

**SHREWSBURY PUBLIC SCHOOLS
100 MAPLE AVENUE
SHREWSBURY, MASSACHUSETTS**

MINUTES OF SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING

WEDNESDAY, MAY 13, 2015

Present: Mr. John Samia, Chairperson; Ms. Sandra Fryc, Vice Chairperson; Ms. Erin Canzano, Secretary; Dr. B. Dale Magee, Mr. Jon Wensky, Dr. Joseph Sawyer, Superintendent; Ms. Mary Beth Banios, Assistant Superintendent; Ms. Cecelia Wirzbicki, Director of Business Services; Ms. Barbara Malone, Director of Human Resources

The meeting was convened at 7:00 PM by Mr. John Samia.

I. Public Participation

None

II. Chairperson's Report and Members' Report

Mr. Wensky said he attended the SHS Art Festival and that everyone involved should be commended on a job well done. Mr. Samia mentioned that the FY16 school budget will be presented at the Town Meeting next week and voted on during the meeting. He wanted to highlight that the Shrewsbury school district is seeking approval for a FY16 budget of \$58,455,519.

III. Superintendent's Report

Dr. Sawyer shared news about national recognition awards that Sherwood Middle School has received in a few areas including character education at schools, student leadership and writing. He congratulated the students, teachers and school administrators.

IV. Time Scheduled Appointments

A. Shrewsbury High School Service Learning Presentation

Mr. Bazydlo, Principal, Shrewsbury High School, and Sarath Mohan, SHS Class of 2015, presented a report to the School Committee about the SHS Service Learning Program. Mr. Bazydlo shared information for the goals of the SHS Service Learning Program. Sarath shared information about the purpose and function of the Program. In addition, Sarath shared highlights about the benefits that students experience from volunteering and participating in the Service Learning Program. Mr. Bazydlo discussed the SHS 10,000 Hour Challenge for community service. He shared that this challenge was designed by the SHS Class of 2012. Mr. Bazydlo and Sarath discussed additional highlights of the SHS Service Learning Program, including the awards for service. Mohan shared examples of students' perspectives about their experiences participating in the program. Mr. Bazydlo thanked Sarath for putting together the slide show for this presentation, commented that Sarath is an outstanding representative of the SHS senior class and the Shrewsbury community and wished him well when he attends Northeastern University next year.

Committee members made various comments about the value of the program and requested that information regarding the opportunities available to students through this program as well as the types of organizations that benefit from the program be shared with community.

B. Sherwood & Oak Middle Schools School Improvement Plans: Report & Vote

Dr. Jane O. Lizotte, Principal, Sherwood Middle School and Dr. Ann Jones, Principal, Oak Middle School presented a report to the School Committee for the 2015-2017 Sherwood and Oak Middle Schools School Improvement Plans. Dr. Lizotte and Dr. Jones provided an update on the progress made towards the goals outlined in the 2013-2015 School Improvement Plans and discussed outcomes related to plan goals. They thanked the members of the Sherwood and Oak Middle School Councils for their work developing proposed goals for the 2015-2017 Sherwood and Oak Middle Schools School Improvement Plans. Dr. Jones shared that the work of the curriculum coordinators is very important in order to meet the goals of the school improvement plans. In addition, Dr. Lizotte added that the special education directors in the district work closely with the curriculum coordinators and principals. She said this collaborative work is very important for helping to meet goals defined by the school improvement plans. Drs. Lizotte and Jones discussed the new 2015-2017 School Improvement Plans and described some changes from the 2013-2015 School Improvement Plans. They explained that some of the proposed changes are based on survey data collected from parents. Drs. Lizotte and Jones shared some highlights and examples from survey data collected from parents of students at the Sherwood and Oak Schools. They also shared that the teaming model at the middle schools has been a positive experience for students to work with adult mentors. Dr. Lizotte said that she and Dr. Jones are very happy with the number of families who responded to the surveys. Committee members asked Drs. Jones and Lizotte questions about the survey data and the goals for the School Improvement Plans. Dr. Sawyer recognized the importance of effective communication channels between the Shrewsbury and Oak Middle Schools and thanked the members of the Sherwood and Oak Middle School Councils for their hard work and contributions to the School Improvement Plans.

Mr. Samia requested a motion to approve the 2015-2017 Sherwood and Oak Middle Schools School Improvement Plans. On a motion by Ms. Fryc, seconded by Dr. Magee, the School Committee Members voted unanimously to approve the 2015-2017 Sherwood and Oak Middle Schools School Improvement Plans.

V. Curriculum

None

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VI. Policy

None

VII. Budget

A. Fiscal Year 2016 Tuition and Fees Discussion

Dr. Sawyer shared a brief update about the Fiscal Year 2016 Tuition and Fees and made references to the information in the packets received by the School Committee members. He said that it is not atypical for some families in the Shrewsbury district to spend more than a \$1,000 a year for school tuition and fees. Dr. Sawyer said he foresees proposing an inflationary increase for the school food service meal costs to

the School Committee Members in early June 2015. He said that other than the potential increase in food service prices, he is recommending to maintain the current level for tuition and fees and take no action for the next fiscal school year.

Committee members asked various questions about the number of people who will be staying with the personal technology program as the fee is being phased out, and about the administration costs for the personal technology program. Ms. Banios estimated that it was a little higher than was anticipated and she thinks it is around the 50% mark. Ms. Banios said there is an outreach program that will be implemented to reach out to families who have not yet responded regarding participation in the program. Dr. Magee asked Ms. Banios about what contributions will be made to the Fiscal 2016 budget. Ms. Banios said there will be revenues and costs. Dr. Magee asked if the estimate was more than \$100,000. Dr. Sawyer said the current estimate is approximately \$100,000 and this will be adjusted based on the fees received for the program. Mr. Samia asked about the administration costs for the personal technology program. Ms. Banios explained that some apps for the program need to be purchased. He commented that this is a good news story because fees for the personal technology program are no longer required.

VIII. Old Business

None

IX. New Business

None

X. Approval of Minutes

Mr. Samia requested a motion to approve the minutes of the School Committee Meeting for April 29, 2015. On a motion by Ms. Fryc, seconded by Dr. Magee, the School Committee members voted unanimously to approve the minutes of the School Committee Meeting for April 29, 2015.

XI. Executive Session

A. Potential discussion of collective bargaining negotiations with the cafeteria workers association and/or the paraprofessionals association

Mr. Samia requested a motion for the School Committee to adjourn to executive session for the purposes of discussing collective bargaining negotiations with the cafeteria workers association and/or the paraprofessionals association. On a motion by Mr. Fryc, seconded by Dr. Magee, on a roll call vote: Dr. Magee, yes; Mr. Wensky, yes; Ms. Canzano, yes; Ms. Fryc, yes; Mr. Samia, yes; the School Committee voted to adjourn to executive session for the purposes of discussing collective bargaining negotiations with the cafeteria workers association and/or the paraprofessionals association.

XII. Adjournment

Mr. Samia requested a motion to adjourn the School Committee meeting for May 13, 2015. On a motion by Dr. Magee, seconded by Ms. Fryc, the School Committee members voted unanimously to adjourn the School Committee meeting for May 13, 2015 at 9:17 PM.

Respectfully submitted
Christine Taylor, Clerk

Documents referenced:

- 1) SHS Service Learning Report and Slide Presentation
- 2) Sherwood and Oak Middle Schools School Improvement Plans Report and Slide Presentation
- 3) Tuition and Fees in Fiscal Year 2016: Report
- 4) Shrewsbury School Committee Priorities and Guidelines for Fiscal Year 2016
- 5) Budget Development: Memo
- 6) Minutes for the April 29, 2015 School Committee Meeting