

**SHREWSBURY PUBLIC SCHOOLS
100 MAPLE AVENUE
SHREWSBURY, MASSACHUSETTS**

**MINUTES OF SCHOOL COMMITTEE WORKSHOP
Media Center
Sherwood Middle School
28 Sherwood Street
Shrewsbury, Massachusetts**

Thursday, October 18, 2018

Present: Mr. Jason Palitsch, Chairperson; Ms. Erin Canzano, Vice Chairperson; Ms. Sandra Fryc, Secretary; Dr. Dale Magee; Dr. Joseph Sawyer, Superintendent of Schools; Mr. Patrick Collins, Assistant Superintendent of Finances and Operations

Absent: Mr. Jon Wensky

Workshop was opened by Mr. Palitsch at 5:38 pm.

Topic I

Discuss District's Use of Expanded Polystyrene

At the Special Town Meeting on October 22, 2018 Article 8 is a citizen's petition asking Town Meeting Members to vote to adopt a Polystyrene Reduction bylaw. The Committee concluded that it would not take a position on Article 8. The Committee instructed Dr. Sawyer and Mr. Collins to provide a memo for distribution to Town Meeting Members at the Special Town Meeting on October 22, 2018 that discusses the school district's use of Styrofoam and the potential actions the district might take should Article 8 pass.

Topic II

The Committee discussed how to approach environmental concerns expressed by members of the community. The Committee discussed that Shrewsbury Public Schools are interested in sustainability and public health; however, we are not experts in environmental issues nor a public health entity. The school district relies on experts for guidance.

The Committee concluded that the district does not need a prescriptive policy regarding environmental concerns. However, a statement from the Committee regarding how the district should address environmental issues that are expressed by members of the community may have an appropriate place in the school district's policy handbook.

Jason and Erin will provide the Committee with a draft statement regarding how the district addresses environmental issues for review at a future School Committee Meeting.

Adjournment

On a motion Dr. Magee, seconded by Ms. Canzano, the meeting was adjourned at 6:36 pm. On a roll call vote: Dr. Magee, yes; Ms. Canzano, yes; Ms. Fryc, yes; and Mr. Palitsch, yes.

Respectfully submitted,

Ms. Sandra Fryc, Secretary

Documents Referenced:

October 5, 2018 – Copy of Article 8 for the Special Town Meeting on October 22, 2018

September 19, 2018 – Memo: 2017-2018 Food Service Department Executive Summary

(? Date) – Jason Palitsch, Chairperson Statement on Behalf of Shrewsbury School Committee