

**School Committee Workshop
Shrewsbury Town Hall
100 Maple Avenue
Shrewsbury, Massachusetts**

Thursday, September 8, 2016

Present: Ms. Sandy Fryc, Chairperson; Dr. Dale Magee, Vice Chairperson; Mr. Jon Wensky, Secretary; Ms. Erin Canzano, Mr. John Samia

The meeting was convened by Sandy Fryc at 7:00pm

Sub Committee Assignments

Ms. Fryc announced the following sub committee assignments for the 2016-2017 School Committee year: Student Advisory Council – Jon Wensky; Health & Wellness – Dale Magee; Fiscal 17 Guidelines, Priorities/Projections – John Samia & Dale Magee; Policy – Erin Canzano & Jon Wensky; PTO Presidents Meetings – Dale Magee & Sandy Fryc; Turf Field Project – Jon Wensky. In addition to these sub committee assignments, Ms. Fryc also discussed attending PTO meetings in late Fall (before budget season) and then again in March to continue community outreach and awareness.

Long Term Fiscal Projections

Ms. Fryc opened discussion on the critical need for long term fiscal projections and priorities. The committee discussed the goal of this exercise, being lead by Mr. Samia and Dr. Magee along with the Central Office team. Mr. Samia said that with 80% of budget as head count, we should be able to present clear and concise projections that include an estimate, by category, of the remaining 20% of expenses - over a 5 year period. Dr. Magee said the message communicated should be specific to how low funding is vs. actual expenditures and illustrate how the state is not keeping up with the current state of educational expenses. Additionally, Dr. Magee requested that we breakdown of special education costs and explain that special education has multiple sources of revenue (Chapter 70, Circuit Breaker, and Federal Grants). It is important to show the public exactly where the money comes from – define what circuit breaker is, explain the scope of the special education program, and highlight how many spikes in cost and what contributed to these spikes.

School Committee Priorities

The committee discussed the priorities of the board for the 2016-2017 school year. Mr. Samia wants the committee to think about how we can better function as a committee, including receiving consistent access to other members of the front office staff, paying sufficient attention to school finances, and obtaining documentation well in advance of any upcoming meetings. The committee unanimously agreed that receiving General meeting information on the Friday before a Wednesday meeting provides sufficient time to review materials.

School Outreach/Visits with Principals

Mr. Wensky expressed interest in doing more school visits and scheduling meetings with each of the principals throughout the year. Ms. Fryc recommended working with Dr. Sawyer to schedule.

Adjournment

On a motion by Dale Magee, seconded by Erin Canzano, the committee unanimously agreed to adjourn the meeting at 8:25 pm. Roll call votes are as follows: John Samia, Yes; Erin Canzano, yes;, Jon Wensky, yes; Dale Magee, yes; Sandy Fryc, Yes;

Respectfully submitted,
Jon Wensky
Secretary