

**IPSWICH SCHOOL COMMITTEE BUDGET MEETING
FEBRUARY 10, 2011
MIDDLE/HIGH SCHOOL ENSEMBLE ROOM**

CALL TO ORDER

Mr. Loeb, Chair Pro Tem, called the meeting to order at 7:07 p.m. with the following members present: E. Traverso, S. Gresh, B. Hopping, and L. Dietz. Also present were Superintendent Richard Korb; Finance Director Joanne Cuff; and Principals S. McAdams, D. Archambault, C. Forster-Cahill, and B. Cahill.

CITIZENS' QUESTIONS – None.

RULE OF NECESSITY

Mrs. Dietz moved, seconded by Mr. Traverso, to invoke the Rule of Necessity so that five members of the School Committee would not be disqualified to discuss matters pertaining to collective bargaining. UNANIMOUS.

I. FY12 BUDGET PRESENTATIONS (MIDDLE AND HIGH SCHOOL)

A. MIDDLE SCHOOL BUDGET

Mr. Korb introduced the presentations and Mr. Hopping announced birthdays of R. Korb and D. Archambault!

Mrs. Forster-Cahill presented her school on PowerPoint by explaining the efficient and productive 6-day waterfall schedule, the data-driven programs in 60-day trimesters, and great MCAS ratings. Other systems still send visitors to the Middle School after 10 years. Her model school has teacher/partner pairs with complete syllabi for subjects and homework available online. She reviewed the Middle School budget which comes in with a decrease of \$105,069. Her budget reduces one core teacher and asks to increase the assistant principal to .75 from .5. Mrs. Forster-Cahill reviewed enrollment and SPED numbers and spoke of large classes, the cuts last year, and her desire to keep the student program schedule as it now is.

Mr. Hopping recommended that Mrs. Forster-Cahill make a list of her needs and that dialogue with administration begin sooner next year. School Committee wants to set priorities by targeting concepts. Committee members questioned certain line items. Mrs. Dietz moved, seconded by Mr. Hopping, to take the Middle School budget under advisement. UNANIMOUS.

Dr. O'Flynn joined the meeting at 8:54 p.m.

B. HIGH SCHOOL BUDGET

Mr. Cahill began his budget proceedings with the Building/Operations which are handled jointly between the Middle and High Schools. He spoke about a custodial cut and a separate job for a custodian of the building for weekends which would be funded on a fee basis. He showed the Boston Globe art awards on his PowerPoint presentation, reviewed his goals, and gave an overview of his 2.5% increased budget. School Committee members talked about possible increased funding. Mr. Cahill commended an anonymous donor who contributed \$20,000 this year making a total of \$175,000 given over a period of years for textbooks. He named reductions of 2.8 teachers which included 1.0 FTE Math/Science, 1.0 FTE English, .6

FTE in Child Development, and .2 FTE in Health. The impact means the loss of fourteen sections of subject matter, and fewer AP and elective courses offered. It was moved and seconded to take the High School budget under advisement. UNANIMOUS.

Mr. Paul Bedard, Head Custodian, remarked that the custodial cut in personnel was insulting. His crew worked diligently to clear the schools to be open during recent storms, they recycle and compost, they paint and put down tile and carpeting, and save thousands of dollars for the Town. This is not a \$38,000 decision, he said.

C. SUMMARY

Mr. Korb led discussion of the procedures moving forward with regard to which budget (3.25% or 2.5%) to present to the Finance Committee. Mr. Korb asked members to co-present the budgets with the administrators. He remarked about the number of phone calls and emails he received from parents and interested citizens regarding the budget situation.

II. ADJOURNMENT

Meeting adjourned at 10:04 by UNANIMOUS vote.