

SHREWSBURY PUBLIC SCHOOLS
MINUTES OF THE SCHOOL COMMITTEE WORKSHOP
Wednesday, December 13, 2023
Shrewsbury High School - 75 Cypress Avenue
2002 Conference Room

Start Time: 6:00pm

Present: Ms. Sandy Fryc, Chairperson; Ms. Erin Boucher, Vice Chairperson; Mr. Jonathan Wensky, Secretary; Ms. Lynsey Heffernan; Ms. Rachel Sharifipour; Dr. Joseph Sawyer, Superintendent of Schools; Ms. Amy Clouter, Assistant Superintendent of Curriculum, Instruction, and Assessment; Dr. Jane Lizotte, Assistant Superintendent for Community Partnerships and Well-Being; Ms. Meg Belsito, Assistant Superintendent for Student Services; Mr. Christian Girardi, Assistant Superintendent for Finance & Operations; and Ms. Barbara Malone, Executive Director of Human Resources.

FY 25 Budget Development Status Review

Dr. Sawyer provided an overview for discussion on the Fiscal Year 2025 budget. All numbers presented are preliminary and subject to change. The budget development status update conforms with the FY 25 School Committee Priorities and Guidelines approved on November 15, 2023. The information will be reviewed over the coming months leading to Dr. Sawyer's initial budget presentation on February 7 and final budget in April. Expected budget challenges include potential adjustments to the town appropriated budget, the progress of Unit D contract negotiation, loss of ESSER 3 grant funding, emergency homeless grant funding, and our evolving student population needs.

Adjournment into Executive Session

Ms. Fryc requested that the School Committee adjourn into Executive Session:

A: For the purposes 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 Units A and/or B, the Shrewsbury Paraprofessional Association, and/or the Cafeteria Workers Association

C: For the purpose of addressing G.L. c. 30A, § 21(a)(2) “to conduct strategy sessions in preparation for negotiations with nonunion personnel or to conduct collective bargaining sessions or contract negotiations with nonunion personnel” – non-union clerical and support staff and/or administrators. (“Purpose 2”)

On a motion by Ms. Heffernan; Seconded by Ms. Boucher; on a Roll Call Vote: Ms. Sharifipour: Yes; Ms. Heffernan: Yes; Mr. Wensky: Yes; Ms. Boucher, Yes; and Ms. Fryc: Yes, the School Committee voted unanimously to adjourn into Executive Session at 7:41pm.

Adjournment

On a motion by Ms. Sharifipour; Seconded by Ms. Boucher; on a Roll Call Vote: Ms. Sharifipour: Yes; Ms. Heffernan: Yes; Mr. Wensky: Yes; Ms. Boucher, Yes; and Ms. Fryc: Yes, the School Committee Workshop adjourned at: 8:11pm.

Documents referred to: FY 25 Budget Development Update Slide Presentation