

**IPSWICH SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING  
AUGUST 6, 2015  
MIDDLE/HIGH SCHOOL ENSEMBLE ROOM**

**OPEN SESSION**

**CALL TO ORDER**

B. Hopping, Pro Tem Chair, called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m. for reorganization with the following members present: F. Krason, H. O'Flynn, S. Player, and C. Nysten. Also present was Superintendent Hart.

**A. ELECTION OF IPSWICH SCHOOL COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSON, VICE-CHAIRPERSON, AND SECRETARY**

Ms. Player nominated Carl Nysten to be the Chairman, seconded by Mrs. Krason. There being no other nominations, Mr. Hopping declared nominations closed and the vote was UNANIMOUS in favor for Mr. Nysten.

Mr. Nysten assumed the Chair's position, thanking Mr. Hopping for his two years of chairmanship and guidance through the new Superintendent's growing pains in the district and two efforts to secure a successful override. Mr. Hopping replied that it is the collective effort of the School Committee members and the support of the other Chairs; namely, Board of Selectmen and Finance Committee and so much that goes on behind the scenes.

Ms. Player nominated Dr. O'Flynn as Vice Chair, seconded by Mr. Hopping. There being no further nominations they were declared closed, and the vote carried UNANIMOUSLY for Dr. O'Flynn.

Dr. Hart assumed the Secretary's position and asked Jean Emerson if she would again accept the position as Clerk, to which she agreed.

**HIGH SCHOOL REPRESENTATIVE/MISSION STATEMENT**

The newly elected high school representative, Reed Dolan, cannot attend until the first meeting in September. Ms. Player read the Mission Statement.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Mr. Nysten read the following announcements:

Executive Session will be held to discuss strategy with respect to and in preparation for collective bargaining with IEA, AFSCME, and non-union personnel after which the meeting will return to Open Session.

School Committee will meet August 20, 7 p.m., M/H School Ensemble Rm.

**RULE OF NECESSITY**

Ms. Player moved, seconded by Mrs. Krason, to invoke the Rule of Necessity so that the three other SC members present, who all have family members as school employees, can participate in executive discussions. UNANIMOUS.

**CITIZENS' COMMENTS**

Joni Soffron announced her plan to present a citizen's petition at the Fall Town Meeting to create a by-law that would restrict all elected or appointed

committee members of Town Boards to be residents of Ipswich. She asked the School Committee if there were any non-residents as School Committee members; Mr. Hopping said there were not.

**C. SUPERINTENDENT'S ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT**

Dr. Hart reviewed the administrator workshop plan (August 18 & 19) with 75 teacher leaders and the new Director of Teaching and Learning working on SMART goals, PLC, Compass, and technology. The professional development, done with forty teachers during the two weeks after schools closed, was led by Compass Teacher Leaders. He reported on the many physical improvements to the schools including painted walls and building appearance at the Doyon and M/HS. PAC received new carpet, broken plumbing was replaced, gym floor was refinished, and the Doyon parking lot has been repaved adding additional space to support parent pickup and dropoff.

**I. SCHOOL COMMITTEE PRESENTATIONS****D. FORMATION OF TURF FIELD SUBCOMMITTEE**

Kevin Murphy explained that, with the Payne Grant to do engineering and design work approved by the School Committee, a committee is needed to begin the process to have a designer, to plan for funding and fund-raising, and to have public outreach for educating.

Mr. Hopping moved, seconded by Ms. Player, to form the Turf Field Subcommittee of the School Committee. UNANIMOUS.

Ms. Player moved, seconded by Mrs. Krason, to appoint Mr. Hopping and Dr. O'Flynn. UNANIMOUS.

This new subcommittee will be added to each agenda beginning with August 20.

**F. NAMING AND DEDICATION OF PERFORMING ARTS CENTER**

Dr. O'Flynn moved, seconded by Mr. Hopping, to rename the Performing Arts Center to "The Gerald J. Dolan Performing Arts Center." UNANIMOUS. Mr. Hopping reported that the plan is to have the "wording" ready when IMADA dedicates the sculpture in a formal ceremony.

**G. NAMING AND DEDICATION OF MS/HS WEIGHT ROOM**

Kevin Murphy and Sean Cayer of IEF request the naming of the weight room for Tim Collins of EBSCO who has made generous donations for the weight room's upgrading. Mr. Hopping moved, seconded by Ms. Player, to approve the MS/HS Weight Room's naming to Tim Collins. UNANIMOUS. Mr. Hopping asked for a formal thank-you ceremony at a School Committee meeting.

The Policy Subcommittee will revisit the policy on naming rights soon.

**I. CREST COLLABORATIVE REQUEST FOR ESTABLISHMENT OF CAPITAL RESERVE FUND**

Dr. Hart reviewed some of the document from CREST requesting its members funding to make upgrades to their facilities in Methuen, MA. Two-thirds of the membership must vote to approve the request. Mr. Hopping moved, seconded by Dr. O'Flynn, to approve the establishment of a capital reserve fund not to exceed a \$650,000 balance for the implementation of the Capital Plan projects at CREST Collaborative. UNANIMOUS. Mr. Hopping requested Dr. Hart to provide the number of Ipswich students serviced by CREST.

**J. SCHOOL COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS FOR BULDING INSPECTIONS**

High School – Krason  
Middle School – O'Flynn  
Winthrop School – Hopping  
Doyon School – Player

**K. SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING CALENDAR**

Dr. O'Flynn moved, seconded by Mrs. Krason to accept the calendar for discussion. In reviewing the draft, members found it necessary to make changes, and Dr. O'Flynn amended, seconded by Ms. Player, the calendar to include three items as follows: Town Meeting is on October 27; a regular School Committee meeting was added for February 11; the April 11 meeting was deleted. UNANIMOUS. Mr. Hopping moved, seconded by Ms. Player, to accept the amended calendar of School Committee meetings. UNANIMOUS.

**L. SCHOOL COMMITTEE SUBCOMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS**

Deferred to September 3 agenda.

**M. STAFFING UPDATE**

Dr. Hart explained his status with "override" and "general" openings, differentiating what the override has allowed in replacement/addition of staff (16 positions). Of the 16 general openings, five remain "open"; of the override, two remain "open" (unfilled). Members discussed and requested that there be a reception for new teachers on the second School Committee meeting in September.

**N. SCHOOL COMMITTEE VISION FOR NEW ELEMENTARY SCHOOL**

Mr. Nylen asked the Committee for discussion of a model of a school as a reflection of the district's educational practices. Currently, three options exist: replace the Winthrop School, change the grade configuration with two schools, or have a single elementary facility. Dr. O'Flynn opined that, as a School Committee, the most important decision should be the best educational model for the district and the need to put the imprint on the vision. Ms. Player expressed the need for spaces conducive to experiential learning. Mr. Hopping, referring to Google (a 58-page document for School Committee review as an easy read entitled "For

Generations to Come,” specifically mentioning p. 35 entitled “Big Picture Vision,”), suggested that this topic should be an agenda item from this time forward.

**II. SCHOOL COMMITTEE REPORTS**

A. VOUCHERS/BILLS

B. NEW BUSINESS

**III. CONSENT AGENDA**

A. CONSENT AGENDA

Mr. Nylen moved, seconded by Mr. Hopping, to accept the Consent Agenda as follows:

Acceptance of Minutes of June 18, 2015, Open Session

Acceptance of donation of \$499 from LYNX System Developers, Inc. to the High School Student Racing Challenge for the first Robotics Program

Acceptance of donation of \$500 from the Ascension Memorial Church to the Birth to Three Family Center

Acceptance of donation of \$2,116 from the Orr Family to the Winthrop Elementary School

Acceptance of donation of \$750 from the Town of Ipswich for a Birth to Three Community Service Grant                      UNANIMOUS.

**IV. EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Mr. Hopping moved, seconded by Ms. Player, to move to Executive Session at 9:17 p.m. to discuss strategy with respect to and in preparation for collective bargaining with the Ipswich Educators Association and AFSCME after which the meeting will return to Open Session. Roll call IN FAVOR- Krason, O’Flynn, Player, Nylen, Hopping.

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Open Session resumed at 9:55 p.m.

Mr. Nylen reported that the contract with the custodians and drivers has been settled. Ms. Player moved, seconded by Mrs. Krason, to accept the Memorandum of Agreement between the Ipswich School Committee and AFSCME Council 93 Local 2905 (Custodial and Bus/Van Drivers) extended from 7/1/14 to 6/30/15 through 6/3018. UNANIMOUS.