

**IPSWICH SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING
JUNE 6, 2013
MIDDLE/HIGH SCHOOL ENSEMBLE ROOM**

OPEN SESSION

CALL TO ORDER

Chair H. O'Flynn called the meeting to order at 7:04 p.m., with the following members present: S. Player, J. Bauman, S. Gresh, B. Hopping, R. Roesler, and C. Nysten. Also present were Superintendent R. Korb 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 10, 7 p.m., Payne School

Budget Subcommittee meeting is canceled for June 11.

Crane Beach Picnic is on June 17, rain date of June 18.

Middle School Graduation will be held on June 18, 7 p.m., Performing Arts Center.

Last day of school is June 20.

School Committee will meet on June 20, 7 p.m., Middle/High School Ensemble Room.

CITIZENS' COMMENTS

SPECIAL ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

Mr. Korb recognized the Student Representative Maddie Werner for serving with the School Committee in her junior year of high school 2012-13 with congratulations.

IHS STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE REPORT

Madeleine Werner thanked everyone for the plaque, saying she enjoyed serving on the Board. Interact members have made a presentation and the Middle School entrance has the display.

A. SUPERINTENDENT'S ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT

Mr. Korb reported that the final meetings are being completed with IEA on the Educational Evaluation implementation model this month. Dr. Hart is being updated on all this with its challenges. The assessments for teachers who have been evaluated this year under the new regulations will be submitted to the State. He also reported that "Choice" appropriations have been made.

Dr. O'Flynn welcomed Sarah Player to the Board as Jeff's replacement and extended a welcome to returning Board member Sean Gresh.

I. SCHOOL COMMITTEE PRESENTATIONS

A. SPRING SPORTS AWARDS

Athletic Director Tom Gallagher announced and presented certificates to all-star and all-league recipients in softball, boys' and girls' lacrosse, and boys' and girls' track. He announced championships in boys' track, girls' track, and girls' lacrosse,

Players of the Year – Sarah Kieran (girls' track) and Matt Jaeger (boys' track) – and Sportsmanship Awards in baseball and boys' lacrosse.

B. RECOMMENDATIONS REGARDING USER FEES

Athletic Director Tom Gallagher reported that much discussion at the Athletic Subcommittee meeting the night before had come because of a predicted shortfall in the account. Comparisons had been made of other towns and other methods of determining fees for sports. The Subcommittee is recommending a \$650 fee per athlete/per year with a \$900 family cap. Mrs. Bauman asked about those families who can't pay, and Mr. Korb and Mr. Gallagher explained the opportunity for support groups who remain anonymous, among them a push to reinstate Friends of Athletics under the umbrella of Ipswich Education Foundation. Mr. Hopping added that the original request at the meeting was to "break even" and asked what the percentage of operating budget is to revolving funds — Mr. Gallagher said 55/45. Mr. Nysten asked about expenses that might go into the budget and Mr. Gallagher enumerated the gym floor, bleachers, weight-room equipment, but not maintenance. The budget also includes fuel for the Tiger busses and lining the fields. Coaching stipends are contractually increased following teacher increases. Discussion included family expenses for the sports beyond the fees, the responsibilities of the faculty manager which include organization of gate crews, game workers, user-fee checks, management of football games and collection/deposit of cash. The Athletic Director said there was no significant drop in participation the last time (two years ago) the fee was raised.

Mrs. Roesler was uncomfortable with a \$650 fee for one sport and wished she could know how many students play only one sport. Dr. O'Flynn said that discussion occurs frequently to provide incentive to participate in more than one sport and it speaks to the higher level of value than one would think. Mr. Hopping remarked that, while the original recommendation at the Athletic Subcommittee meeting last night was a \$100 increase, it was a parent who recommended the increase to \$150 so that we could set aside the buffer and not have to come back again next year. Mr. Korb suggested that discussion/consideration could take place for inclusion of capital costs for athletics in the FY 2015 budget. The Athletic Director commented that sport signups will start as soon as the School Committee votes.

Dr. O'Flynn moved, seconded by Mr. Hopping, to support the Athletic Director and Athletic Subcommittee proposal for \$650 fee for one sport and a \$900 family cap for FY 2014-15. VOTE: IN FAVOR – Nysten, Gresh, Bauman, O'Flynn, Hopping, Player; OPPOSED – Roesler.

C. IMPLEMENTATION OF PHASE 1 – SCHOOL SAFETY AND SECURITY TASK FORCE RECOMMENDATIONS

Referring to the presentation and discussion on May 16, Mr. Korb announced that the Task Force on School Safety and Security recommends the implementation of Phase 1 at an estimated \$17,753.79 and asks for permission and authority to go out to bid. Phase 2 is still under discussion (buzzer-entry system and personnel to oversee it), and a meeting with Dr. Hart will take place sometime in August.

Mr. Hopping moved, seconded by Dr. Gresh, to authorize the implementation of Phase 1 recommended by the Task Force on School Safety and Security which includes the summer mental health conference grant and the two exterior cameras at Doyon, one exterior camera at Winthrop, two Middle/High School interior cameras and one exterior camera, estimated at \$17,753.79. UNANIMOUS.

D. SCIENCE SUBJECT AREA COMMITTEE (SAC) PRESENTATION TO SCHOOL COMMITTEE

Laura Schofield, Middle School Chair of the Science SAC, reviewed collaboration with ELA teachers in focusing on data analysis and written documentation as a team in Ipswich. Meg Smith, third grade teacher at Winthrop, worked with ELA on standards, and she is now using non-fiction books as an example. Amy DiFazio, Doyon Grade 2 teacher, spoke of keeping notebooks addressing writing standards. In Middle School, students are taught reading strategies, pulling apart paragraphs for analysis. The SAC team measured MCAS and final exam scores and found direct correlation. Not only was the analysis interesting, but the collaboration with colleagues to strategize was joyful. Mr. Chmura, High School Science Head, spoke on the open response MCAS question, and the biology curriculum which includes a great deal of writing. Mr. Dalton commented that MA leads the country in science and has adopted "Next Generation" standards.

Common assessment achievement differs per school. Every department had a goal to develop common assessments this year. Mr. Dalton wants a common assessment in every unit of every content area. Ms. Schofield spoke of the common planning time available to Middle School teachers which helps immensely for common assessment across subject areas and units.

Dr. O'Flynn thanked the group for their tremendous effort, especially with the literacy.

E. TECHNOLOGY SUBCOMMITTEE PROPOSAL

Begun last January, David Fabrizio and Chris Burke, CoChairs of the Tech Subcommittee, said the group had met five times. They discussed what the classrooms should look like, what the short-term and long-term goals are, what upgrades are needed, that professional development must be employed to keep it going, and that tech teams must be created. The Subcommittee recommended the ASPEN Student Information System to replace MMS, but Mr. Hopping commented that Newburyport school system, currently using it, finds that it is not user friendly and dislikes it. The Technology Committee recommendations (13 pages) will be put online for the community. Mr. Nylen thanked the Committee and stressed need for immediate action in order to execute subsequent phases in a narrow window of time during the summer months.

Mr. Hopping reported on the progress with the grants and hopes to be able to spend the \$800,000 of Feoffees' money before July 1. Discussion regarding need for a technology consultant who would be available for looking at everything, giving recommendations, and writing up specs is not included in the FY14 budget. Mr. Korb

suggested that perhaps some carryover FY2013 budget monies could provide \$10,000 (available on July 15 when Ms. Cuff closes the books) or Dr. O'Flynn suggested a short-term use from Choice. Following discussion, Dr. O'Flynn moved, seconded by Dr. Gresh, to authorize the administration to explore options and availability of funding from Choice or to use end-of-year funds from the 2013 operating budget, not to exceed \$15,000, in order to secure the services of a technology consultant to move the process forward for technology. UNANIMOUS.

F. COMMUNICATIONS SUBCOMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS

Dr. Gresh, with PowerPoint, presented recommendations from the Communications Subcommittee regarding School Committee meetings, subcommittee Minutes postings, posting content for public meetings before they take place, meeting room changes (which were implemented immediately to accommodate wall TV cameras in the Ensemble Room), adherence to the agenda topics, and summary of action items at the conclusion of each meeting. There were recommendations for the School Committee website and the media for photographing, organization, and visibility. School Committee members were urged to serve as liaison for the Chronicle and other media outlets, for constituent groups, and the other Town Boards.

Dr. O'Flynn urged that the Subcommittee get Dr. Hart thinking hard on his communication with the School Committee and community and using ICAM to advantage.

II. SCHOOL COMMITTEE REPORTS

A. VOUCHERS/BILLS

B. SCHOOL COMMITTEE REPORTS

1. ATHLETIC SUBCOMMITTEE

Dr. O'Flynn reported that the schedule was discussed and approved. Because of continuing problems at Mile Lane, the Committee is considering revisiting the restrictions on dog visits to Mile Lane and to revisit, on a town-wide level, the carry in/carry out policy for trash. Dr. O'Flynn will connect with the Town Manager.

Consensus was given by the Board members to allow two dedications for the fall: the scoreboard at Mile Lane during a fall soccer game and the pressbox at the football field during a fall football game.

2. ATHLETIC FIELD STUDY COMMITTEE

Mr. Hopping reported more discussion about completing projects for fields: Mile Lane has the potential between two and three fields and needs a feasibility study for costs and probability, the high school field to turf, and another possible area for field(s). Maintenance often falls through the cracks and no one claims responsibility for irrigation. Grubs took away the grass at the Doyon field because of lack of maintenance. The group discussed the fact that current fields are not being maintained, so why have more. Mr. Nysten and Mr. Hopping, citing need for collaboration on maintenance, on dog trespassing, and on the future of turf at the

stadium, urged that these topics be discussed with the Athletic Field Committee and the Town Manager.

3. BIRTH TO THREE SUBCOMMITTEE
4. BUDGET SUBCOMMITTEE
5. COMMUNICATIONS SUBCOMMITTEE
6. DAY CARE CENTER SUBCOMMITTEE
7. FACILITIES SUBCOMMITTEE

8. LONG-RANGE FINANCIAL PLANNING

Dr. O’Flynn said they came up with two consensus statements: override and trying to lay out a longer term budget.

9. OPEB

10. OPERATIONS SUBCOMMITTEE

11. POLICY SUBCOMMITTEE

- (a) High School Graduation Requirements, IKF (Proposed Revision, Second reading)

Dr. O’Flynn moved, seconded by Mrs. Bauman, to accept the policy for second reading. UNANIMOUS. Consensus was reached that policies would be maintained online and eliminated in binders once Mr. Hopping checks for compliance.

12. SPECIAL EDUCATION PARENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE (SEPAC)

13. TECHNOLOGY EDUCATION SUBCOMMITTEE

14. OTHER

Mr. Hopping named the committee members who will select the large grants provided by Feoffees’ money except for one more business representative. The mini-grant committee setup is in good shape as well.

Mrs. Roesler wants to move forward with a date to talk about the FY15 budget; Mr. Nysten mentioned need for discussing goals; Dr. O’Flynn asked members to email Central Office with their dates for vacation. July 18 is the reorganization meeting of the School Committee.

Mr. Hopping met with Mr. Fabrizio regarding the Essex Aggie policy. Twelve Ipswich Middle School (8th grade) students had applied – 3 were accepted, 6 wait-listed, 2 withdrew, and 1 was denied. He is concerned that the majority of points are assigned to the student’s interview, and he has volunteered to put applicants through a mock interview in the future. Because some students are not articulate themselves, he wondered about a written segment.

Mrs. Bauman will be meeting with the Educatius representative about host families.

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 May 16, 2013, Open Session
Approval of the Ipswich High School Model UN Club Overnight Field Trip to be held at the MIT campus, Cambridge, MA, 2/7-9/2014. UNANIMOUS.

VI. ADJOURNMENT

Mrs. Bauman moved, seconded by Mr. Nysten, to adjourn at 10:43 p.m. UNANIMOUS.