

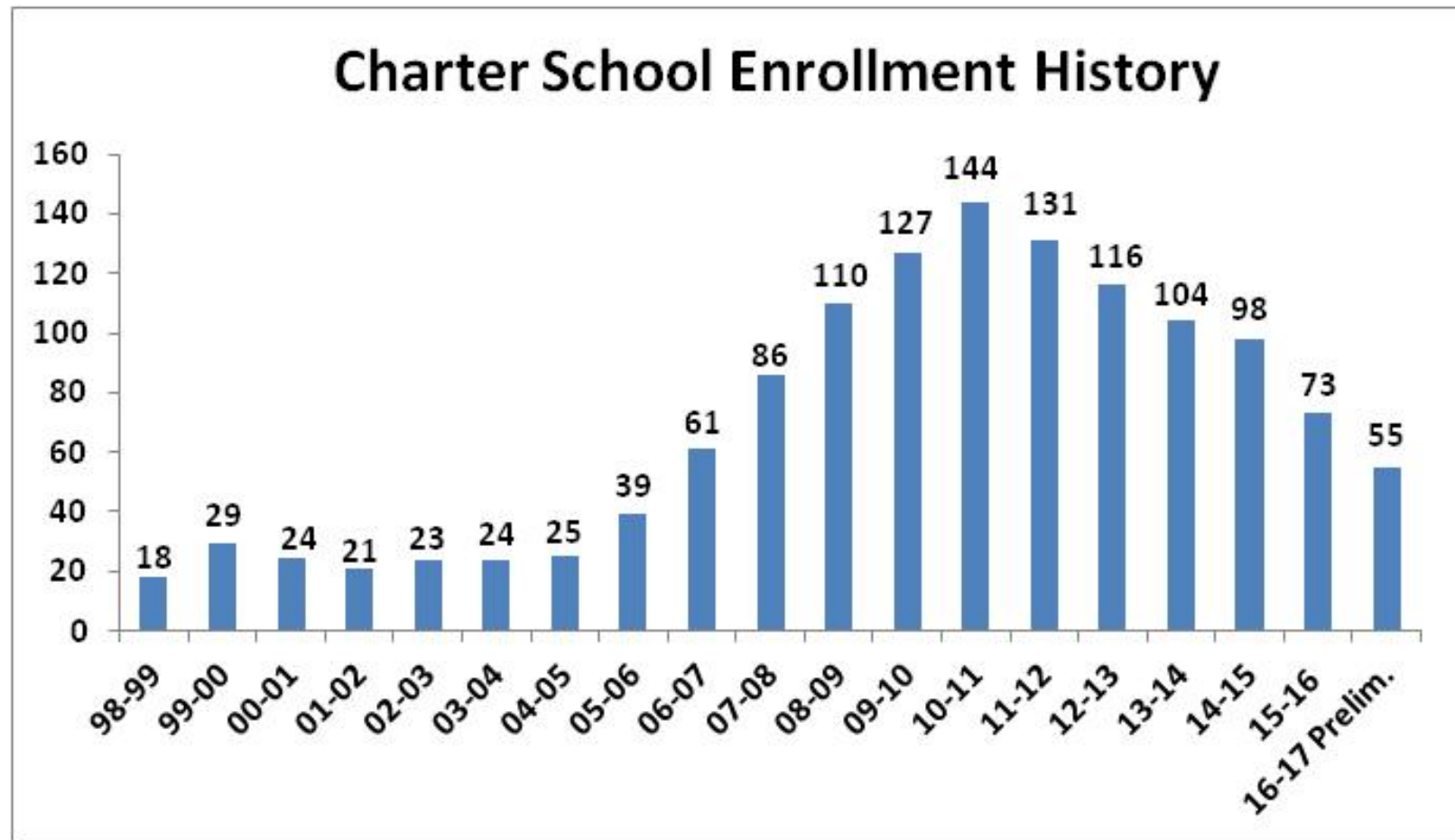
# Charter Schools and School Choice: Annual Report

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March 15, 2017

# Topics

- Enrollment and finances related to:
  - Charter Schools
  - School Choice
  - Virtual Schools
- Summary Notes and Considerations

# Charter School Enrollment History: Shrewsbury Resident School-Age Children



# Charter School Enrollment by Grade 2016-2017 [as of Dec. 2016]

K-4 = 3 students

5-8= 11 students

9-12= 41 students

*We can project a continued decline in FY18 and beyond under current conditions. Continuing our investment in S.P.S. is required to maintain competitive & comparative advantage.*

FDK	Grade 1	Grade 2	Grade 3	Grade 4	Grade 5	Grade 6	Grade 7	Grade 8	Grade 9	Grade 10	Grade 11	Grade 12	Total
0	2	1	0	0	1	0	5	5	6	8	7	20	55
FDK	Grades 1-4				Grades 5-8				Grades 9-12				Total
0	3				11				41				55

# Charter School Enrollment by Grade 2016-2017 [as of Dec. 2016]

- Enrollment of the 55 students by school:
  - Advanced Math & Science Academy [Marlboro]
    - 46 students
  - Abby Kelley Foster Charter School [Worcester]
    - 8 students
  - Francis W. Parker Charter School [Devens]
    - 1 student

# Tuition, Aid, & Net Cost History

- ▶ Annual average tuition rate was \$12,618 per student for FY16.
- ▶ The fundamental objection to the funding scheme is that when a student attends a charter school, the average cost in dollars is diverted to that school. Yet the marginal cost for us to educate is close to \$0 because most of the costs to educate are fixed costs.
- ▶ Returning all the charter students would gain the town over \$860K in revenue with \$0 additional costs, as students would be “absorbed” into the district across all grade levels.
- ▶ State reimbursement [Chapter 46 Aid] has declined significantly.

## Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education

### 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 ▼	FY09	FY10	FY11	FY12	FY13	FY14	FY15	FY16
FTE	110.15	127.16	144.14	130.79	116.28	104.36	98.19	73.17
Tuition	1,025,068	1,151,129	1,321,539	1,279,450	1,226,276	1,142,099	1,221,904	923,221
Facilities Aid	95,665	106,489	118,052	113,196	100,058	90,037	85,270	63,281
Chapter 46 Aid	446,696	351,695	330,718	85,807	38,006	38,663	81,365	-71
Total Aid	542,361	458,184	448,770	199,003	138,064	128,700	166,635	63,210
Net Cost to District	482,707	692,945	872,769	1,080,447	1,088,212	1,013,399	1,055,269	860,011

# Preliminary FY17 Charter School Tuition & Reimbursements

## Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education

### Office of School Finance

Preliminary FY17 Charter School Tuition Payments and Reimbursements for Sending Districts (Q2)

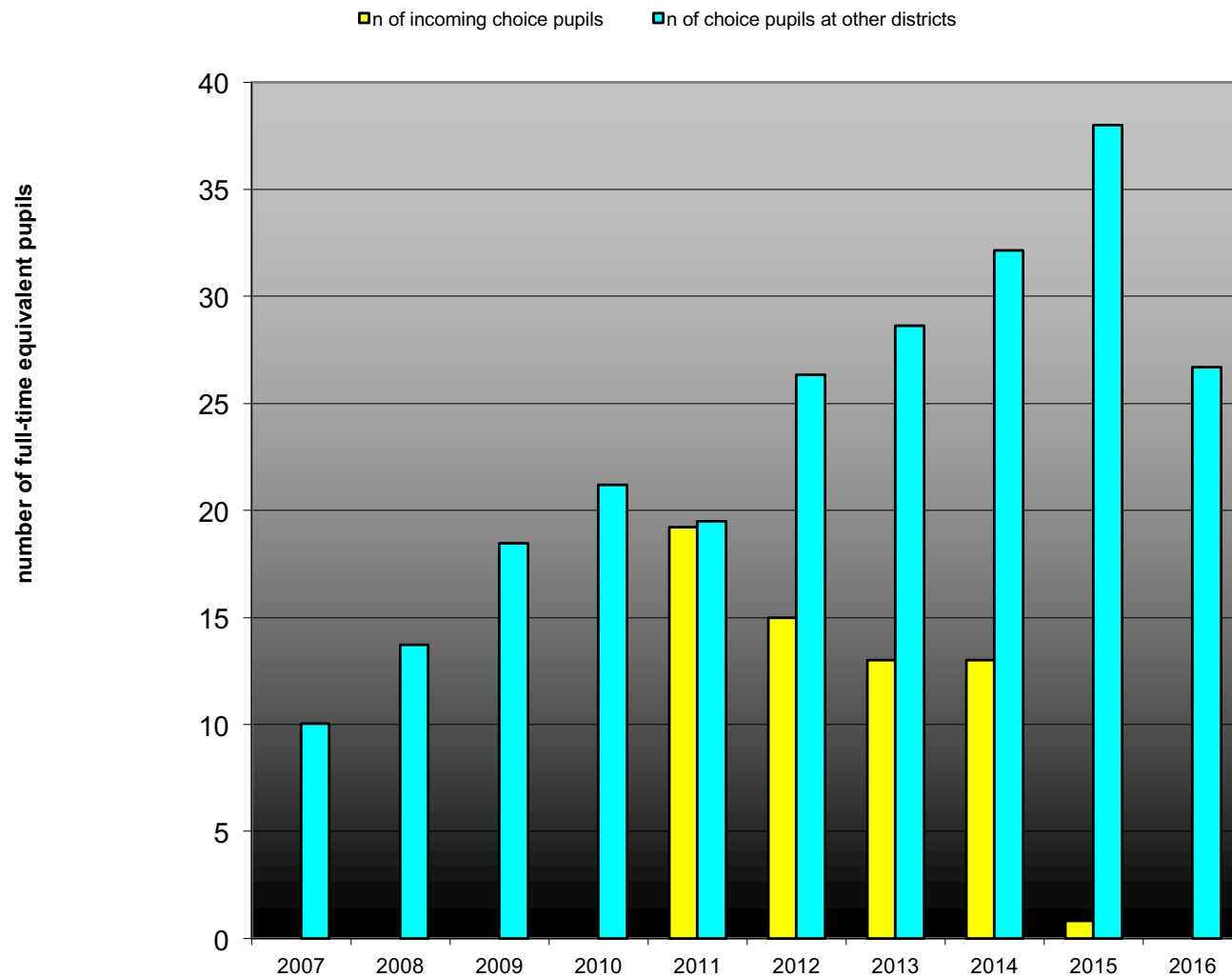
						DISTRICT PAYMENT			STATE AID TO DISTRICT			NET DISTRICT COST
LEA	DISTRICT	FTE	LOCAL FOUNDATION TUITION	LOCAL FACILITIES TUITION	LOCAL PAYMENT	100/25/25/25/25/25 INCREASED TUITION AID	FACILITIES AID	TOTAL CHARTER AID				
271	SHREWSBURY	55.0	687,940	49,115	737,055	0	49,115	49,115				687,940



Note \$0 tuition aid in FY17. By formula it should be \$21,143 yet the state did not fully fund this account this year.

The actual state reimbursement will only meet 59% of the calculated amount per their formula.

# School Choice History: Enrollment





# School Choice History:

## FTE & Tuition [Sending & Receiving]

### 271 SHREWSBURY

FY	---Receiving---		---Sending---	
	FTE		FTE	
	Pupils	Tuition	Pupils	Tuition
2007	0.00	0	10.04	61,861
2008	0.00	0	13.72	78,480
2009	0.00	0	18.48	106,835
2010	0.00	0	21.20	113,286
2011	19.21	96,050	19.48	107,984
2012	15.00	79,568	26.32	149,193
2013	13.00	69,167	28.61	144,191
2014	13.00	68,725	32.14	185,881
2015	0.81	4,989	38.01	220,220
2016	0.00	0	26.69	162,855

- Tuition is \$5,000 per student per year and pro-rated by month if not enrolled for full-year.
- A cost “increment” is applied for special education students depending upon services provided.

# 2015-2016 School Choice: Sending Students by Grade Level

This is a headcount of all the different students who attended in a School Choice placement for all or part of the year. This is more than the full-time equivalency or FTE count. For example, a student attending half the year would be equal to one headcount but .5 FTE.

The decision to attend another School Choice receiving district is sometimes related to parental employment situations, size of school, access to full-day kindergarten, or other issues not related to comparative quality of S.P.S. versus other school districts.

FDK	Grade 1	Grade 2	Grade 3	Grade 4	Grade 5	Grade 6	Grade 7	Grade 8	Grade 9	Grade 10	Grade 11	Grade 12	Total
3	2	2	1	3	0	4	1	2	1	8	7	5	39
FDK	Grades 1-4				Grades 5-8				Grades 9-12				Total
3	8				7				21				39

# School Choice Receiving 2016-2017

- Worcester= 21
- Wachusett= 3
- Boylston= 2
- Grafton= 1
- Millbury= 1
- Total= 28

Grade 2	Grade 4	Grade 5	Grade 6	Total
9	5	4	10	28

Expected School Choice revenue is  
\$140,000.

# FY17 School Choice Sending Students: Destination Districts & Grade Level

Receiving District	Grade
AUBURN	10
BERLIN BOYLSTON	09
BERLIN BOYLSTON	11
HUDSON	05
HUDSON	07
MILFORD	02
NORTHBRIDGE	KF
TECCA	07
TECCA	08
TECCA	08
TECCA	12
TECCA	12
UXBRIDGE	12
WEST BOYLSTON	11
WORCESTER	01
WORCESTER	01
WORCESTER	03
WORCESTER	03
WORCESTER	04
WORCESTER	04
WORCESTER	05
WORCESTER	05
WORCESTER	KF

- Note two students in full-day kindergarten possibly due to inability to access in S.P.S.
- Note five students enrolled in Virtual Schools

FDK	Grade 1	Grade 2	Grade 3	Grade 4	Grade 5	Grade 6	Grade 7	Grade 8	Grade 9	Grade 10	Grade 11	Grade 12	Total
2	2	1	2	2	3	0	2	2	1	1	2	3	23

Expected tuition cost of \$131,975

# Virtual School Enrollment

- A subset of School Choice Program
  - Currently have 5 students enrolled at the The Education Cooperative Connections Academy [TECCA]
- Tuition for Virtual School is \$6,700 per student.

# Summary Notes

- Charter School enrollment is **declining**
  - Significant net benefit to Town of Shrewsbury/School Dept. finances.
  - State is currently not fulfilling its reimbursement commitment. In FY17 Shrewsbury should be receiving \$21,194 but instead receiving \$0 aid.
- School Choice enrollment is **declining**
  - Virtual School enrollment seems to be volatile with many students not persisting.

# Summary Notes

- Estimated FY17 Net Cost to Town/District  
\$687,940 for Charter Schools  
\$131,975 for School Choice including Virtual Schools  
**\$ 819,915**
- School committee, by law, must vote each year to accept or not accept School Choice students into S.P.S.
  - The recommendation for 2017-2018 is to NOT open any new seats for School Choice students due to space limitations.

# Final Note

- The general public policy of creating student choices in public education is one that has *“creating a competitive environment”* at its core.
- To this end, the community’s continued investment in our district is necessary to maintain the high-quality educational and co-curricular programs at all levels.
- This will lead to student retention and forestall the outflow of tuition dollars to other districts.