

**SHREWSBURY PUBLIC SCHOOLS**  
**MINUTES OF THE SCHOOL COMMITTEE WORKSHOP**  
**Tuesday, August 22, 2023**  
**Shrewsbury High School - 75 Cypress Avenue**  
**Room M126D - Pricipal's Conference Room**

**Start Time:** 7:06p,

**Present:** Ms. Sandy Fryc, Chairperson; Ms. Erin Boucher, Vice Chairperson; Mr. Jonathan Wensky, Secretary; Ms. Lynsey Heffernan; Ms. Rachel Sharifipour; and Dr. Joseph Sawyer, Superintendent of Schools.

**Discussion of School Committee focus for 2023-2024 school year**

Ms. Fryc & Dr. Sawyer reviewed the 2023-2024 meeting calendar with the School Committee and we discussed the format and timing for reports and presentations throughout the school year. The overall recommendations are that the agenda format should be tighter than last year. The Committee would like to explore additional communication vehicles to share student presentations to the community versus General Meeting agendas. Dr. Sawyer reviewed the implementation of the new Strategic Plan with the Committee. Committee members expressed support for taking a focused approach to implementing the district's strategic priorities in Year One recommending the district find a balance between the day-to-day responsibilities and driving momentum on key priorities for this school year. Regarding budget process and timelines, the Committee recommended that forecasting align with the Town's budget to ensure we continue to stay within the guidelines of the override agreement. Also, all budget discussions need to be timely and occur prior to the Committee's vote and presentation at the annual Town Meeting.

**Discussion of School Committee communication topics**

The Committee discussed the importance of communicating recurring updates to the community on the efforts to mitigate reduced access to vocational education through career and technical education alternatives. Additionally, the Committee would like the public to receive quarterly updates regarding the RISE Program, literacy programming, Shrewsbury High School space needs, and PreK to Grade 4 capital planning. The Committee also expressed the need to communicate the updated Homework Policy early in the school year to ensure parents and caregivers are well informed of how these changes impact the current school year and holiday schedule.

**Approval of General Meeting minutes**

The Committee reviewed the minutes from the General Meeting on Wednesday, June 14, 2023. No edits or revisions were required.

The committee approved the General Meeting minutes from June 14, 2023 on a motion by Ms. Boucher; Seconded by Ms. Heffernan; Roll Call Vote: Ms. Sharifipour: Yes; Ms. Heffernan: Yes; Mr. Wensky: Yes; Ms. Boucher, Yes; and Ms. Fryc: Yes.

**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.

On a motion by Ms. Heffernan; Seconded by Ms. Boucher; 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 8:34pm**

**Documents referred to:** No documents were shared

### **School Committee Workshop Adjournment**

**Motion to adjourn the School Committee Workshop:** On a motion by Mr. Wensky; Seconded by Ms. Heffernan; 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 8:36pm.