

**IPSWICH SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING  
THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 3, 2011  
MIDDLE/HIGH SCHOOL ENSEMBLE ROOM**

**OPEN SESSION**

**CALL TO ORDER**

J. Loeb, Chair, called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m. with the following members present: J. Bauman, L. Dietz, H. O'Flynn, and S. Gresh. Also present were Superintendent R. Korb; Finance Director J. Cuff; and V. Paduchak, Student Representative.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Mr. Loeb read the following announcements:

Executive Session will be held after which Open Session will be resumed  
Finance Committee Long Range Planning Committee will present their report to the Finance Committee on November 8, 7:30 p.m., Conference Room A, Town Hall

Schools/offices will be closed on November 11 in observance of Veterans' Day  
Special Fall Town Meeting will be held on November 14, 7:30 p.m., Performing Arts Center

Athletic Subcommittee will meet November 15, 6 p.m., Middle/High School Guidance Conference Room

School Committee will meet on November 17, 7 p.m., Middle/High School Ensemble Room—regular and budget meeting

Policy Subcommittee will meet on November 21, 5:30 p.m., Payne School  
Schools/offices will release early on November 23 and be closed November 24 and 25 for the Thanksgiving holiday

Feoffees Working Group will meet on November 29, 7:30 p.m., Middle/High School Ensemble Room

**CITIZENS' COMMENTS**

**SPECIAL ACKNOWLEDGMENTS**

**I. SCHOOL COMMITTEE PRESENTATIONS**

**A. SCHOOL CAPITAL ENERGY/MAINTENANCE PROJECTS STATUS REPORT**

Mr. Korb reminded that the Finance Committee has approved \$100,000 to expend on school capital projects and with estimated costs of the FY11 budget at \$145,000, actual costs of \$125,576, and rebates of \$27,038, the net cost for the district came to \$98,000. Paul Bedard read through and elaborated on the projects involving the Winthrop and Doyon elementaries as well as the insulation/air sealing project of the west wing of the Middle/High School and lighting upgrade of the Middle/High School gym. Shoddy workmanship and neglect by the project manager is attributed to the long-standing problems with lack of insulation in the Performing Arts Center wing cited by Mr. Loeb and Mr. Bedard.

Override requests for FY12-13 will be a separate plan from the Phase I Priorities for FY12 which include replacement of Middle/High School hot water heater, completion of the roof replacement and ventilation for the kitchen exhaust ventilator at Doyon, \$295,000. Priorities for FY13 and FY14 were also discussed. Dr. O'Flynn questioned the Doyon driveway and drainage;

Mr. Korb replied that the Town Manager discussed a Town bond. Mr. Bedard commented that the Winthrop and Doyon playgrounds are used all the time by the citizens and children beyond school hours.

#### B. EDUCATOR EVALUATION UPDATE

Mr. Korb read the five regulations adopted in June, 2011, by the DESE for the evaluation of educators. A workshop will be held on November 14, 9-11 a.m., Room B208 of the Middle/High School in conjunction with MTA, MASS, and MASC. The audience will be the leadership team of the Ipswich School District and 4-5 teachers. He invited School Committee members. Because Ipswich is a "Race To The Top" school system, these regulations must be implemented for 2012-13 and workshops will be given financial support.

#### C. COMMON CORE CURRICULUM UPDATE

Mr. Korb contacted 15-20 surrounding districts and reported that Ipswich is in the mainstream. While some systems have Directors of Curriculum, Ipswich calls on the Superintendent and administrative leaders. DESE has indicated workshop availability but Ipswich needs opportunities and time to study Crosswalks and changes in curriculum. Debbie Hale from Newburyport will be in Ipswich on November 15, 3-4:30 p.m., working with the administrative team in structuring Ipswich's SACs. Ipswich will use early-release and professional-day time for the Common Core study; ELA and math will be implemented in the fall of 2012.

B. Hopping and R. Roesler joined the meeting at 7:30 p.m.

School Committee members were concerned that, in meeting with the Finance Committee on November 8, it will be necessary to have financial numbers to enable the transition to Common Core and educator evaluation. Mr. Hopping suggested that a program is available through Mt. Holyoke College and another through a TERK program called "Research for Better Teachers." Mr. Korb promised to meet with administrators and have a draft to the School Committee next Monday.

#### D. NO CHILD LEFT BEHIND (NCLB) SCHOOL REPORT CARD AND ADEQUATE YEARLY PROGRESS (AYP) UPDATE

Mr. Korb reported that the "No Child Left Behind" mandate, passed in January, 2002, has proved unrealistic in the areas of special education and poverty areas. He distributed a page from Education Week (11/2/11) regarding "Proposed Changes in NCLB Legislation." Commissioner Chester (MA) has sent out announcements that Massachusetts will pull away from the AYP and subgroup requirements next year. Part of the Senate Bill will give each individual state its own rules for determining improvement. Ipswich is 100% compliant as "highly qualified." Mr. Hopping stated that, while the majority of students are doing fine and on target for AYP, a better way must be found to address the special needs and low-income population of students.

**E. FEOFFEES OF THE GRAMMAR SCHOOL**

Mr. Loeb reported that 42 witnesses were listed to be called for depositions before the trial begins in December which Mr. Loeb will attend. Mr. Korb and the Board discussed their experiences at the depositions.

**F. NOVEMBER 14, 2011, SPECIAL TOWN MEETING WARRANT ARTICLE  
SYNOPSIS DISCUSSION**

After discussion of matters involving the November 14 meeting pertaining to the School Department and the previous lack of knowledge by the Superintendent and Financial Director of the payment-in-lieu-of-taxes (PILOT) from the Electric Light Department, Dr. O'Flynn agreed to speak to Article I on the transfer of \$30,650 from free cash back to the Feoffee Legal Services account to cover litigation costs, and Mr. Hopping will speak to Article II on the \$78,104 to be appropriated to the OPEB obligation and \$43,200 to be allocated for professional development as it relates to implementation of Common Core and the new educator format under the RTTT program.

**II. SCHOOL COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**A. VOUCHERS/BILLS**

**B. SCHOOL COMMITTEE SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS**

**1. IPSWICH HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE**

Victor asked the Committee if they had anything to add to his plan to bring up Representative Brad Hill's Bills 1821 and 3538 to ask for support from the Northeast Regional Student Advisory Council. Mrs. Roesler will send him the letter which went to the Board of Education as a template.

Victor also reported that the senior class came out in first place in Spirit Week, and Mr. Loeb added that \$4,000 was raised for the benefit of a sibling of a current senior who had graduated two years ago and needed financial help, an indication of the ongoing culture that exists in the Ipswich school system.

**2. ATHLETIC SUBCOMMITTEE**

**3. ATHLETIC FIELD STUDY COMMITTEE**

**4. AD HOC TOWN/SCHOOL COLLABORATION COMMITTEE**

**5. BUDGET SUBCOMMITTEE**

Mr. Loeb and Mr. Korb spoke of timeline adjustments in that the November 17 School Committee meeting will minimize agenda items and focus on the administrative team as a joint discussion regarding budget priorities. The December 13 meeting will be canceled and the December 15 meeting will combine a regular meeting with a budget workshop.

**6. COMMUNICATIONS SUBCOMMITTEE**

Dr. Gresh and Mr. Korb are discussing the website, and next week a series of articles concerning electronic textbooks and e-publishing will be coming forth.

7. DAY CARE CENTER SUBCOMMITTEE
8. FEOFFEES SUBCOMMITTEE
9. LONG-RANGE FINANCIAL PLANNING
10. NORTH SHORE COALITION FOR SCHOOL FUNDING
11. OPERATIONS SUBCOMMITTEE
12. POLICY SUBCOMMITTEE
13. PUBLIC SAFETY FACILITY COMMITTEE

14. SPECIAL EDUCATION PARENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE (SEPAC)

Dr. Gresh met with two SEPAC groups in a workshop at Hamilton/Wenham by SPED experts who do educational programs across the state for parents on how to negotiate the somewhat overwhelming process.

15. OTHER

Mrs. Bauman said that she will be attending the upcoming MASC/MASS conference.

### III. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

#### A. SUPERINTENDENT'S ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT

Mr. Korb reported on his meeting with the Town Manager regarding Recreation Department funds and elementary proposals made. The Middle School program is presently being solidified in partnership with the YMCA later. As a "contracted service provider," the elementary portion includes \$3,000 for each elementary, and the Middle School, \$10,000. These numbers were accomplished to enhance and extend current after-school elementary and Middle School programs. Mrs. Forster-Cahill asked for a significant stipend to help organize programs with materials, supplies and special events in coordination with the YMCA. Almost \$1,000 is going to EDP as well.

Mr. Korb commented briefly on the revised budget timeline and distributed a sheet on updated enrollments at the Winthrop and Doyon Schools, a net gain to the district of "0". Several Board members would be interested to know why the Doyon numbers in large classes went down.

Ms. Cuff reported that 60 letters were sent to parents requesting delinquent lunch-money payments resulting in 17 payments in full, one partial payment, development of two payment plans, five on free/reduced plans, and 35 no responses. Of families who moved away with no response, the amount is \$777. Beginning on November 7, a sandwich and milk only will be provided to the children of delinquent families who have not responded. Board members expressed concern that the children involved end up suffering.

Ms. Cuff reported that the cost to bring the current system of recording lunch expenses up to date for parental information would be \$17,000 with an annual fee of \$2,000. She commented that an email to the kitchen manager is all a parent needs to do to find out what the child owes.

**IV. CONSENT**

**A. CONSENT AGENDA**

Mr. Loeb moved, seconded by Mrs. Dietz, to approve the Consent Agenda as follows:

Acceptance of donation of \$500 from the Ipswich Rotary Club to the Birth to Three Center to help support the program

Acceptance of the New England BioLabs contribution to the Ipswich Schools per the Tax Increment Financing (TIF) Agreement for 2011 in the amount of \$10,000 to be used for Science Education

Approval of the Ipswich Middle School’s Grade 6 overnight field trip to Ferry Beach Ecology School, Saco, Maine, April 24-27, 2012

Approval of the Ipswich Middle School’s Grade 8 overnight field trip to the Adirondack Mountains, New York State, May 30-June 1, 2012

UNANIMOUS.

Mr. Hopping amended the October 20, 2011, Minutes to read “Mr. Hopping ...” on page 5 under Adjournment. Dr. O’Flynn moved, seconded by Mrs. Dietz, to accept the amended Minutes of October 20, 2011. UNANIMOUS.

**V. EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Mr. Hopping moved, seconded by Mrs. Dietz, to go into Executive Session at 9:10 p.m. to discuss strategy with respect to real estate litigation after which the meeting will return to Open Session. Roll call IN FAVOR - O’Flynn, Dietz, Hopping, Loeb, Bauman, Gresh, Roesler.

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**VI. OPEN SESSION**

Open Session resumed at 10 p.m.

**A. APPROVAL OF LEGAL BILLS**

Mrs. Dietz moved, seconded by Mr. Hopping, to approve three Casner & Edwards legal bills: \$10,310, dated 8/18/11; \$11,810, dated 9/28/11; and \$29,297.41, dated 10/24/11, totaling \$51,417.41. UNANIMOUS.

**VII. ADJOURNMENT**

Mr. Hopping moved, seconded by Mrs. Dietz, to adjourn at 10:10 p.m. UNANIMOUS.

**DOCUMENTS REVIEWED IN OPEN SESSION**

School Capital Energy/Maintenance Projects Status Report and Recommendations,  
11/3/11

Regulations on Evaluation of Educators: An Overview

2011-2012 Enrollment Projections as of 11/3/11 for Doyon and Winthrop Schools

Proposed Changes to NCLB Legislation, Education Week, 11/2/11