

# School Committee Meeting Book

January 24, 2024 7:00 pm

Town Hall -100 Maple Avenue Selectmen's Meeting Room



### AGENDA

### January 24, 2024 7:00pm Town Hall—Selectmen's Meeting Room 100 Maple Avenue

| <u>Items</u>  | Suggested time allotments                 |
|---|---|
| I. Public Participation   | 7:00 – 7:05                               |
| II. Chairperson's Report & Members' Reports   |   |
| III. Superintendent's Report  |   |
| <ul> <li>IV. Time Scheduled Appointments:</li> <li>A. SHS Student Advisory Committee: Report</li> <li>B. Middle School Improvement Plans: Presentation &amp; Vote</li> <li>C. State of the District: Report</li> </ul>  | 7:05 - 7:20<br>7:20 - 7:40<br>7:40 - 7:55 |
| V. Curriculum A. Shrewsbury High School Program of Studies Proposed Changes:  | Vote 7:55 – 8:00                          |
| VI. Policy  |   |
| VII. Finance & Operations A. Future Budget Projections: Report  | 8:00 – 8:15                               |
| VIII. Old Business A. Elementary School Improvement Plans: Vote   | 8:15 – 8:20                               |
| IX. New Business  |   |
| X. Approval of Minutes  | 8:20 – 8:25                               |
| <ul> <li>XI. Executive Session</li> <li>A. For the purpose of addressing G.L. c. 30A, § 21(a)(7) "[t]o compauthority of, any general or special law or federal grant-in-aid recopen Meeting Law,G.L. c. 30A, §§ 22(f), (g) – for the purpose of releasing executive session minutes.</li> </ul> | quirements" ("Purpose 7"),                |



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.

XII. Adjournment

9:15

Next regular meeting: February 7, 2024



ITEM NO: I Public Participation

MEETING DATE: **01/24/24** 

#### SPECIFIC STATEMENT OR QUESTION:

Will the School Committee hear thoughts and ideas from the public regarding the operations and the programs of the school system?

#### BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

Copies of the policy and procedure for Public Participation are available to the public at each School Committee meeting.

#### ITEM NO: II. Chairperson's Report/Members' Reports

#### SPECIFIC STATEMENT OR QUESTION:

Will the School Committee hear a report from the Chairperson of the School Committee and other members of the School Committee who may wish to comment on school affairs?

#### BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

This agenda item provides an opportunity for the Chairperson and members of the Shrewsbury School Committee to comment on school affairs that are of interest to the community.

#### STAFF AVAILABLE FOR PRESENTATION:

School Committee Members

Ms. Sandra Fryc, Chairperson

Ms. Erin Boucher, Vice Chairperson

Mr. Jon Wensky, Secretary

Ms. Lynsey Heffernan, Committee Member

Ms. Rachel Sharifipour, Committee Member

#### ITEM NO: III. Superintendent's Report

#### SPECIFIC STATEMENT OR QUESTION:

Will the School Committee hear a report from Dr. Joseph M. Sawyer, Superintendent of Schools?

#### BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

This agenda item allows the Superintendent of the Shrewsbury Public Schools to comment informally on the programs and activities of the school system.

#### STAFF AVAILABLE FOR PRESENTATION:

Dr. Joseph M. Sawyer, Superintendent of Schools

#### ACTION RECOMMENDED FOR ITEMS I, II, & III:

That the School Committee accept the report and take such action as it deems in the best interest of the school system.



ITEM NO: IV. Time Scheduled Appointments: MEETING DATE: 01/24/24

A. SHS Student Advisory Committee: Report

#### BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

Under the Massachusetts Education Reform Act, school districts are required to have a Student Advisory Committee (SAC), consisting of five high school students who are elected by the student body. The SAC is required to meet with the School Committee during the year to review various issues of concern to the student body. Mr. Andrew Smith, Shrewsbury High School (SHS) social sciences teacher, serves as the faculty advisor to the SAC. The agenda for the SAC report is enclosed.

#### **ACTION RECOMMENDED:**

That the School Committee accept the report and take such action as it deems in the best interest of the school system.

#### STAFF & STUDENTS AVAILABLE FOR PRESENTATION:

Mr. Andrew Smith, SHS Teacher and Faculty Advisor to the SAC Mr. Todd Bazydlo, SHS Principal Students:
Siri Ural, Class of 2024, Chair
Noah Csank, Class of 2025
Venkata Duggireddy, Class of 2024
Aanya Gupta, Class of 2024
Caroline Strickland, Class of 2025

### Student Advisory Committee Agenda for the School Committee on January 24<sup>th</sup>, 2024

#### I. Student Life

With the school year entering the second semester, the student body is getting ready for the months ahead.

- a) Student General Feelings
- b) Town Hall

#### II. Co-curriculars

SHS students have had a great time getting involved with co-curriculars outside of school.

- a) Winter Concerts
- b) Winter Sports
- c) Diversity Committee
- d) Community Service Learning

#### III. Events at SHS

Students have been finding ways to strengthen the SHS community through different events.

- a) Club Activities
- b) Capstone
- c) Career Exploration
- d) Kids' Night Out
- e) National Honor Societies

Thank you for your continuous support of the SAC.

Respectfully submitted,

Siri Ural

Chairperson

Aanya Gupta, Venkata Duggireddy, Noah Csank, and Caroline Strickland SAC Members



ITEM NO: IV. Time Scheduled Appointments: MEETING DATE: 01/24/24

B. Middle School Improvement Plans: Presentation & Vote

#### BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

Each Massachusetts public school must have a School Council consisting of faculty, parents, and a community member who advise the principal on the development of a School Improvement Plan. This year, each school's School Council has used the district's 2023-2027 Strategic Plan and the district's 2023-2024 Strategic Goals and Action Steps to determine which goals were most important to be emphasized across the Grades 5-8 level and to develop school-specific goals aligned with a district goal. The enclosed plans include common goals across the middle schools, as well as unique goals for each school. The middle level principals will jointly present information about the plans.

#### **ACTION RECOMMENDED:**

That the Committee hear the presentation and vote to approve the School Improvement Plans for Sherwood Middle School and Oak Middle School.

#### STAFF AVAILABLE FOR PRESENTATION:

Jon Kelly, Principal, Sherwood Middle School Hallie Burak, Principal, Oak Middle School



# SHREWSBURY MIDDLE SCHOOLS 2023-2024 SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT PLAN

Jon Kelly: Sherwood Middle School Principal Hallie Burak: Oak Middle School Principal

#### SHARED MIDDLE LEVEL IMPROVEMENT GOALS

#### District Commitment to Educational Excellence

Shrewsbury Public Schools provides all students access to exceptional educational experiences by leveraging staff development, high-quality materials and technology, data analysis, instructional strategies, and a comprehensive system of support to meet the needs of all learners. Through these efforts, all Shrewsbury Public Schools students will demonstrate academic growth and achievement.

#### District 2023-2027 Educational Excellence Priority 2

Close Gaps: Reduce opportunity and achievement gaps to ensure all students are prepared for education and career advancement by growing all learners' literacy and "real life" skills.

| District Goal   | Action Steps   | Staff Responsible   |
|---|--|---|
| 2.1: Ensure that students in grades K-8 who score below grade-level expectations on benchmark assessments receive additional support and reduce the percentage of students qualifying for interventions by 10% by June 2024 | Implement an academic intervention system based on a multi-tiered system of support model in all elementary and middle schools, with a focus on literacy interventions by elementary and middle-level educators who teach reading/English language arts and on math interventions by middle-level educators who teach math | <ul> <li>Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum, Instruction, &amp; Assessment</li> <li>K-8 Principals, Assistant Principals, Special Education Directors, Director of English Language Education</li> <li>Instructional Coaches/Curriculum Coordinators &amp; Reading Specialists</li> <li>All PK-8 General and Special Educators who teach reading/English language arts and math</li> <li>All PK-8 Paraprofessionals who provide tutoring or support for reading/English language arts and/or math</li> </ul> |

| Middle Level Goals Aligned with Educational Excellence Priority 2: Close Gaps  |  |  |  |
|--|--|--|--|
| Middle Level Goals   | Action Steps   | Staff Responsible  |  |
| Ensure that all students in grades 5-8 who fall below the benchmark in literacy, as indicated by the STAR baseline assessment, receive additional support in literacy.  By June 2024, across all middle schools, reduce the number of students in grades 5-8 who need additional literacy support by at least 10%, as measured by the Trimester 3 STAR Assessment. | <ul> <li>Implement an academic intervention system based on a multi-tiered system of support model</li> <li>Implement the next phase of the literacy initiative (including instruction, assessment, and intervention) that engages grades 5-8 educators in improving student literacy</li> <li>Use the Star assessment program to measure every student's progress at least three times, with additional progress monitoring in ELA for students receiving intervention</li> <li>Create a shared system for tracking assessment data to enable analysis for individual and group progress</li> <li>Hold at least three literacy data analysis meetings with grade level teams to monitor all students' progress, and an additional three data analysis meetings to monitor the progress of students who are receiving interventions</li> <li>Create communication tools to provide regular family updates regarding student literacy progress</li> </ul> | <ul> <li>Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum, Instruction, &amp; Assessment</li> <li>5-8 Principals, Assistant Principals, Special Education Directors, Director of English Language Education</li> <li>Grade 5-8 Curriculum Coordinators &amp; Reading Specialists</li> <li>5-8 General and Special Educators</li> <li>5-8 Paraprofessionals who provide tutoring or support for reading/English language arts</li> </ul> |  |

### District Commitment to Enhanced Well-Being of All

Shrewsbury Public Schools prioritizes the social, emotional, behavioral, mental, and physical health of all students and staff by creating safe, supportive, and inclusive learning environments. This is accomplished by intentionally providing learning opportunities where all Shrewsbury Public Schools students and staff feel valued, supported, and empowered.

### District 2023-2027 Well-Being Priority 1

Ensure a Safe and Inclusive Culture: Foster welcoming, safe, and inclusive learning communities where we honor and celebrate diversity, create connections and a sense of belonging for all, and support and engage all students, staff, and family members

| District Goal   | Action Steps   | Staff Responsible   |
|---|--|---|
| 1.3: Increase the percentage of students districtwide who respond "favorably" to the Panorama survey in the category of "Belonging" by 5% from fall of 2023 to spring of 2024 | Implement academic and social and emotional learning (SEL) curriculum experiences and school activities to focus on building relationships between staff and students and to promote a sense of belonging for students (including use of the advisory model at SHS and Oak Middle School and class meeting models in grades PK-6)  Analyze and report out on the Panorama survey data in the aggregate and by student demographic groups to identify differences in perception | Assistant Superintendent for Community Partnerships & Well-Being Principals & Assistant Principals District Social and Emotional Learning Leadership Team All Educators who lead advisories and social and emotional learning lessons |

| Middle Level Goal Aligned with Well-Being Priority 1  |  |   |  |
|---|--|---|--|
| Middle Level Goal   | Action Steps   | Staff Responsible   |  |
| Across middle schools, increase the percentage of students who respond "favorably" to the Panorama survey in the area of "Belonging" as measured by the number of students reporting they belong at their school by 5% from Fall of 2023 to in Spring of 2024 | <ul> <li>Analyze fall 2023 Panorama data to identify students reporting less than favorably overall to the SEL competencies (self efficacy, social awareness, and emotional regulation)</li> <li>Implement academic and social and emotional learning (SEL) curriculum experiences and school activities to focus on building relationships between staff and students and to promote a sense of belonging for students (including use of the advisory model at Oak Middle School and class meeting models at Sherwood Middle School)</li> <li>Identify school-based systems of support to provide social emotional and belonging interventions and practices to students in grades 5-8 who did not identify a strength on the Baseline Panorama Data.</li> <li>Create a shared system for tracking assessment data to enable analysis of individual and group progress and to identify trends for further development of curricula and tiered intervention supports.</li> </ul> | Middle Level Staff Principals & Assistant Principals All educators who lead advisories and social and emotional learning lessons School Adjustment Counselors |  |

### SHERWOOD MIDDLE SCHOOL SPECIFIC GOAL

### District Commitment to Enhanced Well-Being of All

Shrewsbury Public Schools prioritizes the social, emotional, behavioral, mental, and physical health of all students and staff by creating safe, supportive, and inclusive learning environments. This is accomplished by intentionally providing learning opportunities where all Shrewsbury Public Schools students and staff feel valued, supported, and empowered.

#### District 2023-2027 Well-Being Priority 1

Ensure a Safe and Inclusive Culture: Foster welcoming, safe, and inclusive learning communities where we honor and celebrate diversity, create connections and a sense of belonging for all, and support and engage all students, staff, and family members

| Sherwood Middle School Goal   | Action Steps   | Staff Responsible   |
|---|--|---|
| Maximize Family and Community Partnerships:<br>Grow family and community partnerships in<br>efforts to strengthen and expand opportunities<br>for all students. | Expand opportunities for the entire Sherwood community to engage with one another and foster connections.  • Family Food Truck Night- Fall 2023  • Monthly Community Meetings  • Family Culture Night- February 2024  • Team-based Presentations/Celebrations of Learning- Spring 2024  • Family Food Truck Night- Spring 2024 | Middle Level Staff Principals & Assistant Principals PTO/School Council |

### OAK MIDDLE SCHOOL SPECIFIC GOAL

#### District Commitment to Enhanced Well-Being of All

Shrewsbury Public Schools prioritizes the social, emotional, behavioral, mental, and physical health of all students and staff by creating safe, supportive, and inclusive learning environments. This is accomplished by intentionally providing learning opportunities where all Shrewsbury Public Schools students and staff feel valued, supported, and empowered.

#### District 2023-2027 Well-Being Priority 1

Ensure a Safe and Inclusive Culture: Foster welcoming, safe, and inclusive learning communities where we honor and celebrate diversity, create connections and a sense of belonging for all, and support and engage all students, staff, and family members

| Oak Middle School Goal   | Action Steps   | Staff Responsible  |
|--|--|--|
| Ensure a Safe and Inclusive Culture: Foster welcoming, safe, and inclusive learning communities where we honor and celebrate diversity, create connections and a sense of belonging for all, and support and engage all students, staff, and family members. | Cultivate inclusivity and a sense of belonging for each student.  • Team field trips • Professional development with staff • Increase student voice through use of advisory program • Guest speaker on inclusivity and belonging • Community student meetings (by grade level) | Middle Level Staff Principals & Assistant Principals PTO |



ITEM NO: IV. Time Scheduled Appointments: MEETING DATE: 01/24/24

C. State of the District: Report

#### BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

Dr. Sawyer will share his perspective regarding the current state of the Shrewsbury Public Schools. The report will be provided under separate cover in advance of the meeting.

#### **ACTION RECOMMENDED:**

That the School Committee hear the report and take whatever steps it deems necessary in the interests of the Shrewsbury Public Schools.

#### STAFF AVAILABLE FOR PRESENTATION:

Dr. Joseph M. Sawyer, Superintendent of Schools



ITEM NO: V. Curriculum MEETING DATE: 01/24/24
A. Shrewsbury High School Program of Studies Proposed Changes: Vote

#### BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

The School Committee heard a presentation of proposed changes to the Program of Studies (POS) at its January 10, 2024, meeting. At that time, a memorandum from Mr. Bazydlo outlining proposed changes was provided for the Committee's review, which can be found <u>here</u>. The complete Program Of Studies draft was included with the January 10 meeting materials and can be found <u>here</u>.

#### **ACTION RECOMMENDED:**

That the School Committee vote to approve the Shrewsbury High School 2024-2025 Program of Studies as presented.

#### STAFF & STUDENTS AVAILABLE FOR PRESENTATION:

Dr. Joseph M. Sawyer, Superintendent of Schools Ms. Amy B. Clouter, Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum, Instruction, & Assessment



| ITEM NO: VI. Policy                          | MEETING DATE: | 01/24/24 |
|--|---------------|----------|
|  |               |          |
|  |               |          |
| BACKGROUND INFORMATION:                      |               |          |
| ACTION RECOMMENDED:                          |               |          |
| COMMITTEE MEMBERS/STAFF AVAILABLE FOR PRESEN | TATION:       |          |



ITEM NO: VII. Finance & Operations MEETING DATE: 01/24/24

A. Future Budget Projections: Report

#### BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

From time to time a five-year budget projection has been created to assist with identifying future fiscal needs and pressures, based on historical budget data as well as predicted trends in personnel and program needs. Mr. Girardi and Dr. Sawyer will provide information about projections for Fiscal Years 2025 through 2029 based on these contexts.

This report will be provided under separate cover in advance of the meeting.

#### **ACTION RECOMMENDED:**

That the School Committee hear the report and take whatever steps it deems necessary in the interests of the Shrewsbury Public Schools.

#### STAFF AVAILABLE FOR PRESENTATION:

Mr. Christian Girardi, Assistant Superintendent for Finance & Operations

Dr. Joseph M. Sawyer, Superintendent of Schools



ITEM NO: VIII. Old Business MEETING DATE: 01/24/24

A. Elementary School Improvement Plans: Vote

#### BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

At the meeting on January 10 elementary principals presented information about the <u>elementary schools'</u> <u>School Improvement Plans</u>, noting common goals across the K-4 schools, as well as unique goals for each school.

Due to an oversight, the scheduled vote was not taken on January 10. It is recommended that the School Committee vote to approve the elementary School Improvement Plans.

#### **ACTION RECOMMENDED:**

That the Committee vote to approve the School Improvement Plans for Major Howard W. Beal School, Calvin Coolidge School, Floral Street School, Walter J. Paton School, and Spring Street School.

#### MEMBERS/STAFF AVAILABLE FOR PRESENTATION:

Dr. Joseph M. Sawyer, Superintendent of Schools



| ITEM NO: IX. New Business         | MEETING DATE: | 01/24/24 |
|-----------------------------------|---------------|----------|
|                                   |               |          |
|                                   |               |          |
|                                   |               |          |
|                                   |               |          |
|                                   |               |          |
| BACKGROUND INFORMATION:           |               |          |
|                                   |               |          |
|                                   |               |          |
| ACTION RECOMMENDED:               |               |          |
|                                   |               |          |
|                                   |               |          |
| STAFF AVAILABLE FOR PRESENTATION: |               |          |
|                                   |               |          |



ITEM NO: X. Approval of Minutes MEETING DATE: 01/24/24

#### BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

The minutes from the School Committee Workshop held on January 3, and the School Committee Meeting held on January 10, 2024, are enclosed.

#### **ACTION RECOMMENDED:**

That the Committee accept the minutes from the School Committee Workshop held on January 3, 2024 and the School Committee Meeting held on January 10, 2024.

#### STAFF AVAILABLE FOR PRESENTATION:

Ms. Sandra Fryc, Chairperson Mr. Jon Wensky, Secretary

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

#### MINUTES OF SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING

#### Wednesday, January 10, 2024

Present: Ms. Sandra Fryc, Chairperson; Ms. Erin Boucher, Vice Chairperson; Mr. Jon Wensky, Secretary; Ms. Lynsey Heffernan; Ms. Rachel Sharifipour; Mr. Christian Girardi, Assistant Superintendent for Finance and Operations; and Dr. Joseph Sawyer, Superintendent of Schools.

A complete audio/visual recording of this meeting is available on the Shrewsbury Public Schools website.

The meeting was convened by Ms. Fryc at 7:00pm.

#### I. Public Participation

None.

#### II. Chairperson's Report & Members' Reports

None.

#### III. Superintendent's Report

Dr. Sawyer expressed appreciation to the Shrewsbury Department of Public Works for its efforts around plowing/snow removal and school building maintenance during recent heavy snowfall and rainfall.

#### **IV. Time Scheduled Appointments:**

#### A. SHS Crew Team: Recognition of State Championship

Jason Costa, Athletic Director at Shrewsbury High School (SHS), introduced Crew Coaches Beatrice Sims - Head Boys Coach; Michael 'MJ' Lesofsky - Boys Novice Coach; and Mitch McManus - Rowing Director and Head Girls Coach (Varsity & Novice). Mr. McManus discussed highlights of their successful season, which culminated with a Fours Team Point Score Trophy for the Boys Fours Team and seven Gold Medalists at the 2023 Massachusetts Public School Rowing Association (MPSRA) Fall Championship: Novice Girls 1st 4+; Novice Girls 2nd 4+; Novice Boys 1st 4+; Novice Boys 2nd 4+; Varsity Boys 2nd 4+; and Varsity Girls 3rd 4+. Boys Captains James Hess, James Bruschi, Jack Christman, and Bodhi Vohora; and Girls Captains Shally Albert, Anna Rosenkrantz, Hannah Reddick and Sowbernika "Niki" Rajesh (Captain elect for Spring 2024), shared remarks about their personal experiences on the team. The Committee and Dr. Sawyer congratulated the team on their successful season and invited the Captains up to be recognized and presented with certificates.

#### **B.** Acceptance of Gift: Vote

Dr. Sawyer provided information on a gift of \$10,000 from former Shrewsbury Public Schools Principal Ms. Jayne M. Wilkin that is intended to provide up to \$1000 each year for the recipient of the award in Ms. Wilkin's name to utilize to advance their work in the school district. Dr. Sawyer advised that the 2023-2024 Jayne M. Wilkin Award winner is Director of English Language Learning Ms. Christina Manos, and that Ms. Manos would be the first award recipient to be able to use these funds. Dr.

Sawyer expressed appreciation for the gift and recommended that the Committee vote to accept it. On a motion by Ms. Boucher, seconded by Ms. Sharifipour, the Committee voted unanimously to accept a gift of \$10,000 from Jayne M. Wilkin for the purpose of providing up to \$1,000 annually to the recipient of the Jayne M. Wilkin Award that school year, for the purpose of procuring goods or services to enhance the work of that staff member in their school and/or department, beginning with the 2023-2024 school year recipient, subject to the approval of the Superintendent of Schools.

#### C. Elementary School Improvement Plans: Presentation & Vote

Kristen Gasper, Principal, Major Howard W. Beal School; Tiffany Ostrander, Principal, Calvin Coolidge School; Lisa McCubrey, Principal, Floral Street School; Scott Mulcahy, Principal, Walter J. Paton School; and Bryan Mabie, Principal, Spring Street School, gave the report. Ms. McCubrey noted the two goals around literacy and closing gaps that are shared across all five elementary schools, detailed actions relative to those goals, and provided associated data snapshots by grade level. Each of the five principals presented information on their own school-specific Improvement Goal and noted how it relates to the district's Strategic Priorities, and they collectively acknowledged their school-based councils for their support.

Committee members expressed appreciation for the format of the report, the elementary schools' shared focus on literacy, the data presented, and the ability to identify student-specific data via Panorama surveys.

#### V. Curriculum

#### A. Shrewsbury High School Program of Studies Proposed Changes: Report

Principal Todd Bazydlo presented the SHS course selection timeline, noted action steps around courses and course selection relative to the district's *Commitment to Educational Excellence* Strategic Priority, and detailed existing and proposed Innovation Career Pathways. Assistant Principal Maureen Monopoli described changes proposed for the following departments: English; English Language Education; Technology, Media, & Business; Performing Arts; Visual Arts; and World Languages. Director of Physical Education, Health, and Family Consumer Sciences Dr. Erica Pratt detailed proposed changes to Family Consumer Science and Physical Education, and Director of Science and Engineering Dave Hruskoci described proposed changes to Science and Engineering.

Additional information was provided in response to Committee questions on topics including the Project Lead the Way (PLTW) program (Grades 9 and 10 are the entry point for students who want to complete full program sequences, but students can take individual courses later if there are seats available), and on differences between PLTW (a national organization that produces curriculum for different content areas) and Innovation Career Pathways (a designation from the state of Massachusetts that is connected to grant funding). Dr. Sawyer noted that the proposed SHS Program of Studies draft would be posted for public viewing in advance of a vote by the Committee at their next meeting.

#### VI. Policy

None.

#### VII. Finance & Operations

#### A. Grant Funding Acceptance: Vote

Mr. Girardi advised that the district was awarded a competitive \$10,000 Project Lead The Way Engineering Grant applied for by Mr. Hruskoci, and recommended that the Committee vote to accept the grant funds. On a motion by Ms. Boucher, seconded by Ms. Heffernan, the Committee voted unanimously to accept the Project Lead The Way Engineering Fiscal Year 2024 Grant for \$10,000 as presented and use such funds for their intended purpose.

#### **B. FY24 Budget Update: Report**

In his update on the Fiscal Year 2024 budget, Mr. Girardi provided a status to date on: the Town Meeting Appropriated General Budget; projected variances in certain budget categories (and noting the report should reflect 47 Shrewsbury Public School students currently attending Assabet Valley Regional Technical High School, not 46 students as listed); the Circuit Breaker Fund; and COVID funding (ESSER-1, -2, and -3 grants). Mr. Girardi advised he expects the district will fully expend its FY24 General Fund Appropriation and will continue to monitor all costs and update projections during the course of the year.

In response to a question from Ms. Fryc regarding the potential for 9C cuts and grant funding reductions, Mr. Girardi reported the district had been advised by the EOHLC (Executive Office of Housing and Livable Communities) that funding for Emergency Homeless Shelter students would be provided through the end of Fiscal Year 2024.

#### **VIII. Old Business**

None.

#### IX. New Business

None.

#### X. Approval of Minutes

Without objections from the Committee, the minutes from the School Committee Workshop held on December 13, and the School Committee Meeting held on December 20, 2023 were accepted as distributed.

#### **XI. Executive Session**

Ms. Fryc 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 Units A and/or B, the Shrewsbury Paraprofessional Association, and/or the Cafeteria Workers Association; and

C. For the purpose of addressing M.G.L. c. 30A, Section 21(1) – ""[t]o discuss the reputation, character, physical condition or mental health, rather than professional competence, of an individual, or to discuss the discipline or dismissal of, or complaints or charges brought against, a public officer, employee, staff member or individual." ("Purpose 1") - Open Meeting Law complaint, where deliberation in an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the bargaining position of the public body; and return to Open Session only for the purpose of adjourning for the evening. On a motion by Ms. Boucher, seconded by Ms. Sharifipour, on a roll call vote: Ms. Sharifipour, yes; Mr. Wensky, yes; Ms. Boucher, yes; Ms. Heffernan, yes; and Ms. Fryc, yes, the School Committee voted to adjourn to Executive Session at 9:08pm.

#### XII. Adjournment

On a motion by Ms. Sharifipour, seconded by Ms. Boucher, the committee unanimously agreed to adjourn the meeting at 10:11pm. Roll call votes were as follows: Ms. Sharifipour, yes; Ms. Heffernan, yes; Mr.

Wensky, yes; Ms. Boucher, yes; and Ms. Fryc, yes.

#### Respectfully submitted,

Elizabeth McCollum, Clerk

Documents referenced:

2023-2024 Elementary School Improvement Plan

2023-2024 Elementary School Improvement Plan Slide Presentation

SHS 2024-2025 Program of Studies Memo

SHS 2024-2025 Program of Studies Draft

SHS 2024-2025 Program of Studies Slide Presentation

Project Lead The Way Engineering FY24 Grant Memo

Project Lead The Way Engineering FY24 Grant Information

Updated FY24 Grants Spreadsheet

FY24 Budget Update Report

Set(s) of minutes as referenced above

# SHREWSBURY PUBLIC SCHOOLS MINUTES OF THE SCHOOL COMMITTEE WORKSHOP

Wednesday, January 3, 2024 Shrewsbury High School - 75 Cypress Avenue Principal's Conference Room

**Start Time:** 6:00pm

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

#### FY 25 Budget Development Status Review

Dr. Sawyer provided an overview of the FY 25 budget considerations enclosed in his January 3, 2024 memo to the Committee. The Committee asked questions and provided feedback regarding these considerations. The Committee's feedback will be factored into the Superintendent's initial FY 25 Budget Recommendation to the School Committee, scheduled for presentation at our Wednesday, February 7 General Meeting.

#### **Adjournment to Executive Session**

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

- A. For the purpose of addressing G.L. c. 30A, § 21(a)(7) "[to 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. 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 unanimously voted to adjourn the workshop into Executive Session at 7:58pm.

#### 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: 8:08pm.

**Documents referred to:** FY 25 Budget Development Considerations (January 3, 2024 Memo); Projection 1 & 2 - Elementary Section (K-4 resource considerations)



ITEM NO: XI. Executive Session

MEETING DATE: **01/24/24** 

- 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 Units A and/or B, the Shrewsbury Paraprofessional Association, and/or the Cafeteria Workers Association.

#### BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

Executive Session is warranted for these purposes.

#### **ACTION RECOMMENDED:**

Request 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; and

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, where deliberation in an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the bargaining position of the public body; and return to Open Session only for the purpose of adjourning for the evening.

#### STAFF AVAILABLE FOR PRESENTATION:

Dr. Joseph M. Sawyer, Superintendent of Schools

Ms. Barbara A. Malone, Executive Director of Human Resources

Mr. Chris Girardi, Assistant Superintendent for Finance and Operations



ITEM NO: XII. Adjournment