

**School Committee Budget Workshop
Shrewsbury High School
Principal's Conference Room
64 Holden Street
Shrewsbury, Massachusetts**

Monday, March 13, 2017

Present: Ms. Sandy Fryc, Chairperson; Dr. Dale Magee, Vice Chairperson; Mr. Jon Wensky, Secretary; Ms. Erin Canzano, Mr. John Samia, Dr. Joseph Sawyer, Patrick Collins, Barb Malone, Meg Belsito

Ms. Fryc called the meeting to order at 6:08pm

Review of FY 18 Budget Reduction Plan

Dr. Sawyer and Mr. Collins reviewed the FY18 Budget Reduction Plan with the School Committee. This reduction plan would be presented at the next School Committee meeting on Wednesday 3/15/17. The reductions are made in five tiers based on adjustments and changes to the current 1.97% increase proposed by the Town Manager.

Tier 1 makes adjustments to the current budget proposal that would provide positive news to the overall budget gap. This includes a \$500K surplus in projections for the current year's Vocational and Special Education Out of District tuitions in addition to adjustments from retirements and maternity leaves.

Tier 2 proposes a reduction in materials and equipment services. There is no impact to instructional services. In total, 3.3 FTE layoffs are projected if Tier 2 is implemented. Some technology purchases would be deferred, such as laptops and projector repairs

Tier 3 impacts staffing & educational programming in Elementary & Middle schools.

Tiers 4 & 5 impact class size

Open Discussion

The committee asked questions regarding the tiered cuts. The committee felt that this reduction plan was important to communicate publicly, as it assumes that the Town Manager has provided the schools with the maximum increase. Dr. Magee said the message should focus on potential impact to class size, advising that these reductions are very real if the numbers do not change. Ms. Canzano said this must become a community problem to solve. Ms. Fryc felt that the message should focus not only on the budget constraints, but also on the performance in the district - great teachers & staff - innovation, and the consistency with which this school district does more with less - the return on investment is significant. The committee also discussed presenting the reduction plan at the upcoming Finance Committee hearing. The committee expressed the need for the presentation to be high level, as the School Department provides their budget proposal booklet and other budget related materials that provide more granularity in advance of the Finance Committee meeting.

Adjournment

On a motion by Erin Canzano, seconded by Jon Wensky, the committee unanimously agreed to adjourn the meeting at 7:40pm. Roll call votes are as follows: Erin Canzano, yes;; John Samia yes; Dale Magee, yes; Sandy Fryc, yes.

Respectfully submitted,

Jon Wensky - Secretary

Documents referenced:

- 1) FY18 Budget Reduction Plan for 3/15/17 Meeting – Spreadsheet and Slides