

Ipswich School Committee Meeting
Thursday, April 2, 2020
7:00 PM

Meeting Minutes

This meeting was held remotely, utilizing Zoom Video Conferencing.

1. Open Session

Call to Order:

The meeting was called to order by Mr. Hopping, Chair, at 7:03 PM.

Present: Mr. Hopping, Mr. Whitten, Mr. Nylan, Ms. Gilliam, Ms. Kneedler, Mr. Stevens and Dr. O'Flynn

Also Present: Dr. Brian Blake, Superintendent of Schools; Joanne Cuff, Director of Finance and Operations; and George Gallagher, High School Student Representative

Mr. Gallagher read the District Mission Statement.

Announcements:

- The next School Committee meeting will be held on Thursday, April 23rd at 7:00pm. This will be a remote meeting held through Zoom.
- The Policy Subcommittee will meet via a remote meeting on April 7th at 4:00pm

Citizens' Comments:

There were none.

Special Acknowledgements:

Dr. Blake acknowledged the food services department, along with the elementary school principals for preparing and delivering breakfast and lunches to students in the community. He also thanked the teachers and support staff who are working diligently through this "new normal".

High School Student Representative Report:

Mr. Gallagher spoke about his and other students' experiences through the beginning of the school closure. He mentioned that students were entering into their third week of digital learning and the first week of Zoom video meetings. By this week, almost every class is offering coursework for students at the high school. Of the students he spoke with, most were reporting good participation in their classes. He stated that the third quarter had ended and students were given a deadline to make up lost work prior to grades being submitted. Mr. Gallagher talked about starting quarter four and the uncertainty of if or how grades will be counted.

Mr. Gallagher then talked about the uncertainty that students were feeling at this time. He asked the administrators to take into account that the digital school day is very different from a regular school day. Mr. Gallagher stressed the importance of checking in on students because this time can be difficult for students' mental health.

Mr. Nylen then asked how the school closure was affecting college acceptances. Mr. Gallagher answered that most colleges had already given acceptances to students. What will be difficult for students is the inability to tour the schools prior to submitting decisions by May 1st. He also said that most Juniors understand that colleges will have to take into account this unprecedented time when reviewing their grades.

Statement from the Ipswich Educators' Association:

Becky Slawson, co-president of the Ipswich Educators' Association (IEA), relayed a message to students and families. She said that teachers miss seeing their students everyday. They miss the excitement and their energy. She said that the teachers in the district want the children of Ipswich to know that if they want to keep learning in this time, they have teachers who want to help.

Ms. Slawson then thanked the School Committee on behalf of the IEA. She said that a lot of people are facing economic uncertainty during this time, so they were thankful that the School Committee had voted to continue to pay its staff.

In a survey that went out to staff, Ms. Slawson said that all teachers responded that they want to be teaching and helping students. Most teachers responded that they would be willing to work through April vacation, should that be discussed.

Lastly, Ms. Slawson thanked both Dr. Blake and Mr. Hopping for allowing the IEA to be part of the decision making. She felt that they had all established a good working relationship.

Members of the School Committee then addressed Ms. Slawson, thanking the teachers and acknowledging the work they have been doing and the open communication they have maintained with both students and parents.

A. Superintendent's Administrative Report

Dr. Blake reported on the following:

- He continues to host a weekly meeting with the leadership team via Google Hangouts.
- He met remotely with the North Shore Superintendents' Round Table and the Massachusetts Association of School Superintendents to understand the landscape for school districts moving forward. He did acknowledge that there is a lot more to be discussed.
- He recorded a weekly update with the Town Manager on ICAM.
- He participated in several subcommittee meetings remotely.
- He participated remotely in an Ipswich Education Foundation meeting.
- He participated in a conference call with the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE) Commissioner who provided guidelines for remote learning.

- The district purchased 200 Zoom education licenses for teachers to help address the privacy issues that come with using the free version.
- The district launched the Extended Learning Website.
- The Remote Learning Website is almost ready to be launched.
- Per Governor Baker, all schools will be closed until May 4, 2020. Teachers will be providing enrichment activities at all grade levels. There will be more accountability for high school students to complete assignments.
- The district received 599 responses from the family data survey that was distributed to all families. The feedback from the survey was overwhelmingly positive. Some people did think the district was not doing enough for students at this point and were looking for more direct instruction from teachers.
- The food services department is continuing to offer breakfast and lunch to students Monday through Friday at certain locations throughout Ipswich.
- As of today's meeting, the track at the high school will be open to the public Monday through Friday from 8:00am to 10:00am. Staff will be there to supervise and keep people off of the field.
- He participated in another conference call with the DESE Commissioner who has:
 - Recommended that school districts continue to pay their employees and vendors during the extended closure
 - Stated that the federal government has cancelled all mandatory testing, however, the state legislature has not yet issued a response as to whether they will forego MCAS testing this year
 - Sent a letter to all parents and staff outlining remote learning goals and expectations going forward
 - Said that any teacher in need of an educator license renewal who is in good standing as of today, will remain in good standing for up to 90 days after the emergency declaration has ended.
 - Stated if districts are to use a grading system for classwork, it should be credit vs. no credit.

II. School Committee Presentations

B. COVID-19 Update:

Dr. Blake explained that over the last three weeks, teachers and support staff have put together and continue to update the district enrichment learning website. Staff have also started to meet with students via Google Hangouts, Google Classrooms, and Zoom video conferencing. He also explained that a lot of what were originally enrichment activities, have now taken the form of remote learning.

Since the extension of the closure was announced, the leadership team has been working to develop more formalized plans for remote learning. At this time, both the high school and middle school are in a good place to begin. They have established expectations and teacher teams are meeting and collaborating on work. Because of the age of the students, the elementary school remote learning plans can be more challenging to create. Dr. Blake is meeting with both elementary school principals, along with the Director of Teaching and Learning to review those plans and steps going forward.

Dr. Blake, along with Mr. Hopping and the IEA have been working on a Memorandum of Understanding to better identify the expectations of teachers during this time.

Dr. Blake then opened the conversation up to questions from the Committee.

Dr. Blake addressed questions about the need for and distribution of technology to families in the district. He said that he anticipates that all students will have the technology they need for access. When this closure first began, Chromebooks were distributed to families who needed them. Distribution of technology will continue as the need continues. Dr. Blake also stressed that there is enough technology within the district to meet the needs of the students. To address concerns about student meeting times overlapping, he said the teachers and administrators both understand that meeting times have to be flexible to accommodate different household schedules.

Dr. Blake was then asked what might be a need in the district should this closure extend further. At this time, Dr. Blake said that the district currently has what it needs to move forward with their remote learning plan. Because things change daily, it is hard to determine the needs going forward. As far as meals for students, he said that the district is able to feed any student who is in need. While the district is tracking how many meals are being distributed each day for reimbursement purposes, staff are not identifying who qualifies for free/reduced lunch.

At this time, Dr. Blake explained the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE) is treating this like a crisis situation. There is an understanding among state and school officials that students and families are all in different situations; some families don't have the necessary resources or skill sets to help with home learning, others are dealing with illness in their homes and some families continue to work either outside or in the home. While taking these factors into consideration, the state is recommending that school districts provide and promote learning opportunities for their students, while also acknowledging the difficulty some may have in completing the work. Holding students accountable for their work looks different at all grade levels, but can be especially challenging in elementary school. At the high school level, they recognize a need for students to receive credit for their courses and are working to address what that looks like.

Lastly, Dr. Blake addressed Committee concerns around costs during the closure. As Mr. Whitten pointed out, the district made an unanticipated large purchase of licenses for Zoom and a recommendation came down from DESE to continue paying contracted vendors. Dr. Blake explained that as part of the emergency declaration at both the state and town level, any COVID-19 related expense, like the additional Zoom licenses or sanitization of the buildings, should be documented for reimbursement. Ms. Cuff has been in contact with legal counsel to get advice on how to handle the bus contract. Salter, with whom the district has a contract, has been willing to reduce the bill by the cost of gas because the buses are not currently running. She is working to verify if Salter is still paying employees and if there are reimbursements that they would be receiving from the state. If Salter will receive a reimbursement, there is the potential for the district to be credited money they would have paid for service.

Dr. Blake confirmed that the remote learning plan will be published either tomorrow or over the weekend.

C. Vote on Town Meeting Warrant Articles

| ARTICLES | | Recommendation | | | Roll Call Vote | | | | | | | |
|----------|--|----------------|----------------------------|-----------|----------------|---------|---------|-------|---------|---------|----------|---------|
| # | Title | Motion | Support/ Not Support | RATM | NO VOTE | Hopping | Whitten | Nylen | O'Flynn | Gilliam | Kneedler | Stevens |
| 1 | Consent Calendar | Carl/Sara | 7-0, Support | | | y | y | y | y | y | y | y |
| 2 | Finance Committee Election | Carl/Chub | | 7-0, RATM | | y | y | y | y | y | y | y |
| 3 | FY 2021 Municipal Budget | Carl/Greg | 7-0, Support | | | y | y | y | y | y | y | y |
| 4 | FY 2021 School Budget | Greg/Sara | 7-0, Support | | | y | y | y | y | y | y | y |
| 5 | FY 2021 Whittier Regional High School Budget | Carl/Chub | 7-0, Support | | | y | y | y | y | y | y | y |
| 6 | FY 2021 Essex County Technical Institute Budget | Carl/Greg | 7-0, Support | | | y | y | y | y | y | y | y |
| 7 | Transfer of FY20 Appropriated Budget Funds to Educational Stabilization Fund | Delay vote | | | | | | | | | | |
| 8 | Transfer FY20 Budget Funds to Special Education Reserve Fund | Delay vote | | | | | | | | | | |
| 9 | Annual Capital Plan | Carl/Greg | 7-0, Support | | | y | y | y | y | y | y | y |
| 10 | Single-Use Straw, Stirrer, & Hotstopper Ban | Greg/Carl | 7-0, Support | | | y | y | y | y | y | y | y |
| 11 | Citizen's Petition – Home Rule Petition for lowering the voting age in local elections | Delay vote | | | | | | | | | | |
| 12 | Water Main Replacement | | | | X | | | | | | | |
| 13 | Rescinding Funds from 2019 ATM Warrant – Article 10 | | | | X | | | | | | | |
| 14 | Wastewater Infrastructure Repair/Replacement | | | | X | | | | | | | |
| 15 | Stabilization Funding | Carl/Greg | 7-0, Support | | | y | y | y | y | y | y | y |
| 16 | Other Post-Employment Benefits Funding | Chub/Carl | Support | | | y | y | y | y | y | y | y |
| 17 | Planning – Adult Use Marijuana | Chub/Greg | | X | | y | y | y | y | y | y | y |
| 18 | Planning – Registered Marijuana Dispensaries (RMD'S) | Greg/Chub | | X | | y | y | y | y | y | y | y |
| 19 | Planning – Clarification Amendment | | | | X | | | | | | | |
| 20 | Open Space Bond Purchase – Kamon Farm, Pineswamp Road | | | | X | | | | | | | |
| 21 | New England Biolabs – Tax Increment Financing (TIF) Agreement | | | | X | | | | | | | |
| 22 | Amend Chapter 25 – Town Meetings | Barry/Carl | Support | | | y | y | y | y | y | y | y |
| 23 | Gov't Study Committee – Waterways Committee Article | | | | X | | | | | | | |
| 24 | Amend Chapter 138 – Demolition Review | | | | X | | | | | | | |
| 25 | Matching Grant Funds for Ipswich | | | | X | | | | | | | |

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|----|---|--|--|--|---|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|
| | Mills Dam Removal | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 26 | Amend Chapter 109 – Animals | | | | X | | | | | | | | |
| 27 | Funding for Peatfield Landing Non-Motorized Seasonal River Dock | | | | | | | | | | | | |

The Committee agreed to the following speaker assignments:

| ARTICLES | | |
|----------|--|-------------|
| # | Title | Speaker |
| 1 | Consent Calendar | None |
| 2 | Finance Committee Election | None |
| 3 | FY 2021 Municipal Budget | None |
| 4 | FY 2021 School Budget | H. O'Flynn |
| 5 | FY 2021 Whittier Regional High School Budget | P. Kneedler |
| 6 | FY 2021 Essex County Technical Institute Budget | P. Kneedler |
| 7 | Transfer of FY20 Appropriated Budget Funds to Educational Stabilization Fund | S. Gilliam |
| 8 | Transfer FY20 Budget Funds to Special Education Reserve Fund | B. Hopping |
| 9 | Annual Capital Plan | C. Whitten |
| 10 | Single-Use Straw, Stirrer, & Hotstopper Ban | G. Stevens |
| 11 | Citizen's Petition – Home Rule Petition for lowering the voting age in local elections | None |
| 12 | Water Main Replacement | None |
| 13 | Rescinding Funds from 2019 ATM Warrant – Article 10 | None |
| 14 | Wastewater Infrastructure Repair/Replacement | None |
| 15 | Stabilization Funding | None |
| 16 | Other Post-Employment Benefits Funding | None |
| 17 | Planning – Adult Use Marijuana | None |
| 18 | Planning – Registered Marijuana Dispensaries (RMD'S) | None |
| 19 | Planning – Clarification Amendment | None |
| 20 | Open Space Bond Purchase – Kamon Farm, Pineswamp Road | None |
| 21 | New England Biolabs – Tax Increment Financing (TIF) Agreement | None |
| 22 | Amend Chapter 25 – Town Meetings | C. Nylén |
| 23 | Gov't Study Committee – Waterways Committee Article | None |

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|----|---|------|
| 24 | Amend Chapter 138 – Demolition Review | None |
| 25 | Matching Grant Funds for Ipswich Mills Dam Removal | None |
| 26 | Amend Chapter 109 – Animals | None |
| 27 | Funding for Peatfield Landing Non-Motorized Seasonal River Dock | None |

D. 2020-2021/2021-2022 School Calendar Discussion:

Dr. Blake shared three versions on the 2020-2021 school calendar and three versions of the 2021-2022 school calendar with the School Committee. Each calendar had been vetted by both the leadership team and the Ipswich Educators’ Association (IEA). The IEA presented the calendars to their Executive Board and then to district staff, asking them to vote in favor of one calendar for each year. The administrative team was also asked to share which calendar for each year they preferred. The preference for the administrative team and the teachers was draft three for each year.

Dr. Blake then reviewed the important dates on draft three of each calendar which included teacher workshop days, the first day of school, vacation weeks and the last day of school. He also explained that he was looking to have calendars approved for the following two years to help teachers and families make long range plans.

Mr. Stevens moved to support draft three of the 2020-2021 school calendar, seconded by Ms. Gilliam. The motion passed unanimously by a roll call vote: Mr. Hopping-Yes, Mr. Whitten-Yes, Mr. Nylen-Yes, Dr. O’Flynn-Yes, Ms. Gilliam-Yes, Ms. Kneedler-Yes, and Mr. Stevens-Yes.

Mr. Whitten moved to support draft three of the 2021-2022 school calendar, seconded by Mr. Stevens. The motion passed unanimously by a roll call vote: Mr. Hopping-Yes, Mr. Whitten-Yes, Mr. Nylen-Yes, Dr. O’Flynn-Yes, Ms. Gilliam-Yes, Ms. Kneedler-Yes, and Mr. Stevens-Yes.

E. Feoffee Policy Update:

Mr. Nylen presented an updated and edited version of the draft Feoffee Policy that was worked on collaboratively by the Policy Subcommittee and the Feoffee Policy Working Group. He began by first sharing the mission statement and purpose, which had already been approved by the School Committee at an earlier meeting.

He then shared the Feoffee Trust Annual Distribution. This portion of the policy addresses the return of funds and how funds could be used in the future. The significant changes made in this section came from discussion with the Feoffees Trust. Changes to this portion allow the district to return funds which are then reinvested into the Feoffees Trust. You could then request those funds in whole or a partial amount at a later date. As it stands, any money not used is returned to the corpus and access to the funds are lost. With the proposed changes, there is now flexibility to access funds previously returned and a banking mechanism in place to use unspent funds in future years. It was explained that funds are often returned because of cost savings found while implementing the grants.

The next change to the policy was the renaming of the Mini Grants to the Edmund Traverso-Robert Weatherall Innovation Grants. It was agreed to change the names to reflect two people in the community who had everything to do with rediscovering the Feoffee Trust and returning it back to the schools. Both families have been contacted and are in support of this idea. With this new name change, also comes an emphasis on innovation.

Along with a significant name change, the Traverso-Weatherall Innovation Grant application process was updated to put more emphasis on a clear connection between the grant and the strategy for district improvement. Grant applicants will be encouraged to meet with the Director of Teaching and Learning prior to the submission date to review alignment with district initiatives.

Other changes to the Traverso-Weatherall Grants include moving from one spring application to two cycles in the fall and spring and an increase in the allowable grant from \$5,000 to \$7,800. Language in the rubric has also been changed slightly.

The other major portion of the policy that was updated was the William Paine Enhancement Grants. The most noticeable change to the title of this grant is the spelling of "Paine" and the addition of the word "enhancement". Other changes to this section also included the creation of more clarifying language about staff positions.

Mr. Whitten moved to accept the changes to the Feoffee Policy as presented, seconded by Ms. Gilliam. The motion passed unanimously by a roll call vote: Mr. Hopping-Yes, Mr. Whitten-Yes, Mr. Nylen-Yes, Dr. O'Flynn-Yes, Ms. Gilliam-Yes, Ms. Kneedler-Yes, and Mr. Stevens-Yes.

Mr. Nylen then talked through the next steps for the Feoffee Policy now that it has been approved. He explained that they would like to announce the grant program formally along with the name changes with an event that includes the Traverso and Weatherall families. The disbursement for this year will be formally announced at an upcoming School Committee meeting. The School Committee will formally announce the grant recipients at a meeting and year end reports will be presented at a School Committee meeting at the end of the grant cycle year. Material will be updated on the website including the grant names, applications, and additional information. There will be outreach to the administrators about their roles in the process. The School Committee will also convey changes to the policy to the Feoffee Trust and grant subcommittees.

There was also a discussion about the split of funds between the spring cycle and the fall cycle. It was discussed that 70% of the disbursement would be used in the spring cycle and 30% of the disbursement would be for the fall cycle.

F. Payne and Mini Grant Discussion:

Mr. Whitten led the discussion. He started by saying that there was supposed to be an informational meeting for the grant subcommittees and interested district staff on March 30th. Due to the school closure, that meeting had been cancelled. It was his hope that the meeting could be held remotely and if the timeline for submissions could remain the same.

There was also a discussion about what the dates would be for the fall cycle. Because of the workload for teachers upon returning to school, it was suggested that the fall cycle begin in October.

Mr. Whitten then said that due to the workload the position requires, the chair of one of the grant committees has asked for a stipend. Mr. Hopping said that the Committee would take the request under advisement, but would not take action at this current meeting.

G. Budget Subcommittee Update- Override Calculator:

This agenda item was deferred until the next School Committee meeting.

H. Policy Update:

Ms. Gilliam presented the Committee with two policies for approval.

The first policy was JLCB: Immunization of Students. This policy was vetted by the Massachusetts Association of School Committees, district school nurses and legal counsel.

Mr. Nylén moved to accept policy JLCB: Immunization of Students as presented, seconded by Ms. Kneeder. The motion passed unanimously by a roll call vote: Mr. Hopping-Yes, Mr. Whitten-Yes, Mr. Nylén-Yes, Dr. O'Flynn-Yes, Ms. Gilliam-Yes, Ms. Kneeder-Yes, and Mr. Stevens-Yes.

Ms. Gilliam then presented policy ADF: Wellness Committee. At this time, the Wellness Committee has reconvened and includes school nurses and several members of the school community.

Dr. O'Flynn moved to approve policy ADF: Wellness Committee as presented, seconded by Mr. Stevens. The motion passed unanimously by a roll call vote: Mr. Hopping-Yes, Mr. Whitten-Yes, Mr. Nylén-Yes, Dr. O'Flynn-Yes, Ms. Gilliam-Yes, Ms. Kneeder-Yes, and Mr. Stevens-Yes.

I. Appointment of ICAM Board Member:

Mr. Hopping read the job description for the ICAM Board Member Representative. This representative will attend monthly board meetings. Other responsibilities include:

- Presenting any questions or concerns that the School Committee might have with regard to ICAM coverage, quality of coverage, frequency of coverage, etc.
- Bringing back questions or concerns raised at the ICAM board meeting that the School Committee should address, including coverage, status of the DPAC for Town Meeting, or process.
- Discuss any new contract issues that may arise from the re-negotiation of the ICAM service contract with the Selectboard of Ipswich.
- Report back to the School Committee as requested
- Further the mission of ICAM
- Interact with other board members to promote ICAM within the Ipswich community
- Attend special meetings as required
- Present to the Selectboard on an annual basis and answer any questions that they

might have.

- Help to ensure the fiscal health of the corporation

Dr. O’Flynn moved to appoint Scott Ames as an ICAM Board Member, seconded by Mr. Stevens. The motion passed unanimously by a roll call vote: Mr. Hopping-Yes, Mr. Whitten-Yes, Mr. Nysten-Yes, Dr. O’Flynn-Yes, Ms. Gilliam-Yes, Ms. Kneedler-Yes, and Mr. Stevens-Yes.

III. School Committee Reports

A. Vouchers and Bills: Complete

B. School Committee Reports

a. Athletic Subcommittee-

This group met on March 11th. At that time, spring sports participation was down overall by 12 athletes. Parents have been reaching out to ask about refunds for athletic fees for the spring season. They also discussed maintenance issues with the turf field and improvements to Mile Lane fields.

b. Budget Subcommittee-

This group met on April 1st. They discussed the impact of COVID-19 on the FY20 budget. Although schools are closed, there are very few reductions in the budget at this time. They also spent time perfecting the override calculator.

c. Grant Subcommittees-

These two committees have not met.

i. Payne Grant-

ii. Mini Grant

d. Operations Subcommittee-

This group has not met. They would like to schedule a meeting to talk about the end of the year superintendent assessment.

e. Policy Subcommittee-

This group presented earlier in the night.

f. Communications Subcommittee-

This group will meet on April 15th. The fourth installment of the newsletter will be distributed on April 16th. At this time, they are unsure if they will be able to host the next Meet and Greet.

g. SEPAC-

The most recently scheduled meeting for this group was cancelled.

h. Birth to Three-

This group met on March 11th. Ms. Gilliam spoke at the meeting and discussed what the School Committee has been doing this year.

i. Working Groups-

i. Feoffee Policy-

This group spoke earlier in the evening.

ii. Facilities-

This group has not met. The group would like to host a workshop with the School Committee to discuss steps going forward, but would like to wait until it can be done in person.

iii. Town Strategic Planning-

At their last meeting, the group looked at the latest data collected about possible spending scenarios for future projects in town. It is recommended that the School Committee present a number at bean counting they anticipate they’ll need for a new school building project.

iv. Climate Resiliency-

This group is working on a petition to the Town to adopt a zero carbon emission goal for the town and schools by 2040. This petition is consistent with what other area towns are doing. At some point, this group will present their information to the School Committee and Select Board.

j. New Business-

1. Compensation for Staff During Closure:

Mr. Hopping moved that during the period starting Monday, April 6, 2020 to Friday, May 1, 2020, the Ipswich School Committee, subject to appropriation, shall pay the regular wages for regularly scheduled work days during such period to each employee of the Ipswich Public Schools, excluding day substitutes, provided that each such employee to be paid performs work that may be requested or required by the employee's supervisor during each the work days to be paid in the Closure Period. Nothing in this motion limits any rights that any employee may have to take vacation, sick, or personal leave during the Closure Period, seconded by Dr. O'Flynn.

Before the vote, the Committee discussed the possibility of teachers working through April vacation. At this time, no final decision had been made.

The motion passed unanimously by a roll call vote: Mr. Hopping-Yes, Mr. Whitten-Yes, Mr. Nysten-Yes, Dr. O'Flynn-Yes, Ms. Gilliam-Yes, Ms. Kneedler-Yes, and Mr. Stevens-Yes.

2. Memorandum of Understanding with Ipswich Educators' Association:

Dr. Blake notified the Committee of a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the Ipswich Educators' Association (IEA) currently under review to address remote learning and the expectations and implications for teachers going forward. He is not looking for the School Committee to vote on this agreement tonight, but rather he is asking for the School Committee to approve the agreement in concept and for authorization to be given to Mr. Hopping to sign on behalf of the School Committee when both sides have finalized the document.

Dr. Blake explained that the initial document was prepared by the Massachusetts Teachers' Association and presented by the IEA to both him and Mr. Hopping. After review by legal counsel, along with a meeting between Dr. Blake, Mr. Hopping and the IEA co-presidents, several significant changes have been made.

Both Mr. Hopping and Dr. Blake felt that the changes that were made were received positively. Both co-presidents have been involved in meetings with the leadership team as they prepare for remote learning and the extended closure, which have helped foster a positive collaboration among the groups.

After some discussion about specifics in the document, Mr. Hopping assured the Committee that he would get a final copy of the MOU to them prior to his signing.

Dr. O'Flynn moved to support the Memorandum of Understanding in its current form, to authorize the Chair to make any necessary changes as he sees fit and to make the final signature when complete, seconded by Ms. Kneedler. The motion passed unanimously by a roll

call vote: Mr. Hopping-Yes, Mr. Whitten-Yes, Mr. Nylen-Yes, Dr. O'Flynn-Yes, Ms. Gilliam-Yes, Ms. Kneeder-Yes, and Mr. Stevens-Yes.

IV. Consent

A. Consent Agenda

Mr. Hopping moved the Ipswich School Committee to accept the School Committee Open Session meeting minutes from March 5, 2020 and March 20, 2020, seconded by Ms. Gilliam. The motion passed unanimously by a roll call vote: Mr. Hopping-Yes, Mr. Whitten-Yes, Mr. Nylen-Yes, Dr. O'Flynn-Yes, Ms. Gilliam-Yes, Ms. Kneeder-Yes, and Mr. Stevens-Yes.

V. Adjournment

Mr. Nylen moved to adjourn the meeting at 10:38 PM, seconded by Dr. O'Flynn. The motion passed unanimously by a roll call vote: Mr. Hopping-Yes, Mr. Whitten-Yes, Mr. Nylen-Yes, Dr. O'Flynn-Yes, Ms. Gilliam-Yes, Ms. Kneeder-Yes, and Mr. Stevens-Yes.