

Finance Committee

March 17, 2018

B. Dale Magee, M.D.
Chair, School Committee

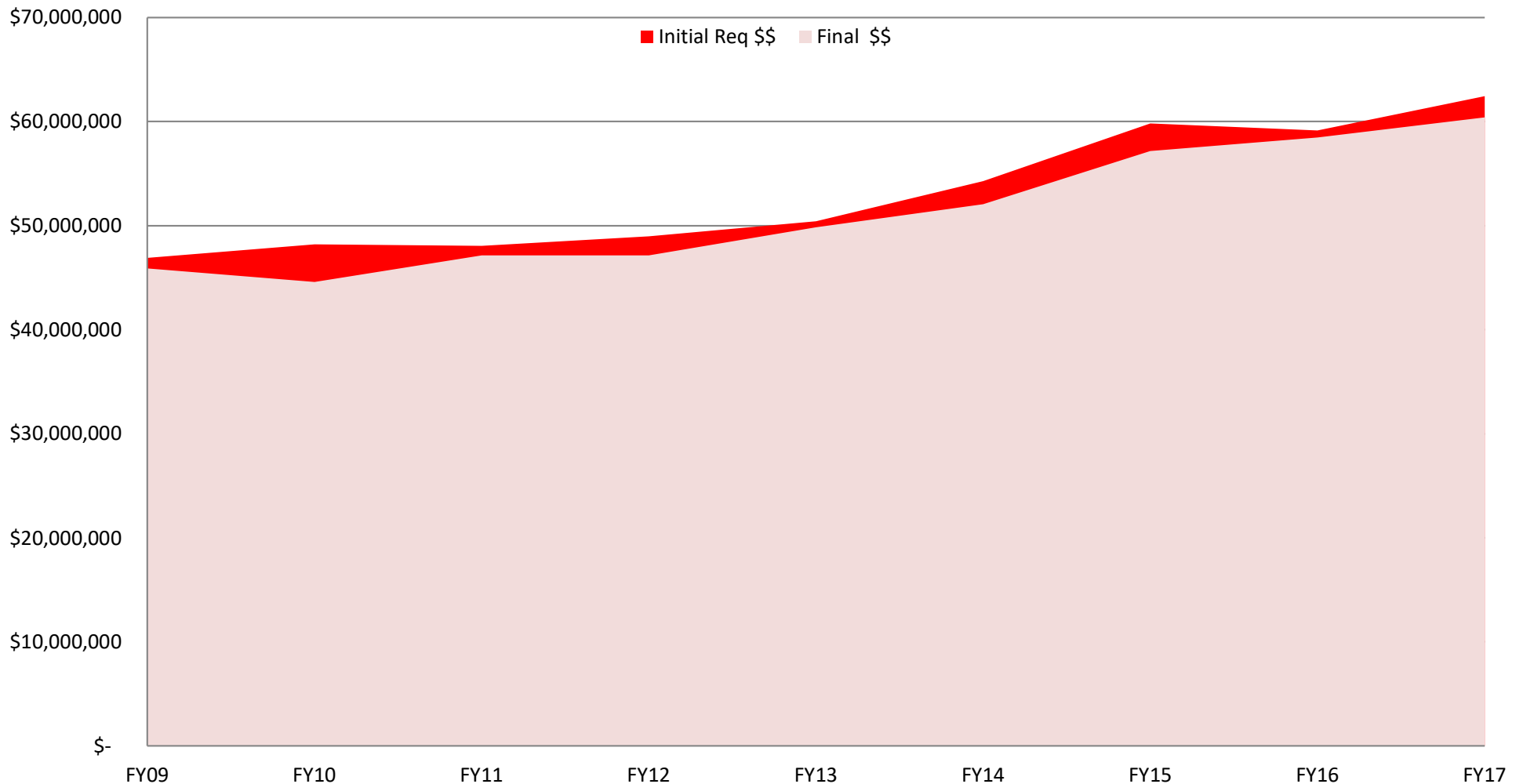
“The purpose of government is to provide services to the people.”

-Richard Carney

- We need a commitment to consistency.
- Maintaining services should be a minimum.
- We need to learn from a crisis and avoid a repeat.

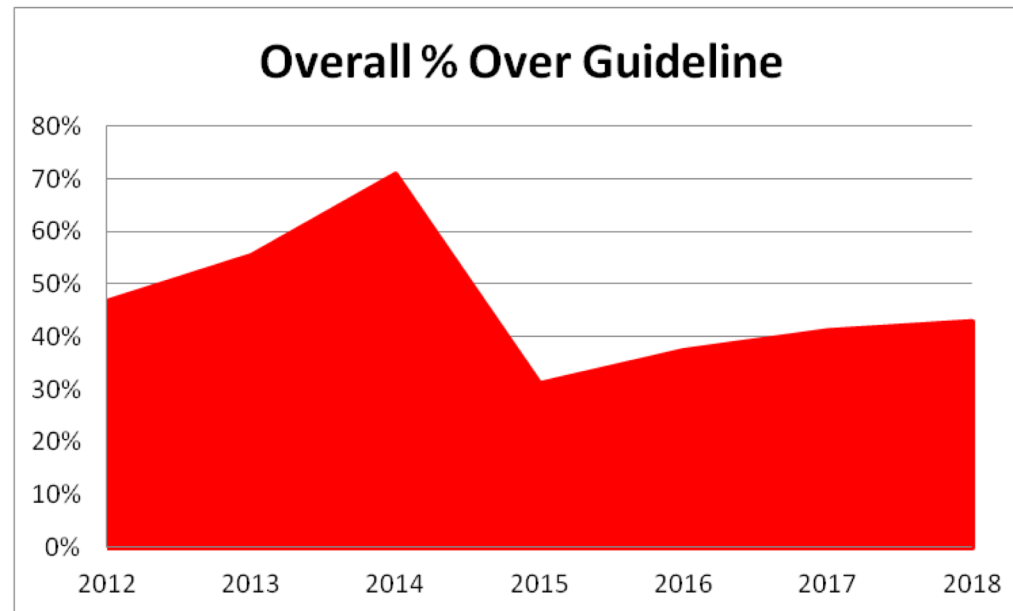
Level Service vs. Final Budget

Avg Gap: \$1.7 million



Source: Shrewsbury School Dept

The Cost of Cuts



Source: Shrewsbury School Dept

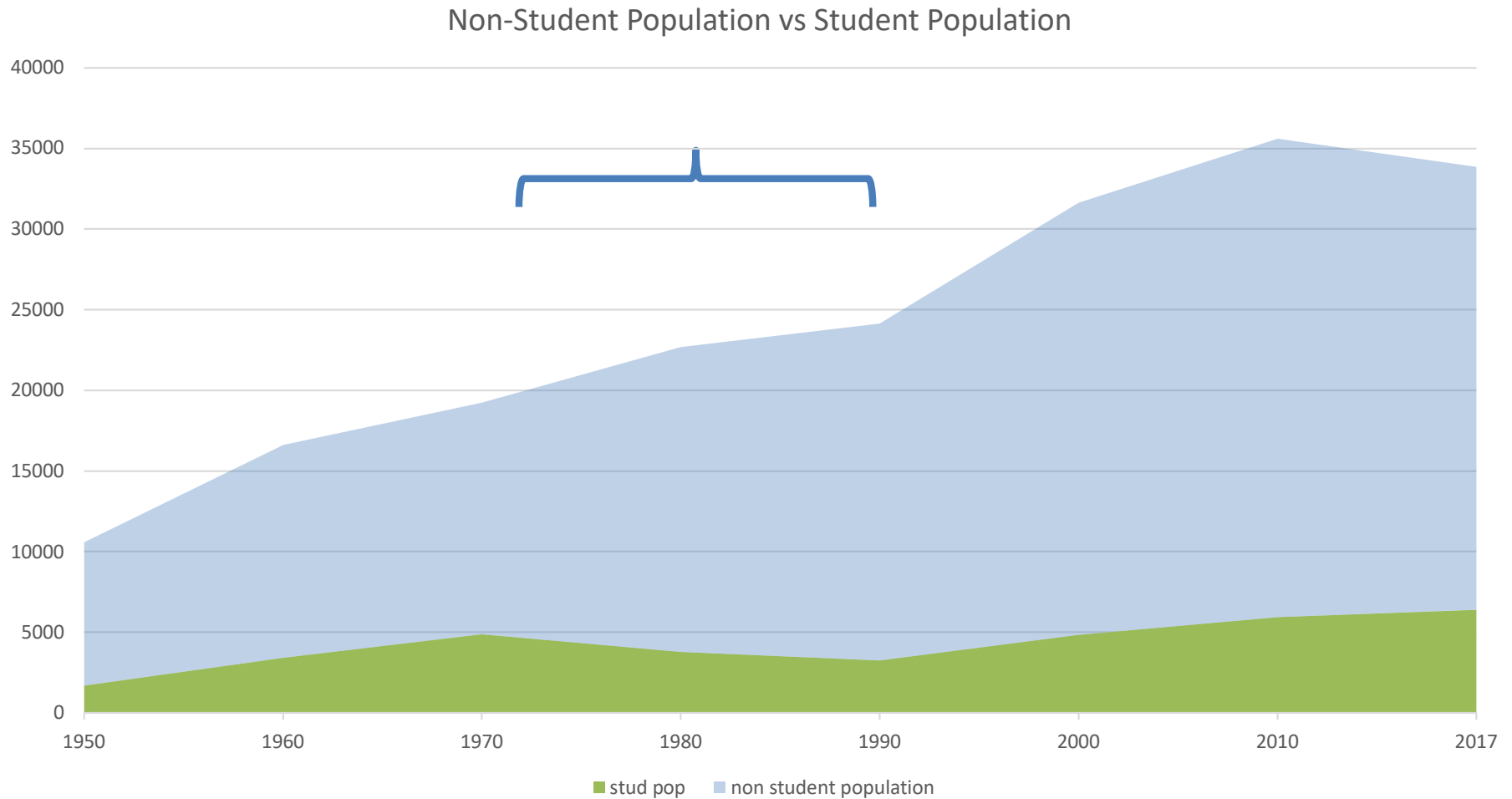
Services: Cuts, additions, fees

	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
Courses:													
• Eliminated Elementary foreign language													
• Eliminated Jobs for Bay State Grads Voc. Program													
• Eliminated Auto Shop													
• Added Advanced Math Coach													
Services:													
• Late bus eliminated													
• Cut bus fleet by 5 vehicles													
• Eliminate Middle School Saturday Homework aid													
Supplies:													
• Text Books (\$ Delayed)													
• Math Curriculum (\$ Delayed)													
• iPad lease: \$165; fee dropped 2014													
Fees:													
• Bus: (instituted 2006) \$300													
• Activity: (instituted 2008) \$50-100													
• Athletic: (instituted 2007) \$310													
• Music Lessons (instituted 2007) \$25/session													
• Pre-K (3-5 day rates): \$2,111-4,046													
• Full Day K: \$3,600													
• Extended Day (5 day rates): \$1,260-4,145													

Source: Shrewsbury School Dept

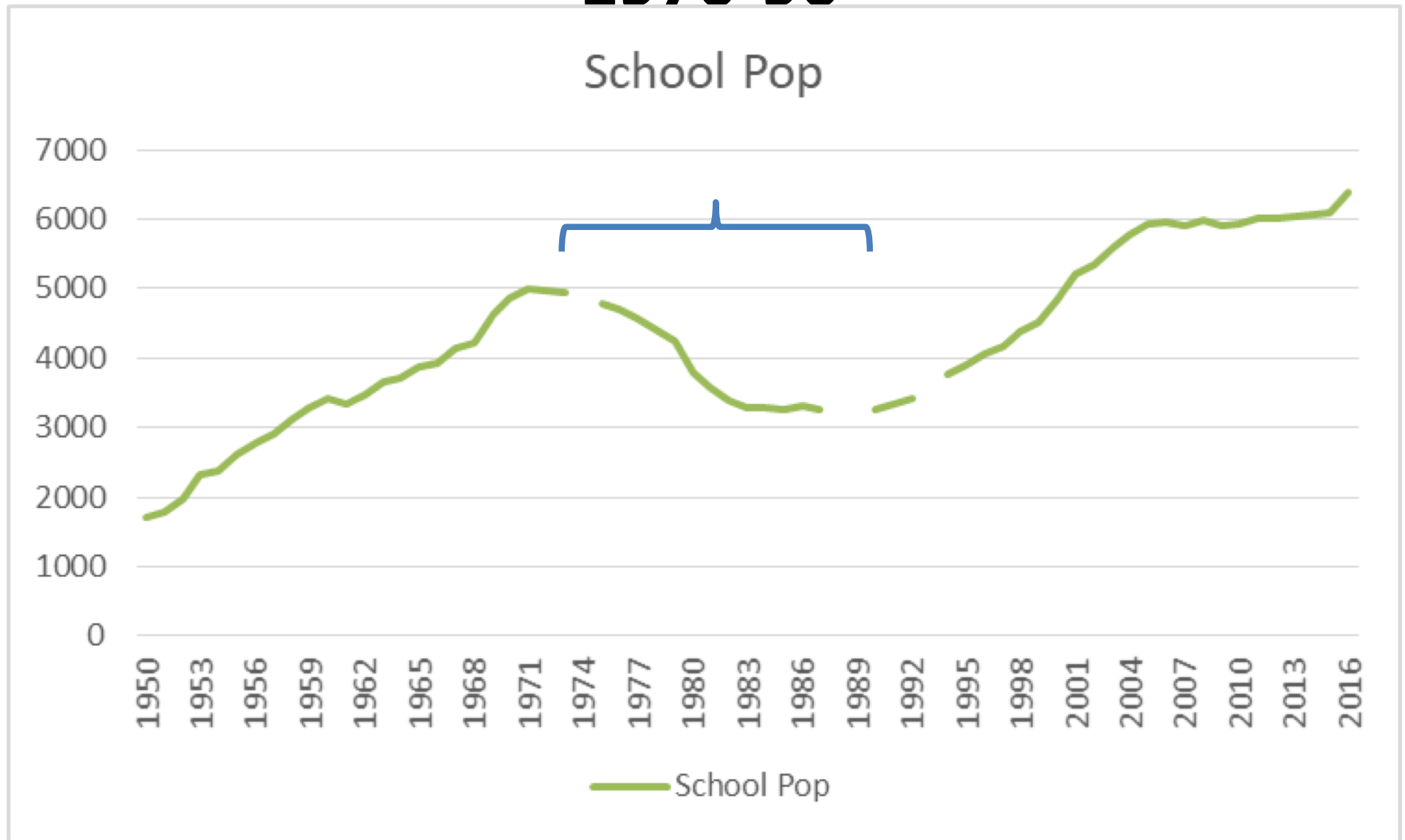
How did we avoid a Prop 2 ½ override for so long?

1970-90 town was growing while the student population was shrinking



Source: Shrewsbury Town Reports

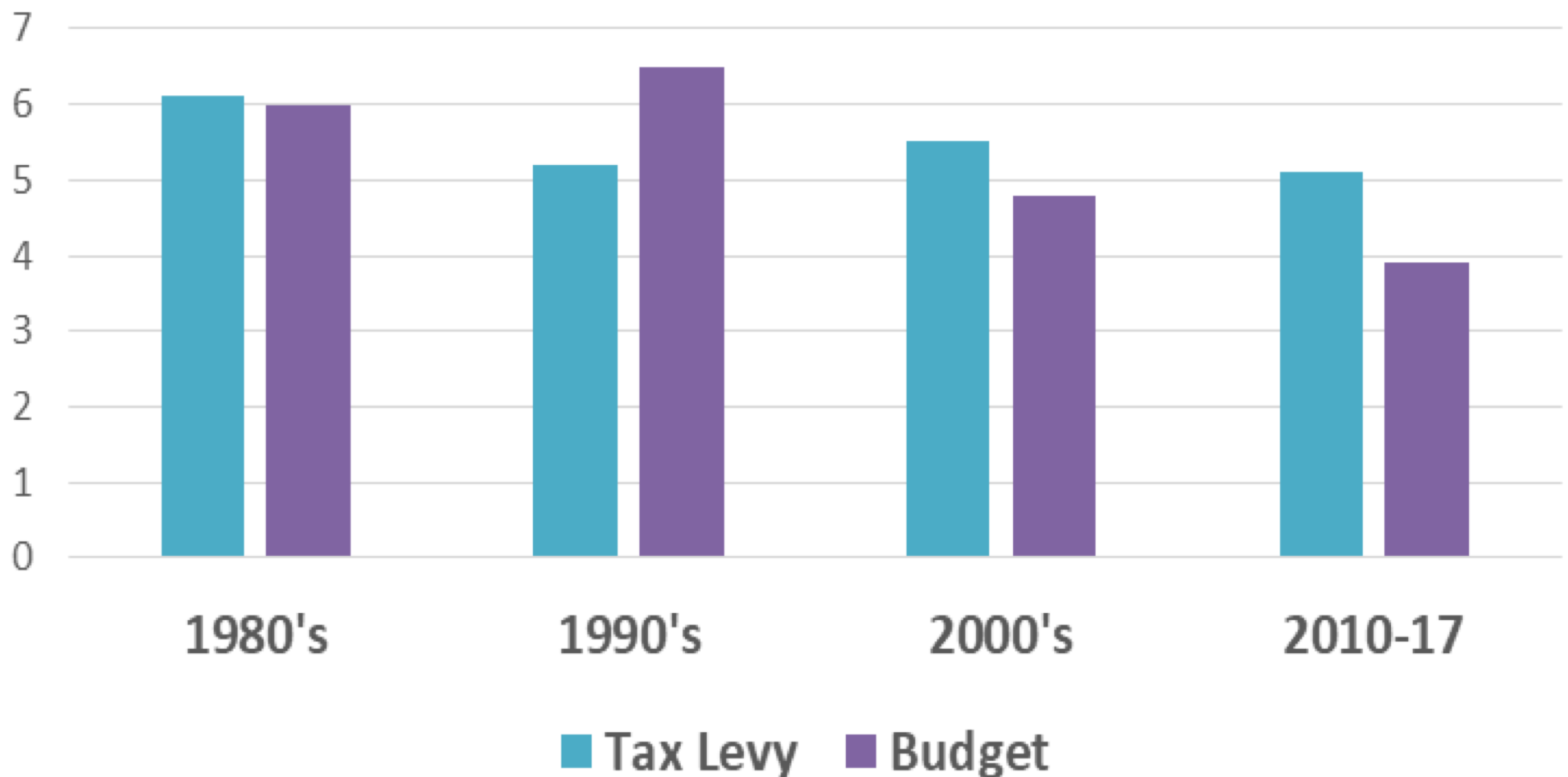
School Population Fell between 1970-90



Source: Shrewsbury Town Reports

Annualized Tax Levy & Budget Growth

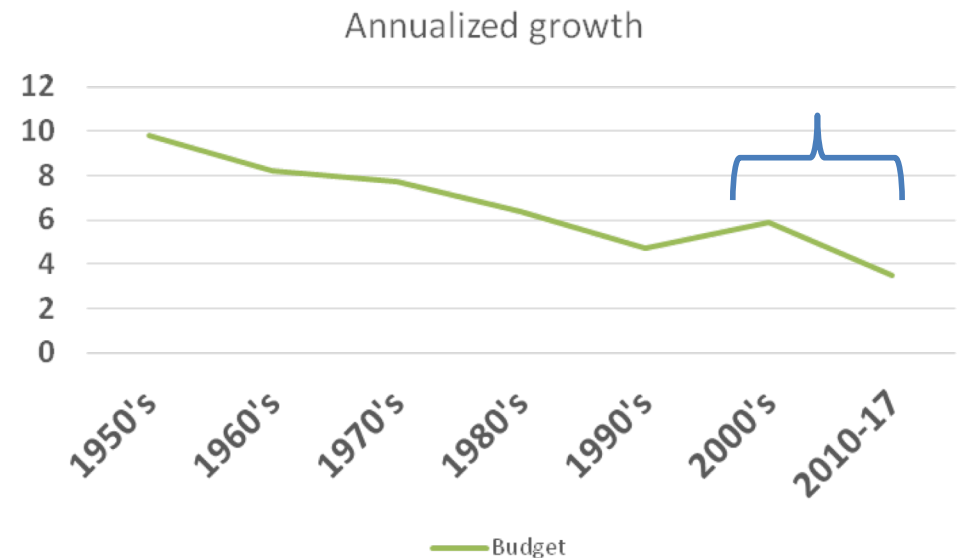
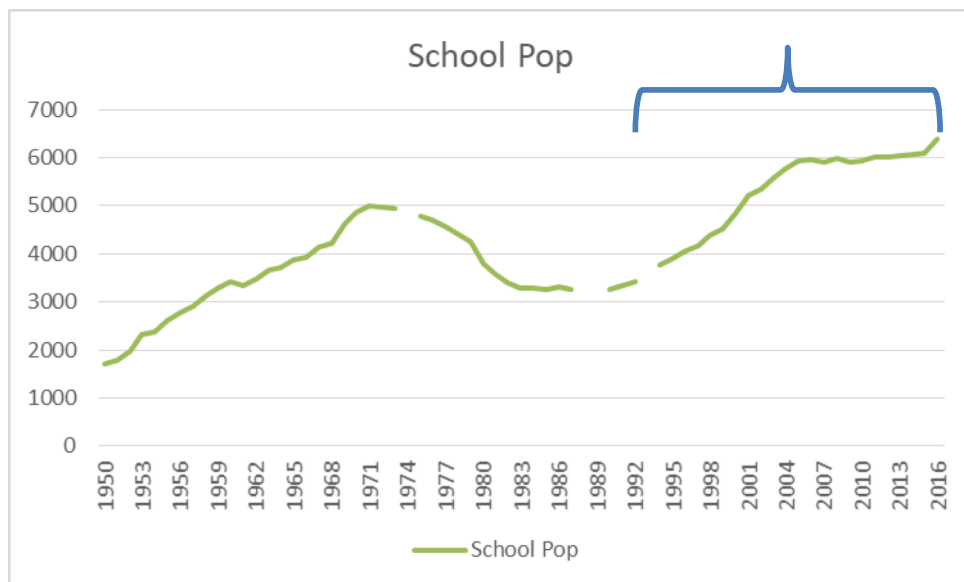
Sources outside of Levy not keeping up



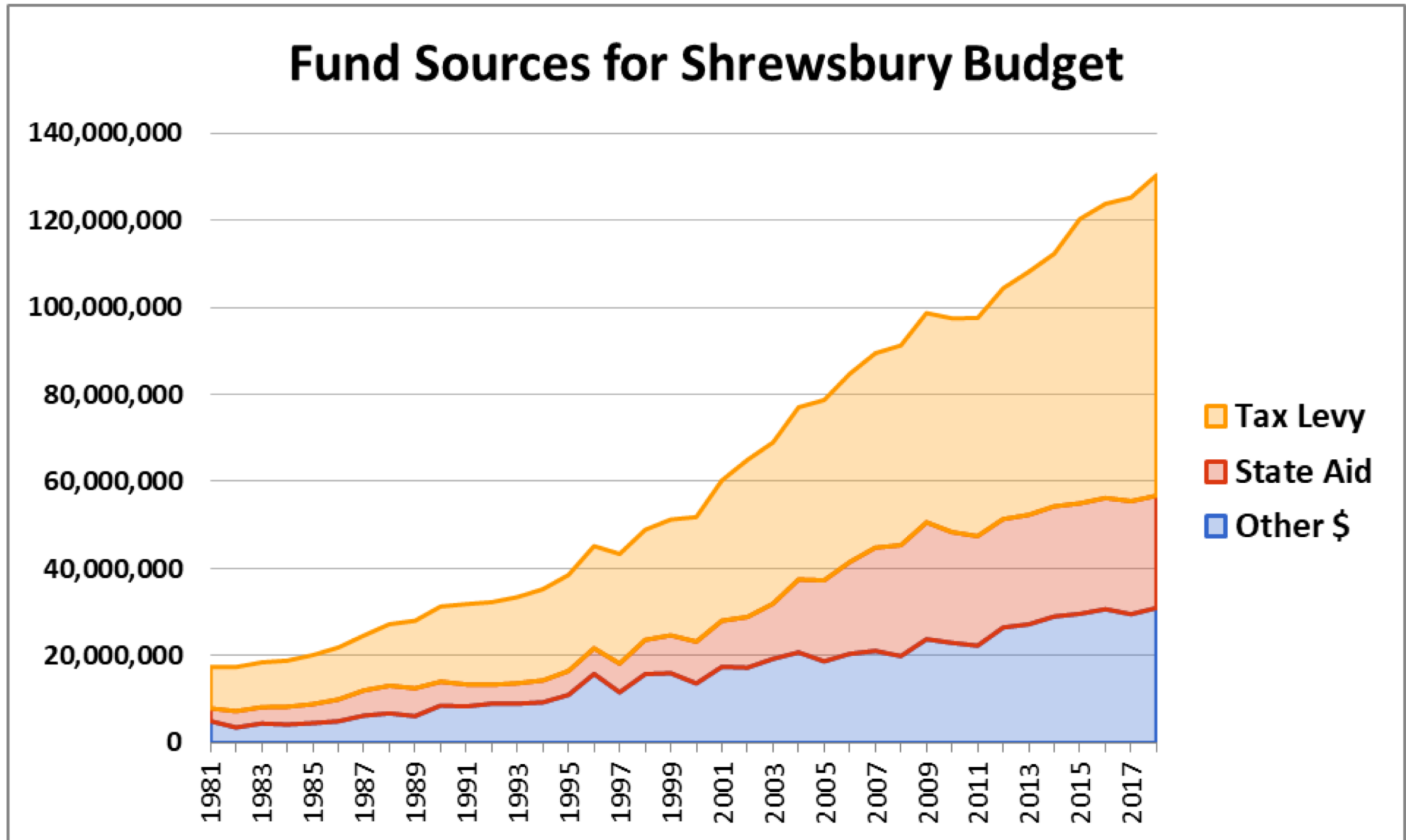
Source: Shrewsbury Town Reports

The tide began turning in the 90's

- Student growth began in 1990
- Revenue growth began to taper in 2010
- State began tapering aid and shifting costs to town in 2008



Note that Starting in 2000 outside funding sources have not kept up with growth in budgets



Source: Mass. DOR

Across MA how have towns responded to 2 ½?

- The power to decide on a raise in taxes has moved to the voters
 - 2 ½ % was not presented as a sustainable number, just a number below which the voters did not need to approve
- The process requires education of the public
- This is more than a \$ amount: we need to define services in an easily understood manner
- Most towns have not had the luxury of growth and have come to grips with this earlier: there have been 1965 successful override votes

Priorities

- We need to commit to maintaining services at a minimum
- We need to evaluate our tax structure and revise it in a manner that is fair, meets our needs as a community, avoids another crisis