



**BSD405
MIDDLE SCHOOL
FORECAST
EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

Western Demographics - 10/12/23

INTRODUCTION

Western Demographics has engaged in a careful examination of BSD405 middle school enrollment and has developed an eight-year middle school enrollment forecast with low, medium and high scenarios. Western expects the medium basis to be the most likely. The forecast is reflective of current, Fall 2023 enrollments for the 23-24 school year and used current enrollments for all enrollment categories including advanced learning. Enrollment at middle schools is inclusive of Advanced Learning programs and enrollment is expected to decline at all middle schools as indicated in the table below. This summary addresses Western's methodology and identifies key drivers affecting middle school enrollment in the district.

GENERAL METHODOLOGY

Western uses an industry standard, cohort survival process to forecast enrollment with future new housing development factored in using historic student yield from recent new housing. Future residential development in the BelRed, Wilburton, Downtown, Autotown, Overlake, Factoria and elsewhere have been tabulated and integrated into the forecasting model. Historical trending of existing Bellevue student population data is integrated into the model using current and prior BSD405 student databases. Birth data and generational change trending is also a factor. Millennial and Generation “Z” young adults are having fewer children and smaller families and Western has emerged as an authority on the study of this trend. Western has been involved in forecasting enrollment in BSD 405 since 2014 and has 40 years of experience working throughout the western U.S. Western follows various Census, real estate and economic indicators on an on-going basis in order to maintain accuracy.



KEY DRIVERS IN BSD405 ENROLLMENT FORECASTING

Home prices - Housing prices in the district have risen sharply in recent years and the average price of a single family detached home is well over \$1M. Apartment rents and prices and rents for condominium and townhome properties have also risen beyond the reach of many families with elementary-aged children and school-aged children in general. This fact has pushed locally-employed families outside of the district to find affordable housing. There are affordable housing projects underway, but they are a small percentage of available housing. This trend has diminished school enrollment in high-value housing markets Nationally and the effect on BSD405 has been similar.



KEY DRIVERS IN BSD405 ENROLLMENT FORECASTING

Workforce Focus of Residential Development Projects - The vast majority of recent and planned housing projects in the district are targeted to single young adults or childless couples participating in the regional technology industry. The light rail system has further cemented the identity of downtown, the BelRed and the Overlake areas in this regard. Dozens of mid-rise apartment buildings have been constructed with 4-500 units each and very few or no resident school children. This trend is expected to continue given the configuration and price profile of planned future development.



KEY DRIVERS IN BSD405 ENROLLMENT FORECASTING

Smaller Families, Grade Distribution and Declining Birth Rates - Family size has diminished Nationally as Millennial and Generation “Z” young adults enter the child-producing years and this trend is very present in BSD405. Incoming district kindergarten size has diminished over time and the current kindergarten is almost 370 students smaller than the average middle school class and the outgoing senior class. This results in smaller grades moving into middle school and a built-in diminished enrollment expectation overall. The following table is reflective of these trends.

FORECAST BY SCHOOL

	Chinook			Highland			Odle			Tillicum			Tye		
Year	Low	Med	High	Low	Med	High	Low	Med	High	Low	Med	High	Low	Med	High
Actual SY23_24	735	735	735	593	593	593	922	922	922	700	700	700	913	913	913
SY24_25	682	687	692	569	574	579	975	980	985	696	701	706	892	897	902
SY25_26	597	607	617	532	542	552	945	955	965	706	716	726	838	848	858
SY26_27	548	563	578	515	530	545	933	948	963	716	731	746	790	805	820
SY27_28	510	530	550	512	532	552	907	927	947	732	752	772	775	795	815
SY28_29	461	486	511	508	533	558	871	896	921	692	717	742	775	800	825
SY29_30	448	478	508	481	511	541	807	837	867	671	701	731	729	759	789
SY30_31	448	483	518	449	484	519	754	789	824	629	664	699	704	739	774
SY31_32	465	505	545	441	481	521	724	764	804	637	677	717	655	695	735

MIDDLE SCHOOL ENROLLMENT IN NEIGHBORHOOD
MIDDLE SCHOOLS BY GRADE
CURRENT AND FORECAST

Year	Low			Medium			High		
	6	7	8	6	7	8	6	7	8
Actual SY23 24	1262	1292	1309	1262	1292	1309	1262	1292	1309
SY24 25	1194	1271	1349	1201	1280	1358	1209	1288	1367
SY25 26	1138	1196	1284	1154	1212	1302	1169	1229	1320
SY26 27	1168	1130	1204	1193	1154	1229	1218	1178	1255
SY27 28	1138	1160	1138	1171	1193	1171	1204	1227	1204
SY28 29	1012	1129	1167	1050	1171	1211	1088	1214	1255
SY29 30	1009	998	1130	1058	1045	1184	1106	1093	1238
SY30 31	982	1000	1003	1039	1058	1062	1097	1117	1121
SY31 32	951	969	1002	1016	1035	1070	1081	1101	1139