

**IPSWICH SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING  
NOVEMBER 15, 2012  
MIDDLE/HIGH SCHOOL ENSEMBLE ROOM**

**OPEN SESSION  
CALL TO ORDER**

Chairman O'Flynn called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m. with the following members present: J. Loeb, B. Hopping, S. Gresh, J. Bauman, and R. Roesler. Also present were Superintendent Korb; Finance Director J. Cuff; Student Representative M. Werner; SPED Director M. Gallant; the four principals; and Birth to Three Director K. Cox.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Executive Session will be held for the purpose of reviewing Executive Session Minutes for release, after which the meeting will return to Open Session  
Policy Subcommittee will meet on November 19, 5:30 p.m., Payne School  
Public Safety Facility Committee will meet on November 28, 7 p.m., Town Manager's Conference Room, Town Hall  
TriBoard will meet on November 29, 7:30 p.m., Conference Room A, Town Hall  
School Committee will meet on **December 5**, 7 p.m., Middle/High School Ensemble Room

**CITIZENS COMMENTS**

**SPECIAL ACKNOWLEDGMENTS**

**IPSWICH HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE REPORT**

Maddie reported on America Recycles Day. The majority of students in the high school were really helpful in doing a survey of how they could help and are planning on making a change in the cafeteria. The Environmental Group had taken a field trip to the new Manchester-Essex High School, which is a LEED school, and obtained many ideas to cut down on energy costs.

**SUPERINTENDENT'S ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT**

Mr. Korb reported on Town/School continuing collaboration with the primary focus on capital needs at the elementary level. A meeting with the principals on Monday will break out segments of the Statement of Interest (SOI) report with the intent of getting it into MSBA hands within the window of January – April. Winthrop's potential expansion and build-out of classroom space would replace the modular with two–four new classrooms. Doyon needs roofing and building insulation. The School Committee would like to have a committee to look at educational operations K-2/3-5 in the two buildings to run on a parallel track with MSBA's SOI. Both buildings also have needs for bathroom renovations and flooring. The SOI document must come back to the School Committee and then go to the Board of Selectmen.

He met with Ms. Cuff, Mrs. Burke, and the Town Manager regarding an upcoming meeting with an IT Director in Andover to learn how that town's transition occurred with an eye to Ipswich's plan for technology.

The Ipswich Community Farm gave a presentation to the administrators based on the Massachusetts Community Farm Initiative, a non-profit organization which has centers that provide opportunity for work, self-enrichment, and service. Students and staff would benefit and the initiative will directly associate with the Common Core standards. Locations have been identified as follows: Cuvilly/Sisters of Notre Dame, Gordon College, Trustees of Reservations, with farmland available at Ipswich High and Doyon Schools. They will present on December 5 or December 20 School Committee agendas; a vote of support is required for seeking grants. They are asking for two/three liaisons to help them with coordination.

Mr. Korb, announcing the noon closing of schools on November 21 and the holiday with reopening on Monday, November 26, wished everyone a Happy Thanksgiving.

## **I. SCHOOL COMMITTEE DISCUSSIONS**

### **A. PRESS BOX FOUNDATION INSTALLATION**

Athletic Director Tom Gallagher and Ken Spellman (retired teacher/coach) spoke of the process and funding for the long-awaited press box. In a three-phase process, the cement pad would be poured before the ground is frozen whereupon the second step, construction of the press box on the 50-yard line could take place so that the building, a communications center (when multi sports activities take place at the stadium) can include media, filming, and sports personnel inside in bad weather. Long-needed storage would be available under the press box. A guarantee of over \$60,000 exists for press box phases I and II.

Mr. Hopping questioned the wheelchair accessibility, the third phase of the project, which has had a waiver approved by ADA for an extension of two years or more and which will amount to about \$20,000. Mr. Gallagher explained the accessibility for wheelchairs. Mrs. Roesler asked whether expenses for athletic equipment would be affected. Mr. Gallagher explained that the Boosters Club provides money for equipment.

In discussion, it was established that the Education Foundation will be responsible for handling the funds under Atty. Greenough's jurisdiction.

Mrs. Bauman moved, seconded by Dr. Gresh, to give permission to the Education Foundation Press Box Committee to proceed with phases I and II of the Press Box project at the High School stadium. IN FAVOR – Bauman, Gresh, O'Flynn, Hopping, Loeb; OPPOSED – Roesler.

Mr. Hopping asked to see the quarterly statements as the project progresses.

**B. FEOFFEEES OF THE GRAMMAR SCHOOL**

Dr. O'Flynn reported that the "interveners" have withdrawn their appeal of the sale of Little Neck and the legal battle is done. Ms. Cuff asked if the new Feoffees are working towards their own ID number and if their treasurer has been bonded. She asked that they share with the Central Office the monthly bank statements and the audit which was done after the turnover. Dr. O'Flynn promised to contact the Feoffees regarding these requests. Mrs. Bauman, in a prepared statement, thanked the Feoffees for their intense work in regard to the funds which will enable enhancements in the school system. Dr. O'Flynn thanked the interveners for stopping their legal process, hopes that over time the community can heal, and expects solid policy for spending the proceeds in the best way for the school children.

**C. SELECTION OF SUPERINTENDENT SEARCH CONSULTANT**

Mr. Hopping reviewed the School Committee's work in regard to procuring a firm to conduct the superintendent's search. Five RFPs were sent out, and three responded: NESDEC, MASC, and Future Management Systems out of Beverly.

In intense conversation at the November 12 School Committee workshop, FMS was selected. The firm will meet with the School Committee and the consultant will then meet with several focus groups within the community including schools and other organizations.

Mr. Loeb moved, seconded by Mr. Hopping, to retain Future Management Systems to work as the School Committee consultant on terms consistent with the terms that were submitted in their RFP. UNANIMOUS.

Mr. Hopping stated that the people who wish to be involved in focus groups will begin in early January and he encouraged as much community interest as possible.

**D. FY14 BUDGET DISCUSSION**

Mr. Korb began by configuring the tables at the meeting so that the administrators joined the School Committee to discuss the budget for FY14. Mr. Korb presented a document entitled FY Budget Projection as compared to FY13 Budget. School Committee discussed an increase percentage of 2.7 to 3 % for FY14 from FY13.

The document entitled Identified Areas of Need in six areas was presented by the administrators. Mr. Korb presented his own seven areas of need for the Central Office with an estimated cost of \$300,000. Two new positions, a Director of Instruction/Assessment and an IT Director for Town/Schools (split with the Town), plus an increase of the SPED Director to full time were discussed at length.

Due to changing times, the current SAC model which has served the schools well for many years does not meet the new demands of the State mandates and the need exists for a Director of Instruction/Assessment. Technology upgrades district-wide are desperately needed. Because the issues of the Special Ed Department are so demanding, a full-time PPS person is needed. Professional development is required for Common Core implementation, and the Birth to Three program, in conjunction with the Town, must be maintained to cover

future needs of families in Ipswich. Ms. Cuff asked for an increase of .3 FTE for the business office clerk. Mr. Loeb's question was "What is the appropriate way to educate within the money that the schools have?"

High School. Mr. Dalton would hope to maintain current staffing including library staffing, expand the academic/SEL support services for high needs students, budget \$10,000 for accreditation work, and develop/implement a social emotional program because of specific students with significant mental health issues.

Middle School. Mr. Fabrizio asks to increase student support services to 3 FTE, return foreign language, maintain the current staffing for the assistant principal, and maintain the library staff.

Doyon School. Ms. Conley asked for a math specialist and literacy specialist which she had requested early-on last year. She asked also to maintain student support staff levels and increase the office secretary from 36 to 40 hours/week because of the heavy demand of paperwork.

Winthrop School. Mrs. McAdams wishes to maintain student academic support levels, to increase pre-school funding support which currently is not self-sustaining, and to supply assessment materials for RTI remediation.

SPED. Ms. Gallant asked to have IDEA grant funding redistributed to be more equitable, ESL support increased (several of these children currently attend each of the four schools), and to hire an autism consultant.

Birth to Three. Kitt Cox, Director, enumerated all the areas which the \$40,000 allotted to the FY13 budget has given the Birth-to-Three program. In discussion, Mr. Cox was informed that he needs to approach the Board of Selectmen with his budget because the School budget cannot fund the Birth-to-Three program.

School Committee Goals. To Mr. Korb's question about School Committee goals, Mr. Hopping gave a summary of their three goals although incomplete until the November 26 workshop.

Discussion ensued regarding budget realities, revisions to budgets, and thinking large. One-time monies and one-time costs were discussed. Mr. Hopping briefly explained the policy for expenditure of Feoffees money which is being presented to the principals in the near future.

Mr. Korb remarked that the Director of Instruction/Assessment position is a priority as is the PPS Director increase to full-time. The IT Director will come from the Town, partly outside the budget as will Birth-to-Three needs. At Ms. Cuff's urging, Mr. Loeb gave 3% as a realistic percentage of increase. Mr. Korb repeated his advocacy for \$130,000-150,000.

**II. SCHOOL COMMITTEE REPORTS****A. VOUCHERS/BILLS****B. SCHOOL COMMITTEE REPORTS****1. ATHLETIC SUBCOMMITTEE**

Mr. Hopping reported a request for a 24-hour fund raiser for the track in May. Mr. Gillis presented the stadium turf proposal.

**2. ATHLETIC FIELD STUDY COMMITTEE**

Mr. Hopping reported on discussion re the stadium, Mile Lane field changes, and a planned meeting with the Town Manager.

**3. BIRTH TO THREE SUBCOMMITTEE****4. BUDGET SUBCOMMITTEE****5. COMMUNICATIONS SUBCOMMITTEE****6. DAY CARE CENTER SUBCOMMITTEE****7. FACILITIES SUBCOMMITTEE**

Mrs. Roesler questioned the SOI and Mr. Korb explained. Mrs. Roesler reported that the Winthrop Playground Committee is moving forward and wants to be in line with School Committee plans.

**8. FEOFFEES SUBCOMMITTEE**

Mrs. Bauman said there is need to accept the Working Group's materials and she asked for any of Attorney Perry's documents not currently in the Subcommittee's hands.

**9. LONG RANGE FINANCIAL PLANNING****10. OPEB SUBCOMMITTEE****11. OPERATIONS SUBCOMMITTEE****12. POLICY SUBCOMMITTEE****13. SPECIAL EDUCATION PARENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE (SEPAC)****14. SUPERINTENDENT'S SEARCH COMMITTEE****15. TECHNOLOGY EDUCATION SUBCOMMITTEE****16. OTHER**

Dr. O'Flynn set November 26 for the next School Committee workshop.

**III. CONSENT**

Dr. O'Flynn moved, seconded by Mr. Hopping, to accept the Consent Agenda as follows:

Acceptance of Minutes of October 1, 2012, Open Session Workshop  
Acceptance of Minutes of October 25, 2012, Open Session Workshop  
Acceptance of Minutes of November 1, 2012, Open Session  
Acceptance of \$1,780 from Geskus Photography as the Ipswich Middle School's portion of the proceeds from the sale of school photographs.  
UNANIMOUS.

**IV. EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Mrs. Bauman moved, seconded by Mr. Hopping, to go into Executive Session at 10:55 for the purpose of reviewing Executive Session Minutes for release after which Open Session will resume. Roll Call IN FAVOR – Roesler, Loeb, Hopping, O’Flynn, Gresh, Bauman.

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**V. OPEN SESSION**

Dr. O’Flynn moved, seconded by Mrs. Bauman, to release Executive Session Minutes of August 16, 2012, Feoffees/Appeal of Interveners; September 6, 2012, Feoffees/Interveners Defense. UNANIMOUS.

**VI. ADJOURNMENT**

Meeting adjourned at 11:05 p.m. UNANIMOUS.