

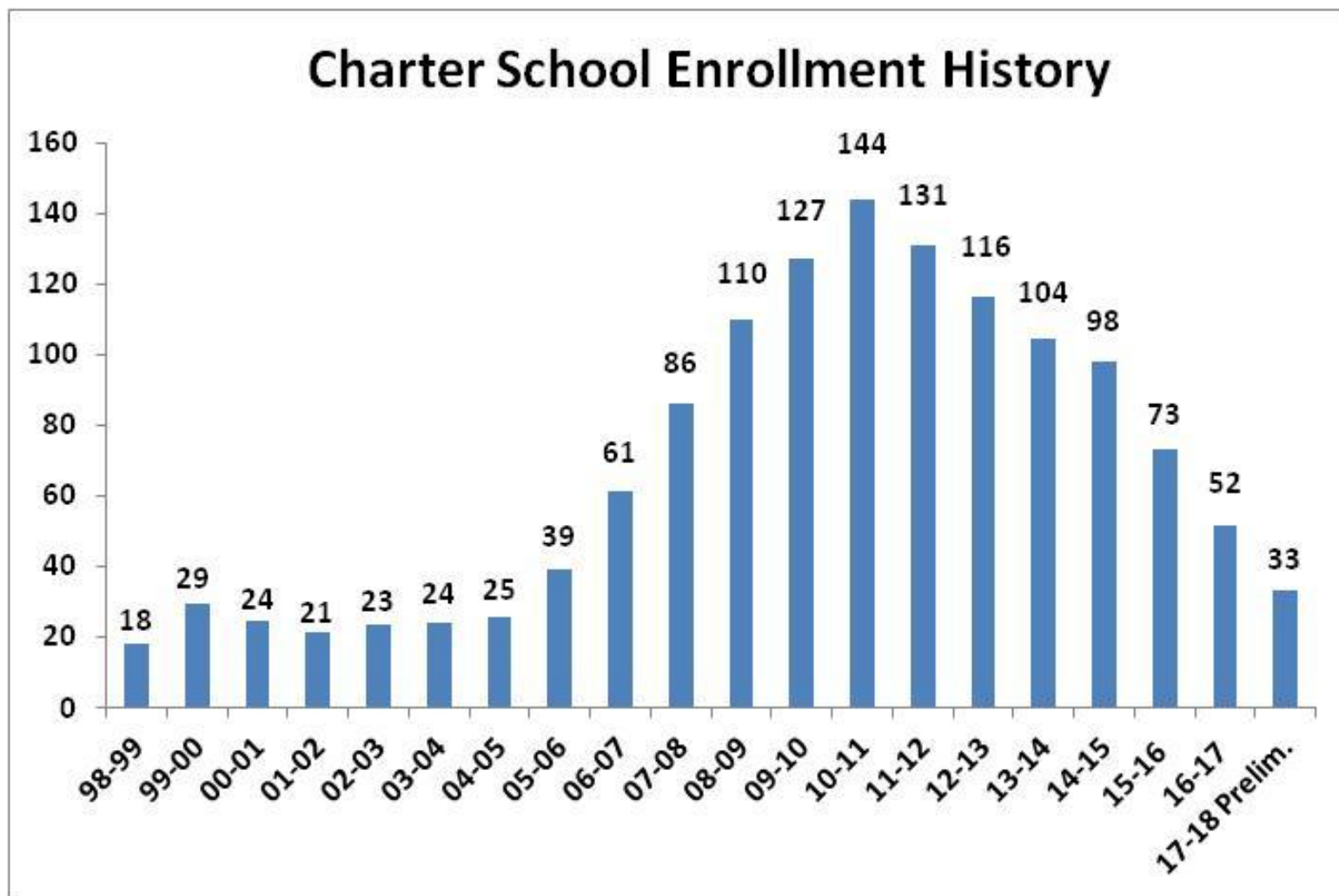
Charter Schools and School Choice: Annual Report

Patrick C. Collins
February 28, 2018

Topics

- Enrollment and finances related to:
 - Charter Schools
 - School Choice
 - Virtual Schools
- Summary Notes and Considerations
- School Choice Hearing: 2018-2019 school year
- School Choice Vote: 2018-2019 school year

Charter School Enrollment History: Shrewsbury Resident School-Age Children



Charter School Enrollment by Grade 2017-2018 [as of Dec. 2017]

K-4 = 3 students

5-8= 5 students

9-12= 25 students

We can project a continued decline in FY19 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
1	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	5	5	7	6	7	33
FDK	Grade 1-4				Grade 5-6		Grade 7-8		Grade 9-12				Total
1	2				0		5		25				33

Charter School Enrollment by School 2017-2018 [as of Dec. 2017]

- Enrollment of the 33 students by school:
 - Advanced Math & Science Academy [Marlboro]
 - 28 students
 - Abby Kelley Foster Charter School [Worcester]
 - 4 students
 - Francis W. Parker Charter School [Devens]
 - 1 student

Tuition, Aid, & Net Cost History

- ▶ Annual average tuition rate was \$13,171 per student for FY17.
- ▶ 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 \$648K 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	FY17	
FTE	110.15	127.16	144.14	130.79	116.28	104.36	98.19	73.17	51.60	
Tuition	\$ 1,025,068	\$ 1,151,129	\$ 1,321,539	\$ 1,279,450	\$ 1,226,276	\$ 1,142,099	\$ 1,221,904	\$ 923,221	\$ 693,667	
Facilities Aid	\$ 95,665	\$ 106,489	\$ 118,052	\$ 113,196	\$ 100,058	\$ 90,037	\$ 85,270	\$ 63,281	\$ 45,963	
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	\$ 45,963	
Net Cost to District	\$ 482,707	\$ 692,945	\$ 872,769	\$ 1,080,447	\$ 1,088,212	\$ 1,013,399	\$ 1,055,269	\$ 860,011	\$ 647,704	

Preliminary FY18 Charter School Tuition & Reimbursements

Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education

Office of School Finance

Preliminary FY18 Charter School Tuition Payments and Reimbursements for Sending Districts (Q2)

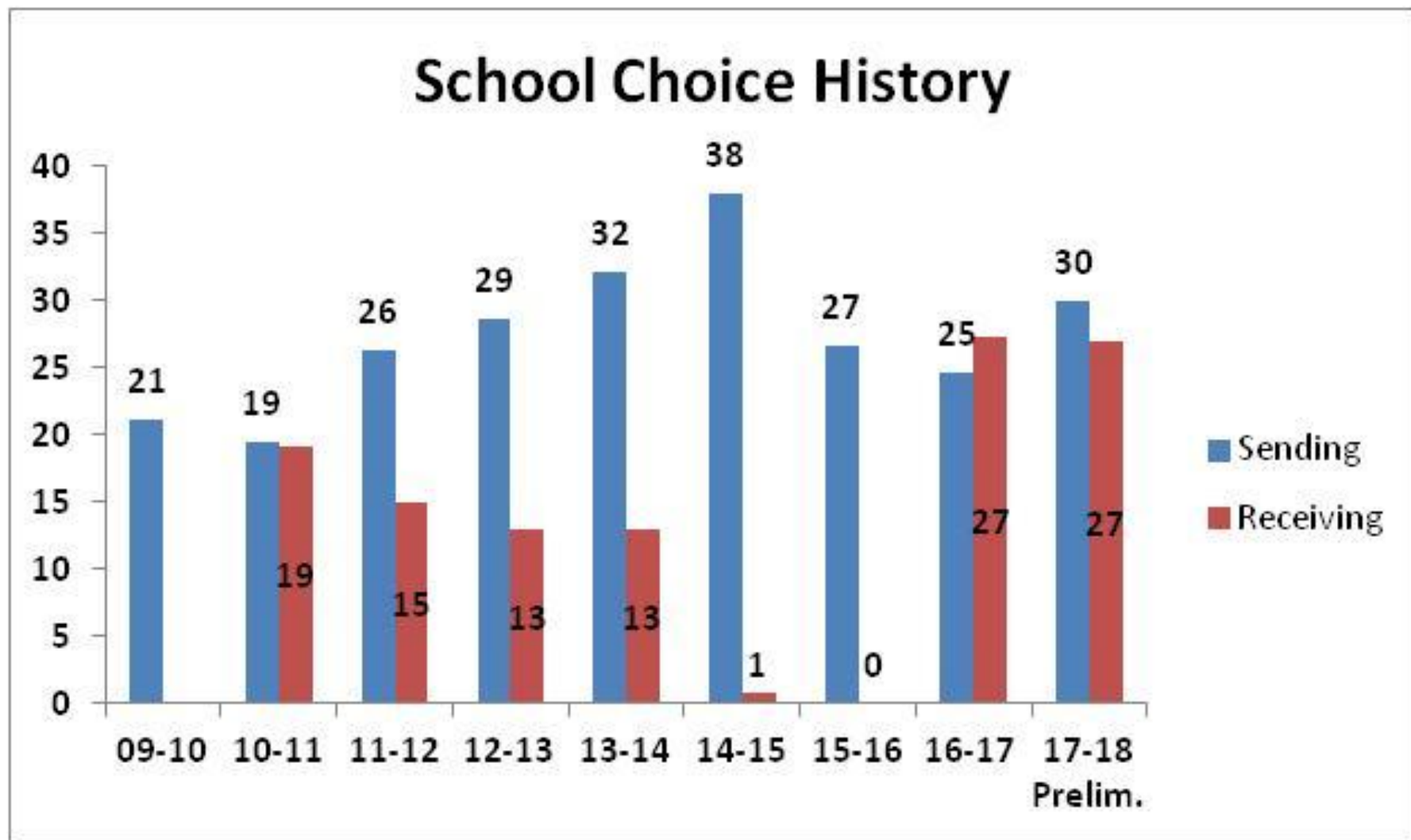
DISTRICT PAYMENT							STATE AID TO DISTRICT			NET DISTRICT COST	STATE AID SUMMARY				STATE AID AT FULL FUNDING
LEA	DISTRICT	FTE	LOCAL FOUNDATION TUITION	LOCAL TRANSPOR- TATION TUITION	LOCAL FACILITIES TUITION	LOCAL PAYMENT	100/25/25/ 25/25/25 INCREASED TUITION AID	FACILITIES AID	TOTAL CHARTER AID		STATE PAYMENT FOR PRIVATE/ SIBLING/ HOMESCHOOLER	100/25/25/ 25/25/25 INCREASED TUITION AID	TOTAL FACILITIES AID	TOTAL STATE AID	
271	SHREWSBURY	33.0	405,831	0	28,797	434,628	0	28,797	28,797	405,831	0	0	28,797	28,797	49,940

Note \$0 tuition aid in FY18. 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.

Average cost per student is \$13,171.

School Choice History: Enrollment



2017-2018 School Choice:

Sending Students by Grade Level

This is a headcount of all the students attending in a School Choice placement in another district. 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.

Of particular note is:

- that we have 6 students attending Worcester Public Schools for full-day kindergarten and,

- that we have 8 students attending TECCA virtual school, 3 of whom are Grade 8 and 5 of whom are Grades 9-12.

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
6	2	0	2	2	0	1	1	5	2	3	4	2	30
FDK	Grade 1-4				Grade 5-6		Grade 7-8		Grade 9-12				Total
6	6				1		6		11				30

FY18 School Choice Sending Students: Destination Districts & Grade Level

Receiving District	Grade
BERLIN BOYLSTON	10
BERLIN BOYLSTON	12
HUDSON	06
HUDSON	08
MILFORD	03
MILFORD	07
MILFORD	11
NORTHBRIDGE	01
TECCA	08
TECCA	08
TECCA	08
TECCA	09
TECCA	10
TECCA	10
TECCA	11
TECCA	11
UXBRIDGE	12
WORCESTER	01
WORCESTER	03
WORCESTER	04
WORCESTER	04
WORCESTER	08
WORCESTER	09
WORCESTER	11
WORCESTER	KF
WORCESTER	KF
WORCESTER	KF
WORCESTER	KF
WORCESTER	KF
WORCESTER	KF
WORCESTER	KF

- Note six students in full-day kindergarten possibly due to inability to access in S.P.S.
- Note eight 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
6	2	0	2	2	0	1	1	5	2	3	4	2	30

Expected tuition cost of \$180,622

School Choice History:

FTE & Tuition [Sending & Receiving]

0271 SHREWSBURY

FY	Receiving		Sending	
	FTE Pupils	Tuition	FTE Pupils	Tuition
2008	0.0	0	13.7	78,480
2009	0.0	0	18.5	106,835
2010	0.0	0	21.2	113,286
2011	19.2	96,050	19.5	107,984
2012	15.0	79,568	26.3	149,193
2013	13.0	69,167	28.6	144,191
2014	13.0	68,725	32.1	185,881
2015	0.8	4,989	38.0	220,220
2016	0.0	0	26.7	162,855
2017	27.3	139,913	24.6	139,287

- 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.

School Choice Receiving 2017-2018

- Worcester= 20
- Wachusett= 3
- Boylston= 2
- Grafton= 1
- Millbury= 1
- Total= 27

Grade 3	Grade 5	Grade 6	Grade 7	Total
8	5	4	10	27

Expected School Choice revenue is \$142,563.

Virtual School Enrollment

- A subset of School Choice Program
 - Currently have 8 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 FY18 Shrewsbury should be receiving \$21,194 but instead receiving \$0 aid.
- School Choice enrollment **increased** for 17-18
 - Virtual School enrollment seems to be volatile with many students not persisting.

Summary Notes

- Estimated FY18 Net Cost to Town/District
 - \$405,831 for Charter Schools
 - \$180,622 for School Choice including Virtual Schools**\$586,453**
- School committee, by law, must vote each year to accept or not accept School Choice students into S.P.S.
 - The recommendation for 2018-2019 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 includes the expansion of full-day kindergarten seats to include 100% of our K students.
- This will lead to student retention and forestall the outflow of tuition dollars to other districts.

School Choice Hearing & Vote

- The School Committee is required to hold an annual School Choice Hearing and vote on whether or not they wish to accept any School Choice students from other communities for the upcoming school year.