

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

**MINUTES OF SCHOOL COMMITTEE WORKSHOP  
Principal's Conference Room  
Shrewsbury High School  
64 Holden Street  
Shrewsbury, Massachusetts**

**Wednesday, March 21, 2018**

**Present:** Dr. Dale Magee, Chairperson; Mr. Jon Wensky, Vice Chairperson; Ms. Sandra Fryc, Secretary; Ms. Erin Canzano; Mr. Jason Palitsch; Dr. Joseph Sawyer, Superintendent of Schools; Ms. Amy Clouter, Assistant Superintendent of Schools; Mr. Patrick Collins, Assistant Superintendent of Finance and Operations; Ms. Meg Belsito, Director of Special Education and Pupil Personnel Services; and Ms. Barb Malone, Director of Business Services

The workshop was opened by Dr. Magee at 6:34 pm.

**Topic I**

Dr. Sawyer and Mr. Collins provided a draft of the FY19 Budget Reduction Plan.

Based on refined/adjusted FY19 salary projections, increased fee revenue vote, reduced/revised Special Education Out of District expenses, expected Circuit Breaker increase in FY18, and FY18 overall projected appropriated budget savings/carry forward, the FY19 Superintendent Budget recommendation has been reduced by \$ 1,120,545.

The current gap between the FY 19 Town Manager Recommendation and the FY19 Superintendent recommendation is now \$ 1,415,483.00

**Topic II**

Dr. Sawyer and Mr. Collins provided the group with proposed Tier 1, 2 and 3 FY19 budget reduction recommendations.

Tier 1 recommendations are being removed from the budget. The total budget reduction for this tier is \$ 680,274.00.

Tier II recommendations are also predicted to be necessary; however, if there is any additional funding through areas such as Circuit Breaker, Chapter 70 funding, additional School Department funding from the Town Manager, etc., some of these items will be reconsidered to add back into the FY19 Superintendent Budget recommendation. The total budget reduction for this tier is \$ 474,602.00.

Tier III recommendations represent a total budget reduction of \$ 260,607.00. If additional School Department funding is provided by the Town Manager, some of these items will be reconsidered to add back into the FY19 Superintendent Budget recommendation.

The group discussed the proposed tiers and recognize that while class size will not be adversely affected, the district is facing reductions in many areas of the budget, which impacts how services are delivered to students.

Both Ms. Fryc and Ms. Canzano expressed concern regarding a potential reduction of Literacy Tutor hours by 50%. The ensuing discussion included the points that children who have difficulty reading and/or comprehension of what they read will have difficulty with all other instructional areas. This reduction may also result in the need for IEPs for some students, which will increase special education costs. Dr. Sawyer advised the group that they will reassess this reduction and see if there are other areas that might be able to be reduced with less student impact. Ms. Fryc acknowledged that in the budget presented, restoring one area of recommended reduction means other areas may be reduced.

### **Topic III – Executive Session**

Dr. Magee requested a motion to adjourn to executive session for the purposes of negotiations with the Shrewsbury Paraprofessional Association, where deliberation in an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the bargaining position of the public body, and to reconvene to open session only for the purpose of adjourning for the evening. On a motion by Ms Canzano, seconded by Mr. Palitsch, on a roll call vote: Dr. Magee, yes; Mr. Wensky, yes; Ms. Fryc, yes; Mr. Palitsch, yes; Ms. Canzano, yes, the School Committee voted to adjourn to executive session at 7:33pm.

### **Adjournment**

On a motion from Ms. Canzano, seconded by Mr. Palitsch, executive session was adjourned into open session at 8:25 pm. Roll call votes were as follows: Dr. Magee, yes; Mr. Wensky, yes; Ms. Fryc, yes; Mr. Palitsch, yes; and Ms. Canzano, yes.

Respectfully submitted,

Ms. Sandra Fryc, Secretary

Documents Referenced:

March 20, 2019 FY19 Budget Reduction Plan-Draft