

**IPSWICH SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING
THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 1, 2011
MIDDLE/HIGH SCHOOL ENSEMBLE ROOM**

OPEN SESSION

CALL TO ORDER

B. Hopping, Chair Pro Tem, called the meeting to order at 7:03 p.m. with the following members present: J. Bauman, L. Dietz, and S. Gresh. Also present were Superintendent R. Korb; Finance Director J. Cuff; and V. Paduchak, Student Representative.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mr. Hopping read the following announcements:

Executive Session will be held for the purpose of strategies regarding ongoing litigation in relation to real estate matters, after which the meeting will adjourn.

School Committee will meet on September 15, 2011, 7 p.m., Middle/High School Ensemble Room

Policy Subcommittee will meet on September 19, 5:30 p.m., Payne School

Athletic Subcommittee will meet on September 20, 6 p.m., Middle/High School Guidance Conference Room

Feoffees TriBoard Working Group will meet on September 20, 7:30 p.m., Middle/High Ensemble Room

Mr. Loeb joined the meeting at 7:05 and assumed the Chair.

CITIZENS' COMMENTS

SPECIAL ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

Mr. Korb presented Barry Cahill, High School Principal, who announced a donation of \$30,000 to be used at the High School at the discretion of the principal and reviewed the memo written by him which was addressed to the School Committee. Over an eight-year period, \$200,000 has been given by an anonymous family whose children attended Ipswich schools by choice rather than attend private school. While the children are no longer in the Ipswich school buildings, the family had a mission that they wanted to accomplish. The prior \$170,000 total given by the family purchased numerous basic textbooks to replace outdated editions in math, science, English, and social studies along with other materials and an accompanying transponder and printer. This final \$30,000 donation will be used in purchasing equipment for the Science Department which will have a positive impact for the next twenty years. Fragile, old microscopes are being replaced with compound monocular, binocular, and binocular zoom stereo microscopes, electronic balances, and a Vande Graf generator. Mr. Cahill remarked that the High School would not be the same school were it not for these people and their incredible gifts over the last eight years. Mr. Loeb, glancing at Victor Paduchak, student representative, realized how many students have been touched by this family's gifts. Mr. Korb remarked at the legacy given to the students in their family, and every child affected by this gift. Dr. Gresh hoped that the community will be inspired by the generosity and follow the lead of this family to support the school children in this austere budget period.

Mr. Loeb introduced Ellen Kallman who represented the Ipswich Education Foundation and presented the \$30,000 check to Mr. Cahill.

Mr. Hopping moved, seconded by Dr. Gresh, to accept the generous donation of \$30,000 by an anonymous Ipswich family and asked that a letter be crafted to Mr. Cahill to make sure that recognition in kind is given to the donor family.

I. SCHOOL COMMITTEE PRESENTATIONS

A. ELEMENTARY ENROLLMENT NUMBERS UPDATE

Mr. Korb reviewed the Winthrop and Doyon enrollment numbers with slight changes, a decrease of one at Winthrop and increase of two at Doyon. YMCA and Housing Authority report no change in student numbers.

Dr. O’Flynn joined the meeting at 7:20 p.m.

To questions concerning the note of tuitioned-out elementary students on the enrollment sheet, Mr. Korb promised to follow up with Mary Gallant, SPED Director, who was unavailable previous to the meeting tonight.

B. BUS TRANSPORTATION UPDATE

Financial Director Cuff, with handout, reviewed the ridership count: Doyon and MS/HS busses are almost at capacity; passes were sold on the basis of three students per seat for elementary and two per seat for secondary. There is a waiting list, and Ms. Cuff wishes to hold on final figures for at least two weeks. Revenue on September 1 is up to \$76,175.

C. INSPECTION OF SCHOOL BUILDINGS REPORT

Mrs. Roesler visited the Doyon School the day before school began and reported that everything was in great shape due to the staff. She credited the custodians who replaced carpet (on a yearly rotating basis) and were removing desks which had been original to the school (1964). Led by Ms. Conley and Mr. Bedard, she had discussion regarding the HVAC system, the food warmer in the kitchen, and the 40% of the school’s roof which still needs to be replaced. The Ipswich DPW repaved the driveway.

Dr. Gresh toured the Winthrop School today and was impressed with the physical aspects of the classrooms; i.e., colorful and comfortable.

Mrs. Bauman toured the Middle/High School and said that classrooms look great. She commented that Mrs. Forster-Cahill had new carpet in her office and there is a long-range plan calling for new carpeting within the school. She felt happiness in both buildings and thanked Paul Bedard for a phenomenal job with the custodians. Paul returned the compliment to his staff.

D. FEOFFEES OF THE GRAMMAR SCHOOL

Mrs. Roesler reported on the meeting with Senator Tarr and Representative Hill regarding Bill S.1927 which asks that the legislature change the management of the Little Neck land trust to a publicly appointed board which would be made up of two appointees each from the School Committee, Finance Committee, and Board of Selectmen and one appointed from Town Meeting and which would be subject to the Open Meeting law. She said the two legislators will be looking to meet with the three Town boards and be prepared to travel to Boston at the October hearing.

II. SCHOOL COMMITTEE REPORTS**A. VOUCHERS/BILLS****B. SCHOOL COMMITTEE SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS****1. IPSWICH HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE**

Victor Paduchak commented that everyone is settling into routine with the beginning of school. Mrs. Dietz reported that parents of juniors about to get licenses are afraid that there will be no high school parking passes left to allow them to drive to school. Mr. Loeb assured her that it has always worked for him as a parent and that Mr. Cahill should be asked for comment.

2. ATHLETIC SUBCOMMITTEE**3. ATHLETIC FIELD STUDY COMMITTEE****4. AD HOC TOWN/SCHOOL COLLABORATION COMMITTEE****5. COMMUNICATIONS SUBCOMMITTEE****6. DAY CARE CENTER SUBCOMMITTEE****7. FEOFFEES SUBCOMMITTEE****8. NORTH SHORE COALITION FOR SCHOOL FUNDING****9. OPERATIONS SUBCOMMITTEE**

This committee will meet on September 8 at 6:30 p.m. Mr. Loeb announced that individual submissions in regard to the Superintendent's evaluation are public documents.

10. POLICY SUBCOMMITTEE**a. Petty Cash Funds, DJC**

Proposed Adoption, Second Reading

b. Administrative Organization Plan, CC/CCB

Proposed Revision, Second Reading

c. Funding Proposals and Applications, DD

Proposed Revision, Second Reading

Mr. Hopping moved, seconded by Mrs. Dietz, to accept the three policies for second reading. UNANIMOUS.

11. PUBLIC SAFETY FACILITY COMMITTEE
12. SPECIAL EDUCATION PARENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE (SEPAC)
13. OTHER

Mrs. Bauman reported complaints about the Washington Street construction. Ms. Cuff said that the DPW and bus coordinator have had discussions and a promise to work with the contractor so as not to detour during the time up to 8:30 a.m.

Mr. Loeb became aware that certain school districts list the documents which have been publicly reviewed at each School Committee meeting in the Minutes. The Board accepted the suggestion.

Mr. Hopping remarked that the Board of Selectmen starts their meetings with the Pledge of Allegiance. Some school districts have their mission statements read at the beginning of School Committee meetings. These items will go to Policy Subcommittee for discussion.

III. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

A. SUPERINTENDENT'S ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT

Mr. Korb reported that opening day for staff on Monday, August 29, and for students, Wednesday, August 31, went very well with far less problems with bus passes than expected. Secondary parents emailed regarding high class-size numbers (36-40) in electives, and he explained that 24 sections of electives have been lost over the last 2-3 years resulting in fewer choices for students. He will follow up with a letter, which will be run by Policy Subcommittee, to parents making them aware of unpaid lunches and giving them the opportunity to pay with a payment plan or free/reduced lunch plan. A cutoff date will take place which lessens the option for student lunch to sandwich and milk because of the deficit in the Food Services revolving account of \$13,000. A debit system for lunches has become a credit system, not acceptable practice.

Mr. Loeb recommended that the Board read the Minutes from the Long-range Planning Committee meeting at which Ms. Cuff appeared.

IV. CONSENT

A. CONSENT AGENDA

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

- Acceptance of Minutes of August 8, 2011, Open Session
- Acceptance of Minutes of August 8, 2011, Executive Session
- Acceptance of Minutes of August 18, 2011, Open Session
- Acceptance of Minutes of August 18, 2011, Executive Session

Acceptance of the donation of \$800 from the Burley Education Fund to Doyon School to support teachers in the implementation of the Doyon School's writing initiative
Acceptance of donation of \$1,200 from Doyon parents Robert and Carolyn Talbot to Doyon School to be used by their children's classroom teachers.
UNANIMOUS.

V. EXECUTIVE SESSION

Mrs. Dietz moved, seconded by Mrs. Bauman, to go into Executive Session at 8:16 p.m. to discuss strategies regarding ongoing litigation in relation to real estate matters after which the meeting will adjourn. **IN FAVOR** - Roesler, Gresh, Bauman, Loeb, Hopping, Dietz, and O'Flynn.

DOCUMENTS REVIEWED IN OPEN SESSION

Memo from Barry Cahill to Ipswich School Committee, dated September 1, 2011,
subject: Major Donation
Transportation Update as of September 1, 2011
2011-1012 Enrollment Projections as of September 1, 2011 (Doyon and Winthrop Schools)