



Shrewsbury Public Schools

Patrick C. Collins

Assistant Superintendent for Finance and Operations

14 March 2023

To: School Committee

Subj: RECOMMENDATION TO VOTE TO SUBMIT A STATEMENT OF INTEREST
FOR SHREWSBURY HIGH SCHOOL TO THE MASSACHUSETTS SCHOOL BUILDING AUTHORITY

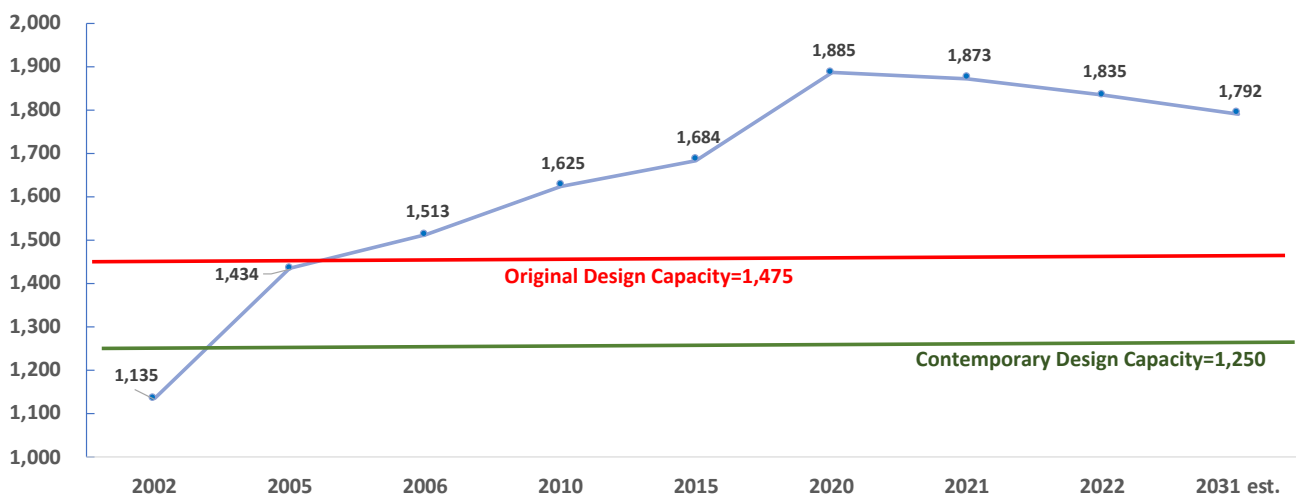
Background

Town Meeting appropriated funding as part of the Beal School Project to conduct a PreK-12 Space and Enrollment Study that would assess our current school facilities capacity and condition in the context of our ten-year projected enrollment at each grade level.

This comprehensive study was undertaken by architectural firm LPAA in the Spring 2022 and just recently completed. The final draft report is sent under separate cover. The ten-year enrollment projection report was completed by McKibben Demographics.

Highest Priority Identified

Clearly, the highest space priority identified was the need at Shrewsbury High School. The school opened in 2002 and since 2006 its enrollment has exceeded its design capacity. The ten-year enrollment forecast for the high school projects continued severe overcrowding.



Working with the Massachusetts School Building Authority [MSBA] to Secure Grant Funding

The MSBA was formed in 2008 as a result of legislation to provide some standardization, industry specialization, construction oversight, and partial funding for public schools. Most schools seek MSBA financial support in their school construction/renovation projects as their grants can cover a significant portion of the costs and lessen the tax burden on the local community.

Working with the MSBA is a highly-regulated process that typically ranges about six years long from start to finish for a new school or major renovation or addition.

Applications for funding typically far exceed the MSBA funding capacity so it can take years of repeated applications before being accepted into their pipeline.

Enclosed Materials

A myriad of support materials and a PowerPoint presentation are enclosed with this report that provide additional explanatory information about the MSBA and the Statement of Interest [SOI] process.

Required Votes and Vote Language

The MSBA legal team requires very specific vote language be used in order for each community to submit with their application. Both the School Committee and Select Board must each have majority votes in order to proceed with an application. The recommended vote language for the School Committee is printed below.

Resolved:

Having convened in an open meeting on March 15, 2023, prior to the SOI submission closing date, the School Committee of Shrewsbury Public Schools [Town of Shrewsbury, MA], in accordance with its charter, by-laws, and ordinances, has voted to authorize the Superintendent to submit to the Massachusetts School Building Authority the Statement of Interest Form dated April 2023 for Shrewsbury High School located at 64 Holden Street, which describes and explains the following deficiencies and the priority category(s) for which an application may be submitted to the Massachusetts School Building Authority in the future to alleviate persistent severe overcrowding [Priority#2]; to replace and modernize the schools roof and HVAC systems which are near end of life and install new, energy-efficient systems [Priority#5]; to provide an addition to the school so that a full range of programs including technical training via Innovation Pathways Programs and/or Chapter 74 vocational/technical programs [Priority#7], and hereby further specifically acknowledges that by submitting this Statement of Interest Form, the Massachusetts School Building Authority in no way guarantees the acceptance or the approval of an application, the awarding of a grant or any other funding commitment from the Massachusetts School Building Authority, or commits the Town of Shrewsbury to filing an application for funding with the Massachusetts School Building Authority.