

**IPSWICH SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING
JULY 25, 2013
MIDDLE/HIGH SCHOOL ENSEMBLE ROOM**

**OPEN SESSION
CALL TO ORDER**

Dr. O'Flynn, Chair, called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m. with the following members present: C. Nylen, S. Player, B. Hopping, S. Gresh, J. Bauman, R. Roesler. Also present were Superintendent W. Hart and Student Representative M. Werner.

A. ELECTION OF IPSWICH SCHOOL COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSON AND SECRETARY

Dr. O'Flynn stated that the first order of the evening was to nominate a new chairperson. Dr. O'Flynn moved, seconded by Mr. Gresh, to nominate Barry Hopping as the Chairperson for the Ipswich School Committee. UNANIMOUS.

Mr. Hopping moved, seconded by Mr. Gresh, to elect Dr. Hart as the Secretary and Dr. Hart named Jean Emerson as Secretary of the School. UNANIMOUS.

B. ANNOUNCEMENTS

B. Hopping read the following announcements:

Executive Session will not be held

A meeting of the Budget Subcommittee will be held on Monday, August 12, at 6:00 p.m. in the Payne School.

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

C. CITIZENS' COMMENTS

D. SPECIAL ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

E. RULE OF NECESSITY STATEMENT

F. IHS STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE REPORT

Madeleine Werner stated that she had nothing to report.

G. SUPERINTENDENT'S ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT

1. School Vision Activity

Dr. Hart continued with his process for a school vision. He reviewed his process with the committee noting that he had done interviews with many faculty and staff with the theme of a desire for a clear, articulated vision. He reviewed the process at the last meeting where he asked the members to discuss a powerful learning experience and then what had made it powerful. This meeting he asked the school committee and interested audience members to move to tables and come up with the names of successful people they know. He explained that this should be defined as the type of people you wish your children to grow up emulating. He then asked each of the table groups to come up with a list of the attributes of these people that make them successful. He asked each group to decide

upon four or five elements that were common to successful people. Common qualities shared by the two groups: (group one) good listener, good communicator, strong interpersonal skills and empathetic/compassionate, resilient, passionate/visionary, risk taker; (group two) driven, empathetic/good listener, intellectually curious, oral and written communication skills, ability to balance professional and personal lives.

I. SCHOOL COMMITTEE PRESENTATIONS

A. GREEN RIBBON SCHOOL INITIATIVES

Two elementary parents, Regina King and Nicole Whitten, presented a proposal to pursue green initiatives for the schools with a goal of being designated as a Green Ribbon School. They both visited the Manchester Essex Schools in order to tour a Green Ribbon School recipient to see what needs to be done and how close the district is to this goal. They presented a petition showing support for this initiative. While focusing on the elementary buildings, their ultimate goal is to create one green vision and strategy for all the schools. A member asked what they are asking for and they stated that they are looking for support from the School Committee for this initiative. They gave a presentation that is focused on four goals for 2013-2014 school year which were 1. The elimination of styrofoam products, 2. Food waste composting in the elementary schools, 3. Uniform cafeteria recycling signage and protocols for all of the buildings, and 4. The creation of "Green Teams" in each school. The committee asked if Mr. Paul Bedard would give his opinion on these goals and he stated that he is 100% behind the goals but wants to ensure that it does not become a burden to the custodial staff. The parents assured him and the committee that the "Green Teams" would be responsible. There was further discussion on the use of styrofoam products in the schools. The parents stated that they are working with Joanne Cuff on the cost of ordering paper trays. These do cost more but they are looking into skipping the distributor and ordering a large bulk order directly from the manufacturer to try to get a better price. As for food waste, this is already being done in the MS/HS building and they would like to see it continued into the elementary schools this year. For the uniform recycling signage, the parents stated that the town has funds to provide the signs. Lastly, the "Green Teams" will be put in place to help with the other goals. For the high school, the recycling club is already established and will assist in the initiatives.

Mr. Hopping moved, seconded by Mrs. Player, to support the Green Initiative.
UNANIMOUS.

B. TECHNOLOGY PLAN UPDATE

The Technology Committee met with the hired consultant to review the work Kevin Murpy has done. The consultant identified some things that would affect the plan going forward. He identified practices needed that they had not counted on to implement the project. The biggest problem is the fiber cables in this MS/HS building that may need to be replaced because they are not rated for what is needed. It looks like the work will probably not be finished this summer. The current plan is to complete the following streams of work: finish off consulting engagement, begin the work of compiling a revised budget, compose the request from the Feoffees grant, compose the implementation plan, and the development of RSB to hire a consultant for the installation. The committee

asked for a revised timeline and they stated that the consultant has already walked through all the buildings and is in the process of compiling his findings. Currently the timeline is pushed back about 2 weeks (August 9th to August 19th) for the report from the consultant.

II. SCHOOL COMMITTEE REPORTS

A. VOUCHERS/BILLS

B. SCHOOL COMMITTEE ORGANIZATION AND COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS

Mr. Hopping moved, seconded by Dr. O'Flynn to postpone the School Committee Organization and Committee assignments to the next meeting. UNANIMOUS.

Mr. Hopping suggested that they should consider seriously looking at the list of committees and possibly eliminating some or adding some, and that members should think about changing committees if they feel that a different committee would be a better fit for them.

C. SCHOOL COMMITTEE REPORTS

1. ATHLETIC SUBCOMMITTEE

2. ATHLETIC FIELD STUDY COMMITTEE

Ken Swenson made a priority list of projects such as the mile lane stadium, etc. which was very well received and the Town Manager was very supportive. This does not include school funding for the fields. He reported that he met with Gale Associates to do some testing at Mile Lane.

3. BIRTH TO THREE SUBCOMMITTEE

A \$3,000 grant was received for post-partum depression workshops and education. They will be meeting again in 2 weeks.

4. BUDGET SUBCOMMITTEE

5. COMMUNICATIONS SUBCOMMITTEE

6. LONG RANGE FINANCIAL PLANNING

7. OPERATIONS SUBCOMMITTEE

8. POLICY SUBCOMMITTEE

9. SPECIAL EDUCATION PARENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE (SEPAC)

10. TECHNOLOGY EDUCATION SUBCOMMITTEE

11. OTHER

Mr. Hopping made a suggestion that the August School Committee meeting be moved to the 22nd. This move would enable them to hear the technology report from consultant. He also stated that the grant committees felt it would be critical. The Payne Grant needed more time to be defined they would be ready by that date. In addition, many mini-grant applications had been received (61). In order to process them a rubric needs to be developed to assess them and on 8/22 Jeff Loeb would like to announce the awards. Kevin Murphy did not think the delay from the consultant would affect the grant application. Dr. O'Flynn expressed a concern about the Kindergarten assignments. Dr. Hart shared that he met this week with principals to discuss Kindergarten staffing,

sections, etc. He told the committee that they are ready to release the Kindergarten assignment letters. The school committee expressed that this is fine.

Mr. Nysten moved, seconded by Ms. Bauman to move the August School Committee meeting to August 22, 2012. UNANIMOUS.

Mr. Hopping opened up a discussion on creating the role of Vice Chairperson for the School Committee. Dr. O'Flynn asked for a description of the role. Mr. Hopping thought it might include performing duties when the Chairperson is absent, and that it might be a positive learning process for anyone considering running for the Chairperson position; however, this would not include an expectation that the Vice Chairperson assumes the role of Chairperson the next year automatically. The members voiced their support of the idea. The consensus was that this is a good idea but would need to be an action item for the next school committee meeting to make official.

Mr. Hopping asked Dr. Hart for clarification of the new SPED positions (The .5 position of Pupil Personnel Services being split by 2 people) asking what that means to services and how will that work. Dr. Hart expressed his confidence in the position and stated that they would commit to a regular schedule that has not been decided. He also said the schedule would contain some flexibility for setting meetings, etc.

Mrs. Roesler asked if a date has been set yet for the School Committee Goal-setting workshop. Mr. Hopping asked the members to send available dates to him and he will find a date that works. This workshop will include School Committee members, the Superintendent and Jean Emerson.

Mr. Hopping asked that Joanne Cuff provide an update on the SOI to the School Committee.

III. CONSENT AGENDA

A. CONSENT AGENDA

Dr. O'Flynn moved, seconded by Mr. Hopping, to accept the Consent Agenda as follows:

Acceptance of School Committee Minutes of July 11, 2013, Open Session

Acceptance of the donation of \$600 from an anonymous Winthrop School family to the Winthrop School.

UNANIMOUS.

IV. ADJOURNMENT

Dr. O'Flynn moved, seconded by Mr. Gresh, to adjourn at 9:05 p.m. UNANIMOUS.