:

#### E-1. AMEND LIST OF STUDENTS REMOVED FROM THE ROLLS

That approval be given to amend the list of students removed from the rolls [seven (7) students for the period November 1<sup>st</sup> through November 30<sup>th</sup>, 2007; total of students exited during the 2007-2008 school year is twenty-seven (27) students] who are not domiciled in this school district in accordance with the information appended to the non public portion of these minutes.

#### E-2. AMEND 2007-2008 OUT-OF-DISTRICT ATYPICAL STUDENT PLACEMENT

That the Board amend the 2007-2008 out-of-district sent and received atypical student placement and tuition lists will be approved in accordance with the information appended to the non public portion of these minutes.

## EDUCATION/STUDENT DISCIPLINE COMMITTEE:

E-3. APPROVE SETTLEMENT – *E.S. on behalf of J.S. vs. Union Township Board of Education*

That the Board approve settlement in the matter of *E.S. on behalf of J.S. vs. Union Township Board of Education* in accordance with the information recorded in the non public portion of these minutes.

## E-4. APPROVE MINI-GRANT – ELEMENTARY WRITER'S WORKSHOP

That the Board approve the following mini-grant: Joan Pikula and Linda Hrevnack – Elementary Writer's Workshop - \$526.

## E-5. APPROVE THE ESTABLISHMENT OF ADDITIONAL PRIMARY MILD/MODERATE LEARNING/LANGUAGE DISABILITIES CLASS – BATTLE HILL SCHOOL

That the board approve the establishment of an additional primary mild/moderate learning/language disabilities class at Battle Hill School beginning January 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2008 to meet the needs of special education students in the least restrictive environment.

## E-6. APPROVE STUDENTS TO ATTEND U.S. ARMY EASTERN REGION DRILL CHAMPIONSHIP – UNION HIGH SCHOOL JROTC

That the board approve 46 JROTC students, two (2) faculty members and four (4) parent chaperones from Union High School to attend U.S. Army Eastern Region Drill Championship in Macon, Georgia from March 26<sup>th</sup> to March 31<sup>st</sup>, 2008 at a cost not to exceed \$4,350 – this is a budgeted item. (Students will be responsible to fundraise hotel fees of \$2,000 for the group and meal fees in the amount of \$200 per student)

## E-7. APPROVE STUDENTS TO ATTEND U.S. NATIONAL DRILL CHAMPIONSHIP – UNION HIGH SCHOOL JROTC

That the board approve 46 JROTC students, two (2) faculty members and four (4) parent chaperones from Union High School to attend U.S. National Drill Championship at Daytona Beach, Florida from April 30<sup>th</sup> to May 5<sup>th</sup>, 2008 at a cost not to exceed \$7,450 – this is a budgeted item. (Students will be responsible to fundraise hotel fees of \$3,000 for the group and meal fees in the amount of \$200 per student)

## DISCUSSION:

Mrs. McNeil said that she would like to take the opportunity to thank Mrs. Lombardi. She said that she had worked with Mrs. Lombardi for the past two years and Mrs. Lombardi's dedication to the district is phenomenal. Mrs. McNeil commended Mrs. Lombardi for her hard work and support. She said that she had gained a lot of knowledge working with Mrs. Lombardi on the Education Committee

EDUCATION/STUDENT DISCIPLINE COMMITTEE  
DISCUSSION:

and she wished Mrs. Lombardi all the best and congratulations on her retirement. Mrs. McNeil said that the district is really going to miss Mrs. Lombardi as she was a "jewel". She said that Mrs. Lombardi was always very receptive to any ideas and Mrs. Lombardi never hesitated to give her answers to her questions. Mrs. Salazar echoed Mrs. McNeil's sentiments.

AYE: Mrs. Gaglione, Mr. Helmstetter, Mrs. McNeil, Mr. Perkins, Mrs. Salazar and Mr. Abraham  
 NAY: None  
 ABSTAIN: None MOTION WAS CARRIED

FISCAL AND PLANNING COMMITTEE

Moved by Mrs. Gaglione, seconded by Mr. Helmstetter that the following resolutions be adopted:

F-1. ACCEPT TREASURER'S REPORT

That the Treasurer's Report dated November 30, 2007 be accepted.

F-2. ACCEPT SECRETARY'S REPORT

That the Secretary's Report dated November 30, 2007 be accepted.

F-3. CERTIFY TREASURER'S AND SECRETARY'S REPORTS

Pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6:20-2.13(d), I certify that as of November 30, 2007 no budgetary line item account has obligations and payments (contractual orders) which in total exceed the amount appropriated by the district board of education pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:22-8 and 18:22-8.1.

\_\_\_\_\_  
James J. Damato, Board Secretary

\_\_\_\_\_  
Dated

Pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6:20-2.13(e), we certify that as of November 30, 2007 after review of the secretary's monthly financial report (appropriations section) and upon consultation with the appropriate district officials that to the best of our knowledge no major account or fund has been over-expended in violation of N.J.A.C. 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. This certification is solely based on the information provided by the School Business Administrator/ Board Secretary and is assumed by the board to be correct.

## FISCAL AND PLANNING COMMITTEE

## F-4. APPROVE LINE ITEM TRANSFERS

That the board approve line item transfers in accordance with the copy appended to these minutes.

## F-5. CONCUR WITH THE INVESTMENTS

That the board concur with the investments made by the Business Administrator as follows:

Mature Date	Purchase Date	Number of Days	Amount	Invest. Held by	Home A/C Account	Interest Rate	Estimated Income
12/18/07	11/20/07	28	1,000,000	UCNB	UCNB Café	4.66%	3,624.44
12/18/07	11/20/07	28	800,000	UCNB	UCNB CAP Reserve	4.66%	2,899.56
12/18/07	11/20/07	28	20,000,000	UCNB	UCNB OP AC	4.66%	72,488.89
12/18/07	11/20/07	28	2,500,000	UCNB	UCNB Jan03 Bond	4.66%	9,061.11
12/18/07	11/20/07	28	1,200,000	UCNB	Unity BankSUI	4.66%	4,349.33

## F-6. ADOPT 2006/2007 CORRECTIVE ACTION PLAN (CAP) FOR THE COMPREHENSIVE ANNUAL FINANCIAL REPORT (CAFR)

That the board adopt the 2006/2007 Corrective Action Plan (CAP) for the Comprehensive Annual Financial Report (CAFR) for the period ending June 30, 2007 in accordance with the information appended to these minutes.

F-7. APPROVE ATTACHED LIST OF CONTRACTS AND/OR PURCHASE ORDERS PURSUANT TO THE REQUIREMENTS OF *N.J.S.A. 18A:18A-5* and *18A:18A-10(a)*

That the board approve the attached list of contracts and/or purchase orders pursuant to the requirements of *N.J.S.A. 18A:18A-5* and *18A:18A-10(a)* in accordance with the information appended to these minutes.

F-8. APPROVE ATTACHED LIST OF CONTRACTS AND/OR PURCHASES PURSUANT TO THE REQUIREMENTS OF *N.J.S.A. 18A:18A-5(21)*

That the board approve attached list of contracts and/or purchases pursuant to the requirements of *N.J.S.A. 18A:18A-5(21)* in accordance with the information appended to these minutes: (a) 3-J Fund Raising - \$3,848 – Volleyball fundraiser-Union High School Athletic Department; (b) 3-J Fund Raising – \$13,714.75 - Student Council fundraiser – Kawameeh Middle School

F-9. APPROVE DISTRICT WIDE TRAVEL AND RELATED EXPENSES PURSUANT TO THE REQUIREMENTS OF *N.J.S.A. 18A:11-12*, *N.J.A.C. 6A:23B* and Board Policy File Codes 4133, 4440 and 9250

That the Board approve district wide travel and related expenses pursuant to the requirements of *N.J.S.A. 18A:11-12*, *N.J.A.C. 6A:23B* and Board Policy File Codes 4133, 4440 and 9250 and in accordance with the information appended to these minutes.

FISCAL AND PLANNING COMMITTEE

F-10. APPROVE HORIZON BLUE CROSS/BLUE SHIELD RATES FOR 2008

That the Board approve Horizon Blue Cross/Blue Shield rates for the 2008 calendar year at a blended annual increase of 3.96% in accordance with the information appended to these minutes.

F-11. APPLY FOR AN AMENDMENT TO FY 2008 IDEIA-B BASIC GRANT

That the Board agree to apply for an amendment to the FY 2008 IDEIA-B basic grant for an additional allocation of \$156,104 from the unexpended funds of the FY 2007 IDEIA-B grant.

F-12. ACCEPT DONATIONS – MCI CLASS AT BURNET MIDDLE SCHOOL

That the Board accept the following donations to be used by the Burnet Middle School MCI class: (a) Caulfield Associates, Inc. - \$25; (b) Charles and Margaret Novak - \$50; and (c) Knights of Columbus - \$2,500.

DISCUSSION:

None

AYE: Mrs. Gaglione, Mr. Helmstetter, Mrs. McNeil, Mr. Perkins, Mrs. Salazar and Mr. Abraham

NAY: None

ABSTAIN: None MOTION WAS CARRIED

OPERATIONS COMMITTEE

Moved by Mr. Helmstetter, seconded by Mr. Perkins that the following resolutions be adopted:

O-1. ACCEPT DONATION FOR CAST DEPARTMENT AT UNION HIGH SCHOOL

That the Board accept donation of television studio set in the estimated value of \$5,000 from the Township of Union for the CAST Department at Union High School in accordance with the information appended to these minutes.

O-2. APPROVE ADVERTISEMENT FOR DISPOSAL OF EQUIPMENT

That the board approve advertisement for disposal of the following equipment which is deemed no longer serviceable, in accordance with the information appended to these minutes.

DISCUSSION:

None

## OPERATIONS COMMITTEE

AYE: Mrs. Gaglione, Mr. Helmstetter, Mrs. McNeil, Mr. Perkins, Mrs. Salazar and Mr. Abraham  
 NAY: None  
 ABSTAIN: None MOTION WAS CARRIED

## PERSONNEL COMMITTEE

Moved by Mr. Helmstetter, seconded by Mrs. Salazar the following resolutions be adopted:

## P-1. APPROVE PERSONNEL ACTIONS

That Personnel Actions be approved in accordance with the information appended to these minutes.

## P-2. AMEND 2007-2008 SUBSTITUTE LISTS

That the Board amend the 2007-2008 Substitute/Home Instruction, Substitute Custodian, Substitute Cafeteria/ Playground Assistants list, in accordance with the information appended to these minutes.

## P-3. APPROVE MASTER TECHNICIANS AND ASSISTANT TECHNICIANS

That the board approve following as Master Technicians at a rate of \$20 per hour and Assistant Technicians at a rate of \$10 per hour:

Master Technicians

Yvonne Rago  
 Rosemarie Toscano  
 Laura Muller  
 Sharon Blanchard  
 Peter Avagliano  
 Matthew Russo  
 Brian Monaghan  
 Brian Toscano

Assistant Technicians

Christopher Zinkowicz  
 Rosemarie Toscano  
 Laura Muller  
 Sharon Blanchard  
 Brian Toscano  
 Matthew Russo  
 Laura Ditri  
 Tim Kornblum  
 Brian Monaghan

## P-4. APPROVE UNPAID FAMILY LEAVE

That the board approve unpaid family leave to the following staff: (a) Helen Johnson, part time bus aid, for the period November 6, 2007 through February 6, 2008

## P-5. ACCEPT LETTER OF RESIGNATION – GOERLICH

That the board accept letter of resignation from James A. Goerlich, Turf Consultant to the Board of Education, effective December 1, 2007.

## PERSONNEL COMMITTEE

## P-6. ACCEPT LETTERS OF RESIGNATION

That the board accept letters of resignation from the following staff: (a) Joseph D. Salerno, School Psychologist, effective February 1, 2008 and (b) Robert A. Endrzejewski, Network Supervisor, effective January 11, 2008.

## P-7. APPROVE PAYMENT FOR PRESENTING IN-SERVICE COURSE – D'ALOIA

That the board approve payment to Mark D'Aloia for presenting an in-service course entitled "Beginning Photoshop" on February 12<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup> at the rate of \$40 per hour not to exceed four hours or \$160.

## P-8. APPROVE STAFF TO PROVIDE APPLIED BEHAVIORAL ANALYSIS (ABA)

That the board approve Dawn Decker, Angela Kahn and Marcel Royal, to provide applied behavioral analysis (ABA) at home for special education students at a rate of \$50 per hour, five (5) hours per week for each student not to exceed \$6,000 per person for the period January 2<sup>nd</sup> through June 27<sup>th</sup>, 2008.

## P-9. APPROVE STAFF TO PROVIDE SPEECH LANGUAGE EVALUATIONS

That the board approve Dalila DaTorre, JoAnn Pace and Alyssa Shanley to provide speech language evaluations after school hours at a rate of \$300 per evaluation not to exceed \$6,000 per person for the period January 2<sup>nd</sup> through June 30<sup>th</sup>, 2008.

P-10. APPROVE PAYMENT TO STAFF FOR SECURITY AT UNION HIGH SCHOOL PLAY – *A CHRISTMAS CAROL*

That the board approve payment to the following staff as security monitors at Union High School on November 29<sup>th</sup> and 30<sup>th</sup> and December 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2007 at performances of "A Christmas Carol": (a) Helene Lateiner – 19 hours at a rate of \$20.33 per hour, not to exceed \$386.27; (b) Pat Krebs – 9 hours at a rate of \$20.33 per hour, not to exceed \$182.97; (c) Luci Giacalone – 4.5 hours at a rate of \$20.33 per hour, not to exceed \$91.48; (d) John Petrozzino – 4.5 hours at a rate of \$20.33 per hour not to exceed \$91.48; (e) Lucille Williams – 9 hours at a rate of \$20.33 per hour not to exceed \$182.97; and (f) Elizabeth Rizzolo – 9 hours at a rate of \$20.33 per hour not to exceed \$182.97.

## P-11. APPOINT PART TIME HEAD START EDUCATION COORDINATOR – KOMAN

That the board approve Lori Koman as part time Head Start Education Coordinator for the period January 1, 2008 through June 30, 2008 at a rate of \$60.00; ten (10) hours per month; not to exceed \$6,000 per year. NOTE: The local Head Start fiscal year is from August 1, 2007 through July 31, 2008. The salaries are paid through the Head Start grant, at no cost to the local district.

## P-12. APPROVE UNPAID FAMILY LEAVE – DUERR

That the board approve unpaid family leave for Kathy Duerr, teacher at Franklin School, for the period January 18<sup>th</sup> through April 8, 2008.

## PERSONNEL COMMITTEE

## P-13. ACCEPT LETTER OF RESIGNATION FOR THE PURPOSE OF RETIREMENT – WILLS

That the board accept letter of resignation for the purpose of retirement from Maryann G. Wills, part-time bus driver, effective January 1, 2008.

## DISCUSSION:

Dr. Jakubowski wanted to make special note that Mrs. Helwig is also retiring at the end of the month; she has worked for the district in the high school guidance office for many years. He stated that Mrs. Frain, who is now a secretary at Connecticut Farms School, will be replacing Mrs. Helwig and will become a twelve-month secretary. Dr. Jakubowski said that the district would be posting for a ten-month secretary position at Connecticut Farms School. He said that he would speak to Mrs. Frain and at least for the month, there will be some transition between the two buildings. Dr. Jakubowski said that he has known Mrs. Wills for all of his life and she and her family were neighbors when he was growing up. He said that Mrs. Wills has been employed by the district for a long time and she is a super lady. Dr. Jakubowski wished Mrs. Wills all the best in her retirement. Ms. Dunn said that she has met with Mrs. Wills when she turned in her resignation letter. She said that Mrs. Wills was “just like family” and has always been a very dedicated bus driver and has helped out in the transportation office. Ms. Dunn said that Mrs. Wills will be missed and she wished her well.

AYE: Mrs. Gaglione, Mr. Helmstetter, Mrs. McNeil, Mr. Perkins, Mrs. Salazar and Mr. Abraham  
 NAY: None  
 ABSTAIN: None MOTION WAS CARRIED

## GRIEVANCE COMMITTEE

Moved by Mr. Perkins, seconded by Mr. Helmstetter that the following resolution be adopted:

## G-1. APPROVE GRIEVANCE RESPONSE – GRIEVANCE# HS07-07

The committee recommends and I so move that the board approve grievance response in connection with Grievance #HS07-07 in accordance with the information appended to the non-public portion of these minutes.

## DISCUSSION

None

AYE: Mrs. Gaglione, Mr. Helmstetter, Mrs. McNeil, Mr. Perkins, Mrs. Salazar and Mr. Abraham  
 NAY: None  
 ABSTAIN: None MOTION WAS CARRIED

### APPROVAL OF BILLS

Moved by Mrs. Gaglione, seconded by Mr. Perkins that the Board concur with the bills listed in the permanent bound register appended to these minutes and be ordered for payment.

### DISCUSSION

None

AYE: Mrs. Gaglione, Mr. Helmstetter, Mrs. McNeil, Mr. Perkins, Mrs. Salazar and Mr. Abraham

NAY: None

ABSTAIN: None MOTION WAS CARRIED

### UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Dr. Jakubowski said that based upon a survey of the members of the board of education, Mr. Damato will be posting the board's planning session on Tuesday, January 22<sup>nd</sup> 2008 at 5 p.m. He said that the meeting will take place at the Administration Building. Dr. Jakubowski said that at that meeting the board would be discussing the district's plan for its administrative future, etc. as well some of the other issues that need to be faced within the district.

### NEW BUSINESS

Mr. Abraham said that he would like to take the opportunity to mention that the board members and their families were wished a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year from Tino and Gemma Donnarumma. He thanked the Donnarummas and on behalf of the board he extended best wishes for the holiday season to them and their family. Mr. Abraham said that on behalf of himself as board president, Mrs. Gaglione, the vice president and all the members of the board he wished to extend to the members of the community a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year and a Happy Channukah to the Jewish members of the community. He wished that the peace that is so prevalent at this time of the year extend to everyone throughout the coming year. Mr. Abraham extended to the members of the Central Office best wishes for a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

### COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC

Mr. Cohan said that he had seen with great encouragement the story about the Governor's state aid proposal and the hopeful benefit that the district and the community will enjoy once the school funding formula is adopted by the legislature and implemented. He said that in talking with Dr. Jakubowski today, it appears that it is still unclear as to exactly what that means for the district and whether or not there will be the full benefit that is being reported at the moment. Mr. Cohan said he would like to ask the board and the administration

## COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC

as they get the final details that they deliberate carefully and try to balance the needs of tax payers for property tax relief with some of the very real needs that he was sure they all knew about in the district. He said that the district has struggled for years without the full support in state aid and now that the district has the opportunity to perhaps get some more revenue through the state aid process, it would be really good if the district could fill some of the needs that the board has talked about for so many years. Mr. Cohan said that as he was coming to the meeting tonight, it occurred to him that it has been a year since he last addressed the board to say farewell as an employee. He said that it has been a very interesting year but he was also here to pay tribute to someone else who is about to leave and he was doing it tonight because he was told he would not be allowed to do it at her retirement dinner. Mr. Cohan said that Mrs. Lombardi was his colleague and his friend for the second half of his career. He said it surprised him that he and Mrs. Lombardi pretty much started in the school district at the same time but they did not know each other very well during the first parts of their careers. Mr. Cohan said that when he made some transitions during the course of his career, he found himself working directly with Mrs. Lombardi. He said that Mrs. Lombardi was his supervisor when he taught his first academic class as a basic skills English teacher in the early '90's and when he found himself struggling in that environment, Mrs. Lombardi was a great mentor to him. Mr. Cohan said that Mrs. Lombardi helped him very much to push him to be a more thoughtful practitioner, to really think about and reflect on what his role was as a teacher in a classroom and helped him to see that it was not the content area that was important but the transaction or the act of making sure that the information and the knowledge that he had to teach to his students was thought about in a very careful way. Mr. Cohen said that during the last few years of his career, he worked with Mrs. Lombardi on the Staff Development program and they spent lots of time reflecting on what is was that was done; how it would be done and how they would convince Dr. Jakubowski that some of their ideas were good ideas. He wanted to make sure that he came to the meeting tonight to pay Mrs. Lombardi the highest compliment that he could pay her and that was throughout the time that they worked together, Mrs. Lombardi was his teacher. Mr. Cohan wished Mrs. Lombardi good luck in her retirement.

Mrs. Hayes was a resident of Vauxhall and her granddaughter was a student at Battle Hill School. She said that the reason she came to the meeting tonight was because she was very upset with the conditions at Central-Five in the area where the children catch their buses. Mrs. Hayes said that Central-Five was the biggest bus stop in Union where all the children from the Vauxhall section catch buses to the individual schools around town. She said that there are ladies at the school to make sure that the children get on the buses. Mrs.

## COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC

Hayes said that the conditions at the school were terrible yesterday and today. She said she did not know if they plowed the flag pole area where the children stand to catch the bus but it was apparent that no salt was put down and there was nothing but ice to walk on. Mrs. Hayes said that a few of the children did fall on the ice but she said she was not a kid and she did not want to fall. She said that she had spoken to the principal of the school and he told her that he had done the best he could. Mrs. Hayes said she told Mr. Tsirikos that the best he did was not good for him and she thought more salt needed to be put down so that the children would not fall. She said that this morning the sidewalks on Berkeley Place were sheets of ice. Mrs. Hayes said that the adults in charge put the students in the building to wait for their buses and the students were brought out through the front door which was a clear path. She asked the board if this was the best that could have been done because there are small children getting on the buses and she didn't want her granddaughter to fall. Dr. Jakubowski promised Mrs. Hayes that the district would do better next time but he was disappointed to hear about the condition of the sidewalks, because he knew that all custodians were in the buildings all day on Sunday in order to keep the sidewalks clear. Dr. Jakubowski said that as to the condition of the parking lot, before Mrs. Hayes came to the meeting this evening, he had made a statement indicating that there was a miscommunication and he assured Mrs. Hayes that it would not happen again. He appreciated Mrs. Hayes' attendance at the meeting and her comments on this matter.

## MOTION TO ADJOURN

There being no further business before the board, it was moved by Mr. Perkins, seconded by Mrs. McNeil that the meeting be adjourned.

AYE: Mrs. Gaglione, Mr. Helmstetter, Mrs. McNeil, Mr. Perkins, Mrs. Salazar and Mr. Abraham

NAY: None

ABSTAIN: None

MOTION WAS CARRIED

Meeting was adjourned at 7:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted

JAMES J. DAMATO  
BOARD SECRETARY