



Shrewsbury Public Schools

Joseph M. Sawyer, Ed.D.
Superintendent

January 8, 2020

To: School Committee

Re: Recommendations for Fiscal Year 2021 Preschool Tuition Rates and Program Offerings

At your last meeting on December 18, Mr. Collins and Mrs. Robinson provided an overview of the District's Preschool Program and the rationale for why it is required, and suggested session offering changes and associated tuition rates for the 2020-2021 school year.

Recommended Change to Program Offerings

Based on demand from parents and current enrollment trends, we recommend eliminating the two and three half day programs and using that capacity to offer more seats for four and five half day seats. We expect this change to better match our parent community needs and also provide for increased beginning of year enrollment and greater stability of that enrollment during the course of the school year.

Our Preschool Lottery is on January 17, 2020 so we should have a clear picture in the coming weeks if this is a viable shift as our lottery entrants also state their preference once they enter the lottery. If sufficient demand did not materialize to fill seats as needed, then our "Plan B" would be to continue to offer two and three half day sessions as we do now.

Recommended Rates for 2020-2021

The rationale for annual tuition rate increases is to simply keep up with ongoing and increased costs for teacher salaries, health insurance costs, and costs of materials. The recommended rate increase is 3% and the net changes are depicted in the chart below.

Program	FY20 Current Annual Rate	FY21 Recommended Annual Rate	Dollar Difference
Two Half Days/Week*	\$2,174	\$2,239	\$65
Three Half Days/Week*	\$2,825	\$2,910	\$85
Four Half Days/Week	\$3,405	\$3,507	\$102
Five Half Days/Week	\$4,167	\$4,292	\$125

**Two and Three Half Day Rates are only if needed based on enrollment demand.*

Late Fee

We recommend continuation of the \$25 per month late fee for any monthly payment made after the deadline of the 15th of each month.

Registration fee

We recommend continuation of the \$100 per student registration fee. This is due upon offer and acceptance of a specific program seat to a family and ensures their placement for the upcoming school year.

Financial Assistance

We recommend continuation of the use of the Massachusetts Department of Early Education and Care State Median Income Chart to determine eligibility for financial assistance. We also recommend continuation of the 10% sibling discount for all additionally enrolled tuition-paying children in one of our preschool programs.