

**IPSWICH SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING  
JANUARY 23, 2014  
TOWN HALL, ROOM A**

**OPEN SESSION**

**CALL TO ORDER**

Barry Hopping, Chair, called the meeting to order at 6:32 p.m. with the following members present: S. Gresh, S. Player, J. Bauman, R. Roesler, H. O'Flynn, and C. Nylan. Also present were Superintendent W. Hart, Finance Director J. Cuff, and Student Representative M. Werner.

**READING OF DISTRICT MISSION STATEMENT**

Jen Bauman read the Mission Statement.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Mr. Hopping read the following announcements:

There will be no Executive Session

School Committee meets on Feb. 5<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m., MS/HS Ensemble Room  
(Central Office and Elementary Schools budgets)

SEPAC parent meeting will be held on Feb. 5<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m., High School  
cafeteria, to plan their town-wide event coming up in the Spring

School Committee will meet on February 6<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m., MS/HS School  
Ensemble Room

**CITIZENS' COMMENTS**

Justin Ellenton, Winthrop parent, questioned the protocol for bomb threats at the schools and continued to pursue the exact nature of a voice mail message left at the Doyon School despite efforts on the part of Mr. Hopping, Dr. Hart, and Mrs. Roesler (who is a member of the Safety/Security Task Force) to explain that there is an ongoing investigation in the case of a woman who left the threatening message. Dr. Hart and Mr. Hopping assured the gentleman that police officers took control and listened to two voice mails, all 4 persons (Dr. Hart and three police) came to the same conclusion that it was not threatening to the students or faculty. Ellenton then questioned the unlocked door(s) at the Winthrop School. He was told that there are security cameras in place, the current Task Force meetings are covering the mental health component and training with the Police Department, and decisions concerning buzzer systems are ongoing. Mrs. Roesler invited Mr. Ellenton to become a member of the Task Force.

**HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE REPORT**

Maddie asked (by student request) that Dr. Hart communicate by blog at 6:00 a.m. to let students know whether or not school will be in session during or after a snowstorm. She referred to a recent lockdown drill where, on Wednesday during lunch, orchestra members were on the stage and confusion resulted as to what to do had it been a real lockdown. Mr. Hopping said that immediately following a drill, the crisis team evaluates and follows up.

**A. SUPERINTENDENT'S ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT**

Dr. Hart had no report.

**I. SCHOOL COMMITTEE PRESENTATIONS****A. APPOINTMENT OF WHITTIER REGIONAL DISTRICT SCHOOL COMMITTEE REPRESENTATIVE**

Mr. Hopping welcomed Russ Bardsley, the candidate for the position, who introduced himself and gave a brief history of his occupation as electrical engineer in microwave engineering. He reported that he has visited North Shore Technical School and Whittier Regional, feeling that Whittier has slipped in the technology area and wants to make sure that Ipswich students have the option to finish and/or go on to further education. Mr. Hopping commented that, because admission numbers of Ipswich students were quite low as opposed to other towns where Choice monies came into play, Ipswich Town Meeting voted not to support the Whittier budget one year. As a result, Ipswich student numbers went up. Mr. Hopping feels that Whittier is a great school and the opportunity is fantastic. Mr. Nysten asked for communication and Mr. Bardsley assured the School Committee that he would send notes after each of the Whittier School Committee meetings and, because of his 14-year-old's interest, he hopes to improve the Whittier technology profile.

Mrs. Bauman moved, seconded by Mrs. Roesler, to appoint Russ Bardsley as the Ipswich representative to the Whittier Regional District School Committee with a term ending March 31, 2015. UNANIMOUS.

**B. VOTE TO RESUBMIT WINTHROP ELEMENTARY SCHOOL SOI**

Dr. Hart gave the history of the submission of SOIs (Statements of Interest) for the Doyon School (roof) and Winthrop School (expansion). Winthrop went through the second phase, being visited by representatives of MSBA but was subsequently notified it was not approved for further consideration at this time. Mrs. Roesler questioned whether Doyon might still be considered. Ms. Player moved, seconded by Mr. Nysten, to resubmit SOIs for both Winthrop and Doyon Schools. UNANIMOUS.

**C. CELEBRATION OF TEACHING AND LEARNING**

Dr. Hart spoke of the current focus on instruction in two ways. (1)The Compass Group, the new curriculum leadership team, is working on first drafts of descriptors of highly intelligent people. (2)Ability for staff members to work with highly effective teams who are facilitators who help with goals and openly share their instructional practices. He expects to have these two areas well defined and offer "summer academies."

In the interest of time, School Committee Reports were suspended.

**III. CONSENT AGENDA**

Mr. Hopping moved, seconded by Dr. O'Flynn, to accept the following consent agenda items:

Acceptance of January 9, 2014, Open Session Minutes

Approval of the 8<sup>th</sup> grade class overnight field trip to Adirondack Mountains, NY, May 28- 30, 2014.

Approval of the High School Advanced Project Adventure overnight field trip to Mt. Washington, NH, June 6-8, 2014. UNANIMOUS.

**IV. ADJOURNMENT**

Mr. Nylén moved, seconded by Mrs. Player, to adjourn at 7:24 p.m.  
UNANIMOUS.

