

**School Committee Workshop  
Shrewsbury High School  
64 Holden Street  
Shrewsbury, Massachusetts**

**Wednesday, April 16, 2015**

Present: Dr. Dale Magee, Chairperson; Mr. Jason Palitsch, Vice Chairperson; Ms. Erin Canzano, Secretary; Ms. Sandy Fryc; Mr. John Samia; Dr. Joseph Sawyer, Superintendent of Schools; Ms. Mary Beth Banios, Assistant Superintendent of Schools; Ms. Cecilia Wirzbicki, Director of Business Services; and Ms. Melissa Maguire, Director of Special Education and Pupil Personnel Services.  
Missing: Ms. Barb Malone, Director of Business Services

The meeting was convened at 7:03 p.m. by Dr. Magee in the Principal's Conference room.

**Discussion of the status the FY16 Budget**

Dr. Sawyer updated the committee on the evolving situation for state level funding. The House Ways and Means budget had been announced, and an increase of approximately \$145,000 was proposed for Shrewsbury. The Charter School projections came in lower than anticipated: 81, down from 96, which means the charge to the town will be slightly less. Also, he discussed modifications to the budget based on better understanding of current accounts. A number of cases for the iPads will be purchased out of this year's curriculum account due to a favorable balance, and the number of families who decided to continue paying the Technology fee was more than anticipated and therefore maintains a healthy balance in the Technology Fee account. Lastly, he presented updated adjustments in Special Education costs and other costs that impact the program.

Strategy was discussed. The Town Manager had increased his allocation to the School Department by another \$600,000, bringing the total amount of allocation to \$1,259,241. At the moment, Dr. Sawyer has a request of \$1.4M. The consensus of the committee was that if Dr. Sawyer and his team could not reduce the number without causing harm or reductions to the program, then the committee was insistent in allowing Town Meeting to make the ultimate decision in how the gap would be closed, and that they were comfortable going to Town Meeting with an unbalanced budget. Since there will still a number of factors waiting to mature, the committee would wait for guidance from Dr. Sawyer in determining next steps so that the budget could be presented, and possibly voted, on Monday, April 27, 2015.

**Adjournment**

On a motion by Jason Palitsch, seconded by Sandy Fryc, the committee unanimously agreed to adjourn the meeting at 8:29 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Erin H. Canzano  
Secretary

Documents referenced:

- 1) Recommendations for Non-mandated Additions to FY16 Budget in Priority Order
- 2) Adjustments in Mandated SPED costs in FY16 Budget
- 3) Adjustments to non-SPED Costs in the FY16 Budget
- 4) Comparison of FY16 Potential Revisions to FY15 and Initial FY16 Recommendation