



Homeless Student Update

September 27, 2023

Homeless Student Update

- Key message: all Shrewsbury Public School students are our students, regardless of where they live in town or how long they have lived here

Homeless Student Update

- Emergency homeless shelter opened in Shrewsbury in May 2023
- Currently 52 students enrolled K-12 (~80 families)

Homeless Student Update

State Funding for Students in Emergency Shelters

- 1) Homeless Emergency Support Grant [344], which provides \$1,000 for each student enrolled in our district from an emergency shelter for initial needs (such as technology, supplies, etc. Updated estimate: **this will provide \$52,000 in funds based on current enrollment**
- 2) Expanded Homeless Shelter Funding Program [997], which provides \$104 per student per day for the time they are enrolled in our district, **which is estimated to provide about \$900,000 in FY24** with a projection of an average enrollment of 48 students over the course of the year.

Total estimated state funding = \$952,000

Homeless Student Update

Additional Resources to Support Students: Updated Based on Need

- 2.0 full-time equivalent (FTE) long-term sub English language education teacher at Floral Street School and Beal School – estimate \$90,000
- 30 hours/week Homeless Family Coordinators to serve as a liaison between families at the site and the schools (two individuals, each part-time, one who is fluent in Haitian Creole) – \$47,000
- 2.0 FTE bilingual instructional aides – \$60,000
- 8.0 FTE applied behavioral analysis technicians – \$280,000
- 2.0 FTE bus monitors – \$52,000
- 1.0 FTE mental and behavioral health counselor, contracted through Shrewsbury Youth and Family Services – \$65,000

Updated estimate for personnel resources = \$594,000

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Fiscal Projections

- Updated estimate for personnel resources = \$594,000
- Estimate for other expenses (technology, materials, contributions to state retirement system for personnel hired through state grants, etc. – conservative estimate) = \$400,000

Updated expense estimate = \$994,000

Updated estimate for state funding = \$952,000

Difference = (\$42,000)

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- Consideration of programming that efficiently consolidates/targets personnel resources and provides ongoing support if we receive new students with intensive needs
- Providing sufficient support to enable current staff who are supporting students to return to more typical duties

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Students Being Transported to District of Origin

Currently, 4 students are being transported by bus back to the district where they attended before becoming homeless, per their right under the law. The district they attend and SPS split that cost, and the cost to the district is reimbursed to the town by the state next fiscal year. **This is a reduction from 10 students at the start of the school year.**

Cost of routes vary, depending on distance and how many students being transported on one route. We have \$81,000 budgeted for homeless transportation (prior to the shelter being opened) and right now we are projected to be within this budget, but this is subject to fluctuation due to changing census of homeless students.

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