



Office of the Superintendent  
David J. Kroeze, Ph.D.

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## MEMORANDUM

To: Members, Board of Education  
From: David Kroeze  
Re: Fall 2020 Enrollment Report  
Date: September 3, 2020

In this report I have provided you with a summary and analysis of our grade level enrollment data. I have also provided future enrollment projections through the 2024-25 school year.

### **Fall Enrollment Data for 2020**

- The enrollment for the fall of 2020 is 1,325. This number is slightly higher than our enrollment projection which was 1,318.
- Each grade level enrollment takes into consideration the within-grade-growth over last school year. We are exactly where we anticipated we would be in all the schools with just some minor aberrations by grade level (ranging from 1 to 5 students higher or lower at any grade level with the exception of kindergarten which was up by 15 students). Overall, our enrollment is slightly higher as projected.
- At kindergarten we have 15 more students than expected with a total enrollment of 133. The average enrollment over the past five years since we began the Full-Day Kindergarten Program is 121.6 and the past two years of enrollment have been 122 and 133. Here are some longitudinal data points of note. In the past 29 years, kindergarten enrollment:
  - Greater than or equal to 130 – 4 times (The last time we had 130 was in the 2003-04 school year.)
  - Greater than or equal to 125 – 8 times
  - Greater than or equal to 120 – 13 times
  - Greater than or equal to 115 – 17 times

This longitudinal data combined with the past five year's average of 121.6 suggests that 122 would be a solid number to use as a target number for incoming kindergarten students. We will continue to monitor the trend line each year.

- As you know, the two key factors that have the greatest impact on our enrollment from year-to-year are:
  1. Graduating 8<sup>th</sup> grade classes that are typically larger than the incoming kindergarten classes (due to growth over the nine years of the class).
  2. Within-grade-growth from year-to-year in grades 1-8.
- Comparing our enrollments by building from last fall:

- Hickory Point increased by 19 students.
  - Shabonee decreased by 10 students.
  - Wood Oaks increased by 19 students.
- All in all, the enrollment is strong and stable with our projection being on target. (within .5 of one percentage point.)
  - Class sizes reflect our preferred student-teacher ratios.
  - When we look at the gender of our student population, we continue to have more boys than girls. We have 640 females and 685 males in our regular and out-of-district programs. We have 45 more boys than girls in the District, much lower than last year which was 106 more boys.
  - We have 13 families (15 students) across the grade levels where the parents unenrolled them for the year. They are going to private school, home schooling, or some other option. These students are not counted in our projections. We will need to monitor these families as we enter registration next year to see if they re-enroll in the District or continue their current schooling decision.

<b>Figure 1: Fall Enrollment Data by School for 2020</b>				
<b>School</b>	<b>Grade</b>	<b>2020-2021 Fall Enrollment (Number of Sections)</b>	<b>Class Size</b>	<b>New Students in Fall 2020</b>
<b>Hickory Point</b>	Kdgn	133 (7)	17-18	*76
	First	132 (7)	19-20	13
	Second	137 (7)	17-18	3
	<b>Total</b>	<b>402</b>		<b>92</b>
<b>Shabonee</b>	Third	130 (7)	19-20	5
	Fourth	143 (7)	20-23	6
	Fifth	155 (7)	19-22	6
	<b>Total</b>	<b>428</b>		<b>17</b>
<b>Wood Oaks</b>	Sixth	153	NA	3
	Seventh	148	NA	8
	Eighth	168	NA	4
	<b>Total</b>	<b>469</b>		<b>15</b>
<b>Other Special Placements</b> ECP (PreK) NSA ELS Out-of-District Private School Private Residential	K-8	14	NA	NA
		12		
	<b>Total</b>	<b>26</b>		<b>NA</b>
<b>District Totals</b>		<b>1,325</b>		124

\* We define new kindergarten children as those students who did not have a sibling attend school on the last day of school last year.

## New Student Move-Ins

- We continue to have new students move into the District as indicated in Figure 2. This year we enrolled 124 new students, consistent with the trend we have averaged over the past five years of 120.2 new students. This average is higher than the previous five-year period which was 97.4 (still in the housing recovery). We will continue to monitor this data point as well.
- It is noteworthy that a majority of our new students are entering kindergarten through second grade (consistent with our past). This high number of new students in the lower grades should have a positive long-term impact on the District’s enrollment provided the students remain in the District, and we continue to see typical “within-grade-growth”.

<b>Figure 2: Number of New Students to District 27 over the Past Five School Years</b>				
<b>Year</b>	<b>K-2</b>	<b>3-5</b>	<b>6-8</b>	<b>Total</b>
<b>2016-17</b>	72	28	14	114
<b>2017-18</b>	80	29	21	130
<b>2018-19</b>	78	19	20	117
<b>2019-20</b>	85	17	14	116
<b>2020-21</b>	92	17	15	124

## Revised Enrollment Projections

- We revise our enrollment projections annually. This revision includes a re-calculation of all “within-grade-growth” factors incorporating this year’s enrollment data. We then use these new factors, a kindergarten projection of 122, and any other idiosyncratic factors to develop our overall projections. For example, graduating a particularly large or small class in any given year can affect the next year’s total enrollment. Enrollment projections are found in Figure 3 below.
- You will note that we are projected to remain stable over the next two years, decreasing by 3 in the 2021-2022 school year. We will then see another increase of 15 students over the next two years (2022-2024) - the result of graduating a smaller 8<sup>th</sup> grade class in June of 2023 and consistent within-grade-growth from our larger incoming classes). In the 2024-25 school year, we project a slight decrease of 4 students. All in all, we see very stable numbers over the next four years.
- Shabonee will see continued growth as larger classes matriculate through the grades. Wood Oaks will have a slight increase of 10 students and then decrease slightly over the next three years.
- Our enrollment will reach 1,337 students by the 2023-24 school year (as shown in Figures 3 and 4). Obviously, all of these projections are contingent on typical factors playing out as they have in the past.
- We will still be within our preferred class size range with 7 sections per grade level (K-5), but will be on the higher end of it in some grade levels. We may need 8 sections of 1<sup>st</sup> grade next year and 2<sup>nd</sup> grade in 2022-2023 if we want to keep the class sizes at 20; or we may consider going to 21 students per class with one or two instructional assistants. We will monitor the enrollment carefully next year to determine if either of these configurations is needed.

<b>Figure 3: Enrollment Projections for 2021-22 through 2024-25</b>											
<b>Projected Enrollment 2021-22</b>											
<b>School</b>	<b>K</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>Other</b>	<b>Totals</b>
HP	122	146	134								402
SH				144	135	146					425
WO							159	159	151		469
Other										26	26
<b>Totals</b>	<b>122</b>	<b>146</b>	<b>134</b>	<b>144</b>	<b>135</b>	<b>146</b>	<b>159</b>	<b>159</b>	<b>151</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>1,322</b>
<b>Projected Enrollment 2022-2023</b>											
<b>School</b>	<b>K</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>Other</b>	<b>Totals</b>
HP	122	134	148								404
SH				140	149	138					427
WO							151	166	162		479
Other										26	26
<b>Totals</b>	<b>122</b>	<b>134</b>	<b>148</b>	<b>140</b>	<b>149</b>	<b>138</b>	<b>151</b>	<b>166</b>	<b>162</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>1,336</b>
<b>Projected Enrollment 2023-2024</b>											
<b>School</b>	<b>K</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>Other</b>	<b>Totals</b>
HP	122	134	136								392
SH				155	145	152					452
WO							142	156	169		467
Other										26	26
<b>Totals</b>	<b>122</b>	<b>134</b>	<b>136</b>	<b>155</b>	<b>145</b>	<b>152</b>	<b>142</b>	<b>156</b>	<b>169</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>1,337</b>
<b>Projected Enrollment 2024-2025</b>											
<b>School</b>	<b>K</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>Other</b>	<b>Totals</b>
HP	122	134	136								392
SH				142	160	149					451
WO							157	147	160		464
Other										26	26
<b>Totals</b>	<b>122</b>	<b>134</b>	<b>136</b>	<b>142</b>	<b>160</b>	<b>149</b>	<b>157</b>	<b>147</b>	<b>160</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>1,333</b>

<b>Figure 4: Summary K-8 Enrollment Projections by School – Year Totals</b>					
<b>School Year</b>	<b>Hickory Point</b>	<b>Shabonee</b>	<b>Wood Oaks</b>	<b>Other</b>	<b>Total</b>
<b>2020-21</b>	402	428	469	26	1,325
<b>2021-22</b>	402	425	469	26	1,322
<b>2022-23</b>	404	427	479	26	1,336
<b>2023-24</b>	392	452	467	26	1,337
<b>2024-25</b>	392	451	464	26	1,333

**Summary**

- Our enrollment this fall is 1,325 students. This number is slightly higher than our projected enrollment. With our current projections, we anticipate the enrollment to grow over the next four years. We would project the overall enrollment range to be between 1,322 and 1,337.
- Current kindergarten enrollment patterns suggest that 122 is a good number to use for projections. We will monitor the numbers for this grade and refine our projections in the future.

- We typically experience an influx of new students in the District. This year we had 124 new students join the District. We see this trend as a positive sign that our houses are turning over.
- We have thirteen families (15 students) who have unenrolled their children from the District this year. We will monitor whether they re-enroll next year during registration.
- All grades have great class sizes that are within our preferred range. We project to maintain a consistent staffing pattern level over the next four years with a possible adjustment at 1<sup>st</sup> grade next year and 2<sup>nd</sup> grade the year after.