BISMARCK PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Planning for the Future

Bismarck Public School

Enrollment Analysis

December 2025

RSP & Associates

RSP & Associates

RSP Quick Facts:

- Founded in 2003
- Professional educational planning firm
- Expertise in multiple disciplines (GIS, Planning, Facilitation)
- Over 20 years of planning experience
- Over 80 years of education experience
- Over 20 years of GIS experience
- Projection accuracy of 97% or greater

RSP Planning Team:

Robert Schwarz, CEO

- Military, County, City, and School District Planner
- University of Kansas – Master of Urban Planning (MUP)
- American Institute of Certified Planners (AICP)
- Certified Education Facilities Professional (CEFP)

Ginna Wallace, Planner

- University of Kansas – Master of Urban Planning (MUP)
- American Institute of Certified Planners (AICP)

RSP Recent Projects:

Fargo Public Schools

- Enrollment Analysis, 2025/26

Grand Forks Public Schools

- Enrollment Analysis, 2024/25
- Facility Master Plan, 2024/25

West Fargo Public School

- Enrollment Analysis, 2025/26

RSP Clients:

Company was started with the desire and commitment to assist school districts in long-range planning. RSP has served over **130** clients in:

- Arkansas
- Colorado
- Iowa
- Illinois
- Kansas
- Minnesota
- Missouri
- Nebraska
- North Dakota
- Oklahoma
- South Dakota
- Tennessee
- Wisconsin

Our Partners: MetroQuest socialpinpoint Poll Everywhere esri Partner Network Silver GEOMARVEL

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Expectations

Thank you to Bismarck Public Schools, Burleigh County, City of Bismarck & Lincoln, and Census Bureau/Esri for assisting in this analysis!

Timeline

The project timeline is a result of ensuring that student data is represented as closely as possible to the official county data with attributes that would allow RSP to forecast enrollment at a parcel-level geography.

Findings

The findings were not focused on supporting or contradicting any past internal or outsourced studies. This analysis is based on data, data, and more data.

Study

This study factored in many different data sets to provide data-driven analysis that is the foundation of the RSP Statistical Forecast Model (SFM).

Change

Enrollment change in the community is influenced by, but not limited to, the birth rate, demographics, types of development and/or housing affordability.

Facts:

- ❑ The study does not provide specific information about which site would be best suited for a new facility or for that matter should the district build any new facility – this analysis is one portion of how to make that decision
- ❑ This analysis is based on the same grade configuration and educational programming expectations the patrons have for each student
- ❑ Projecting enrollment is not a science – like life in general some assumptions happen that may lead to greater enrollment while others toward a smaller enrollment
- ❑ Student data does not include Preschool, virtual, or 18-21 special education population. Enrollment best aligns with district Official Count Day data. Presented enrollment may vary from state-reported enrollment.

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Discussion Points

Part 1
Enrollment & Demographics

Executive Summary

Sophisticated Forecast Model

Past Enrollment & Change

Student Analysis Maps & Data

Part 2
Development

Population and Demographic Trends

Student Yield Rate

Housing Market Maps & Data

Potential Growth Analysis

Part 3
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Past, Current, & Future Enrollment

Building Projections

Grade Level Projections

Part 4
Next Steps

Challenges & Solutions

Next Steps & Key Considerations

Appendix

Additional Student Analysis Maps

Definitions

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Executive Summary

RSP's 2025/26 Enrollment Analysis forecasts:

- ❑ Elementary enrollment to stabilize and total **5,919 students** by 2030/31 **(-198 students, -3.2%)**
- ❑ Middle school enrollment to increase and total **3,263 students** by 2030/31 **(+20, 0.6%)**
- ❑ High School enrollment to increase and total **4,642 students** by 2030/31 **(+340, +7.9%)**

Key Variables to Monitor:

- Live Birth Rates (currently decreasing)
- Kindergarten enrollment V.S. 12th grade enrollment
- Student choice trends (Open Enrollment, Grade Progression, Transfers, etc.)
- New housing built per year (+2,600 units in active phases of development)
- Outlook of long-term residential growth (potential 9,000 units on horizon)

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Part 1:
Past Enrollment and Demographics

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District Boundary and City Limits Map

Bismarck School District 1 District Boundary

Legend

- District Office
- Elementary School
- Middle Schools
- High Schools
- BECEP & South Central High
- District Boundary
- Airport
- Golf Course
- Park
- Other

Elementary Schools

1. Centennial
2. Elk Ridge
3. Grimsrud
4. Highland Acres
5. Liberty
6. Lincoln
7. Miller
8. Moses
9. Murphy
10. Myhre
11. Northridge
12. Pioneer
13. Prairie Rose
14. Roosevelt
15. Silver Ranch
16. Solheim
17. Sunrise
18. Will-Moore

Middle Schools

19. Horizon
20. Simle
21. Wachter

High Schools

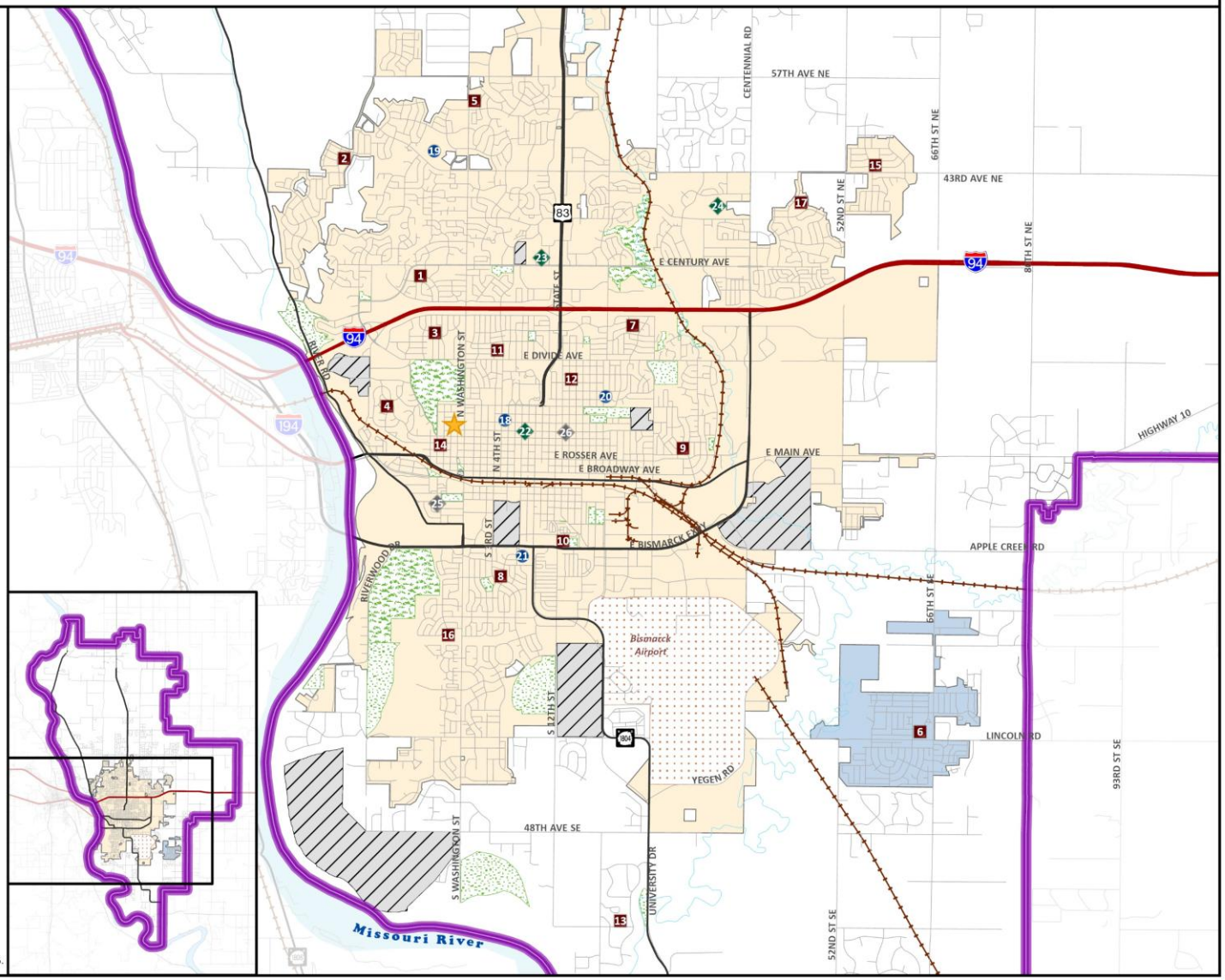
22. Bismarck
23. Century
24. Legacy

Alternative Schools

25. South Central High
26. BECEP

Bismarck

Lincoln



0 0.5 1 2 Miles

Map data provided by Bismarck Public Schools, City of Bismarck, Burleigh County, US Census Bureau, NDDOT and ESRI. Map updated November 2025.

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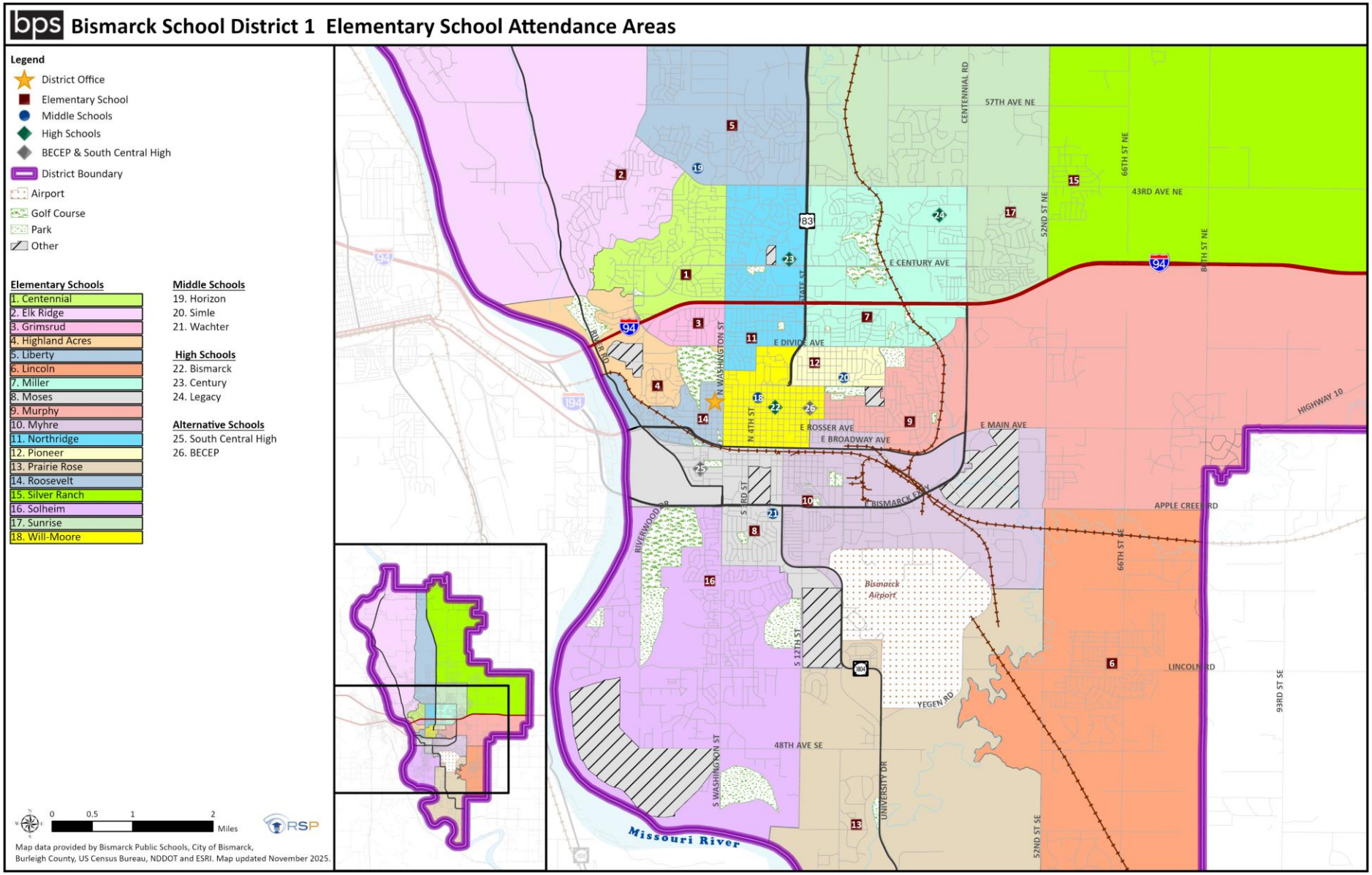
Elementary School Boundary Map



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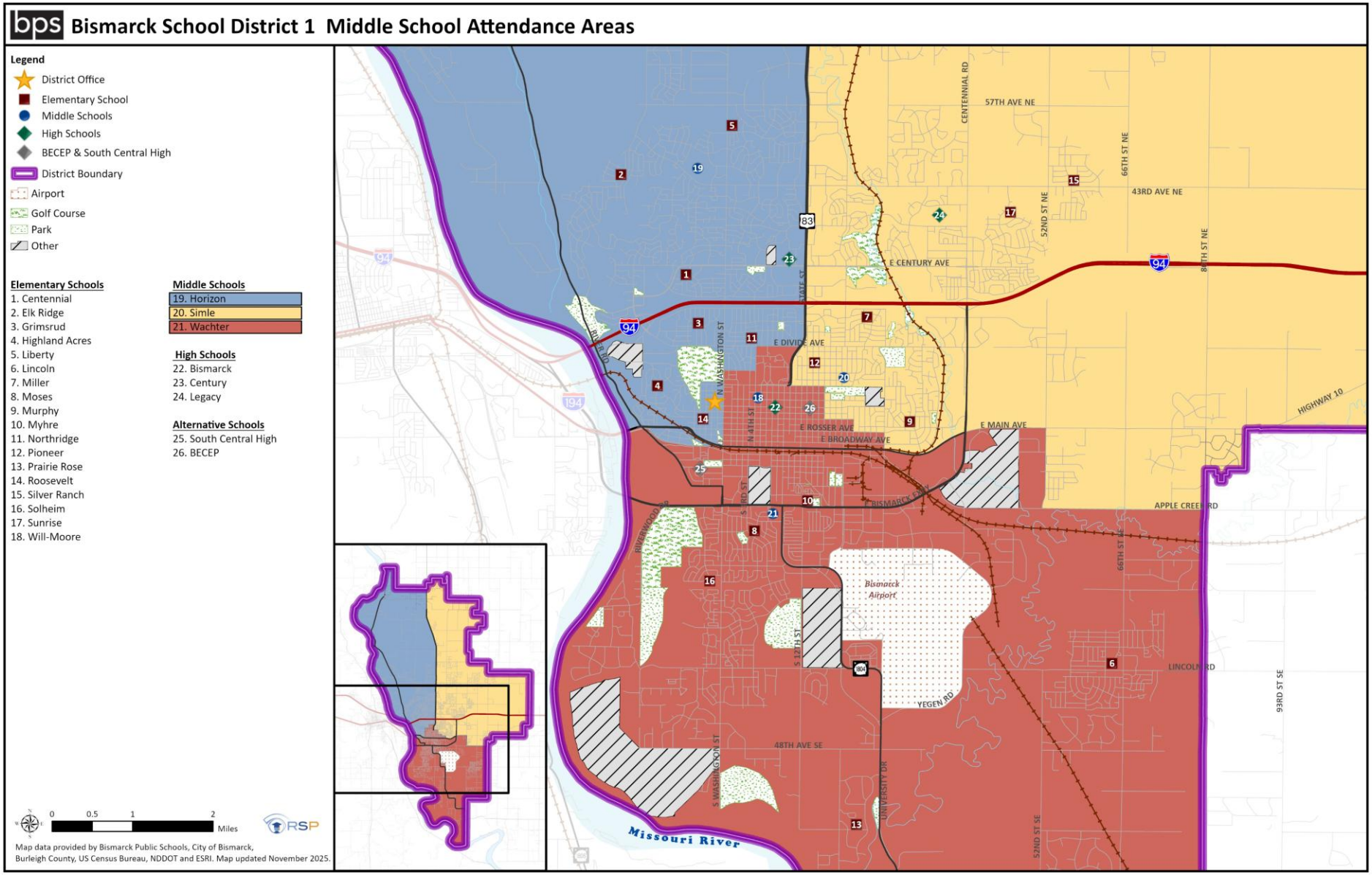
Middle School Boundary Map



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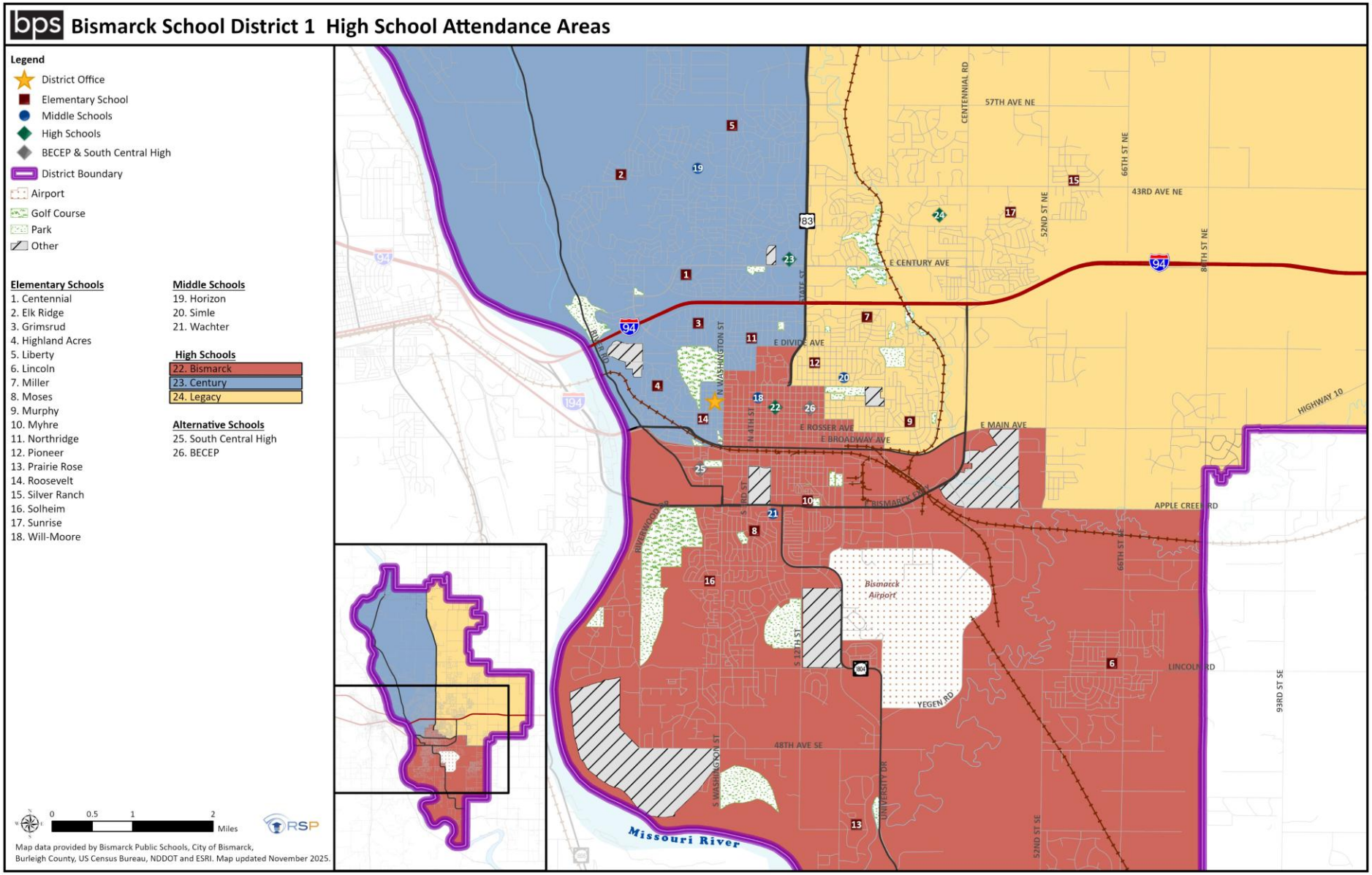
High School Boundary Map



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Feeder System

Bismarck High School	Century High School	Legacy High School
Wachter Middle School	Horizon Middle School	Simle Middle School
Lincoln Elementary	Centennial Elementary	Miller Elementary
Moses Elementary	Elk Ridge Elementary	Murphy Elementary
Myhre Elementary	Grimsrud Elementary	Pioneer Elementary
Prairie Rose Elementary	Highland Elementary	Silver Ranch Elementary
Solheim Elementary	Liberty Elementary	Sunrise Elementary
Will Moore Elementary	Northridge Elementary	
	Roosevelt Elementary	
Manning Elementary (OOD)		*Apple Creek, Menoken, Naughton, and Sterling elementary schools (OOD)*

Observations

- The district operates a complete feeder system from Elementary to High School
- Century High School has the most elementary schools feeding into it while Legacy High School has the least
- Students from surrounding elementary districts feed into Bismarck Publick Schools for middle and high school programming

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RSP Planning Areas

Purpose: This map illustrates how the district is divided into **RSP Planning Areas**, the small geographic units used in the projection model.

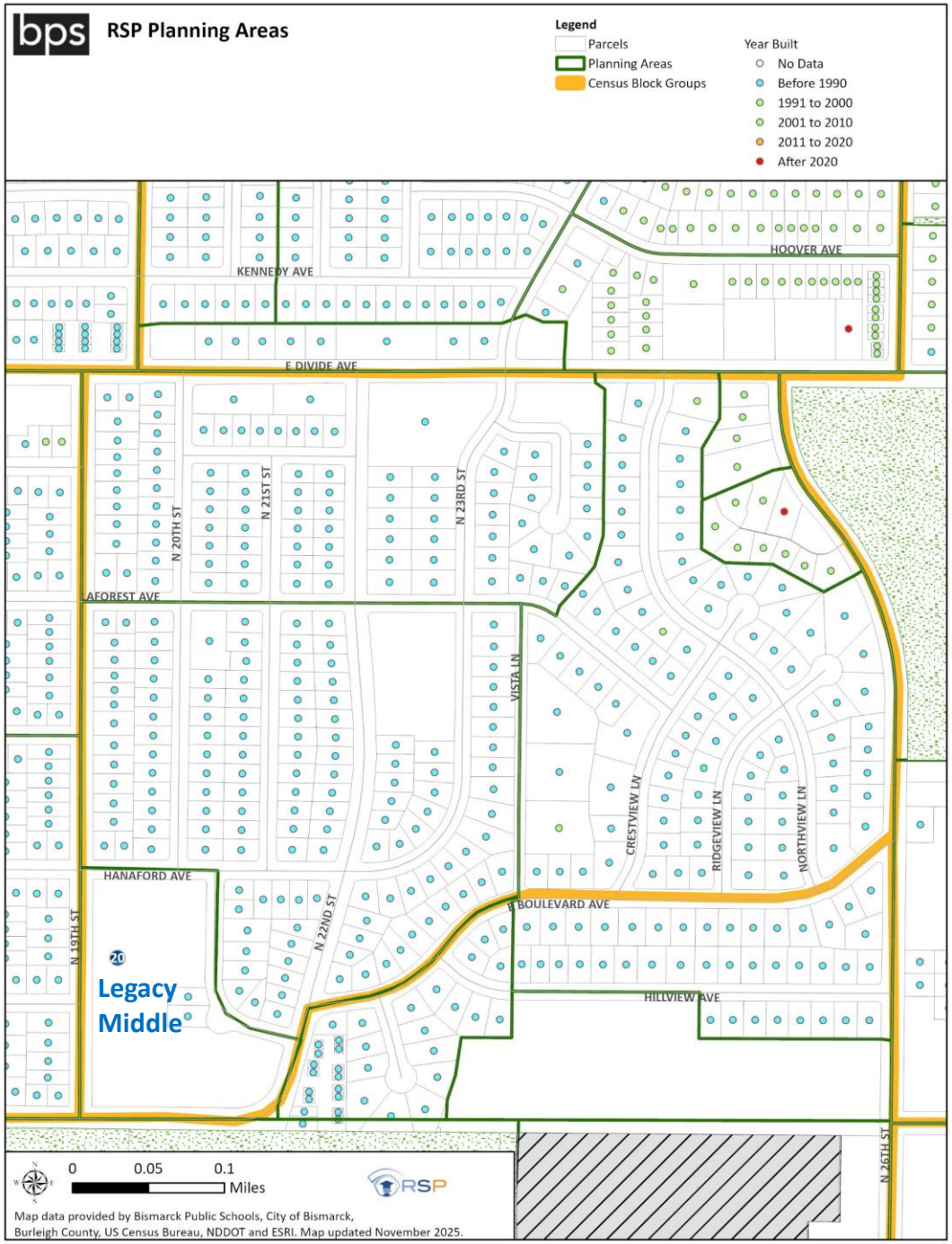
Map Details (Over **900 Planning Areas** were analyzed):

- **Yellow Lines:** Represent **Census Block Groups**
- **Green Lines:** Represent **RSP Planning Areas**

Key Insights and Considerations:

- Planning Areas are more detailed than census block groups, enhancing the **statistical connection between student populations and geography**.
- Planning Areas are created using **multiple factors**:
  - Census block groups and city geographies
  - Land use patterns and residential density
  - Natural and manmade features
  - School attendance boundaries
- Each Planning Area has a **unique profile** influenced by factors (housing value, square footage, year built, proximity to amenities)
- By using planning areas, RSP can more accurately model **enrollment, yield rates, and student distribution**, linking demographic and housing indicators to student population trends.

Main Takeaway: The map provides context to how RSP analyzes change in a smaller geographic level.



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Sophisticated Forecast Model

Built-Out $S_{c,t,x} = S_{c-1,t-1,x} * GC$

Let:

S	=	The number of students, either an actual count or a projected count
x	=	A subscript denoting an attendance ares in the School District
c	=	Grade level
t	=	Time (years)
GC	=	Growth component either modeling enrollment increase or decrease based on historical information, expressed as a real number

Developing $S_{c,t,x} = S_{c-1,t-1,x} + (BP_{t,x} * R_{c,x})$

Where: $BP_{t,x} = \left(\frac{(CP_x)(BT_x)(A_x)}{\sum x (CP_x)(BT_x)(A_x)} \right) * CT$

Let:

S	=	The number of students, either an actual count or a projected count
x	=	A subscript denoting an attendance area in School District
c	=	Grade level
t	=	Time (years)
BP	=	Building permit forecast as given by the Building Permit Allocation Model (BPAM) model
Rc, x	=	Student Enrollment ratio of cohort c in planning area x
CP	=	Capacity of a planning area as expressed by available housing units
BT	=	Building history trend of planning area
A	=	An index which models the likelihood of development
CT	=	Building permit control total forecast

The SFM is…

- a social science… not an exact science; it identifies behavior trends to determine the propensity of them to be recreated
- valuable in how our team created and analyzes the geography at a planning area level for any commonality which while help produce an accurate forecast

Some variables examined for each planning area (but not limited to) are…

- natural cohort (district data)
- planning area subdivision lifecycle (a RSP variable)
- the value of homes (county assessor data)
- type of residential units like single-family, multi-family, townhome, mobile home, etc. (county assessor data)
- year units were built
- estimated female population (census data)
- estimated 0-4 population (census data)
- existing land use (county and city data)
- future land use (county and city data)
- capital improvement plan (county and city data)
- future development (county and city data)
- in-migration of students (district data) & out-migration of students (district data)

This is the **central focus** of everything RSP does.

The model is based on what is happening in a school district. The best data is statistically analyzed to provide an accurate enrollment forecast. The District will be able to use RSP's report and maps to better understand demographic trends, school utilization, and the timing of construction projects.

Each variable is analyzed as an indicator of the future student population:

+ Indicator of Student Growth

− Indicator of Student Loss

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Understanding the Model

RSP Recommended to continually monitor the following indicators:

Enrollment may decrease more than forecasted if…	Enrollment may increase more than forecasted if…
⊖ Decreasing share of live births	⊕ Increasing share of live births
⊖ Current housing stock does not re-green (continues to age)	⊕ Current housing stock re-greens (turns over)
⊖ Housing development experiences minimal potential growth	⊕ Housing development experience more potential growth
⊖ Economic indicators challenge the ability for new homeowners and affordability aspects of the district	⊕ Economic indicators improve the ability for new homeowners and the affordability aspects of the district
⊖ Demographic shifts in community and/or surrounding communities	⊕ Demographic shifts in community and/or surrounding communities
⊖ Incoming Kindergarten class smaller than outgoing senior class	⊕ Incoming Kindergarten class larger than outgoing senior class

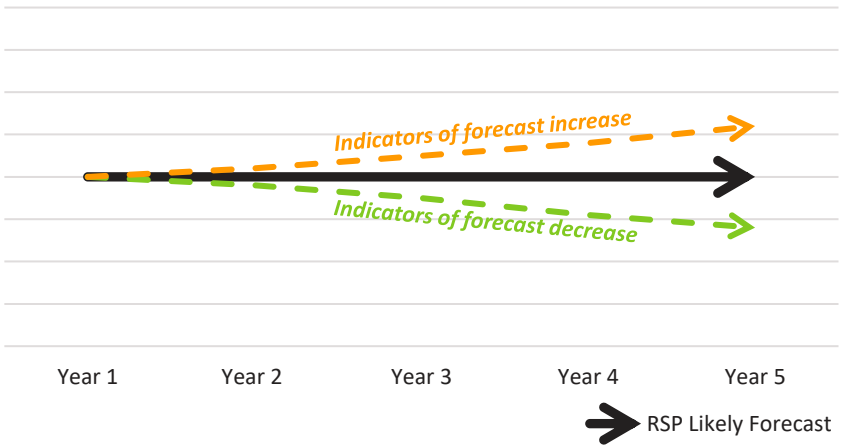
See graphic below to illustrate how the different variables may impact forecasted enrollment outlook:

Main Takeaway:

- These factors are not all positive or negative. Each have a different impact on future outlooks.
- State education policy change may impact enrollment outlook. This analysis assumes policies will continue as they currently operate throughout the projection time frame.
- It is important to continue to monitor these factors – RSP modeling attempts to find the most likely outcome:

The goal of this study is to help the board, administration, and public understand how to make the best decision for the students at the classroom level.

Example of Forecast Evolution



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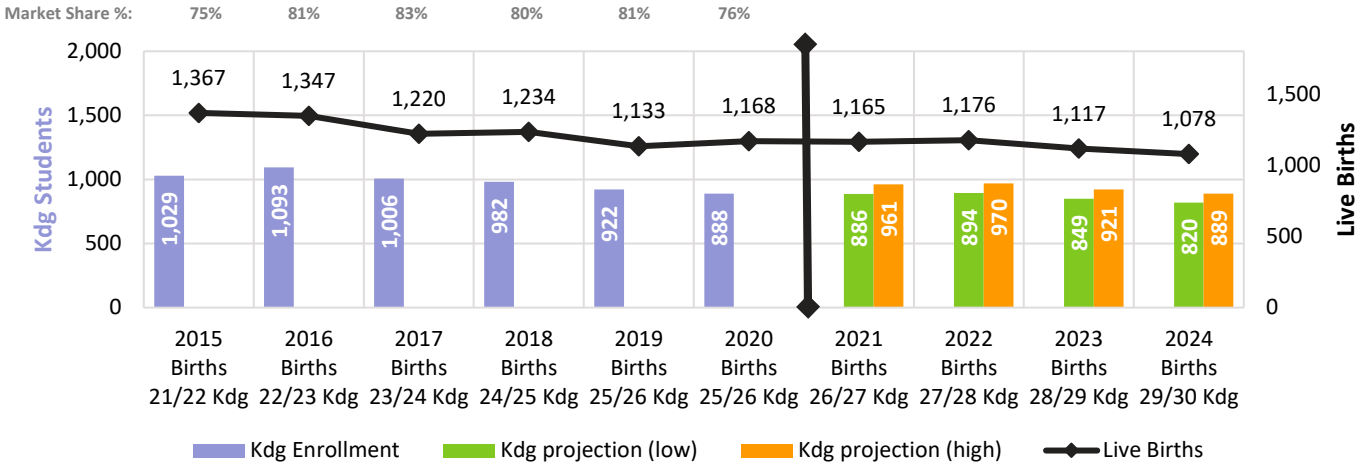
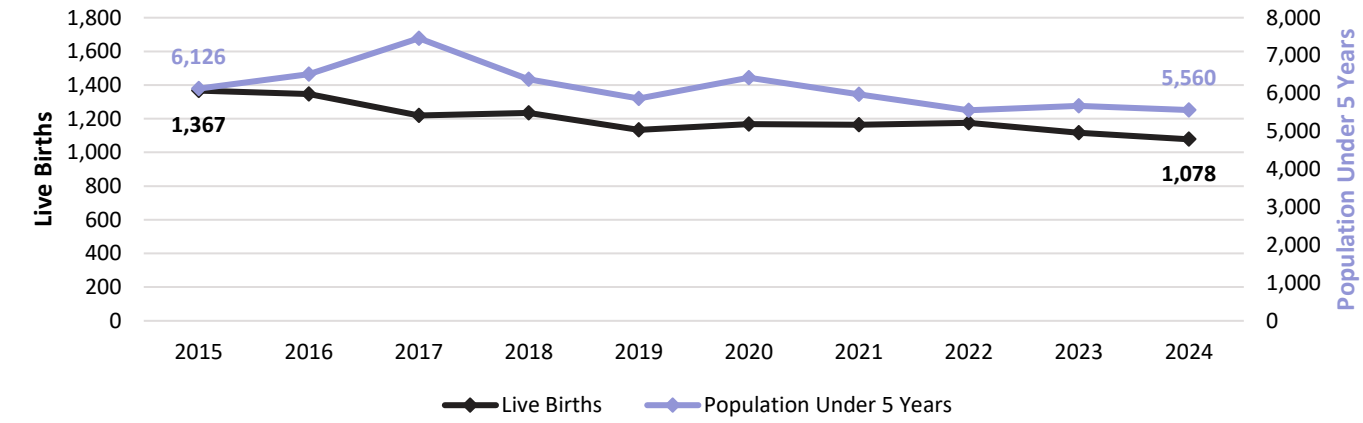
Birth Rate Visuals

Live Births V.S. Kindergarten Students 5 Year Later



Source: Burleigh County and Bismark School District 1

Live Births and Population Under 5 Years of Age



Source: Burleigh County, US Census, and Bismark School District 1

Observations:

- Over the past six years, the county has consistently recorded **fewer than 1,200 live births annually**.
- The **decrease in Kdg** enrolment this year was a lower market share of **76%.**
- As a result of these trends, the **under age 5 population has dropped** to below 6,000 children, signaling a shrinking pool of future Kdg-aged students.
- The decline in live births will likely make it **more difficult to grow or even sustain Kdg enrollment** in future years without strategic efforts to maintain or improve market share.
- Looking ahead, the ability to increase Kdg class sizes will **largely depend on the district's capacity to enroll at least 85% of area births**—a threshold that may require targeted outreach, early engagement, or competitive programming to attract families.

Main Takeaway: Over the past ten years, the live birth rate decreased by 21% and the population under five years of age decreased by 9%. With this demographic shift in the community, it will be challenging to see increasing or stable Kindergarten classes.

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Past Enrollment by Grade

Enrollment By Grade

															PK-12			K-12		
Year	**PK**	**K**	**1st**	**2nd**	**3rd**	**4th**	**5th**	**6th**	**7th**	**8th**	**9th**	**10th**	**11th**	**12th**	**Total**	**Change**	**% Change**	**Total**	**Change**	**% Change**
2005/06	0	672	703	760	736	772	733	748	845	792	874	920	904	932	10,391			10,391		
2006/07	0	817	723	752	799	781	829	778	799	865	814	869	891	849	10,566	175	1.7%	10,566	175	1.7%
2007/08	0	769	830	736	777	809	805	843	828	804	893	816	866	865	10,641	75	0.7%	10,641	75	0.7%
2008/09	0	841	773	834	758	800	815	824	856	835	852	882	806	826	10,702	61	0.6%	10,702	61	0.6%
2009/10	0	820	820	766	836	750	807	815	837	872	847	810	844	814	10,638	-64	-0.6%	10,638	-64	-0.6%
2010/11	0	850	823	827	780	839	756	806	855	839	909	866	824	878	10,852	214	2.0%	10,852	214	2.0%
2011/12	0	936	848	850	833	787	851	767	819	837	852	917	854	833	10,984	132	1.2%	10,984	132	1.2%
2012/13	0	966	969	875	870	852	826	846	803	828	879	878	890	862	11,344	360	3.3%	11,344	360	3.3%
2013/14	0	1,001	974	991	918	891	864	844	872	806	853	914	877	885	11,690	346	3.1%	11,690	346	3.1%
2014/15	0	993	1,035	983	1,020	927	916	891	866	888	864	849	923	841	11,996	306	2.6%	11,996	306	2.6%
2015/16	0	1,003	1,016	1,041	1,018	1,026	941	932	924	899	936	874	868	895	12,373	377	3.1%	12,373	377	3.1%
2016/17	0	997	1,009	1,008	1,056	1,023	1,035	976	948	940	983	924	894	856	12,649	276	2.2%	12,649	276	2.2%
2017/18	322	1,008	1,008	990	1,009	1,063	1,029	1,026	969	957	984	935	917	876	13,093	444	3.5%	12,771	122	1.0%
2018/19	242	1,002	1,000	1,007	984	1,010	1,075	1,053	1,049	975	1,010	952	940	900	13,199	106	0.8%	12,957	186	1.5%
2019/20	312	1,057	1,031	1,020	1,017	997	1,029	1,098	1,066	1,070	1,024	985	972	924	13,602	403	3.1%	13,290	333	2.6%
2020/21	237	1,029	993	999	985	981	981	1,025	1,098	1,054	1,094	1,001	946	941	13,364	-238	-1.7%	13,127	-163	-1.2%
2021/22	288	1,093	1,070	1,000	1,009	1,026	1,006	1,000	1,040	1,123	1,110	1,056	974	912	13,707	343	2.6%	13,419	292	2.2%
2022/23	320	1,006	1,105	1,065	1,023	1,013	1,035	1,013	1,020	1,054	1,211	1,084	1,017	966	13,932	225	1.6%	13,612	193	1.4%
2023/24	353	982	1,039	1,117	1,078	1,040	1,034	1,062	1,029	1,023	1,158	1,136	1,044	961	14,056	124	0.9%	13,703	91	0.7%
2024/25	315	914	1,000	1,058	1,140	1,087	1,063	1,060	1,085	1,043	1,113	1,066	1,097	1,020	14,061	5	0.0%	13,746	43	0.3%
2025/26	320	883	929	1,012	1,067	1,133	1,093	1,091	1,069	1,083	1,131	1,055	1,048	1,068	13,982	-79	-0.6%	13,662	-84	-0.6%

Source: North Dakota Department of Education and Bismarck Public Schools(2005/06 to 2025/26)

DISCLAIMER: Enrollment does not include BECEP, Home School, or Virtual

Observations:

- Enrollment had been **generally increasing**, but **decreased slightly this year**
  - Enrollment peaked in 2024/25 with 14,061 total students; this year enrollment decreased to 13,982 students
  - The decrease of 79 students this year can more likely be attributed to the smaller Kdg class enrolled
- The graduating senior class is larger than the incoming Kindergarten class which tends to decrease total enrollment
  - Largest K-12 class in 2025/26: **4th grade with 1,133 students**
  - Smallest K-12 class in 2025/26: **Kindergarten with 883 students**
- High School grades are all larger than 1,000 students creating a greater challenge of replacement as these grades graduate and exit the district over the next five years

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**All past student data is exported from the district student database allowing the ability to do robust statistical analysis by student geography The student database export will not always align perfectly with the Official Counts (Statistically 99% greater match by grade)*

Grade Progression

Enrollment Grade Change

From	To	PK PK	K K	K 1st	1st 2nd	2nd 3rd	3rd 4th	4th 5th	5th 6th	6th 7th	7th 8th	8th 9th	9th 10th	10th 11th	11th 12th	PK-12 Change	PK-12 % Change	K-12 Change	K-12 % Change
2005/06	2006/07	0	145	51	49	39	45	57	45	51	20	22	-5	-29	-55	175	1.7%	175	1.7%
2006/07	2007/08	0	-48	13	13	25	10	24	14	50	5	28	2	-3	-26	75	0.7%	75	0.7%
2007/08	2008/09	0	72	4	4	22	23	6	19	13	7	48	-11	-10	-40	61	0.6%	61	0.6%
2008/09	2009/10	0	-21	-21	-7	2	-8	7	0	13	16	12	-42	-38	8	-64	-0.6%	-64	-0.6%
2009/10	2010/11	0	30	3	7	14	3	6	-1	40	2	37	19	14	34	214	2.0%	214	2.0%
2010/11	2011/12	0	86	-2	27	6	7	12	11	13	-18	13	8	-12	9	132	1.2%	132	1.2%
2011/12	2012/13	0	30	33	27	20	19	39	-5	36	9	42	26	-27	8	360	3.3%	360	3.3%
2012/13	2013/14	0	35	8	22	43	21	12	18	26	3	25	35	-1	-5	346	3.1%	346	3.1%
2013/14	2014/15	0	-8	34	9	29	9	25	27	22	16	58	-4	9	-36	306	2.6%	306	2.6%
2014/15	2015/16	0	10	23	6	35	6	14	16	33	33	48	10	19	-28	377	3.1%	377	3.1%
2015/16	2016/17	0	-6	6	-8	15	5	9	35	16	16	84	-12	20	-12	276	2.2%	276	2.2%
2016/17	2017/18	322	11	11	-19	1	7	6	-9	-7	9	44	-48	-7	-18	444	3.5%	122	1.0%
2017/18	2018/19	-80	-6	-8	-1	-6	1	12	24	23	6	53	-32	5	-17	106	0.8%	186	1.4%
2018/19	2019/20	70	55	29	20	10	13	19	23	13	21	49	-25	20	-16	403	3.1%	333	2.5%
2019/20	2020/21	-75	-28	-64	-32	-35	-36	-16	-4	0	-12	24	-23	-39	-31	-238	-1.7%	-163	-1.2%
2020/21	2021/22	51	64	41	7	10	41	25	19	15	25	56	-38	-27	-34	343	2.6%	292	2.2%
2021/22	2022/23	32	-87	12	-5	23	4	9	7	20	14	88	-26	-39	-8	225	1.6%	193	1.4%
2022/23	2023/24	33	-24	33	12	13	17	21	27	16	3	104	-75	-40	-56	124	0.9%	91	0.7%
2023/24	2024/25	-38	-68	18	19	23	9	23	26	23	14	90	-92	-39	-24	5	0.0%	43	0.3%
2024/25	2025/26	5	-31	15	12	9	-7	6	28	9	-2	88	-58	-18	-29	-79	-0.6%	-84	-0.6%
3-Year Average		0.0	-41.0	22.0	14.3	15.0	6.3	16.7	27.0	16.0	5.0	94.0	-75.0	-32.3	-36.3	16.7	0.1%	16.7	0.1%
3-Year Weighted Average		-4.7	-42.2	19.0	14.3	14.3	2.3	14.2	27.2	14.8	4.2	91.3	-72.2	-28.7	-31.8	-17.2	-0.1%	-12.5	-0.1%

Source: North Dakota Department of Education and Bismarck Public Schools(2005/06 to 2025/26)

DISCLAIMER: Enrollment does not include BECEP, Home School, or Virtual

Observations:

- Most grades increase as they progress forward from Kdg to 9th grade
  - High school grades tend to experience some cohort loss year to year likely due to programming availability and graduates
- Largest 3-year average K-12 class cohort increase: **8th to 9th grade with +94 students**
  - Likely contributed by students transferring into the district for high school programming options (Apple Creek, Menoken)
- Largest 3-year average K-12 class cohort decrease: **9th to 10th grade with -75 students**
  - Upper HS grades tend to experience some cohort loss year to year likely due to programming availability and graduates
  - This aligns with national patterns where 9th grade often acts as a "bulge" year for high school programming

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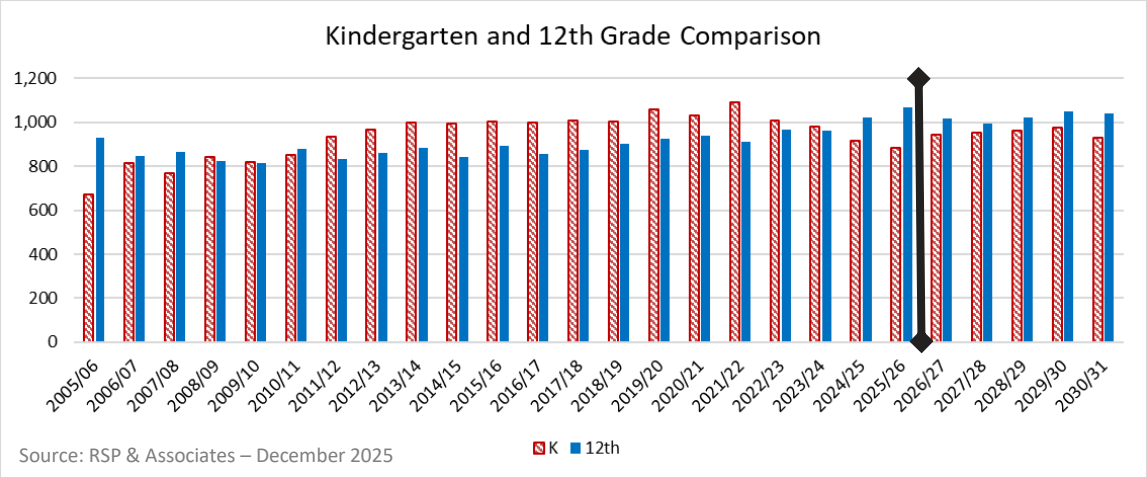
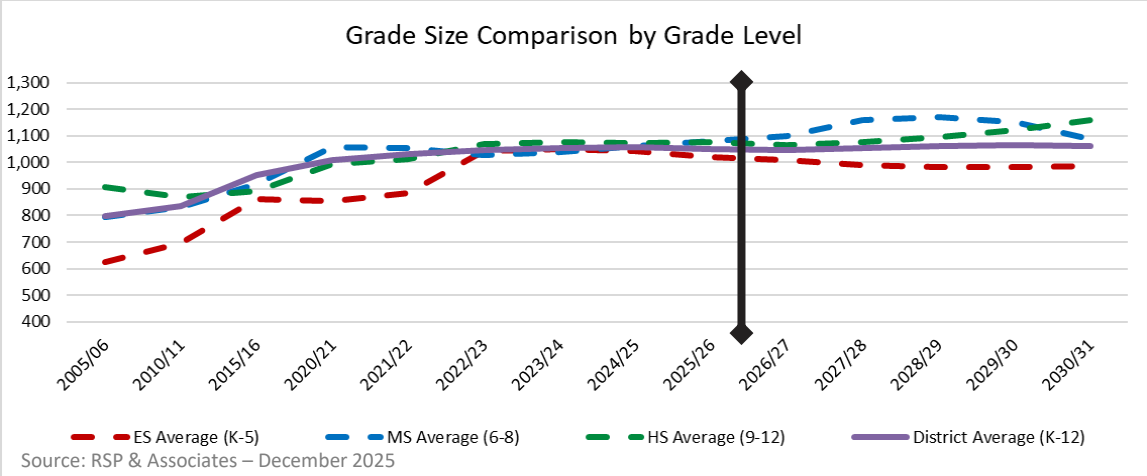
**All past student data is exported from the district student database allowing the ability to do robust statistical analysis by student geography The student database export will not always align perfectly with the Official Counts (Statistically 99% greater match by grade)*

Class Size Comparisons



K and 12th Grade Comparisons:

- Current 12th grade class is 185 students larger than the current Kindergarten class
- Larger exiting classes make it more difficult for growth to occur (when larger grades move out, they are not fully replaced by the kindergarten class)
- Over the next 5 years:
  - The Kdg class is projected to increase slightly but remain lower than the 12th grade class
  - The 12th grade class is projected to stabilize around 1,000 student per grade



Average Class Sizes

- The past few years, all grade levels had similar average class sizes
- Over the next five years:
  - The average **elementary class** size is projected to continue to **decrease**
  - The average **middle school** class size is projected to **increase** becoming the largest grade level for the next four years
  - The average **high school** class size is projected to **increase** becoming the largest grade level in 2030/31

Main Takeaway: As high school grades continue to be larger than elementary grades, district-wide growth will be a challenge to experience.

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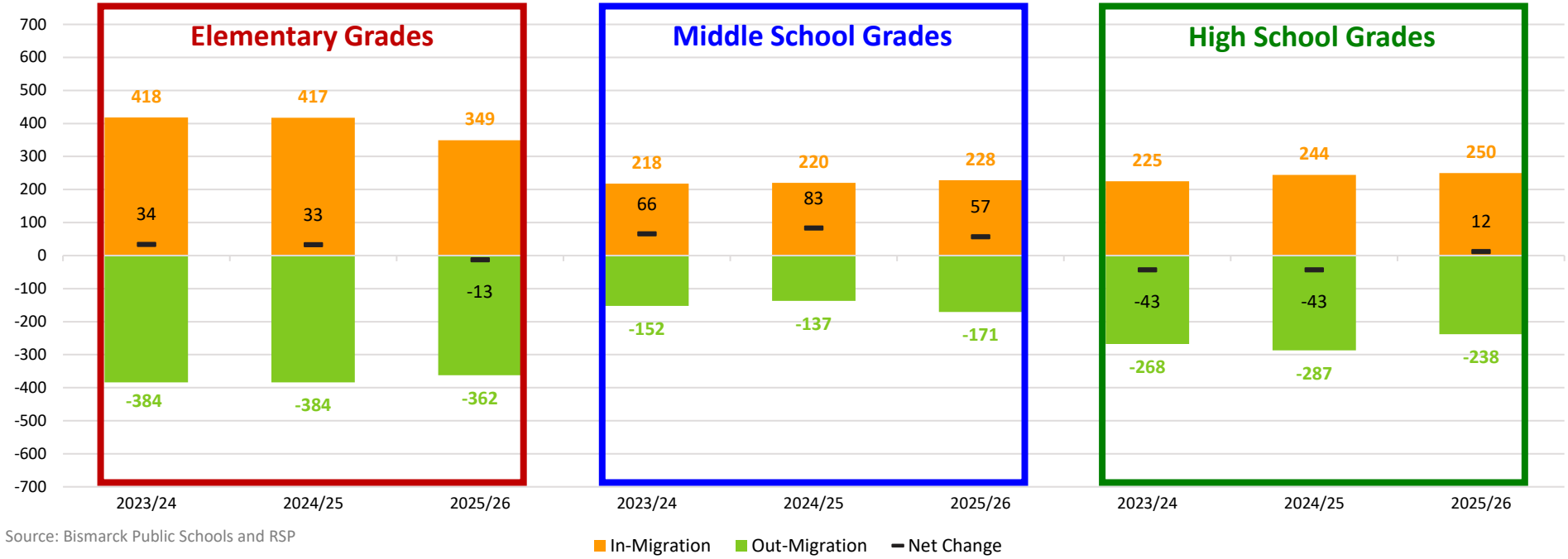
Disclaimer. This is a projected outlook based on the information examined in this analysis. All past student data is exported from the district student database. The student database export may not always align with the Official Counts (Statistically 99% greater match by grade).

Student 3-Year Migration Trend

Student In V.S. Out Migration



Source: Bismarck Public Schools and RSP

Definition

Out-Migration: Shows number of students in grade K to 11th that were attending the District in the previous year, but are not attending the District in the current year.

In-Migration: Shows number of students in grade 1st to 12th that are attending the District in the current year, but were not attending the District in the previous year.

Observations

- 2023/24 lost 804 students and gained 861 students; **NET: +57**
- 2024/25 lost 808 students and gained 881 students; **NET: +73**
- 2025/26 lost 771 students and gained 827 students; **NET: +56**

Main Takeaway: The district has experienced a net gain in students from migration patterns for the past three years. Elementary grades saw a net loss for the first time with lower in-migration of students (less than 400 students).

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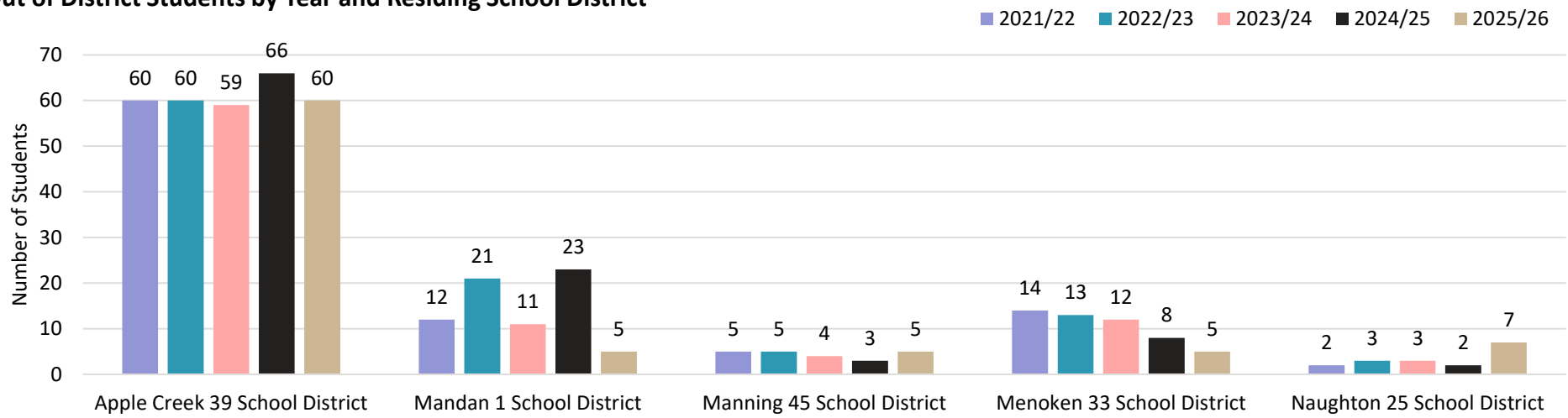
Out of District Student Analysis

Out of District Students by Year and Residing School District

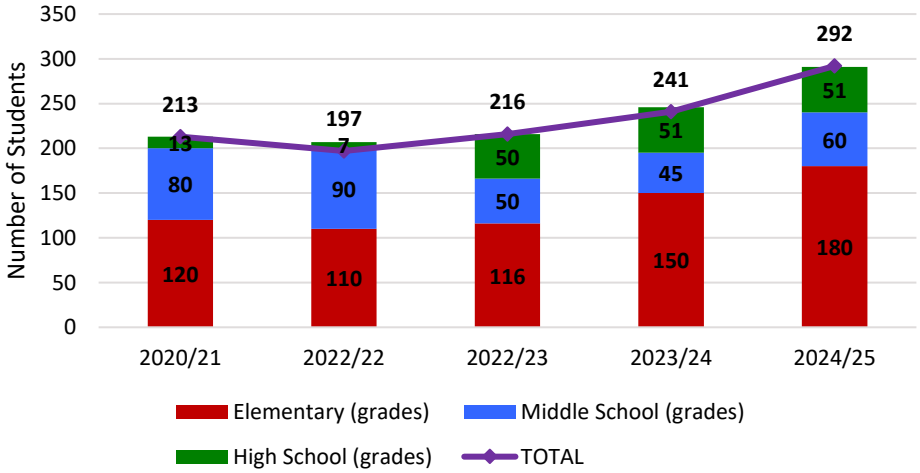


Source: Bismarck Public Schools and RSP

Notes:

- Analysis includes the number of students RSP has geocoded residing out of the district boundary
- It may not align with district totals of out-of-district transfers, but provides count of students with addresses outside of the district at the time of Official Count provided data
- Some out of district students may be staff children, McKinney-Vento, other state programs, etc.

Total Out of District Students by Year



Source: Bismarck Public Schools and RSP

Observations

- Out of district enrollment increased this year
- 292 total students reside out of the district boundary
- Apple Creek 39 School District tends to contribute the largest share of out of district students
  - Apple Creek and Menoken school district feed into Bismarck Public Schools.

Main Takeaway: It is important to monitor the current market share of out of district students to better understand changes in student choices.

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K-12 Student Count Change Map

Bismarck School District 1 Student Count Change from 2021/22 to 2025/26 in Grades K-12

Legend

- District Office
- Elementary School
- Middle Schools
- High Schools
- BECEP & South Central High
- District Boundary
- Airport
- Golf Course
- Park
- Other

Elementary Schools
1. Centennial
2. Elk Ridge
3. Grimsrud
4. Highland Acres
5. Liberty
6. Lincoln
7. Miller
8. Moses
9. Murphy
10. Myhre
11. Northridge
12. Pioneer
13. Prairie Rose
14. Roosevelt
15. Silver Ranch
16. Solheim
17. Sunrise
18. Will-Moore

Middle Schools
19. Horizon
20. Simle
21. Wachter

High Schools
22. Bismarck
23. Century
24. Legacy

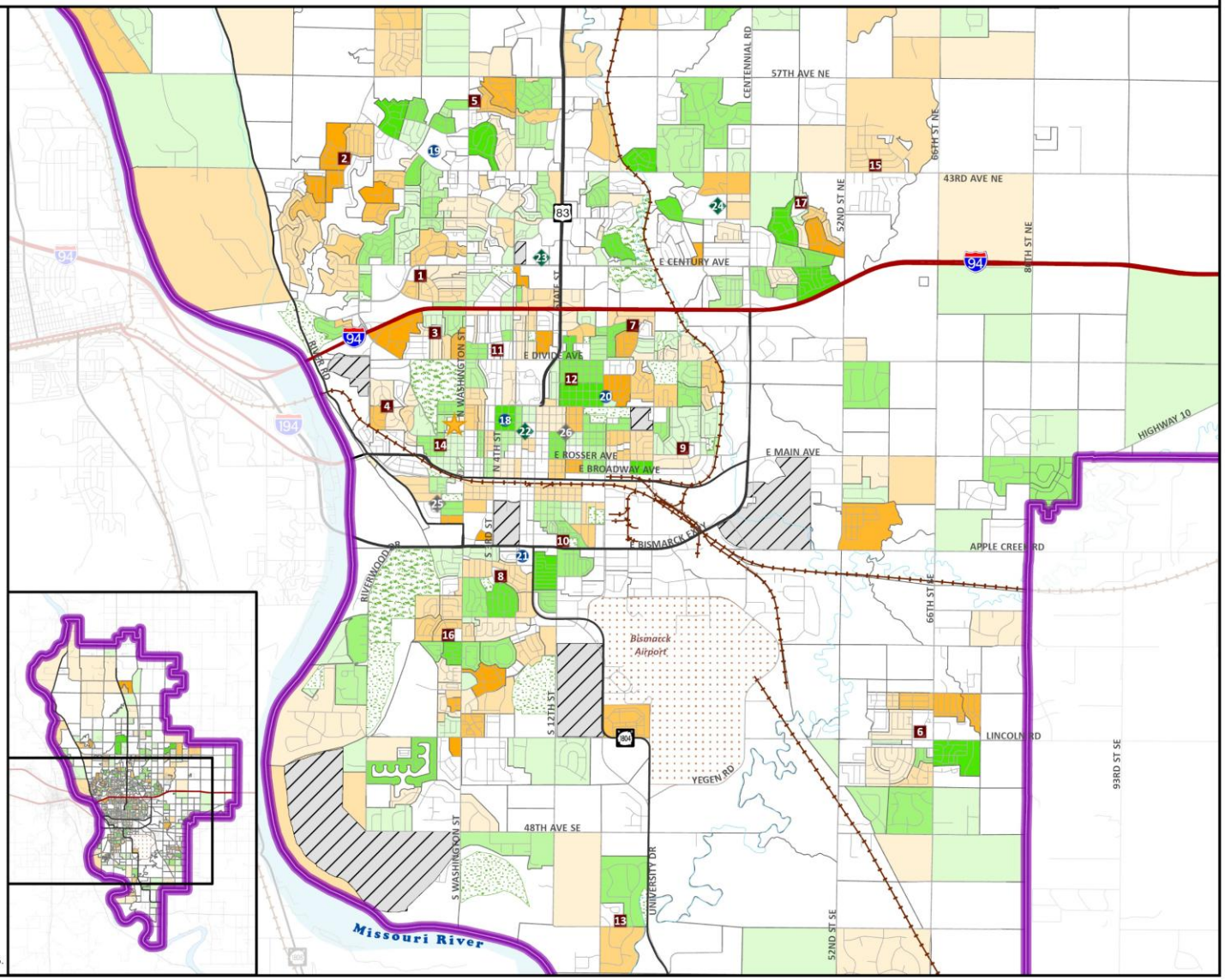
Alternative Schools
25. South Central High
26. BECEP

Decrease in Students — Increase in Students

Count Change is the number of students in 2025/26 subtracted by the number in 2021/22 in each Planning Area.

0 0.5 1 2 Miles

Map data provided by Bismarck Public Schools, City of Bismarck, Burleigh County, US Census Bureau, NDDOT and ESRI. Map updated November 2025.



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K-12 Student Heat Density Map

Bismarck School District 1 Student "Heat" Density in 2025/26 in Grades K-12

Legend

- District Office
- Elementary School
- Middle Schools
- High Schools
- BECEP & South Central High
- District Boundary
- Airport
- Golf Course
- Park
- Other

Elementary Schools

1. Centennial
2. Elk Ridge
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Middle Schools

19. Horizon
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21. Wachter

High Schools

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23. Century
24. Legacy

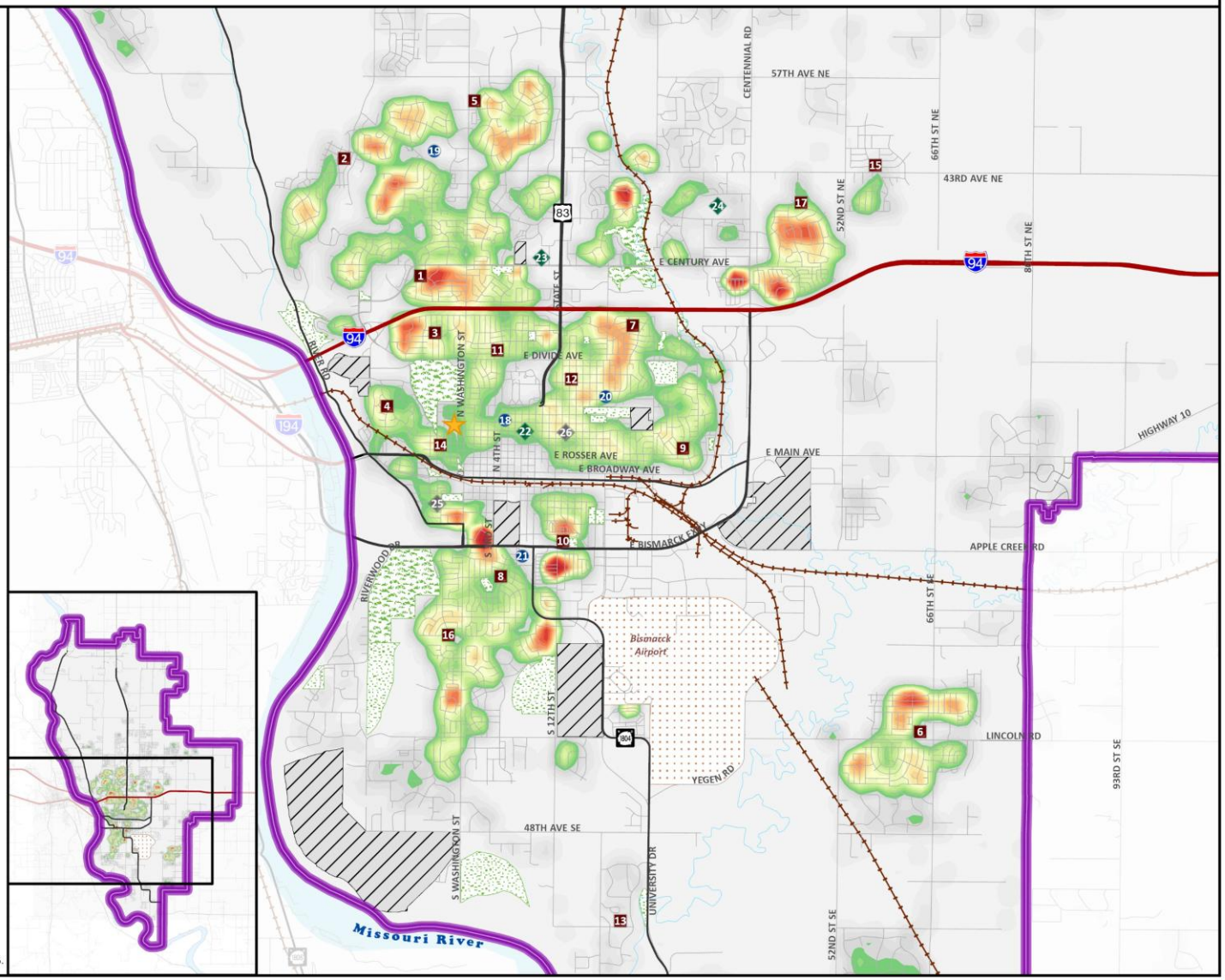
Alternative Schools

25. South Central High
26. BECEP

Student Density

Low Density

High Density



Student "Heat" is determined by calculating the number of students that are clustered within close proximity of one another. Overlapping of points (2 or more students residing at the same address) are handled using a weighting of coincident points. This weighted data is calculated by relational distance, which helps to visually depict the areas of high student clustering.

0 0.5 1 2 Miles

RSP

Map data provided by Bismarck Public Schools, City of Bismarck, Burleigh County, US Census Bureau, NDDOT and ESRI. Map updated November 2025.

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Part 1: Observations and Conclusions

Limitations to Student Growth

- Continued **decline in elementary-grade cohorts** due to fewer live births and lower incoming kindergarten classes
- **Replacement challenge intensifies** as large high-school cohorts graduate and smaller elementary cohorts move upward
- **Short-term enrollment softness** at the elementary level, driven by reduced housing turnover among families with young children

Indicators of Student Growth

- **Sustained growth in middle- and high-school grades** as larger cohorts progress through the system
- **Positive net migration** continues to add students in upper grades, offsetting declines at early grades
- Neighborhoods with more active turnover are showing **consistent secondary-level enrollment growth**

Conclusion of Section:

- RSP & Associates monitors nearly **900 planning** areas across demographic, development, and enrollment datasets to identify long-term patterns.
- Student density remains highest in several affordable pockets of the district—particularly near Moses Elementary and Northridge Elementary—which continue to serve as major drivers of enrollment activity.
- Open enrollment trends should be monitored regularly, as potential state policy changes may influence future enrollment decisions.
- **Overall enrollment forecast indicates a *gradual decrease at the elementary level* over the next several years, paired with *stable to increasing enrollment at the secondary level* as larger cohorts advance through the system. This shift in grade-level demand will have implications for building capacity, staffing, and long-range facility planning.**

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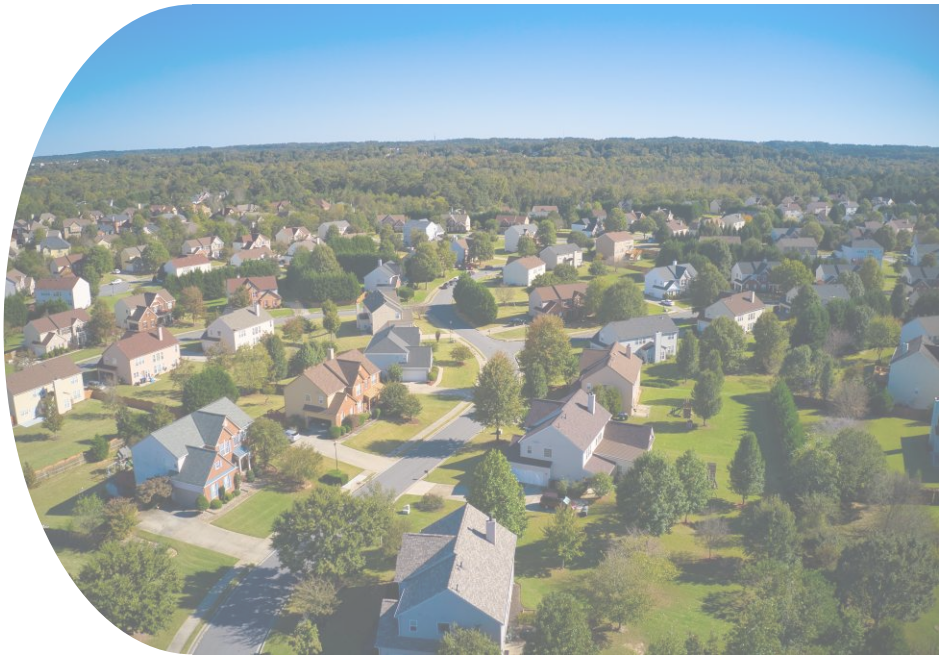
Part 2:
Development and Growth Trends



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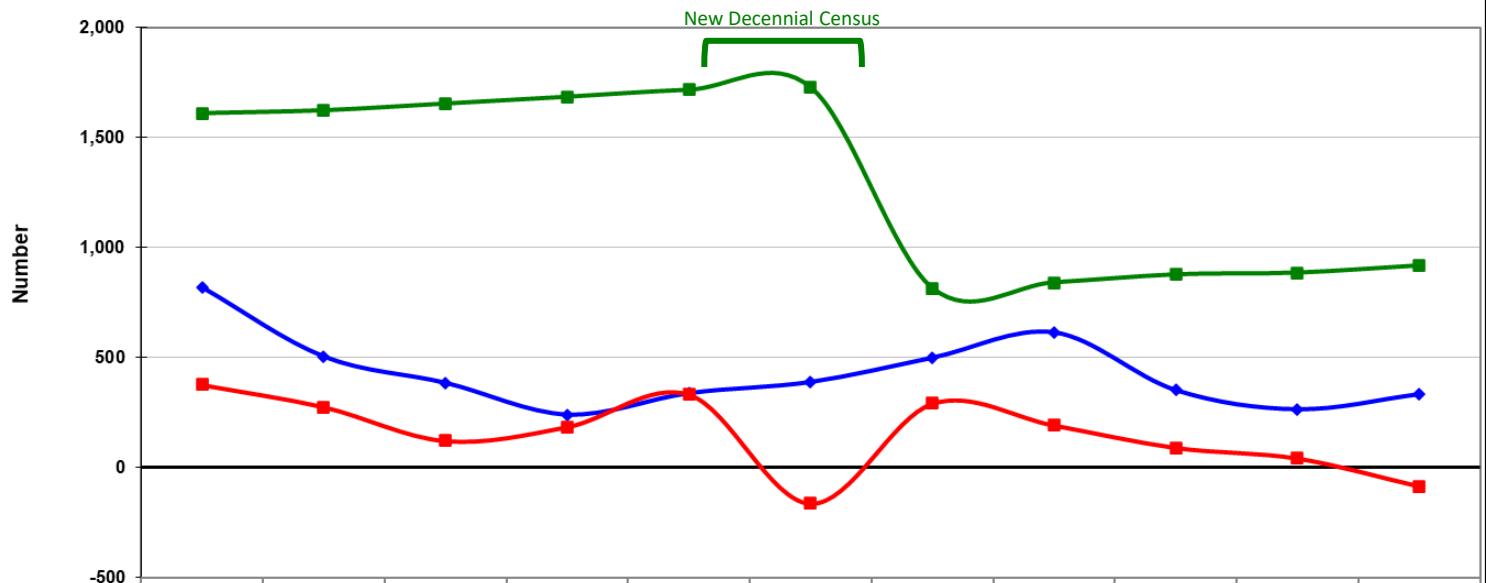
Population, Development, & Enrollment



	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24	2024/25	2025/26
Certificate Occupancy	821	505	385	240	338	389	500	616	352	264	333
Enrollment Change (K-12)	377	276	122	186	333	-163	292	193	91	43	-84
Population Change	1,610	1,623	1,654	1,685	1,717	1,727	815	841	877	885	918

Source: US Census, Burleigh County, and Bismarck Public School District

Observations:

- **BLUE LINE:** Building activity has slowed down since 2022 with less than 400 units built per year the past three years
- **GREEN LINE:** Census data indicates an increasing population
  - Population shows the estimate growth of the whole decade; new decennial census often affect year-to-year change
- **RED LINE:** Student enrollment had been generally increasing year to year
  - 2025/26 saw a decrease in students as growth trends slow down in the community

Main Takeaway: Graphic provides benchmark data to determine if there is a correlation between population change, building activity, and school enrollment. As population and housing growth has slowed down, the rate of enrollment growth as slowed.

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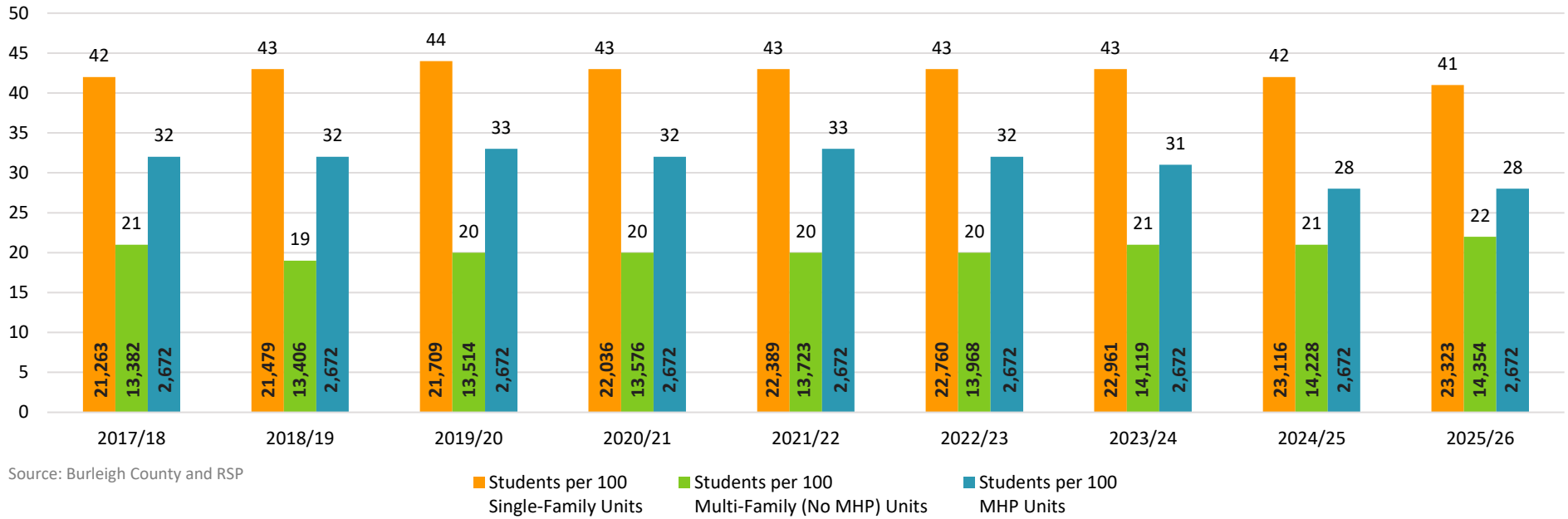
K-12 Yield Rate Comparison Over Time

Yield Rate Comparison Graph



Source: Burleigh County and RSP

Observations: Bar graph shows the number of students per 100 units by year and by housing type (single-family, multi-family, mobile home)

- District sees on average 43 K-12 students per 100 single-family (SF) households
  - The yield rate for single-family units has been decreasing over time; 2025/26 yielded 41 students per 100 SF units
  - Adding new housing inventory can impact the yield rates: There were **2,060 single-family** homes built from 2017 to 2025
- District sees on average 20 K-12 students per 100 multi-family (MF) households
  - The yield rate for multi-family units has been more stable over time; 2025/26 yielded 22 students per 100 MF units
  - Adding new housing inventory can impact the yield rates: There were **972 multi-family homes** built from 2017 to 2025
- District sees on average 31 K-12 students per 100 mobile home park (MHP) households
  - The yield rate for mobile home units has been decreasing over time; 2025/26 yielded 28 students per 100 MHP units
  - Adding new housing inventory can impact the yield rates: There were **0 mobile homes** built from 2017 to 2025

Main Takeaway: As more single-family housing has been built, the generation of students from these units has decreased.

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Yield Rate by High School Boundary

Table Legend
- +3 greater from District Average
- -3 fewer from District Average

Students per 100 Single-Family Units	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24	2024/25	2025/26	10 Year Average	*10 Year Units Built*
Bismarck High	38	39	40	39	40	40	40	40	39	39.4	*434*
Century High	42	43	44	43	43	43	42	42	41	42.6	*921*
Legacy High	46	48	48	47	46	47	46	45	43	46.2	*705*
District (K-12):	42.0	43.0	44.0	43.0	43.0	43.0	43.0	42.0	41.0	**42.7**	*2,060*

Source: Burleigh County, and RSP

Note: Includes number of students per 100 single-family units. Single-family units include houses that may be fully detached or semi-detached and occupied by one household or family.

Adding new housing inventory can impact the yield rate – **There were 2,060 single-family homes built from 2017 to 2025.**

Single-Family: Table shows the number of students per 100 single-family (SF) units by year and by high school boundary

- District sees on average 42.7 students per 100 SF units
- Legacy High Boundary has the largest 2025/26 SF yield rate with 43 students per 100 SF units
- Bismarck High Boundary the smallest 2025/26 SF yield rate with 39 students per 100 SF units

Students per 100 Multi-Family Units	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24	2024/25	2025/26	10 Year Average	*10 Year Units Built*
Bismarck High	20	17	18	17	18	19	20	20	21	18.9	*286*
Century High	23	21	22	21	21	21	22	23	24	22.0	*248*
Legacy High	18	19	19	20	21	20	20	20	20	19.7	*438*
District (K-12):	21.0	19.0	20.0	20.0	20.0	20.0	21.0	21.0	22.0	**20.4**	*972*

Source: Burleigh County, and RSP

Note: Includes number of students per 100 multi-family units. Multi-family units include apartment, duplex, mixed-use, townhome, etc. units.

Adding new housing inventory can impact the yield rate – **There were 972 multi-family homes built from 2017 to 2025.**

Multi-Family: Table shows the number of students per 100 multi-family (MF) units by year and by high school boundary

- District sees on average 20.4 students per 100 MF units
- Century High Boundary has the largest 2025/26 MF yield rate with 24 students per 100 MF units
- Legacy High Boundary has the smallest 2025/26 MF yield rate with 20 students per 100 MF units

Students per 100 MHP Units	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24	2024/25	2025/26	10 Year Average	*10 Year Units Built*
Bismarck High	34	32	34	34	36	34	34	29	30	33.0	*0*
Century High	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0	*0*
Legacy High	30	31	31	30	28	28	27	27	25	28.6	*0*
District (K-12):	32.0	32.0	33.0	32.0	33.0	32.0	31.0	28.0	28.0	**31.2**	*0*

Source: Burleigh County, and RSP

Note: Includes number of students per 100 mobile home park units.

Adding new housing inventory can impact the yield rate – **There were 0 mobile home park homes built from 2017 to 2025.**

Mobile Home: Table shows the number of students per 100 mobile home (MHP) units by year and by high school boundary

- District sees on average 31.2 students per 100 MHP units
- Bismarck High Boundary has the largest 2025/26 MHP yield rate with 30 students per 100 MHP units
- Century High Boundary has the smallest 2025/26 MHP yield rate with 0 students per 100 MHP units

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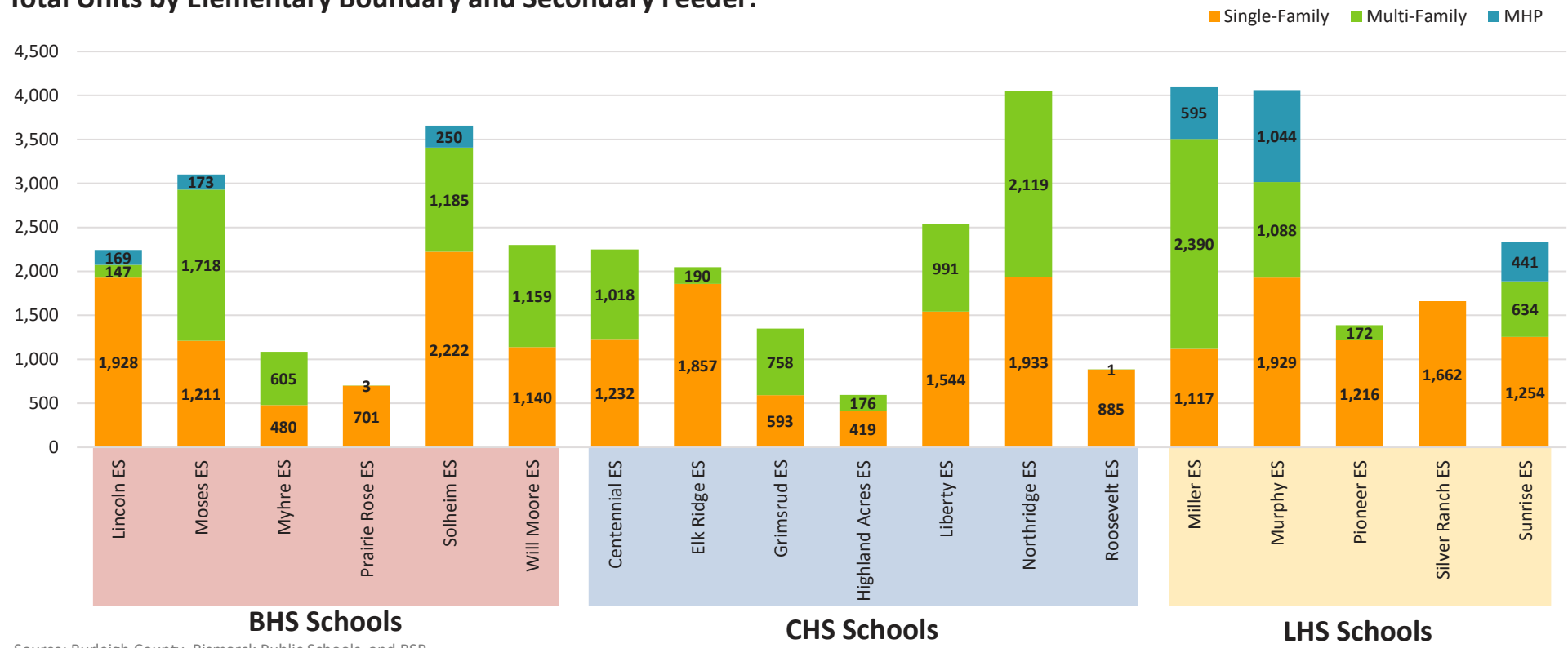
Unit Counts by Housing Type and Boundary

Total Units by Elementary Boundary and Secondary Feeder:



Source: Burleigh County, Bismarck Public Schools, and RSP

Observations

- Bar graph shows the number of housing by type that currently reside in each elementary school and the HS Feeder Boundary
- Of **Bismarck HS** elementary schools, Solheim Elementary has the most housing units and yields on average:
  - 19 students per 100 SF units, 10 students per 100 MF units, and 20 students per 100 MHP units
- Of **Century HS** elementary schools, Northridge Elementary has the most housing units and yields on average:
  - 14 students per 100 SF units, 8 students per 100 MF units, and 0 students per 100 MHP units
- Of **Legacy HS** elementary schools, Miller Elementary has the most housing units and yields on average:
  - 17 students per 100 SF units, 9 students per 100 MF units, and 14 students per 100 MHP units

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Average Year Built Map

Bismarck School District 1 Average Year Built

Legend

- District Office
- Elementary School
- Middle Schools
- High Schools
- BECEP & South Central High
- District Boundary
- Airport
- Golf Course
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- Other

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Middle Schools
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High Schools
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23. Century
24. Legacy

Alternative Schools
25. South Central High
26. BECEP

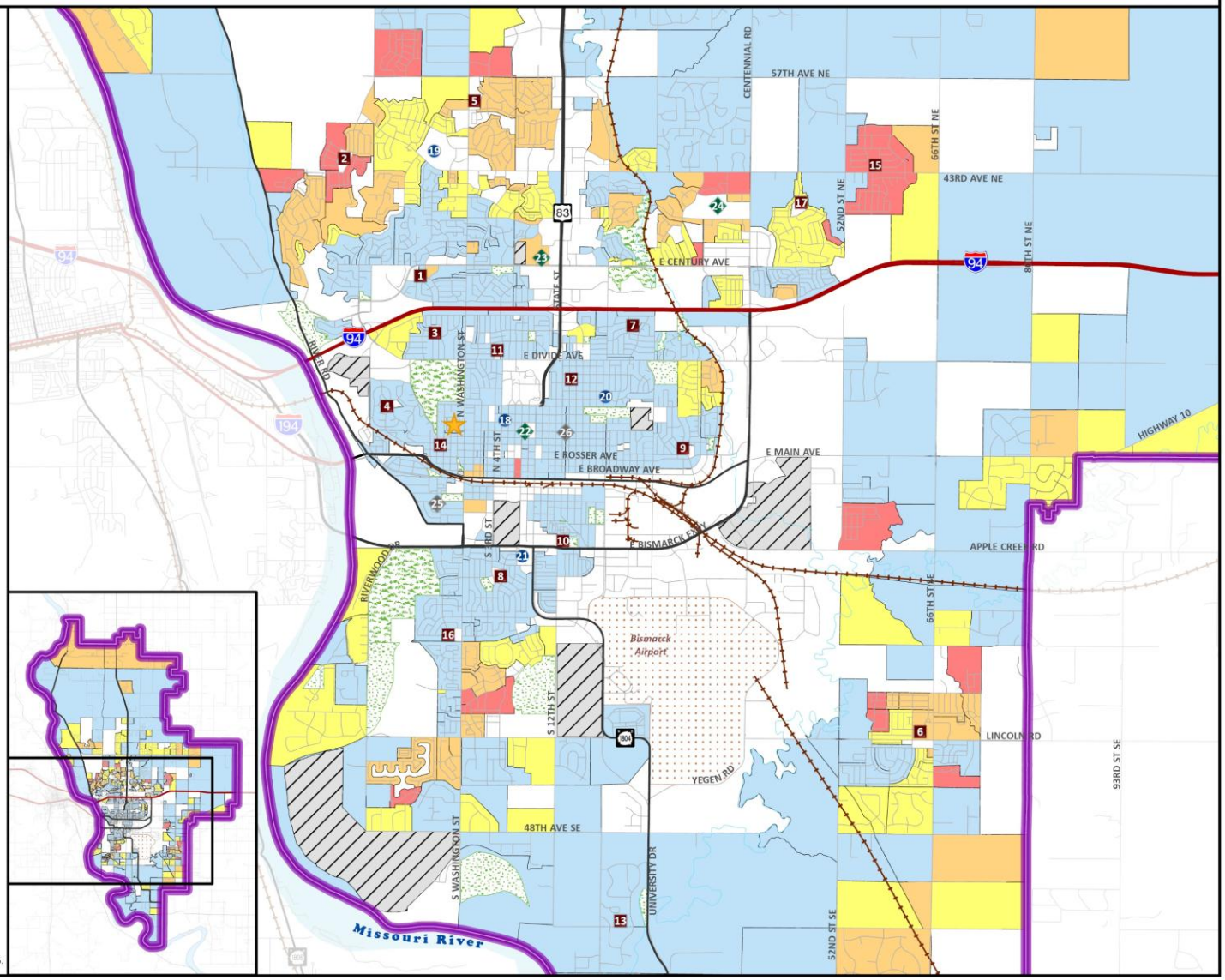
Average Year Built
- No Data
- Before 2000
- 2000 to 2010
- 2010 to 2020
- After 2020

Year Built provided by Burleigh County. Average Year Built displayed by planning area.

0 0.5 1 2 Miles

RSP

Map data provided by Bismarck Public Schools, City of Bismarck, Burleigh County, US Census Bureau, NDDOT and ESRI. Map updated November 2025.



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Median Home Value Map

Bismarck School District 1 Median Home Value

Legend

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Alternative Schools
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26. BECEP

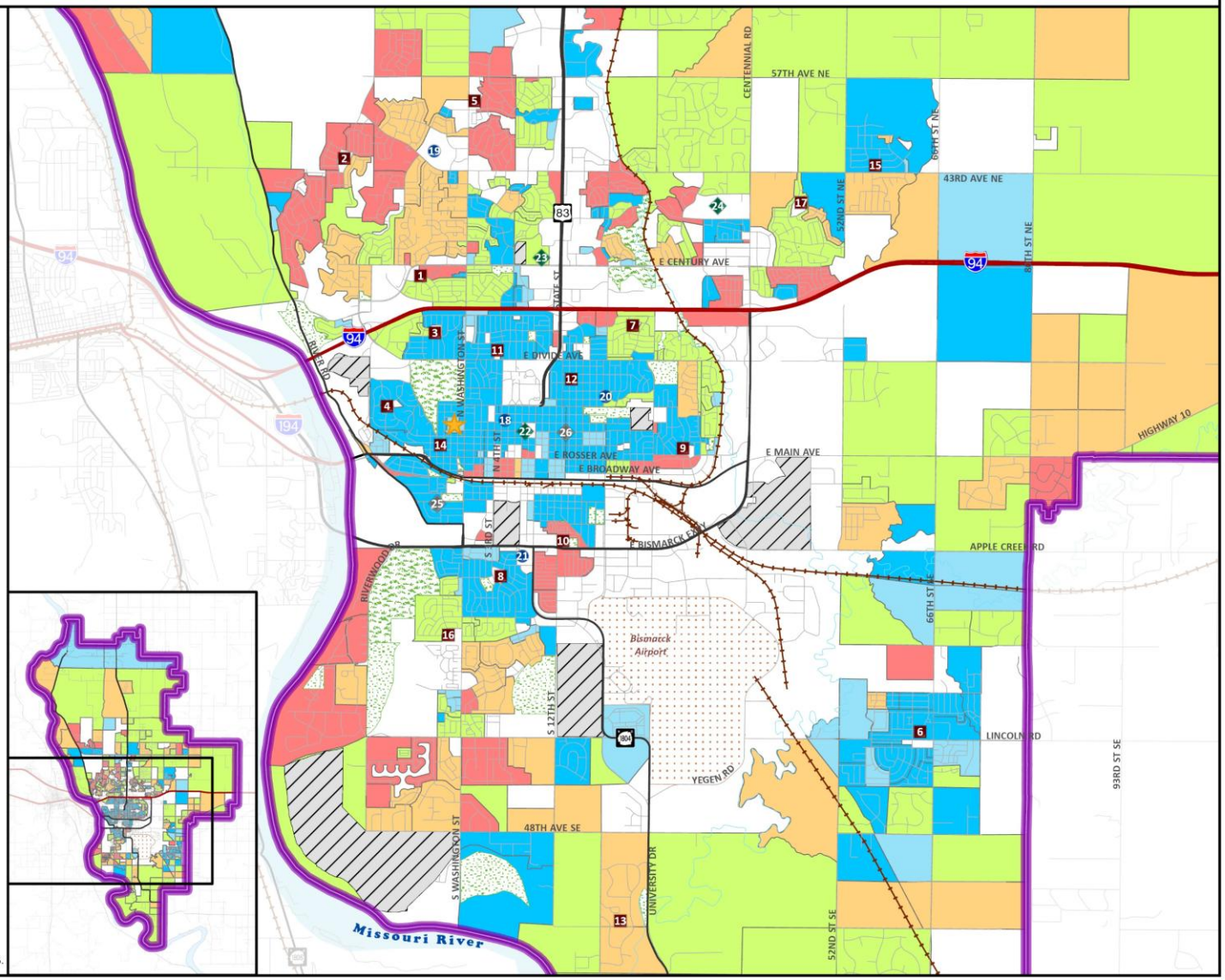
Median Home Value

- No Residential Value
- < $200,000
- $200,000 to $300,000
- $300,000 to $400,000
- $400,000 to $500,000
- > $500,000

Property values provided by Burleigh County. Median Home Values displayed by planning area.

0 0.5 1 2 Miles

Map data provided by Bismarck Public Schools, City of Bismarck, Burleigh County, US Census Bureau, NDDOT and ESRI. Map updated November 2025.



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Recent Year Built Map

Bismarck School District 1 Residential Year Built

Legend

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24. Legacy

Alternative Schools
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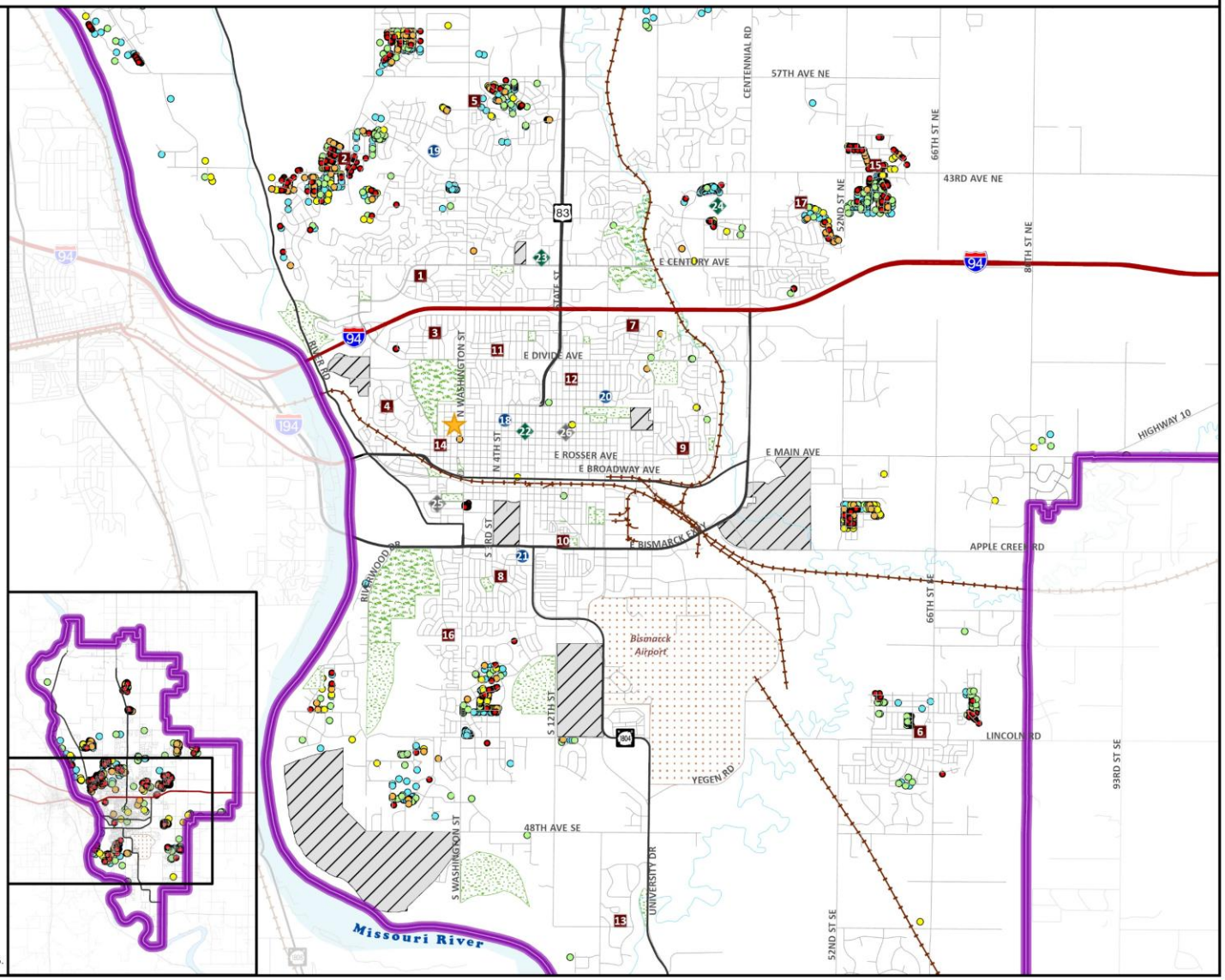
26. BECEP

Year Built
- 2021: 500 units
- 2022: 616 Units
- 2023: 352 Units
- 2024: 264 Units
- 2025: 333 Units

Year built data is provided by Burleigh County Assessor's Office.



0 0.5 1 2 Miles

Map data provided by Bismarck Public Schools, City of Bismarck, Burleigh County, US Census Bureau, NDDOT and ESRI. Map updated November 2025.

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Growth Area Map

Bismarck School District 1 Growth Areas

Legend

- District Office
- Elementary School
- Middle Schools
- High Schools
- BECEP & South Central High
- District Boundary
- Airport
- Golf Course
- Park
- Other

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High Schools
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23. Century
24. Legacy

Alternative Schools
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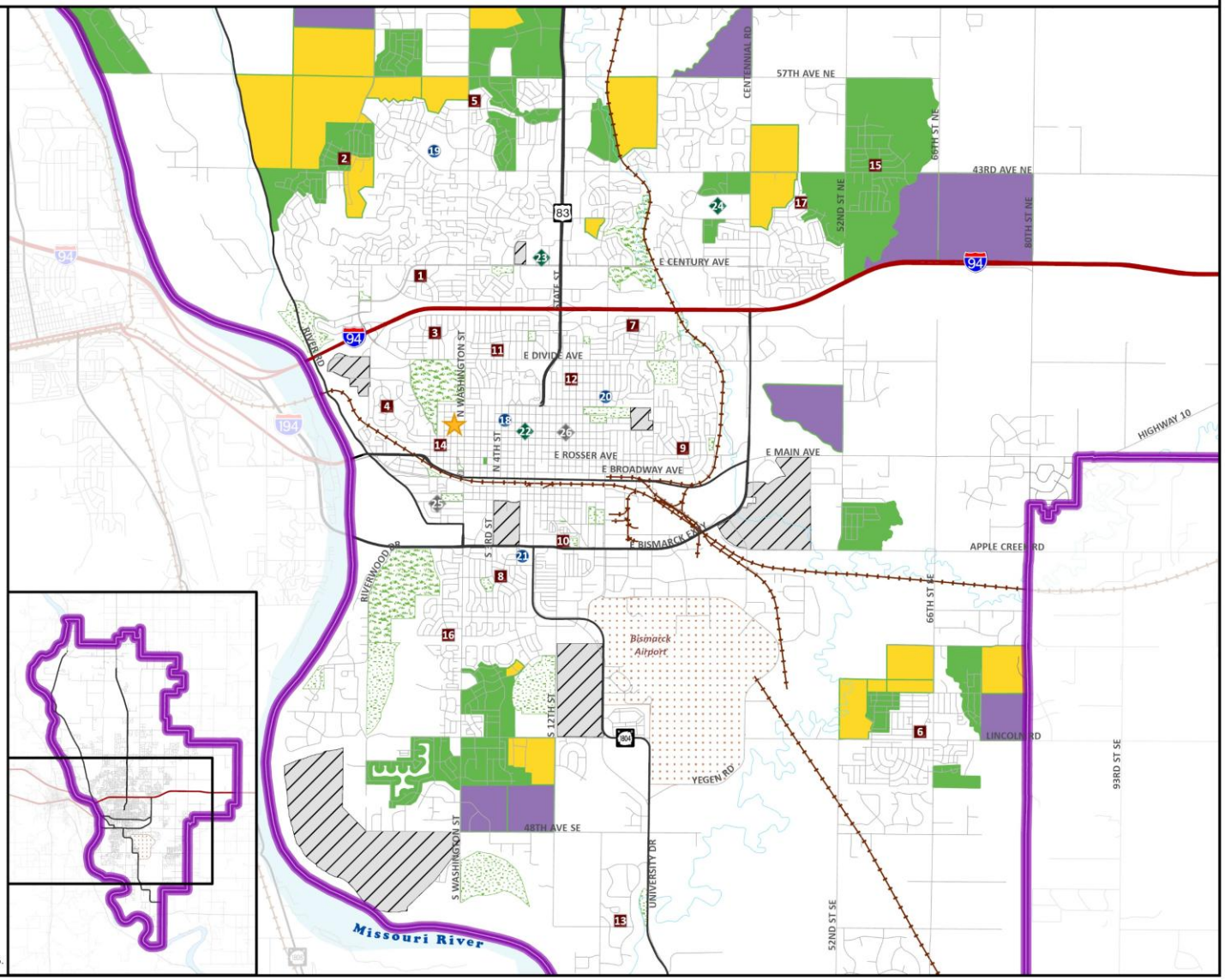
26. BECEP

Green: Current Developments
Yellow: 5-year Range Developments
Purple: 10-year Range Developments



0 0.5 1 2 Miles

Map data provided by Bismarck Public Schools, City of Bismarck, Burleigh County, US Census Bureau, NDDOT and ESRI. Map updated November 2025.

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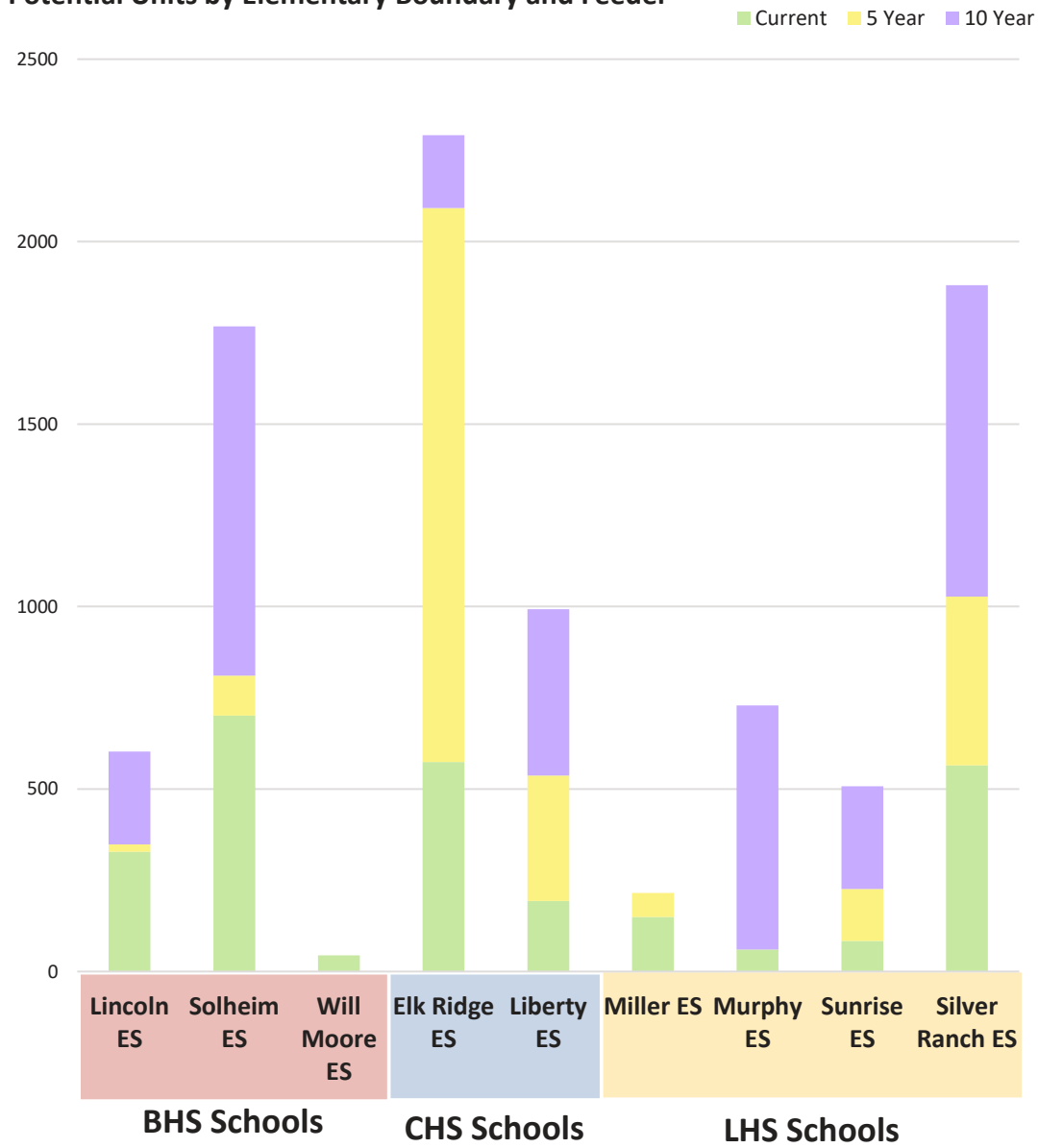
Note: "Timing of Growth Areas" are general estimates indicating phase of development status: some current projects may continue to develop for 5+ years and 5 to 10 Year potential projects may happen faster or slower than stated in table.

Development Table

Potential Units by Elementary Boundary and Feeder



Current Growth Area Potential:	2,612	2,699
5-Year Growth Area Potential:	23	2,661
10-Year Growth Area Potential:	70	3,673
Total Growth Area Potential:	**2,705**	**9,033**

Source: City of Bismarck, Burleigh County, and RSP

Observations:

- Growth areas are created from existing and future land use, capital improvement plan, zoning, and city staff input
  - **Green:** identifies where activity is happening
  - **Yellow:** identifies possible areas that could develop within a 5-year range
  - **Purple:** identifies possible areas that could develop within a 10-year range
- There is no guarantee any of these growth areas will develop or that other areas not shown as a growth area will develop
  - The market demand and property owners desire to build guides the timing and type of development
  - Some growth areas may require infrastructure improvements
- Over 9,000 total potential housing units were identified in this study and factored into the projections
  - BHS Feeder: 2,415 total potential units (26%); Solheim Elementary has the most activity potential
  - CHS Feeder: 3,285 total potential units (37%); Elk Ridge Elementary has the most activity potential
  - LHS Feeder: 3,333 total potential units (37%); Silver Ranch Elementary has the most activity potential

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Note: "Timing of Growth Areas" are general estimates indicating phase of development status: some current projects may continue to develop for 5+ years and 5 to 10 Year potential projects may happen faster or slower than stated in table.

Regional Project Spotlight

- **I-94 Interchange (Exit 161) reconstruction — supports northeast growth**
  - Full reconstruction of the Exit 161 interchange to relieve congestion along Centennial Rd / Bismarck Expressway and I-94
  - Timeline: Groundbreaking in 2024; construction through 2026
  - Improves regional access and capacity for new residential and commercial development in northeast Bismarck — likely to enable more housing starts and increase enrollments in nearby schools
- **Large pipeline / carbon capture projects crossing central ND (regional economic effect)**
  - Summit Carbon Solutions and related CO_2 pipeline have received key approvals in North Dakota; construction planned to begin in the mid-2020s.
  - Major energy/infrastructure projects can create construction and long-term operations jobs, spur demand for housing and services, and change local demographics
- **Health care expansions (Sanford, CHI St. Alexius and behavioral health capacity)**
  - Ongoing hospital and behavioral health program expansions (Sanford Bismarck Medical Center expansions, CHI St. Alexius behavioral health initiatives and grants)
  - Health-care expansions support local workforce growth, improve retention of families needing local services, and can attract healthcare professionals who relocate with families — a modest but steady contributor to school enrollment.
  - Expanded children's behavioral health also reduces need for out-of-area placements, affecting school support services planning
- **Burleigh County infrastructure & grant activity (BRIC, local planning)**
  - County commission agendas and packets show active pursuit of federal grants (e.g., BRIC) and county support for infrastructure and resiliency projects, sometimes tied to institutional partners (e.g., University of Mary).
  - County investments and successful grant awards for roads, flood mitigation, or site preparation reduce project costs for developers and can accelerate housing and commercial projects that affect school enrollments.
-

Sources:
https://www.dot.nd.gov/exit161
https://apnews.com/article/summit-co2-pipeline-north-dakota-carbon-dioxide-9b9bd3f72206c232b78c97abf8cd3b1b
https://www.sanfordhealth.org/videos/hospital-expansion-at-bismarck-medical-center

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Part 2: Observations and Conclusions

Limitations to Student Growth

- Student yield rates have been declining, limiting how much new housing can contribute to enrollment.
- Housing types contribute differently to enrollment; understanding yield variability is essential for accurate long-term planning.
- Tracking development types and associated student yields is critical to anticipating where growth will or won't occur.
- Building activity has slowed in recent years, although more than 400 new units per year have still been built over the last three years.

Indicators of Student Growth

- District population continues to rise; the census report 800-900 new persons living in the district per year for the past four years
- Over 9,000 potential new units are identified for long-term development; Liberty High and Century High feeders contain more future housing potential than Bismarck HS.
- Residential development opportunities are increasing, and construction is expected to rise with market demand and available infrastructure.
- New single-family homes remain the strongest generator of students (362 SF and 235 MF homes built in 2024/25).

Conclusion of Section:

- Student yields vary significantly by development type and location; planning must reflect these differences.
- Monitoring economic conditions, labor market trends, and infrastructure projects is essential to forecasting where growth will occur.
- Long-term growth is expected where housing remains affordable and infrastructure is strong, though national factors may influence construction timing.
- Construction costs have more than doubled since 2020, and supply chain challenges may continue to affect where and when new homes are built—and how that impacts student enrollment.

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Part 3:
Enrollment Projections

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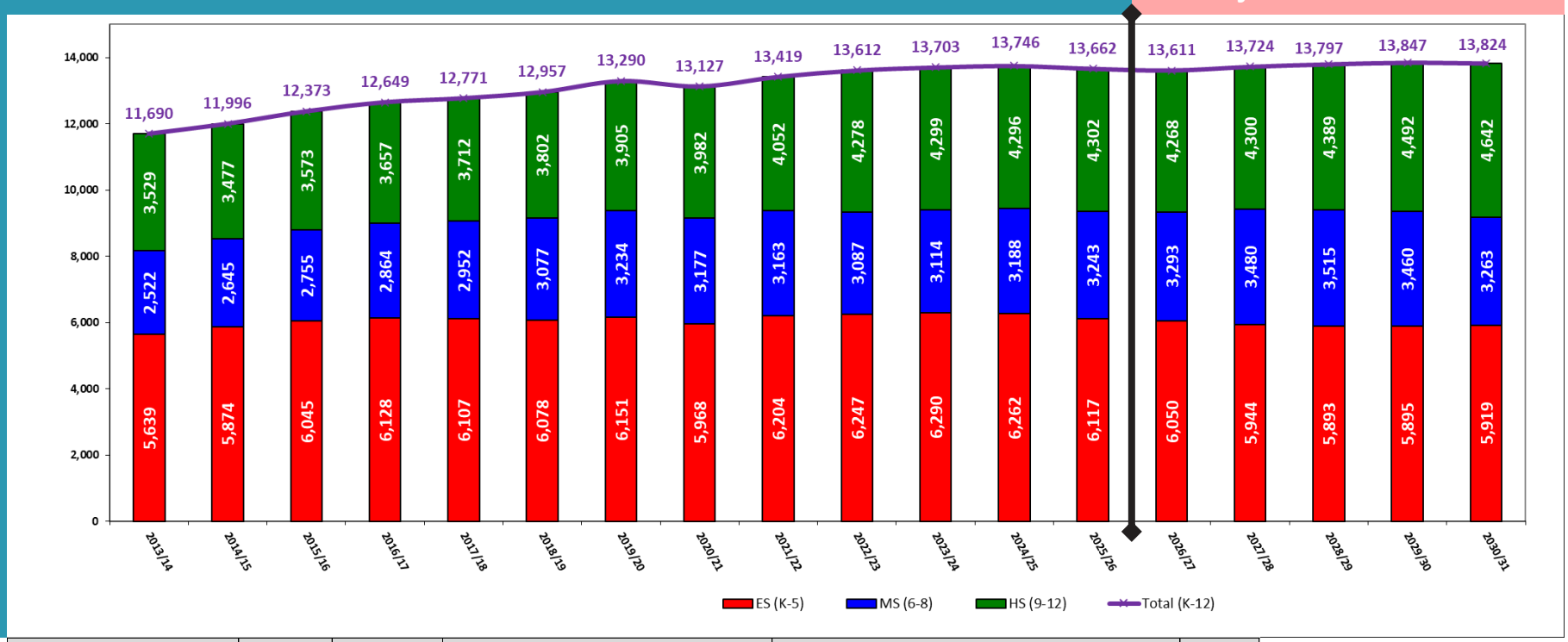
Past, Current, & Future Enrollment

Market Forecast



School	Capacity Operational	Enrollment Type (Past)	Past School Enrollment 2022/23	2023/24	2024/25	2025/26	Projections Based on Residence (1-5 years) 2026/27	2027/28	2028/29	2029/30	2030/31	Projected Change
ELEMENTARY SCHOOL TOTAL		Reside/Attend	5,666	6,021	5,694	5,827						
K-5	7,040	Reside	6,247	6,290	6,262	6,117	6,050	5,944	5,893	5,895	5,919	-3.2%
		Attend	6,247	6,290	6,262	6,117	6,050	5,944	5,893	5,895	5,919	
MIDDLE SCHOOL TOTAL		Reside/Attend	2,921	3,027	3,047	3,153						
6-8	3,600	Reside	3,087	3,114	3,188	3,243	3,293	3,480	3,515	3,460	3,263	0.6%
		Attend	3,086	3,114	3,188	3,243	3,293	3,480	3,515	3,460	3,263	
HIGH SCHOOL TOTAL		Reside/Attend	3,927	4,032	3,987	4,056						
9-12	4,950	Reside	4,278	4,299	4,296	4,302	4,268	4,300	4,389	4,492	4,642	7.9%
		Attend	4,279	4,299	4,296	4,302	4,268	4,300	4,389	4,492	4,642	
DISTRICT TOTALS		Reside/Attend	12,514	13,080	12,728	13,036						
K-12	15,590	Reside	13,612	13,703	13,746	13,662	13,611	13,724	13,797	13,847	13,824	1.2%
		Attend	13,612	13,703	13,746	13,662	13,611	13,724	13,797	13,847	13,824	

Source: RSP & Associates – December 2025

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Disclaimer. This is a projected outlook based on the information examined in this analysis. All past student data is exported from the district student database. The student database export may not always align with the Official Counts (Statistically 99% greater match by grade).

Projection Notes and Clarifications

Past Enrollment is shown three ways:

1. **Reside:** Based on where a student Resides in relation to the district boundary
2. **Attend:** Based on both a student residing in the district and attending and students not residing in the district attending
3. **Reside/Attend:** Subset of reside to know how many of Reside students attend the school based on the attendance area they are assigned to

Projections are shown two ways:

1. **Reside:** Based on where a student Resides in relation to the district boundary
2. **Attend:** Based on both a student residing in the district and attending and students not residing in the district attending

Capacity

- Provided by district administration
  - Orange shading is where the enrollment exceeds the Operational Capacity
  - Green shading is where the enrollment is less than 70% of Operational Capacity
- Capacity should be annually examined to ensure appropriate education space is available

Other Items

- Enrollment Grade Configuration in Student Forecast Model (K-5, 6-8, 9-12)
- Enrollment forecast does not include students in BECEP, Home School, or Virtual
- Out of District student trends are assumed to follow District policy and follow similar trends as the last few years
- Projection accuracy is limited by the number of years of student data which matches the State enrollment
- Housing challenges that may result in a slowdown in new housing starts and challenges with the economy as it adapts to a "New Normal" of supply challenges, cost increases, and other housing policy changes

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Projections by Feeder and South Central High

Bismarck Public Schools Projections By School (Based on Student Reside)

Market Forecast

School	Capacity Operational	Enrollment Type (Past)	Past School Enrollment 2022/23	2023/24	2024/25	2025/26	Projections Based on Residence (1-5 years) 2026/27	2027/28	2028/29	2029/30	2030/31	Projected Change
Bismarck Elementary Feeder		Reside/Attend	1,962	2,087	1,988	2,034						
K-5	2,304	Reside	2,163	2,181	2,179	2,146	2,145	2,121	2,079	2,095	2,103	-2.0%
		Attend	2,163	2,168	2,198	2,116	2,136	2,112	2,070	2,086	2,094	
Bismarck Middle School Feeder		Reside/Attend	946	979	970	1,029						
6-8	1,200	Reside	1,009	1,013	1,024	1,068	1,074	1,181	1,219	1,195	1,121	5.0%
		Attend	1,002	1,007	1,009	1,052	1,061	1,168	1,206	1,182	1,108	
Bismark High School Feeder		Reside/Attend	1,203	1,258	1,236	1,254						
9-12	1,600	Reside	1,314	1,341	1,323	1,326	1,309	1,329	1,380	1,425	1,490	12.4%
		Attend	1,338	1,370	1,367	1,351	1,309	1,362	1,413	1,458	1,523	
Bismarck Total School Feeder		Reside/Attend	4,111	4,324	4,194	4,317						
K-12	5,104	Reside	4,486	4,535	4,526	4,540	4,528	4,631	4,678	4,715	4,714	3.8%
		Attend	4,503	4,545	4,574	4,519	4,506	4,642	4,689	4,726	4,725	
Century Elementary Feeder		Reside/Attend	1,974	2,118	1,987	2,035						
K-5	2,432	Reside	2,144	2,191	2,170	2,120	2,110	2,059	2,056	2,052	2,073	-2.2%
		Attend	2,157	2,211	2,178	2,151	2,130	2,079	2,076	2,072	2,093	
Century Middle School Feeder		Reside/Attend	999	1,031	1,081	1,149						
6-8	1,200	Reside	1,041	1,051	1,116	1,167	1,195	1,235	1,222	1,226	1,150	-1.5%
		Attend	1,043	1,056	1,123	1,178	1,203	1,243	1,230	1,234	1,158	
Century High School Feeder		Reside/Attend	1,320	1,321	1,322	1,365						
9-12	1,600	Reside	1,425	1,391	1,425	1,447	1,445	1,481	1,548	1,585	1,654	14.3%
		Attend	1,428	1,403	1,409	1,438	1,445	1,476	1,543	1,580	1,649	
Century Total School Feeder		Reside/Attend	4,293	4,470	4,390	4,549						
K-12	5,232	Reside	4,610	4,633	4,711	4,734	4,750	4,775	4,826	4,863	4,877	3.0%
		Attend	4,628	4,670	4,710	4,767	4,778	4,798	4,849	4,886	4,900	
Legacy Elementary Feeder		Reside/Attend	1,730	1,816	1,719	1,758						
K-5	2,304	Reside	1,940	1,918	1,913	1,851	1,795	1,764	1,758	1,748	1,743	-5.8%
		Attend	1,927	1,911	1,886	1,850	1,784	1,753	1,747	1,737	1,732	
Legacy Middle School Feeder		Reside/Attend	976	1,017	996	975						
6-8	1,200	Reside	1,037	1,050	1,048	1,008	1,024	1,064	1,074	1,039	992	-1.6%
		Attend	1,041	1,051	1,056	1,013	1,029	1,069	1,079	1,044	997	
Legacy High School Feeder		Reside/Attend	1,311	1,339	1,332	1,339						
9-12	1,600	Reside	1,446	1,453	1,451	1,431	1,424	1,404	1,362	1,386	1,403	-2.0%
		Attend	1,420	1,412	1,423	1,415	1,424	1,376	1,334	1,358	1,375	
Legacy Total School Feeder		Reside/Attend	4,017	4,172	4,047	4,072						
K-12	5,104	Reside	4,423	4,421	4,412	4,290	4,243	4,232	4,194	4,173	4,138	-3.5%
		Attend	4,388	4,374	4,365	4,278	4,237	4,198	4,160	4,139	4,104	
South Central High		Reside/Attend	93	114	97	98						
9-12	150	Reside	93	114	97	98	90	86	99	96	95	-3.1%
		Attend	93	114	97	98	90	86	99	96	95	

Source: RSP & Associates – December 2025

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Disclaimer. This is a projected outlook based on the information examined in this analysis. All past student data is exported from the district student database. The student database export may not always align with the Official Counts (Statistically 99% greater match by grade).

Bismarck High School Feeder

Market Forecast

School	Capacity Operational	Enrollment Type (Past)	Past School Enrollment 2022/23	2023/24	2024/25	2025/26	Projections Based on Residence (1-5 years) 2026/27	2027/28	2028/29	2029/30	2030/31	Projected Change
Lincoln Elementary		Reside/Attend	631	627	584	577						
K-5	768	Reside	653	636	602	588	581	556	545	549	560	-4.8%
		Attend	647	635	604	584	580	555	544	548	559	
Moses Elementary		Reside/Attend	302	333	324	349						
K-5	384	Reside	358	357	377	367	379	378	369	371	363	-1.1%
		Attend	370	362	390	379	389	388	379	381	373	
Myhre Elementary		Reside/Attend	210	236	210	231						
K-5	256	Reside	266	259	263	272	282	285	280	273	273	0.4%
		Attend	253	257	256	246	270	273	268	261	261	
Prairie Rose Elementary		Reside/Attend	125	128	129	125						
K-5	128	Reside	129	133	138	127	111	107	106	114	112	-11.8%
		Attend	135	134	136	131	112	108	107	115	113	
Solheim Elementary		Reside/Attend	531	575	556	564						
K-5	512	Reside	570	587	585	577	585	591	592	599	615	6.6%
		Attend	554	577	584	568	578	584	585	592	608	
Will Moore Elementary		Reside/Attend	163	188	185	188						
K-5	256	Reside	187	209	214	215	207	204	187	189	180	-16.3%
		Attend	204	203	228	208	207	204	187	189	180	
Wachter Middle		Reside/Attend	946	979	970	1,029						
6-8	1,200	Reside	1,009	1,013	1,024	1,068	1,074	1,181	1,219	1,195	1,121	5.0%
		Attend	1,002	1,007	1,009	1,052	1,061	1,168	1,206	1,182	1,108	
Bismarck High		Reside/Attend	1,203	1,258	1,236	1,254						
9-12	1,600	Reside	1,314	1,341	1,323	1,326	1,309	1,329	1,380	1,425	1,490	12.4%
		Attend	1,338	1,370	1,367	1,351	1,309	1,362	1,413	1,458	1,523	
Bismarck Elementary Feeder		Reside/Attend	1,962	2,087	1,988	2,034						
K-5	2,304	Reside	2,163	2,181	2,179	2,146	2,145	2,121	2,079	2,095	2,103	-2.0%
		Attend	2,163	2,168	2,198	2,116	2,136	2,112	2,070	2,086	2,094	
Bismarck Middle School Feeder		Reside/Attend	946	979	970	1,029						
6-8	1,200	Reside	1,009	1,013	1,024	1,068	1,074	1,181	1,219	1,195	1,121	5.0%
		Attend	1,002	1,007	1,009	1,052	1,061	1,168	1,206	1,182	1,108	
Bismark High School Feeder		Reside/Attend	1,203	1,258	1,236	1,254						
9-12	1,600	Reside	1,314	1,341	1,323	1,326	1,309	1,329	1,380	1,425	1,490	12.4%
		Attend	1,338	1,370	1,367	1,351	1,309	1,362	1,413	1,458	1,523	
Bismarck Total School Feeder		Reside/Attend	4,111	4,324	4,194	4,317						
K-12	5,104	Reside	4,486	4,535	4,526	4,540	4,528	4,631	4,678	4,715	4,714	3.8%
		Attend	4,503	4,545	4,574	4,519	4,506	4,642	4,689	4,726	4,725	

Source: RSP & Associates – December 2025

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Students attending South Central High School are not shown in this table

Century High School Feeder

Market Forecast

School	Capacity Operational	Enrollment Type (Past)	Past School Enrollment 2022/23	2023/24	2024/25	2025/26	Projections Based on Residence (1-5 years) 2026/27	2027/28	2028/29	2029/30	2030/31	Projected Change
Centennial Elementary		Reside/Attend	344	373	346	349						
K-5	384	Reside	377	390	376	366	347	348	344	345	356	-2.9%
		Attend	382	393	390	376	356	357	353	354	365	
Elk Ridge Elementary		Reside/Attend	478	512	499	469						
K-5	512	Reside	515	533	529	480	500	472	477	489	503	4.8%
		Attend	482	514	511	478	487	459	464	476	490	
Grimsrud Elementary		Reside/Attend	128	156	158	183						
K-5	256	Reside	149	160	183	190	203	197	184	182	169	-11.1%
		Attend	155	171	180	200	209	203	190	188	175	
Highland Acres Elementary		Reside/Attend	85	94	92	94						
K-5	128	Reside	91	94	96	100	103	102	103	98	96	-4.0%
		Attend	101	105	103	102	110	109	110	105	103	
Liberty Elementary		Reside/Attend	460	470	431	420						
K-5	512	Reside	483	478	450	430	410	400	404	407	415	-3.5%
		Attend	496	491	470	438	424	414	418	421	429	
Northridge Elementary		Reside/Attend	382	409	370	416						
K-5	512	Reside	423	425	426	438	434	430	440	432	427	-2.5%
		Attend	420	421	410	441	428	424	434	426	421	
Roosevelt Elementary		Reside/Attend	97	104	91	104						
K-5	128	Reside	106	111	110	116	113	110	104	99	107	-7.8%
		Attend	121	116	114	116	116	113	107	102	110	
Horizon Middle		Reside/Attend	999	1,031	1,081	1,149						
6-8	1,200	Reside	1,041	1,051	1,116	1,167	1,195	1,235	1,222	1,226	1,150	-1.5%
		Attend	1,043	1,056	1,123	1,178	1,203	1,243	1,230	1,234	1,158	
Century High		Reside/Attend	1,320	1,321	1,322	1,365						
9-12	1,600	Reside	1,425	1,391	1,425	1,447	1,445	1,481	1,548	1,585	1,654	14.3%
		Attend	1,428	1,403	1,409	1,438	1,445	1,476	1,543	1,580	1,649	
Century Elementary Feeder		Reside/Attend	1,974	2,118	1,987	2,035						
K-5	2,432	Reside	2,144	2,191	2,170	2,120	2,110	2,059	2,056	2,052	2,073	-2.2%
		Attend	2,157	2,211	2,178	2,151	2,130	2,079	2,076	2,072	2,093	
Century Middle School Feeder		Reside/Attend	999	1,031	1,081	1,149						
6-8	1,200	Reside	1,041	1,051	1,116	1,167	1,195	1,235	1,222	1,226	1,150	-1.5%
		Attend	1,043	1,056	1,123	1,178	1,203	1,243	1,230	1,234	1,158	
Century High School Feeder		Reside/Attend	1,320	1,321	1,322	1,365						
9-12	1,600	Reside	1,425	1,391	1,425	1,447	1,445	1,481	1,548	1,585	1,654	14.3%
		Attend	1,428	1,403	1,409	1,438	1,445	1,476	1,543	1,580	1,649	
Century Total School Feeder		Reside/Attend	4,293	4,470	4,390	4,549						
K-12	5,232	Reside	4,610	4,633	4,711	4,734	4,750	4,775	4,826	4,863	4,877	3.0%
		Attend	4,628	4,670	4,710	4,767	4,778	4,798	4,849	4,886	4,900	

Source: RSP & Associates – December 2025

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Students attending South Central High School are not shown in this table

Legacy High School Feeder

Market Forecast

School	Capacity Operational	Enrollment Type (Past)	Past School Enrollment 2022/23	2023/24	2024/25	2025/26	Projections Based on Residence (1-5 years) 2026/27	2027/28	2028/29	2029/30	2030/31	Projected Change
Miller Elementary		Reside/Attend	433	459	440	454						
K-5	512	Reside	501	497	507	497	465	441	436	421	412	-17.1%
		Attend	476	481	485	468	443	419	414	399	390	
Murphy Elementary		Reside/Attend	341	352	323	340						
K-5	512	Reside	391	380	361	359	353	338	327	329	330	-8.1%
		Attend	392	373	367	365	355	340	329	331	332	
Pioneer Elementary		Reside/Attend	165	174	162	167						
K-5	256	Reside	195	190	185	182	173	171	172	176	170	-6.6%
		Attend	212	202	203	191	186	184	185	189	183	
Silver Ranch Elementary		Reside/Attend	357	390	381	370						
K-5	512	Reside	401	404	411	376	369	381	388	388	401	6.6%
		Attend	361	393	386	373	356	368	375	375	388	
Sunrise Elementary		Reside/Attend	434	441	413	427						
K-5	512	Reside	452	447	449	437	435	433	435	434	430	-1.6%
		Attend	486	462	445	453	444	442	444	443	439	
Simle Middle		Reside/Attend	976	1,017	996	975						
6-8	1,200	Reside	1,037	1,050	1,048	1,008	1,024	1,064	1,074	1,039	992	-1.6%
		Attend	1,041	1,051	1,056	1,013	1,029	1,069	1,079	1,044	997	
Legacy High		Reside/Attend	1,311	1,339	1,332	1,339						
9-12	1,600	Reside	1,446	1,453	1,451	1,431	1,424	1,404	1,362	1,386	1,403	-2.0%
		Attend	1,420	1,412	1,423	1,415	1,424	1,376	1,334	1,358	1,375	
Legacy Elementary Feeder		Reside/Attend	1,730	1,816	1,719	1,758						
K-5	2,304	Reside	1,940	1,918	1,913	1,851	1,795	1,764	1,758	1,748	1,743	-5.8%
		Attend	1,927	1,911	1,886	1,850	1,784	1,753	1,747	1,737	1,732	
Legacy Middle School Feeder		Reside/Attend	976	1,017	996	975						
6-8	1,200	Reside	1,037	1,050	1,048	1,008	1,024	1,064	1,074	1,039	992	-1.6%
		Attend	1,041	1,051	1,056	1,013	1,029	1,069	1,079	1,044	997	
Legacy High School Feeder		Reside/Attend	1,311	1,339	1,332	1,339						
9-12	1,600	Reside	1,446	1,453	1,451	1,431	1,424	1,404	1,362	1,386	1,403	-2.0%
		Attend	1,420	1,412	1,423	1,415	1,424	1,376	1,334	1,358	1,375	
Legacy Total School Feeder		Reside/Attend	4,017	4,172	4,047	4,072						
K-12	5,104	Reside	4,423	4,421	4,412	4,290	4,243	4,232	4,194	4,173	4,138	-3.5%
		Attend	4,388	4,374	4,365	4,278	4,237	4,198	4,160	4,139	4,104	

Source: RSP & Associates – December 2025

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Students attending South Central High School are not shown in this table

Part 3 Conclusions

Main Takeaway Observations:

- District wide enrollment is forecasted to increase from 13,661 to **13,824 students** by 2030/31 **(+216 students, +1.2%)**
  - Elementary enrollment to stabilize and slightly decrease from 6,117 to **5,919 students** by 2030/31 **(-198 students, -3.2%)**
  - Middle school enrollment to increase and peak in 2028/29 with **3,515 students**; enrollment then dips slightly to total **3,263 students** by 2030/31 **(+20, 0.6%)**
  - High School enrollment to increase from 4,302 to **4,642 students** by 2030/31 **(+340, +7.9%)**
- RSP recommends District administration and Board of Education to annually review enrollment projections, demographics, and development trends as it relates to available building capacity
- Individual school **capacity challenges are forecasted to occur at:**
  - BHS Feeder: Moses Elementary, Myhre Elementary, Solheim Elementary, and Wachter Middle
  - CHS Feeder: Horizon Middle and Century High

Conclusion of Section:

- Continuing to annually monitor the items in this report (live births, state policies, yield rates, building rates, etc.)
  - Recent natural disasters throughout the country (East Coast Hurricane, West Coast Forest Fires, etc.) may impact the speed and cost of building activity limiting the outlook of residential development projects
- RSP enrollment forecasting is based on the best-known information at the time
  - Recent economic indicators have been in-flux (interest rates, housing prices, supply chain)
  - Live birth data continues to be lower than it has been in the last decade which will impact future kindergarten enrollment
  - Potential changes to state or national policy with 2025 President Election may impact the enrollment outlook
- Utilize the enrollment model to assist with planning for staffing needs at each facility for the following school year which will address how quickly areas are “Regreening” and “Emerging”
  - The type of residential development and how affordable it is will determine the likely location and number of students
  - Utilizing current student density, count change visuals and potential developments, RSP has calculated the likely subdivision lifecycle for neighborhoods and their generation of students

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Part 4:
Next Steps

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Report Conclusion

Annually Review and Update Projected Enrollment Outlook

- ❑ Enrollment is forecasted to continue increasing over the next five years; continued evaluation of enrollment each year will enhance decision making.
- ❑ Experiencing growth becomes more challenging as Kindergarten enrollment remains lower than the exiting senior classes; a spike in Indarted class could impact projection outlook

ACTION: **Review enrollment outlook for the 2026/27 school year**

Analyze Balance within Feeders:

- ❑ Bismarck High Feeder may experience some capacity challenges in 2028/29 at the middle school when enrollment peaks
- ❑ Century High Feeder may experience some capacity challenges from 2026/27 to 2029/30 at the middle school level as enrollment peaks and in 2030/31 at the high school
- ❑ Legacy High Feeder is not forecasted to exceed capacity at any level the next five years

ACTION: **Middle school utilization becomes the tightest as enrollment peaks in Years 2 to 4. But as smaller elementary grade progress forward, these stresses should minimize.**

Communicate Results with General Public

- ❑ Integrate findings into any potential future facility planning endeavors; Future programming and building plans will impact household choices
- ❑ Create targeted marketing strategies to inform households about the extensive educational programs available within the District

ACTION: **Expand resources for community outreach and information transparency to prepare community for potential changes in school enrollment**

Conclusion of Section:

- ✓ Enrollment is forecasted to continue increasing over the next five years resulting in **more students being served in the district**
- ✓ Financial and facility challenges may influence community conversations toward creating a **more efficient utilization of schools** ranging from ideal school size to number of appropriate schools to be in the district inventory
- ✓ Balancing enrollment and efficiently utilizing facility space ensures the **adequate and appropriate space** is allocated for **programming needs for all students** (Core, Elective, SPED, ELL, Support Services, Staff/Office, etc.)

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Appendix

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Demographic Summary

Population

Percent Change of Annual Rate

2000 to 2010: 1.61%
2010 to 2020: 1.93%
2020 to 2025: 0.90%
2025 to 2030: 0.72%

Housing

Percent Change of Annual Rate of Housing Inventory

2000 to 2010: 1.66%
2010 to 2020: 1.63%
2020 to 2025: 0.63%
2025 to 2030: 0.57%

Income

Median Household Income Forecasted Percent Change

2025: $94,021
2030: $104,824
2025 to 2030: 2.2%

Workforce

Key Variables

1.8% unemployment
4,995 Businesses
73,388 Employees

Source: US Census BAO and ESRI
Note: Demographic information includes all persons residing in the school district boundary (not just student data)

Observations:

- The rate of population and housing growth has been decreasing and is forecasted to increase by less than 1% respectively, over the next five years
- Income has increased in the district and is expected to surpass $100K by 2030 (median household income)
- The unemployment rate is slightly lower than the State of North Dakota

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Demographic Comparative Analysis

General Demographics	Bismark School District 1	Mandan Public School District 1	Wilton Public School District 1	City of Bismark	City of Lincoln	Burleigh County	State of North Dakota
2025 Unemployment Rate	1.8%	1.3%	1.0%	1.9%	1.1%	1.8%	1.9%
2025 Average Household Size	2.4	2.36	2.4	2.28	2.80	2.40	2.32
2025 Median Age	38.40	37.80	45.80	39.00	34.70	38.60	36.70
2025 Total Population	99,099	29,964	1,636	76,981	4,365	102,930	800,467
2025 Median Household Income	$94,021.00	$85,030.00	$101,085.00	$85,223.00	$112,938.00	$94,858.00	$80,574.00
2025 Total Housing Units	42,666	13,441	794	35,283	1,656	44,385	384,746
2025 Owner Occupied Housing Units	27,412	8,657	590	20,892	1,485	28,749	207,156
2025 Renter Occupied Housing Units	12,284	3,804	81	11,718	72	12,426	125,291
Vacancy Rate	7.0%	7.3%	15.5%	7.6%	6.0%	7.2%	13.6%
Race/Ethnicity	**Bismark School District 1**	**Mandan Public School District 1**	**Wilton Public School District 1**	**City of Bismark**	**City of Lincoln**	**Burleigh County**	**State of North Dakota**
White	84.1%	83.3%	92.2%	82.5%	88.5%	84.3%	80.3%
Black	2.3%	1.7%	0.0%	2.7%	0.6%	2.2%	3.6%
American Indian/Alaskan	4.4%	4.7%	2.0%	4.8%	3.5%	4.3%	4.8%
Asian	1.3%	0.6%	0.2%	1.5%	0.3%	1.2%	1.8%
Pacific Islander	0.7%	0.2%	0.2%	0.9%	0.0%	0.7%	0.2%
Other Race	0.2%	0.2%	0.2%	0.2%	0.2%	0.2%	0.2%
Two or More Races	3.6%	4.3%	3.6%	3.6%	4.2%	3.6%	4.2%
Hispanic	3.5%	5.0%	1.5%	3.9%	2.7%	3.5%	4.9%

Source: U.S. Census, ESRI BAO

Notes:

- Bismark School District 1 has the second lowest vacancy rate (7.0%) when compared to all neighboring geographies.
- The Average Household Size is the third lowest in Bismark School District 1 when compared to all neighboring geographies.
- The Median Age is the fourth lowest in Batavia Public School District 101 when compared to all neighboring geographies.

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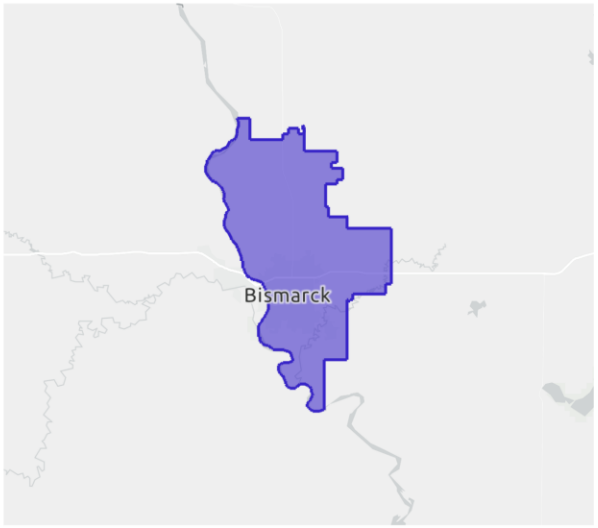
Census Demographic Overview



POPULATION TRENDS AND KEY INDICATORS

Bismark School District 1
Area: 220.42 square miles

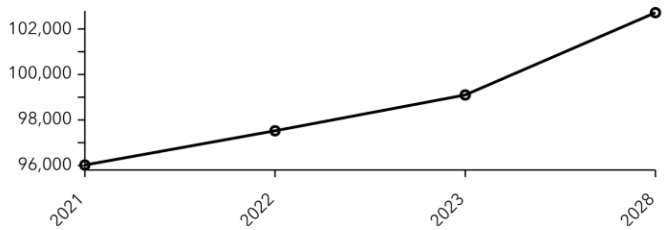
99,099	39,696	2.40	38.4	$94,021	$355,621	91	98	32
Population	Households	Avg Size Household	Median Age	Median Household Income	Median Home Value	Wealth Index	Housing Affordability	Diversity Index

MORTGAGE INDICATORS

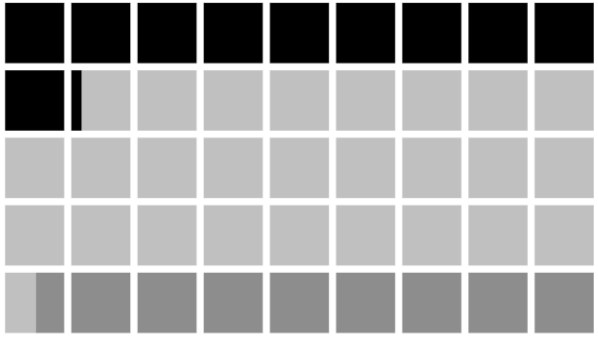
$12,338
Avg Spent on Mortgage & Basics

23.7%
Percent of Income for Mortgage

Historical Trends: Population



POPULATION BY AGE



Under 18 (22.6%) Ages 18 to 64 (58.6%)
Aged 65+ (18.9%)

POPULATION BY GENERATION

4.8%
Greatest Gen: Born 1945/Earlier

18.6%
Baby Boomer: Born 1946 to 1964

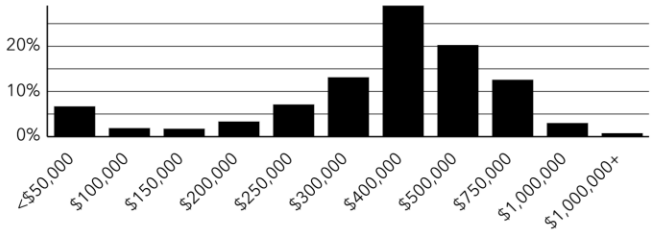
17.4%
Generation X: Born 1965 to 1980

24.8%
Millennial: Born 1981 to 1998

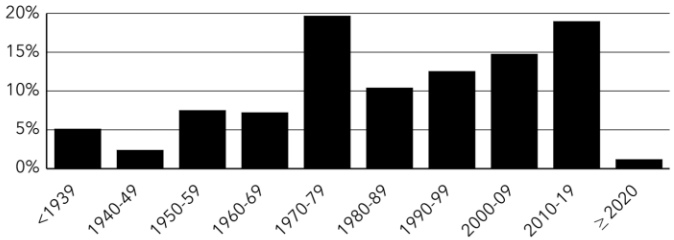
23.2%
Generation Z: Born 1999 to 2016

11.3%
Alpha: Born 2017 to Present

Home Value



Housing: Year Built



esri THE SCIENCE OF WHERE

Source: This infographic contains data provided by Esri (2025, 2030), Esri-U.S. BLS (2025), ACS (2019-2023). © 2025 Esri

Source: US Census BAO and ESRI
Note: Demographic information includes all persons residing in the school district boundary (not just student data)

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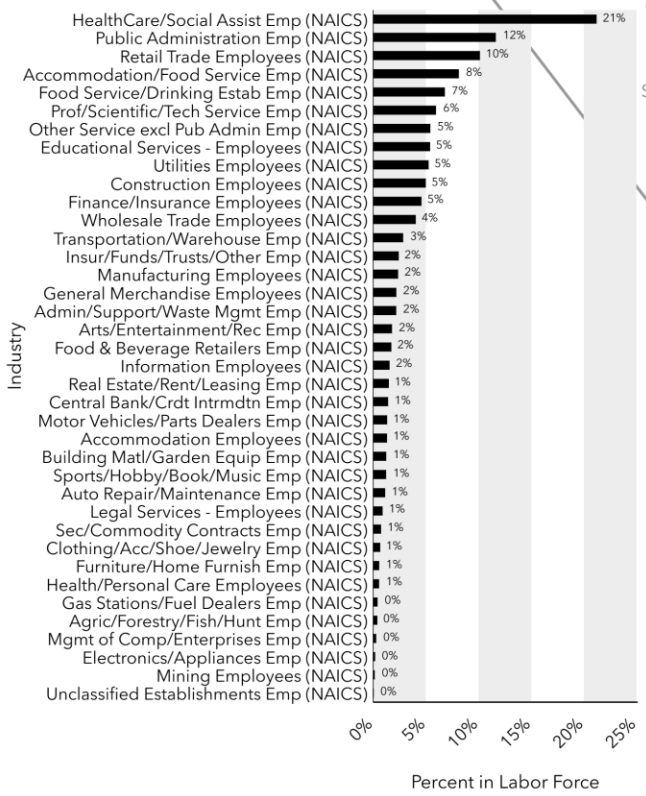
Census Employment Outlook

Economic Development Profile

Bismark School District 1

Area: 220.42 square miles

2024 The North American Industry Classification System (NAICS)



Employment

15.9% Services | 20.0% Blue Collar | 64.2% White Collar

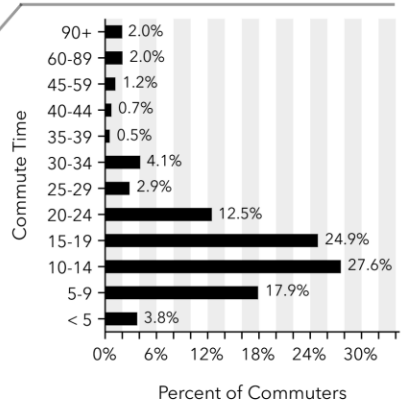
Workforce Overview

Businesses

4,995 Total Businesses

73,388 Total Employees

Commute Time: Minutes



Transportation to Work

0.2% Took Public Transportation

8.6% Carpooled

2.0% Walked to Work

0.3% Bike to Work

80% Drove Alone to Work

Source: This infographic contains data provided by Esri (2025), Esri-Data Axle (2025), ACS (2019-2023).

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Source: US Census BAO and ESRI

Note: Demographic information includes all persons residing in the school district boundary (not just student data)

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Student Retention Analysis

2017/18 Retention Snapshot (Visual 1)

- Table represents the 2017/18 student data and illustrates the student change by year for the students who were attending in 2017/18
- From 2017/18 to 2025/26 the district has retained 75% of students (K-12)
- The 2017/18 Kdg class has decreased by 302 students from 2017/18 to 2025/26 (-30%)
- Currently there are 1,131 8th grade students meaning 424 (38%) of those students were new to the district after 2017/18

Average Retention (Visual 2)

- Table represents the average student retention starting in 2017/18 (10 years of data) (tracked by **Student IDs**)
- On average, BPS retains 92.5% of their student body year to year
- Retention is greatest at the middle school level and lowest at the high school level

Retention Over Time (Visual 3)

- Retention year to year has fluctuated the past ten years
- 2024/25 to 2025/26 saw the greatest single-year of retention despite the enrollment loss
- 2019/20 to 2020/21 saw the lowest single-year of retention likely correlating with pandemic impacts on students choices

2017/18 Student Data Retention Analysis

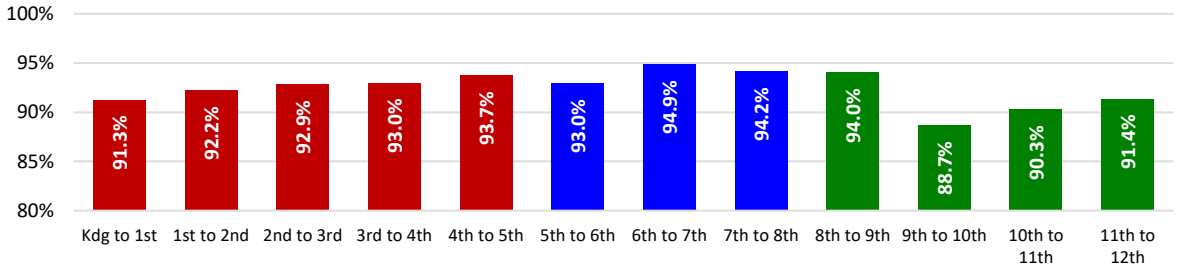
Grade		2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24	2024/25	Grade	Starting	Percent
Starting	Ending	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24	2024/25	2025/26	Change	Enrollment	Change
Kdg	8th	-100	-48	-61	-19	-30	-22	-7	-15	-302	1,008	-30.0%
1st	9th	-89	-43	-72	-33	-29	-18	-13	-11	-308	1,008	-30.6%
2nd	10th	-82	-48	-52	-46	-18	-20	-17	-21	-304	990	-30.7%
3rd	11th	-77	-47	-49	-23	-23	-16	-38	-27	-300	1,009	-29.7%
4th	12th	-80	-53	-40	-36	-25	-53	-39	-20	-346	1,063	-32.5%
5th	12th	-74	-40	-54	-42	-35	-36	-27		-308	1,029	-29.9%
6th	12th	-52	-35	-41	-50	-48	-34			-260	1,026	-25.3%
7th	12th	-64	-55	-45	-45	-26				-235	969	-24.3%
8th	12th	-55	-54	-53	-56					-218	957	-22.8%
9th	12th	-105	-45	-29						-179	976	-18.3%
10th	12th	-85	-48							-133	922	-14.4%
11th	12th	-61								-61	869	-7.0%
All Grade Change		-924	-516	-496	-350	-234	-199	-141	-94	-2,954	11,826	-25.0%
K-11 % Change		-7.8%	-4.4%	-4.2%	-3.0%	-2.0%	-1.7%	-1.2%	-0.8%	-25.0%		
K-11 Enrollment		11,826	11,826	11,826	11,826	11,826	11,826	11,826	11,826			

Source: Bismarck Public Schools and RSP

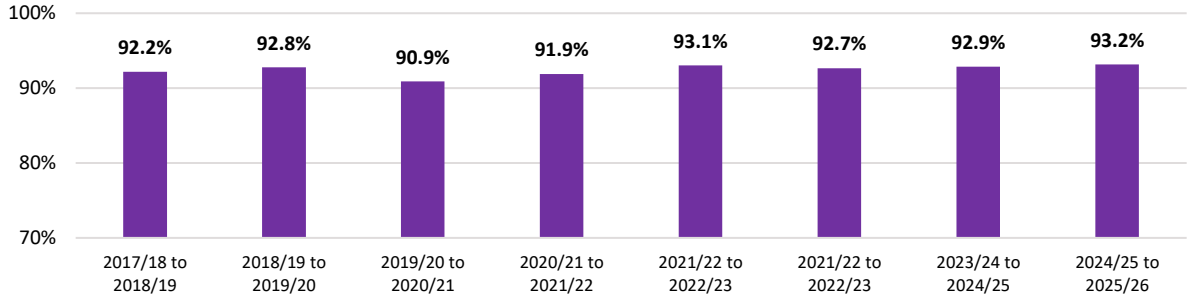
From	To
Kdg	1st
1st	2nd
2nd	3rd
3rd	4th
4th	5th
5th	6th
6th	7th
7th	8th
8th	9th
9th	10th
10th	11th
11th	12th

Notes: See Legend Color Code for grade change. Starting and ending year is key to see how each grade retained enrollment year to year.

Visual 2: Average Cohort Retention by Grade Cohort



Visual 3: Retention Rate Over Time (All Grades, Year 1 to Year 2)



Source: Bismarck Public Schools and RSP

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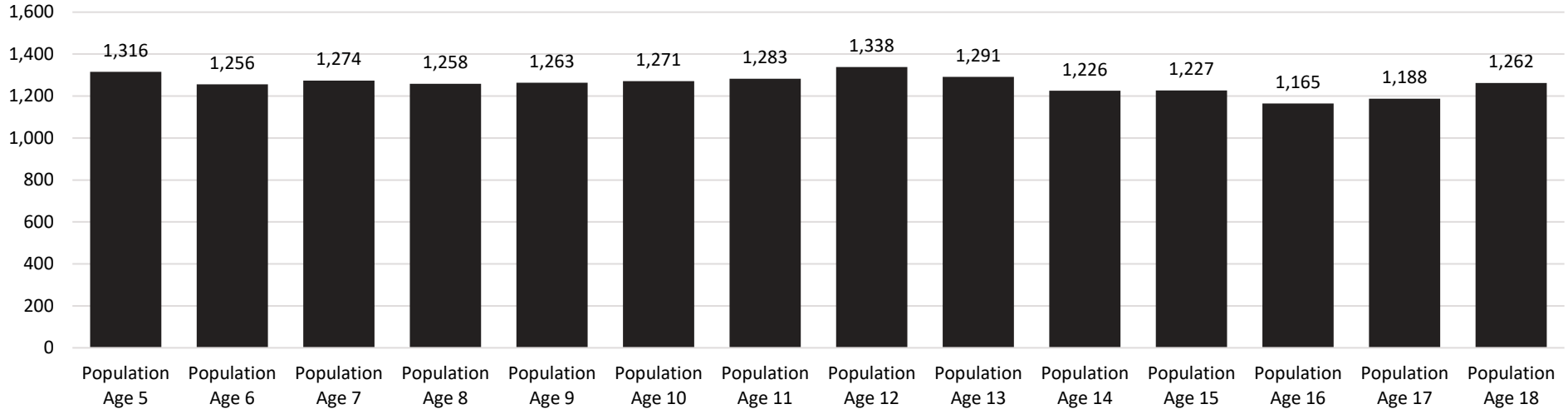
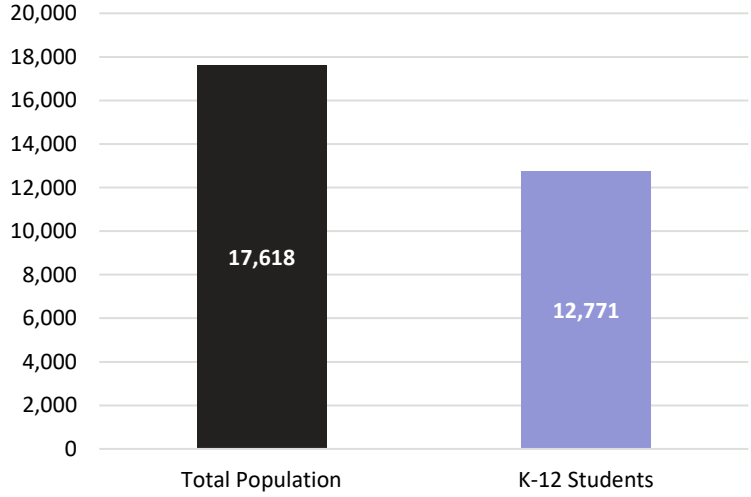
2025 Student Age Population (Ages 5 to 18)

Potential Student Age Population (2025 Estimates):



Age 5-18 Population V.S. K-12 Enrollment



Source: US Census BAO and ESRI, 2025 July Estimates, and Bismarck Public Schools

Disclaimer: Population by age does not directly align with specific grade levels. This data represents a general estimate of the student-age population, not actual school enrollment figures.

Observations:

- The census estimates 17,618 people age 5 to 18 reside in the school district boundary in 2025
- 2025/26 K-12 enrollment is 12,771 students – approximately 72% of the census estimated population
- There is likely an adjustment between persons living in the district that attend other school options (private/parochial), and the number of Out of District students that enroll into Bismarck Public Schools
- Continued use of age-based population vs. enrollment comparisons will be helpful in projecting future yield rates and determining when/where shifts may occur.

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Note: Enrollment capture rate could vary by age, with younger age groups potentially under-represented in K-12 enrollment and/or census estimates.

Birth Rate Information

Burleigh County Live Births and Bismark School District 1 Kindergarteners 5 Years Later

Calendar Year	# Live Births	Birth Change	% Birth Change	School Year	# Kdg	%Kdg of Live Births
2012	1,211	77	6.8%	2017/18	1,008	83.2%
2013	1,224	13	1.1%	2018/19	1,002	81.9%
2014	1,371	147	12.0%	2019/20	1,057	77.1%
2015	1,367	-4	-0.3%	2020/21	1,029	75.3%
2016	1,347	-20	-1.5%	2021/22	1,093	81.1%
2017	1,220	-127	-9.4%	2022/23	1,006	82.5%
2018	1,234	14	1.1%	2023/24	982	79.6%
2019	1,133	-101	-8.2%	2024/25	922	81.4%
2020	1,168	35	3.1%	2025/26	888	76.0%
2021	1,165	-3	-0.3%	**2026/27**	**886**	**961**
2022	1,176	11	0.9%	**2027/28**	**894**	**970**
2023	1,117	-59	-5.0%	**2028/29**	**849**	**921**
2024	1,078	-39	-3.5%	**2029/30**	**820**	**889**
3-Year Average	1,123.7	-29				
3-Year Weighted Average	1,107.3	-37.3				

Low Range
High Range

Source: Burleigh County and Bismark School District 1

Observations:

- Tracks the number of Burleigh County live births and the corresponding number of kindergarten students in Bismarck Public Schools five years later
- The number of live births have been decreasing. This is consistent with national and state trends.
- 3-year average of 29 less live births per year
- The district tends to receive a market share of 75% to 85% of county live births in Kindergarten five years laters
- Kindergarten enrollment decreased this year to 888 students; reflecting a lower market share of 76%
- Based on this trend and the range of market share, the kindergarten classes moving forward are forecasted to be between:
  - 820 to 894 students on the low end
  - 889 to 970 students on the high end
  - Market Share decline impacts the future kindergarten projected enrollment

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Elementary Intra-District Transfers

ES Transfers	Attend																					
Reside	Centennial ES	Elk Ridge ES	Grimsrud ES	Highland Acres ES	Liberty ES	Lincoln ES	Miller ES	Moses ES	Murphy ES	Myhre ES	Northridge ES	Pioneer ES	Prairie Rose ES	Riverside ES	Roosevelt ES	Saxvik ES	Silver Ranch ES	Solheim ES	Sunrise ES	Will Moore ES	Out Total	Total Movement
Centennial ES			4		6		2		1		1				1				2		17	10
Elk Ridge ES	1			1	7		1												1		11	-2
Grimsrud ES	2			2				1	1		1										7	10
Highland Acres ES	2	1	2					1													6	2
Liberty ES	5		1				1				3										10	8
Lincoln ES	2							1		2	2		1					1	2		11	-4
Miller ES	5	1	3		1	2			4		2	7					1		12	5	43	-29
Moses ES	1					1	1		2	2	2	2	1		2			1		3	18	12
Murphy ES		2				2		3		3	2	2			1			1	1	2	19	6
Myhre ES	4	2					1	13	10		1	4	1						2	3	41	-26
Northridge ES	4		4				2	2		2		3							4	1	22	3
Pioneer ES			1				4	2	2	2	1								1	2	15	9
Prairie Rose ES										1								1			2	4
Riverside ES																					0	0
Roosevelt ES			2	3				3	1											3	12	0
Saxvik ES																					0	0
Silver Ranch ES		3							2										1		6	-3
Solheim ES						2	1	2		3			3				1			1	13	-9
Sunrise ES					4				2		1	2					1				10	16
Will Moore ES	1			2			1	2			9	4			8						27	-7
In Total	27	9	17	8	18	7	14	30	25	15	25	24	6	0	12	0	3	4	26	20	290	

Source: Bismarck Public School District and RSP

NOTE: The schools in the left column are associated with the current attendance area. Reading to the right indicates a school choice change from where they are assigned based on the Reside Attendance Area.

For example: Centennial ES has 17 students attending a different elementary school and 27 students from another elementary school choosing to attend Centennial. This results in 10 more students attending Centennial than what reside in that attendance area.

Observations:

- Illustrates school choice that could be impacted by location of educational programming; reviewed on an annual basis and approved based on capacity availability
- Moses ES had the most students transferring in (+30) and Sunrise ES had the greatest net gain of transfer students (+16)
- Miller ES had the most transferring out (-43) and had the greatest net loss of transfer students (-29)
- **290 total elementary students** transferred between boundaries this year

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Secondary Intra-District Transfers

MS Transfers	Attend				
Reside	Horizon Middle	Simle Middle	Wachter Middle	Out Total	Total Movement
Horizon Middle		10	8	18	11
Simle Middle	18		15	33	5
Wachter Middle	11	28		39	-16
In Total	29	38	23	90	

Source: Bismarck Public School District and RSP

NOTE: The schools in the left column are associated with the current attendance area. Reading to the right indicates a school choice change from where they are assigned based on the Reside Attendance Area.

For example: Horizon MS has 18 students attending a different middle school and 29 students from another middle school choosing to attend Horizon. This results in 11 more students attending Horizon than what reside in that attendance area.

HS Transfers	Attend				
Reside	Bismarck High	Century High	Legacy High	Out Total	Total Movement
Bismarck High		34	38	72	25
Century High	44		38	82	-9
Legacy High	53	39		92	-16
In Total	97	73	76	246	

Source: Bismarck Public School District and RSP

Observations:

- Illustrates school choice that could be impacted by location of educational programming; reviewed on an annual basis and approved based on capacity availability
- **90 total middle school** students transferred between boundaries this year
  - Simle MS had the most students transferring in **(+38)** and Horizon MS had the greatest net gain of transfer students **(+11)**
  - Wachter MS had the most transferring out **(-39)** and had the greatest net loss of transfer students **(-16)**
- **246 total high school** students transferred between boundaries this year
  - Bismarck HS had the most students transferring in **(+97)** and the greatest net gain of transfer students **(+25)**
  - Legacy HS had the most transferring out **(-92)** and had the greatest net loss of transfer students **(-16)**

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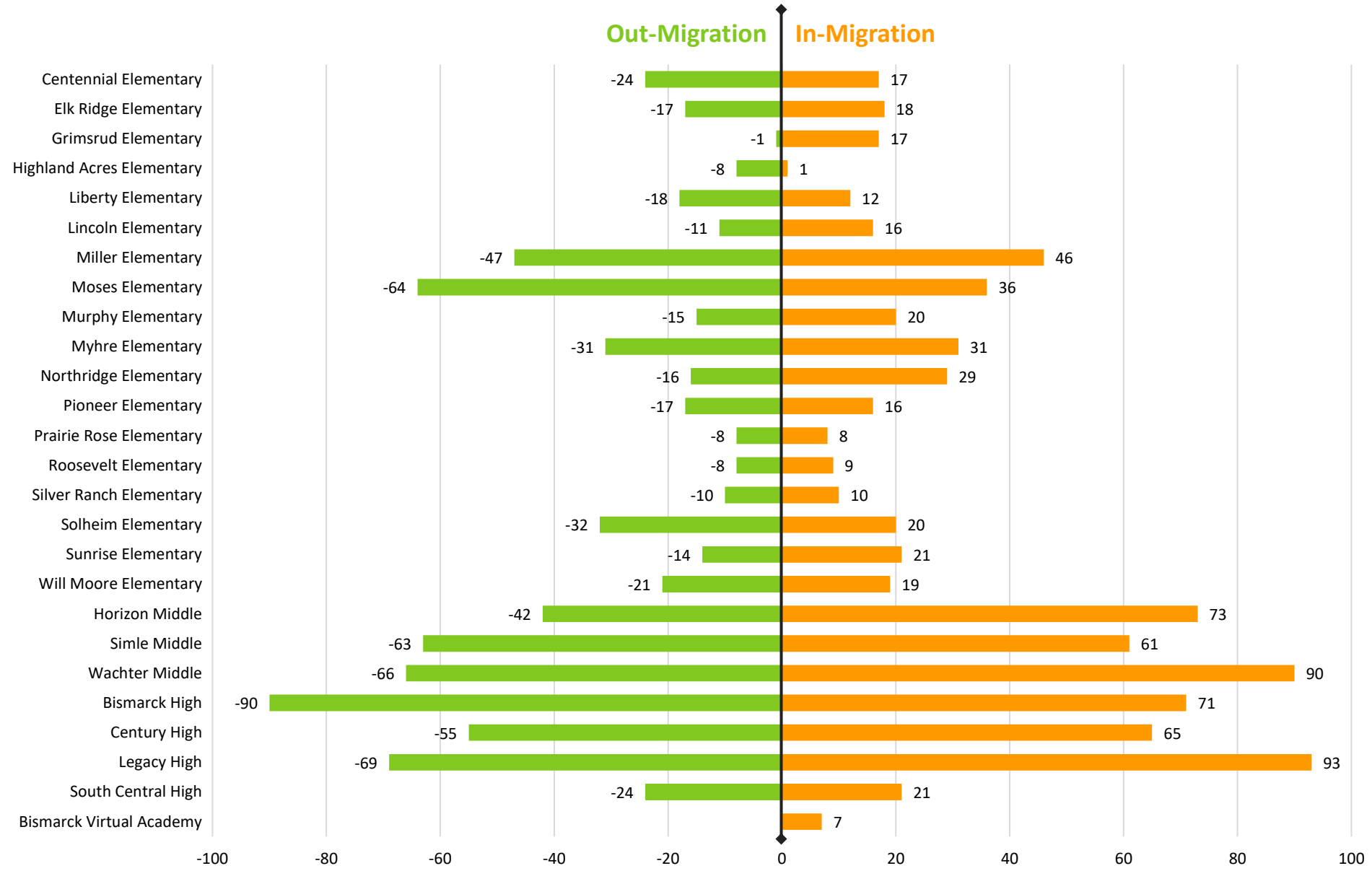
1-Year Student Migration by Buildings



Source: Bismarck Public Schools and RSP

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Student Yield Rate: Single-Family

Students per 100 Single-Family Units	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24	2024/25	2025/26	10 Year Average
Centennial Elementary	17	18	18	19	19	19	19	20	19	18.7
Elk Ridge Elementary	24	26	28	24	26	28	29	28	24	26.3
Grimsrud Elementary	17	15	16	16	16	15	16	18	18	16.3
Highland Acres Elementary	17	19	18	18	17	20	21	20	21	19.0
Liberty Elementary	31	31	30	27	27	24	23	21	19	25.9
Lincoln Elementary	31	31	32	30	32	31	30	29	28	30.4
Miller Elementary	19	18	17	17	17	17	17	17	15	17.1
Moses Elementary	14	14	12	12	12	14	13	13	13	13.0
Murphy Elementary	18	18	17	16	16	17	15	14	14	16.1
Myhre Elementary	13	11	12	10	10	11	12	11	12	11.3
Northridge Elementary	14	15	15	15	15	14	14	13	14	14.3
Pioneer Elementary	14	15	15	15	15	16	15	14	14	14.8
Prairie Rose Elementary	20	19	18	17	16	18	18	19	17	18.0
Roosevelt Elementary	12	12	13	14	13	12	12	12	13	12.6
Silver Ranch Elementary	31	33	33	29	27	26	26	26	23	28.2
Solheim Elementary	17	20	19	18	18	19	19	19	19	18.7
Sunrise Elementary	30	29	29	28	28	27	26	25	23	27.2
Will Moore Elementary	10	11	11	11	12	11	10	11	10	10.8
District (K-5):	20.0	21.0	20.0	19.0	20.0	20.0	20.0	19.0	18.0	**19.7**

Students per 100 Single-Family Units	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24	2024/25	2025/26	10 Year Average
Horizon Middle	10	11	11	10	10	10	10	10	10	10.2
Simle Middle	11	12	12	12	11	11	11	11	11	11.3
Wachter Middle	8	9	10	10	10	9	9	9	9	9.2
District (6-8):	10.0	10.0	11.0	10.0	10.0	10.0	10.0	10.0	10.0	**10.1**

Students per 100 Single-Family Units	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24	2024/25	2025/26	10 Year Average
Bismarck High	11	11	11	11	11	12	12	12	12	11.4
Century High	12	12	13	13	13	13	13	13	13	12.8
Legacy High	13	14	14	15	15	15	15	15	15	14.6
District (9-12):	12.0	12.0	13.0	13.0	13.0	13.0	13.0	13.0	13.0	**12.8**

Source: Burleigh County, and RSP

Note: Includes number of students per 100 single-family units. Single-family units include houses that may be fully detached or semi-detached and occupied by one household or family.

Observations:

Table shows the number of students per 100 SF units by year and by boundary:

- District sees on average:
  - 19.7 elementary (K-5) students per 100 SF units
  - 10.1 middle school (6-8) students per 100 SF units
  - 12.8 high school (9-12) students per 100 SF units

Adding new housing inventory can impact the yield rate:

- **There were 2,060 single-family homes built from 2017 to 2025**

Table Legend

- +3 greater from District Average
- -3 fewer from District Average

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Student Yield Rate: Multi-Family

Students per 100 Multi-Family Units	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24	2024/25	2025/26	10 Year Average
Centennial Elementary	15	15	15	14	15	13	15	13	13	14.2
Elk Ridge Elementary	12	11	15	14	16	18	17	16	16	15.0
Grimsrud Elementary	8	7	8	8	9	8	9	10	11	8.7
Highland Acres Elementary	5	5	3	4	5	4	4	7	6	4.8
Liberty Elementary	17	17	17	15	15	14	14	13	14	15.1
Lincoln Elementary	8	12	12	11	10	10	10	10	11	10.4
Miller Elementary	7	7	8	8	9	10	9	10	10	8.7
Moses Elementary	10	8	9	9	10	10	11	12	11	10.0
Murphy Elementary	10	9	9	9	8	8	9	8	8	8.7
Myhre Elementary	16	12	11	11	11	8	8	11	10	10.9
Northridge Elementary	9	7	7	6	7	7	7	8	8	7.3
Pioneer Elementary	27	25	19	29	29	2	7	8	8	17.1
Prairie Rose Elementary	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0
Roosevelt Elementary	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0
Silver Ranch Elementary	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0
Solheim Elementary	12	8	9	10	10	10	11	10	10	10.0
Sunrise Elementary	16	17	18	15	18	12	12	14	14	15.1
Will Moore Elementary	7	6	5	5	5	6	8	8	8	6.4
District (K-5):	11.0	9.0	9.0	9.0	10.0	9.0	10.0	10.0	10.0	**9.7**

Students per 100 Multi-Family Units	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24	2024/25	2025/26	10 Year Average
Horizon Middle	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	6	5.1
Simle Middle	4	4	5	5	5	4	4	4	4	4.3
Wachter Middle	4	4	4	4	4	4	5	5	5	4.3
District (6-8):	4.0	4.0	5.0	5.0	5.0	5.0	5.0	5.0	5.0	**4.8**

Students per 100 Multi-Family Units	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24	2024/25	2025/26	10 Year Average
Bismarck High	5	5	5	5	5	5	6	5	5	5.1
Century High	6	6	6	6	6	7	6	7	7	6.3
Legacy High	5	5	5	6	6	6	6	6	6	5.7
District (9-12):	6.0	5.0	6.0	6.0	5.0	6.0	6.0	6.0	6.0	**5.8**

Source: Burleigh County, and RSP

Note: Includes number of students per 100 multi-family units. Multi-family units include apartment, duplex, mixed-use, townhome, etc. units. Mobile Homes not included

Observations:

Table shows the number of students per 100 MF units by year and by boundary:

- District sees on average:
  - 9.7 elementary (K-5) students per 100 MF units
  - 4.8 middle school (6-8) students per 100 MF units
  - 5.8 high school (9-12) students per 100 MF units

Adding new housing inventory can impact the yield rate:

- **There were 972 multi-family homes built from 2017 to 2025**

Table Legend

- +3 greater from District Average
- -3 fewer from District Average

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Student Yield Rate: Mobile Home

Students per 100 MHP Units	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24	2024/25	2025/26	10 Year Average
Centennial Elementary	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0
Elk Ridge Elementary	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0
Grimsrud Elementary	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0
Highland Acres Elementary	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0
Liberty Elementary	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0
Lincoln Elementary	27	23	26	33	33	29	23	13	13	24.4
Miller Elementary	14	13	14	14	15	15	15	14	13	14.1
Moses Elementary	12	10	9	10	10	12	11	10	12	10.7
Murphy Elementary	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0
Myhre Elementary	16	14	14	14	16	16	15	14	15	14.9
Northridge Elementary	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0
Pioneer Elementary	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0
Prairie Rose Elementary	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0
Roosevelt Elementary	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0
Silver Ranch Elementary	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0
Solheim Elementary	22	21	24	24	20	16	19	19	16	20.1
Sunrise Elementary	15	13	13	11	11	12	11	13	13	12.4
Will Moore Elementary	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0
District (K-5):	16.0	15.0	15.0	15.0	16.0	15.0	15.0	14.0	14.0	**15.0**

Students per 100 MHP Units	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24	2024/25	2025/26	10 Year Average
Horizon Middle	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0
Simle Middle	7	9	7	7	6	5	5	6	6	6.4
Wachter Middle	8	8	9	8	8	7	8	7	7	7.8
District (6-8):	8.0	8.0	8.0	7.0	7.0	7.0	7.0	7.0	7.0	**7.3**

Students per 100 MHP Units	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24	2024/25	2025/26	10 Year Average
Bismarck High	8	8	9	9	10	10	10	8	8	8.9
Century High	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0
Legacy High	8	9	10	10	10	9	8	7	7	8.7
District (9-12):	8.0	9.0	9.0	10.0	10.0	10.0	9.0	8.0	8.0	**9.0**

Source: Burleigh County, and RSP

Note: Includes number of students per 100 multi-family units.

Observations:

Table shows the number of students per 100 MHP units by year and by boundary:

- District sees on average:
  - 15 elementary (K-5) students per 100 MHP units
  - 7.3 middle school (6-8) students per 100 MHP units
  - 9.0 high school (9-12) students per 100 MHP units

Adding new housing inventory can impact the yield rate:

- **There were 0 mobile homes built from 2017 to 2025**

Table Legend

- +3 greater from District Average
- -3 fewer from District Average

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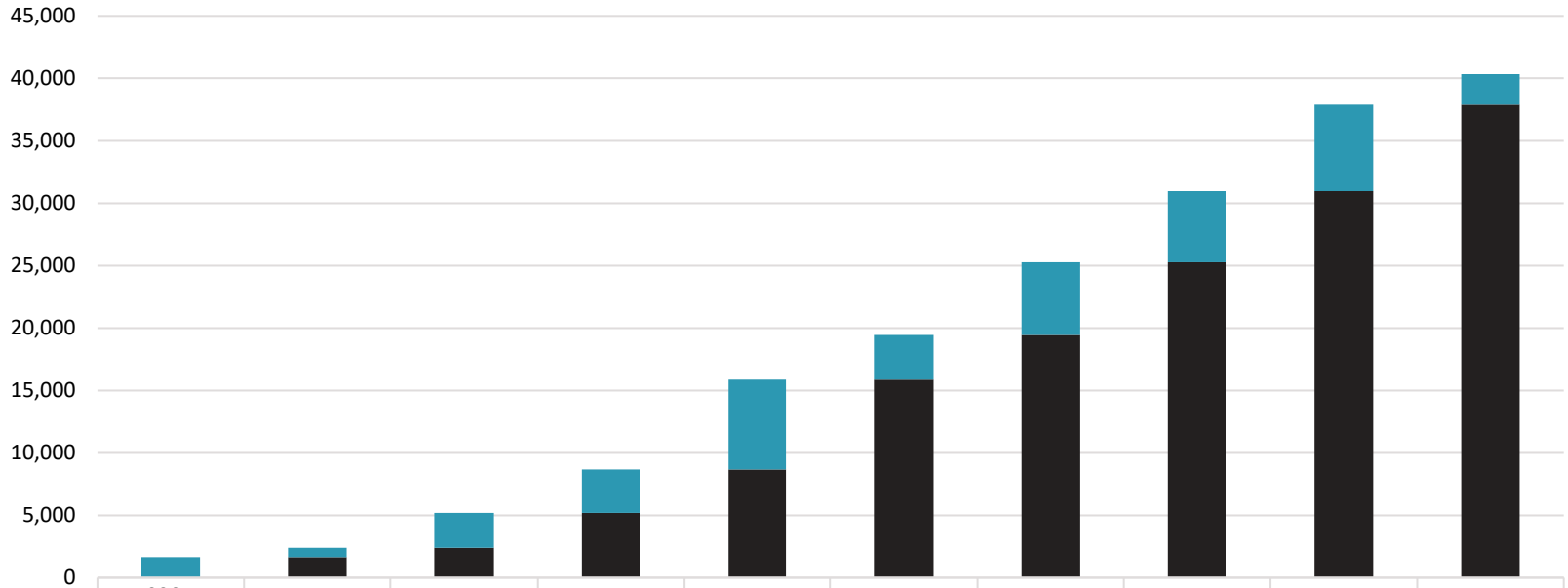
Development Activity Over Time

Observations:

- Table has been created to illustrate the number of units by year built
  - The average year for all units built was 1962
- The decade with the most units built was 1970 to 1979 with over 7,000 units built
- Five years into the current decade, the District has added almost 2,500 units to residential inventory reflecting a slow down of development activity compared to the previous decade
  - Development activity increasing the current pace is crucial for enrollment growth to occur

New V.S. Existing Units by Decade Built



	1939 or Earlier	1940-1949	1950-1959	1960-1969	1970-1979	1980-1989	1990-1999	2000-2009	2010-2019	2020-2025
Number of Units in Time Period	1,652	754	2,780	3,493	7,196	3,565	5,818	5,713	6,924	2,454
Number of Units		1,652	2,406	5,186	8,679	15,875	19,440	25,258	30,971	37,895

Source: Burleigh County and ESRI

■ Number of Units ■ Number of Units in Time Period

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Development Table All

RSP Plan Area Name: Identified Growth Areas	Current Development Type	Timing of Growth	Existing Units	Potential Units	ES Boundary
William Blackstone Addtion	Mixed-Use	Current	0	125	Elk Ridge ES
Eagle Crest - East	Single-Family	Current	86	36	Elk Ridge ES
Eagle Crest - South	Single-Family	Current	36	36	Elk Ridge ES
Eagle Crest - West	Single-Family	Current	47	36	Elk Ridge ES
Elk Ridge (Southeast) - North	Single-Family	Current	13	85	Elk Ridge ES
Elk Ridge Fourth Addition	Single-Family	Current	0	46	Elk Ridge ES
Misty Waters	Single-Family	Current	106	39	Elk Ridge ES
Promontory Point VIII - North	Single-Family	Current	24	46	Elk Ridge ES
Promontory Point VIII - South	Single-Family	Current	1	45	Elk Ridge ES
The Ridge at Hawktree	Single-Family	Current	163	80	Elk Ridge ES
Hay Creek Township Section 9 SE - North	Agriculture	Current	0	40	Liberty ES
Hay Creek Township Section 9 - South	Mixed-Use	Current	139	20	Liberty ES
Boulder Ridge 8th Addition	Single-Family	Current	0	32	Liberty ES
Heritage Ridge	Single-Family	Current	296	91	Liberty ES
Sonnet Heights - Central	Townhome	Current	144	10	Liberty ES
South of Lincoln Meadows	Mixed-Use	Current	1	50	Lincoln ES
Butler Street	Single-Family	Current	71	20	Lincoln ES
Dakota Breeze - South	Single-Family	Current	2	43	Lincoln ES
Dakota Breeze - West	Single-Family	Current	9	88	Lincoln ES
Rusch Addition	Single-Family	Current	4	127	Lincoln ES
Edgewood Village 7th Addition	Mixed-Use	Current	76	150	Miller ES
Clear Sky Dvp	Single-Family	Current	119	60	Murphy ES
71st Ave NE & 66th St NE	Single-Family	Current	51	25	Silver Ranch ES
Circle C Ranch - Central	Single-Family	Current	99	14	Silver Ranch ES
Country Hills	Single-Family	Current	100	39	Silver Ranch ES
Silver Ranch (North)-Phase 2 and 3	Single-Family	Current	59	267	Silver Ranch ES
Silver Ranch (North)-Phase 4	Single-Family	Current	1	140	Silver Ranch ES
Silver Ranch (Southwest)-Single-Family #1	Single-Family	Current	240	80	Silver Ranch ES
Cottonwood Lake Vacant Area - South	Mixed-Use	Current	80	89	Solheim ES
Meadow Village Addition	Mixed-Use	Current	0	218	Solheim ES
Cottonwood Lake Vacant Area - South, MF	Multi-Family	Current	78	120	Solheim ES
Burleigh Avenue Addition	Single-Family	Current	140	26	Solheim ES
Cottonwood Lake 6th Addition - West	Single-Family	Current	97	32	Solheim ES
Paradise Valley	Single-Family	Current	1	206	Solheim ES
Southbay 5th Addition	Single-Family	Current	57	10	Solheim ES
Stonefield Apartments	Multi-Family	Current	180	60	Sunrise ES
Sattlers Sunrise 9th Addition - East	Single-Family	Current	17	24	Sunrise ES
Former Budget Inn	Mixed-Use	Current	75	44	Will Moore ES

Current Growth Area Potential:	2,612	2,699
5-Year Growth Area Potential:	23	2,661
10-Year Growth Area Potential:	70	3,673
Total Growth Area Potential:	**2,705**	**9,033**

Source: City of Bismarck, Burleigh County, and RSP

Elk Ridge - North	Agriculture	5 Year	0	154	Elk Ridge ES
Hay Creek Township Section 13 - NW	Agriculture	5 Year	0	100	Elk Ridge ES
Hay Creek Township Section 7 - N	Agriculture	5 Year	0	200	Elk Ridge ES
William Blackstone Addtion Potential	Agriculture	5 Year	0	20	Elk Ridge ES
Hay Creek Township Section 13 - SW	Rural	5 Year	1	100	Elk Ridge ES
Transition Land North of Country West	Rural	5 Year	8	252	Elk Ridge ES
New 5 Year 1	Single-Family	5 Year	0	18	Elk Ridge ES
Promontory Point VI - North	Single-Family	5 Year	0	39	Elk Ridge ES
Promontory Point VI - Wesst	Single-Family	5 Year	0	39	Elk Ridge ES
Promontory Point VIII - Central	Single-Family	5 Year	1	46	Elk Ridge ES
The Ridge at Hawktree - North	Single-Family	5 Year	0	550	Elk Ridge ES
Hay Creek Township Section 17 North	Rural	5 Year	1	250	Liberty ES
Horizon Heights 5th Addition	Single-Family	5 Year	0	56	Liberty ES
Liberty Addition - 5 Year Dvp	Single-Family	5 Year	0	38	Liberty ES
Dakota Breeze - North	Single-Family	5 Year	0	20	Lincoln ES
Zollers Subdivision - 5 Year Dvp	Rural	5 Year	5	65	Miller ES
Silver Ranch (Southwest)-Single-Family #2	Single-Family	5 Year	0	87	Silver Ranch ES
Silver Ranch Future Dvp	Single-Family	5 Year	0	375	Silver Ranch ES
Lincoln Township Section 21 - South	Rural	5 Year	1	98	Solheim ES
Cottonwood Lake 6th Addition - East	Single-Family	5 Year	0	12	Solheim ES
57th Ave NE & 26th St NE	Rural	5 Year	1	90	Sunrise ES
Gussner Acreage Homes - 5 Year Dvp	Rural	5 Year	5	40	Sunrise ES
Sattlers Sunrise 9th Addition - 5 Year Dvp	Single-Family	5 Year	0	12	Sunrise ES
Hay Creek Township Section 7 - South	Agriculture	10 Year	0	200	Elk Ridge ES
Hay Creek Township Section 9 SE - South	Agriculture	10 Year	0	40	Liberty ES
Hay Creek Township Section 9 - North	Rural	10 Year	1	240	Liberty ES
North of Green Acres Estates	Rural	10 Year	1	166	Liberty ES
Northridge Estates 10 Year Dvp	Rural	10 Year	0	3	Liberty ES
Horizon Heights Future Additions	Single-Family	10 Year	4	7	Liberty ES
North of Wheatland Hills in lincoln	Agriculture	10 Year	0	20	Lincoln ES
Apple Creek Township Section 18 - East	Rural	10 Year	1	35	Lincoln ES
West of Lincoln	Rural	10 Year	1	200	Lincoln ES
Capital Electric Substation - North	Agriculture	10 Year	0	150	Murphy ES
Apple Creek Township Section 5	Rural	10 Year	28	306	Murphy ES
Apple Creek Township Section 6 - East	Rural	10 Year	1	213	Murphy ES
Gibbs Township Section 20	Rural	10 Year	4	500	Silver Ranch ES
Silver Ranch (Southeast)- Multi-Family	Rural	10 Year	1	354	Silver Ranch ES
Lincoln Oakes Nursery	IND	10 Year	0	390	Solheim ES
High Plains Country Estates	Rural	10 Year	16	45	Solheim ES
Lincoln Township Section 21 - North	Rural	10 Year	0	98	Solheim ES
Near Southbay	Rural	10 Year	5	151	Solheim ES
North of Lindteigens Landing	Rural	10 Year	2	200	Solheim ES
South of Southbay	Rural	10 Year	1	73	Solheim ES
West of Sunrise Elementary	Rural	10 Year	3	120	Sunrise ES
Sattlers Sunrise 9th Addition - 10 Year Dvp	Single-Family	10 Year	1	162	Sunrise ES

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Elementary Student Count Change Map

Bismarck School District 1 Student Count Change from 2021/22 to 2025/26 in Grades K-5

Legend

- District Office
- Elementary School
- Middle Schools
- High Schools
- BECEP & South Central High
- District Boundary
- Airport
- Golf Course
- Park
- Other

Elementary Schools
1. Centennial
2. Elk Ridge
3. Grimsrud
4. Highland Acres
5. Liberty
6. Lincoln
7. Miller
8. Moses
9. Murphy
10. Myhre
11. Northridge
12. Pioneer
13. Prairie Rose
14. Roosevelt
15. Silver Ranch
16. Solheim
17. Sunrise
18. Will-Moore

Middle Schools
19. Horizon
20. Simle
21. Wachter

High Schools
22. Bismarck
23. Century
24. Legacy

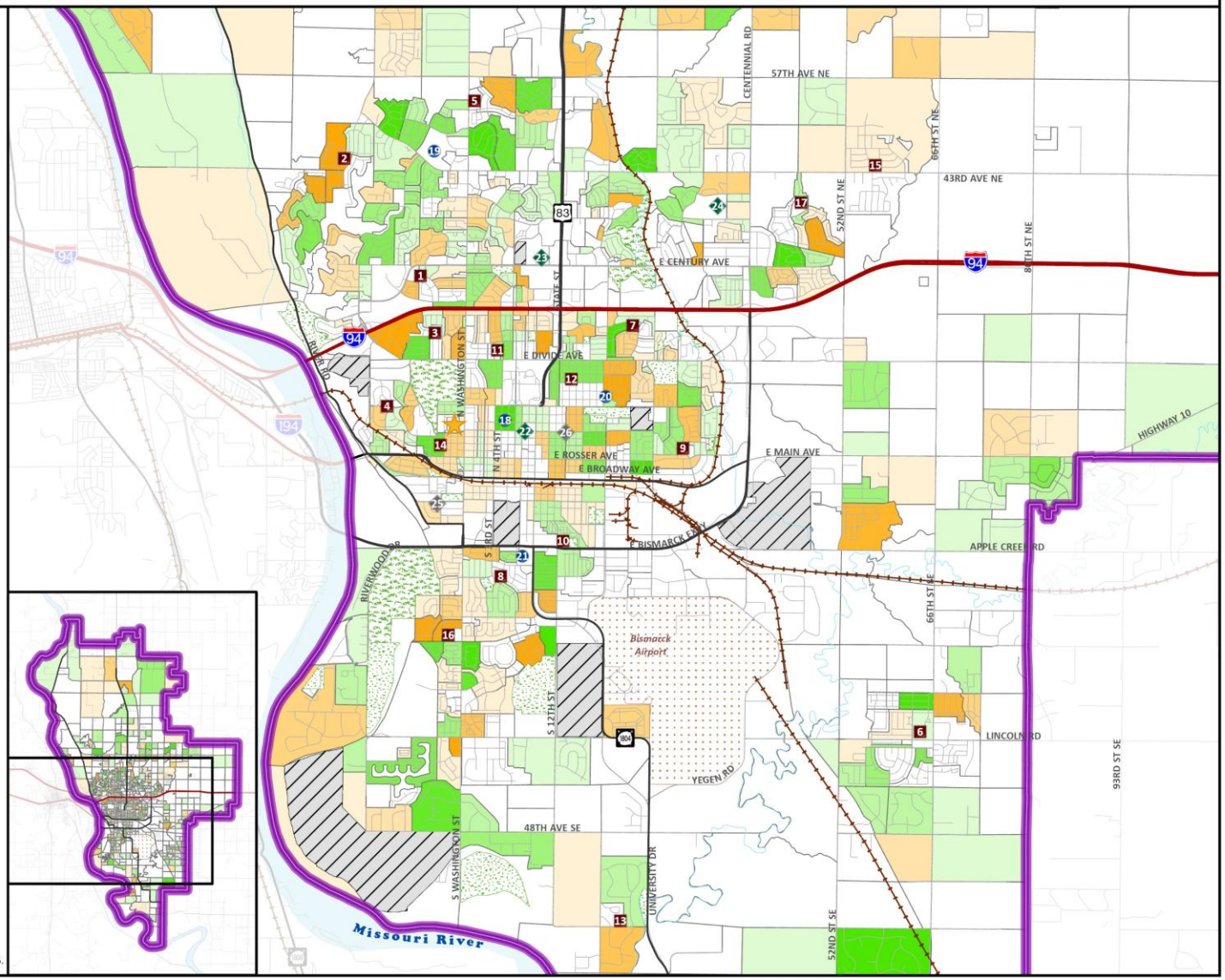
Alternative Schools
25. South Central High
26. BECEP

Decrease in Students — Increase in Students

Count Change is the number of students in 2025/26 subtracted by the number in 2021/22 in each Planning Area.

0 0.5 1 2 Miles

Map data provided by Bismarck Public Schools, City of Bismarck, Burleigh County, US Census Bureau, NDDOT and ESRI. Map updated November 2025.



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Middle Student Count Change Map

Bismarck School District 1 Student Count Change from 2021/22 to 2025/26 in Grades 6-8

Legend

- District Office
- Elementary School
- Middle Schools
- High Schools
- BECEP & South Central High
- District Boundary
- Airport
- Golf Course
- Park
- Other

Elementary Schools
1. Centennial
2. Elk Ridge
3. Grimsrud
4. Highland Acres
5. Liberty
6. Lincoln
7. Miller
8. Moses
9. Murphy
10. Myhre
11. Northridge
12. Pioneer
13. Prairie Rose
14. Roosevelt
15. Silver Ranch
16. Solheim
17. Sunrise
18. Will-Moore

Middle Schools
19. Horizon
20. Simle
21. Wachter

High Schools
22. Bismarck
23. Century
24. Legacy

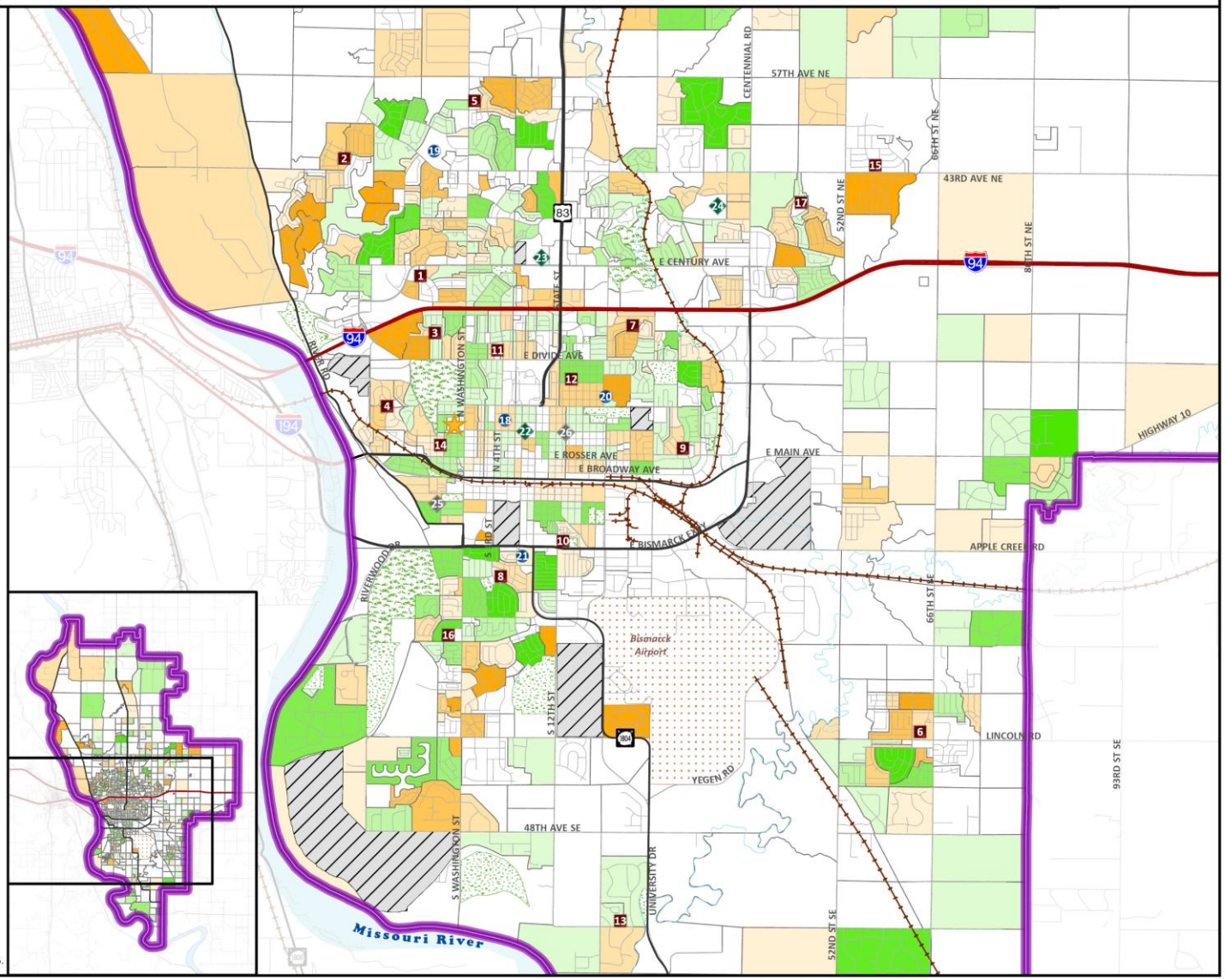
Alternative Schools
25. South Central High
26. BECEP

Decrease in Students — Increase in Students

Count Change is the number of students in 2025/26 subtracted by the number in 2021/22 in each Planning Area.

0 0.5 1 2 Miles

Map data provided by Bismarck Public Schools, City of Bismarck, Burleigh County, US Census Bureau, NDDOT and ESRI. Map updated November 2025.



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High School Student Count Change Map

Bismarck School District 1 Student Count Change from 2021/22 to 2025/26 in Grades 9-12

Legend

- District Office
- Elementary School
- Middle Schools
- High Schools
- BECEP & South Central High
- District Boundary
- Airport
- Golf Course
- Park
- Other

Elementary Schools
1. Centennial
2. Elk Ridge
3. Grimsrud
4. Highland Acres
5. Liberty
6. Lincoln
7. Miller
8. Moses
9. Murphy
10. Myhre
11. Northridge
12. Pioneer
13. Prairie Rose
14. Roosevelt
15. Silver Ranch
16. Solheim
17. Sunrise
18. Will-Moore

Middle Schools
19. Horizon
20. Simle
21. Wachter

High Schools
22. Bismarck
23. Century
24. Legacy

Alternative Schools
25. South Central High
26. BECEP

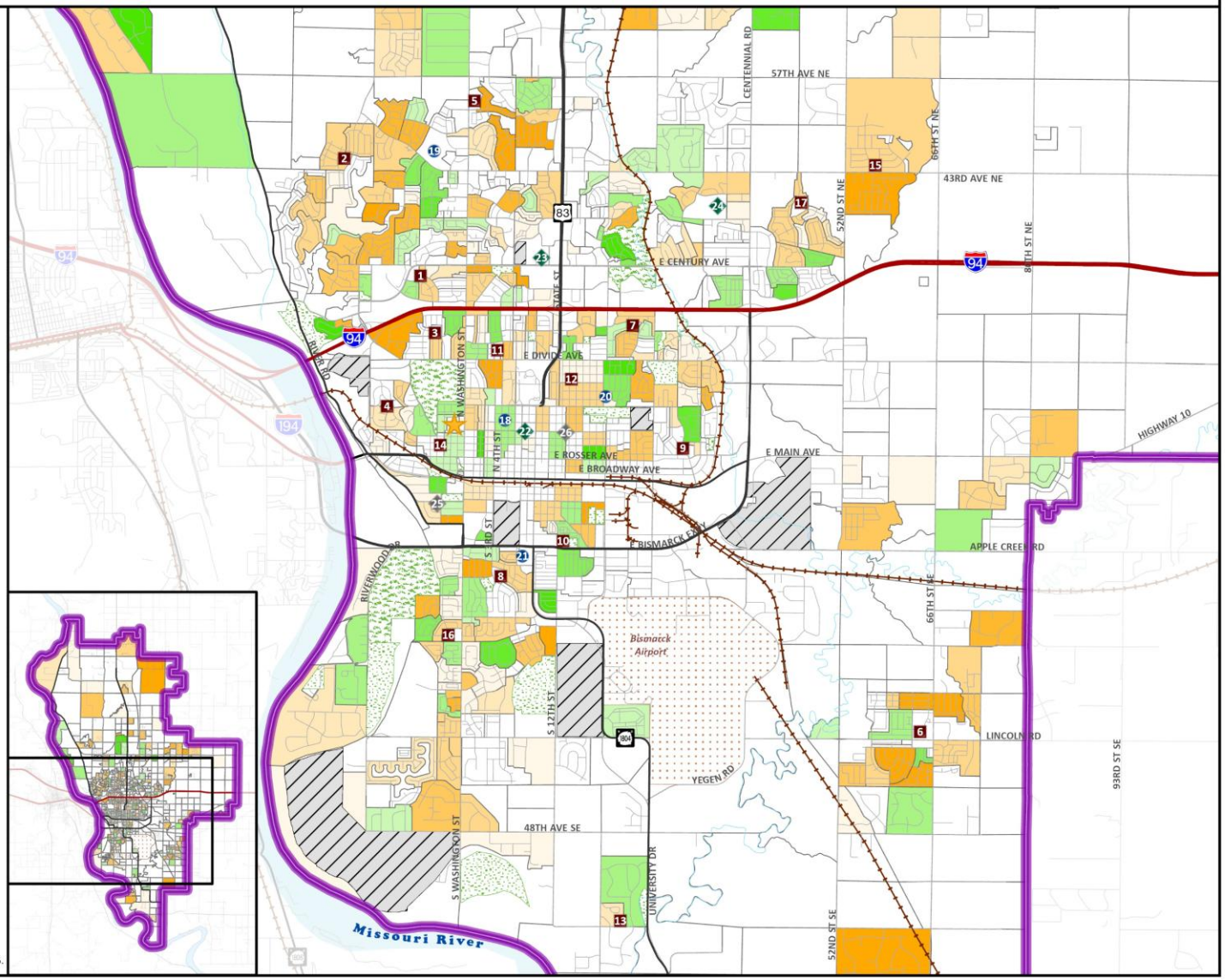
Decrease in Students — Increase in Students

Count Change is the number of students in 2025/26 subtracted by the number in 2021/22 in each Planning Area.

0 0.5 1 2 Miles

RSP

Map data provided by Bismarck Public Schools, City of Bismarck, Burleigh County, US Census Bureau, NDDOT and ESRI. Map updated November 2025.



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Elementary Student Heat Density Map

Bismarck School District 1 Student "Heat" Density in 2025/26 in Grades K-5

Legend

- District Office
- Elementary School
- Middle Schools
- High Schools
- BECEP & South Central High
- District Boundary
- Airport
- Golf Course
- Park
- Other

Elementary Schools
1. Centennial
2. Elk Ridge
3. Grimsrud
4. Highland Acres
5. Liberty
6. Lincoln
7. Miller
8. Moses
9. Murphy
10. Myhre
11. Northridge
12. Pioneer
13. Prairie Rose
14. Roosevelt
15. Silver Ranch
16. Solheim
17. Sunrise
18. Will-Moore

Middle Schools
19. Horizon
20. Simle
21. Wachter

High Schools
22. Bismarck
23. Century
24. Legacy

Alternative Schools
25. South Central High
26. BECEP

Student Density

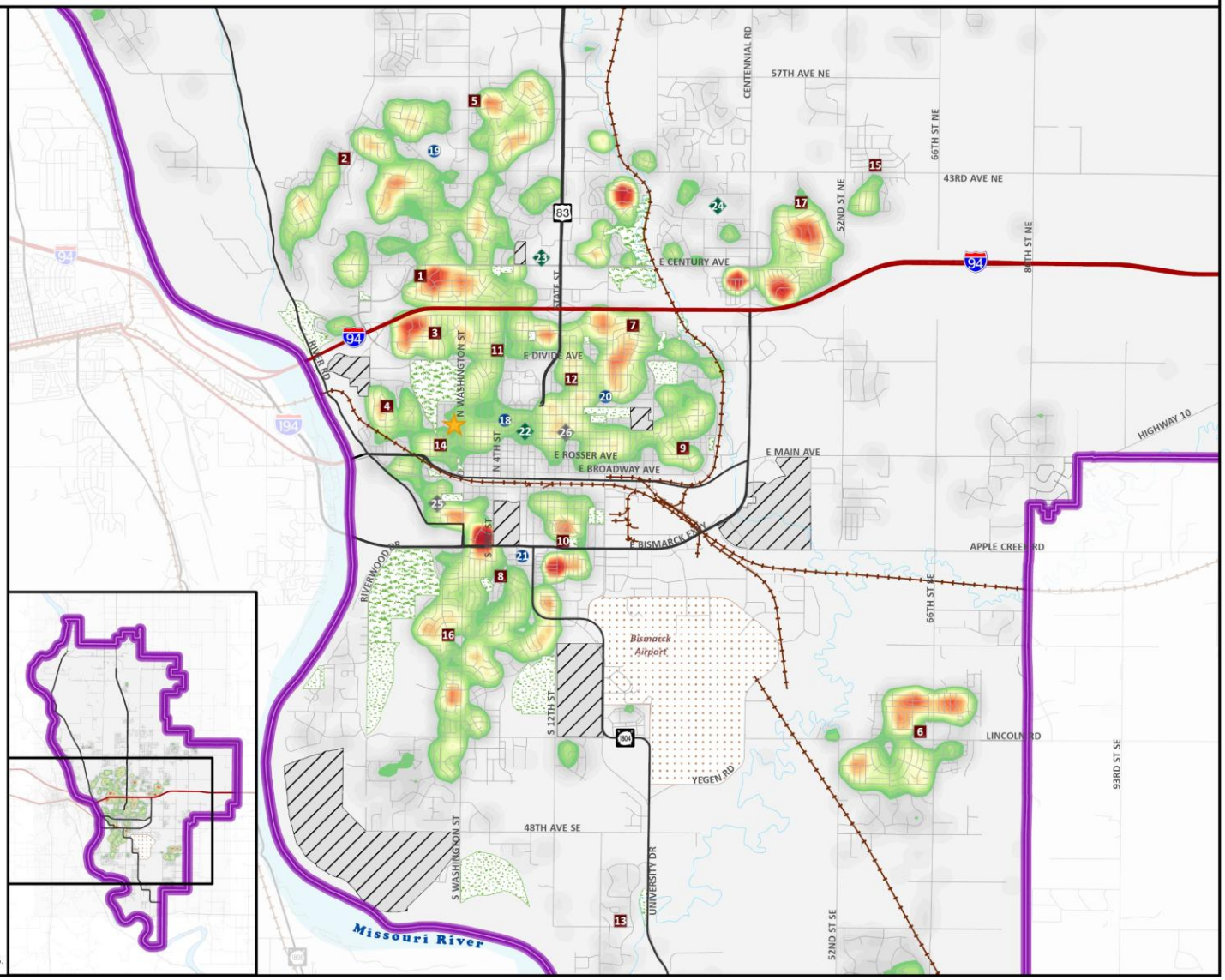
Low Density

High Density

Student "Heat" is determined by calculating the number of students that are clustered within close proximity of one another. Overlapping of points (2 or more students residing at the same address) are handled using a weighting of coincident points. This weighted data is calculated by relational distance, which helps to visually depict the areas of high student clustering.

0 0.5 1 2 Miles

Map data provided by Bismarck Public Schools, City of Bismarck, Burleigh County, US Census Bureau, NDDOT and ESRI. Map updated November 2025.



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Middle Student Heat Density Map

Bismarck School District 1 Student "Heat" Density in 2025/26 in Grades 6-8

Legend

- District Office
- Elementary School
- Middle Schools
- High Schools
- BECEP & South Central High
- District Boundary
- Airport
- Golf Course
- Park
- Other

Elementary Schools
1. Centennial
2. Elk Ridge
3. Grimsrud
4. Highland Acres
5. Liberty
6. Lincoln
7. Miller
8. Moses
9. Murphy
10. Myhre
11. Northridge
12. Pioneer
13. Prairie Rose
14. Roosevelt
15. Silver Ranch
16. Solheim
17. Sunrise
18. Will-Moore

Middle Schools
19. Horizon
20. Simle
21. Wachter

High Schools
22. Bismarck
23. Century
24. Legacy

Alternative Schools
25. South Central High
26. BECEP

Student Density

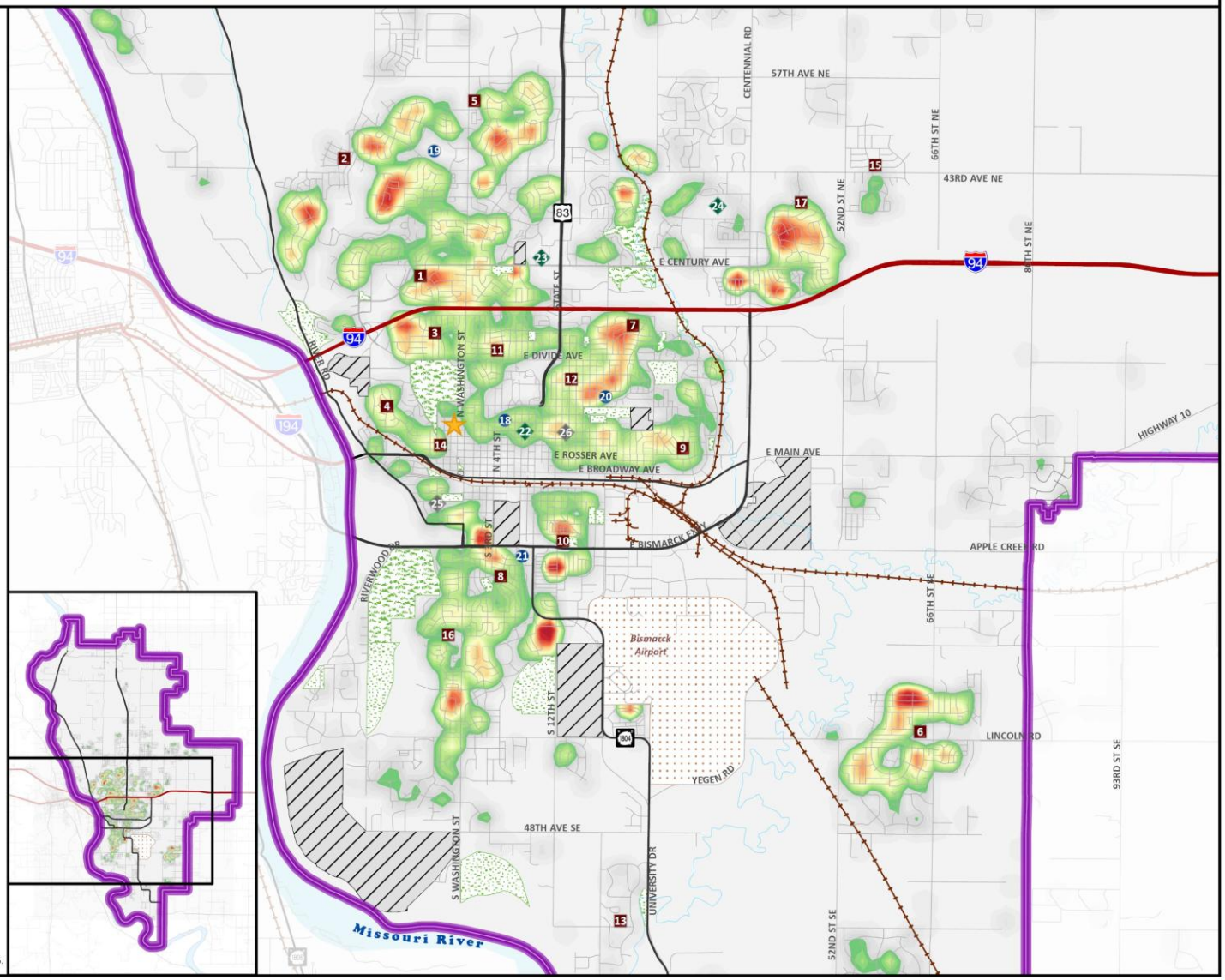
Low Density

High Density

Student "Heat" is determined by calculating the number of students that are clustered within close proximity of one another. Overlapping of points (2 or more students residing at the same address) are handled using a weighting of coincident points. This weighted data is calculated by relational distance, which helps to visually depict the areas of high student clustering.

0 0.5 1 2 Miles

Map data provided by Bismarck Public Schools, City of Bismarck, Burleigh County, US Census Bureau, NDDOT and ESRI. Map updated November 2025.



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High School Student Heat Density Map

Bismarck School District 1 Student "Heat" Density in 2025/26 in Grades 9-12

Legend

- District Office
- Elementary School
- Middle Schools
- High Schools
- BECEP & South Central High
- District Boundary
- Airport
- Golf Course
- Park
- Other

Elementary Schools

1. Centennial
2. Elk Ridge
3. Grimsrud
4. Highland Acres
5. Liberty
6. Lincoln
7. Miller
8. Moses
9. Murphy
10. Myhre
11. Northridge
12. Pioneer
13. Prairie Rose
14. Roosevelt
15. Silver Ranch
16. Solheim
17. Sunrise
18. Will-Moore

Middle Schools

19. Horizon
20. Simle
21. Wachter

High Schools

22. Bismarck
23. Century
24. Legacy

Alternative Schools

25. South Central High
26. BECEP

Student Density

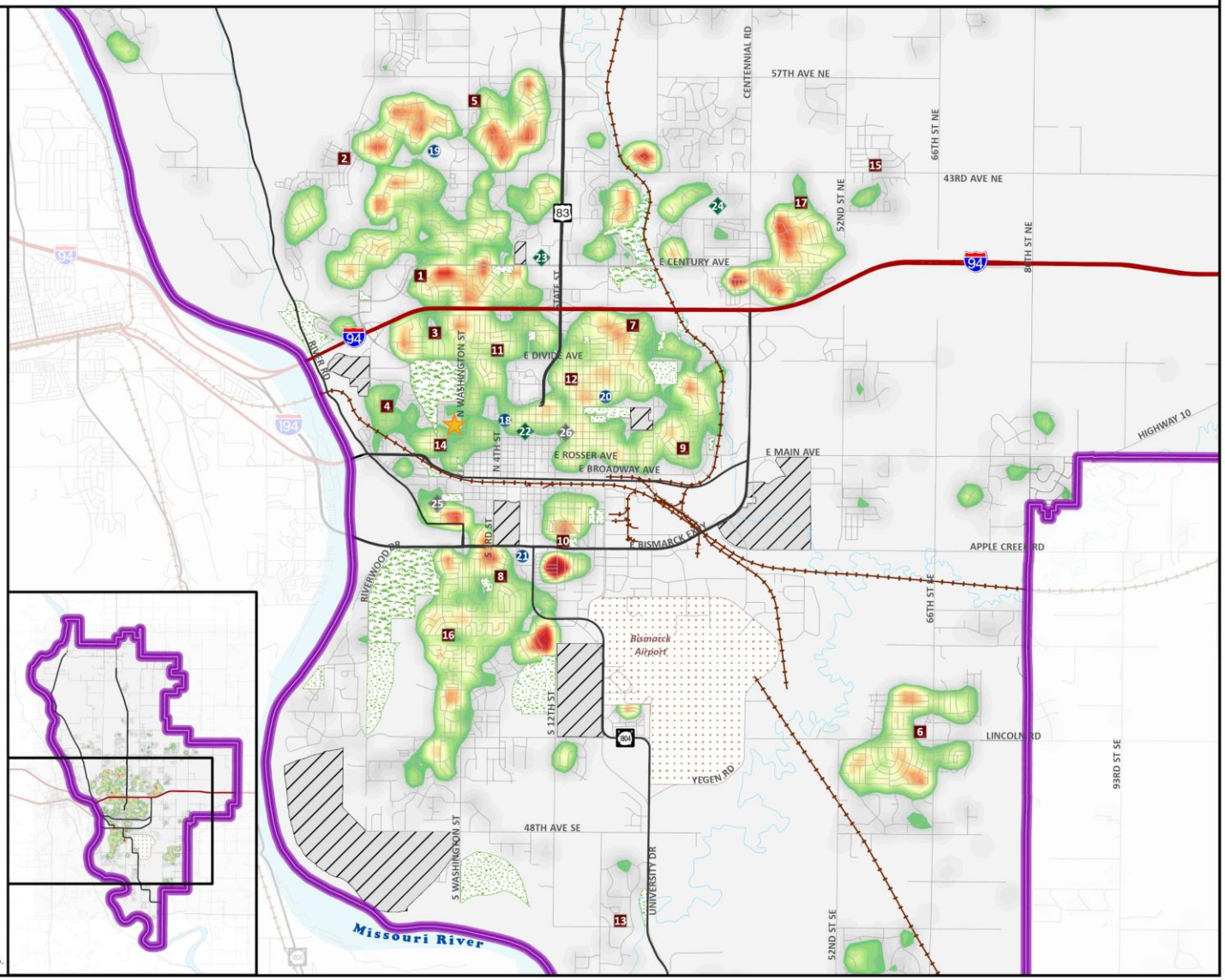
Low Density

High Density

Student "Heat" is determined by calculating the number of students that are clustered within close proximity of one another. Overlapping of points (2 or more students residing at the same address) are handled using a weighting of coincident points. This weighted data is calculated by relational distance, which helps to visually depict the areas of high student clustering.

0 0.5 1 2 Miles

Map data provided by Bismarck Public Schools, City of Bismarck, Burleigh County, US Census Bureau, NDDOT and ESRI. Map updated November 2025.



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Student Density Change Map

Bismarck School District 1 Student Density Change from 2021/22 to 2025/26 in Grades K-12

Legend

- District Office
- Elementary School
- Middle Schools
- High Schools
- BECEP & South Central High
- District Boundary
- Airport
- Golf Course
- Park
- Other

Elementary Schools
1. Centennial
2. Elk Ridge
3. Grimsrud
4. Highland Acres
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6. Lincoln
7. Miller
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9. Murphy
10. Myhre
11. Northridge
12. Pioneer
13. Prairie Rose
14. Roosevelt
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16. Solheim
17. Sunrise
18. Will-Moore

Middle Schools
19. Horizon
20. Simle
21. Wachter

High Schools
22. Bismarck
23. Century
24. Legacy

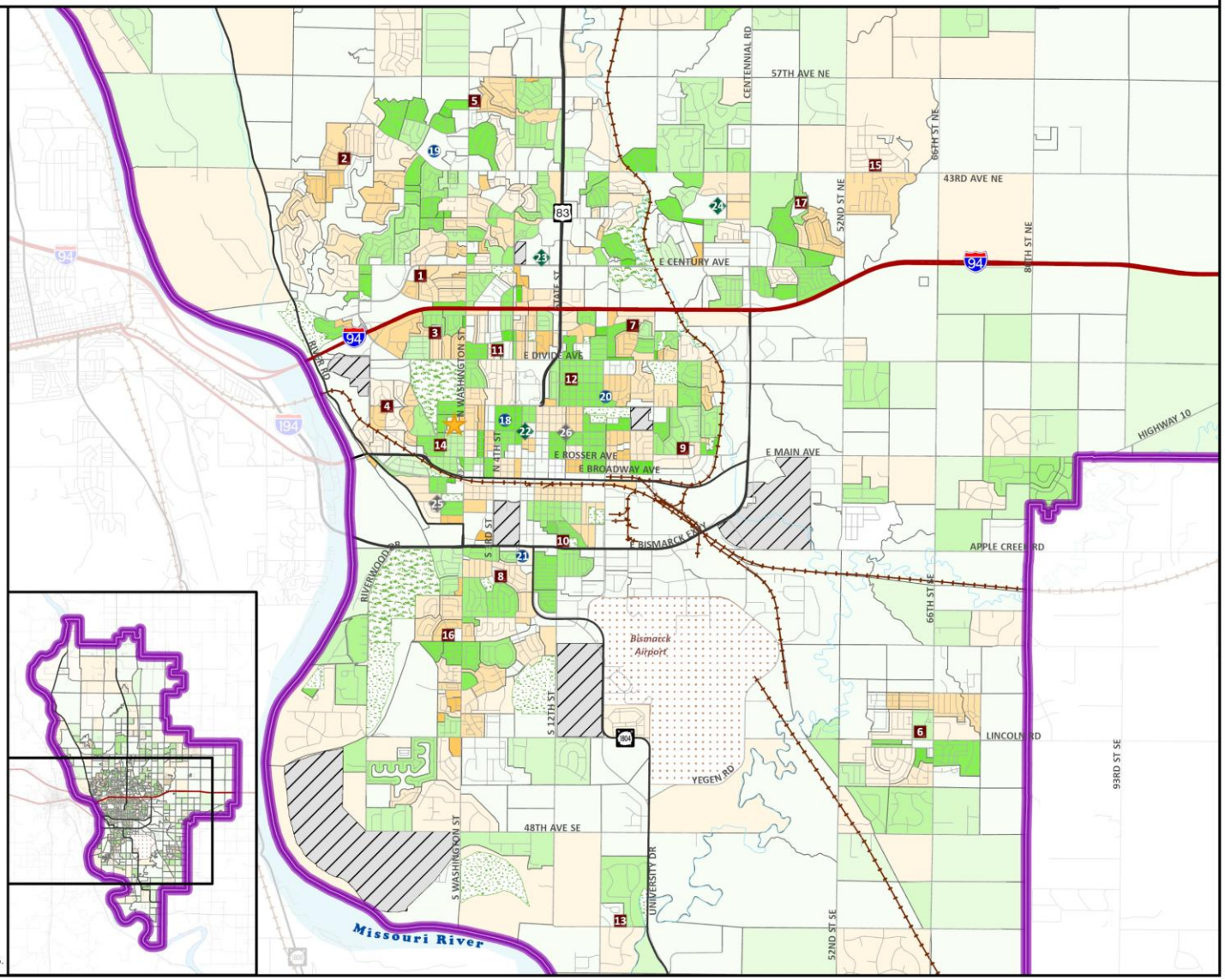
Alternative Schools
25. South Central High
26. BECEP

Decrease in Students — Increase in Students

Density Change is the number of students within each Planning Area in 2025/26 subtracted by the number in 2021/22 represented per square mile.

0 0.5 1 2 Miles

Map data provided by Bismarck Public Schools, City of Bismarck, Burleigh County, US Census Bureau, NDDOT and ESRI. Map updated November 2025.



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2021/22 Student Density Map

Bismarck School District 1 2021/22 Student Density in Grades K-12

Legend

- District Office
- Elementary School
- Middle Schools
- High Schools
- BECEP & South Central High
- District Boundary
- Airport
- Golf Course
- Park
- Other

Elementary Schools
1. Centennial
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14. Roosevelt
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17. Sunrise
18. Will-Moore

Middle Schools
19. Horizon
20. Simle
21. Wachter

High Schools
22. Bismarck
23. Century
24. Legacy

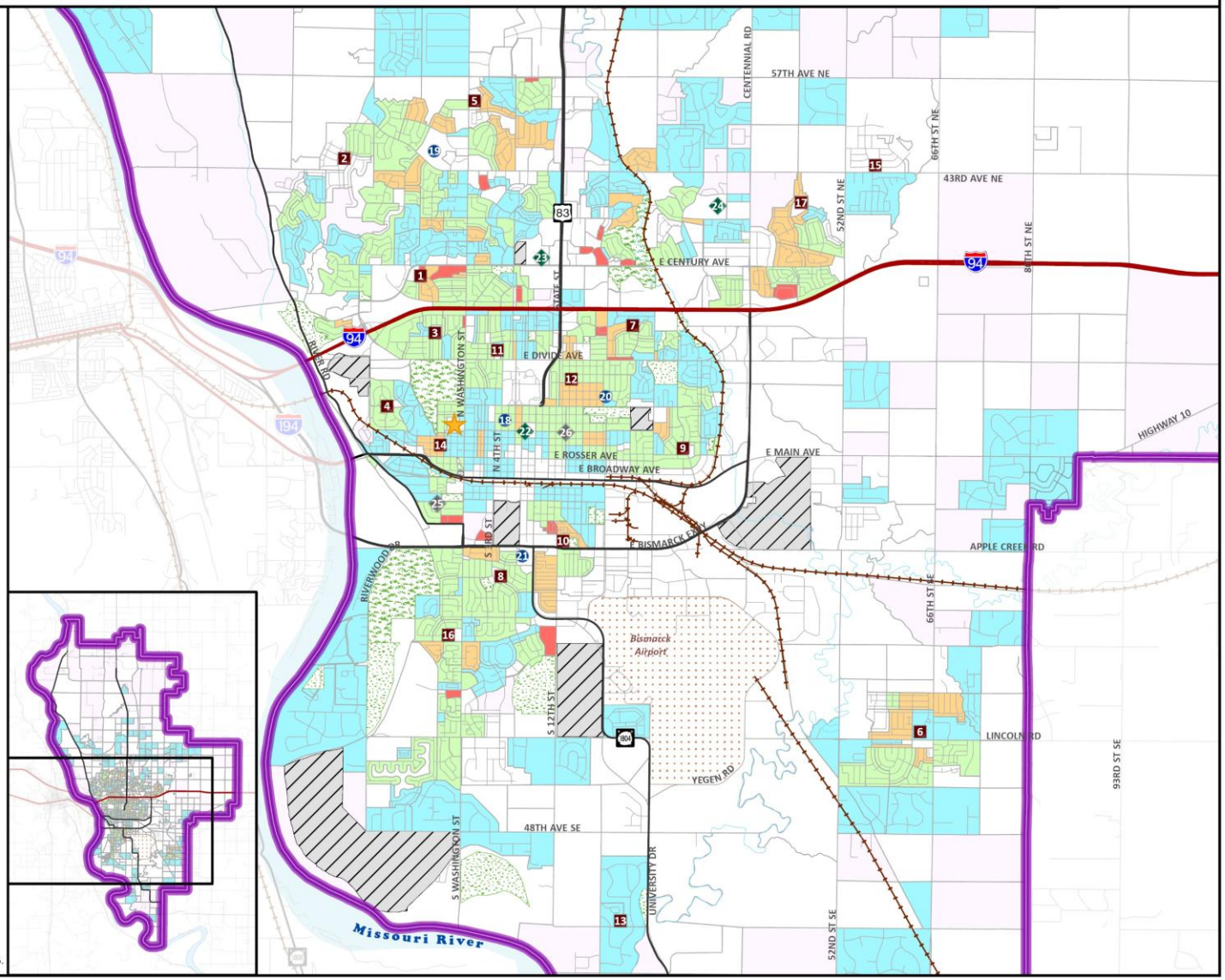
Alternative Schools
25. South Central High
26. BECEP

Student Density
- 0
- 0 To 25
- 25 To 500
- 500 To 1000
- 1000 To 1750
- >1750

Student Density is the number of students per square mile within each Planning Area.

0 0.5 1 2 Miles

Map data provided by Bismarck Public Schools, City of Bismarck, Burleigh County, US Census Bureau, NDDOT and ESRI. Map updated November 2025.



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2025/26 Student Density Map

Bismarck School District 1 2025/26 Student Density in Grades K-12

Legend

- District Office
- Elementary School
- Middle Schools
- High Schools
- BECEP & South Central High
- District Boundary
- Airport
- Golf Course
- Park
- Other

Elementary Schools
1. Centennial
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14. Roosevelt
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17. Sunrise
18. Will-Moore

Middle Schools
19. Horizon
20. Simle
21. Wachter

High Schools
22. Bismarck
23. Century
24. Legacy

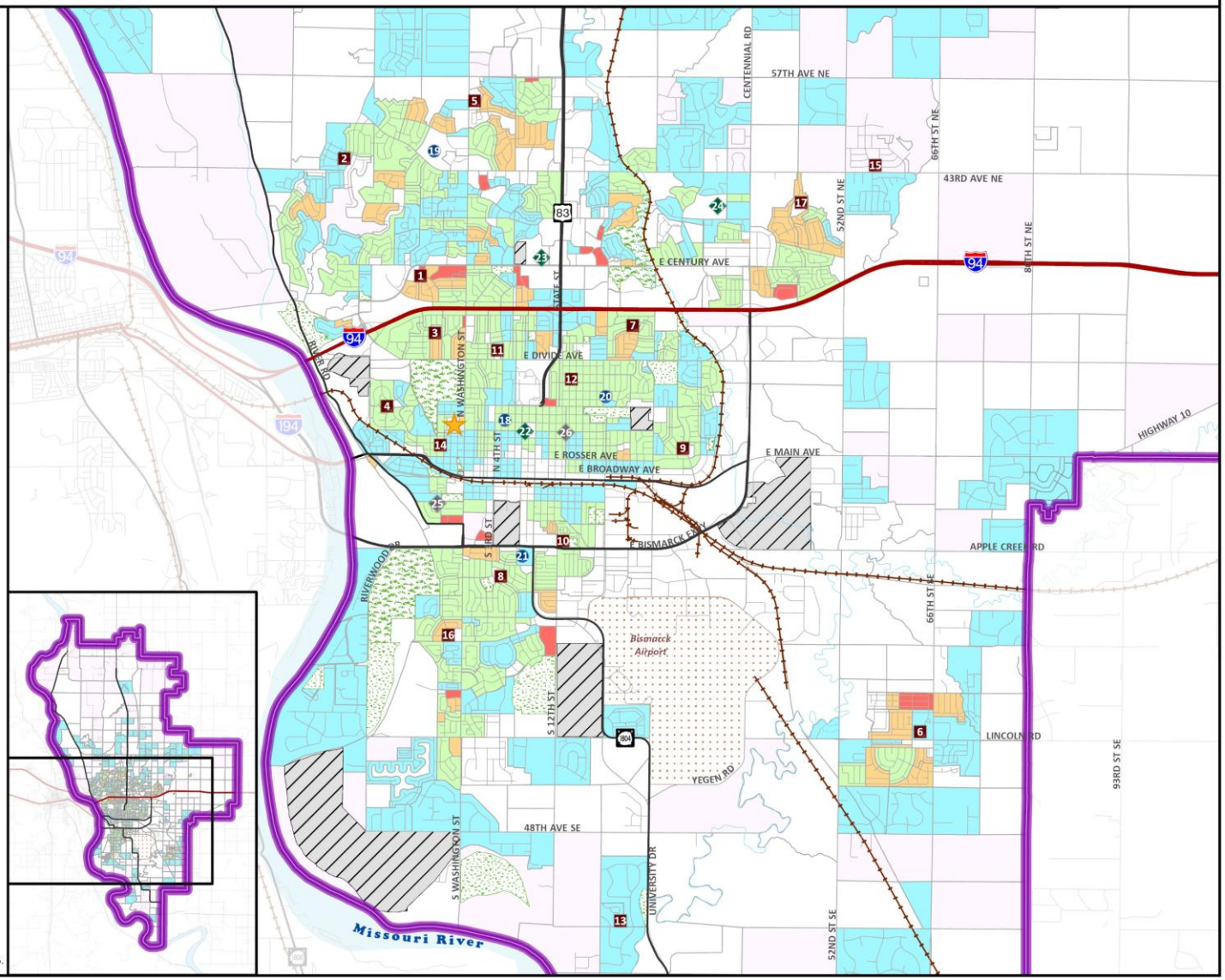
Alternative Schools
25. South Central High
26. BECEP

Student Density
- 0
- 0 To 25
- 25 To 500
- 500 To 1000
- 1000 To 1750
- >1750

Student Density is the number of students per square mile within each Planning Area.

0 0.5 1 2 Miles

Map data provided by Bismarck Public Schools, City of Bismarck, Burleigh County, US Census Bureau, NDDOT and ESRI. Map updated November 2025.



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5-Year Average Kindergarten Count Map

Bismarck School District 1 2021/22 to 2025/26 Kindergarten Count

Legend

- District Office
- Elementary School
- Middle Schools
- High Schools
- BECEP & South Central High
- District Boundary
- Airport
- Golf Course
- Park
- Other

Elementary Schools
1. Centennial
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16. Solheim
17. Sunrise
18. Will-Moore

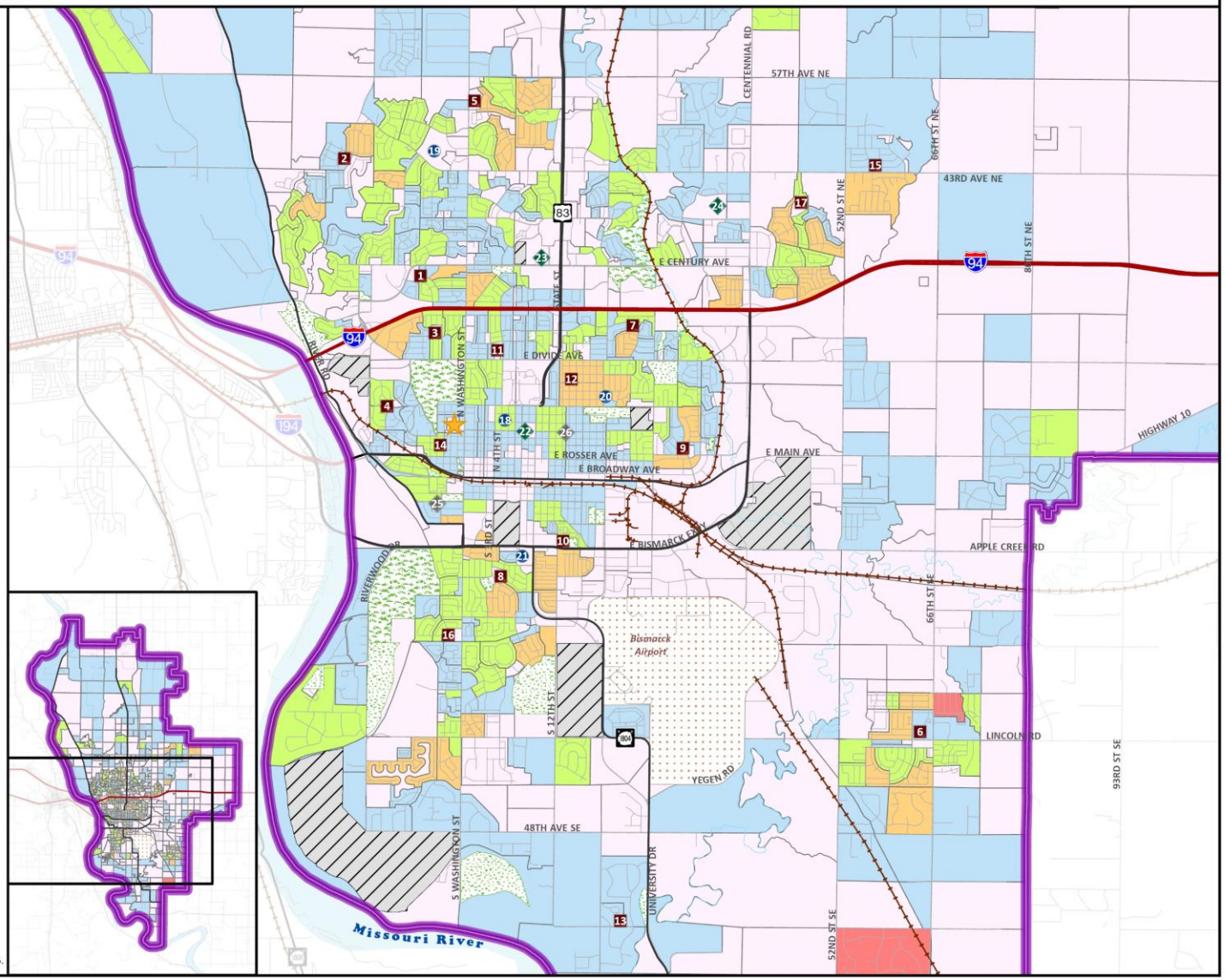
Middle Schools
19. Horizon
20. Simle
21. Wachter

High Schools
22. Bismarck
23. Century
24. Legacy

Alternative Schools
25. South Central High
26. BECEP

Number of K Students
- 0
- 1 to 2
- 3 to 5
- 5 to 10
- > 10

Kindergarten Count is the average number of total K students within each Planning Area in a five year period.



0 0.5 1 2 Miles

Map data provided by Bismarck Public Schools, City of Bismarck, Burleigh County, US Census Bureau, NDDOT and ESRI. Map updated November 2025.

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Student Yield Rate Analysis Map

Bismarck School District 1 Yield Rate

Legend

- District Office
- Elementary School
- Middle Schools
- High Schools
- BECEP & South Central High
- District Boundary
- Airport
- Golf Course
- Park
- Other

Elementary Schools
1. Centennial
2. Elk Ridge
3. Grimsrud
4. Highland Acres
5. Liberty
6. Lincoln
7. Miller
8. Moses
9. Murphy
10. Myhre
11. Northridge
12. Pioneer
13. Prairie Rose
14. Roosevelt
15. Silver Ranch
16. Solheim
17. Sunrise
18. Will-Moore

Middle Schools
19. Horizon
20. Simle
21. Wachter

High Schools
22. Bismarck
23. Century
24. Legacy

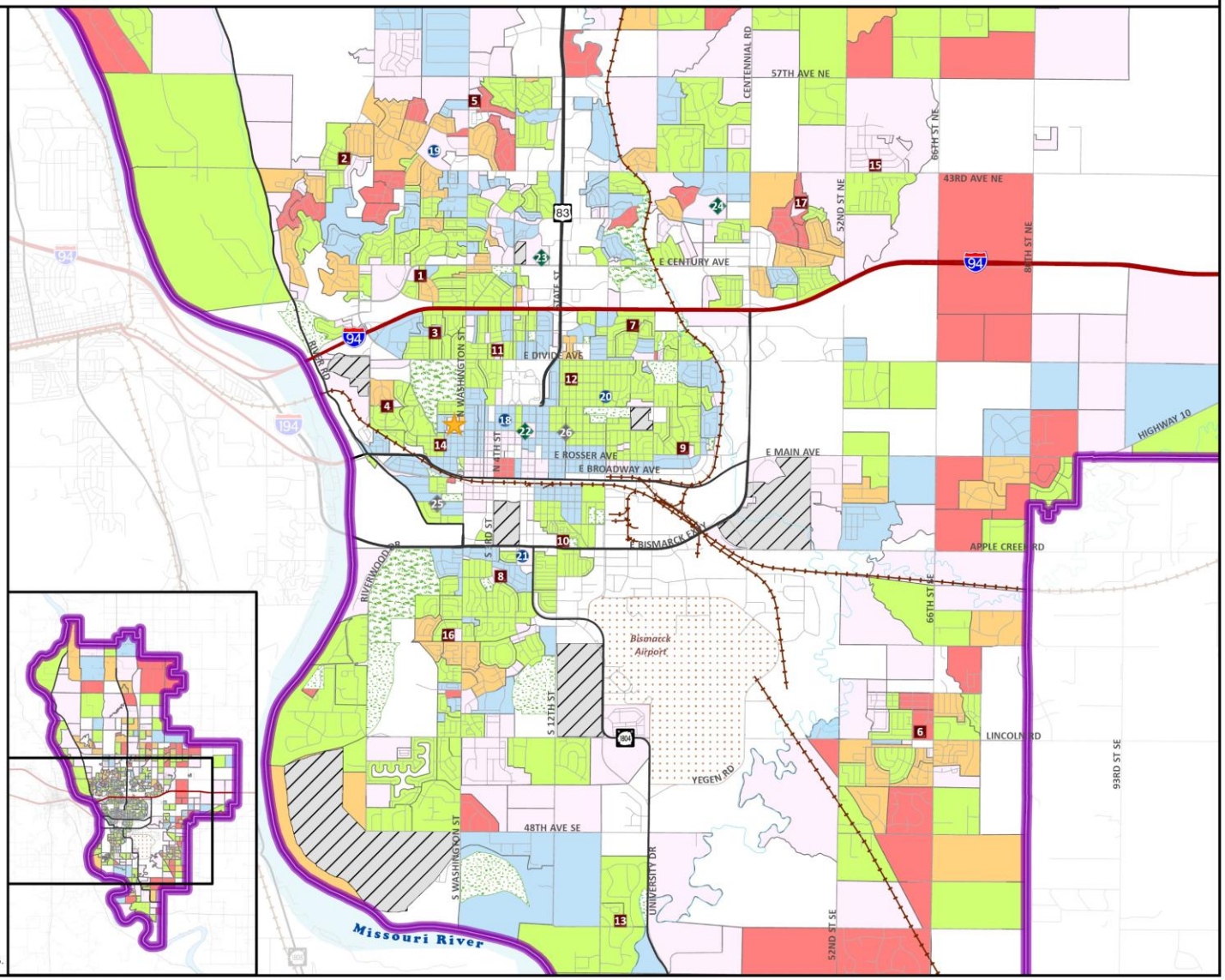
Alternative Schools
25. South Central High
26. BECEP

Yield Rate
- < 10
- 11 to 25
- 26 to 50
- 51 to 75
- > 75

Year built data is provided by Burleigh County Assessor's Office. Yield Rate displayed by planning area. Yield Rate describes the number of K-12 students for every 100 units.

0 0.5 1 2 Miles

Map data provided by Bismarck Public Schools, City of Bismarck, Burleigh County, US Census Bureau, NDDOT and ESRI. Map updated November 2025.



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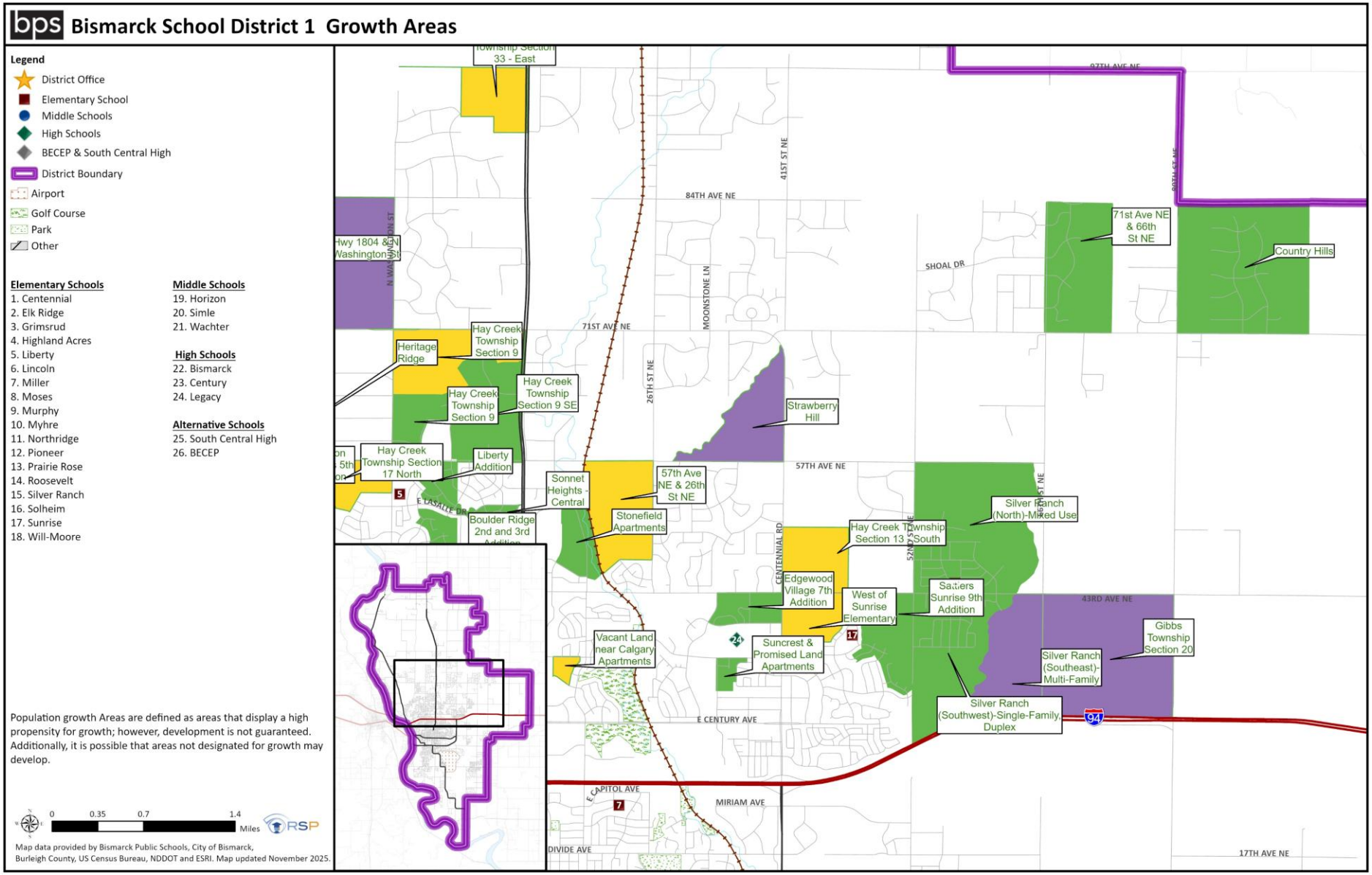
Northeast Growth Area Map (Detailed)



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Northwest Growth Area Map (Detailed)

Bismarck School District 1 Growth Areas

Legend

- District Office
- Elementary School
- Middle Schools
- High Schools
- BECEP & South Central High
- District Boundary
- Airport
- Golf Course
- Park
- Other

Elementary Schools
1. Centennial
2. Elk Ridge
3. Grimsrud
4. Highland Acres
5. Liberty
6. Lincoln
7. Miller
8. Moses
9. Murphy
10. Myhre
11. Northridge
12. Pioneer
13. Prairie Rose
14. Roosevelt
15. Silver Ranch
16. Solheim
17. Sunrise
18. Will-Moore

Middle Schools
19. Horizon
20. Simle
21. Wachter

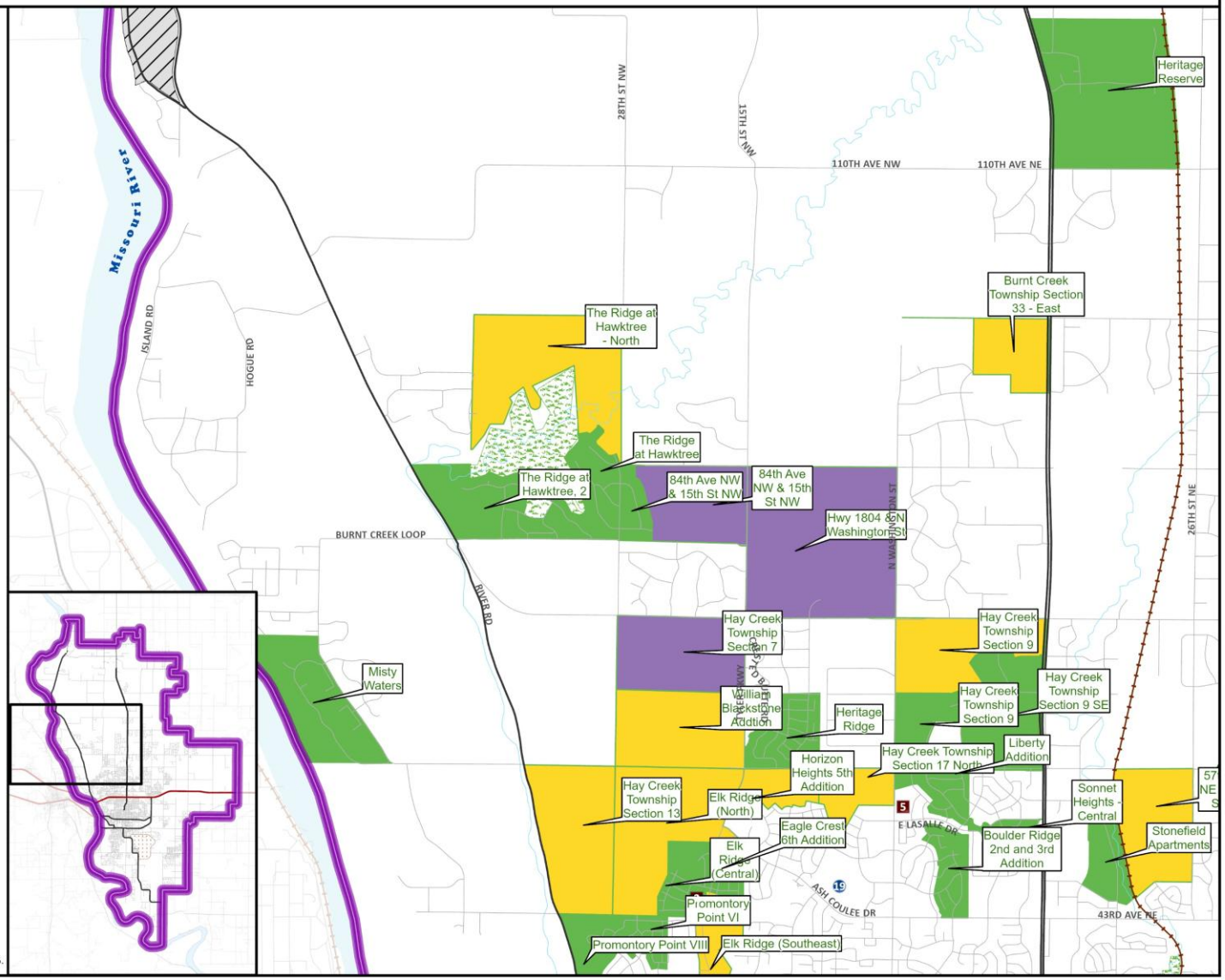
High Schools
22. Bismarck
23. Century
24. Legacy

Alternative Schools
25. South Central High
26. BECEP

Population growth Areas are defined as areas that display a high propensity for growth; however, development is not guaranteed. Additionally, it is possible that areas not designated for growth may develop.

0 0.38 0.75 1.5 Miles

Map data provided by Bismarck Public Schools, City of Bismarck, Burleigh County, US Census Bureau, NDDOT and ESRI. Map updated November 2025.



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Southeast Growth Area Map (Detailed)

Bismarck School District 1 Growth Areas

Legend

- District Office
- Elementary School
- Middle Schools
- High Schools
- BECEP & South Central High
- District Boundary
- Airport
- Golf Course
- Park
- Other

Elementary Schools
1. Centennial
2. Elk Ridge
3. Grimsrud
4. Highland Acres
5. Liberty
6. Lincoln
7. Miller
8. Moses
9. Murphy
10. Myhre
11. Northridge
12. Pioneer
13. Prairie Rose
14. Roosevelt
15. Silver Ranch
16. Solheim
17. Sunrise
18. Will-Moore

Middle Schools
19. Horizon
20. Simle
21. Wachter

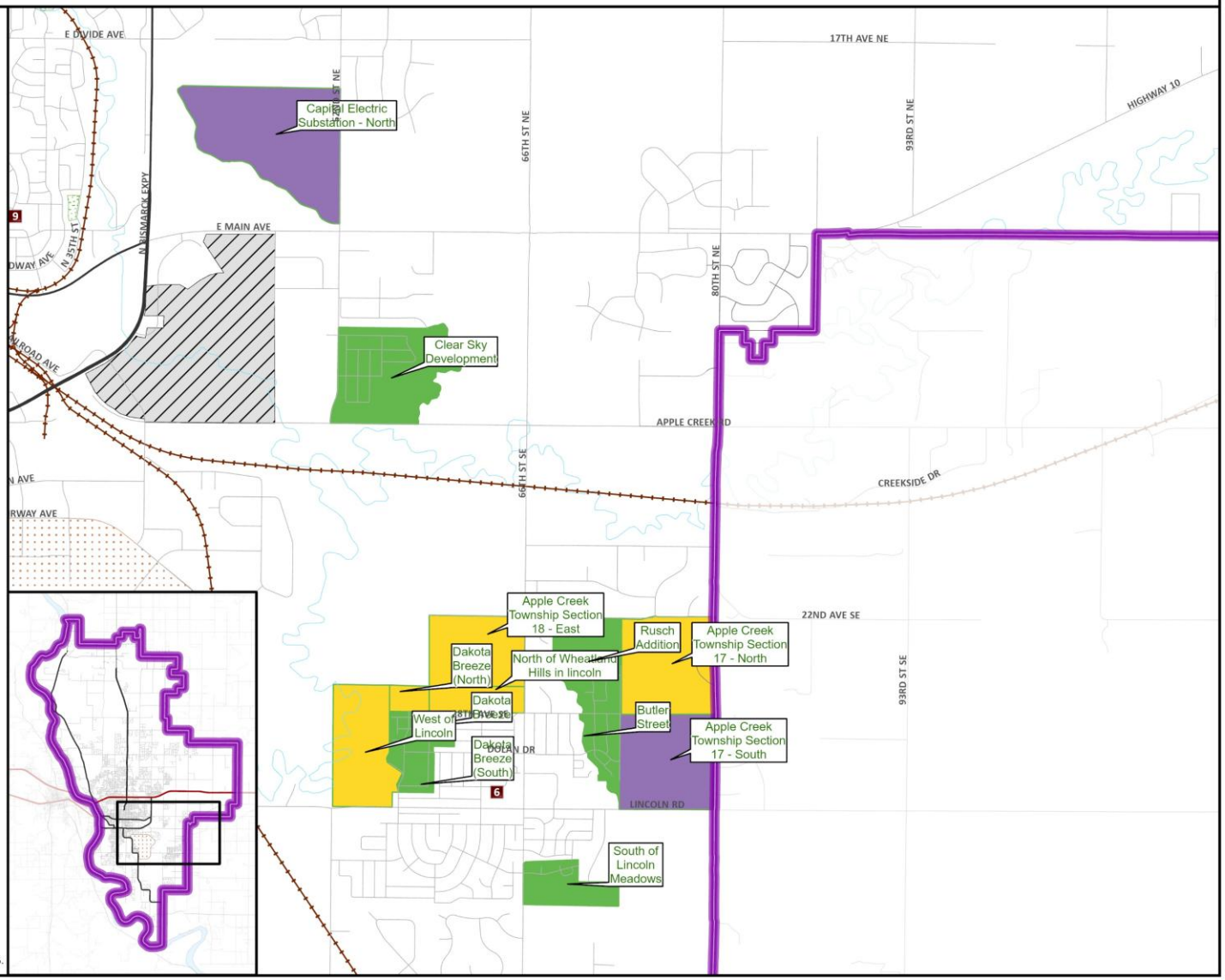
High Schools
22. Bismarck
23. Century
24. Legacy

Alternative Schools
25. South Central High
26. BECEP

Population growth Areas are defined as areas that display a high propensity for growth; however, development is not guaranteed. Additionally, it is possible that areas not designated for growth may develop.

0 0.28 0.55 1.1 Miles

Map data provided by Bismarck Public Schools, City of Bismarck, Burleigh County, US Census Bureau, NDDOT and ESRI. Map updated November 2025.



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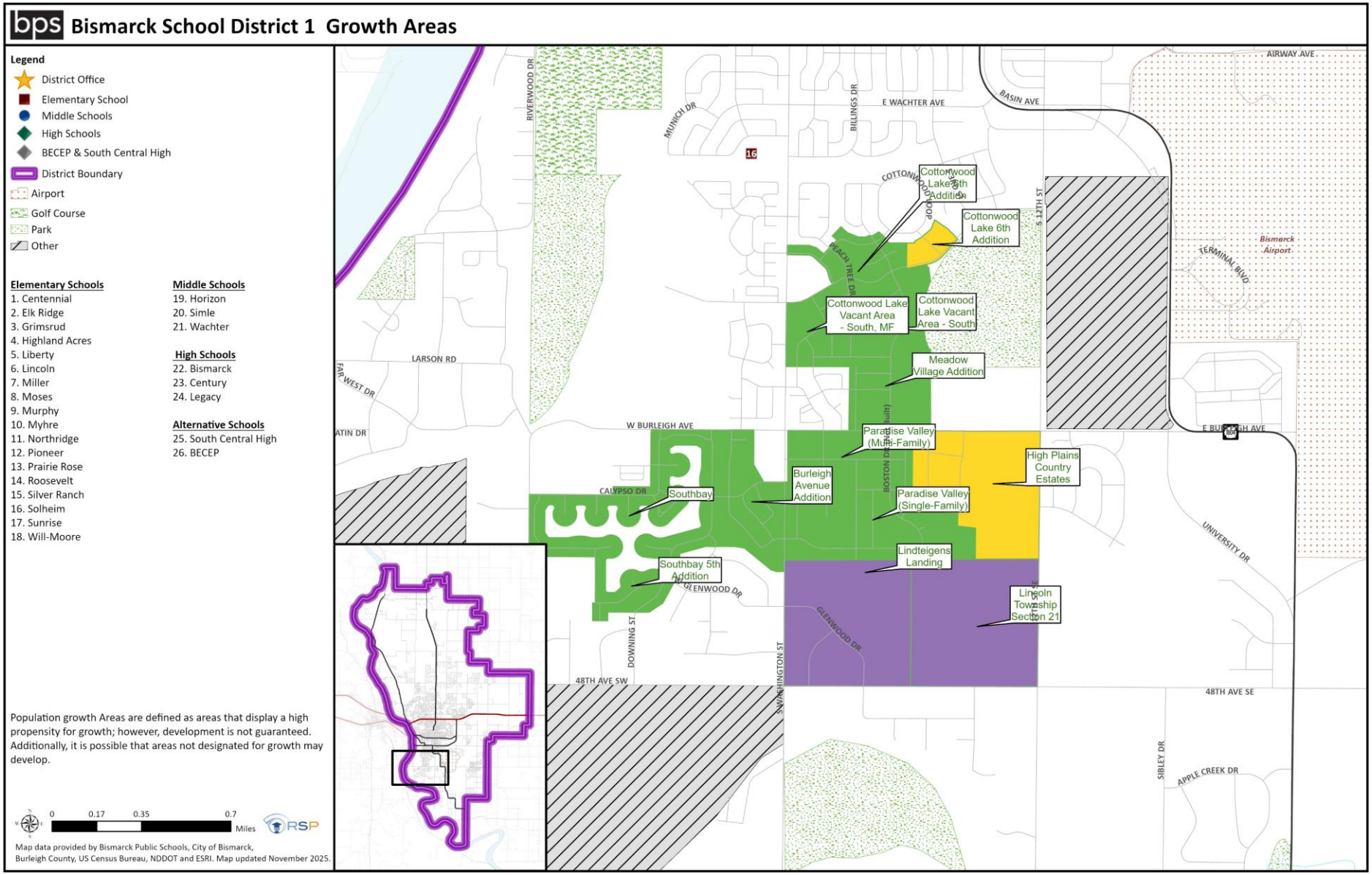
Southwest Growth Area Map (Detailed)



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Key Definitions

- Cohort: a group of individuals having a statistical factor (such as grade level) in common in a demographic study
- In-Migration: shows number of students in grade 1st to 12th that are attending the district in the current year, but were not attending the district in the previous year
- Home Value Bar Chart: Percent of total homes by range of home value
- Housing Affordability Index: Measures affordability using an index to quantify the ability of a typical household to purchase an existing home in an area.
- Household Income Bar Chart: Percent of households by range of household income
- Median Home Value: equal to the middle point of all reported home values from the assessor's office in the district
- Median Year Built: equal to the middle point of all reported years when each dwelling unit was built based on information from the local assessor's office
- Mixed-use development (MU): development that blends two or more residential, commercial, cultural, institutional, and/or industrial uses
- Mobile Home Park: movable dwelling, 8 feet or more wide and 40 feet or more long, designed to be towed on its own chassis, with transportation gear integral to the unit when it leaves the factory, and without need of a permanent foundation.
- Mortgage as % Salary: Number of households by what percent salary goes to mortgage experiences
- Multi-family (MF): a classification of housing where multiple separate housing units for residential inhabitants are contained within one building or several buildings within one complex
- Single-family (SF): a house that is may be fully detached or semi-detached occupied by one household or family
- Town Homes (TH): Side by side housing units that do not meet the definition of single-family houses
- Out-Migration: shows number of students in grade Kindergarten to 11th that are attending the district in the previous year, but were not attending the district in the current year
- Percent of Income for Mortgage**:** Provides a monthly budget perspective to examine the relationship between household income and mortgage payments (based on a median-valued home).
- Vacant Land: means any undeveloped land/ erf within a proclaimed township or a land development area and will continue to be rated as vacant until such time as a certificate of occupancy
- Year Property Built Bar Chart: Percent of households by decade home was built
- Yield Rate: ratio of students that attend each school to the number of housing units in that school's attendance area

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Project Documentation

- School District Data Acquisition
  - Student Data received: September 22, 2025
  - Student Data Verified: October 9, 2025
- City Planning Meeting(s)
  - City Meeting with Daniel Nairn October 2, 2025
- County Data Acquisition
  - Open data source from Burleigh County, ND

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