

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

OPEN SESSION

I. CALL TO ORDER

Chair H. O'Flynn called the meeting to order at 7:04 p.m. with the following members present: J. Loeb, J. Bauman, S. Gresh, B. Hopping, R. Roesler, and C. Nylen. Also present were Superintendent R. Korb; and Finance Director J. Cuff.

II. CITIZENS' COMMENTS

Mr. Hopping announced that the Superintendent Search Committee has narrowed the interviewed pool of candidates down to three, but one has since withdrawn. As a result, the Search Committee is in the process of reconvening to take the next step; therefore, the planned 5:30 p.m. meeting with the School Committee for March 21, 2013, has been canceled. Dr. O'Flynn thanked the Search Committee for their time and work.

III. IPSWICH HIGH SCHOOL SAILING CLUB PROPOSAL

Dr. O'Flynn called upon Sarah Jacklin who asked for permission to have a sailing club, permission to sail with Gloucester this spring, and permission to do fundraising. Mr. Korb commented that this proposal has been vetted through the Athletic Director and he proposes a partnership this year because of the late date. Liability issues are covered by SailGHS's policy. Sarah said that about 4-6 students are currently interested. It won't be high cost because the Gloucester program currently exists, and they might allow use of their boats. Dr. Gresh expressed enthusiastic support, especially for a town with the nearby ocean. Dr. O'Flynn moved, seconded by Mrs. Bauman, to grant permission for a sailing club which would sail with Gloucester this spring and to grant permission for the group to fundraise. UNANIMOUS.

IV. SCHOOL CALENDAR FOR 2013-2014

Mr. Korb stated that, while students began school before Labor Day some years, the IEA contract indicates that instructional days for students shall not begin prior to Labor Day unless by prior (mutual) consent. Mr. Korb spoke with legal counsel and recommends that the School Committee support the vote of IEA to accept Option 2, students starting on the Tuesday following Monday, Labor Day, in keeping with the collective bargaining agreement. The January professional day has also been moved to a Friday because of all the holidays which fall on Mondays. Mr. Loeb moved, seconded by Mr. Hopping, to accept the recommendation for the school year 2013-14 to begin with workshop days for staff before Labor Day and students to begin the day after Labor Day. UNANIMOUS.

V. STATEMENT OF INTEREST (SOI) APPROVAL AND VOTE TO SUBMIT

Mr. Korb reported revisions have been submitted to the School Committee and the Board of Selectmen who voted unanimously to approve. Because the changes were made following the vote by the School Committee on March 7, 2013, it is necessary to come back for another vote. Mr. Loeb and Mr. Hopping expressed their appreciation for the significant changes to both of the SOIs at the Winthrop and Doyon Schools.

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

Resolved: Having convened in an open meeting on March 20, 2013, the School Committee of Ipswich, Massachusetts, in accordance with its charter, by-laws, and ordinances, has voted to authorize the Superintendent to submit to the Massachusetts School Building Authority the Statement of Interest Form that will be submitted to the MSBA by no later than April 10, 2013, for consideration in FY2013, for the Winthrop School located at 65 Central Street, Ipswich, Massachusetts, which describes and explains the following deficiencies and the priority categories for which an application may be submitted to the Massachusetts School Building Authority in the future.

Priority 2 - Elimination of existing severe overcrowding – Inadequate classroom, gymnasium and cafeteria space combined with the need to provide specialized instruction and therapies outside of the traditional classroom has placed an unprecedented demand on existing limited space at the Winthrop School.

Priority 5 – Replacement, renovation or modernization of school facility systems, such as roofs, windows, boilers, heating and ventilation systems, to increase energy conservation and decrease energy-related costs in a school facility – Significant improvements need to be made to HVAC system, windows, electrical system, bathroom facilities and kitchen in order to extend the useful life of the building.

Priority 7 – Replacement of or addition to obsolete buildings in order to provide for a full range of programs consistent with state and approved local requirements – Space limitations in an overcrowded building and a modular building that is being used well past its expected life span, need to be addressed in order to improve the facility and provide our students with the best educational experience possible;

And hereby further specifically acknowledges that by submitting the Statement of Interest Form, the Massachusetts School Building Authority in no way guarantees the acceptance or the approval of an application, the awarding of a grant or any other funding commitment from the Massachusetts School Building Authority, or commits the Town School District to filing an application for funding with the Massachusetts School Building Authority. UNANIMOUS.

Dr. O'Flynn moved, seconded by Mr. Hopping, to rescind the March 7, 2013, School Committee vote to approve the Winthrop School Statement of Interest Form. UNANIMOUS.

Dr. O'Flynn moved, seconded by Mr. Nysten, to approve as follows:

Resolved: Having convened in an open meeting on March 20, 2013, the School Committee of Ipswich, Massachusetts, in accordance with its charter, by-laws, and ordinances, has voted to authorize the Superintendent to submit to the Massachusetts School Building Authority the Statement of Interest Form that will be submitted to the MSBA by no later than April 10, 2013, for consideration in FY2013, for the Doyon School located at 216 Linebrook Road, Ipswich, Massachusetts, which describes and explains the following deficiencies and the priority categories for which an application may be submitted to the Massachusetts School Building Authority in the future.

Priority 2 – Elimination of existing severe overcrowding – To address the current situation of the Doyon School holding instrumental music, physical education, small group instruction for reading tutorial and math remediation and English Language Learning in non-traditional classroom spaces due to overcrowding conditions at the building.

Priority 5 – Replacement, renovation or modernization of school facility systems, such as roofs, windows, boilers, heating and ventilation systems, to increase energy conservation and decrease energy-related costs in a school facility – Replacement of the roof and installation of a ventilation system in the school kitchen, along with the renovation of the kitchen, bathrooms and driveway configuration at the school would serve to greatly improve the building's infrastructure.

And hereby further specifically acknowledges that by submitting the Statement of Interest Form, the Massachusetts School Building Authority in no way guarantees the acceptance or the approval of an application, the awarding of a grant or any other funding commitment from the Massachusetts School Building Authority, or commits the Town School District to filing an application for funding with the Massachusetts School Building Authority. UNANIMOUS.

Dr. O'Flynn moved, seconded by Mr. Nylen, to rescind the March 7, 2013, School Committee vote to approve the Doyon School Statement of Interest Form. UNANIMOUS.

Mr. Nylen asked for a timeframe from the submission date of April, 2013. Ms. Cuff responded that the first 2-3 months are spent by MSBA in working with submission forms from the towns. Ten to twelve months later, contact is made with each district.

VI. SPECIAL EDUCATION DISCUSSION

Mr. Korb reported that Dr. Gresh, Mrs. Gallant (SPED Director) and he have had extensive positive conversations and discussion is not necessary at this time.

VII. ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Loeb moved, seconded by Dr. O'Flynn to adjourn at 7:30 p.m. UNANIMOUS.