

Strategic Priority Assessment 2012-2016

Increase Value to the Community

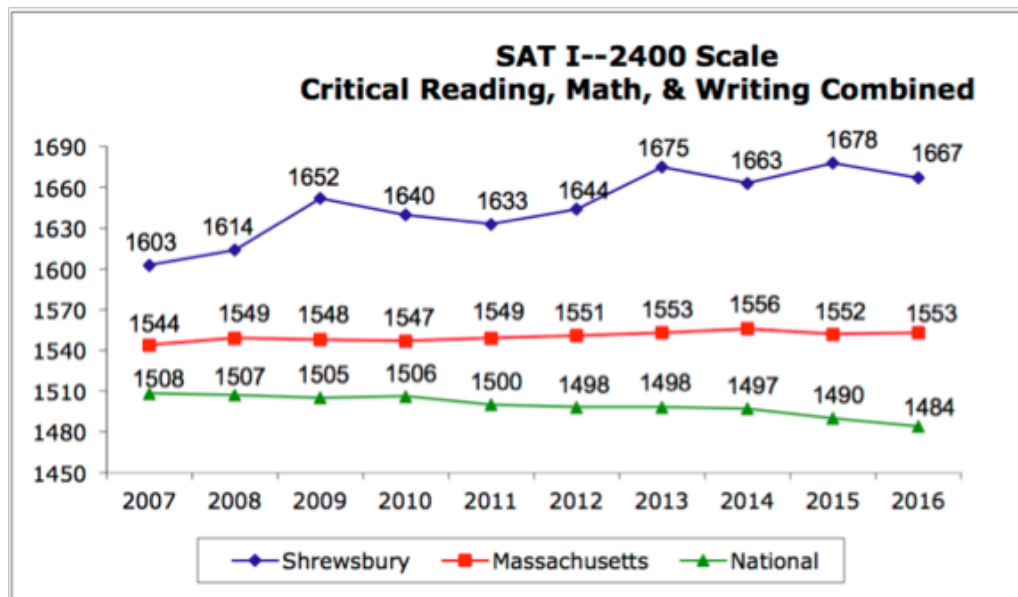
Key Concepts Associated with this Priority:

- Continue our school district's reputation for excellence.
- Provide the personnel, resources, and infrastructure needed to ensure the quality of education necessary for our students to meet the challenges of the 21st century.
- Serve community needs through volunteerism.

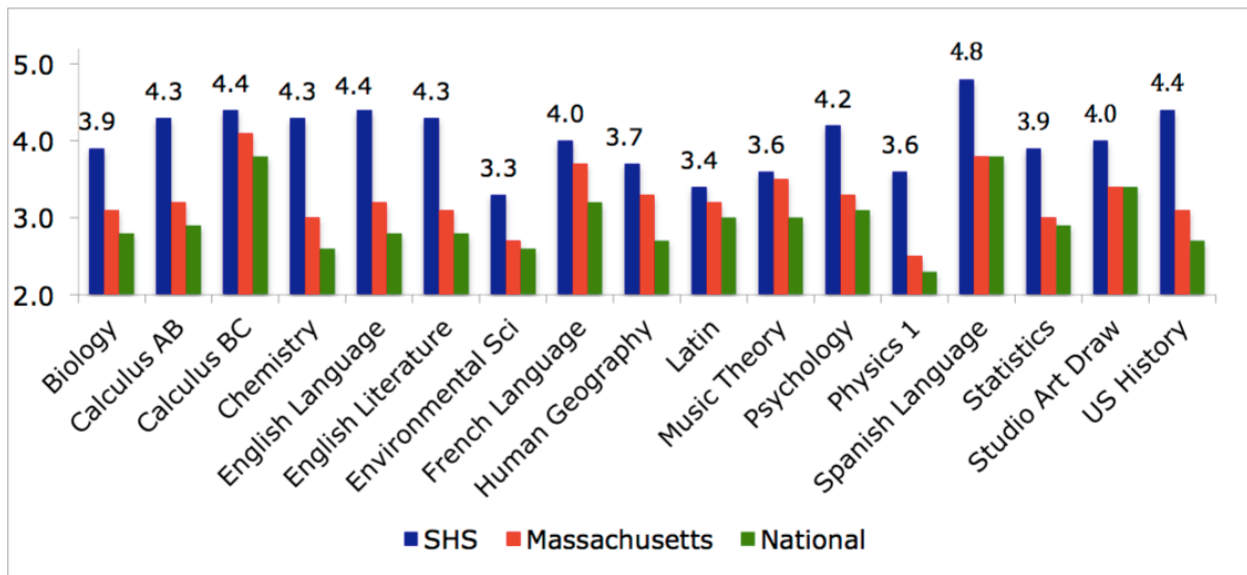


Continue to achieve results that consistently place Shrewsbury among top performing school districts

Outcome data around SAT and AP scores of our high school seniors provides evidence that our district continues to consistently place among top performing school districts.



AP Test Score Comparison with 5.0 Being Highest Score



During the period of the 2012-2016 Strategic Priorities, the Massachusetts state testing system has been in a state of flux. Including the MCAS 2.0 that Shrewsbury students are taking this spring, there have been three separate versions of state tests during the Strategic Priorities time frame. Further variations have occurred as different districts across the state have taken different series of exams (PARCC vs. MCAS 1.0). For those district that administered the PARCC exam, there have been differences in terms paper-based versus on-line testing. Given this volatility, the results of Massachusetts state testing are not being used to assess this particular priority. While it would not be appropriate to try to draw overall conclusions due to the variability in the state testing program, it should be noted that Shrewsbury students' results on these various tests continue to compare very favorably on a statewide basis. We look forward to the new state assessment protocol that should provide more feedback regarding student performance that will assist us in determining areas of strength and relative need in our curriculum and instructional practices.

Shrewsbury was also recognized nationally for its academic excellence in the following ways in recent years:



Newsweek ranked Shrewsbury High School 146th out of 14,454 high schools in the nation in its attempt to find the schools that “*do the absolute best job of preparing students for college.*” Plus, S.H.S. received special distinction for the achievement of low income students.

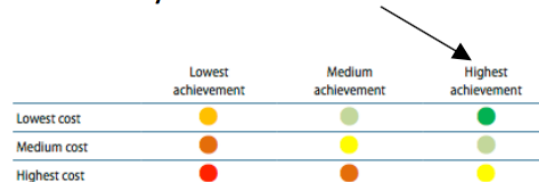


S.H.S. was named a **Silver Medalist** in U.S. News & World Report's national ranking of high schools placing it in the **top 3.6%** of the over 19,000 high schools in their study.



SPS is a national leader in "return on education investment": Our district is **among only 1.8% of K-12 districts** in the U.S. who received the highest ratings for cost effectiveness overall and also when controlling for economic and demographic factors.

Shrewsbury Public Schools



The full report is published as:

Return on Educational Investment: 2014

A District-by-District Evaluation of U.S. Educational Productivity

By Ulrich Boser July 2014.

Shrewsbury students continue to excel in co-curricular endeavors as well, as is evidenced by this representative sample of accomplishments of students during the 2012-2016 Strategic Priority window.

During the five year window for our strategic priorities, Shrewsbury Public Schools students have excelled in a variety of ways, including, but not limited to, the following:

- In the Performing Arts, SHS competitive plays and musical productions won regional awards, and the Oak Middle School Select Choir earned a gold medal in state competition. Scores of middle and high school students were selected for all-central district band, chorus, or orchestra, with many also qualifying for all-state, with one student advancing to all-national honor choir.
- In Visual Arts, each year multiple students have been honored through the Boston Globe Art Awards and other art competitions, as well as one student being recognized as a national gold key winner in 2013.
- The SHS Speech & Debate team won various competitions, including the state championship in 2016, with individual members winning state championships and qualifying for nationals, including a national champion in 2016.
- The SHS Robotics team competed at a high level in various competitions and earned multiple awards, including their organization's most prestigious honor, the Chairman's Award, in both 2015 and 2016.
- Each year SHS has had multiple winners at the Regional Science and Engineering fair, with several students advancing to the state competition where some have won first place honors. We have also had multiple winners, including state champions, in the middle and high school Science Olympiad competitions.
- Shrewsbury students have acquitted themselves well in other academic competitions, ranging from math team events to model United Nation conferences.
- A significant majority of SHS athletic teams qualified for post-season play each year, with multiple teams and individuals winning district championships, advancing to state finals, and/or winning state championships.



Prepare students to be successful with the next generation of assessments

In order to ensure that Shrewsbury students are successful on future generations of assessments, the district has been involved in aligning curriculum areas to state and national standards.

Aligned to PreK -12 2011 Massachusetts Curriculum Framework for Mathematics

This alignment work is completed and has resulted in the revision and full implementation of curriculum, resources, assessments, and professional development in the area of PreK-12 mathematics.

Please see below for specific reports that document work and outcomes for this area:

- April 26, 2017 (included in this book)
- December 16, 2015: <http://schools.shrewsburyma.gov/sc/documents/SCAgenda12-16-15v2.pdf>
- November 12, 2014 <http://shrewsbury.innersync.com/sc/documents/1416322874910.pdf>

In process of aligning to PreK-12 2016 Massachusetts Science and Technology/Engineering Standards

School Year	Description of Work
2015-2016	Formation of a PreK -12 Science Committee
2016-2017	PreK-4 Study Group Work
2016-2017	PreK-8 Curriculum Mapping
2016-2017	Grade 5 Pilot Program
2017-2018	PreK-4 Pilot Program at all schools at all grade levels
2017-2018	Continued expansion of Grade 5 Pilot Program
2017-2018	Implementation of Grade 6 Revised Curriculum

The science curriculum revision will continue and full PreK-8 implementation is expected to be complete by 2020. The Grade 9-12 Science, Engineering, and Technology program does not require any significant alignment as standards have remained fairly constant in these grade levels. As curriculum is being revised, careful attention is being given to how to raise the importance of scientific practices and authentic learning and application of content.

Raise \$2.5 million in new, supplemental funding through a capital campaign, competitive grants, and/or sponsorships

The total raised or committed funds FY12 - FY17* is \$1,580,457, which is just over \$900,000 below the target of \$2.5 million.

However, over the past year the capital campaign for the SHS Athletic Field Complex has begun, and we expect to share news regarding substantial commitments towards that goal which will put us much closer to this ambitious goal.

*funds raised are YTD for FY 17

New Supplemental Funding by Fiscal Year	
Fiscal Year	Funding Raised or Committed
FY12	\$178,912
FY13	\$325,786
FY14	\$285,769
FY15	\$265,929
FY16	\$313,238
FY17	\$210,823
Total	\$1,580,457

Colonial Fund

One key contributor to increased funding through private donations has been the Colonial Fund.

The stated purpose of the Colonial Fund is as follows:

The Colonial Fund exists to fund high impact innovations within our schools that would not otherwise be feasible. These projects or opportunities often come up outside of our annual budget cycle or they are too costly to offer without sacrificing existing programs or staff.

The Colonial Fund enables us to bring these innovations to our schools now. Acting with such expediency helps ensure Shrewsbury schools are providing the high quality education that will prepare our students to succeed in colleges and careers of the 21st century.

To learn more about this fund, please visit their page on the Shrewsbury Public School website:
<http://schools.shrewsburyma.gov/future/index.cfm>

The Colonial Fund website includes information regarding how funds have been used, including purchasing equipment used towards meeting the district's technology goals as well as a recent \$32,000 donation to upgrade the High School Educational Television Studio (ETS).

Colonial Fund Donations by Fiscal Year

Fiscal Year	Amount Raised by Colonial Fund
FY14	\$15,450
FY15	\$14,648
FY16	\$76,896.32
FY17 (YTD)	\$43,058.91
Total	\$150,053.23

COLONIAL FUND 



SUPPORTING INNOVATION IN LEARNING

[Donate Now](#)

We have high expectations for the 2016-2017 school year and we are off to a great start!

Shrewsbury Federal Credit Union is once again our Innovation Partner.

Shrewsbury Federal Credit Union has donated \$5,000 towards innovative ideas in our schools and they have offered a matching challenge of an additional \$5,000. All individual donations (not those generated through an event) will be matched up to a total of \$5,000, thus giving us \$15,000 towards innovative projects.



Jim Dupont (top, far right) and Dr. Sawyer (top, far left) meet with students from 4th grade at Paton Elementary School who are using iPads in their classroom, thanks, in part, to Shrewsbury Federal Credit Union's ongoing support.

Provide 50,000 Hours of Student Community Service

Shrewsbury High School students alone have participated 95,293 hours of community service during 2011/2012 to 2016/2017 school years. This commitment to service is also reflected in programs and projects that have taken place in all of the schools across our district.

Spotlight on Shrewsbury High School

The 10,000- hour challenge is a service learning initiative to get all students at Shrewsbury High School volunteering in the community.

The classes are challenged to complete 10,000 hours of service learning by the time they graduate. As a class, the students would complete:

- 1000 hours as freshmen
- 2000 hours as sophomores
- 3000 hours as juniors
- 4000 hours as seniors

In order for student service learning hours to be counted towards the challenge, students were required to submit a reflection log along with specific hours of service. Please find below the data collected by year for SHS student service hours.

School Year	Total
2011-2012	10,333 hours
2012-2013	15,240 hours
2013-2014	17,166 hours
2014-2015	19,261 hours
2015-2016	15,543 hours
2016-2017	17,750 hours
Total	95,293 hours

Spotlight on Oak Middle School

Community Service and Leadership Club - They sponsor the following events to earn money for donations to various charities:

- Coins of Fury - coin drive during the holidays
- Spirit of Shrewsbury - sell coffee and breakfast treats
- Concession Stand at Basketball games

Student Voice - The money they earn goes back to the school for specific items like a Media Center Drop box, benches for the hallway, water bottle refill stations

- Thanksgiving Food Drive
- Carnation Sales at Valentine's day

Project 351 Ambassadors - This year the Oak ambassador organized a clothing drive for Cradles to Crayons

Various Team Projects have a community service component to them

- 8 White "Kindness Rocks" will donate rocks painted with kindness messages to the Shrewsbury Conservation Commission
- 8 Gold participation in Walk for Hunger for Project Bread
- 7 Green Global Awareness Unit - donated thousands of books
- 7 Green Ecology Unit - donating bird field guides to the Mass Audubon Society
- 7 Blue is donating time to the Grafton Community garden program

Spotlight on Sherwood Middle School

At Sherwood Middle School, the *Student Voice* program is dedicated to serving others. Please find below a link that celebrates the work of the 2015-2016 crews and the contributions they made to the community.

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/0B4wAgKw9tdSPdTI1VUx2SG9ESmM/view?usp=sharing>

Spotlight on the Elementary Level

Shrewsbury's youngest students have also been engaged in providing service. The specific programs vary by school and level but all school communities have engaged in various service projects including:

- Campus cleanups
- Book drives
- Winter coat/Hats and mittens drives
- Supply drives for troops serving overseas
- Local kindness and anti-bullying initiatives.

Many elementary students will soon be participating in the garden build day that is being held later this month as part of the new, almost \$30,000 grant from Home Depot that will provide or enhance gardens at each of our schools.