

**SHREWSBURY PUBLIC SCHOOLS**  
**100 MAPLE AVENUE**  
**SHREWSBURY, MASSACHUSETTS**  
**MINUTES OF SCHOOL COMMITTEE WORKSHOP REGULAR SESSION**  
**July 20, 2020**  
**Videoconference**

**Regular School Committee meeting opened at 7:03 PM.**

**Present:** Mr. Jon Wensky, Assistant Chairperson (presiding); Ms. Sandra Fryc, Chairperson; Dr. Dale Magee, Secretary; Ms. Lynsey Heffernan; Mr. Jason Palitsch; Dr. Joseph Sawyer, Superintendent of Schools; Mr. Patrick Collins, Assistant Superintendent for Finance and Operations

**Budget Discussion:** Dr. Sawyer and Mr. Collins presented the most recent version of the proposed FY21 budget. The Town Manager has proposed a \$67,080,000 school budget. This leaves a gap of approximately \$400,000 in the regular budget and, in addition, about \$1.5 million in reductions in revenues due to Covid 19 that cannot be paid with Covid grant funds. Together this amounts to a ~\$2 million gap with the Town Manager's proposal.

Given the uncertainty of both costs and revenues a "balanced risk" approach is being taken in which we will submit a budget of \$67,080,000 and inform the Town Meeting that with current projections this may require a midyear adjustment that could result in layoffs. The alternative of cutting staffing and other costs to present a balanced budget during a pandemic was felt to be unwise.

There was general support among the members of the Committee for this approach.

Messaging for the Finance Committee and the Town Meeting was discussed.

**Executive Session:**

Mr. Wensky requested a motion to adjourn to Executive Session:

A. For the purpose of addressing G.L. c. 30A, § 21(a)(7) "[t]o comply with, or act under the authority of, any general or special law or federal grant-in-aid requirements" ("Purpose 7"), Open Meeting Law, G.L. c. 30A, §§ 22(f), (g) – for the purpose of reviewing, approving, and/or releasing executive session minutes.

B. For the purpose of addressing G.L. c. 30A, § 21(a)(3) "to discuss strategy with respect to collective bargaining or litigation if an open meeting may have a detrimental effect of the bargaining or litigating position of the public body and the chair so declares" ("Purpose 3") - the Shrewsbury Education Association Unit A; Shrewsbury Education Association Unit B; the Shrewsbury Paraprofessional Association; and/or the Shrewsbury Cafeteria Workers.

On a motion by Mr. Palitsch, seconded by Ms. Fryc, on a roll call vote: Ms. Heffernan, yes; Dr. Magee, yes; Mr. Palitsch, yes; Mr. Wensky, yes; and Ms. Fryc, yes. The Regular meeting adjourned to Executive Session at 7:45PM.

The meeting reconvened at 7:51PM.

Motion to adjourn by Mr. Palitsch, seconded by Ms. Fryc, on a roll call vote: Ms. Heffernan, yes; Dr. Magee, yes; Mr. Palitsch, yes; Mr. Wensky, yes; and Ms. Fryc, yes. The Regular meeting adjourned at 7:51PM.

Documents: FY21 Budget Workshop Slides  
FY21 Budget Summary Sheet