

**IPSWICH SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING
JULY 11, 2013
MIDDLE/HIGH SCHOOL ENSEMBLE ROOM**

OPEN SESSION

CALL TO ORDER

Dr. O'Flynn, Chair, called the meeting to order at 7:03 p.m. with the following members present: R. Roesler, S. Gresh, B. Hopping, and S. Player. Also present were Superintendent W. Hart, Finance Director J. Cuff, and Student Representative M. Werner.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Dr. O'Flynn read the following announcements:

Executive Session will not be held

School Committee will meet on July 25, 7 p.m., Middle/High School Ensemble Room

A. SUPERINTENDENT'S ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT

1. School Vision Exercise

Dr. O'Flynn welcomed Dr. Hart to a round of applause. Dr. Hart began what will become a three-month process. Before his official start on July 1, he spent time with Town officials and others in the district asking for the schools' strengths, challenges, and hopes for the future. Clear themes came out of these meetings and the focus tonight is the need for a clear vision. Several hundred people will be involved in the near future and this school vision exercise will be the driving force for moving ahead in the Ipswich Public Schools. He asked the group of School Committee and interested audience members to move to tables and come up with a personal and powerful learning experience, identifying key details that made it powerful. Then the groups shared and developed four to five elements of commonality: empowered learners, a sense of self-worth and someone believing in them, and life lessons learned from areas of difficulty encountered.

I. SCHOOL COMMITTEE PRESENTATIONS

A. TECHNOLOGY PLAN REVIEW

Chris Burke, David Fabrizio, and Kevin Murphy of the Technology Subcommittee presented their recommended 9-page Technology Plan, put together following five meetings since June 20, which will then be handed to the (recommended) consultant. When the process of Feoffees grant funding becomes finalized and procured, following the consultant's writing of the grant, the Subcommittee will continue to refine the technology plan beyond Phase 1 in a broader sense including the vision for technology in the future (Phase 2). The consultant recommended by the Technology Subcommittee is Tom Marsh of Data Flow.

Mr. Fabrizio, Technology Committee member, spoke about the proposed phasing of work in a timeline that is hopeful but uncertain: Middle/High School summer work in 2013, Doyon/Winthrop summer work in 2013, followed by Central Office work in December, 2013 (when a winter break of two days or so could be taken by office staff), and summer work 2014 at Doyon/Winthrop and MAN/WAN -Phases 1D and 1E.

Labor costs would increase greatly if the second/third shifts had to be used for installations and will be avoided if possible. The existing data network at Winthrop and Doyon will stay to serve the legacy desktops while they are still in use. The grant, which will be taken to the Feoffees Grant Committee in two weeks, will include the costs for 2014, Phase 1, A-E. Mr. Hopping asked about the amount of input from the municipal side, and Ms. Burke felt that the Town Manager is completely on board with the Capital Plan. Mr. Murphy gave a timeline for August 9, 2013: (1) a tech survey of all buildings, meeting with the Technology Committee, and a written report from the new tech consultant; (2) information compiled for the Feoffees grants, and (3) RFPs to go to three bidders to get prices for doing the work. These three processes will have to proceed simultaneously and the plan will provide numbers that might require an addendum later. Ms. Cuff reminded that two weeks is required for posting of the bids. Mr. Hopping urged that, with the first round of Feoffees money, it is absolutely critical that the process be done right with nothing overlooked and no regrets later about what could/should have been done. Mr. Murphy and Dr. Gresh were optimistic and will keep pushing ahead. Mr. Bedard cautioned about carpeting being ripped up and replaced in the Middle/High School at the same time as the technology installation.

Mr. Hopping expressed the desire to have the two Feoffees grant committees meet on July 24, with Superintendent Hart and Ms. Cuff available, and stated that the Superintendent will have major input on the grant proposal before it comes back to the full School Committee for a vote of approval. Mr. Hopping alerted Mr. Murphy as to the application form, the process which involves a variety of stakeholders, and the input by the Superintendent in the writing of the grant.

Dr. O'Flynn moved, seconded by Mr. Hopping, to accept the proposed "Infrastructure Technology Plan" with the acknowledgment that it is conceptual at the present time. UNANIMOUS.

Dr. O'Flynn moved, seconded by Dr. Gresh, to accept the recommendation of the Technology Subcommittee to select Tom Marsh of Data Flow as the Technology Consultant, paid for through Choice. UNANIMOUS.

The Board asked that one member of the Technology Subcommittee attend the July 25 School Committee meeting to provide update on progress.

II. SCHOOL COMMITTEE IMMEDIATE BUSINESS

A. VOUCHERS/BILLS

III. CONSENT AGENDA

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

Acceptance of the Ipswich School Committee Minutes of June 20, 2013, Open Session

Acceptance of the donation of \$500 from an anonymous donor to the Winthrop School

Acceptance of the donation of \$1,000 from the Fidelity Charitable Fund, through the recommendation of the Dawson Family Fund, to benefit the Winthrop School

Acceptance of the donation of \$2,500 from the Doyon Friends of Ipswich Elementary Schools (FRIES) to assist in the purchase of the Destiny Library Manager System.

UNANIMOUS.

V. ADJOURNMENT

Dr. O'Flynn moved, seconded by Mr. Hopping, to adjourn at 8:10 p.m. UNANIMOUS.