



# Shrewsbury Public Schools

## Patrick C. Collins, Assistant Superintendent for Finance & Operations

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9 March 2016

To: School Committee

Subj: VOTE TO SUPPORT SPECIAL TOWN MEETING WARRANT ARTICLE #1:  
REPAIRS TO SPRING STREET SCHOOL AND PATON SCHOOL HEATING & VENTILATION SYSTEMS

Mr. Bob Cox, Superintendent of Public Buildings will make a brief report at your March 14<sup>th</sup> meeting on these projects. The information below provides some general information on these much-needed capital repairs.

### **BACKGROUND**

The heating and ventilation systems at both Spring Street School and Paton School are mostly original equipment and over 40 years in age. Replacement of these systems is imperative for future reliability and will also result in cost efficiencies inherent in new equipment. The current systems are at the end of their life cycle.

### **GENERAL SCOPE OF WORK**

At Paton School the existing gas-fired boiler will be replaced and the electrical system for the entire building will be upgraded at the same time as well. New unit heating and ventilating systems will be installed in each classroom and all other spaces throughout the building with the exception of the portable classrooms. The portable classrooms each have their own dedicated heating and ventilating system atop the classroom roof.

At Spring Street School the existing electrical heating system will be converted to a gas-fired, hot-water system. The existing garage will be converted to house the boiler/mechanical room. New unit heating and ventilating systems will be installed in each classroom and all other spaces throughout the building with the exception of the portable classrooms. However, the existing units atop each portable classroom will be connected to the new gas service and new gas-fired units installed as well. A new gas line will be installed but it is still not determined if it will connect to the main line on Spring Street or Lantern Lane.

### **TIMELINE**

Project bids open on March 30<sup>th</sup> and the town will have thirty days to execute a contract(s). Each project is being bid separately but one vendor could win both bids. Provided the warrant article appropriating the \$3.5M funding is approved at the April 13<sup>th</sup> Special Town Meeting, preliminary work will begin in April. Some utility work and limited demolition work is planned for April and May and we expect no disruption to school operations from this work. The main effort will begin when the school year is completed near the end of June and finish before school re-opens for the 2016-2017 school year. It is expected that building controls and system balancing/testing will still be ongoing during the month of September. The system will be ready for the heating season that typically begins in October.

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## **LOGISTICAL CONSIDERATIONS**

We have had some preliminary planning meetings with Public Buildings staff to discuss school impacts. We will be packing up many materials and removing all wall hangings in both schools. The schools will be “shut-down” and not accessible by staff during the summer with limited exceptions. We do plan to continue having the kindergarten orientations at each school in August for incoming kindergarten students but we will limit access to specified spaces. All outside rentals or camps have been re-directed to other facilities.

## **VOTE TO SUPPORT SPECIAL TOWN MEETING WARRANT ARTICLE #1**

Inserted below is the Special Town Meeting warrant article #1 language. I recommend that school committee vote to affirm your support of the project and this warrant article.

### *ARTICLE 1*

*To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate a sum of money to fund the repair and replacement of the heating systems and all related appurtenances or any other costs incidental or related thereto including professional fees at the Spring Street School and Walter J. Paton School; to authorize the Town to apply for and accept any grants or loans available for the project; to determine how such sum is to be raised, whether by appropriation, transfer from available funds in the treasury and/or by borrowing under the provisions of General Laws, Chapter 44, Section 7(3A), as amended, or any other enabling authority, and to issue bonds or notes of the Town therefore, or to take any other action in relation hereto.*

### **Recommended Motion:**

*I move that the school support the Special Town meeting Warrant Article #1.*