

**IPSWICH SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING
MARCH 3, 2016
MIDDLE/HIGH SCHOOL ENSEMBLE ROOM**

CALL TO ORDER

Mr. Hopping, Interim Chair, called the meeting to order at 6:02 p.m. with the following members present: C. Whitten, J. Bauman, S. Player, F. Krason. Dr. Hart was present as well

Ms. Player moved, seconded by Mrs. Bauman, to go into Executive Session at 6:03 p.m. to discuss strategy in preparation for collective bargaining with IEA and to conduct strategy sessions in preparation for negotiations with nonunion personnel. Roll call IN FAVOR – Bauman, Whitten, Krason, Player, Hopping.

II. OPEN SESSION

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Nylen called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m. with the addition of Reed Dolan, Student Representative.

MISSION STATEMENT

Reed read the Mission Statement.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mr. Nylen read the following announcements:

- Budget Subcommittee will meet on March 7, 7:30 p.m., Payne School
- 36th Annual Elsie Piddock Jump Rope Contest, March 8, MS/HS Upper Gym:
 - Gr. 3 – 6:30-7 p.m.; Grade 4 – 7-7:30 p.m.; Grade 5 – 7:30-8 p.m.
- Elementary School Second Community Forum will be held on March 10, 7 p.m., Town Hall Room A
- Winthrop School Science Fair will be held on March 11, 6-7:30 p.m.
- Daylight Savings begins on March 13.
- Developmental Screenings for 3 & 4 year olds will take place on March 15, 9-2:30 p.m. at Winthrop School
- School Committee/Fin Com budget meetings will take place on March 15 and 16 at 7 p.m., Town Hall Rm. A
- School Committee will meet w/discussion on School Building Project on March 17, Town Hall Rm A, time TBD

He also read the scheduled meetings for the future with the School Building Project as follows:

- March 23 – School Committee will meet to interview Feoffee applicants and the School Building Community Forum, Town Hall Rm. A, Time TBD
- March 31 – Joint meeting with School Committee/School Building Committee, Town Hall Rm A, 7 p.m.
- April 7 – School Committee, Town Hall Rm. A, 7 p.m.,
- April 13 – School Building Committee, Town Hall Rm. A, 7 p.m.

April 27 – School Building Committee, Town Hall Rm. A, 7 p.m.

April 28 – School Committee, Town Hall Rm. A, 7 p.m.

CITIZENS' COMMENTS

Two parents, whose children participate in sports which Ipswich doesn't offer, complained about the \$900 cap and the extra cost at the cooperating schools which do offer the sports. One said that this spring her daughter wishes to participate in track at IHS and she must pay \$600 more. AD Gallagher cannot change Ipswich's school policy. Mr. Hopping felt the burden is high anyway for a sport outside of Ipswich due to the transportation needed for out-of-town practices and that maybe a sliding scale could be adopted for these cases.

Jack Moon of Kimball Avenue was wondering about plans for any of the elementary buildings on any of the proposed sites, and Mr. Nylén said this discussion will take place over the next five weeks.

SPECIAL ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

Dr. Hart acknowledged Ms. McAdams for her leadership in the presentation of the timely documentary film entitled "Most Likely to Succeed." He congratulated Alan LaRoche on the boys' basketball team's making it to the tournament. And lastly, he mentioned the 30 members who participate with the education working group involved in the building project.

Mr. Nylén commented on the string festival performed by the orchestra last night as unbelievably great.

HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE REPORT

Reed reported on the InterACT Blood Drive where over 60 students donated, on the string festival where students from Grades 4 – 12 performed showing their development, and the basketball team that made the playoffs for the first time in roughly a decade.

Mrs. Krason congratulated the wrestling coach and team where two Ipswich students make it to All State.

A. SUPERINTENDENT'S ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT

Dr. Hart reported that BOS member Charles Surpitski and new Fin Com member Walter Hartford visited the Winthrop School led by Lauren Gouzi and Cindy Welch through classrooms and descriptions of teacher-leader positions and their impact.

Doyon technology teacher leaders hosted an after-school technology workshop series for Doyon staff. HS and MS will run alternating technology walk-in sessions weekly for the rest of the school year. Each Winthrop grade-level team has a technology teacher leader assigned to them.

The solar panel subcommittee met with the Light Dept. Director Don Newell

in exploring installation options for roof space from the School Department. ICAM is working on a Videography Program at the High School with new space and equipment.

In discussion about community members getting into the classrooms, Mr. Whitten suggested doing it at 8:30 a.m. so that people could get in before they go to work.

III. SCHOOL COMMITTEE PRESENTATIONS

B. OPEN HEARING AND PUBLIC DISCUSSION ON PROPOSED FY17 BUDGET

Mr. Nylen declared the Hearing on the FY17 School Budget open at 7:40 p.m. Mr. Hopping advised that the School Committee is voting on a number which doesn't mean that the proposals being offered by administrators are guaranteed, and he thanked all the administrators and Directors Hegedus and Wagner. Ms. Player approved of the override clarity put forth in the budget. There were no comments from the audience on the proposed budget.

C. CLOSE HEARING ON PROPOSED FY17 BUDGET

Mr. Hopping moved, seconded by Ms. Player to close the hearing on the FY17 School Budget. UNANIMOUS.

D. VOTE OF SCHOOL COMMITTEE OF FY17 PROPOSED SCHOOL BUDGET

Mr. Hopping moved, seconded by Ms. Player, that the FY17 School Budget (including the \$2,534,900 HS/MS debt exclusion) be approved at \$30,379,867. UNANIMOUS.

Mr. Nylen, thanking the individuals who put together this budget and the community who made it possible to have the adequate amount of funding, assured them that the School Committee is very mindful of the need to be thoughtful on how those monies are being spent on the five-year horizon.

Dr. Hart spoke of the transformational situation: the creative, hardworking personnel who have done phenomenal things in a very different place this year, and he is looking forward to seeing more great energy and innovation.

E. WINTER SPORTS AWARDS

AD Gallagher announced Baker Division champions in basketball and girls indoor track. Sportsmanship awards were presented to boys' and girls' indoor track. Jen Gagnon has achieved 1,000 points in her basketball high school career. Seventeen athletes were presented with certificates in girls' ice hockey, swimming, boys' and girls' indoor track.

F. ATHLETIC STRATEGIC PLAN PRESENTATION

Mr. Gallagher said, in developing a self-analysis process, that the Mission Statement, a School Committee document established in 1999 still holds; and the Vision Statement developed by the AD in January, 2015, and nine Priorities/Values were

were produced in a Strategic Planning document. These nine goals were detailed with multiple bullets under each of the four years.

He reviewed the 2016-17 goals in detail and the people/organizations involved in attaining them, commenting that the whole process is a joint work in progress and he is looking forward to having this a relevant working document.

Mrs. Bauman felt that the mission statement is too long. She asked about the connection of athletics with colleges and the AD said they often include videos in the application process. She spoke to an open process of coaching so it is not guaranteed that a coach is retained for the next year and asked about student (anonymous) surveys about the coaches. She asked about a five-year capital plan and was told that Ipswich Education Foundation events have enabled the AD to achieve some of the items on his list. There are two needs for the Athletic Department: general maintenance and the capital needs, whereas now maintenance is done as the problem arises with Mr. Gallagher's contacts for maintenance. The suggestion was made that the Town Manager should be brought into the discussion with the Athletic Director and the Facilities Manager, especially for the new turf field.

There was discussion re the athletic user fee and minimizing the impact for some families, especially those who don't ask or are too prideful to ask. \$210,000 is the goal of user-fee income; \$25,000-35,000 is realized with gate receipts. Questions about the cooperative sports, how it works with other towns, and the athletic fee in Ipswich came up. While Mr. Gallagher had listed a survey from 2018-19 for feedback from athletes, coaches, parents, and community, Mr. Nylén suggested moving up the timeline for a survey and to include questions concerning whether students might be leaving because of athletics. Dr. Hart and the School Committee extended thanks for taking on the strategic planning program.

G. TURF FIELD COMMITTEE UPDATE

Mr. Hopping and Mr. Swenson discussed the six bids which had come in for the Jack Welch Athletic Field improvements to turf. Mr. Swenson reviewed the plastic-coated sand (sample handed around to the SC) which is better for the green "carpet." Recommendations are to excavate everything inside of the turf area, install concrete curbing around the outside, and provide new drainage. Doug DeAngelis' donation of the video scoreboard materials includes all but the extra assembly. M. Nylén asked and Mr. Swenson replied that he had spoken with the facilities director of a school with the exact equipment installed three years ago, and while it was challenging at first, it now works well.

By letter, Huntress Associates President Chris Huntress, landscape architect, recommended the low bidder. Mr. Hopping moved, seconded by Ms. Player, to approve the proposal by Quirk Construction of Georgetown, the low bidder, for \$1,398,000 and the additional \$8,500 for the expansion of the straight away on the track, totaling \$1,406,500. UNANIMOUS.

Mr. Hopping moved, seconded by Ms. Player, to authorize the SC Chair to sign on behalf of the school district. UNANIMOUS.

Mr. Swenson reviewed the time schedule: on/about 5/23 the field comes offline, construction begins and will substantially be completed by 9/1 with the track resurfaced and painted. The field will be ready to go with, hopefully, not too long a punch-list and 100% complete by September 15.

H. SCHOOL BUILDING COMMITTEE UPDATE

Bob Bell of Perkins Eastman gave an update from the last School Building Committee meeting with ongoing exploration and site analysis, school tours, and a big educational working group workshop of 35 including students, teachers, parents, business leaders, and educational/administrative leadership. He reviewed two recently built schools (Essex Technical and Howe-Manning, preK-6) which contain classroom clusters and collaboration in school-learning communities, safety and security measures, high-performance lighting environments, and a great quality of daylight. The group is hoping to explore many schools for technology, safety, materials, etc.

Mr. Bell presented Grade Configurations Charts of implications/considerations for the four possible school configurations. There is an online questionnaire for the first 16 considerations (ipswichma.gov). This first draft was reviewed and critiqued by the Board members. Members of the audience commented that the projected considerations chart does not read well on the board, and the discussion should come earlier on the agenda. The Board asked that costs be studied for the following: (a) to bring Doyon "up to snuff" and (b) for replacing athletic fields.

MSBA figures on elementary school buildings since 2007 are 61% for 500-700 population; neighborhood schools – 70% at a single K-5.

To Mr. Whitten's questions, Mr. Hopping clarified that administrators did not like the idea of adding cost with Birth to 3 inclusion. Once advice is given from the School Building Committee, School Committee only will be recommending and voting on configuration and site. Mr. Bell will work on clarifying and cleaning up descriptions as suggested by the SC in anticipation of the next community meeting.

I. PREPARE FOR FINCOM PRESENTATION

Mr. Nylén, having attended the last Fin Com meeting, discussed with them their upcoming budget meetings with schools and stressed the busy month of meetings and the easy presentation of the budget this year. They will receive the school budget books early (3/9) and were encouraged to watch the ICAM presentation of the budget meetings to the School Committee. It was suggested that the Fin Com present questions beforehand when Central Office, High and Middle Schools present on March 15 and Elementary, on March 16.

IV. SCHOOL COMMITTEE REPORTS

A. VOUCHERS/BILLS

B. SCHOOL COMMITTEE REPORTS

1. ATHLETIC SUBCOMMITTEE – March 16 meeting

2. BUDGET SUBCOMMITTEE – March 7 meeting

3. COMMUNICATIONS SUBCOMMITTEE – Mrs. Bauman continues her work on the Feoffee celebration.

4. GRANT COMMITTEES – March 10 meeting for joint grant committees.

Noted: SC decision for grant funding dollars should be determined in January in the future.

5. OPERATIONS SUBCOMMITTEE - Meeting TBA.

6. POLICY – Meeting received draft of Technology Acceptable Use in elementary language, discussed Payne Grant and MiniGrant policies. Mike Gilbert of MASC will provide info.

7. TURF FIELD SUBCOMMITTEE – Hopping reported discussion about Doyon’s fields.

8. SCHOOL BUILDING COMMITTEE

9. NEW BUSINESS

V. CONSENT AGENDA

A. CONSENT AGENDA

Mr. Nylen moved, seconded by Ms. Player, to accept the Consent Agenda as follows:

Acceptance of Minutes of February 11, 2016, Open Session

Acceptance of Amended TriBoard Minutes of 1/20/16, Open Session

Acceptance of TriBoard Minutes of 11/17/15, Open Session

Acceptance of request from HS to open a Girls’ Basketball Activity

Account through the High School Activities Account

Acceptance of donation of \$1,000 to Birth to Three from Gloucester

Female Charitable Association to support activities of the

North Shore Postpartum Depression Task Force

Acceptance of gift of \$500 to the SAIL (Students Achieving

Independent Living) Program from the Cusack family to be

used for expenses related to the “Hot Dogs for SAIL” program.

Acceptance of donation of \$1,000 to Ipswich High School from Ipswich

Education Foundation to be used for FIRST Robotics Program

Voted to authorize the closing of idle subsidiary accounts within the High School Student Activities Account according to Policy #DIF-P in the total amount of \$858.01 as follows: Class of 2004 - \$131.83; Class of 2008 - \$304.76; Class of 2010 - \$21.01; Class of 2012 - \$166.94; Shop - \$65.31; Mock Trial - \$18.00; Student Government - \$.43; China Trip - \$ 149.73 to be transferred to the subsidiary "Principals Account" which is designated for the general benefit of student activities

Accepted the donation of \$2,500 from the Institution for Savings Charitable Foundation to be used for FIRST Robotics Program

Accepted a donation of \$1,065 from Winthrop FRIES to go into the Winthrop School Gift Account UNANIMOUS.

VI. ADJOURNMENT

Mr. HoppIng moved, seconded by Mrs. Bauman, to adjourn at 11 o'clock.
UNANIMOUS.