



# Shrewsbury Public Schools

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Correction re: state teacher data report

Twice each year, Massachusetts school districts must submit a data report called the “Education and Personnel Information Management System” report, or “EPIMS.” For our school district, this report involves submission of a spreadsheet with over 38,000 data points including teacher identifiers connected to class section identifiers, licensure information, etc.

This fall, it came to our attention that the data submitted for the FY13 report included an error regarding the number of full time equivalent teachers. We investigated this and determined that a formula error in the spreadsheet resulted in the full time equivalent number of teachers being underreported. We determined what the correct number should have been and reported it last fall to the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE); to date, they have not corrected the data on their website despite multiple requests. **The number of Shrewsbury teachers published on the DESE website for FY13 is 286.4 full time equivalent (FTE) positions, when the number should be 360.0 FTE. The DESE also shows a student/teacher ratio of 21.0 to 1 (401<sup>st</sup> highest ratio out of 403 districts and charter districts), when it should be 16.7 to 1 (390<sup>th</sup> highest ratio out of 403 districts and charter districts).** See [this link](#) on the DESE website for this information.

It is very important to me that we provide the most accurate, transparent data to the public. In this spirit, we have posted the corrected version of the raw FTE data for the state EPIMS staffing report – click [here](#) to see this data. Because it is raw data that is converted by the state’s EPIMS system, only the FTE for all district positions is totaled at the bottom of the spreadsheet.

Please note that this past fall, the School Department also presented and published its annual report on staffing as of October 1. Unlike the EPIMS report, which separates out teachers in multiple categories based on who the teacher of record is for various class sections based on a variety of criteria, our local report reflects staffing in categories that are more in line with what a typical understanding of teaching assignments would be and doesn’t mix together typical classroom teachers, special education teachers, and other teachers the way the state report does. This report has been published on our website since the fall (click [here](#) for a link to this report along with slide presentations other information on staffing and class sizes).

Again, transparency and accuracy is very important to everyone in the Shrewsbury Public Schools. I apologize for any confusion that our reporting error to the state caused. Please don’t hesitate to contact me if you have any questions about this information.