

**IPSWICH SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING
AUGUST 25, 2016
MIDDLE/HIGH SCHOOL ENSEMBLE ROOM**

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman C. Nylen called the meeting to order at 6:02 p.m. Attending were J. Bauman, C. Whitten, F. Krason, B. Hopping, and S. Player.

I. EXECUTIVE SESSION

Mr. Hopping moved, seconded by Mr. Whitten, to move to Executive Session for the purpose of conducting strategy in preparation for negotiation with non-union personnel. IN FAVOR- Bauman, Whitten, Krason, Nylen, Hopping, Player.

II. OPEN SESSION

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Nylen called the meeting to order at 7:04 p.m. Attending were C. Whitten, J. Bauman, F. Krason, B. Hopping, S. Player, and H. O'Flynn. Also present was Superintendent Hart.

READING OF DISTRICT MISSION STATEMENT

Ms. Player read the Mission Statement.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

August 30 – Goal-setting Workshop for School Comm, 5 p.m., Turner Hill
September 1 – Freshman and new student orientation, HS, 11a.m. -1 p.m.
September 5 – Labor Day. All offices closed
September 6 – First day of school
September 6 – Two kindergarten Orientation sessions
September 6 – Policy Subcommittee, 7 p.m., Payne School
September 7 – Operations Subcommittee, 7 p.m., Payne School

CITIZENS' COMMENTS

SPECIAL ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

Dr. Hart commended the Director of Teaching and Learning for her three sessions totaling about 60 staff members in TED talks, Blue Sky curriculum development (integration of Common Core), and STEAM curriculum. He announced that orientation had been held this day for 16 new staff members.

A. SUPERINTENDENT'S ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT

Dr. Hart gave a staffing update. Mr. Hopping asked about a reception for new staff as was held last year. It was set for September 22.

Recent meetings with community revealed frustration for Middle/High School neighbors. Lights at the parking lot have been turned off at midnight and 6-8 evergreen trees will be planted, as previously committed, adjacent to the main high school parking lot. Outside speakers which broadcast loud noise will be changed

except for emergencies. Dr. Hart will speak to the Police Chief in an effort to curb annoyance and retain safety precautions, and he promised to send communication to neighbors re the changes.

III. SCHOOL COMMITTEE PRESENTATIONS

Mr. Nylen began by asking School Building Committee members for a recap of their meeting earlier in the week and asking all for the next steps.

Mr. Whitten wishes to hear from the BOS and Fin Com, their issues, and what they would support. Ms. Player said that SBC is drafting a letter to all three Boards with "we are on hold."

Mr. Hopping, commenting that the SBC meeting lasted one hour, felt that the next step is to bring a subset or full set of the three committees together. Comments have been made at the BOS meeting; SBC has a sense of frustration. Because of all the delays, now there is request to cover costs of delays. He expressed that the 13 questions that have been posed to SC need to be on the table and there must be frank conversations that haven't happened so far. Once the other two Boards speak, SC and SBC must weigh in. The bottom line is that all want a new school for Ipswich. He plans to advocate for the 775-student school. To walk away from State money of 42% or above is unconscionable. The SC is the decision-maker for the 775 configuration and it has supported that configuration in the same building. He cautioned against being accommodating with that.

He said that discussion the other night was all about the adults and not about the kids. Sight is being lost for what is in the best interests of students. The challenge, said Mr. Hopping and Mr. Whitten, is to get every member of the community invested in this school system whether they have children in the schools who will benefit from the new school or not.

Mr. Nylen's Saturday morning with Chairs of the other two Boards must engage what their pressing issues are.

Mr. Nylen opined that the configuration isn't up for discussion and thinks there is more value in having a choice of sites (Doyon) as does Mrs. Krason. The consensus of the SC is that they will come back with the question of the Doyon site on September 8.

Mr. Engle (from the audience) advised the SC to put together a series of questions for the four-Board meeting where a hand-raising would give definitive response and not to go with issues which are up in the air. The SC is responsible for this project; SBC will make the project physically happen. Give a solid proposal, not a whole bunch of options. Mr. Nylen worried that, if the SC acted alone, it would be easy for them to not support. Mr. Engel replied that with 40 people in the room, it would serve the process well if some up and down votes could be made.

A Tri-Board meeting is tentative for September 12-13-or 14, with the SBC, and a series of questions beginning with (a) Do you support the building of an elementary school? and (b) Do you support a 775-student building?

Mrs. Krason left the meeting at 8:25 p.m.

C. TURF FIELD

Mr. Nylen spoke of the final arrangements for the field's opening, management, and marketing. Dr. Hart reviewed the matters: final "infill;" reinforced underlayment around the perimeter; and readiness for the school system by the end of August. The scoreboard will be delivered on 8/26; a calendar of events has been created; rental documents are done; custodial position and scheduler have been hired. The event manager hiring is in the process; signs about turf protection are ready; mats for going across the track are in process.

The marketing is more difficult—eleven different organizations which have been contacted have been whittled down to about half, but cost is between \$20,000 and \$30,000. Dr. Hart was urged to work on local marketing. Mr. Hopping and Dr. Hart commended Chris Huntress for his on-site responsibility with final construction and the detail-oriented work with signage, equipment, etc. that has been done. Dr. O'Flynn was concerned that the scheduling isn't settled and, further, with the dead grass and dust of other fields, groups are scrambling for the turf field. Mr. Nylen was concerned for AD Gallagher's added responsibility and hours worked.

In the matter of establishing a revolving fund for the management of income/expenses for the new facility, Mr. Hopping moved, seconded by Mrs. Bauman, to establish a revolving fund under MGL Ch. 71, Sec. 71E, Use of School Property, to account for revenue and expenditures associated with the Institution for Savings Athletic Complex. UNANIMOUS.

D. SCHOOL COMMITTEE GOALS WORKSHOP

Mr. Nylen will post the agenda for August 30, 5 p.m. meeting of SC at Turner Hill, on goals and some conversation re a Superintendent search.

E. SECURITY PROJECT

After presentation and discussion by Dr. Hart, having met with the Town Manager, Phase I, parts 1 and 2 of the security upgrades (installation and relocation of cameras and associated switches) will be accomplished with a lease/purchase five-year plan, the school district being responsible for the first year of the lease with increased Chapter 70 funds. The bigger portion of \$160,000 (Part 3) has been suggested for a Fall Town Meeting vote without impacting Free Cash or modifying the Capital Plan.

Group consensus accepted the plan for security.

IV. SCHOOL COMMITTEE REPORTS

A. VOUCHERS AND BILLS

B. SCHOOL COMMITTEE REPORTS

1. ATHLETIC SUBCOMMITTEE – Meeting TBA
2. BUDGET SUBCOMMITTEE – Meeting in September

3. COMMUNICATIONS SUBCOMMITTEE – Mrs. Bauman is working on the upgrading of the school website with Cindy Parker

4. GRANT COMMITTEES – Mrs. Bauman reported on one of the grants' success with Guidance Department, training students re essay writing, applications, admissions, and interviewing processes.

5. OPERATIONS SUBCOMMITTEE – Meeting on September 7

6. POLICY SUBCOMMITTEE - Meeting on September 6. Dr. Hart and Ms. Cuff have submitted a policy “Personal Choice Fund” for administrative choice of certain funds.

7. TURF FIELD – Dr. O’Flynn reported the movement forward to completion.

8. SCHOOL BUILDING COMMITTEE

9. NEW BUSINESS

IV. CONSENT

Mr. Nysten moved, seconded by Ms. Player, to approve the following Consent Agenda items:

Acceptance of Open Session Minutes of August 4, 2016

Acceptance of Tri-Board Minutes of May 12, 2016

Acceptance of Executive Session Minutes recommended for approval at the August 2, 2016, Policy Subcommittee meeting; specifically: August 6 and 20, 2015, September 3 and 17, 2015, October 1, 2015, November 5, 2015, and December 3 and 15, 2015. UNANIMOUS.

VI. ADJOURNMENT

Ms. Player moved, seconded by Mr. Hopping, to adjourn at 9:14 p.m. UNANIMOUS.