

**IPSWICH SCHOOL COMMITTEE/ADMINISTRATORS BUDGET WORKSHOP
THURSDAY, JANUARY 29, 2009
7:00 P.M.
MIDDLE/HIGH SCHOOL ENSEMBLE ROOM**

OPEN SESSION

CALL TO ORDER

J. Arsenault, School Committee Chair, called the meeting to order at 7:10 p.m. with the following members present: J. Loeb, H. O'Flynn, D. Ross, J. Arsenault, B. Hopping, and E. Traverso. N. Sheppard was absent. Also present were R. Korb, Superintendent of Schools; J. Cuff, Director of Finance and Operations; High School Principal, B. Cahill; Middle School Principal, C. Forster-Cahill; Doyon Principal, K. Cooper; Winthrop Principal, S. McAdams; and Director of Pupil Personnel Services, D. Minton. Also present was student representative, Matthew Roberts.

CITIZENS QUESTIONS - None

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Chairperson Joan Arsenault read the following announcement:
There will be an Executive Session this evening to discuss strategies in collective bargain, after which we will adjourn.

RULE OF NECESSITY

Chairperson Joan Arsenault invoked the "Rule of Necessity".

1. FY09 BUDGET

Superintendent Korb began the meeting by recapping the current status of the FY09 Budget and indicated that the administrative team had worked to address this year's shortfall as a result of lack of town revenues to the tune of \$216,000. The actual number that Town Manager Robert Markel now indicates that the cut should be would be closer to \$208,000. However the superintendent indicated that the total cuts made to date were approximately \$276,000 which reflects the \$216,000 from shortfall of town revenues and an additional \$60,000 for pending litigation. Following the discussion of the FY09 Budget, the discussion began on the FY10 Budget.

2. FY10 Budget

Superintendent Korb began the review of the FY10 Budget with a fiscal analysis handout dated January 29, 2009 provided to all members present. The superintendent reviewed the process that the administrative team followed to address the projected deficit of \$1,582,541. Handout #1 highlighted the different facets of the 2008 Override that had been put into the FY09 Budget. Going through it line item, by line item, we identified those recommended cuts that would take place from the override list. That total amount is \$1,065,642. Following that process, the administration then presented the remaining cuts of \$221,700 which was Handout #2. Middle School involved no school World Language program, and teacher salaries associated with that; Teaching Assistant Salary and School Resource Officer, at both the middle and high school. High School: a non-PTS teacher salary.

Doyon: a teaching assistant salary, along with various equipment and MCAS tutoring. Winthrop, a 1.5 Teaching Assistant salary and MCAS tutoring. That amount came to \$221,700. Following the implementation of those cuts, the committee and the administration reviewed the bottom line remaining in the FY10 projected budget. The current proposed budget was then identified as \$22,723,531 against the base budget of \$22,513,585, leaving a deficit of \$209,946.

The discussion then continued as to whether it was necessary to cut any further. The superintendent then reviewed his recommendations, if there was a need to do so, which is found on the back of page 1 of his handout. Those included cutting the school's share of the Facility Director, \$25,000; cutting Transportation except for grade 6, \$40,000; and also cutting the Elementary Librarian; a Winthrop Teacher, a Doyon Teacher, a Middle School Teacher, a High School Teacher and a Doyon Teaching Assistant, for a net gain of \$156,000, bringing our projected additional cuts to \$221,000. Much discussion followed relative to whether or not the Committee wanted to implement the additional \$221,000 worth of cuts. There was a consensus that they did not want to eliminate secondary transportation. Upon much discussion, consensus was reached by the School Committee, giving the administration direction that we will remain at the current deficit amount of \$209,946.

ADJOURNMENT

Ms. Ross moved, seconded by Mr. Loeb, to go into Executive Session at 9:10 p.m. for the purpose of discussion collective bargaining after which the meeting will adjourn. IN FAVOR – Arsenault, Hopping, Loeb, O'Flynn, Ross, Traverso.