



**School Committee
Meeting Book**

**May 15, 2019
7:00 pm**

**Town Hall -100 Maple Avenue
Selectmen's Meeting Room**



**SHREWSBURY PUBLIC SCHOOLS
SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING**

AGENDA

**May 15, 2019 7:00pm
Town Hall—Selectmen's Meeting Room
100 Maple Avenue**

Items

Suggested time allotments

- | | | |
|-------|--|--|
| I. | Public Participation | <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 10px; text-align: center;">7:00-7:10</div> |
| II. | Chairperson's Report & Members' Reports | |
| III. | Superintendent's Report | |
| IV. | Time Scheduled Appointments: | |
| | A. Science Olympiad & Science Fair State Champions: Student Recognition | 7:10 – 7:30 |
| | B. Beal School Building Project: Design Update | 7:30 – 7:55 |
| V. | Curriculum | |
| VI. | Policy | |
| VII. | Finance & Operations | |
| | A. State Aid for Education: Update | 7:55 – 8:10 |
| VIII. | Old Business | |
| IX. | New Business | |
| | A. Appointment of Assistant Superintendent for Community Partnerships & Well-Being: Vote | 8:10 – 8:25 |
| X. | Approval of Minutes | 8:25 – 8:30 |
| XI. | Executive Session | 8:30 – 9:15 |
| | A. For the purpose of collective bargaining with the Shrewsbury Education Association | |
| | B. For the purpose of negotiations with non-represented staff | |
| | C. For the purpose of reviewing, approving, and/or releasing executive session minutes | |
| XII. | Adjournment | 9:15 |

Next regular meeting: June 5, 2019



SHREWSBURY PUBLIC SCHOOLS SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING

ITEM NO: I Public Participation

MEETING DATE: 5/15/19

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
Mr. Jon Wensky, Vice Chairperson
Dr. B. Dale Magee, Secretary
Ms. Lynsey Heffernan, Committee Member
Mr. Jason Palitsch, 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.



SHREWSBURY PUBLIC SCHOOLS SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING

ITEM NO: **IV. Time Scheduled Appointments:** MEETING DATE: **5/15/19**
A. Science Olympiad & Science Fair State Champions: Student Recognition

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

On Saturday, March 23rd the Shrewsbury High School (SHS) Science team competed in the Massachusetts Science Olympiad at Framingham State University. 20 students competed in events ranging from design and prototyping, to technical writing, to chemistry lab skills, and Michelle Kim and Sankalp Katnalu received a 1st place award in Mystery Architecture.

The State Science and Engineering Fair for high school students was held at MIT on May 3rd and 4th, and student Garima Prabhakar received a first place award for her project *Increasing Exoplanetary Detection Accuracy using Orbital Parameter Relations*. The State Middle School Science Fair will be held on May 11 at Worcester Technical High School.

Students will be available to talk about their projects and answer questions from the Committee.

ACTION RECOMMENDED:

That the Committee recognize the Science Olympiad & Science Fair State Champions.

STAFF & STUDENTS AVAILABLE FOR PRESENTATION:

David Hruskoci, Director of Science & Engineering
Zachary Tashjian, SHS Teacher, Science & Engineering; Science Olympiad Advisor
Catherine Phillips, SHS Teacher, Science & Engineering
SHS Students: Michelle Kim, Sankalp Katnalu, and Garima Prabhakar



**SHREWSBURY PUBLIC SCHOOLS
SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING**

ITEM NO: IV. Time Scheduled Appointments: **MEETING DATE: 5/15/19**
B. Beal School Building Project: Design Update

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

Mr. Sean Brennan, Architect, Lamoureux Pagano Associates, will provide an update on progress with the design of the Beal School Building Project and answer questions from the Committee. The report will be provided under separate cover.

ACTION RECOMMENDED:

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

AVAILABLE FOR PRESENTATION:

Mr. Sean Brennan, Architect, Lamoureux Pagano Associates



**SHREWSBURY PUBLIC SCHOOLS
SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING**

ITEM NO: **V. Curriculum**

MEETING DATE: **5/15/19**

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

ACTION RECOMMENDED:

STAFF & STUDENTS AVAILABLE FOR PRESENTATION:



**SHREWSBURY PUBLIC SCHOOLS
SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING**

ITEM NO: **VI. Policy**

MEETING DATE: **5/15/19**

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

ACTION RECOMMENDED:

COMMITTEE MEMBERS/STAFF AVAILABLE FOR PRESENTATION:



**SHREWSBURY PUBLIC SCHOOLS
SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING**

ITEM NO: VII. Finance & Operations
A. State Aid for Education: Update

MEETING DATE: 5/15/19

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

A substantial portion of funding for public education in Shrewsbury comes from state aid. Mr. Collins will provide information regarding the types and amounts of state aid being provided to Shrewsbury, including Chapter 70 aid for education; reimbursements through the Special Education Circuit Breaker program, Charter School program, and Non-Resident Pupil Transportation program; and grant programs.

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. Patrick C. Collins, Assistant Superintendent for Finance & Operations

FY20 Budget: State Funding Status Update

Patrick C. Collins

Assistant Superintendent for Finance & Operations

Topics

- Categories of Funding
- Historical Data and Current FY20 Estimates
- Timeline for FY20

Categories of Funding

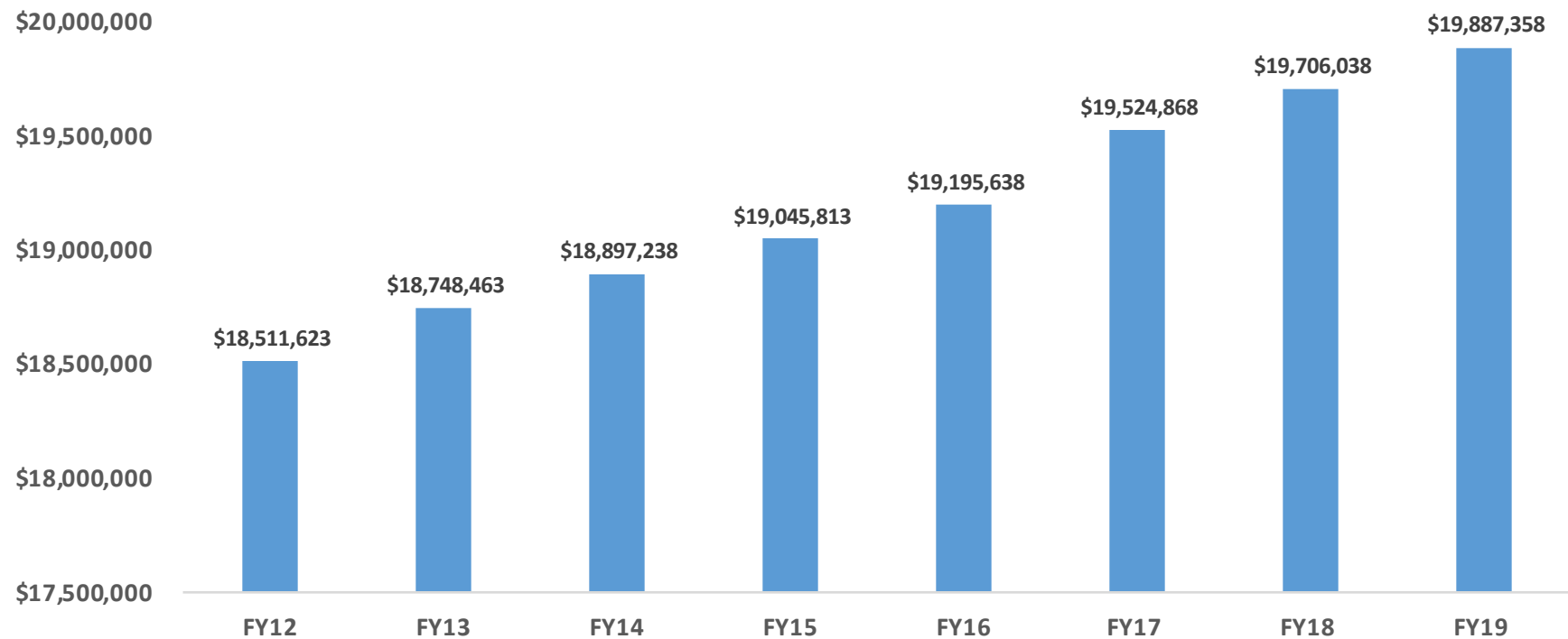
- Chapter 70 Aid
- Reimbursement Programs
 - Special Education Circuit Breaker
 - Charter School Students
 - Non-resident Vocational Transportation
- Grants for Targeted Needs

Chapter 70 Aid

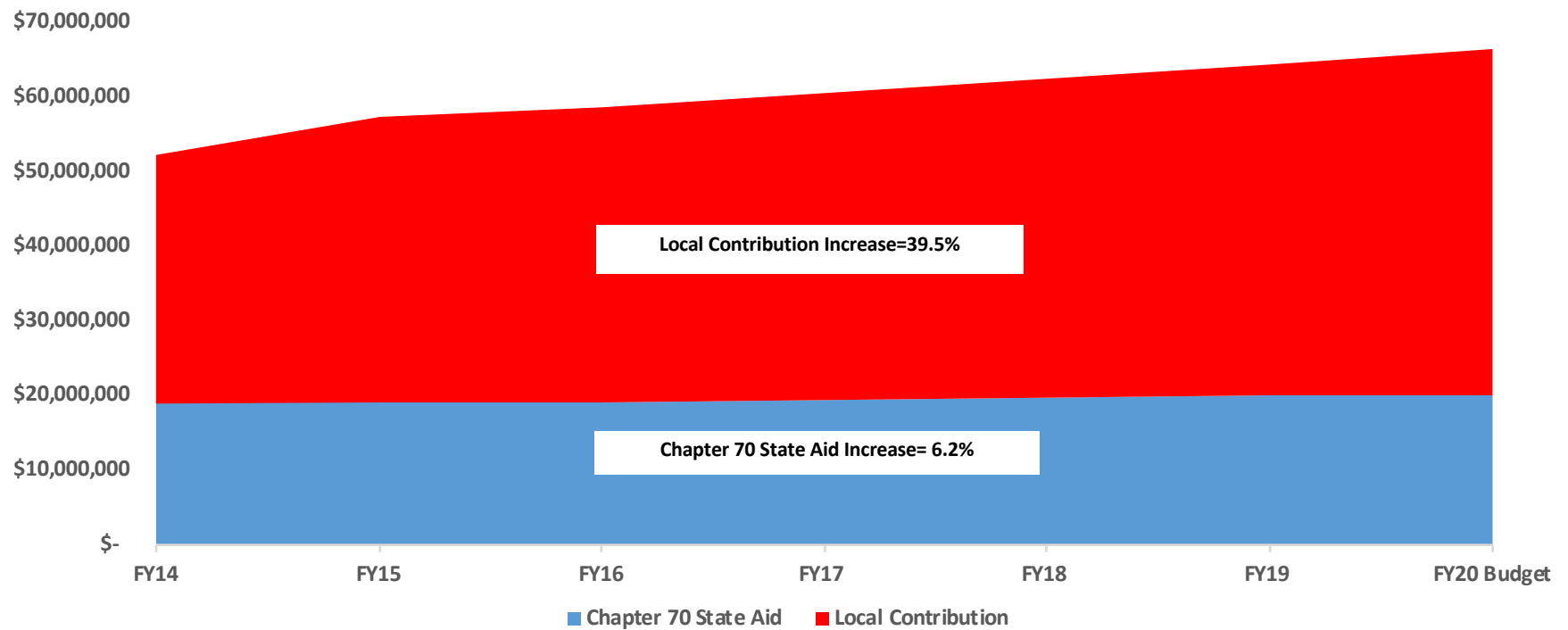
[Massachusetts General Law Chapter 70]

- The state has a constitutional responsibility to ensure adequate and equitable for all public school students.
- A complex formula is used to distribute state funding to all communities using a multitude of factors.
- The formula has changed several times since its inception as part of the 1993 Education Reform Act.
- Ch. 70 state aid is a “General Fund” receipt and is distributed on a monthly basis to the town coffers via the Town Treasurer.

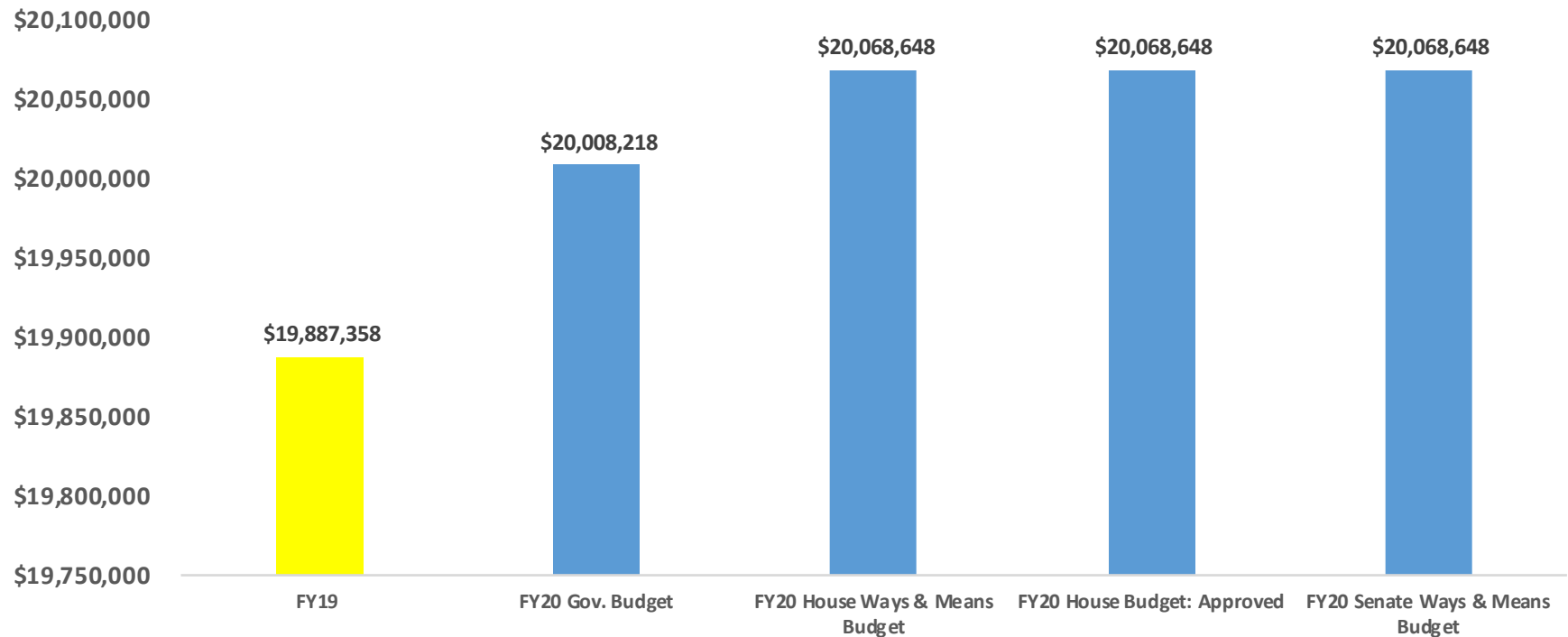
Chapter 70 Aid Funding History: Shrewsbury



Chapter 70 History: Long-term Trend



Chapter 70 Aid: FY20 Budget Estimates



Chapter 70 Aid: FY20

- Per the formula, Shrewsbury receives “Minimum Aid”. In FY20, a total of 183 communities are receiving only Minimum Aid.
 - In the Governor’s Budget, [new/additional] Minimum Aid was \$20/pupil for the year and for Shrewsbury amounted to \$120,860 in additional aid on top of the FY19 amount of \$19,887,358, for a the total amount of \$20,008,218.
 - The Legislature budgets all call for Minimum Aid to be \$30/pupil for an additional amount of \$181,290.
- Our FY20 Foundation Enrollment is 6,043 from the 10/1/2018 official enrollment count.
- Tuition-paying Full Day Kindergarten students are counted as a .5 student since parents are funding the other half day. If we had tuition-free Full Day Kindergarten we would receive an additional \$4,890 [326 half day students x \$15 [half of \$30]]

Chapter 70 Myth

- The amount of money we actually spend on education each year from all sources impacts the amount of state aid we receive.*

*Only a community that fails to spend at the statutory minimum of their calculated Foundation Budget is at risk of not receiving any state aid.

- In FY18 statewide, school districts collectively spent 25.7% more than Foundation Budget, while Shrewsbury spent 18.4% above minimum.
- This is part of the rationale for the Foundation Budget Review Commission [FBRC] recommendations to further modify the school finance formula.

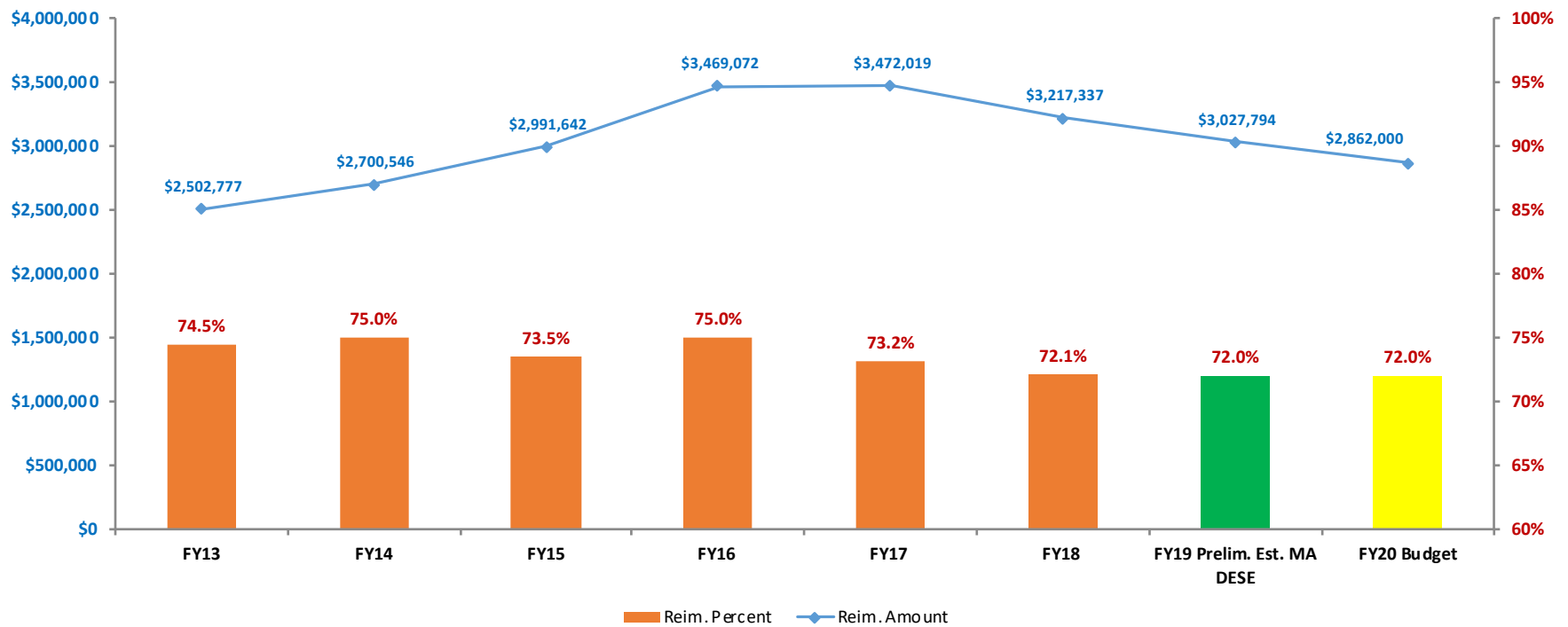
Special Education Circuit Breaker Reimbursement

- Provides fiscal relief in the form of state reimbursement for “high-cost” special needs students.
- For each student whose combined cost for all special educational services [excluding transportation] exceed \$45,793, the state will reimburse up to 75% of those costs, subject to annual appropriation.

Special Education Circuit Breaker Reimbursement

- Claims are made in July each year for the prior school year, and reimbursement received in the subsequent fiscal year. The July 2019 claim will include students in the 2018-2019 school year and we will receive reimbursement in FY20.
- Due to timing, reimbursement estimates by the School Dept. are necessary and create volatility/uncertainty. Estimates have two major variables: cost of student services and state level appropriation for the subsequent year.

Special Education Circuit Breaker Reimbursement History and FY20 Estimate



Charter School Aid

- The state has a reimbursement program for communities whose resident students opt to attend a charter school.
- The reimbursement formula is of course based upon sending enrollment.
- The reimbursement formula and amount appropriated on an annual basis by the state has changed considerably over time, and in recent years has not been fully funded.
- State estimates are provided on the “Cherry Sheet” for local budgeting purposes.
- Charter School Aid is a “General Fund” receipt and is distributed on a monthly basis to the town coffers via the Town Treasurer.

271 SHREWSBURY



Charter School Reimbursement History

Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education

OFFICE OF DISTRICT AND SCHOOL FINANCE

Summary of Historical Sending District Charter School FTE, Tuition, and Reimbursements , FY96 to present*

Select your district using the drop down menu:

271 SHREWSBURY	FY10	FY11	FY12	FY13	FY14	FY15	FY16	FY17	FY18	FY19
FTE	127.16	144.14	130.79	116.28	104.36	98.19	73.17	52.00	33.77	28.00
Tuition	1,151,129	1,321,539	1,279,450	1,226,276	1,142,099	1,221,904	923,221	693,667	447,475	403,268
Facilities Aid	106,489	118,052	113,196	100,058	90,037	85,270	63,281	45,963	29,507	24,828
Chapter 46 Aid	351,695	330,718	85,807	38,006	38,663	81,365	-71	0	0	0
Total Aid	458,184	448,770	199,003	138,064	128,700	166,635	63,210	45,963	29,507	24,828
Net Cost to District	692,945	872,769	1,080,447	1,088,212	1,013,399	1,055,269	860,011	647,704	417,968	378,440

Charter School Projection FY20

- Students: 28

	House Budget-Approved	Senate Ways & Means
Tuition Cost	\$ 425,395	\$ 427,603
Reimbursement	\$ (26,257)	\$ (40,481)
Net Cost	\$ 399,138	\$ 387,122

Non-Resident Vocational Transportation

- Shrewsbury is required to provide transportation to students who attend Assabet Valley Regional Technical High School.
- Per state law, the district cannot charge a fee to students/families for this service.
- We currently operate three buses at an annual cost of \$200,083.
- Non-resident Vocational Transportation Reimbursement is a “General Fund” receipt and is distributed on at the end of the fiscal year to the town coffers via the Town Treasurer.

Homeless Student Transportation

- We are required by federal law to provide transportation to homeless students.
- For example, students who previously resided in Shrewsbury and attended Shrewsbury Public Schools, then became homeless and moved out of town have a right to retain enrollment in their S.P.S. school so we must transport.
- Homeless student transportation Reimbursement is a “General Fund” receipt and is distributed on at the end of the fiscal year to the town coffers via the Town Treasurer.

Non-Resident Vocational and Homeless Student Transportation Reimbursement History

TRANSPORATION REIMBURSEMENT-TARGETED NEEDS								
	FY13	FY14	FY15	FY16	FY17	FY18 est.	FY19 est.	
Homeless Transportation	\$ 100,252	\$ 28,341	\$ 7,456	\$ 16,113	\$ 6,195	\$ 9,059	\$ 12,000	
Non-Resident Vocational	\$ 6,917	\$ 89,646	\$ -	\$ 95,274	\$ 11,460	\$ 10,512	\$ 8,874	
Total	\$ 107,169	\$ 117,987	\$ 7,456	\$ 111,387	\$ 17,655			
Homeless Transportation	94.07%	50.83%	34.40%	36.10%	37.8%	33-35%	30%	
Non-Resident Vocational	6.80%	86.93%	0.00%	54.60%	6.39%	5.80%	4.80%	

FY20 Transportation Reimbursement Estimates

- Currently, there is no funding budgeting at the state level for Non-Resident Vocational Transportation in FY20.
- Homeless transportation services vary widely year-to-year. We expect the reimbursement rate to be approximately 30%.

State Budget Process Timeline

- We expect the state budget process to be finalized in late June or early July, long after Shrewsbury's Annual Town Meeting is completed.
- State reimbursements and aid for the FY20 budget are estimated by the Town Manager's Office and the School Department.

FY20 Preliminary Chapter 70 Aid and Net School Spending Requirements

January 23, 2019

Pursuant to section 6 of Chapter 70 of the General Laws, the Commissioner of Elementary and Secondary Education is issuing the preliminary estimates of Chapter 70 school aid and net school spending requirements for FY20. These estimates are based on House 1, Governor Baker's proposed state budget for the coming fiscal year. The proposal increases aid to districts from \$4,907,573,321 to \$5,107,909,124, an increase of \$200.3 million or 4.1 percent.

These are preliminary estimates subject to change as the House and Senate deliberate on the budget. Our purpose in providing these estimates at this time is to assist cities, towns and regional school districts in their budget preparations for FY20. We advise you to construct your local budgets with sufficient flexibility to accommodate the changes that typically occur in the state budget process. The Commissioner will issue the final, official school spending requirements as soon as the Governor and Legislature approve either the FY20 state budget or an earlier local aid resolution.

The House 1 budget proposal is based on [An Act to Promote Equity and Excellence in Education](#), a comprehensive school finance bill being filed today by the Baker-Polito Administration. As described in more detail below, the bill implements the major recommendations of the Foundation Budget Review Commission (FBRC), incorporates other enhancements to the Commonwealth's school funding framework, and codifies the formula changes that have previously been implemented through annual provisions in the state budget.

The proposed legislation sets targets for changes to the foundation budget calculation, to be fully phased-in by FY26. Here is a summary of the proposals:

- The *out-of-district special education tuition* rate is raised consistent with FBRC recommendations. FY20 establishes a new goal at three times the FY19 statewide average foundation budget per pupil, to close the gap between the foundation budget (1x statewide average foundation budget per pupil) and the circuit breaker threshold (4x statewide average foundation budget per pupil). The FY20 rate represents one-seventh of the gap between the FY19 rate and the goal rate plus inflation.
- House 1 also initiates year 1 of a planned 6-year phase-in of increases to the *benefits and fixed charges* rate based on new goal rates derived from Group Insurance Commission (GIC) data. Consistent with FBRC recommendations, the goal rates account for GIC premium rates for both active and retired municipal employees. The legislation specifies that the goal rates will be updated annually to reflect changes in GIC's premium costs. House 1 builds on significant increases over the past two fiscal years and closes one-seventh of the gap toward the benefits goal rates in FY20, with one-fifth of the remaining gap to be closed in each of the next 5 years.
- For *English learners*, the Governor's proposal completes the expansion of overall rates begun in the FY19 budget, but takes a modified approach that responds to the FBRC recommendations:
 - English learner (EL) incremental rates are restructured to differentiate students by grade level. This substantially increases the increment for high school students, reflecting the additional challenges of learning a new language at an older age.
 - The foundation budget includes all students with low English language proficiency, as measured by the statewide [ACCESS for ELLs test](#). Students who have already met or exceeded state exit requirements are no longer counted as EL students in the foundation budget calculation. This reduced headcount is mitigated by the increased rates.
- For *economically disadvantaged students*, also consistent with the FBRC recommendations, the Governor's proposal expands the foundation budget over 7 years and introduces a more progressive decile rate structure to the highest 5 deciles. Starting in FY20, there is also a new targeted *high needs concentration increment* for districts serving the highest concentrations of both economically disadvantaged and EL students in the Commonwealth. Eligible districts will receive this increment in addition to the regular economically disadvantaged and EL increments. At full phase-in, a decile 10 district receiving this additional increment will now be receiving a total increment increase of \$4,782 per economically disadvantaged student (in FY20 dollars), compared to the FY19 decile 10 increment of \$3,980.
- The Governor's proposal also introduces a new foundation budget rate for high school students in approved high quality early college and innovation pathways programs to encourage and support program expansion over the next 7 to 10 years. This new rate is set at \$1,050 per student above the regular high school rate and

is fully implemented in FY20 for students already enrolled in such programs as of October 1, 2018.

- Starting in FY21 and proceeding over the next 6 years, the Governor's proposal phases in new goal rates for the *guidance and psychological services* component of foundation budget for all districts to better reflect current and best practice staffing needs for additional student services related to school safety and climate, social and emotional supports, and career counseling for students.
- In FY26, following the completion of the employee benefits goal rate implementation in FY25, the proposal increases the *assumed in-district special education enrollment* rate from 3.75 percent to 4 percent of foundation enrollment for non-vocational students, as recommended by the FBRC.
- The legislation proposes a feasibility study of tiered vocational program rates in the foundation budget. Currently, all approved Chapter 74 vocational programs receive the same rate, even though the costs associated with each separate program vary widely. The study would also consider the feasibility of raising the school choice tuition rate, currently \$5,000, for vocational students.

Other highlights of the FY20 program:

- The aggregate wealth model used in the formula since FY07 continues to be in effect. For municipalities with required contributions above their targets, the equity component of the formula is reduced by 100 percent of the gap.
- 141 operating districts receive foundation aid to ensure that they do not fall below their foundation budgets.
- The inflation factor for this year is 3.75 percent.
- Statewide enrollment decreased from 941,411 in FY19 to 939,683 in FY20, a 0.18 percent decrease; 8 districts saw their foundation enrollment increase by over 5 percent.
- Cities and towns with combined effort yields greater than 175 percent of foundation have required local contributions set at not less than 82.5 percent of foundation.
- The \$11,850,000 in transition aid allocated in FY19 to 11 districts significantly impacted by the new economically disadvantaged metric has been added to the base aid of these districts.
- Minimum aid is set at \$20 per pupil.

In addition to the changes to the Chapter 70 program described above, the Governor's bill proposes three other significant initiatives relating to school finance:

- The charter tuition and reimbursement program is significantly restructured:
 - Return to a 3-year, 100%/60%/40% schedule for transitional aid.
 - Transitional aid is more closely tied to enrollment growth.
 - Supplemental aid is provided to districts with high charter tuition costs and relatively low Chapter 70 aid, to ensure a minimum level of state support for charter tuition.
 - House 1 proposal is a \$16 million increase over FY19 and represents the first year of a planned 3-year phase-in to full funding of the reimbursement program by FY22.
 - The facilities component of the charter school tuition rate is increased to \$938 per pupil in FY20, the first such increase in more than a decade. The rate would be indexed to inflation in subsequent years.
- The unique fiscal challenges faced by many of our small, rural school districts is acknowledged. Declining student enrollment, limited municipal fiscal resources, and high transportation costs are all contributing to this growing problem.
 - The legislation proposes a special commission to consider and propose short and long-term solutions to this problem.
 - The small, existing "regional bonus aid" program is replaced by a broader grant program to support studies and transition costs for regionalization and other initiatives to enhance public education opportunities in our rural districts. A trust fund will allow appropriations to be carried across fiscal years, to enable multi-year commitments for state support.

- The Governor's budget proposal also includes a new trust fund of \$50 million, funded with one-time revenue, to be used at the discretion of the Commissioner of Elementary and Secondary Education to help accelerate quality improvements in low-performing schools. This money is in addition to the Targeted Assistance funds that are set aside for struggling schools in an annual line item of the budget and funded at \$26.5 million in FY20.

School Finance and District Support

FY19 Updated and FY20 DESE Education Aid Program Projections

To: Secretary Michael Heffernan, Executive Office for Administration & Finance
 Secretary James Peyser, Executive Office of Education
 Chair Michael Rodrigues, Senate Committee on Ways and Means
 Chair Aaron Michlewitz, House Committee on Ways and Means
 Chair Jason tewis, Joint Committee on Education
 Chair Alice H. Peisch, Joint Committee on Education

From: Bill Bell, Senior Associate Commissioner for Administration & Finance

Date: March 15, 2019

The Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE), has updated its current FY19 education aid reimbursements and forecasted amounts for FY20. These figures are derived from the FY18 District End of Year Financial Report, and projections based on the State Board of Elementary & Secondary Education's charter authorizations and the Governor's FY20 House 1 charter reimbursement proposal for the 2019-2020 school year. DESE hopes this information will assist with the development and finalization of the FY20 General Appropriations Act (GAA).

Regional school transportation (7035-0006)

FY19 estimated claims	\$89,198,679
FY19 appropriation	\$68,878,679
FY19 estimated reimbursement percentage	77.2%
FY20 projected claims	\$92,320,633

- FY20 projection assumes a 3.5% increase in claims.

Non-resident vocational transportation (7035-0007)

FY19 estimated claims	\$4,115,126
FY19 appropriation	\$250,000
FY19 estimated reimbursement percentage	6%
FY20 projected claims	\$4,259,156

- FY20 projection assumes a 3.5% increase in claims.

Homeless transportation (7035-0008)

FY19 estimated claims	\$26,361,702
FY19 appropriation	\$9,099,500
FY19 estimated percentage	34.5%
FY20 projected claims	\$27,284,362

- FY20 projection assumes a 3.5% increase in claims.

Special education circuit breaker (7061-0012)

FY19 estimated net claims	\$403,703,403
FY19 estimated net claims entitlement (75%)	\$307,897,733
FY19 available funds	\$305,278,033
FY19 estimated payments	\$305,278,033
FY19 estimated reimbursement percentage	74.2%
FY20 projected net claims	\$427,755,339
FY20 projected net claims entitlement (75%)	\$326,533,329

- *Estimates and projections include students reimbursable at 100% rate.*
- *FY20 projection excludes extraordinary relief and other earmarks.*
- *FY20 projection assumes a 5.65% increase in net claims and an 11.6% growth in students reimbursable at 100%.*

Charter tuition reimbursement (7061-9010)

FY19 estimated charter tuition	\$643,615,642
FY19 estimated reimbursement entitlement	\$162,211,730
FY19 appropriation	\$90,000,000
FY19 estimated percentage	56%
FY20 projected charter tuition	\$717,599,825
FY20 projected reimbursement entitlement	\$137,667,919

- *FY20 projection includes proposals/or new and expanded schools approved by the Board of Elementary and Secondary Education as well as a new method for reimbursing school districts for charter school tuition costs. This approach changes the current 6 year reimbursement schedule (100%/25%/25%/25%/25%/25%) to a 3 year schedule (100%/60%/40%) and adds supplemental funding for districts with higher charter tuition costs (greater than 9% of net school spending) and relatively low Chapter 70 aid.*

If you need any additional information regarding these projections, please contact Associate Commissioner Jay Sullivan, Director of School Finance Rob O'Donnell, or me.

Thank you for your ongoing support and assistance to the Department's mission.



The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
STATE HOUSE, BOSTON 02133-1054

Committees:
Ways and Means
Public Health
Cannabis Policy

HANNAH E. KANE
STATE REPRESENTATIVE
11th WORCESTER DISTRICT
SHREWSBURY AND WESTBOROUGH

May 9, 2019

STATE HOUSE, ROOM 167
TEL. (617) 722-2810
Hannah.Kane@MAhouse.gov

Board of Selectmen
Town of Shrewsbury
100 Maple Avenue
Shrewsbury, MA 01545

Dear Selectmen:

I write today to provide an update relative to the Commonwealth's Fiscal Year 2020 (FY20) budget. The House of Representatives recently finalized and passed the House FY20 budget. As such, I would like to share with you updates on key budget figures and policies of significance to Shrewsbury and the Commonwealth.

Like the Baker-Polito Administration's FY20 budget, the House FY20 budget proposes \$42.7 billion in gross spending, and was crafted under the consensus state tax revenue estimate of \$29.299 billion. The House FY20 budget also prioritizes fiscal stability, as evidenced by the deposit of \$264 million into the Commonwealth's "Rainy Day Fund", bringing the balance of the account to over \$2.7 billion. Additionally, the House's balanced budget forgoes any broad-based tax increases.

With respect to local aid in the House FY20 budget, both Unrestricted General Government Aid (UGGA) and Chapter 70 funding will see an increase compared to FY19. The House FY20 budget allocates a total of \$1.1 billion for UGGA, which reflects an increase of nearly \$30 million over current fiscal year spending. Under the House's FY20 proposal, UGGA for Shrewsbury would total \$2,958,042, which is an increase of \$77,767 from Shrewsbury's \$2,880,275 FY19 apportionment. Chapter 70 funding in the House FY20 budget totals \$5.126 billion, which is a \$218 million increase from FY19 funding and secures \$30 per pupil minimum aid. Shrewsbury's Chapter 70 funding under the House FY20 budget totals \$20,068,648, which is roughly \$60,430 more than the Governor's FY20 allocation of \$20,008,218 and an increase of \$181,290 over the \$19,887,358 FY19 funding total.

During the House budget debate, I was able to secure earmarks for important local initiatives. As I previously did in FY19, I sponsored and delivered an amendment allocating \$50,000 to Shrewsbury Youth and Family Services to continue providing Youth Mental Health First Aid Training to individuals and organizations in Shrewsbury and Central Massachusetts. As SYFS' 3 year grant from SAMHSA has expired, this community resource continues to be a trusted and

relied on source to provide adults with a tool kit to identify and address mental health and link young people to imperative mental health services.

As a founder and House Co-Chair of the Legislature's Food System Caucus, I joined with my colleague Representative Dan Donahue (D-Worcester) to sponsor an amendment for the Healthy Incentives Program (HIP). As you know, HIP affords low-income residents the opportunity to purchase fresh, healthy and local fruits and vegetable from our Commonwealth's farmers, providing critical support to our local farmers and small businesses while also investing in our citizen's public health. As lead sponsors of the amendment, Representative Donahue and I were able to secure a \$500,000 funding increase for the Program from the original House Ways and Means funding level and we were proud to count 127 of our House colleagues as co-sponsors of the amendment, bringing the Program total to \$4.5 million in the House FY20 budget.

To address some of the funding equity concerns raised by the Foundation Budget Review Commission, the House budget sets aside \$16.5 million to assist school districts serving a high percentage of low-income students. The House budget also addresses the recommendations of the Commission by completing the funding increase for English-language learners, continuing with increases for employee health care benefits and beginning the implementation of the special education circuit breaker increase under a set 6-year implementation schedule. While it is my belief that the House and Senate will further address the Foundation Budget Review Commission's recommendations and funding of our public education system via independent legislation, these are significant investments and key steps in said process. The House FY20 budget also provides further noteworthy funding increases and allocations for education line items. The House FY20 budget apportions \$328.8 million for the Special Education Circuit Breaker, which is a \$9.5 million increase over FY19 spending. The House FY20 budget also provides \$1 million in funding to award grants for civics education programs, building on last session's civics legislation.

The House FY20 budget makes efficient investments in our Commonwealth's economic development and workforce, including dedicating \$1.5 million in funding for the Start Up Mentoring Program, which connects early stage entrepreneurs, tech start-ups and small businesses with established businesses and capital financing and the Talent Pipeline Program, which provides limited stipend matches for interns at technology and innovation start-ups. The House FY20 budget also allocates \$2 million for the Manufacturing Extension Partnership, which operates state programs designed to help small and mid-size Massachusetts manufacturing businesses. Filling vacancies in critical job sectors and providing workforce development training was a priority in the House budget, as \$6.9 million was transferred to the Workforce Development Trust Fund.

The House FY20 budget also includes critical funding and policy directives in a variety of different areas, some of which I would like to highlight for your reference:

- \$143.9 million for the Bureau of Substance Abuse Addiction Services and \$49.4 million for the Substance Use Disorder Trust Fund;
- \$17.9 million for Councils on Aging;

- Language directing the State Comptroller to transfer up to \$10 million in net surplus funding to the Massachusetts Community Preservation Trust Fund to assist cities and towns with open space, affording housing and historic preservation efforts;
- A provision to increase the Conservation Land Tax Credit's annual cap from \$2 million to \$5 million over a three-year period; and
- The creation of a task force to study the financial stability of Massachusetts nursing homes and a \$35 million supplemental rate increase for nursing homes.

The budget now advances to the Senate, which is expected to debate their budget the week prior to Memorial Day. I will remain engaged in the next phase of the budget process through communication and partnership with Senator Michael Moore. As always, I will continue to passionately and thoughtfully advocate on behalf of Shrewsbury, as the fiscal stability and success of Shrewsbury continues to be my top focus. I remain committed to ensuring the state of the Commonwealth is strong and that Massachusetts is a leading place to live, work and raise a family. Of course, should you have any questions or concerns on this matter, please do not hesitate to contact me either via email at Hannah.Kane@mahouse.gov or by telephone at (617) 448-7304. My Legislative Director, Jessica, may be reached at Jessica.Beliveau@mahouse.gov or by office telephone at (617) 722-2810. I will be certain to keep you apprised of developments regarding finalizing the FY20 budget.

Sincerely,



HANNAH KANE
State Representative
11th Worcester District

CC: Shrewsbury School Committee
Shrewsbury Finance Committee
Town Manager Kevin Mizikar
Superintendent Joseph Sawyer
Assistant Town Manager Kristen Las
Assistant Superintendent of Operations and Finance Patrick Collins



MA Department of Revenue

Division of Local Services

Preliminary Municipal Cherry Sheet Estimates

Data current as of 05/09/2019

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Select a Fiscal Year: 2020 ▼

Select a Municipality: Shrewsbury ▼

FY2020 Preliminary Cherry Sheet Estimates

Shrewsbury

Estimated Receipts

Estimated Assessments & Charges

PROGRAM	FY2019 Cherry Sheet Estimate	FY2020 Governor's Budget Proposal	FY2020 House Budget Proposal	FY2020 SWM Budget Proposal	FY2020 Conference Committee
Education Receipts:					
Chapter 70	19,887,358	20,008,218	20,068,648	20,068,648	
School Transportation	0	0	0	0	
Charter Tuition Reimbursement	24,111	26,060	26,257	40,481	
Smart Growth School Reimbursement	0	0	0	0	
Offset Receipts:					
School Choice Receiving Tuition	145,604	135,604	135,604	135,604	
Sub-Total, All Education Items:	20,057,073	20,169,882	20,230,509	20,244,733	
General Government:					
Unrestricted Gen Gov't Aid	2,880,275	2,958,042	2,958,042	2,958,042	
Local Share of Racing Taxes	0	0	0	0	
Regional Public Libraries	0	0	0	0	
Urban Revitalization	0	0	0	0	
Veterans Benefits	113,841	131,516	131,516	131,516	
Exemp: VBS and Elderly	99,186	103,693	103,693	103,693	
State Owned Land	121,438	108,029	108,029	113,802	
Offset Receipts:					
Public Libraries	48,734	51,980	53,297	53,539	
Sub-Total, All General Government:	3,263,474	3,353,260	3,354,577	3,360,592	
Total Estimated Receipts:	23,320,547	23,523,142	23,585,086	23,605,325	

 Questions or Assistance Please Email The Municipal Databank at : databank@dor.state.ma.us



MA Department of Revenue

Division of Local Services

Preliminary Municipal Cherry Sheet Estimates

Data current as of 05/09/2019

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FY2020 Preliminary Cherry Sheet Estimates

Shrewsbury

[Estimated Receipts](#)
[Estimated Assessments & Charges](#)

PROGRAM	FY2019 Cherry Sheet Estimate	FY2020 Governor's Budget Proposal	FY2020 House Budget Proposal	FY2020 SWM Budget Proposal	FY2020 Conference Committee
County Assessments:					
County Tax	0	0	0	0	
Suffolk County Retirement	0	0	0	0	
Essex County Reg Comm Center	0	0	0	0	
Sub-Total, County Assessments:	0	0	0	0	
State Assessments and Charges:					
Retired Employees Health Insurance	0	0	0	0	
Retired Teachers Health Insurance	0	0	0	0	
Mosquito Control Projects	79,922	85,758	85,758	85,758	
Air Pollution Districts	11,974	12,121	12,121	12,121	
Metropolitan Area Planning Council	0	0	0	0	
Old Colony Planning Council	0	0	0	0	
RMV Non-Renewal Surcharge	22,020	22,020	28,240	28,240	
Sub-Total, State Assessments:	113,916	119,899	126,119	126,119	
Transportation Authorities:					
MBTA	170,066	171,946	171,946	171,946	
Boston Metro. Transit District	0	0	0	0	
Regional Transit	75,752	79,994	79,994	79,994	
Sub-Total, Transp Authorities:	245,818	251,940	251,940	251,940	
Annual Charges Against Receipts:					
Multi-Year Repayment Program	0	0	0	0	
Special Education	3,353	7,104	7,104	7,104	
STRAP Repayments	0	0	0	0	
Sub-Total, Annual Charges:	3,353	7,104	7,104	7,104	
Tuition Assessments:					
School Choice Sending Tuition	256,161	237,064	237,064	237,064	
Charter School Sending Tuition	389,534	416,393	425,395	427,603	
Sub-Total, Tuition Assessments:	645,695	653,457	662,459	664,667	
Total All Estimated Charges:	1,008,782	1,032,400	1,047,622	1,049,830	

 Questions or Assistance Please Email The Municipal Databank at : databank@dor.state.ma.us



**SHREWSBURY PUBLIC SCHOOLS
SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING**

ITEM NO: **VIII. Old Business**

MEETING DATE: **5/15/19**

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

ACTION RECOMMENDED:

MEMBERS/STAFF AVAILABLE FOR PRESENTATION:



SHREWSBURY PUBLIC SCHOOLS SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING

ITEM NO: **IX. New Business**

MEETING DATE: **5/15/19**

A. Appointment of Assistant Superintendent for Community Partnerships & Well-Being: Vote

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

At the February 27 meeting of the School Committee, Dr. Sawyer presented a proposed agreement between the school district and Shrewsbury Federal Credit Union that would fund a new district leadership position, titled Assistant Superintendent for Community Partnerships & Well-Being. At the meeting on April 10, the School Committee voted to establish this new position, to approve the job description for this new position, and to approve the memorandum of understanding with Shrewsbury Federal Credit Union that will provide funding for the position.

Under Massachusetts General Law Chapter 71, Section 59, an appointment of an individual to an assistant superintendent position is by the vote of the School Committee on a candidate recommended by the Superintendent. A search process for this new position is currently underway, and it is possible that Dr. Sawyer may present a recommendation to the Committee by May 15, so this item has been added to the agenda. Dr. Sawyer will provide a memorandum with his recommendation if a vote will be requested at this meeting.

ACTION RECOMMENDED:

That the School Committee vote to appoint a candidate recommended by the Superintendent of Schools for the position of Assistant Superintendent for Community Partnerships & Well-Being.

STAFF AVAILABLE FOR PRESENTATION:

Dr. Joseph M. Sawyer, Superintendent of Schools



**SHREWSBURY PUBLIC SCHOOLS
SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING**

ITEM NO: **X. Approval of Minutes**

MEETING DATE: **5/15/19**

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

The minutes are enclosed.

ACTION RECOMMENDED:

That the Committee vote to approve the minutes from the School Committee Meeting held on May 8, 2019.

STAFF AVAILABLE FOR PRESENTATION:

Ms. Sandra Fryc, Chairperson

Dr. B. Dale Magee, Secretary

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

MINUTES OF SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING

Wednesday, May 8, 2019

Present: Ms. Sandra Fryc, Chairperson; Mr. Jon Wensky, Vice Chairperson; Dr. B. Dale Magee, Secretary; Ms. Lynsey Heffernan; Mr. Jason Palitsch; Mr. Patrick Collins, Assistant Superintendent for Finance and Operations; Ms. Amy B. Clouter, Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum & Instruction; Ms. Barb Malone, Director of Human Resources; 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 Dr. Sawyer at 7:02 pm in advance of the election of officers. Dr. Sawyer congratulated Dr. Magee on his reelection to the Committee, and welcomed Ms. Heffernan as a newly elected member of the Committee.

I. Election of Officers

Dr. Sawyer requested and accepted nominations for the Chairperson of the School Committee. Mr. Palitsch nominated Ms. Fryc for Chairperson, and Dr. Magee seconded the motion. The Committee voted unanimously to appoint Ms. Fryc Chairperson of the Committee. As the elected Chairperson of the School Committee, Ms. Fryc requested nominations for the position of Vice Chairperson; Dr. Magee nominated Mr. Wensky and Mr. Palitsch seconded the motion. The Committee voted unanimously to appoint Mr. Wensky Vice Chairperson. Ms. Fryc requested nominations for the position of Secretary; Mr. Wensky nominated Dr. Magee and Mr. Palitsch seconded the motion. The Committee voted unanimously to appoint Dr. Magee Secretary.

II. Public Participation

None.

III. Chairperson's Report & Members' Reports

None.

IV. Superintendent's Report

Dr. Sawyer congratulated students of Shrewsbury High School (SHS) teacher Lucas White who participated in a national Stock Market Game competition and comprised teams finishing in first and third places out of 724 teams at the state level; and noted a successful Grades K-8 Art Festival was held recently at Sherwood Middle School.

V. Time Scheduled Appointments:

A. Student Recognition: SHS Class of 2019 Senior Scholars

Dr. Sawyer introduced (alphabetically) the ten senior students with the highest grade point averages in their class by reading a brief biography of each student. The students had an opportunity to speak and acknowledge family, friends, and educators who had an impact on their education and experiences at SPS. The Committee and Dr. Sawyer congratulated students on their success, then students were invited up to receive gifts and be recognized by the Committee and school administrators. The students recognized were: Loren Patrice Cardani, James Anthony Chacharone, Chi Ki Chan, Ian Chandra, Siddhant Dosi, Julia Anna Duda, Megan Elizabeth O'Connell, Thomas Hugh O'Neill, Arashleen K Pannu, and Felice Siyue Xie.

B. SHS Student Advisory Committee: Report

In their final report for the year, students Prisha Singh (Chairperson), Erica Hanlon, Paulina Hruskoci, Sophia Peng, and Maxfield Evers presented information on school spirit (noting SHS students volunteered over 22,000 community service hours this year), school events, and future areas of interest (including various wellness initiatives, and a new email platform SHS students can use to submit questions by way of the SAC group). During the discussion, the students gave wellness-themed t-shirts to the Committee and administrators that were provided by Mr. Jeffrey Lane Director of Health, Physical Education, & Family and Consumer Sciences. The Committee asked clarifying questions and inquired about the future plans of the graduating seniors. Mr. Andrew Smith, SHS Teacher and Faculty Advisor to the SAC, was in attendance at the meeting. The group was invited up to be recognized by the Committee and presented with certificates.

VI. Curriculum

None.

VII. Policy

None.

VIII. Finance & Operations

A. Mental Health Grants: Vote to Accept

Ms. Fryc provided background information on two mental health grants recently awarded to SPS that will address key strategic priorities in the coming years. Dr. Sawyer advised that the Committee would need to vote to accept the grants; thanked Meg Belsito, Assistant Superintendent for Student Services, and Noelle Freeman, Director of School Nursing, for their work on the grant awarded by the MA Department of Public Health; and thanked Ms. Belsito and Meghan Bartlett, Assistant Director Special Education, for their work on the grant from the MA Department of Elementary and Secondary Education.

On a motion by Mr. Wensky, seconded by Mr. Palitsch, the Committee voted unanimously to accept the Comprehensive Health Services Grant from the Massachusetts Department of Public Health for \$100,000 annually for a ten-year period, beginning in Fiscal Year 2020.

On a motion by Mr. Wensky, seconded by Mr. Palitsch, the Committee voted unanimously to accept the Improving Student Access to Behavioral and Mental Health Services Grant from the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education for \$10,000 in Fiscal Year 2019 and \$90,000 in Fiscal Year 2020.

B. Donation for Sign at Spring Street School: Vote to Accept

Ms. Fryc noted that Mr. Robert Terkanian has donated other signs in the district in addition to the sign he has generously offered to donate to Spring Street School (SSS). Mr. Collins added that SSS Principal Bryan Mabie supports installation of the new sign, which would be slated for early June.

On a motion by Mr. Wensky, seconded by Mr. Palitsch, the Committee voted unanimously to accept the donation of a new sign at Spring Street School valued at approximately \$7,000 from donor Robert Terkanian.

IX. Old Business

None.

X. New Business

A. Superintendent's Goals: Presentation & Vote

Dr. Sawyer advised that his proposed goals for Student Learning and Professional Practice were in keeping with guidelines provided by the state, and informed by feedback from the Committee. He proposed a student learning goal related to the district's strategic goal regarding building partnerships with businesses and other organizations and promoting learning experiences outside of school, particularly through working with the new Assistant Superintendent for Community Partnerships & Well-Being. He proposed a professional practice goal related to enhancing communication with various stakeholder groups, including the School Committee. Regarding District Goals, it was noted that Dr. Sawyer is currently in year one (of two) of the District Goals 2018 – 2020. Committee members voiced support for the proposed goals.

On a motion by Mr. Wensky, seconded by Mr. Palitsch, the Committee voted unanimously to approve the Superintendent's Goals through December 2019 as presented.

XI. Approval of Minutes

Without objections from the Committee, the minutes from the School Committee Meeting held on April 24, 2019, were accepted as distributed.

XII. Executive Session

A. For the purpose of collective bargaining with the Shrewsbury Education Association

B. For the purpose of an employee request for contractual emergency leave

C. For the purpose of reviewing, approving, and/or releasing executive session minutes

Ms. Fryc requested a motion to adjourn to Executive Session for the purpose of collective bargaining with the Shrewsbury Education Association, where deliberation in an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the bargaining position of the public body; for the purpose of an employee request for contractual emergency leave; and for the purpose of reviewing, approving, and/or releasing executive session minutes, and return to Open Session only for the purpose of adjourning for the evening. On a motion by Mr. Wensky, seconded by Mr. Palitsch, on a roll call

vote: Ms. Heffernan, yes; Mr. Palitsch, yes; Dr. Magee, yes; Mr. Wensky, yes; and Ms. Fryc, yes, the School Committee voted to adjourn to executive session at 8:10 pm.

XIII. Adjournment

On a motion by Mr. Wensky, seconded by Mr. Palitsch, the committee unanimously agreed to adjourn the meeting at 8:39 pm. Roll call votes were as follows: Mr. Palitsch, yes; Ms. Heffernan, yes; Dr. Magee, yes; Mr. Wensky, yes; and Ms. Fryc, yes.

Respectfully submitted,

Elizabeth McCollum, Clerk

Documents referenced:

1. 2019 SHS Senior Scholars Report
2. Student Advisory Committee Report
3. School Health Grant Memo
4. Spring Street School Sign Donation Memo
5. Superintendent's 2019 Goals Memo
6. Set(s) of minutes as referenced above



**SHREWSBURY PUBLIC SCHOOLS
SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING**

ITEM NO: **XI. Executive Session**

MEETING DATE: **5/15/19**

A. For the purpose of collective bargaining with the Shrewsbury Education Association

B. For the purpose of negotiations with non-represented staff

C. For the purpose of reviewing, approving, and/or releasing executive session minutes

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

Executive session is warranted for these purposes.

ACTION RECOMMENDED:

That the School Committee enter into executive session for the purpose of collective bargaining with the Shrewsbury Education Association and for the purpose of negotiations with non-represented staff, where deliberation in an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the bargaining position of the public body, and for the purpose of reviewing, approving, and/or releasing executive session minutes, 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, Director of Human Resources

ITEM NO: **XII. Adjournment**