

**IPSWICH SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING
JUNE 20, 2013
MIDDLE/HIGH SCHOOL ENSEMBLE ROOM**

OPEN SESSION

CALL TO ORDER

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Dr. O'Flynn read the following announcements:

Executive Session will not be held this evening.

Policy Subcommittee will meet June 25, 8 a.m. Payne School

Budget Subcommittee will meet on June 24, 6 p.m., Payne School

School Committee will meet on July 11 & July 25, 7 p.m., Middle/High School Ensemble Room.

CITIZENS' COMMENTS

Ken Sternberg, father of a recent graduate, who moved to Ipswich in part because of the schools, highly praised the dedicated staff who, even at the Winthrop School, recognized Thomas when he needed extra help and allowed him to thrive throughout his Ipswich school experience. He thanked everyone. Dr. O'Flynn and Mr. Korb, in turn, thanked Mr. Sternberg for coming with his good words.

SPECIAL ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

Dr. O'Flynn recognized the retired School Committee members in the audience who had come with best wishes for Mr. Korb. Ed Traverso, congratulating Jeff Loeb and Rick Korb, said he admired both men even though he disagreed from time to time. He said that both should be very proud of their accomplishments: Rick for his leadership of the schools; and Jeff for his leadership of the School Committee. Mr. Korb thanked him for his service to the School Committee and his continued commitment in addressing the issues with the Feoffees.

Marlene Doyle was high in praise of Mr. Korb, spoke of her Michigan interview regarding his application while on crutches, and called him the perfect person to follow Mr. Thompson, a consummate gentleman and diplomat.

Jeff Loeb brought greetings from Laura Dietz, Joan Arsenault, Margot Sherwood, and George Jewell who were unable to attend, all of whom had the pleasure of working with Mr. Korb the last few years. Rick Korb commented that he has valued their counsel and input, and, while not always agreeing, carried on without being disagreeable. He announced that Rotary had named Jeff "Person of the Year" for eighteen years of service to the district.

Dr. O'Flynn presented Rick with a black t-shirt with "Ipswich Tigers" (in orange) for his casual days ahead, and Rick was most enthusiastic and appreciative.

HIGH STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE REPORT

Madeleine Werner, returned to her position as Student Representative for another year, wished Mr. Korb happiness in his retirement and read a statement she had prepared about her realization, as the new rep last year, that her opinions were valued, thanked the Committee and Mr. Korb, and is looking forward to next year as the Student Representative.

A. SUPERINTENDENT'S ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT

Mr. Korb had no report.

I. SCHOOL COMMITTEE PRESENTATIONSA. GREATER LAWRENCE EDUCATIONAL COLLABORATIVE (GLEC)
APPOINTMENT OF W. HART TO BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Mr. Korb reminded that every year there must be a vote to appoint the Superintendent to the GLEC Board of Directors. Mr. Hopping moved, seconded by Dr. Gresh, to appoint Dr. William Hart to the Board of Directors of the Greater Lawrence Educational Collaborative. UNANIMOUS. Mr. Korb noted that Dr. Hart has been informed.

B. FEOFFEEES OF THE GRAMMAR SCHOOL

1. Financial Statement
2. Vote to Authorize Revision to the Trust

Dr. O'Flynn asked Ms. Cuff and she replied that she is fine with the financial setup. Mrs. Roesler expressed appreciation to the Feoffees for their work, and Mr. Hopping asked Dr. O'Flynn to read the letter from Seth Ward (Feoffee) to the three Town Boards regarding the attachment of the Quarter 1 2013 investment report for the assets managed by the Feoffees of the Grammar School for the Town of Ipswich. Including a mix of qualitative and quantitative commentary, they will be submitting quarterly reports no later than month end following the close of a calendar quarter and rotating reporting responsibilities. The Feoffees will be available to answer questions and meet with the Boards when appropriate.

Mr. Hopping reported that George Markos (Feoffee), on behalf of the Feoffees, would like to send a letter to the Attorney General's office in the simple task of requiring legal assistance without lawyers and the Court if Dr. O'Flynn and Mr. Twining would co-sign the letter. Attorney Steve Perry, in conversation with Dr. O'Flynn, mentioned minor technical adjustments in the Trust Administrative Order, a to z, with a change in distribution date and a 2/3 majority vote of the School Committee. Dr. O'Flynn received consensus from the Board to authorize revision to the Trust, co-signed by Dr. O'Flynn, School Committee Chair, and Peter Twining, Feoffee, per George Markos' and the Feoffees' letters.

C. GREEN STREET FIELD IMPROVEMENT PROPOSAL

Kevin Murphy and Steve Moylan of Ipswich Youth Football requested the restoration of the athletic field by Town Hall which was neglected last summer and is used by youth sports. Corliss Brothers, which helps youth sports, will donate seed and labor and equipment will be rented to restore the field for fall sports. Mr. Hopping moved, seconded

by Mrs. Bauman, to support the request from Ipswich Youth Football (a) to restrict use of the Green Street field for 6-8 weeks, (b) to remove the soccer goals from the field, (c) to reseed and fertilize the field, (d) to post signs and temporary fence restricting use of the field and (e) to allow Ipswich Youth Football to water the field. UNANIMOUS.

D. AGENDA AND RESCHEDULING OF ENTRY MEETING FOR WILLIAM HART WITH FUTURE MANAGEMENT SYSTEMS

Dr. O'Flynn announced that earlier in the evening the Board had met with Bill Garr of Futures Management Systems. A tentative workshop for July 2 has been arranged for Dr. Hart to meet with the School Committee. To Dr. Hart's question of beginning on June 24 rather than July 1, Mr. Korb stated that Ms. Cuff is acting Superintendent for one week and Dr. Hart had never been expected to begin on June 24 in an official capacity. Dr. O'Flynn reported that Dr. Hart has begun interviewing for Fran Seltenrich's replacement.

After discussion regarding a Pupil Personnel Director, Dr. O'Flynn received consensus that there is no funding to support a full-time Director but the Board would accept an interim position. Mr. Hopping would not be comfortable with an interim position for a full year and would like to hear from Dr. Hart on the matter. At the present time, Ms. Cuff cannot determine what monies might be available at the end of the fiscal year.

E. FINANCIAL REPORT

Ms. Cuff explained that the fiscal year will end probably at "\$0". She thanked Joy Jartman for her work with payroll. She estimated a \$50,000 amount that is not earmarked and she would rather spend that than Choice where need arises. Paul Bedard has put together the specs for boiler replacement, walkway repair and flooring projects, bids for which will be awarded in July and work completed before school starts. Mrs. Burke is developing the IFB for the \$50,000 technology initiative, buying the same model for everybody in accordance with the State Comcast site contract, and doing the purchasing next week so that installation and operation will be there for the school year. The purchase of a SPED van (\$22,000 earmarked) has been postponed until a new PPS Director can be consulted. The health insurance provider, MIIA, has contracted with HMS Employer Solutions to comply with Municipal Health Care Reform legislation which mandates enrollment audits every two years.

To Mr. Hopping's question of assessment payment to a Charter School, Ms. Cuff explained that one student attended the Charter School in Gloucester at \$11,649 in 2012-13 (and appeared on the Cherry Sheet).

Mrs. Bauman inquired of the unpaid lunch bills amounting to \$12,000. Ms. Cuff replied that it is now down to \$9,000 and another notification goes out to parents this coming week. After that, phone calls will be made. Mrs. Bauman stated that the smaller lunch for children with unpaid lunch bills has not been enforced and kids are being given the full meal. Administration will be told by Mr. Korb that report cards cannot be withheld because of unpaid debt.

Mr. Hopping asked for and received clarification for the budget lines regarding expenses for maintenance and personnel for buildings/grounds from Mr. Bedard and Ms. Cuff.

II. SCHOOL COMMITTEE REPORTS

A. VOUCHERS/BILLS

B. SCHOOL COMMITTEE REPORTS

1. ATHLETIC SUBCOMMITTEE

Mr. Hopping commented that there is a meeting coming up to discuss addressing whether youth football will be allowed to use the stadium this fall.

2. ATHLETIC FIELD STUDY COMMITTEE

3. BIRTH TO THREE SUBCOMMITTEE

4. BUDGET SUBCOMMITTEE

5. COMMUNICATIONS SUBCOMMITTEE

6. DAY CARE CENTER SUBCOMMITTEE

7. FACILITIES SUBCOMMITTEE

8. LONG-RANGE FINANCIAL PLANNING

9. OPEB

10. OPERATIONS SUBCOMMITTEE

11. POLICY SUBCOMMITTEE

Mr. Hopping must discuss finalizing grant committees and kindergarten enrollment in the two elementary schools in the near future. In discussion, a meeting was set for June 25 at 8 a.m.

12. SPECIAL EDUCATION PARENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE (SEPAC)

13. TECHNOLOGY EDUCATION SUBCOMMITTEE

Mr. Kevin Murphy of the Technology Education Subcommittee spoke about the two most important items needed: (1) a set of standards to be completed so that the mini grants will comply with the rest of the infrastructure; and (2) an RFP for a consultant which is currently being put together. Mr. Murphy was urged to get in touch with Dr. Hart. A major grant proposal to Feoffees for infrastructure funding and mini grants for technology support are under consideration.

In discussion, the Board set July 11 for a School Committee meeting with the technology piece as the major issue so that bids can be awarded and projects can move ahead for the infrastructure to be completed before the beginning of school. In addition, the July 18 School Committee was canceled and July 25 was set for reorganization and end-of-year financial statements.

14. OTHER

Mrs. Bauman presented a request from elementary parents who are interested in pursuing the Green Initiative for a green-ribbon school in a composting program. They will be asked to present on July 25 at the School Committee meeting.

She also spoke of the Educatius program in which four international students will be attending the high school. Three enthusiastic parents have already come forward. Because she will be receiving a stipend for her coordination in this project, she will be recusing herself from any future votes about the program.

Mrs. Roesler was concerned about the announcement that parents would be informed about placement for next year on June 28. After discussion and information from Andrea Welch regarding the grades which would be announced (Grades 1 – 5), the Board by consensus asked Mr. Korb to let administration know that it wishes to put off the announcement to parents of entering **kindergarten** children until after the July 25 meeting of the School Committee.

Dr. O’Flynn asked that, if the principals wish to ask for Choice admission, could they make the request at the July meeting. A number of Choice slots have been vacated with the end of this year. Mr. Korb verified that they could.

Mrs. Roesler remarked about the great talent show presentation at the Middle School, and Mr. Hopping about the 5th grade move-up at Winthrop with kudos to Keith Archung.

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 June 6, 2013, Open Session, with a correction of “Loeb” to “Hopping” within the Consent Agenda. UNANIMOUS.

V. ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Hopping moved, seconded by Mrs. Bauman, to adjourn at 8:58 p.m.
UNANIMOUS.