

# Homewood Community Planning

Board of Education Update  
May 12, 2009

# Agenda

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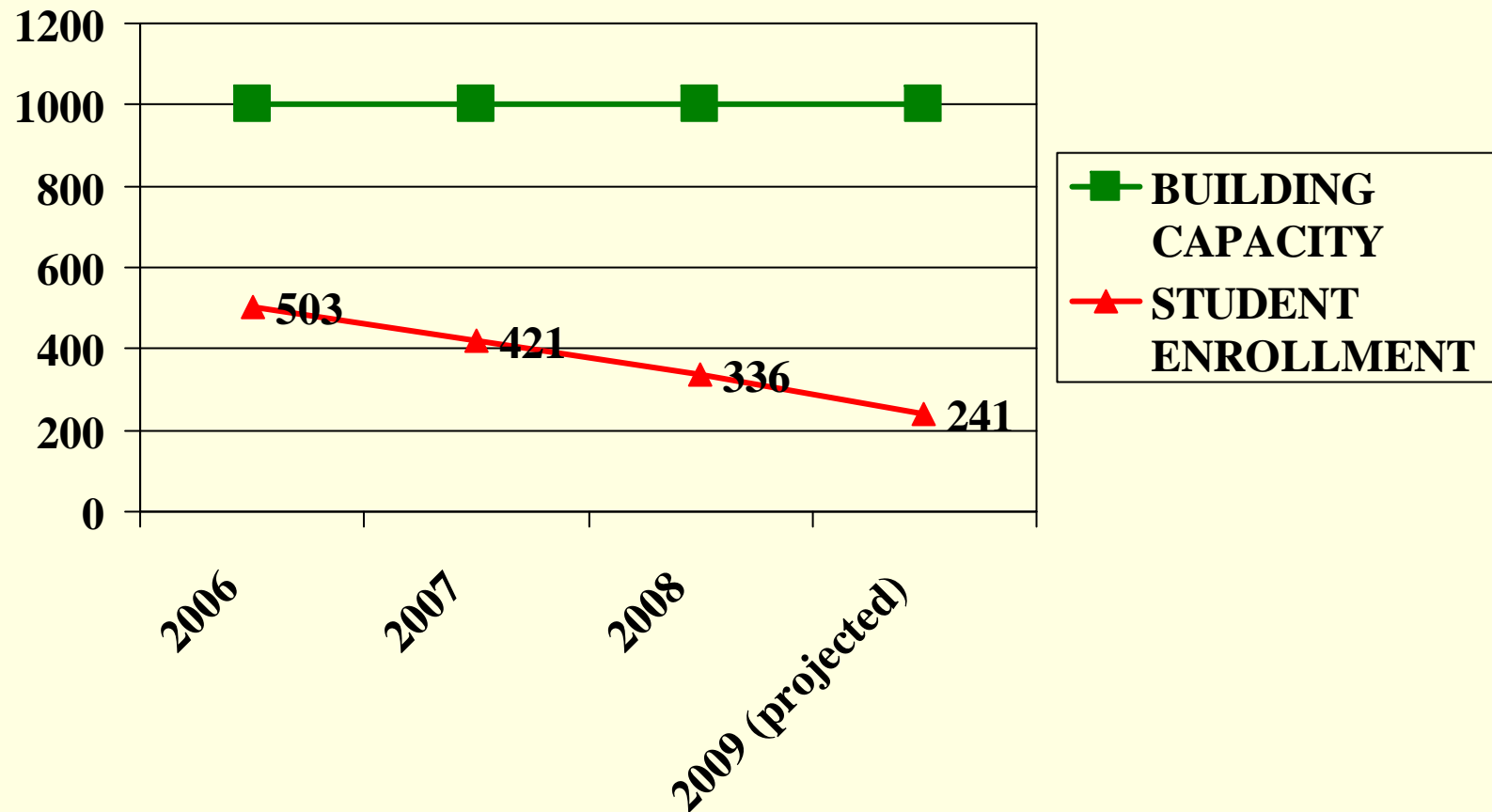
- Westinghouse High School –State of the School
- Homewood Community Meetings
- “Homewood Children’s Village”-Presentation
  - John Wallace, PhD, Associate Professor, University of Pittsburgh, School of Social Work

# Pittsburgh Westinghouse is a recently, renovated state-of-the-art facility.

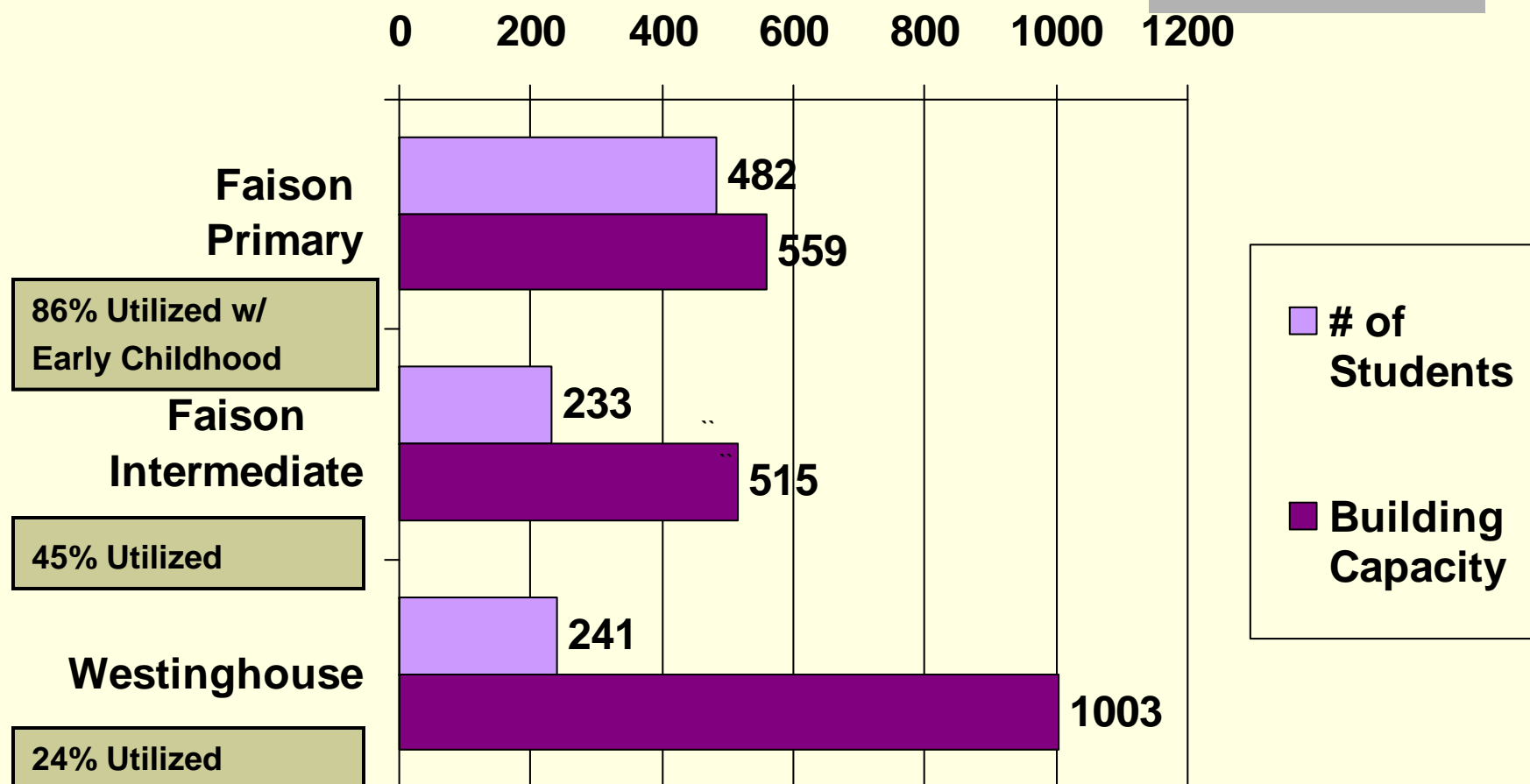
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- Built in 1933, but renovated in 2002 with an addition -- \$27 million
- New and renovated instructional spaces, which included science, computer, and CTE laboratories with equipment
- Renovated gymnasium, locker rooms, pool cafeteria, and auditorium

Westinghouse High School has lost 50% of its student body since 2006.



Enrollment Projections for 2009-10 predict higher underutilized building capacity in Homewood.



# Declining enrollment at Westinghouse results in diminished opportunity for student growth and enrichment.

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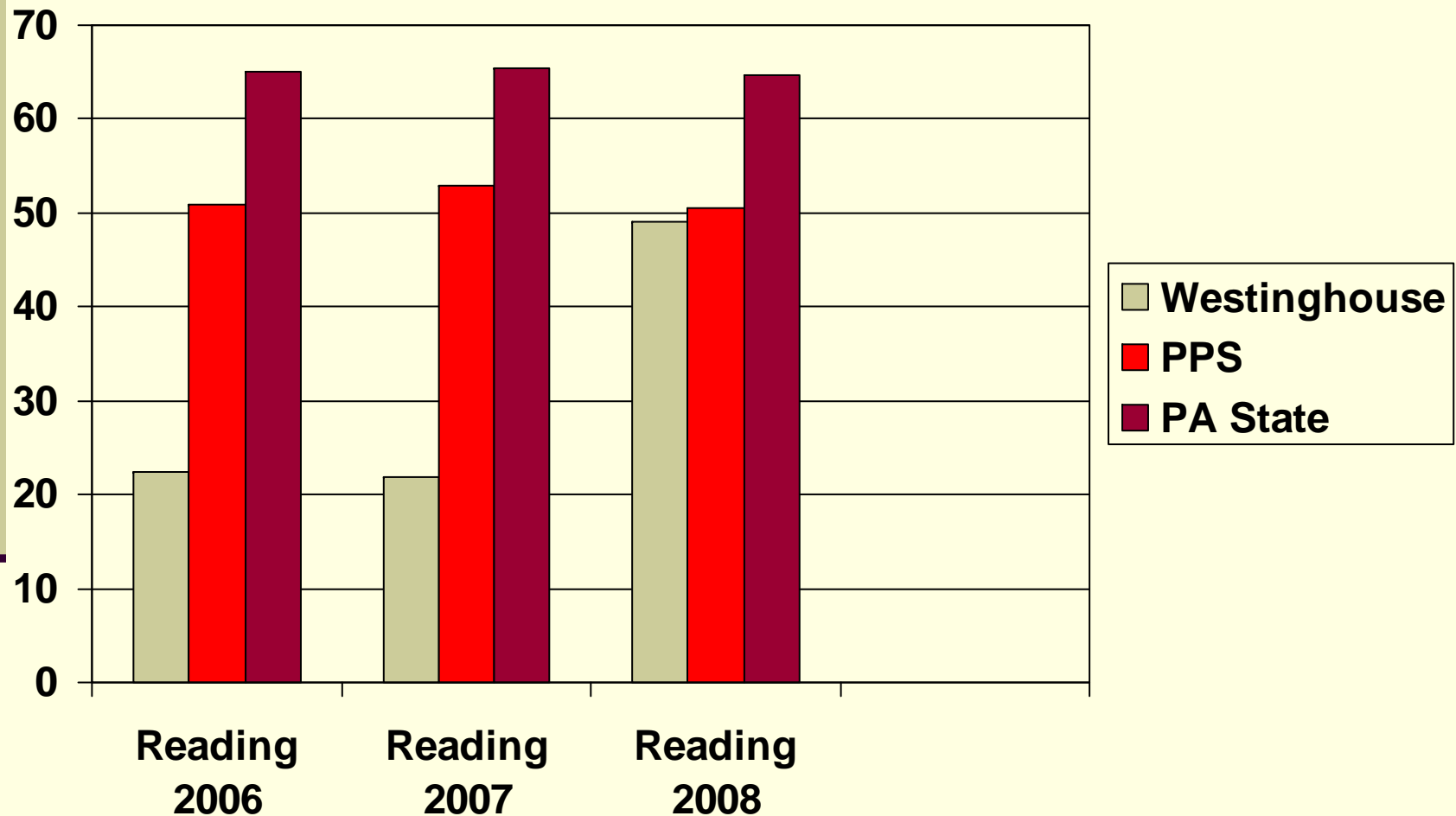
- Fewer Electives and AP Opportunities
  - Arts and Music electives have continually diminished
  - Advanced Placement and CAS Course Offerings - Students are shared with neighboring Peabody High School
- Athletic Opportunities
  - Great Story: Lady Bulldogs Basketball- Back to Back City Champions
  - Many sports struggle to field teams that are competitive: i.e. football, soccer

# Declining enrollment at Westinghouse also has fiscal implications for the entire school district.

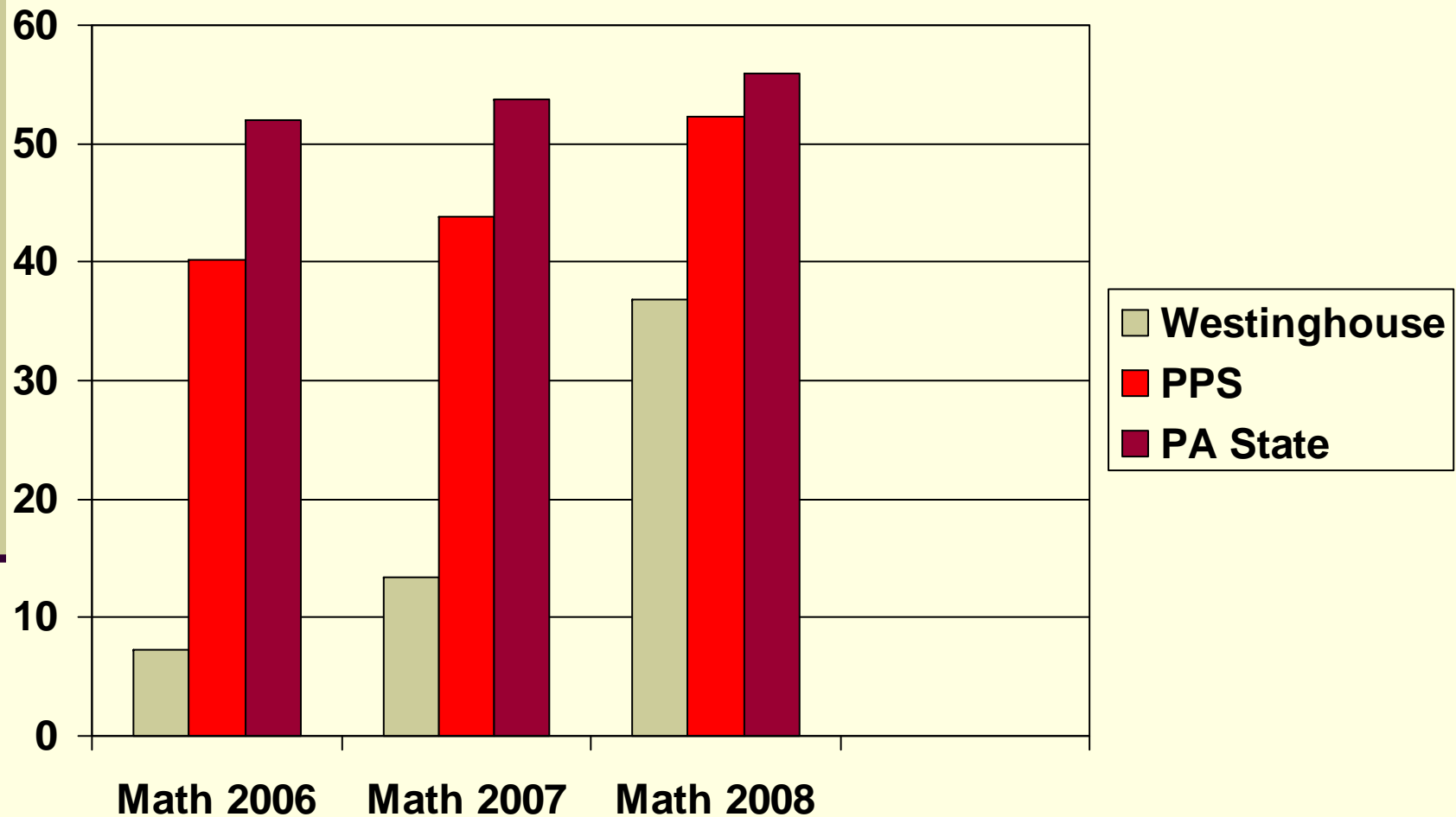
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- Subsidizing the School with Staff
  - 1 Assistant Principal
    - Standard for AP is 1 to 400 Students
  - 2008-2009 – Approximately \$250,000
    - **2 Teachers**
  - 2009-2010 -- Approximately \$500,000
    - **4 Teachers**
- Underutilization of Buildings
  - Utility Costs- (2008)
    - District-Wide-- \$393/per student
    - Westinghouse --\$972/per student
  - Closed the Entire Second Floor of Westinghouse for this year 2008-09

# Westinghouse has shown dramatic improvement on PSSA Reading Scores



# Westinghouse has shown even greater gains in PSSA Math Scores



# Community Meetings have taken place over a span of more than 18 months.

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## **Year 2007-08**

- Convened by PPS
  - October 4, 2007
  - November 1, 2007
  - November 15, 2007
  - December 1, 2007
- Several Community Meetings convened by Dr. John Wallace to explore various options for Westinghouse and the Homewood Community

## **Year 2008-09**

- Convened by PPS
  - October 8, 2008
  - November 11, 2008
  - December 9, 2008
  - January 8, 2009
- Various Meetings convened by the Homewood Partners to begin implementation of the Harlem Children's Zone Model to the Homewood Community
- Subsequent Community Meetings regarding the Academic Focus of the school have been placed on hold.

The School and Community seek to build upon the successes at Westinghouse.

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- Community Group has proposed the reconfiguration of the Homewood Schools to address the declining enrollment issues.
  - Homewood Early Childhood Center at the Crescent Building
  - Helen Faison K-5
  - George Westinghouse 6-12

# The Community Group has proposed a thematic school for Westinghouse.

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- Disciplinary Learning through the Lens of Sports
  - English-Journalism and Media
  - Mathematics-Management
  - Science - Sports Medicine
  - Social Studies – Society
  - Technology – Entertainment Technology
- Instructional Delivery
  - Single-Gender Core Curricular Instruction
  - Career Preparation-CTE Certificated Programs
- Proposed University and Community Partners
  - Carnegie Mellon, Duquesne, Robert Morris, University of Pittsburgh
  - UPMC, Highmark
  - Pittsburgh Athletic Franchises

The proposal and its various aspects are currently under review by the Administration.

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- Community Meetings with a smaller committee will continue.
  - Possible intersection with other district-wide committees exist.
- Recommendation to the Board of Education regarding the efficacy of the proposal is slated for the fall of 2009.

## An integral part of the plan for Homewood involves the development of the Homewood Children's Village.

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- Homewood Community Partners took a mission to New York City for three days in spring 2008 to explore the "Harlem Children's Zone".
- HCZ Practitioners Institute Workshop-- May 6-8, 2009
  - Many community groups and foundations send representatives
  - PPS Participants
    - Principal Shemeca Crenshaw
    - Assistant Superintendent Derrick Lopez
- Homewood Community Partners has now entered into the formal planning phase for the "Homewood Children's Village"