

SHREWSBURY PUBLIC SCHOOLS
MINUTES OF THE SCHOOL COMMITTEE WORKSHOP
Wednesday, January 31, 2024
Shrewsbury High School
2002 Conference Room

Start Time: 6:10pm

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; Ms. Amy Clouter, Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum, Instruction, & Assessment; 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 Update

Dr. Sawyer provided an update on the FY 25 budget recommendations. He reviewed a proposal of investments that assumes a 4.5% increase to the schools budget under the current projections from the Town Manager and aligned to the guidelines of the May 2021 Operational Override Commitment to the Town of Shrewsbury. Recommended investments include a Kindergarten FTE, IT Project Manager, Literacy Tutor, and Middle School Reading Specialist. Additionally, the Committee shared its perspectives regarding other key district needs to factor into the budget recommendation. Committee members asked questions and provided feedback regarding which will be factored into the Superintendent's initial FY25 Budget Recommendation to the School Committee, scheduled for presentation at the Wednesday, February 7 General Meeting.

Adjournment

Motion to adjourn the workshop into 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
- 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. Wensky; 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 approved to adjourn the workshop into Executive Session at 8:36pm.

Motion to adjourn the Workshop: 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 Workshop adjourned at: 9:02pm.

Documents referred to:

FY 25 Budget Development Considerations Memo - January 31, 2024