

**School Committee  
Meeting**

**May 6, 2015  
7:00 pm**

**Town Hall  
Selectmen's Meeting Room**



SHREWSBURY PUBLIC SCHOOLS  
SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING  
AGENDA  
May 6, 2015 7:00pm  
Town Hall – Selectmen’s Meeting Room



<u>Items</u>	<u>Suggested time allotments</u>
I. Election of Officers	7:00 –7:05
II. Public Participation	7:05 – 7:10
III. Chairperson’s Report & Members’ Reports	
IV. Superintendent’s Report	
V. Time Scheduled Appointments	
A. Shrewsbury High School Senior Scholars: Presentation	7:10 – 7:40
B. Charter School Enrollment: Report	7:40 – 8:05
VI. Curriculum	
VII. Policy	
VIII. Budget	
A. Fiscal Year 2015 Budget Update: Report	8:05 – 8:15
IX. Old Business	
X. New Business	
XI. Approval of Minutes	8:15 – 8:20
XII. Executive Session	8:20 – 8:45
A. Potential discussion of collective bargaining negotiations with cafeteria workers association and/or paraprofessionals association	
XIII. Adjournment	8:45

Next regularly scheduled meeting: May 13, 2015



**SHREWSBURY PUBLIC SCHOOLS**  
School Committee



ITEM NO: **I. Election of Officers**

MEETING DATE: 5/6/15

The Superintendent of Schools will call the May 6<sup>th</sup> meeting to order according to the guidelines of School Committee policy 112 (see below) for the first meeting following town election.

<p><u>112.</u> Meeting For Organization</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. The School Committee shall organize and elect a chairperson and officers annually, at the first meeting following town election. This meeting shall be held on the next regularly scheduled meeting following the annual election of town officers, unless otherwise voted by the School Committee. The officers to be elected at this meeting are: Chairperson, Vice-Chairperson, and Secretary.</li><li>2. The members shall be called together at the organization meeting by the Superintendent of Schools. The Superintendent shall accept nominations for Chairperson of the Committee and turn the meeting over to the Chairperson after that election has been held.</li></ol>
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ITEM NO: **II Public Participation**

**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.



**SHREWSBURY PUBLIC SCHOOLS**  
School Committee



**ITEM NO: III. Chairperson's Report/Members' Reports**

**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: IV. 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: V. **Time Scheduled Appointment**  
A. **SHS Senior Scholars: Recognition**

MEETING DATE: 5/6/2015

SPECIFIC STATEMENT OR QUESTION:

Will the School Committee recognize the students ranked in the top ten for academic performance in the Shrewsbury High School Class of 2015?

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

1. Each year the School Committee recognizes the ten senior students with the highest grade point averages in their class. A brief biographical sketch of each is provided in the enclosed report.
2. Each senior will be introduced and will briefly comment on her/his school experience and future plans.
3. Each senior will be presented with an award from the school district in recognition of her/his accomplishments.

ACTION RECOMMENDED:

That the School Committee hear the presentation and recognize the SHS 2015 Senior Scholars.

STAFF AVAILABLE FOR PRESENTATION:

STAFF AND OTHERS AVAILABLE FOR PRESENTATION:

Dr. Joseph M. Sawyer, Superintendent of Schools  
Mr. Todd Bazydlo, Principal, Shrewsbury High School

## **SHS Senior Scholars, Class of 2015**

### **1. Hannah Eckstrom**

Hannah Eckstrom is an outstanding student with a GPA of 5.189 and a cumulative percentile of 0.24. Hannah has distinguished herself not only through her academics but also through her activities and commitments. Moving from Pennsylvania last year has not stopped her from continuing her interests through community service and her church. As a member of a local church, she is very active in the Youth Group as she volunteers as a mentor, helping middle school girls. Her devotion to helping others is evident in her participation on multiple Mission Trips. She has immersed herself in the Shrewsbury High School community and has been chosen to be a Mentor Volunteer at our school, helping underclass students in their homerooms and providing mentoring one on one and through groups. She is musically talented and is a member of the SHS Orchestra. She was formerly a member of the York Youth Symphony Orchestra. In her junior year she was awarded the Wellesley Book Award and she is a member of the National Honor Society. Hannah plans to attend Messiah College in Pennsylvania and wishes to pursue a career as a Spanish teacher for gifted children.

### **2. Kayla Freeman**

Kayla is an outstanding young woman who has multiple accomplishments during her high school career. She is an intelligent and exceptional student, earning a 5.038 and has a 0.48 percentile. Kayla maintains an impressive academic record of challenging classes including multiple AP level classes. She is a recipient of the Harvard Book Award and has been inducted to the National Honor Society, National Math Society and the National Latin Honor Society, where she was elected treasurer. Kayla has taken on multiple leadership roles within our school and outside in the community. The one leadership role that stands out the most is her involvement with Relay for Life. Through her strong commitment and dedication, she received the "Top Youth Volunteer" award for the American Cancer Society in Central Massachusetts. Kayla's strong desire to help others is also evident in her involvement with Habitat for Humanity, and Linking Learners at Coolidge Elementary School and Spring Street School. She tutors high school students in Math and works part time for Maria Laurence and Associates. Kayla plans to double major in math and secondary education to eventually teach high school math. Kayla plans to attend Colby College in the fall.

### **3. Sonali Razdan**

"Strength does not come from physical capacity. It comes from an indomitable will". This quote from Gandhi is what Sonali Razdan lives by and exemplifies in her everyday actions. She has been involved in numerous extracurricular activities and has held many leadership positions – most notably a two year district champion and one year state finalist in girls tennis; as well as placing in the state science fair for her topic: "Producing Renewable Energy from Biowaste", and taking part in All-State and All-Eastern Honors Choir. Sonali will be part of the Class of 2019 at Cornell University in the fall.

#### **4. Ethan Wei**

Those who know Ethan Wei would describe as diligent, motivated, and resilient. He has earned a spot in the top of his class and has been recognized for excellence in several areas. His accomplishments have been recognized at the school level, through induction into the Tri-M Music Honor Society, as a member of the Science Competition Team, as a member of the Varsity tennis team, and also through his involvement with the Engineering club and the band. Ethan was part of the Science competition team that won sixth place in the "Disease Detectives" Event at the 2014 Massachusetts Science Olympiad. With his passion for science, he has decided to pursue a career in research, in the hopes of helping others combat diseases like cancer. Ethan will be attending Northeastern University in the fall and will be majoring in Biochemistry.

#### **5. Hilary Wong**

Hilary Wong is not only a top student academically, but she has also devoted time and energy to various clubs and organizations. She has also been the first to raise her hand and volunteer whenever students were asked to assist with events. Her parents describe her as honest, hard working, perseverant, friendly and outgoing. Among some of her outstanding accomplishments, she has mastered the Chinese dulcimer and the art of public speaking through Speech and Debate, participated on the Shrewsbury Public Library Advisory Team, the Mentor Volunteer Program, and represented SHS on the NEASC committee. She has won several accolades including the Smith College Book Award as a junior and has been recognized for her volunteerism. Hilary is a true leader and always has a big, infectious smile on her face. In the fall, she will be attending Northeastern University and plans on majoring in Biochemistry with a Pre-Med track.

#### **6. Margaret Gach**

Margaret is an outstanding young woman here at Shrewsbury High School. She is a stellar student and individual who has truly shined academically, socially, musically and through leading others.

Margaret has been a top student with impressive academic record taking multiple AP level classes and earning a perfect 800 on her Critical Reading (SAT) and on her US History (SAT Subject Test). In the top 1.45 % in her class, she has a GPA of 4.866. Margaret is a member of the National Honor Society where she also serves as President. She is a member of the Tri M National Honor Society. In addition, she has been President, Secretary, Fundraising Chair, and currently Publicity Chair of her Girl Scout Troop where she has been a member for 13 years. She has been instrumental in their various fundraising activities, earning enough money for the troop to travel to Switzerland to the Girl Scout/Girl Guide International Center in the Alps. Her excellent public speaking skills make her a standout as she acts as Master of Ceremonies for many of the town's scouting activities. Margaret has graduated from a two summer long Counselor-in-Training Leadership Program through the Girl Scouts, which encompasses group dynamics, and conflict resolution with young girls. Margaret continues to be a leader in the school as well

as her community. At SHS, she has excelled as a Mentor Volunteer for the past two years, as she has mentored freshman and sophomore students. Margaret holds leadership positions in the Robotics Team, Speech and Debate and NHS. Margaret will be attending Georgetown University.

**7. Grant Xu**

Grant Xu has had tremendous success throughout his high school career including his impressive GPA, almost perfect SAT score and being one of the founding members of the Science Team. He has also been an active member of the National Honor Society, is First Violin in the Orchestra, and competes for the Math Team. He has countless volunteer and service hours. Grant has challenged himself in AP level courses and has also self-studied for several AP exams. He has devoted energy and time to Soccer and Chess outside of school. He describes himself as determined, sarcastic, ambitious and spontaneous. Grant will be attending Carnegie Mellon University this fall and is planning on double majoring in Computer Science and Economics.

**8. Marissa Hollyer**

A member of National Honor Society and National Latin Honor Society, Marissa Hollyer earned the distinction as a National Merit Commended student. Marissa has pursued her interest in writing since freshman year by participating in the Excelsior magazine at the high school. She eventually earned a spot as Co-President of the magazine for senior year. Her passion for the written word has remained constant, even attending a young writer's workshop at Bard College. Also dear to Marissa's heart is the volunteering that she does at the elementary schools in the district. For the past two years, Marissa has volunteered once a week to Paton and Coolidge schools to tutor and connect with the students after school. Marissa plans to double major in Biology and English at Boston College in the fall.

**9. Megan Wilson**

Megan Wilson has had tremendous success throughout her high school career including her impressive GPA and involvement in SHS activities. In addition to her excellent academic record, Megan has been involved in many activities, both within the school and the outside community. A talented singer, Megan was selected to be the President of the A Cappella choir at Shrewsbury High School this year, as well as given supporting roles in the school's musical productions over the past four years. As a sophomore, Megan was part of a team that competed in the Massachusetts High School Drama Festival, where their adaptation of "What I Did Last Summer", by A.R. Gurney earned them a spot in the state finals. In addition to her singing, Megan has been a dedicated member of the crew team for the past three years and was selected in her junior year to the Mentor Volunteer program. Other volunteer work includes helping middle school students to put on a talent show and raising money for the Make A Wish Foundation. Her friends would describe her as outgoing, friendly and determined.

Megan will be attending Elon University this fall and is majoring in Biology.

**10. Sierra Decatur**

Sierra Decatur is a high achieving student who has maintained great grades and has earned highest honors every quarter. She has earned a GPA of 4.05 and is in the top 2.42 percentile of her class.

She has been inducted to the Tri M Music Honors Society, Spanish National Honors Society, and the National Honor Society where she holds the office of secretary. Sierra loves a challenge and is determined to be successful at everything that she does. She is multi talented and is involved in music, acting, sports, academics and leadership roles. Musically talented, Sierra has been in our Honors Women's Choir for the past three years. She has a passion for performing and is no stranger to our stage at Shrewsbury High School as she has participated in our musical productions. Athletics come naturally for Sierra as she sails, horseback rides and, dances. She has also been a long-term member of the SHS Volleyball Team. Sierra plans to major in interior design and business. She is excited to enter the Class of 2019 at New York University this fall.

**10. Catlain McCarthy (Tied for 10)**

"School has always been important to me so I want it to be known that I value every experience that I get, although I may not voice my thoughts in the process." As early as fifth grade, when Catlain McCarthy's teacher, Miss Lubke (now Mrs. Marcigliano), commented about qualities in Catlain that would lend themselves to being a teacher, Catlain knew she wanted to teach – witnessing learning as it happens. She feels especially inspired when surrounded by the buzz of eager and energetic children who are filled with wonder. Over the years, the connections made with children through teaching CCD classes, babysitting neighbors, coaching students as an elementary tutor and studying Child Development and ECE, in addition to Honors and AP classes, have brought Catlain to the decision to study Early Childhood Education at Bridgewater State University in the fall.



**SHREWSBURY PUBLIC SCHOOLS**  
School Committee



ITEM NO: **V. Time Scheduled Appointment**  
**B. Charter School Enrollment: Report**

MEETING DATE: 5/6/2015

**SPECIFIC STATEMENT OR QUESTION:**

Will the School Committee hear a report on student enrollment in charter schools?

**BACKGROUND INFORMATION:**

1. Under Massachusetts law, families may choose to send their children to charter schools for which their communities are eligible.
2. The enclosed report provides data regarding the number of students opting for charter schools and the financial impact on the Town of Shrewsbury.

**ACTION RECOMMENDED:**

That the School Committee hear the report and take what ever steps it deems necessary in the interests of the Shrewsbury Public Schools.

**AVAILABLE FOR PRESENTATION:**

Dr. Joseph M. Sawyer, Superintendent of Schools



May 1, 2015

To: School Committee

From: Joe Sawyer

### **Charter School Enrollment & Tuition Report**

Under Massachusetts law, families may choose to attend charter schools, which are publicly funded independent schools which operate under a charter granted by the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE), and which are governed by a board of trustees that is not publicly elected, but rather appointed by the charter school's own board. Student admission to a charter school is based on the student residing in a community that charter school serves, by lottery if seats are limited, and with students living in communities for which the school was specifically chartered and siblings of existing students receiving preference. By way of example, the Advanced Math and Science Academy charter school in Marlborough (AMSA) was chartered for students residing in Marlborough, Maynard, Hudson, and Clinton, so students from those communities receive preference for admission, but several other communities are included in their attendance area, including Shrewsbury.

The funding formula for charter schools is complex. I have included information from the DESE that explains both how tuition rates are calculated and how the state's reimbursement formula works. A simplified explanation of charter school finance is:

- the state applies the Chapter 70 foundation formula to the actual students from a particular community attending a specific charter school to arrive at a tuition cost per student (the foundation formula has different allocations for a student's grade level, socioeconomic status, special education status, etc.)
- the state then applies another formula to include an allowance for how much the sending community spends beyond the state's minimum requirement in its own public schools (i.e., percentage above required "net school spending")
- the state assesses an allowance to capture school facility costs based on a statewide average, and then provides "facilities aid" in the same amount, so this

assessment has no impact on the cost to communities

- the tuition rate derived for that cohort of students attending a particular charter school is multiplied by the number of full time equivalent students in that cohort from that community (e.g., the tuition rate established for students from Shrewsbury attending AMSA multiplied by the number of FTE students attending AMSA)
- if the total tuition charged to a district for all of its charter school attending students in the current fiscal year is greater than the previous fiscal year, the *amount of the tuition increase* is to be reimbursed by the state, with 100% of that increase reimbursed in the first year, followed by five years in which that increase is reimbursed at a 25% rate (however, the state has not fully funded the reimbursement formula in recent years)
- if a student attends a charter school after having been home schooled or in a private school, the district receives a 100% reimbursement for the first year of that individual student's tuition and no further reimbursements after that
- The table below shows the preliminary rates for the current fiscal year for Shrewsbury students attending charter schools; note how the tuition varies depending on the cohort of students, because each has different characteristics that trigger different rates in the foundation formula

## Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education

### Preliminary FY15 Rates by Charter School and Sending District (Q3)

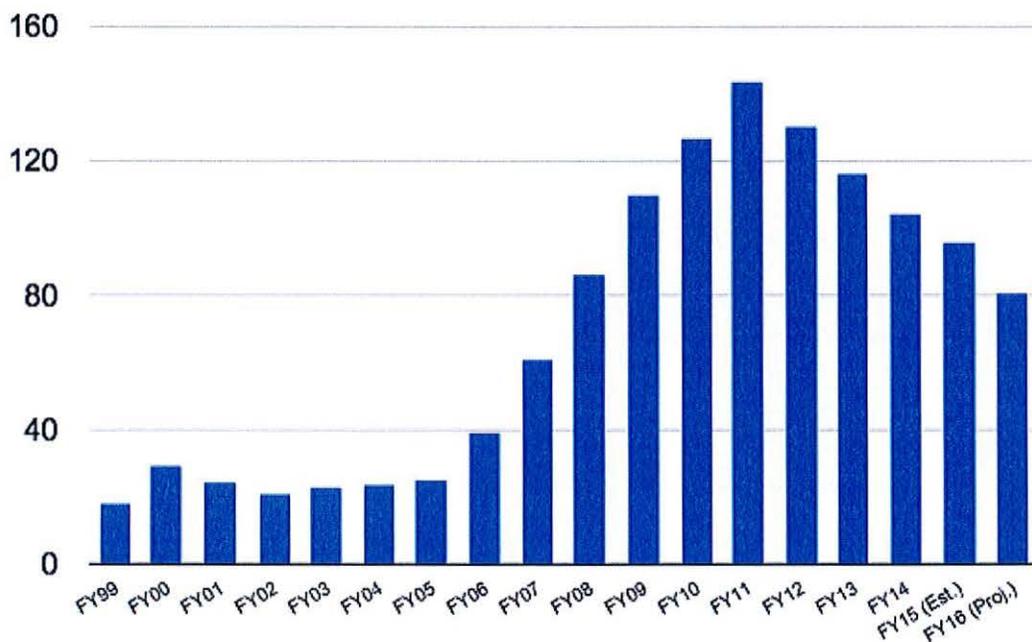
Chalocsend (charter school, district where school is located, sending district)	Cha Lea	Charter School	Campus Lea	Campus Location	Send Lea	Sending District	FTE	Foundation Base Rate	Above Foundation Spending Rate	Facilities Aid Rate	TOTAL Foundation Formula Rate
430170271	430	ADVANCED MATH AND SCIENCE ACADEN	170	MARLBOROUGH	271	SHREWSBURY	86.0	9,617	2,194	893	12,704
445348271	445	ABBY KELLEY FOSTER	348	WORCESTER	271	SHREWSBURY	8.0	10,564	2,410	893	13,867
478352271	478	FRANCIS W. PARKER CHARTER ESSENTI	352	DEVENS	271	SHREWSBURY	1.0	7,971	1,818	893	10,682
486348271	486	SEVEN HILLS	348	WORCESTER	271	SHREWSBURY	1.0	8,150	1,859	893	10,902

One of the reasons most public school districts object to the way that charter schools are funded is that the formula is not sensitive to economy of scale. For example, the 96 Shrewsbury students attending charter schools this year are spread across many grades; if all were to return to the school district next year, there would be virtually no effect on the district's budget, as they would be readily absorbed with existing staffing and overhead costs. However, this year these students will cost Shrewsbury over \$1 million in tuition that is diverted from the town's state aid for education. Another way of illustrating this is that the amount of funds being diverted to charter schools represents roughly 1.7% of the School Department's appropriated budget; yet, because of the economy of scale, it is not possible

for the district to reduce 1.7% of personnel costs, overhead costs, facility capital costs, etc. without compromising the program for the 6,000 remaining students, as those resources remain necessary to serve their needs (e.g., we can't cut 1.7% of each teacher the charter students would have had, 1.7% of secretaries, 1.7% of those schools' principals, etc.).

The good news for the district financially is that both FY15 enrollment to date and FY16 preliminary enrollment continue the trend of fewer students being educated outside the district for charter schools, and this is now having a significant impact on the amount of state aid the town receives. Charter enrollment hit a peak of 144.1 FTE in FY11, compared to the current enrollment of 96.0 (a reduction of 33% from peak) and to next year's projected enrollment of 81 (a reduction of 43% from peak).

## SPS Charter Enrollment History



This reduction in projected charter enrollment is currently estimated to reduce the charges incurred on the town's "cherry sheet" for charter school tuition by \$122,993 in FY16. The total net tuition required of the town, after factoring in the reimbursements for increases in past years (which have been phasing out) and the increase in tuitions themselves (which are going up due to the inflation factor in the foundation formula and other formula characteristics), has been holding steady at just over \$1 million, as illustrated in this table:

271 SHREWSBURY	FY07	FY08	FY09	FY10	FY11	FY12	FY13	FY14	FY15
FTE	61.23	86.00	110.15	127.16	144.14	130.79	116.28	104.36	96.00
Tuition	514,694	743,381	1,025,068	1,151,129	1,321,539	1,279,450	1,226,276	1,142,099	1,188,862
Facilities Aid	48,025	70,801	95,665	106,489	118,052	113,196	100,058	90,037	83,225
Chapter 46 Aid	241,779	351,178	446,696	351,695	330,718	85,807	38,006	38,663	53,465
Total Aid	289,804	421,979	542,361	458,184	448,770	199,003	138,064	128,700	136,690
Net Cost to District	224,890	321,402	482,707	692,945	872,769	1,080,447	1,088,212	1,013,399	1,052,172

Note that the preliminary figures for FY16 actually show a projected drop in the net cost of \$68,163 compared with FY15, as shown in this table:

LEA		DISTRICT PAYMENT				STATE AID TO DISTRICT				NET DISTRICT COST
DISTRICT	FTE	LOCAL FOUNDATION TUITION	LOCAL FACILITIES TUITION	LOCAL PAYMENT	100/25/25/25/25 INCREASED TUITION AID	INCREASED AID PRO RATION	FACILITIES AID	TOTAL CHARTER AID		
271 SHREWSBURY	81.0	984,009	72,333	1,056,342	0	0%	72,333	72,333	984,009	

The next table shows the projected FY16 enrollment by charter school and grade level:

	K	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	Total
<b>Abby Kelley Foster Charter Public School</b>	2	1		1	1	1	1	1	1			1		10
<b>Advanced Math and Science Academy Charter School</b>							7	5	6	9	8	20	15	70
<b>Francis W. Parker Charter Essential School</b>											1			1
<b>Total Shrewsbury</b>	2	1		1	1	1	8	6	7	9	9	21	15	81

The trend of fewer students attending charter schools can be attributed to various factors. Anecdotal evidence indicates that reasons that appear to be influencing families' choices to

have their students remain in our district include the opening of the new Sherwood Middle School; the advanced math programming added at Sherwood and Oak Middle Schools in recent years; the innovative approach to the use of technology; and certainly the reduction of class sizes and restoration of resources thanks to the recent operational override.

I look forward to discussing this information and answering your questions at your meeting on May 6.

## Massachusetts Charter Schools

### Understanding District Aid for Commonwealth Charter School Tuition

#### October 2013

School districts pay tuition for resident pupils attending Commonwealth Charter Schools. There are two programs that offset this tuition, Chapter 46 aid and facilities aid.

#### Chapter 46 Aid

Chapter 46 reimbursement aid gets its name from the legislation that created it, [Chapter 46 of the Acts of 1997](#). In January 2010 Governor Patrick's signed [An Act Relative to the Achievement Gap](#) into law. This Act effects change to one of the constituent components of the Chapter 46 aid program.

The Chapter 46 legislation authorizes several aid programs. The more significant components are the aid for recent increases in charter school tuition and the aid for first year pupils entering public charter schools from private or home-schooled settings.

#### Increased Tuition Aid

Governor Patrick's [An Act Relative to the Achievement Gap](#) expands the increased tuition aid component. This aid program is designed to generate the greatest amount of aid where there is a large increase in district tuition over the prior fiscal year. These tuition surges occur when there is a significant shift of district pupils into a new or existing school. The aid is a function of change in tuition, not specific pupil enrollment.

The increased tuition aid program is often represented by the number sequence 100/25/25/25/25/25, or its predecessor, 100/60/40. The 100/25/25/25/25/25 sequence refers to the aid formula's six reimbursement tiers, as outlined in the 2010 legislation.

Fiscal year 2011 marks the implementation year of the formula. As of October 2013 the formula is in its fourth year (FY14), with only four of the six tiers actively generating tuition aid. The formula will be in full effect in fiscal year 2016.

In Table 1 the tan highlighted cells illustrate the staggered, six year implementation of the first tuition increase under the revised formula.

Table 1: Implementation Schedule

Fiscal Year	Reimbursement Tiers						Total Aid
	1	2	3	4	5	6	
FY11	100	60	40				200
FY12	100	25	40				165
FY13	100	25	25				150
FY14	100	25	25	25			175
FY15	100	25	25	25	25		200
FY16	100	25	25	25	25	25	225

In the first year an increase in tuition occurs the sending district will receive 100 percent of the increased tuition as aid. Please see Table 2.

Over the next five fiscal years the sending district will receive another 125 percent of this initial aid increase. The additional 125 percent will be meted out equally over five fiscal years in 25 percent increments. At the end of the sixth year the sending district will have received 225 percent of the initial increase in aid, or  $100 + 25 + 25 + 25 + 25 + 25 = 225$ .

Table 2: Example of Aid Disbursement

Fiscal Year	Increase In Tuition	Reimbursement Tiers						Increase Aid
		100	25	25	25	25	25	
FY13	100,000	100,000	0	0				100,000
FY14	5,000	5,000	25,000	0	0			30,000
FY15	6,000	6,000	1,250	25,000	0	0		32,250
FY16	100,000	100,000	1,500	1,250	25,000	0	0	127,750
FY17	6,000	6,000	25,000	1,500	1,250	25,000	0	58,750
FY18	15,000	15,000	1,500	25,000	1,500	1,250	25,000	69,250
FY19	1,000	1,000	3,750	1,500	25,000	1,500	1,250	34,000
FY20	1,000	1,000	250	3,750	1,500	25,000	1,500	33,000

The one to one matching function of the 100 percent tier of the formula has the beneficial effect of holding the district harmless from the immediate financial impact of new or expanding enrollment at a Commonwealth charter school.

The cascading pockets of 25 percent reimbursement over the next five years will provide a financial cushion for districts while they respond to pupil loss. At the end of the six year aid cycle, charter enrollment should stabilize, the aid will diminish, and the pendulum of financial responsibility shifts back to the sending district.

## **Chapter 70 Aid**

Charter school enrollment counts in the sending district's foundation enrollment, and thus generates Chapter 70 aid, which is in addition to the Chapter 46 reimbursement. The amount of the aid is dependent upon the wealth of the district. In fiscal year 2014, aid ranges from 11 to 98 percent of foundation budget.

### **Enrollment**

While it is true that new enrollment triggers the functions that generate aid, it is important to stress that it is increased tuition, and not new enrollment, that drives the formula.

For example, when a 300 seat school replaces their graduating class of 75 pupils with an incoming class of 75 new pupils, this process, by itself, generates no increased tuition, and thus no aid. However if this same school expands to 375 seats, the additional enrollment will fuel an increase in tuition and trigger a higher reimbursement.

### **Private, Home School, and Sibling Pupil Aid**

An additional constituent of the Chapter 46 aid program covers the first year tuition of pupils who enroll at a Commonwealth Charter school and who have been previously educated in a private or home-schooled setting. In these cases, the sending districts did not educate these pupils. Their enrollment in a charter school presents a new cost burden for the sending district, without the offset of Chapter 70, and other, state aid.

The Private and Home School aid eradicates this burden by paying the pupil's first year tuition. In the following year, their enrollment will be captured by the Chapter 70 aid program and financial responsibility shifts to the sending district.

Additionally, if the enrollment of a sibling at a Commonwealth charter school is the sole cause of a sending district's tuition exceeding the Net School Spending cap, the sibling's tuition will be paid from the Chapter 46 aid.

### **Facilities Aid**

Unlike Chapter 46, facilities aid is not formula based. The aid is a one to one reimbursement of the districts' per pupil facilities tuition.

Charter schools are ineligible for School Building Authority financing for school construction. Facilities aid offsets the entire cost of the facilities tuition, simulating the direct aid districts receive from the state's School Building Authority for capital projects.

For more detailed information, please contact Hadley Cabral in the School Finance Office at (781) 338-6586 or [hcabral@doe.mass.edu](mailto:hcabral@doe.mass.edu).



SHREWSBURY PUBLIC SCHOOLS  
School Committee



ITEM NO: VI. Curriculum

MEETING DATE: 5/6/2015

SPECIFIC STATEMENT OR QUESTION:

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

ACTION RECOMMENDED:

STAFF AVAILABLE FOR PRESENTATION



**SHREWSBURY PUBLIC SCHOOLS**  
School Committee



ITEM NO: **VII. Policy**

MEETING DATE: **5/6/2015**

SPECIFIC STATEMENT OR QUESTION:

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

ACTION RECOMMENDED:

STAFF AVAILABLE FOR PRESENTATION:



**SHREWSBURY PUBLIC SCHOOLS**  
School Committee



**ITEM NO: VIII. Budget**  
**A. Fiscal Year 2015 Budget Update**

**MEETING DATE: 5/6/2015**

**SPECIFIC STATEMENT OR QUESTION:**

Will the School Committee hear a report on the Fiscal Year 2015 year-to-date budget status?

**BACKGROUND INFORMATION:**

1. At the meeting, Ms. Wirzbicki will present an update on the 2015 Fiscal Year operating budget.

**ACTION RECOMMENDED:**

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

**STAFF AVAILABLE FOR PRESENTATION:**

Dr. Joseph M. Sawyer, Superintendent of Schools  
Ms. Cecelia F. Wirzbicki, Director of Business Services

	FY15 Budget	Expended & Encumbered	Percent Exp./Enc.	Year End Projection	Dollar Variance	Percent Variance
Admin. Sal. (CO, Principals & Unit B)	\$ 2,679,447	\$ 2,511,499	93.7%	\$ 2,511,499	\$ 167,948	6.3%
Unit A Salaries (Teachers, Nurses, etc.)	\$ 34,303,190	\$ 34,237,990	99.8%	\$ 34,237,990	\$ 65,200	0.2%
Aides/ABA/Para.Wages	\$ 5,213,861	\$ 4,986,252	95.6%	\$ 4,986,252	\$ 227,609	4.4%
Secretarial Wages & Non- Represented	\$ 1,717,282	\$ 1,864,002	108.5%	\$ 1,864,002	\$ (146,720)	-8.5%
Substitutes (daily & long-term)	\$ 735,000	\$ 1,044,508	142.1%	\$ 1,044,508	\$ (309,508)	-42.1%
Other Wages/Sal. (See Note 1)	\$ 788,777	\$ 976,057	123.7%	\$ 976,057	\$ (187,280)	-23.7%
In-district & Vocational Transport	\$ 1,966,616	\$ 1,958,668	99.6%	\$ 1,958,668	\$ 7,948	0.4%
SPED Transportation & Monitors	\$ 330,300	\$ 363,537	110.1%	\$ 363,537	\$ (33,237)	-10.1%
Vocational Tuition	\$ 2,165,772	\$ 2,100,636	97.0%	\$ 2,100,636	\$ 65,136	3.0%
SPED Tuition (see Note 2)	\$ 3,660,650	\$ 3,947,125	107.8%	\$ 3,947,125	\$ (286,475)	-7.8%
Other Expenses (See Note 3)	\$ 3,635,383	\$ 3,241,481	89.2%	\$ 3,241,481	\$ 393,902	10.8%
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>\$ 57,196,278</b>	<b>\$ 57,231,755</b>	<b>100.1%</b>	<b>\$ 57,231,755</b>	<b>\$ (35,477)</b>	<b>-0.1%</b>

Moved Director of Technology to Unit A due to reorganization; additional offsets through revolving accounts

Hiring differential savings; added special ed and English lang. ed. for mandated needs

Offsets to tuition accounts; medical leaves paid from sub accounts; some positions partial year only

Reorg. Tech Dept.; add'l ELE tutor; SELCO wiring payroll vs. cont. service

Exceeding projections for both long and short-term leaves

Exceeded projections for Summer Special Education and stipends

Includes McKinneyVento,Athletics & Student Activities

Exceeding projections

Fewer students attending than projected

Budget assumes use of \$3,065,836 of Circuit Breaker funding; total budgeted Sped tuition was \$6,726,486, current projection is \$7,012,961 for a difference of \$286,475

Control account funds to be transferred at end of year; operational savings

Circuit Breaker reserve of \$35,477 will be utilized to resolve deficit

*Format Notes:*

Note 1. Other Wages/Sal. include custodian & police details, extra duty & mentoring stipends, Summer Special Education salaries, crossing guards, tuition reimbursement and sick leave buy back.

Note 2. SPED Tuition projection year ending is net Special Education Circuit Breaker Reimbursement funding

Note 3. Other expenses include (but are not limited to) contracted services, Site Based Management (SBM) funds, office supplies, text books and education supplies, technology purchases equipment leasing & repairs, custodial supplies, travel, postage etc...



**SHREWSBURY PUBLIC SCHOOLS**  
School Committee



ITEM NO: **IX. Old Business**

MEETING DATE: **5/6/2015**

SPECIFIC STATEMENT OR QUESTION:

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

ACTION RECOMMENDED:

STAFF AVAILABLE FOR PRESENTATION:



**SHREWSBURY PUBLIC SCHOOLS**  
School Committee



ITEM NO: **X. New Business**

MEETING DATE: **5/6/2015**

SPECIFIC STATEMENT OR QUESTION:

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

ACTION RECOMMENDED:

SCHOOL COMMITTEE PRESENTATION:



**SHREWSBURY PUBLIC SCHOOLS**  
School Committee



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

**MEETING DATE: 5/6/2015**

**SPECIFIC STATEMENT OR QUESTION:**

**BACKGROUND INFORMATION:**

**ACTION RECOMMENDED:**

**STAFF AVAILABLE FOR PRESENTATION:**



**SHREWSBURY PUBLIC SCHOOLS**  
School Committee



**ITEM NO: XII. Executive Session**

**MEETING DATE: 5/6/2015**

**SPECIFIC STATEMENT OR QUESTION:**

Will the School Committee enter into executive session in order to discuss collective bargaining negotiations with the cafeteria workers association and/or paraprofessionals association, where deliberation in an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the School Committee's bargaining position?

**BACKGROUND INFORMATION:**

1. The Massachusetts Open Meeting Law allows public bodies to enter executive session to discuss strategy with respect to collective bargaining where deliberation in an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the bargaining position of the public body.

**ACTION RECOMMENDED:**

That the School Committee vote to enter into executive session in order to discuss collective bargaining negotiations with the cafeteria workers association and/or paraprofessionals association, where deliberation in an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the School Committee's bargaining position.

**STAFF AVAILABLE FOR PRESENTATION:**

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

**ITEM NO: XIII. Adjournment**