



**School Committee  
Meeting**

**May 28, 2014  
7:00 pm**

**Town Hall  
Selectmen's Meeting Room**





SHREWSBURY PUBLIC SCHOOLS  
SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING  
AGENDA  
May 28, 2014 7:00pm  
Town Hall—Selectmen's Meeting Room



Items

Suggested time allotments

I. Public Participation	7:00 – 7:10
II. Chairperson's Report & Members' Reports	
III. Superintendent's Report	
IV. Time Scheduled Appointments	
A. Director of Business Services Appointment: Vote	7:10 – 7:15
B. Class Size: Panel Discussion with Educators	7:15 – 7:45
V. Curriculum	
VI. Policy	
VII. Budget	
A. FY 2015 Budget: Discussion	7:45 – 8:15
VIII. Old Business	
IX. New Business	
X. Approval of Minutes	8:15 – 8:20
XI. Executive Session (if necessary)	
A. For the purpose of discussing collective bargaining with the Shrewsbury Education Association – Unit B	8:20 – 8:30
XII. Information Enclosures	
XIII. Adjournment	8:30

**Next regularly scheduled meeting: June 4, 2014**



SHREWSBURY PUBLIC SCHOOLS  
SCHOOL COMMITTEE



ITEM NO: **I. Public Participation**

MEETING DATE: 5/28/14

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 the 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:

Dr. B. Dale Magee, Chairperson  
Mr. Jason Palitsch, Vice Chairperson  
Ms. Erin Canzano, Secretary  
Ms. Sandra Fryc, Committee Member  
Mr. John Samia, 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: **5/28/14**

**A. Director of Business Services Appointment: Vote**

**SPECIFIC STATEMENT OR QUESTION:**

Will the School Committee vote to appoint the Superintendent's recommendation as the Director of Business Services for the Shrewsbury Public Schools?

**BACKGROUND INFORMATION:**

1. Per MGL Chapter 71, Section 59, the School Committee is the appointing authority for the district's school business official, which in Shrewsbury is titled Director of Business Services.
2. Per the law, the School Committee may only vote to appoint a candidate recommended by the Superintendent.
3. The School Committee will have interviewed a finalist candidate at an earlier meeting. Dr. Sawyer may recommend that candidate for appointment.

**ACTION RECOMMENDED:**

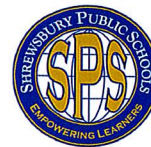
Should the Superintendent recommend a candidate, that the School Committee vote to appoint that candidate as the Director of Business Services, subject to successful contract negotiations between the Superintendent and the candidate.

**STAFF AND OTHERS AVAILABLE FOR PRESENTATION:**

Dr. Joseph M. Sawyer, Superintendent of Schools



SHREWSBURY PUBLIC SCHOOLS  
SCHOOL COMMITTEE



ITEM NO: **IV. Time Scheduled Appointment**

MEETING DATE: 5/28/14

**B. Class Size: Panel Discussion with Educators**

**SPECIFIC STATEMENT OR QUESTION:**

Will the School Committee hear a panel discussion with Shrewsbury educators on the topic of class size?

**BACKGROUND INFORMATION:**

1. The district is in the second year of a class size crisis. Because of the negative impact of class sizes that are too large, the School Committee made reducing class sizes its number one priority for the Fiscal Year 2015 budget.
2. Four respected Shrewsbury educators will share their experiences and professional opinions regarding the impact the class size crisis is having on the quality of education in the Shrewsbury Public Schools.

**ACTION RECOMMENDED:**

That the School Committee hear the presentation and take whatever steps it deems necessary in the best interest of the school district.

**STAFF AVAILABLE FOR PRESENTATION:**

**STAFF AND OTHERS AVAILABLE FOR PRESENTATION:**

Dr. Joseph M. Sawyer, Superintendent of Schools  
Ms. Colleen Kalagher, Grade 3 Teacher, Paton School  
Ms. Kelly O'Connell, Adjustment Counselor, Sherwood Middle School  
Mr. Robert Dunn, Social Studies Teacher, Oak Middle School  
Mr. John Aloisi, History Teacher, Shrewsbury High School



SHREWSBURY PUBLIC SCHOOLS  
SCHOOL COMMITTEE



ITEM NO: **V. Curriculum**

MEETING DATE: **5/28/14**

SPECIFIC STATEMENT OR QUESTION:

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

ACTION RECOMMENDED:

STAFF AVAILABLE FOR PRESENTATION



SHREWSBURY PUBLIC SCHOOLS  
SCHOOL COMMITTEE



ITEM NO: **VI. Policy**

MEETING DATE: **5/28/14**

SPECIFIC STATEMENT OR QUESTION:

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

ACTION RECOMMENDED:

STAFF AVAILABLE FOR PRESENTATION:





SHREWSBURY PUBLIC SCHOOLS  
SCHOOL COMMITTEE



ITEM NO: **VII. Budget**  
**A. FY 2015 Budget: Discussion**

MEETING DATE: 5/28/14

SPECIFIC STATEMENT OR QUESTION:

Will the School Committee discuss the Fiscal Year 2015 budget?

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

1. On May 19, the Annual Town Meeting approved a School Department budget for Fiscal Year 2015 that reflects available resources.
2. On May 21, the Special Town Meeting approved a supplemental School Department budget for Fiscal Year 2015 that reflects resources that will become available if the operational override vote on June 3 is affirmative.
3. Dr. Sawyer will present information that illustrates key elements of these budgets.
4. The School Committee may wish to have a discussion in its efforts to ensure that the community is well informed of the School Department's budget status and the implications of the override vote on June 3.
5. As background information, slides that were presented at the Special Town Meeting are enclosed.

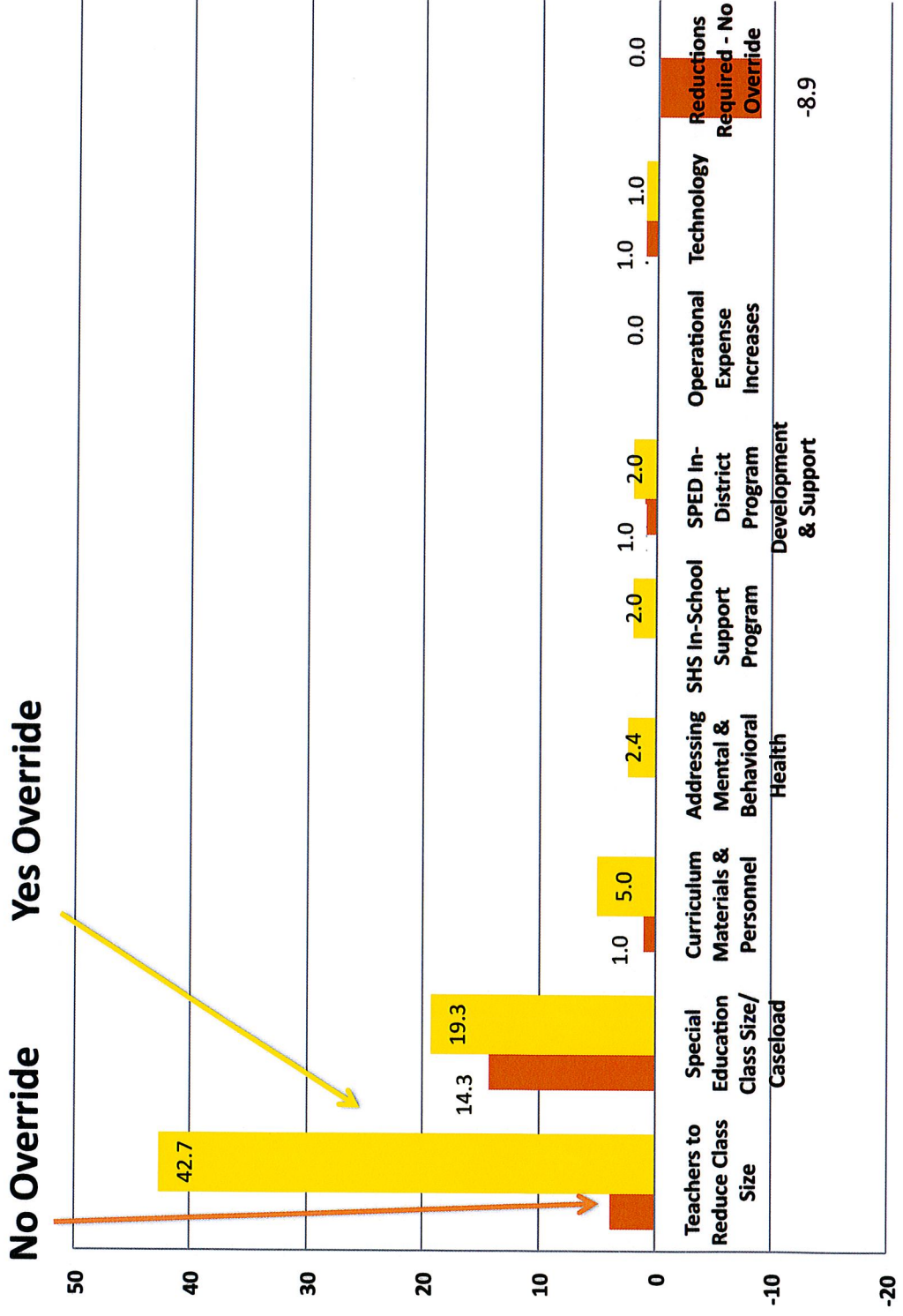
ACTION RECOMMENDED:

That the School Committee hear the presentation and discuss the Fiscal Year 2015 budget.

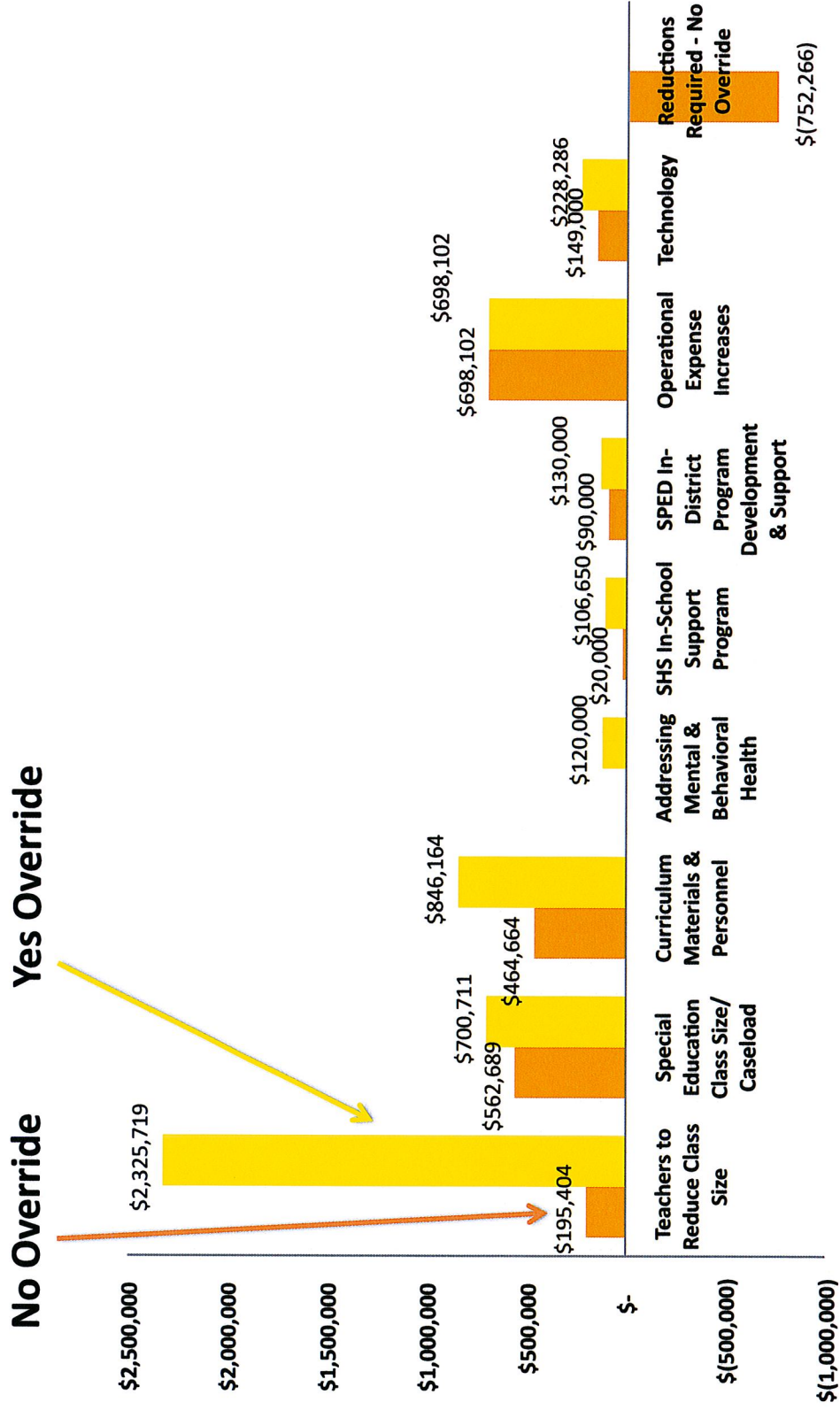
STAFF AVAILABLE FOR PRESENTATION:

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

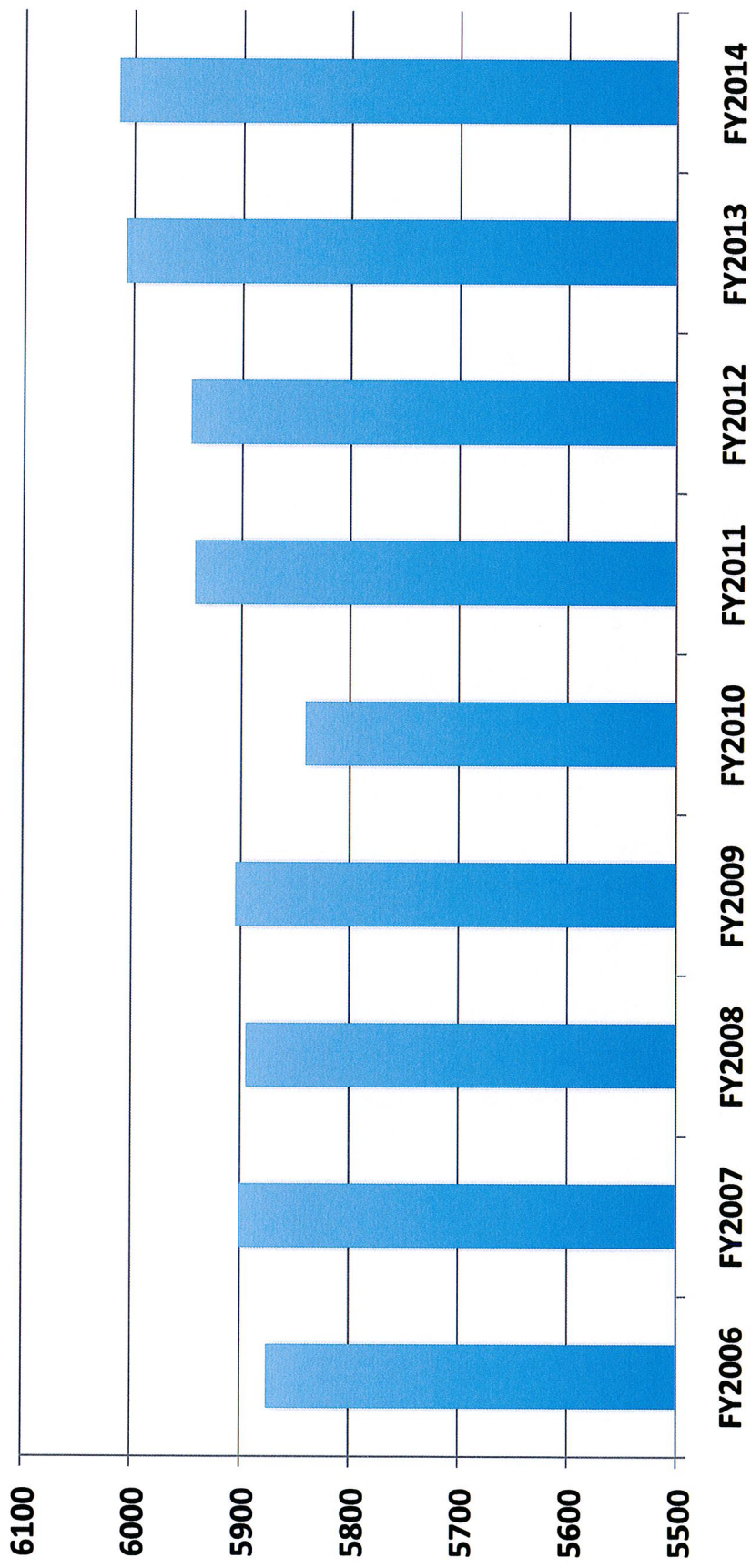
# FTE Comparison: Supplemental



# Funding Comparison: Supplemental

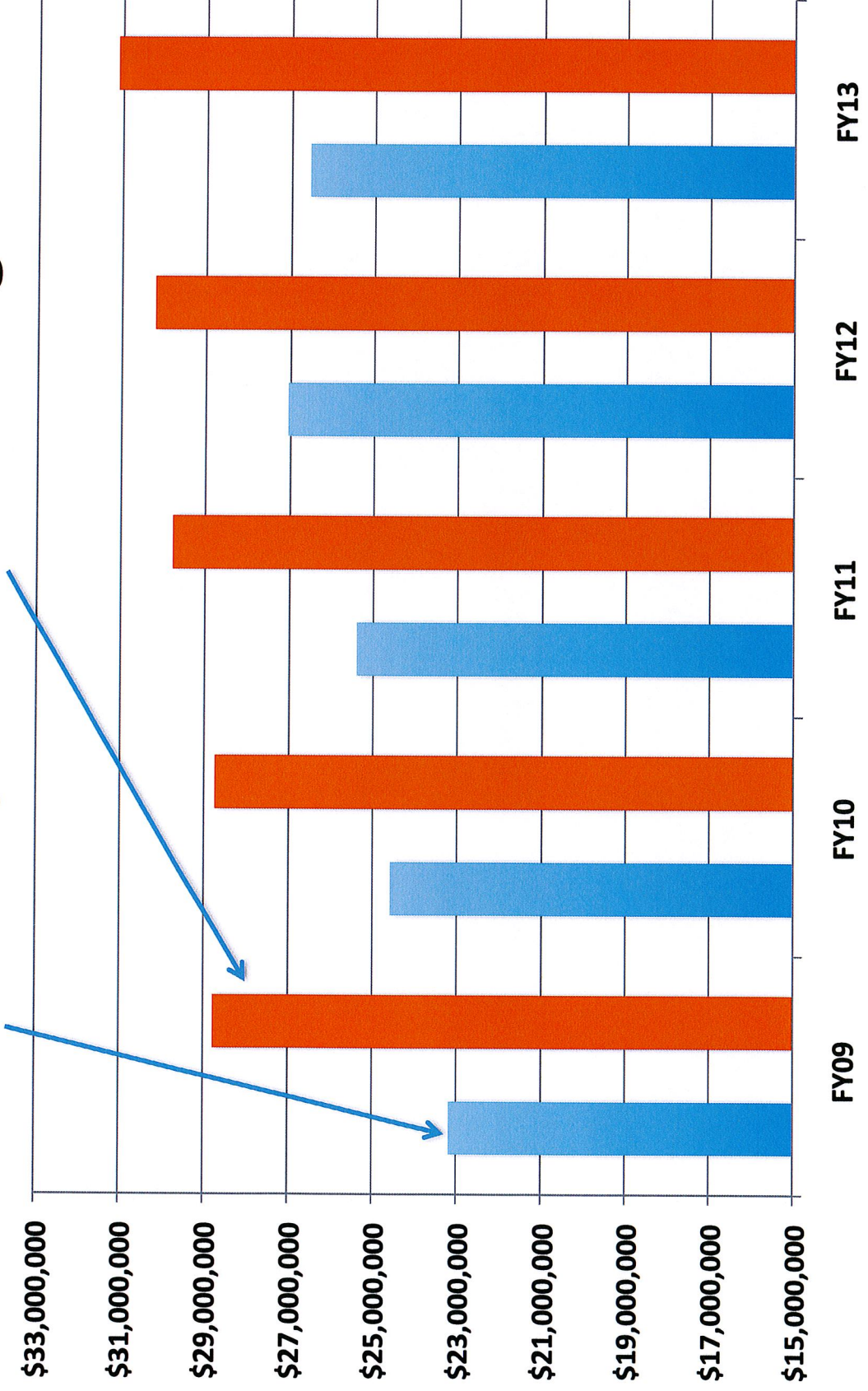


# Student Enrollment FY06-FY14

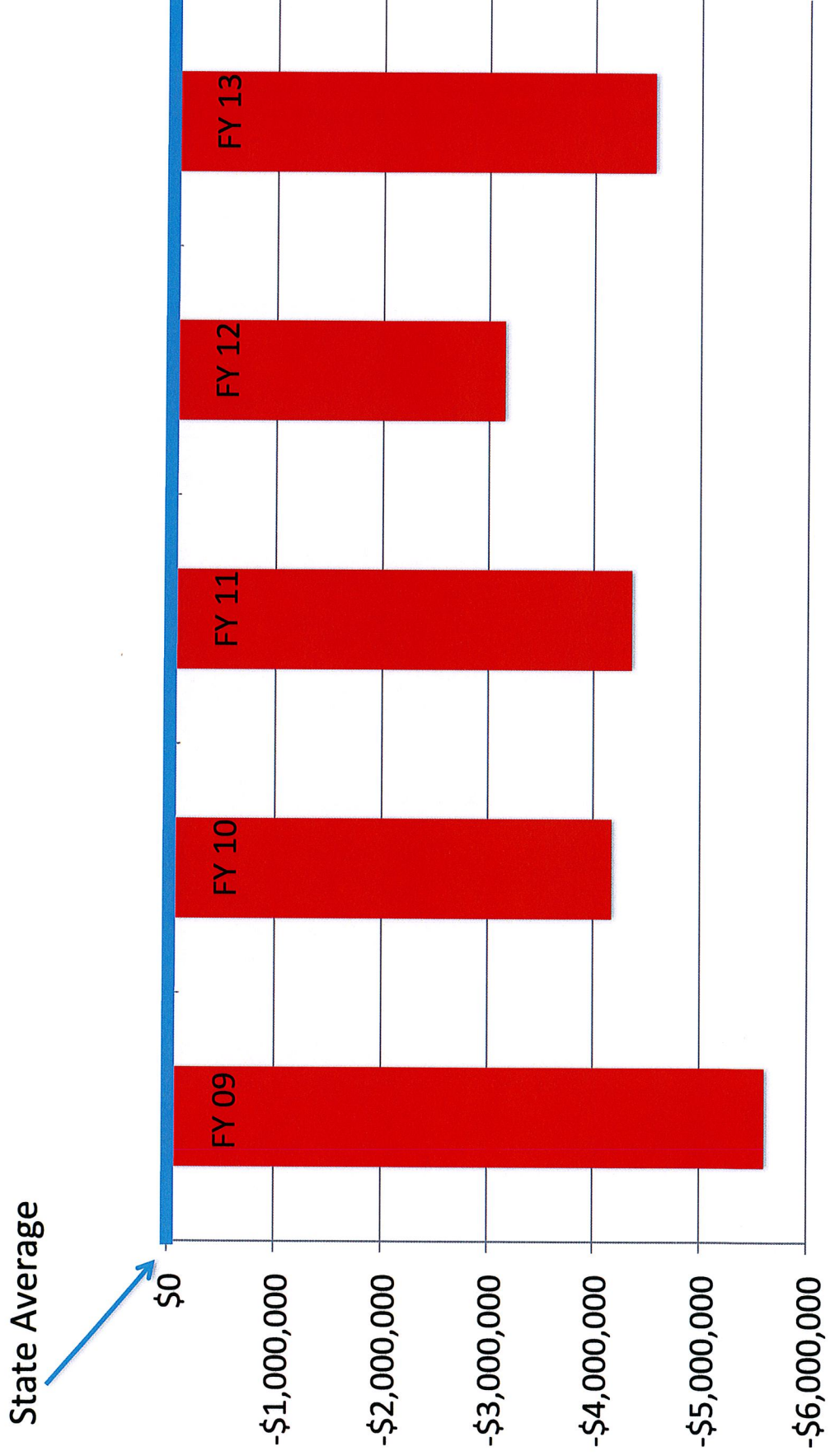




# Total Teacher Salaries: Shrewsbury vs. State Average



# Teacher Salaries Difference: Shrewsbury vs. State Average



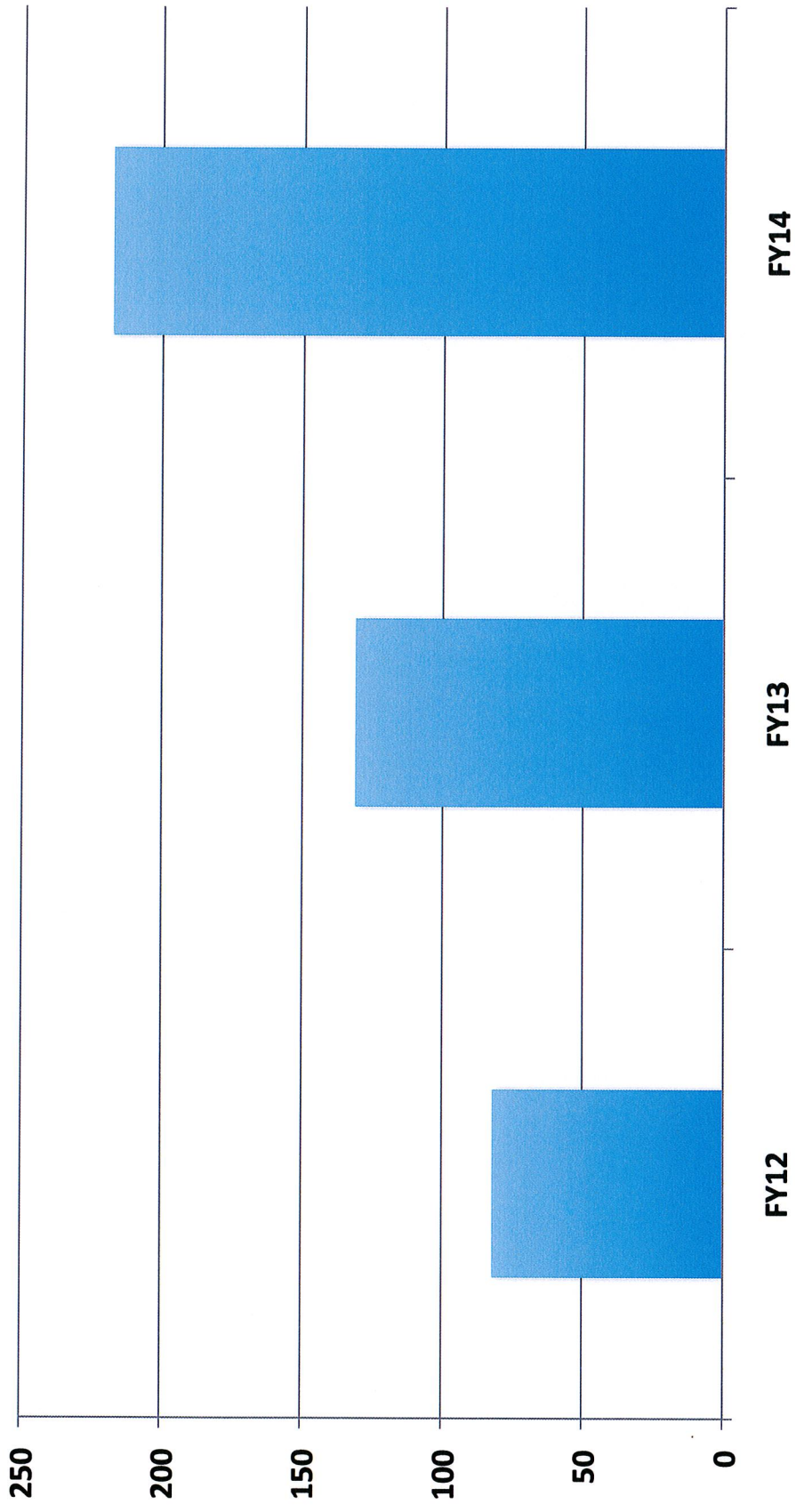
# **Salary Sustainability**

**Total positions to be added = 74.4 FTE**

**Total additional cost in FY15 = \$3,738,788**

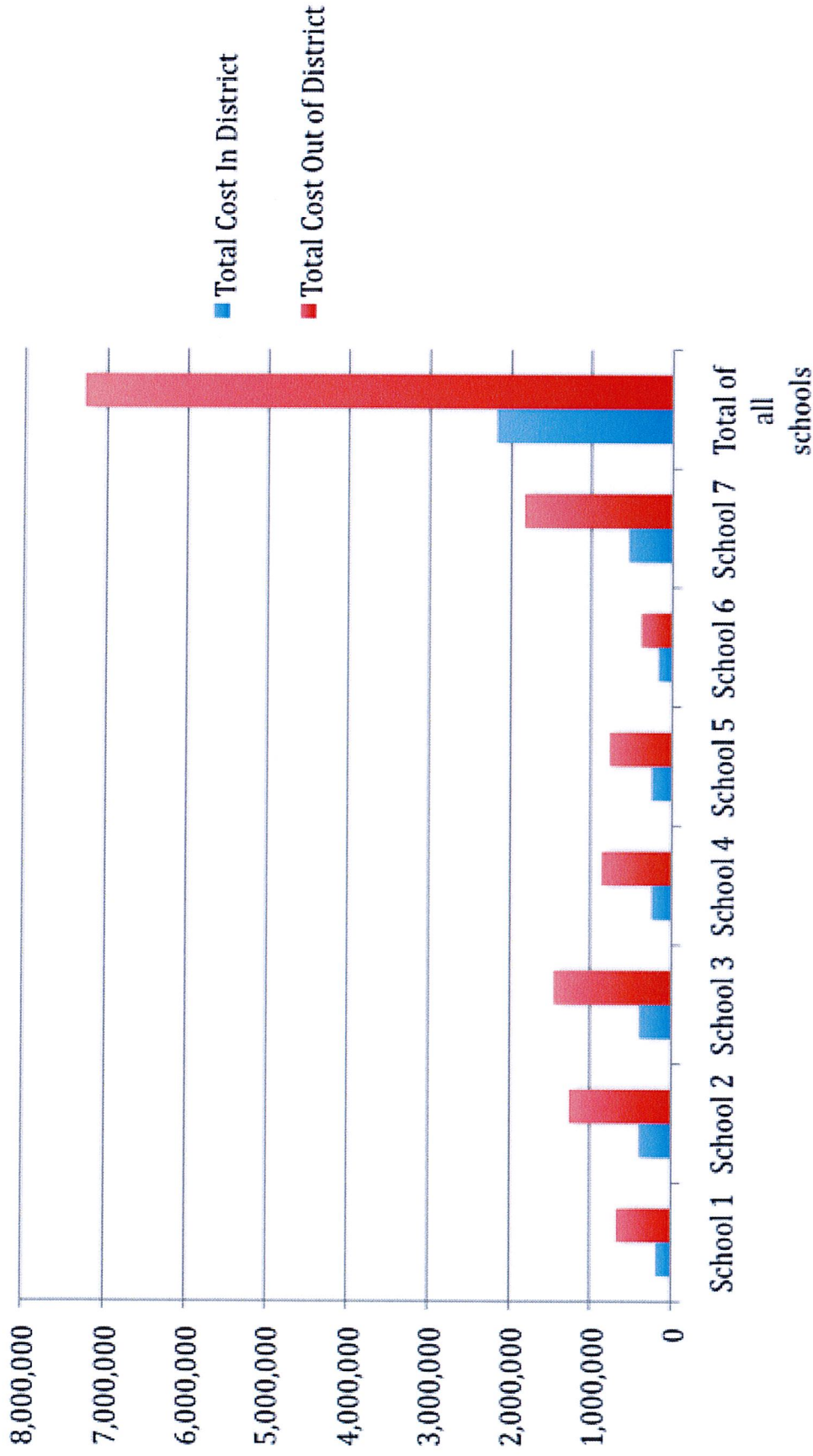
**Incremental increase to sustain these positions  
in FY16 = \$166,241**

# Special Education Referrals





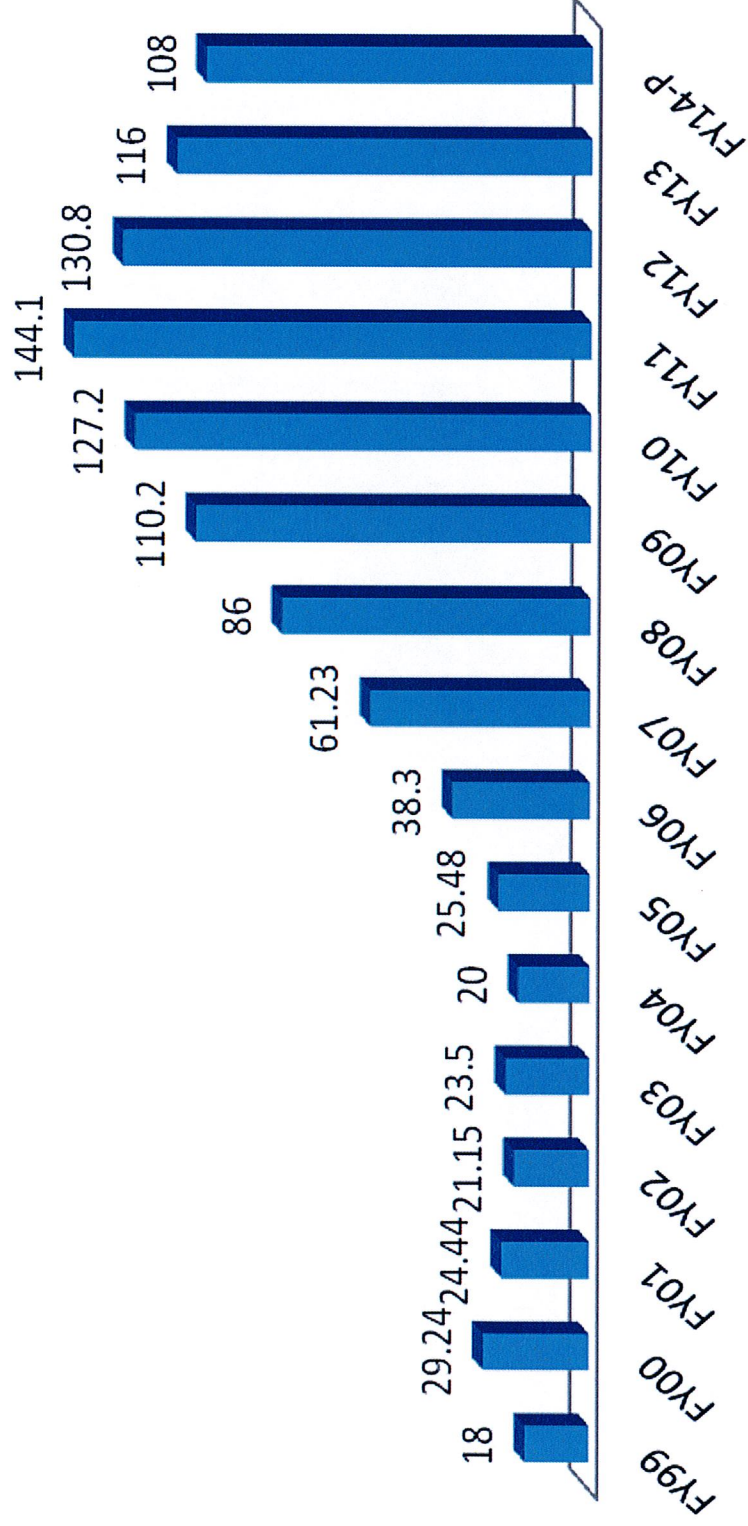
### Cost Analysis of In District Programs Versus Out of District Programs



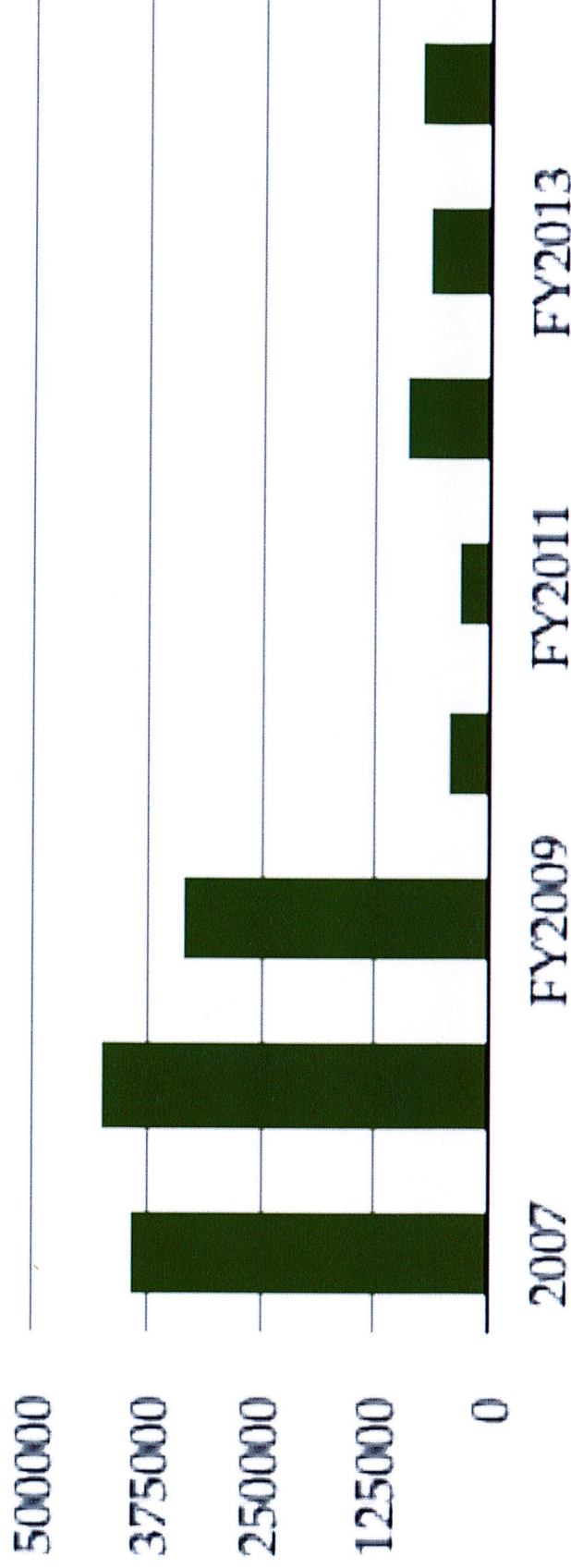
\* Net savings for in district programs after state reimbursements approximately \$2 million

# Students Attending Charter Schools

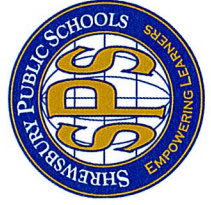
■ Students  
Advanced Math  
Coach Program Begins



# Backlog of Need for Textbooks & Instructional Materials

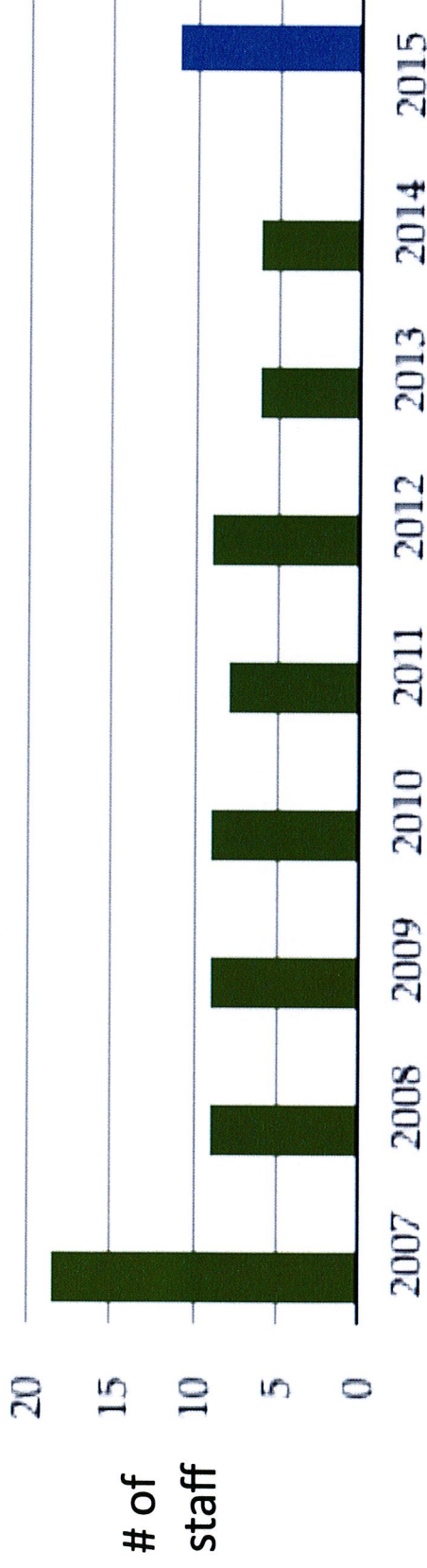


*Shrewsbury Funding for Text Books and Instructional Materials*





# History of PreK – 8 Curriculum and Instruction Positions



Fiscal Year Budgeted Positions







SHREWSBURY PUBLIC SCHOOLS  
SCHOOL COMMITTEE



ITEM NO: **VIII. Old Business**

MEETING DATE: **5/28/14**

SPECIFIC STATEMENT OR QUESTION:

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

ACTION RECOMMENDED:

STAFF AVAILABLE FOR PRESENTATION:



SHREWSBURY PUBLIC SCHOOLS  
SCHOOL COMMITTEE



ITEM NO: **IX. New Business**

MEETING DATE: **5/28/14**

SPECIFIC STATEMENT OR QUESTION:

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

ACTION RECOMMENDED:

STAFF AVAILABLE FOR PRESENTATION:

STAFF AND OTHERS AVAILABLE FOR PRESENTATION:



SHREWSBURY PUBLIC SCHOOLS  
SCHOOL COMMITTEE



ITEM NO: **X. Approval of Minutes**

MEETING DATE: **5/28/14**

SPECIFIC STATEMENT OR QUESTION:

Will the School Committee approve the minutes of the School Committee workshop meetings on August 14, November 13 & December 11, 2013 and January 15, March 3, March 17, April 2 & April 28, 2014?

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

1. The minutes are enclosed.

ACTION RECOMMENDED:

That the School Committee vote to approve the minutes of the School Committee workshop meetings on August 14, November 13 & December 11, 2013 and January 15, March 3, March 17, April 2 & April 28, 2014.

STAFF AVAILABLE FOR PRESENTATION:

Mr. Jason Palitsch, former Secretary

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

**MINUTES OF SCHOOL COMMITTEE WORKSHOP  
PRINCIPAL'S CONFERENCE ROOM, SHREWSBURY HIGH SCHOOL**

**AUGUST 14, 2013**

Workshop convened at 3:07 PM.

**Present:** Ms. Sandra Fryc, Chairperson; Mr. John Samia, Vice Chairperson; Mr. Jason Palitsch, Secretary; Ms. Erin Canzano; Dr. B. Dale Magee; Dr. Joseph Sawyer, Superintendent of Schools; Ms. Mary Beth Banios, Assistant Superintendent of Schools; Ms. Barbara Malone, Director of Human Resources; Mr. Liam Hurley, Director of Business Services; and Ms. Melissa Maguire, Director of Special Education and Pupil Personnel.

**Issue:** Calendar for Upcoming Year

**Discussion:** Dr. Sawyer updated the committee with regard to a proposed calendar for the committee for the coming school year. Dr. Sawyer recommended moving the regular meeting of May 28<sup>th</sup> to June 4<sup>th</sup>, and discussed with the committee the placement of a professional development day on the Friday of the first week of school. Dr. Sawyer explained that the professional development day needed to occur early in the year in order to comply with a state mandate. Mr. Samia, Ms. Canzano, and Mr. Palitsch asked clarifying questions.

On a motion from Dr. Magee, seconded by Ms. Canzano, the committee voted unanimously to set Friday, August 30<sup>th</sup>, 2013 as a Professional Development Day with no school for students.

**Issue:** FY15 Budget Priorities and Timeline

**Discussion:** Dr. Sawyer presented the committee with a draft timeline for development of the Fiscal Year 2015 budget. The committee discussed the timeline, as well as the possibility of creating fiscal policies, similar in nature to those created annually by the Board of Selectmen. The committee discussed the creation of a subcommittee to develop fiscal policies for FY15, and present a draft at the first regular School Committee meeting of the year on September 11. A discussion was held on this topic, as well as on messaging for the FY15 budget in general; consensus was reached on the creation of the subcommittee, and on the creation of fiscal policies.

**Issue:** Executive Session

**Discussion:** At 4:33 PM, on a motion from Ms. Canzano, seconded by Dr. Magee, the committee voted to enter into Executive Session for the purpose of negotiations with the SEA, and return to Open Session only for the purpose of adjourning for the evening. Roll Call Vote: Dr. Magee, yes; Ms. Canzano, yes; Mr. Palitsch, yes; Mr. Samia, yes; Ms. Fryc, yes.

**Issue:** Adjournment

**Discussion:** On a motion by Dr. Magee, seconded by Mr. Samia, the meeting was adjourned at 5:10 PM. Roll Call Vote: Dr. Magee, yes; Ms. Canzano, yes; Mr. Samia, yes; Ms. Fryc, yes.



Respectfully submitted,

Jason Palitsch  
Secretary

Addendum: Proposed calendar for 2013-2014 school year  
Draft from Dr. Sawyer RE proposed FY15 budget timeline

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

**MINUTES OF SCHOOL COMMITTEE WORKSHOP  
PRINCIPAL'S CONFERENCE ROOM, SHREWSBURY HIGH SCHOOL**

**NOVEMBER 13, 2013**

Workshop convened at 6:07 PM.

**Present:** Ms. Sandra Fryc, Chairperson; Mr. John Samia, Vice Chairperson; Mr. Jason Palitsch, Secretary; Ms. Erin Canzano; Dr. B. Dale Magee; Dr. Joseph Sawyer, Superintendent of Schools; Ms. Mary Beth Banios, Assistant Superintendent of Schools; Ms. Barbara Malone, Director of Human Resources; Mr. Liam Hurley, Director of Business Services; Ms. Melissa Maguire, Director of Special Education and Pupil Personnel; Mr. Jonathan Green, Director of Instructional Technologies

**Issue:** Fiscal Year 2015 Budget

**Discussion:** Dr. Sawyer updated the committee with regard to early work on a proposed Fiscal Year 2015 budget. The budget to be constructed will address all of the committee's priorities. Very early estimates of potential cost drivers include \$1.2 million in teacher salary increased (contract with the SEA under negotiation); \$250,000 in operational increases; \$1.75 million to address class sizes; \$550,000 to address technology infrastructure; \$110,000 for technology support personnel; \$54,000 to \$60,000 for an Assistive Tech. for Special Education; approximately \$500,000 for various Special Education positions; \$550,000 for updated math curriculum; \$270,000 for math curriculum coordinators (three); and approximately \$200,000 for compensation increases for non-represented employees. In total, this early estimate indicates the need for a \$5,533,000 increase, or 10.9%. The committee held a discussion relative to FY15 budget planning, priorities, and concerns.

**Motion to close Executive Session and enter into Open Session:** Ms. Canzano; Second, Dr. Magee. Roll Call Vote: Dr. Magee, yes; Ms. Canzano, yes; Mr. Palitsch, yes; Mr. Samia, yes; Ms. Fryc, yes.

Executive Session closed at 7:32 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Jason Palitsch  
Secretary

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

**MINUTES OF SCHOOL COMMITTEE WORKSHOP  
CONFERENCE ROOM, SHERWOOD MIDDLE SCHOOL**

**DECEMBER 11, 2013**

Workshop convened at 6:05 PM.

**Present:** Ms. Sandra Fryc, Chairperson; Mr. John Samia, Vice Chairperson; Mr. Jason Palitsch, Secretary; Ms. Erin Canzano; Dr. B. Dale Magee; Dr. Joseph Sawyer, Superintendent of Schools; Ms. Mary Beth Banios, Assistant Superintendent of Schools; Ms. Barbara Malone, Director of Human Resources; Mr. Liam Hurley, Director of Business Services; Mr. James Toomey, Legal Counsel to Shrewsbury Public Schools

**Issue:** Executive Session

**Discussion:** At 6:06 PM, on a motion from Ms. Canzano, seconded by Dr. Magee, the committee voted to enter into Executive Session for the purpose of negotiations with the SEA. Roll Call Vote: Mr. Samia, yes; Mr. Palitsch, yes; Ms. Canzano, yes; Dr. Magee, yes; Ms. Fryc, yes.

Executive Session was closed at 7:25 PM.

**Issue:** Adjournment

**Discussion:** At 7:26 PM, on a motion from Dr. Magee seconded by Ms. Canzano, the committee voted to adjourn the workshop. Roll Call Vote: Mr. Samia, yes; Mr. Palitsch, yes; Ms. Canzano, yes; Dr. Magee, yes; Ms. Fryc, yes.

Respectfully submitted,

Jason Palitsch  
Secretary

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

**MINUTES OF SCHOOL COMMITTEE WORKSHOP  
CONFERENCE ROOM, SHERWOOD MIDDLE SCHOOL**

**JANUARY 15, 2014**

Workshop convened at 6:06 PM.

**Present:** Ms. Sandra Fryc, Chairperson; Mr. John Samia, Vice Chairperson; Mr. Jason Palitsch, Secretary; Ms. Erin Canzano; Dr. Joseph Sawyer, Superintendent of Schools; Ms. Mary Beth Banios, Assistant Superintendent of Schools; Ms. Barbara Malone, Director of Human Resources; Mr. Liam Hurley, Director of Business Services; Ms. Melissa Maguire, Director of Special Education and Pupil Personnel; Mr. Jon Green, Director of Instructional Technologies

**Issue:** Executive Session

**Discussion:** At 6:06 PM, on a motion from Ms. Canzano, seconded by Mr. Samia, the committee voted to enter into Executive Session for the purpose of negotiations with the SEA. Roll Call Vote: Mr. Samia, yes; Mr. Palitsch, yes; Ms. Canzano, yes; Ms. Fryc, yes.

Executive Session was closed at 6:25 PM.

**Issue:** Fiscal Year 2015 Budget Discussion

**Discussion:** Dr. Sawyer provided the committee with an update regarding the Fiscal Year 2015 budget. Dr. Sawyer outlined his initial recommendation for the department's FY15 budget, with central office staff offering input on their respective areas. Dr. Sawyer recommended a total increase of \$8,315,995 over the FY14 budget, or an increase of 15.97%. The committee asked clarifying questions, and held a discussion relative to the proposed budget. Though the committee felt the proposed increase was large, there was consensus that the items featured were essential, and that the high cost was a result of a failure to address school department needs over a period of years. Members of the committee were supportive of the proposal.

**Issue:** New Business

**Discussion:** Ms. Fryc provided the committee with an update regarding potentially disturbing comments made by a resident during a taped television program, which aired on the Shrewsbury Media Connection, relative to the School Committee. Ms. Fryc indicated that she intended to send a letter to the Shrewsbury Police Department regarding the matter, as a precautionary measure.

**Issue:** Adjournment

**Discussion:** At 8:21 PM, on a motion from Ms. Canzano, seconded by Mr. Samia, the committee voted to adjourn the workshop. Roll Call Vote: Mr. Samia, yes; Mr. Palitsch, yes; Ms. Canzano, yes; Ms. Fryc, yes.

Respectfully submitted,



Jason Palitsch  
Secretary

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

**MINUTES OF SCHOOL COMMITTEE WORKSHOP  
CONFERENCE ROOM, SHERWOOD MIDDLE SCHOOL**

**MARCH 3, 2014**

Workshop convened at 6:04 PM.

**Present:** Ms. Sandra Fryc, Chairperson; Mr. John Samia, Vice Chairperson; Mr. Jason Palitsch, Secretary; Ms. Erin Canzano; Dr. B. Dale Magee; Dr. Joseph Sawyer, Superintendent of Schools; Ms. Mary Beth Banios, Assistant Superintendent of Schools; Mr. Liam Hurley, Director of Business Services; and Ms. Melissa Maguire, Director of Special Education and Pupil Personnel.

Mr. Jonathan Green, Director of Instructional Technologies, arrived at 6:19 PM.

**Issue:** Fiscal Year 2015 Budget

**Discussion:** Dr. Sawyer updated the committee with regard to a revised FY15 budget proposal. Members of the senior leadership team each provided the committee with updates regarding the proposed budget as it relates to their own departments. The committee held a discussion relative to the revised proposal; there was general consensus that reductions in the proposal, as compared to the Superintendent's previous proposal, were too severe and might potentially fail to address the long-term needs of the district.

The committee held a general discussion relative to the FY15 budget, including strategy and preferences regarding fees and tuitions.

**Motion to adjourn for the evening:** Dr. Magee; Second, Ms. Canzano. Roll Call Vote: Dr. Magee, yes; Ms. Canzano, yes; Mr. Palitsch, yes; Mr. Samia, yes; Ms. Fryc, yes.

Executive Session closed at 7:53 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Jason Palitsch  
Secretary

Addendum: Document regarding class sizes  
Document outlining changes to proposed FY15 budget

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

**MINUTES OF SCHOOL COMMITTEE WORKSHOP  
PRINCIPAL'S CONFERENCE ROOM, SHREWSBURY HIGH SCHOOL**

**MARCH 17, 2014**

Workshop convened at 6:08 PM.

**Present:** Ms. Sandra Fryc, Chairperson; Mr. John Samia, Vice Chairperson; Mr. Jason Palitsch, Secretary; Ms. Erin Canzano; Dr. B. Dale Magee; Dr. Joseph Sawyer, Superintendent of Schools; Ms. Mary Beth Banios, Assistant Superintendent of Schools; Ms. Barbara Malone, Director of Human Resources; Mr. Liam Hurley, Director of Business Services; Ms. Melissa Maguire, Director of Special Education and Pupil Personnel; and Mr. Jonathan Green, Director of Instructional Technologies.

**Issue:** Fiscal Year 2015 Budget

**Discussion:** Dr. Sawyer updated the committee with regard to a revised FY15 budget proposal. Dr. Sawyer's proposal reflected a total FY15 budget request of \$58,728,708, as compared with a \$59,840,082 request outlined in January. Members of the senior leadership team each provided the committee with updates regarding the revised budget proposal as it related to their own departments. The committee asked clarifying questions held a discussion relative to the revised proposal; there was general consensus that the revised proposal was the appropriate way to move forward.

**Issue:** New Business

**Discussion:** The committee held a general discussion relative to the FY15 budget, and reached a general consensus that the budget hearing scheduled for March 26<sup>th</sup> should be cancelled. A consensus was also reached that an additional School Committee meeting be scheduled for April 9<sup>th</sup>.

**Motion to adjourn for the evening:** Ms. Canzano; Second, Mr. Samia. Roll Call Vote: Dr. Magee, yes; Ms. Canzano, yes; Mr. Palitsch, yes; Mr. Samia, yes; Ms. Fryc, yes.

Adjournment occurred at 7:48 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Jason Palitsch  
Secretary

Addendum: Document outlining changes to proposed FY15 budget

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

**MINUTES OF SCHOOL COMMITTEE WORKSHOP  
PRINCIPAL'S CONFERENCE ROOM, SHREWSBURY HIGH SCHOOL**

**APRIL 2, 2014**

Workshop convened at 6:06 PM.

**Present:** Ms. Sandra Fryc, Chairperson; Mr. John Samia, Vice Chairperson; Mr. Jason Palitsch, Secretary; Ms. Erin Canzano; Dr. B. Dale Magee; Dr. Joseph Sawyer, Superintendent of Schools.

**Issue:** Fiscal Year 2015 Budget

**Discussion:** The committee and Dr. Sawyer held a discussion relative to the proposed Fiscal Year 2015 School Department budget. Discussion points included potential cost savings relative to the upgrading of math curriculum, the committee's ranking of budgetary priorities, potentially deferring expenses or phasing others in, the sustainability of the proposal, the possibility that reductions to the existing program might have to be made, key arguments to make the case for additional resources, and communications strategy.

Ongoing negotiations with the vendor for the updated math curriculum held the strong potential to drive down costs; further, some professional development aspects of this budgetary request were going to have to be accomplished within the current year's budget, as opposed to next year's. Dr. Sawyer estimated a potential savings on the earlier budget proposal of \$374,000, however the negotiations were ongoing.

The committee felt, based on the recommendation of Dr. Sawyer, that the upgrade to the math curriculum should move forward next year, regardless of whether or not an operational override is achieved to generate new revenues. Upgrading the math curriculum, the committee felt, had become a necessity or a "mandate in practice" if not by law.

The committee also held a discussion relative to a request by the Board of Selectmen to further rank the priorities in the proposed School Department budget; the committee felt that dividing the request into four broad categories (legal mandates, class sizes, curriculum, and Special Education/technology) – similar to the committee's priorities outlined in its FY 2015 Fiscal Policy document – was appropriate, however committee members expressed reservations that further or more explicit ranking was not appropriate. There was consensus that line items in the budget request were not mutually exclusive, and that other boards had sufficient information to make needed decisions.

It was noted that the School Committee would meet with the Finance Committee on April 3.

**Motion to adjourn for the evening:** Ms. Canzano; Second, Mr. Samia. Roll Call Vote: Dr. Magee, yes; Ms. Canzano, yes; Mr. Palitsch, yes; Mr. Samia, yes; Ms. Fryc, yes.

Adjournment occurred at 7:34 PM.

Respectfully submitted,



Jason Palitsch  
Secretary

Addendum: "Budget workshop discussion points" from Dr. Sawyer  
Document outlining 2014-2015 Projected Enrollment and Grade Configuration

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

**MINUTES OF SCHOOL COMMITTEE WORKSHOP  
PRINCIPAL'S CONFERENCE ROOM, SHREWSBURY HIGH SCHOOL**

**APRIL 28, 2014**

Workshop convened at 6:07 PM.

**Present:** Ms. Sandra Fryc, Chairperson; Mr. John Samia, Vice Chairperson; Mr. Jason Palitsch, Secretary; Ms. Erin Canzano; Dr. B. Dale Magee; Dr. Joseph Sawyer, Superintendent of Schools; Ms. Mary Beth Banios, Assistant Superintendent of Schools; Ms. Barbara Malone, Director of Human Resources; Mr. Liam Hurley, Director of Business Services.

**Issue:** Fiscal Year 2015 Budget

**Discussion:** Dr. Sawyer updated the committee with regard to the proposed Fiscal Year 2015 School Department budget. He informed the committee that legally mandated costs had decreased somewhat from earlier projections. He also provided the committee with two revised budget scenarios: one proposal in the event that the \$5.5 million operational override placed on a June 3<sup>rd</sup> ballot by the Board of Selectmen were to pass, and another in the event that it did not. \$4.2 million of the \$5.5 million override would be directed towards School Department costs, including the benefits for newly hired educators.

Dr. Sawyer outlined each proposed scenario in detail to the committee; other Central Office staff present spoke as to how each recommendation would impact their respective departments.

Dr. Sawyer's proposed budget in a non-override scenario left a further gap of \$742,670 that would need to be closed. Committee members felt that harming or cutting educational programming in an attempt to address the class size crisis in a non-override scenario was inappropriate, and that if the community did not chose to embrace additional resources needed to support reductions in class size, that further harming the program to achieve that goal was not the appropriate path to follow.

The committee held a general discussion relative to members' thoughts on each scenario.

**Issue:** New Business

**Discussion:** There was general consensus that a School Committee meeting should be added for May 28.

**Motion to adjourn for the evening:** Ms. Canzano; Second, Dr. Magee. Roll Call Vote: Dr. Magee, yes; Ms. Canzano, yes; Mr. Palitsch, yes; Mr. Samia, yes; Ms. Fryc, yes.

Adjournment occurred at 8:29 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Jason Palitsch

Secretary

Addendum: Document outlining Dr. Sawyer's recommended budget in the event of a non-override scenario, and in the event of an override

2014-2015 Projected Enrollment and Grade Configuration, Non-Override Scenario

2014-2015 Projected Enrollment and Grade Configuration, Yes Override Scenario



SHREWSBURY PUBLIC SCHOOLS  
SCHOOL COMMITTEE



ITEM NO: **XII. Executive Session**

MEETING DATE: **5/28/14**

SPECIFIC STATEMENT OR QUESTION:

Will the School Committee enter into executive session for the purpose of 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: 5/28/14

SPECIFIC STATEMENT OR QUESTION:

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

ACTION RECOMMENDED:

STAFF AVAILABLE FOR PRESENTATION:

