

**IPSWICH SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING
JUNE 7, 2012
MIDDLE/HIGH SCHOOL ENSEMBLE ROOM**

**OPEN SESSION
CALL TO ORDER**

Chairman Loeb called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m. with the following members present: J. Bauman, C. Nysten, B. Hopping, H. O'Flynn, and V. Paduchak. Also in attendance were Superintendent R. Korb, Financial Director J. Cuff, and Principals S. Conley and S. McAdams.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mr. Loeb made the following announcements:

Executive Session will be held for the purpose of (a) strategies regarding collective bargaining and (b) strategies regarding negotiations with non-union personnel after which the meeting will adjourn

Ipswich Middle School Grade 8 Graduation will be held on June 8, Performing Arts Center, 7 p.m.

Crane Beach Picnic will be held on June 11 with a rain date of June 12

Last day of school will be June 14

Policy Subcommittee will meet on June 18, 5:30 p.m., Payne School

School Committee will meet on June 21, 7 p.m., Middle/High School Ensemble Room

CITIZENS' COMMENTS

SPECIAL ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

Mr. Loeb welcomed Carl Nysten to the table as a new member and thanked Victor Paduchak for his outstanding service with the School Committee.

Mr. Korb announced that IEA has voted their new officers.

Mr. Loeb had spoken with Scott Ames who asked that meetings wrap up by 10 p.m. per request of parents of students who are techies.

Mrs. Roesler joined the meeting at 7:12 p.m.

RULE OF NECESSITY

Mrs. Bauman moved, seconded by Mrs. Roesler, to invoke the Rule of Necessity so that all members may participate in collective bargaining negotiations. UNANIMOUS.

I. SCHOOL COMMITTEE PRESENTATIONS

A. SPRING SPORTS AWARDS AND RECOGNITION OF CHEERLEADERS FOR RECEIVING NATIONAL TITLE

Mr. Tom Gallagher, Athletic Director, spoke of the High School cheerleaders' rise to fame with "first-place" achievements all the way up to the National Championship and gave certificates to each of the 19 girls.

He also awarded certificates to the participants in spring sports: baseball, softball, boys' and girls' lacrosse, girls' tennis, boys' and girls' track.

B. PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT REPORT

Mr. Korb introduced the group and announced that K. McMahon will be the Chair next year.

In the PowerPoint presentation, additional state revenue of \$46,000 was designated for professional development planning with a full day in January, and workshops regarding Common Core and the Educator Evaluator Model, both with Race To The Top funds. The Atlas software program was explained by Mrs. McAdams as the statewide universal choice and has been developed since January. Writing instruction, science, IMS ELA, and Common core have been involved in professional development. Summer courses will continue with courses in aligning reading instruction (elementary), implementing the Common Core Institute (secondary), and writing using Atlas software.

Potential funding sources were discussed at length. Mr. Loeb is not comfortable with the sources for funding at this time. Choice funds are going down and timing for Feoffees funds is unreliable.

C. KINDERGARTEN STATUS/ASSIGNMENT AND STUDENT STATUS PLACEMENT FOR FY13

Asked by the School Committee for this information, Mr. Korb presented the two elementary principals who gave current numbers of Kindergarten enrollment at 63 for Winthrop and 60 for Doyon and anticipation for sending out letters on July 20. Mrs. Bauman asked if a parent can be told the child needs to move even though the policy is not in its final stages. Mr. Hopping wondered if placement conversations have already taken place, what was the need to delay?

D. ATHLETIC FIELD PROPOSAL

Mr. Hopping, working with Tom Gallagher, Ken Swenson, John Gillis, and Carl Nylén, began the presentation by asking that the School Committee fund a \$5,000 study that would take place at the stadium field for installation of new synthetic turf. Mr. Gillis, having distributed a proposal called "Ipswich Tigers Field of Dreams", spoke at length about the successes in Medford, Lowell, N. Andover, Andover and BC High and cited advantages over a "game field" for usage, savings in landscaping costs, game cancellations, water bills, injuries, and increased planning time, safety, and rental income. Bonding of the project was briefly discussed. Ms. Cuff commented that \$2,500 exists in the School Building Needs account which could partially fund the study.

Mr. Hopping moved, seconded by Mrs. Bauman, to authorize the Financial Director to utilize building use funds and other money available, not to exceed \$5,000, to fund the study on synthetic turf as proposed with the understanding that the Committee will come back in 4-6 weeks to make a formal presentation of a final proposal. IN FAVOR - O'Flynn, Nysten, Hopping, Bauman, Roesler; OPPOSED - Loeb (uncomfortable with funding until accounting is finalized in two weeks).

E. FINANCIAL REPORT

Ms. Cuff reported end-of-the-year anticipated expenses, balance, and she estimated that \$77,000 will be available. She quoted Senate Ways and Means FY2013 budget funding that will give Ipswich schools an estimated additional \$190,000 in state aid. Ms. Cuff gave numbers of savings in teaching positions from retirements, savings in utilities, and health insurance. Mr. Loeb stated that there will be a \$37,000 shortage after \$143,991 in legal bills are paid along with a \$5,000 - \$10,000 copying charge (fees related).

Ms. Cuff said only one bid (advertised and 13 bid offers sent out to vendors) came back for regular transportation: Salter Transportation. It was suggested that Ms. Cuff ask the vendors why they didn't respond.

To Mr. Hopping's question, Ms. Cuff answered that there is a deficit in the lunch program payments by parents. She will report back.

F. SECURITY CAMERAS/LED LIGHTING

Mr. Korb, referring to the security camera project at the Winthrop and Middle/High School buildings, reported that the Ipswich Police Department is contributing \$2,500 to the projected cost of \$19,695.87 and Ipswich Utilities Department is contributing \$3,734 in the form of a rebate after installation of the LED retrofit project at the Middle/High School building costing \$15,000, with a total estimated cost to the School Department for both projects of \$28,461.87.

Mr. Korb specifically named the \$77,000 in available FY12 funds, the \$10,000 wind turbine saving, and the savings from Central Office legal lines, recommending the security cameras and upgraded LED lighting at an estimated cost of \$28,461.87. School Committee members expressed a real need for the safety to be provided by the cameras. Dr. O'Flynn moved, seconded by Mr. Hopping to accept the two-pronged proposal as prepared by Mr. Korb. Mr. Korb mentioned "managed wireless" issues which are related to connectivity and security issues, a \$30,000 figure.

After discussion about the two-week timing of more definite fund availability, vote was IN FAVOR - O'Flynn, Hopping; OPPOSED - Roesler, Bauman, Loeb, Nysten. Mr. Korb respectfully requested that the "managed wireless" system, the security cameras, the upgrade to LED lighting, and the professional development funding be put on the June 21 agenda.

G. FEOFFEEES OF THE GRAMMAR SCHOOL

Mr. Loeb said that a meeting of the Working Group is scheduled for Monday, June 11, at 6 p.m. Also, the attorney for the owners of an Essex antique shop is asking for a decision on the Feoffees waiver to sign off on the right to revert to the Feoffees in 600 years for a \$15,000 fee (an agreement made two years ago to waive their right of reversion). Mr. Loeb agreed to funnel questions to the owners' attorney.

Questions arose about the Little Neck tenants paying rent (134 at the lower rate; 33 lessees at the higher rate); engineering expenses (engineer now demanding payment monthly rather than waiting until June); and a complete, professional accounting of rent collection and expenses (no School Committee money to pay for it). Mr. Loeb will contact the School Committee attorney for more discussion at the June 21st meeting.

II. SCHOOL COMMITTEE REPORTS

A. VOUCHERS

B. SCHOOL COMMITTEE REPORTS

1. IPSWICH HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE

Victor commented that graduation was great and the underclassmen are now taking finals.

2. ATHLETIC SUBCOMMITTEE

Mr. Hopping discussed ongoing damage to the cross-country trail and Mile Lane field by ATV use. He is hoping to empower police but they need specialized training. The Athletic Director would like to increase the gate admission fee from \$5/\$3 to \$6/\$4.

3. ATHLETIC FIELD STUDY COMMITTEE

4. AD HOC TOWN/SCHOOL COLLABORATION COMMITTEE

5. BIRTH TO THREE SUBCOMMITTEE

Mrs. Bauman reported from the Executive Committee meeting that Early Education has proposed standards for pre-K.

6. BUDGET SUBCOMMITTEE

Mrs. Bauman reported that the committee will meet on June 12 and potentially will have a workshop in September.

7. COMMUNICATIONS SUBCOMMITTEE

8. DAY CARE CENTER SUBCOMMITTEE

9. FEOFFEEES SUBCOMMITTEE

10. LONG RANGE FINANCIAL PLANNING

Meeting on June 20.

11. OPERATIONS SUBCOMMITTEE

Mr. Hopping reported on the new Board member's orientation and timeline for the Superintendent's evaluation. Mr. Loeb asked that the evaluation questionnaire go out to School Committee members and be returned electronically by June 21 so that the composite evaluation can be presented at the July School Committee meeting. The new template must be used for the Superintendent's Evaluation Model.

12. POLICY SUBCOMMITTEE

(a) High School Graduation Requirements, JKF Proposed Revision, Second Reading

Dr. O'Flynn moved, seconded by Mrs. Roesler, to accept the policy for second reading. UNANIMOUS.

13. PUBLIC SAFETY FACILITY COMMITTEE

14. SPECIAL EDUCATION PARENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE (SEPAC)

15. OTHER

Reorganization and subcommittee appointments of the School Committee will take place at the July meeting.

III. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Mr. Korb gave his District goals:

- a. Improvement of educational practices
- b. Improvement of student learning
- c. Implementation of the Educator Evaluation Model.

Mr. Korb expressed a need to negotiate with IEA for the Educator Evaluation Model with new language and a Letter of Agreement in December, 2012, for developing continuity consistency, and performance, K-12.

IV. CONSENT

A. CONSENT AGENDA

Mrs. Roesler moved, seconded by Mr. Hopping, to accept the Consent Agenda as follows:

Acceptance of Minutes of May 17, 2012, Open Session

Acceptance of the contribution of \$712.06 from the Burley Fund to benefit the Winthrop School

Acceptance of the donation of \$800 from an anonymous donor to the Winthrop School to be used for summer camps

Acceptance of the combined class gift of a High School sign at the entrance of Ipswich High School from the Classes of 2005 and 2008. The sign has a monetary value of \$5,000 split between the 2 classes for a total of \$2,500 for each class.

Acceptance of a payment of \$1,500 from the Enhanced School Health Grant to be used for health-related items by all Ipswich Schools
Acceptance of the donation of \$1,000 from the Ipswich Rotary Club to the Birth to Three Family Center to enhance the work of the Birth to Three Center in the community
Acceptance of the donation of \$5,000 from the North Shore United Way to the Birth to Three Family Center to support and enhance the work of the Birth to Three Center in the community. UNANIMOUS.

Mrs. Roesler asked about the "Burley Fund", and Mr. Korb read that Jim DeFazio oversees the fund, whose interest provides about \$2,000/year rotating between the Winthrop and Doyon Schools.

V. EXECUTIVE SESSION

10:55 p.m.

Mr. Hopping moved, seconded by Dr. O'Flynn, to go into Executive Session for the purpose of discussing strategy with respect to collective bargaining. Roll call IN FAVOR - Roesler, Bauman, Loeb, Hopping, Nylén, O'Flynn.

Mr. Hopping moved, seconded by Dr. O'Flynn, to go into Executive Session for the purpose of discussing strategy regarding non-union personnel. Roll call IN FAVOR - Roesler, Bauman, Loeb, Hopping, Nylén, O'Flynn

DOCUMENTS REVIEWED: MTell Survey Results Summary
Security Camera Project
Lighting Retrofit Project
Ipswich Tigers Field of Dreams

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6:59 p.m.

Legal bills for Feoffees litigation

Mr. Loeb announced that he would like any questions from the Board on line items of Feoffees of the Grammar School bill-payment agenda item so that the totals could be voted in Open Session. With a court appearance on June 1, there will be one more bill not to exceed \$5,000. The Working Group has approved some of the bills; overage is about \$35,000 beyond the \$100,000 approved by Town Meeting.

As there were no further questions, Dr. O'Flynn moved, seconded by Mrs. Bauman, to leave Executive Session to return to Open Session at 7:02 p.m. Roll call IN FAVOR- O'Flynn, Nysten, Hopping, Loeb, Bauman.

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11 p.m.

IEA

Mr. Korb reviewed an extension of the contract agreement for one year with a 1%/1% split on the year. Changes in leadership and changes in instruction over the next couple of years have made this plausible.

After discussion, Mr. Hopping moved, seconded by Mrs. Bauman to authorize the Superintendent to offer IEA a 1.5% increase on a one-year contract with no language changes other than what might be involved in the new Educator Evaluator Model. IN FAVOR - Hopping, Bauman, Roesler, Loeb; OPPOSED - O'Flynn, Nylen. Dr. O'Flynn wanted Mr. Korb to consider approaching the new IEA leadership earlier than later in conjunction with the Town Manager, Finance Committee, and Board of Selectmen.

Non-union Personnel

Mr. Korb continues to have a \$40,000 savings with the retirement of the Cahills and would like to maintain an administrative team of two principals and two assistant principals full-time at the Middle and High School. Mr. Loeb opined that this recommendation should be discussed in Open Session. Members discussed different options. Consensus was to hire each assistant principal at 1.0 FTE for eleven months.

Mr. Korb presented the Committee with a table showing salaries of administrators. Mr. Korb felt that the School Committee has consensus that they are doing a good job.

Mrs. Roesler moved, seconded by Mr. Hopping, to adjourn at 12:30 a.m. Roll call: IN FAVOR - Roesler, Bauman, Loeb, Hopping, Nylen, O'Flynn.