



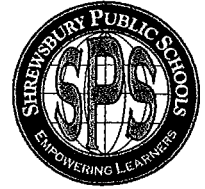
**School Committee
Meeting**

**March 19, 2014
7:00 pm**

**Town Hall
Selectmen's Meeting Room**



SHREWSBURY PUBLIC SCHOOLS
SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING
AGENDA
March 19, 2014 7:00pm
Town Hall—Selectmen's Meeting Room



<u>Items</u>	<u>Suggested time allotments</u>
I. Public Participation	7:00 – 7:10
II. Chairperson's Report & Members' Reports	
III. Superintendent's Report	
IV. Time Scheduled Appointments	
A. Student Advisory Committee: Report	7:10 – 7:30
V. Curriculum	
VI. Policy	
VII. Budget	
A. Full Day Kindergarten – Revised Plan: Report	7:30 – 7:50
B. Fiscal Year 2015 Budget: Vote	7:50 – 8:30
VIII. Old Business	
A. 2014-2015 School Calendar: Vote	8:30 – 8:40
IX. New Business	
X. Approval of Minutes	8:40 – 8:45
XI. Executive Session	8:45 – 9:00
XII. Information Enclosures	
XIII. Adjournment	9:00

Next meeting: March 26, 2014



SHREWSBURY PUBLIC SCHOOLS
SCHOOL COMMITTEE



ITEM NO: I. Public Participation

MEETING DATE: 3/19/14

SPECIFIC STATEMENT OR QUESTION:

Will the School Committee hear thoughts and ideas from the public regarding the operations and the programs of the school system?

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

Copies of the policy and procedure for Public Participation are available to the public at each School Committee meeting.

ITEM NO: II. Chairperson's Report/Members' Reports

SPECIFIC STATEMENT OR QUESTION:

Will the School Committee hear a report from Ms. Sandra Fryc, Chairperson of the School Committee, and other members of the School Committee who may wish to comment on school affairs?

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

This agenda item provides an opportunity for the Chairperson and members of the Shrewsbury School Committee to comment on school affairs that are of interest to the community.

STAFF AVAILABLE FOR PRESENTATION:

Ms. Sandra Fryc, Chairperson
Mr. John Samia, Vice Chairperson
Mr. Jason Palitsch, Secretary
Ms. Erin Canzano, Committee Member
Dr. B. Dale Magee, Committee Member

ITEM NO: III. Superintendent's Report

SPECIFIC STATEMENT OR QUESTION:

Will the School Committee hear a report from Dr. Joseph M. Sawyer, Superintendent of Schools?

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

This agenda item allows the Superintendent of the Shrewsbury Public Schools to comment informally on the programs and activities of the school system.

STAFF AVAILABLE FOR PRESENTATION:

Dr. Joseph M. Sawyer, Superintendent of Schools

ACTION RECOMMENDED FOR ITEMS I, II, & III:

That the School Committee accept the report and take such action as it deems in the best interest of the school system.



SHREWSBURY PUBLIC SCHOOLS
SCHOOL COMMITTEE



ITEM NO: IV. Time Scheduled Appointment

MEETING DATE: 3/19/14

A. SHS Student Advisory Committee: Report

SPECIFIC STATEMENT OR QUESTION:

Will the School Committee hear a report from the Shrewsbury High School Student Advisory Committee?

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

1. Under the Massachusetts Education Reform Act, school districts are required to have a Student Advisory Committee (SAC), consisting of five high school students who are elected by the student body. The SAC is required to meet with the School Committee during the year to review various issues of concern to the student body. Mr. Andrew Smith, SHS social sciences teacher, serves as the faculty advisor to the SAC. This will be the third presentation for the 2013-2014 school year.
2. The agenda for the SAC report is attached.
3. Mr. Palitsch is the School Committee liaison to the SAC.

ACTION RECOMMENDED:

That the School Committee accept the report and take such action as it deems in the best interest of the school system.

STAFF AVAILABLE FOR PRESENTATION:

Ms. Barbara Malone, Director of Human Resources
Mr. Andrew Smith, Faculty Advisor to the Student Advisory Committee
Mr. Todd Bazydlo, Principal, Shrewsbury High School
Kira Sommer, Chairperson, Class of 2014
Kayla Freeman, Class of 2015
Nithya Pathalam, Class of 2015
Emily Taylor, Class of 2015

Student Advisory Committee
Agenda for the School Committee Meeting on March 19, 2014

I. Midterms at SHS

The students of Shrewsbury High School completed their 1st semester exams from January 16th to the 22nd. Despite several snow days and the introduction of a new schedule, the week progressed smoothly.

- a. Midterm schedule change
- b. Teacher and student feedback

II. Cafeteria Point of Sales

On February 6th, Shrewsbury High School initiated its new computerized payment system for lunch purchases.

- a. Description of the new point of sales system
- b. Student experiences and reactions

III. Shrewsbury High School Events

Recognizing it would be impossible to cover all the great things SHS students have done in 2014, the following events are presented as a few of their achievements.

- a. Class Cup competition
- b. Mr. SHS presented by the Latin Honor Society
- c. Black History Month assembly

IV. Potential Impact of the Proposed Budget

Proposed changes to the school budget provide interesting opportunities for the students of SHS.

- a. Schedules and course offerings
- b. Smaller class sizes
- c. Improved student experiences

Thank you for your continuous support of the SAC.
Respectfully submitted,

Kira Sommer
Chairperson

Kayla Freeman, Nithya Pathalam, Emily Taylor
SAC Members



SHREWSBURY PUBLIC SCHOOLS
SCHOOL COMMITTEE



ITEM NO: **V. Curriculum**

MEETING DATE: **3/19/14**

SPECIFIC STATEMENT OR QUESTION:

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

ACTION RECOMMENDED:

STAFF AVAILABLE FOR PRESENTATION



SHREWSBURY PUBLIC SCHOOLS
SCHOOL COMMITTEE



ITEM NO: VI. Policy

MEETING DATE: 3/19/14

SPECIFIC STATEMENT OR QUESTION:

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

ACTION RECOMMENDED:

STAFF AVAILABLE FOR PRESENTATION:



SHREWSBURY PUBLIC SCHOOLS
SCHOOL COMMITTEE



ITEM NO: **VII. Budget**

MEETING DATE: **3/19/14**

A. Full Day Kindergarten – Revised Budget Plan: Report

SPECIFIC STATEMENT OR QUESTION:

Will the School Committee hear a report on a revised budget plan for full day kindergarten?

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

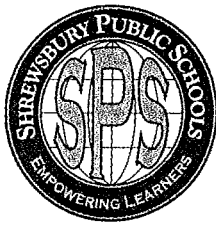
1. The initial Superintendent's budget recommendation significantly reduced the number of full day kindergarten slots available due to space constraints as a result of the plan to reduce class sizes in other elementary grades.
2. Based on feedback from the School Committee, Finance Committee, and parents, a revised plan has been created (see enclosed).
3. Dr. Sawyer will present the plan and ask for feedback from the School Committee.

ACTION RECOMMENDED:

That the School Committee hear the report and provide feedback to the Superintendent.

STAFF AVAILABLE FOR PRESENTATION:

Dr. Joseph M. Sawyer, Superintendent of Schools



Shrewsbury Public Schools

Joseph M. Sawyer, Ed.D.
Superintendent

September 7, 2012

To: School Committee
Re: Revised plan for full day kindergarten

Over the past two years, the district has been able to offer full day kindergarten (FDK) to all families who wish to enroll and pay the tuition required (\$3,700 annually this year, with financial aid available on a sliding scale). This has been a very successful program, as it has satisfied high levels of family demand for a full day program and provided a more robust educational experience for students. However, the ability to provide this level of access to FDK existed due to the fact that we cut elementary teaching positions due to budget restrictions, providing the key resource of space.

Under my initial budget recommendation, many elementary sections would be restored in order to address the problem of too-high class sizes in various elementary grades. The trade off, unfortunately, was to significantly reduce the sections of FDK the district could offer, from 16 to 5. Since the budget plan was released, many have advocated that we seek ways to increase the number of FDK sections we can offer, while still addressing the School Committee's top priority of fixing the class size problem.

The revised plan I will present to you at our meeting of March 19 accomplishes this by doing the following:

- 1) Reducing the number of first grade sections needed for next year by one at Spring Street School, based on updated enrollment projections.
- 2) Re-purposing classroom spaces currently used for music instruction at Coolidge, Paton and Spring Street in order to have sufficient space to enable more sections of FDK (the Beal music/art space was already shifted under the original plan). This revised plan results in 3 sections of FDK at Coolidge, 2 sections of FDK at Spring Street, and, for the first time, 1 section of FDK at Paton, with 6 at Beal for a total of 12 (7 more than the original plan).
- 3) Increasing targeted class sizes in FDK sections from 19 to 21. While 19 is the upper end of the School Committee's class size guideline, the leadership team and I believe that any negative effects of moving slightly above that guideline is more than offset by the opportunity to have a full day program.

The enclosed sheet shows the actual number of slots for each elementary attendance zone and the number of full time equivalent teachers to staff the number of sections required. You will see that the net impact on the budget of adding this number of kindergarten sections is to reduce the overall cost, due to the ability to make greater use of FDK tuition.

The bottom line is that the district would be able to increase the number of FDK seats from 95 in the original plan to 252 in the revised plan, while *reducing* the appropriated budget request by a net amount of \$147,367.

I look forward to presenting this information and answering your questions at our meeting of March 19.

FY15 Kindergarten Plan: Revised 03-14-14

School & Type	Sections	Students	Avg Class Size	FTE	FTE in appropriated budget	Notes
Beal AM	3	57	19	1.5	1.5	
Beal PM	3	57	19	1.5	1.5	
Beal FDK	6	126	21	6	3	
Coolidge AM	0	0	0	0	0	
Coolidge PM	0	0	0	0	0	
Coolidge FDK	3	63	21	3	1.5	
Spring Street AM	0	0	0	0	0	
Spring Street PM	0	0	0	0	0	
Spring Street FDK	2	42	21	2	1	
Paton FDK	1	21	21	1	0.5	
Totals	18	366	20	15	9	
Change FY14 vs. FY15 (Jan 23 Original Budget)						
Total FDK Sections	16	5	-11	12	-4	
Total HDK Sections	4	14	10	6	2	
Total K Sections	20	19	-1	18	-2	
Total FDK Teacher FTEs	16	5	-11	12	-4	
Total HDK Teacher FTEs	2	7	5	3	1	
Total K Teacher FTEs	18	12	-6	15	-3	
KFTE in appropriated budget	10	9.5	-0.5	9	-1	
Gr. 1 FTE in appropriated budget	20	22	2	21	1	
Gr. 2 FTE in appropriated budget	17	21	4	21	4	
Gr. 3 FTE in appropriated budget	18	21	3	21	3	
Gr. 4 FTE in appropriated budget	20	21	1	21	1	
Total K-4 Classroom Teacher FTEs funded by appropriated budget	85	94.5	9.5	93	8	2.5 Beal FTE return to budget (5 teachers teaching Gr. 1 instead of FDK x 0.5 FTE). Additions of 1.0 Beal HDK; 1.0 Coolidge Gr. 2; 1.0 Coolidge Gr. 3; 1.0 Paton Gr. 3; 0.5 Paton FDK; 1.0 Spring Street Gr. 2
Total K-4 Classroom Teacher FTEs, regardless of funding source	93	97	4	99	6	Actual new individuals: 1.0 Beal HDK; 1.0 Coolidge Gr. 2; 1.0 Coolidge Gr. 3; 1.0 Paton Gr. 3; 1.0 Paton FDK; 1.0 Spring Street Gr. 2



SHREWSBURY PUBLIC SCHOOLS
SCHOOL COMMITTEE



ITEM NO: VII. Budget
B. Fiscal Year 2015 Budget: Vote

MEETING DATE: 3/19/14

SPECIFIC STATEMENT OR QUESTION:

Will the School Committee vote on a Fiscal Year 2015 Budget recommendation?

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

1. On January 23, Dr. Sawyer presented his budget recommendation, which was based on the School Committee's official fiscal priorities and guidelines that it adopted in the fall of 2013.
2. The School Committee has discussed the Superintendent's recommendation and solicited feedback in meetings with the Board of Selectmen, Finance Committee, and through a public budget hearing held on February 26, 2014.
3. The School Committee has charged the Superintendent with revising the initial recommendation by seeking ways to reduce the overall cost while maintaining fidelity to the Committee's priorities and guidelines to the greatest extent possible.
4. Specific information regarding the Superintendent's revised recommendation will be provided under separate cover in advance of the March 19 meeting.
5. The School Committee has communicated to the other town boards that it intends to adopt its own official recommendation for the FY15 budget through a vote on March 19.

ACTION RECOMMENDED:

That the School Committee vote to approve the Fiscal Year 2015 Budget.

STAFF AVAILABLE FOR PRESENTATION:

Dr. Joseph M. Sawyer, Superintendent of Schools
Mr. Liam Hurley, Director of Business Services



SHREWSBURY PUBLIC SCHOOLS
SCHOOL COMMITTEE



ITEM NO: **VIII. Old Business**
A. School Calendar for 2014-2015: Vote

MEETING DATE: **3/19/14**

SPECIFIC STATEMENT OR QUESTION:

Will the School Committee vote to approve the proposed calendar for the 2014-2015 school year?

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

1. School Committee Policy #221 indicates that the Committee is responsible for determining the school calendar each year by April 30.
2. At the February 5 meeting the School Committee discussed the proposed school calendar, which includes two full professional development days and four early release days.
3. The draft calendar (enclosed) has been available for public comment since February 5.

ACTION RECOMMENDED:

That the School Committee vote to approve the recommended calendar for the 2014-2015 school year.

STAFF AVAILABLE FOR PRESENTATION:

Dr. Joseph M. Sawyer, Superintendent of Schools
Ms. Mary Beth Banios, Assistant Superintendent

Shrewsbury Public Schools 2014-2015 School Year Calendar

Draft

AUG/SEP 24 Days				
M	T	W	T	F
			14	15
18	19	20	21	22
25	26	27	28	29
1	2	3	4	5
8	9	10	11	12
15	16	17	18	19
22	23	24	25	26
29	30			

OCTOBER 22 Days				
M	T	W	T	F
		1	2	3
6	7	8	9	10
13	14	15	16	17
20	21	22	23	24
27	28	29	30	31

NOVEMBER 15 Days				
M	T	W	T	F
3	4	5	6	7
10	11	12	13	14
17	18	19	20	21
24	25	26	27	28

DECEMBER 17 Days				
M	T	W	T	F
1	2	3	4	5
8	9	10	11	12
15	16	17	18	19
22	23	24	25	26
29	30	31		

JANUARY 20 Days				
M	T	W	T	F
			1	2
5	6	7	8	9
12	13	14	15	16
19	20	21	22	23
26	27	28	29	30
31				

August/September

8/? & 8/? New Teachers' Orientation
 8/25 Opening Program for Teachers/No School
 8/26 Students Return/Full Day
 8/29 Professional Development/No School
 9/1 Labor Day/No School

October

10/7 Professional Development/Early Release
 10/13 Columbus Day/No School

November

11/4 Parent Conferences/No School
 11/11 Veterans Day/No School
 11/26 - 28 Thanksgiving Vacation

December

12/24 - 1/2 December Vacation

January

1/13 Professional Development/Early Release
 1/19 M.L. King Day/No School

February

2/16 Presidents Day/No School
 2/17 - 2/20 Winter Vacation

March

3/3 Professional Development/Early Release

April

4/7 Professional Development/Early Release
 4/20 Patriots Day/No School
 4/21 - 24 Spring Vacation

May

5/5 Professional Development/Early Release
 5/22 Last Day for Seniors
 5/25 Memorial Day/No School
 5/28 Graduation Day

June

6/8 Last Day for Kindergarten & Preschool
 6/10 Last Day/Half Day for Students

FEBRUARY 15 Days				
M	T	W	T	F
2	3	4	5	6
9	10	11	12	13
16	17	18	19	20
23	24	25	26	27

MARCH 22 Days				
M	T	W	T	F
2	3	4	5	6
9	10	11	12	13
16	17	18	19	20
23	24	25	26	27
30	31			

APRIL 17 Days				
M	T	W	T	F
		1	2	3
6	7	8	9	10
13	14	15	16	17
20	21	22	23	24
27	28	29	30	

MAY 20 Days				
M	T	W	T	F
				1
4	5	6	7	8
11	12	13	14	15
18	19	20	21	22
25	26	27	28	29

JUNE 8 Days				
M	T	W	T	F
1	2	3	4	5
8	9	10	11	12
15	16	17	18	19
22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	

0 snow days = 6/10 last day
 1 snow day = 6/11 last day
 2 snow days = 6/12 last day
 3 snow days = 6/15 last day
 4 snow days = 6/17 last day
 5 snow days = 6/18 last day

Parent Conference Day: 11/4/14



SHREWSBURY PUBLIC SCHOOLS
SCHOOL COMMITTEE



ITEM NO: IX. New Business

MEETING DATE: 3/19/14

SPECIFIC STATEMENT OR QUESTION:

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

ACTION RECOMMENDED:

STAFF AVAILABLE FOR PRESENTATION:



SHREWSBURY PUBLIC SCHOOLS
SCHOOL COMMITTEE



ITEM NO: X. Approval of Minutes

MEETING DATE: 3/19/14

SPECIFIC STATEMENT OR QUESTION:

Will the School Committee approve the minutes of the School Committee meetings on February 5 and February 26, 2014?

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

1. The minutes will be provided under separate cover.

ACTION RECOMMENDED:

That the School Committee vote to approve the minutes of the School Committee meetings on February 5 and February 26, 2014.

STAFF AVAILABLE FOR PRESENTATION:

Ms. Sandy Fryc, Chairperson
Mr. Jason Palitsch, Secretary



SHREWSBURY PUBLIC SCHOOLS
SCHOOL COMMITTEE



ITEM NO: XI. **Executive Session**

MEETING DATE: **3/19/14**

SPECIFIC STATEMENT OR QUESTION:

Will the School Committee enter into executive session for the purpose of discussing a student's residency status, and for discussing negotiations where discussion in open session may have a detrimental effect on the bargaining position of the public body?

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

That the School Committee discuss the information presented and take such action as it deems to be in best interests of Shrewsbury Public Schools.

ACTION RECOMMENDED:

That the School Committee enter into executive session.

STAFF AVAILABLE FOR PRESENTATION:

Ms. Barbara A. Malone, Director of Human Resources
Dr. Joseph Sawyer, Superintendent of Schools



SHREWSBURY PUBLIC SCHOOLS
SCHOOL COMMITTEE



ITEM NO: XII. Information Enclosures
ITEM NO: XIII. Adjournment

MEETING DATE: 3/19/14

SPECIFIC STATEMENT OR QUESTION:

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

ACTION RECOMMENDED:

STAFF AVAILABLE FOR PRESENTATION:

