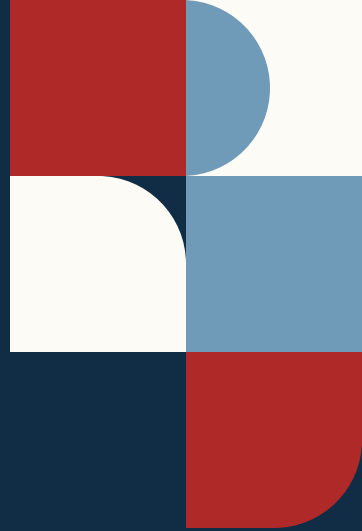
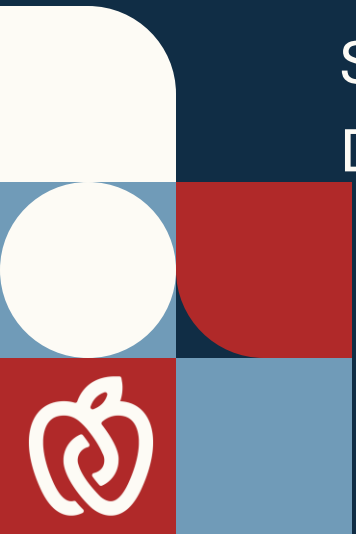


Facility Alignment

Task Force, Steering Committee, and Boundary Study Group

School closure recommendations

Board of Education Meeting
September 3, 2026
Dr. Jim McMullen

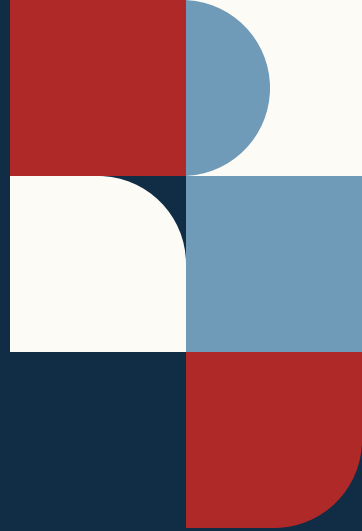
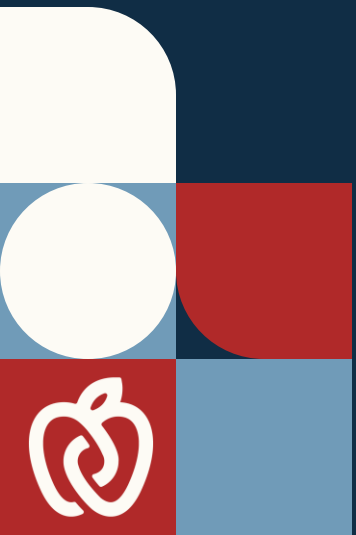


Tonight's presentation

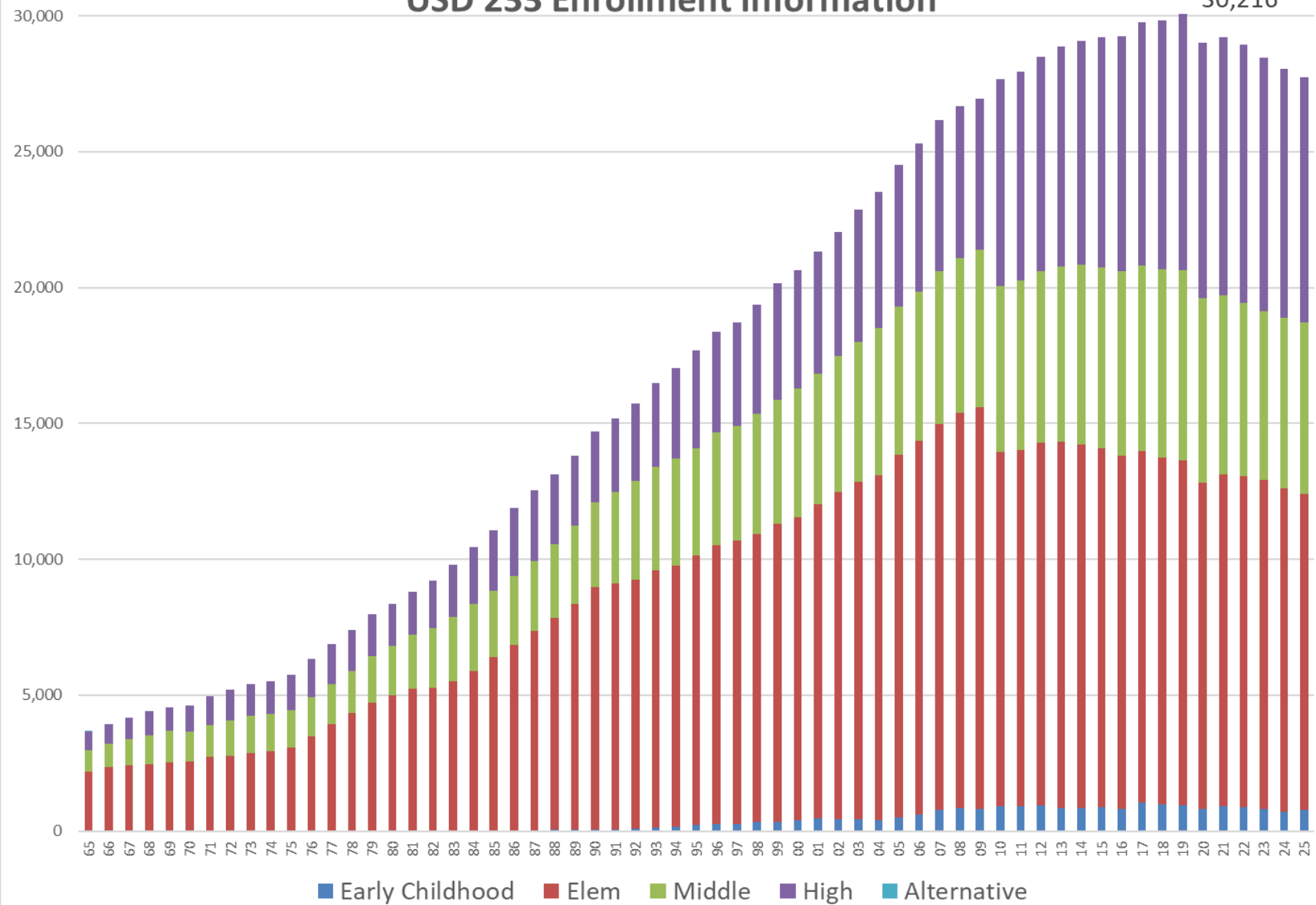
- Student Enrollment overview
- Demographic information from DAA
- Facility Alignment process
- Recommendations for school closures
- Budget impact and next steps
- Questions and discussion



Student Enrollment in the Olathe Public Schools



USD 233 Enrollment Information



Olathe's Response to Enrollment Change

Decade	Enrollment Change	Schools Built	Schools Closed
2020s	-1,803	1	1
2010s	+ 3,014	7	
2000s	+ 6,802	17	
1990s	+ 6,426	12	
1980s	+ 5,876	15	1
1970s	+ 3,479	7	2
1960s	+ 1,996	4	
1950s	+ 1,474	5	1

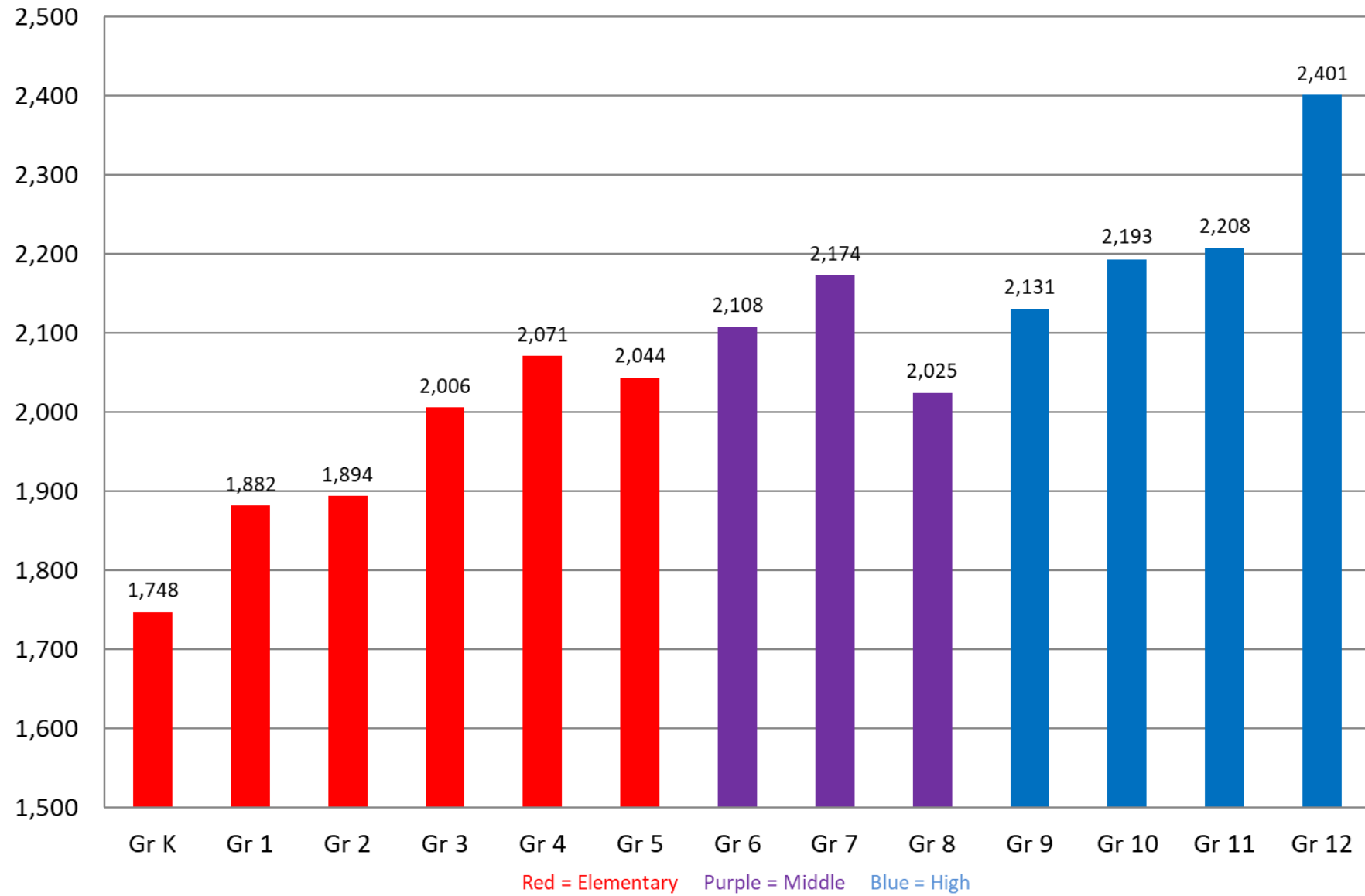


Elementary School Staffing Change

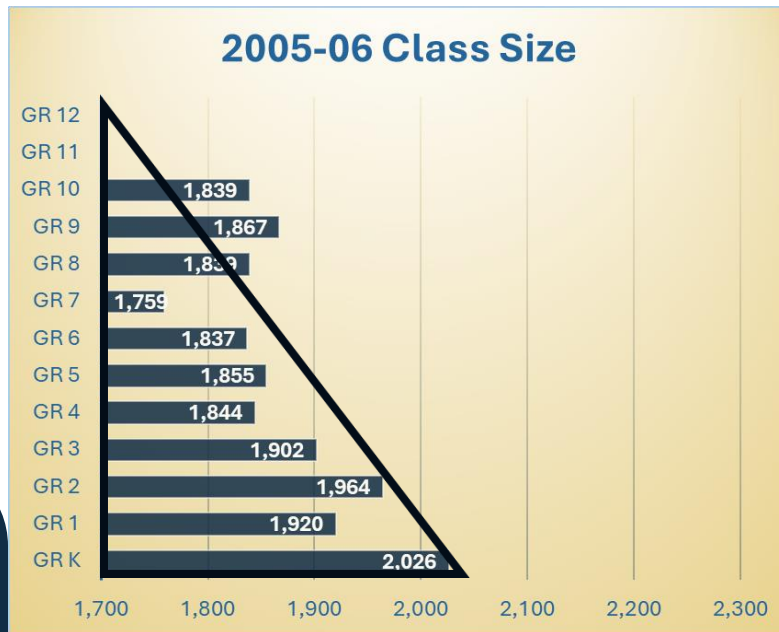
- In 2013-14 (Peak Elementary School Year), the District had 646 K-5 teachers.
- In 2026-27, the Olathe School District has 557 K-5 Teachers.
- This is a difference of 89 K-5 teachers.
- Based on the 2026 average of 16 K-5 teachers per building.
- That is the equivalent of 6 school buildings.



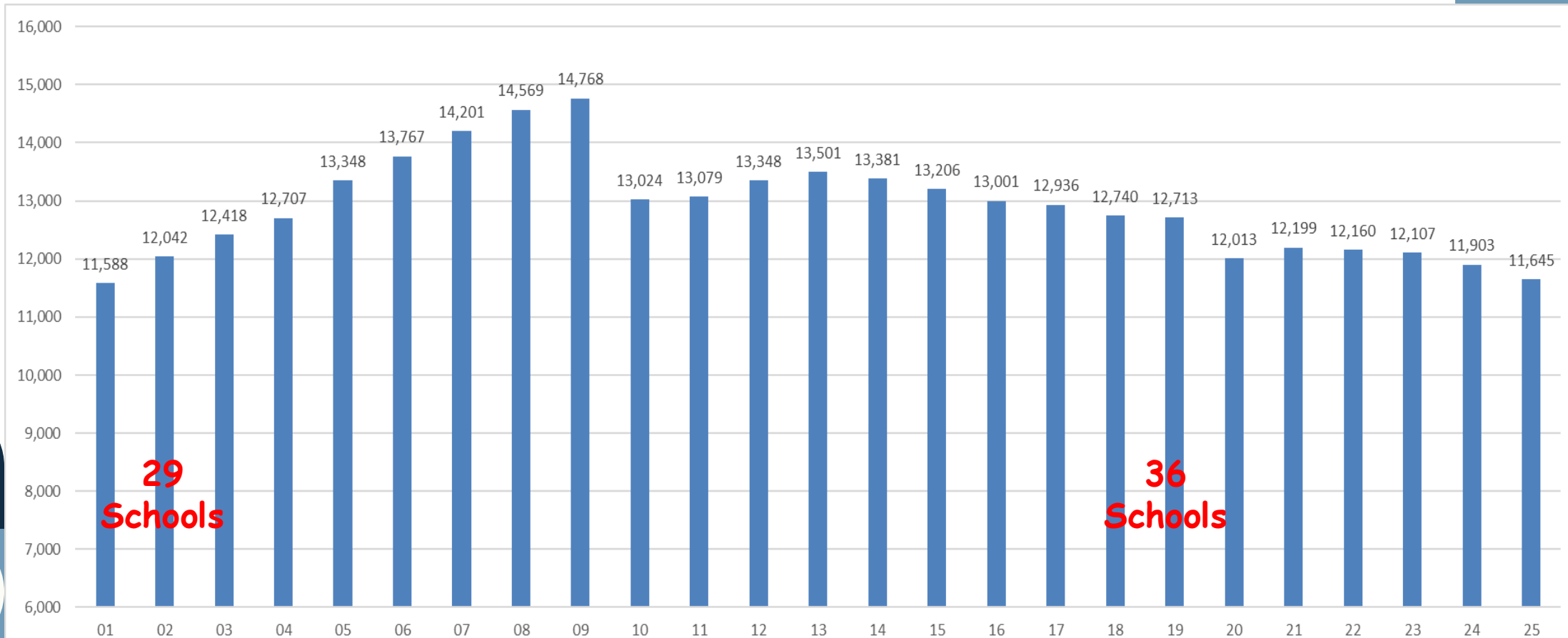
2025-26 Grade Distribution



Class Size Comparison



Grade K-6/K-5 Enrollment 2001-2025



Outgoing Seniors vs Incoming Kindergarten

2024-25 Outgoing Seniors

2,361

2025-26 Incoming Kindergarten students

- 1,748

Difference

613

**Over past 6 years K-12
difference has averaged
-473 students**

Overall district student decline

- 374

Students moving into the district

239



2025 Senior Class – Change over Past 13 yrs

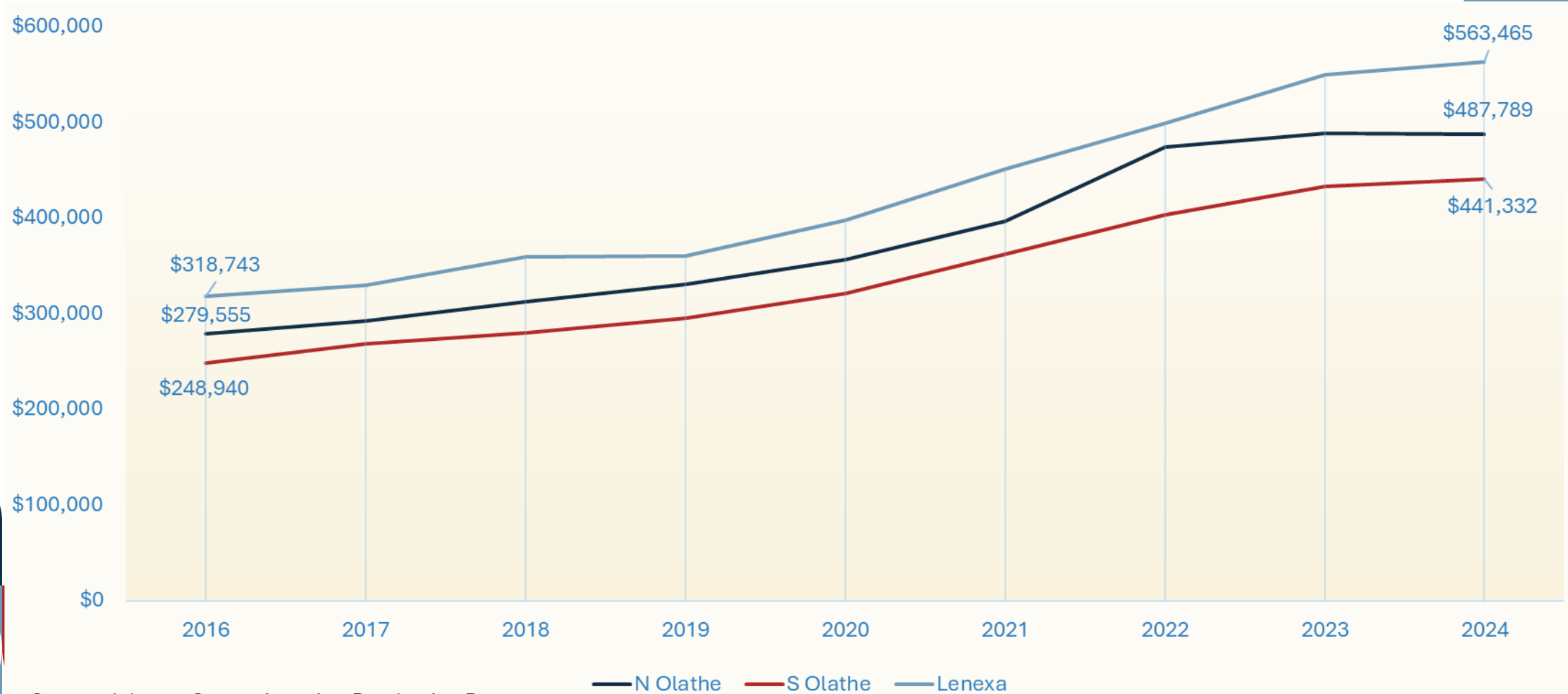
Grades	2025 Class Size	Class Change
Gr K	2,261	
Gr 1	2,284	+23
Gr 2	2,288	+4
Gr 3	2,298	+10
Gr 4	2,305	+7
Gr 5	2,343	+38
Gr 6	2,375	+32
Gr 7	2,405	+30
Gr 8	2,394	-11
Gr 9	2,403	+9
Gr 10	2,396	-7
Gr 11	2,375	-21
Gr 12	2,361	-14
		+100

- The Class of 2025 gained 142 students by 9th grade, but enrollment has declined over the past 3 years
- Their 8th grade year was 2020, which saw an unusual drop, likely due to COVID
- Overall, the class of 2025 grew by 4.4% over the 13 years.
- For comparison, classes in the 2000s grew an average of 24.1% over 13 years.

2011 Senior Class – Change over Past 13 yrs

Grades	2025 Class Size	Class Change	2011 Class Size	Class Change
Gr K	2,261		1,364	
Gr 1	2,284	+23	1,534	+170
Gr 2	2,288	+4	1,555	+21
Gr 3	2,298	+10	1,602	+47
Gr 4	2,305	+7	1,648	+46
Gr 5	2,343	+38	1,683	+35
Gr 6	2,375	+32	1,735	+52
Gr 7	2,405	+30	1,759	+24
Gr 8	2,394	-11	1,797	+38
Gr 9	2,403	+9	1,838	+41
Gr 10	2,396	-7	1,866	+28
Gr 11	2,375	-21	1,843	-23
Gr 12	2,361	-14	1,837	-6
		+100		+473

Average Sales Price of Single-Family Homes



Source: Johnson County Appraiser Revaluation Reports



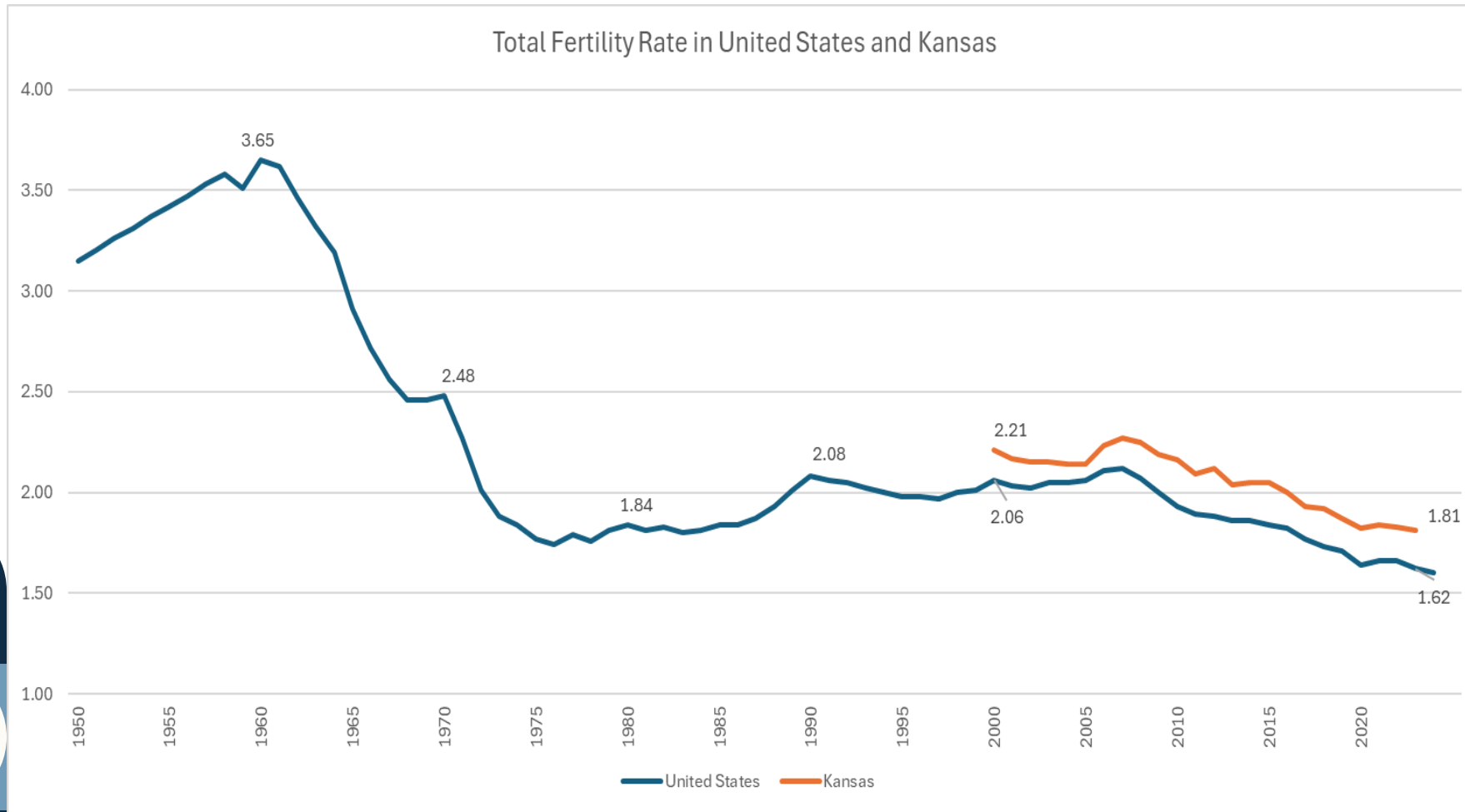
Population Comparison 20 – 44 year olds

	2000	2020	% Change
Total Population of Olathe Public Schools	110,377	164,217	+49%
Ages 20-24	6,950	9,168	+32%
Ages 25-29	9,022	9,821	+9%
Ages 30-34	10,255	11,316	+10%
Ages 35-39	11,036	12,545	+14%
Ages 40-44	9,928	11,639	+17%
Total Ages 20-44	47,191	54,489	+15%

If the 20 – 44 year old age segment would have grown at the rate of the general population (15% vs 49%). These 15,800 residents would have produced an additional 14,300 children. Using Kansas Birth Rate of 1.81 births per female.



Birth Rates



If the total birth rate would have remained at the 2000 rate (2.21 births per female) this would have resulted in an additional 10,900 students.



Percent of School-Aged Students Attending OPS

	2010	2020	2021	2022	2023
Total Population with OPS	146,490	164,217	165,121	166,730	167,549
Relevant Ages 5 to 17	30,068	32,456	31,029	30,623	30,892
OPS K-12 Enroll Sept 20	26,147	29,029	28,257	27,995	27,600
Percentage	86.96%	89.44%	91.07%	91.42%	89.34%

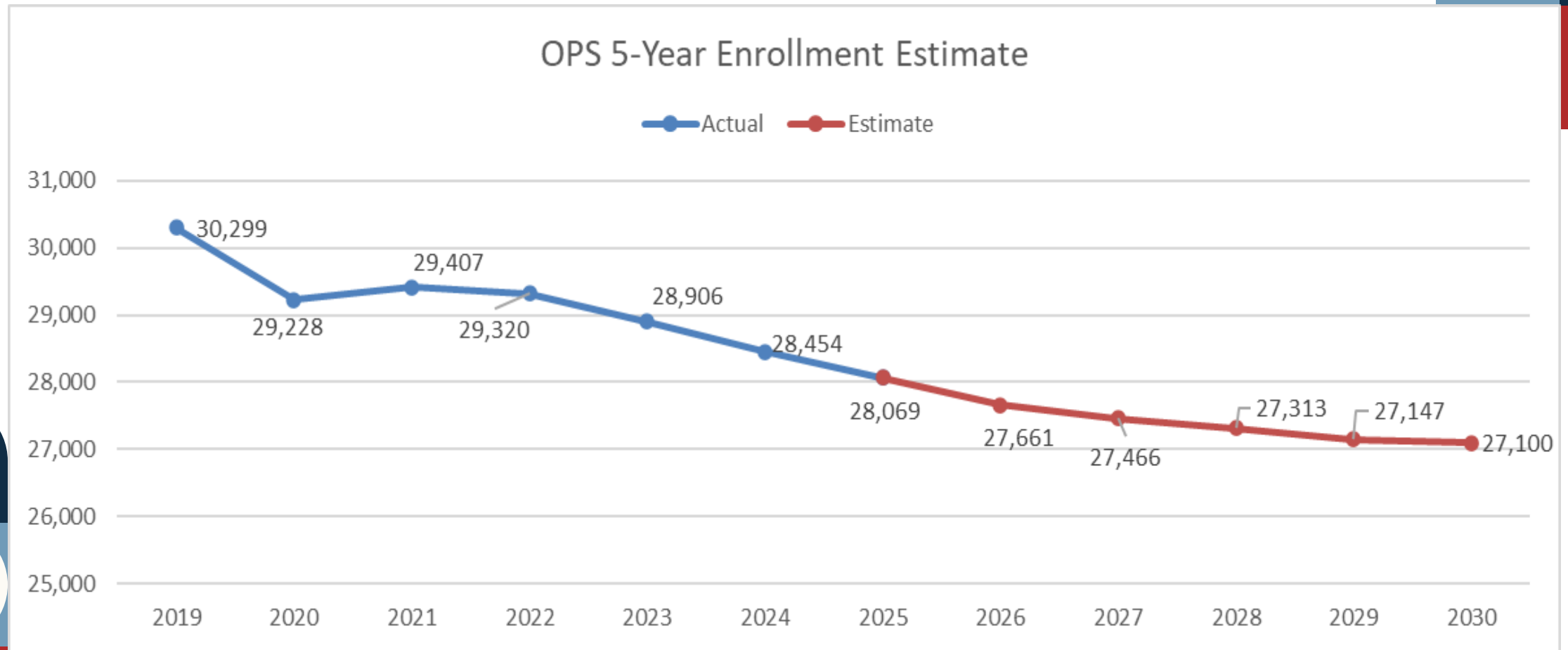
- 2010 and 2020 Information from US Census Decennial Census
- 2021-2023 Information from US Census Small-Area Income and Poverty Estimates (SAIPE)

Olathe Public Schools Enrollment

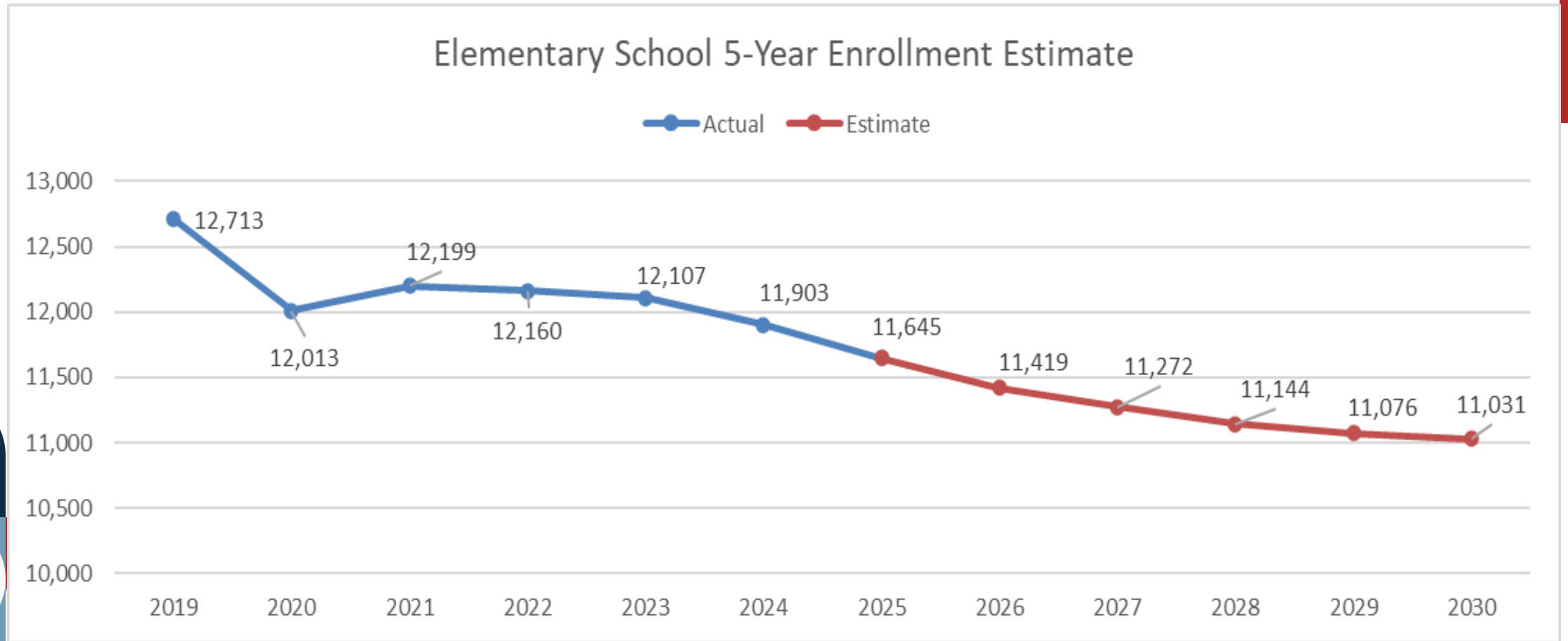
	Actual 2024-25	Actual 2025-26	Estimate 2026-27	Difference
District Enrollment	28,454	28,140	27,661	-793
Early Childhood	872	951	893	+19
Grades K-5	11,903	11,669	11,414	-489
Middle School	6,273	6,320	6,396	+121
High School	9,149	8,938	8,623	-526
Alternative	257	262	259	+2



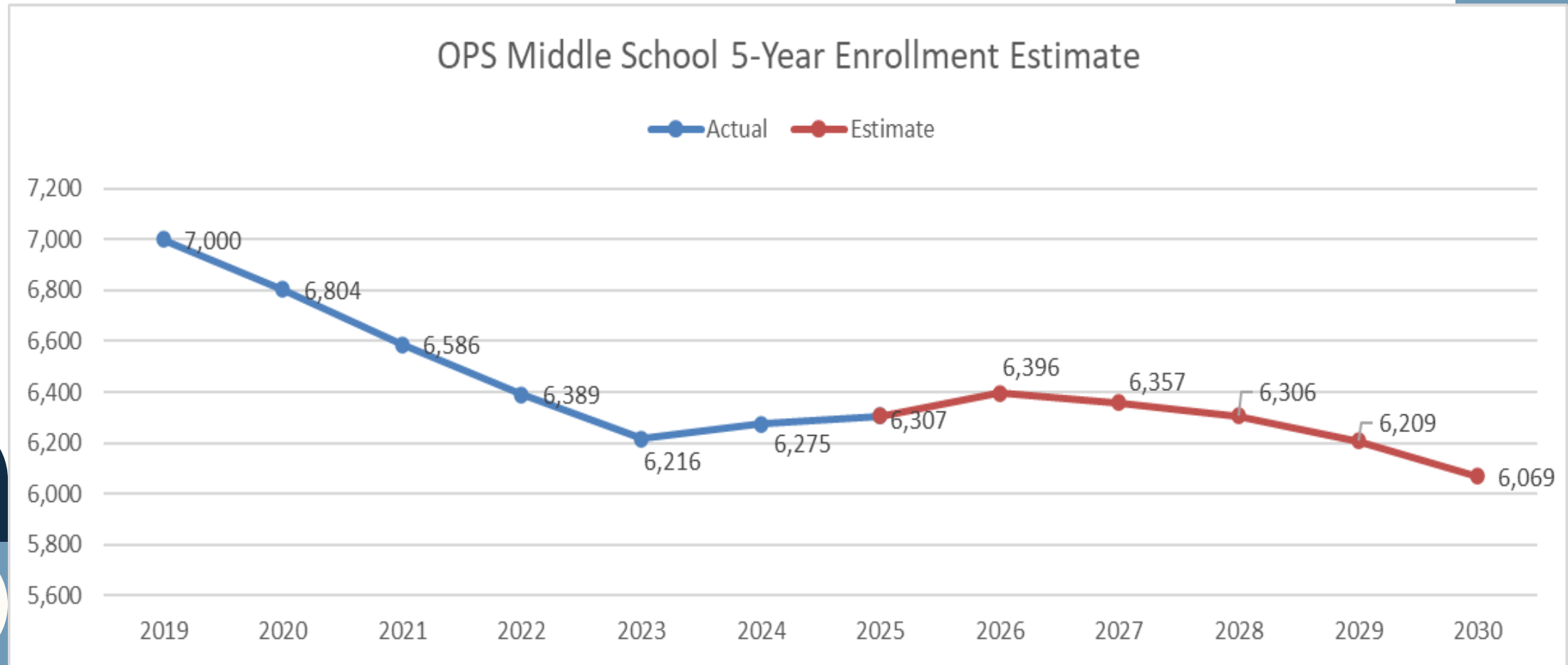
Overall District Enrollment Estimate



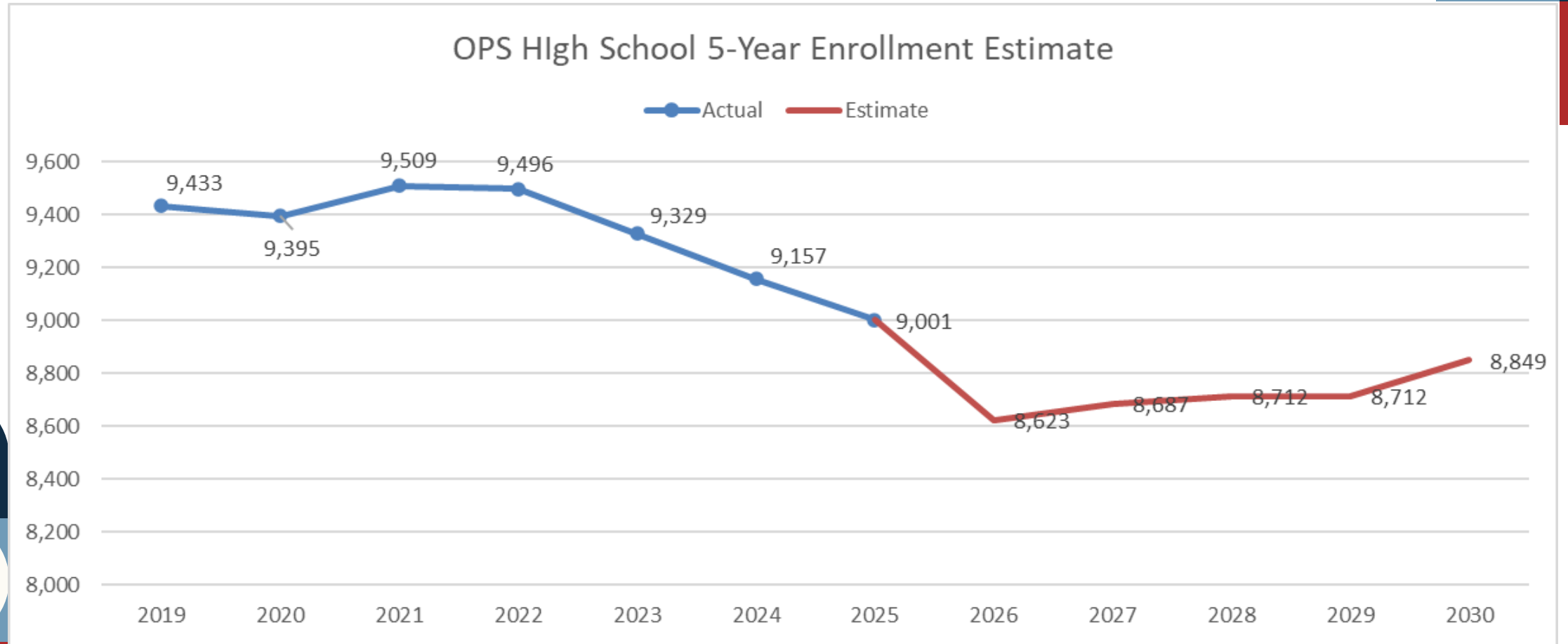
Elementary School 5-Year Enrollment Estimate



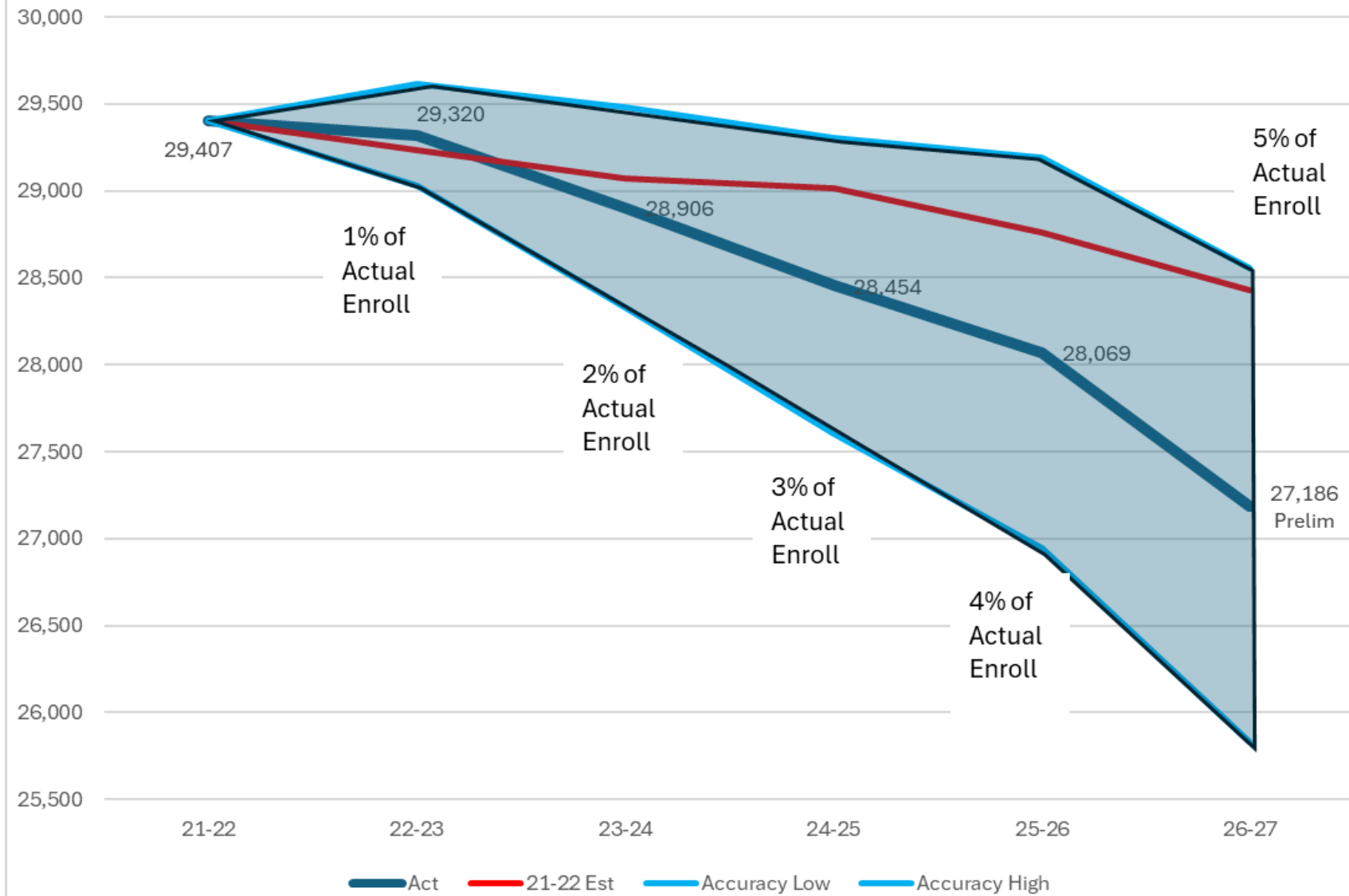
Middle School 5-Year Enrollment Estimate



High School 5-Year Enrollment Estimate



2021-22 5-Year Enrollment Estimate Accuracy



The 4-year of the 2021 Estimates were within 2.5% of Actual Enrollment

2026-27 Enrollment number should increase between first day of school and Sept 20 increasing the accuracy.



Accuracy Rates for 5-Year Forecasts

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
2021-22					
2022-23	-0.3%				
2023-24	+0.6%	-0.1%			
2024-25	+2.0%	+1.1%	+0.6%		
2025-26	+2.5%	+1.6%	+0.6%	+0.2%	
2026-27 Preliminary Number (expected to increase by Sept 20)	+4.6%	+4.8%	+3.0%	+2.2%	+1.9%

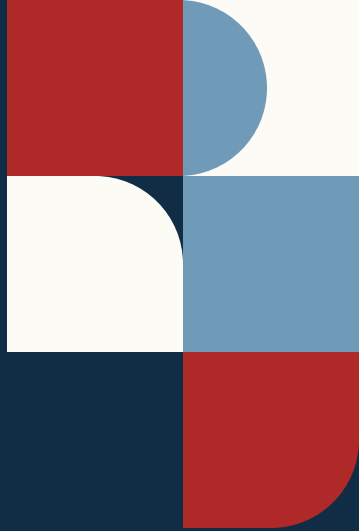
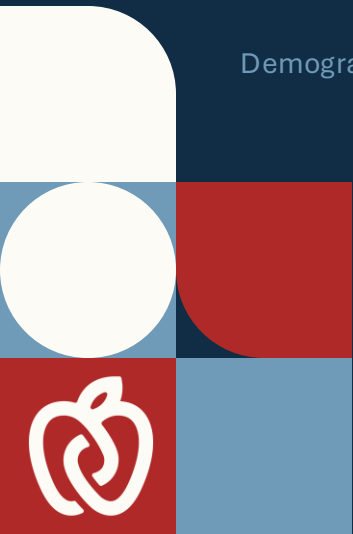


Enrollment Forecasting, Capacity, And Utilization Analysis

Best Practices, An Assessment Of Current Models, And Where The Facility Alignment Process Stands

Prepared For The Olathe Public Schools Board Of Education

Demographic Analytics Advisors · September 2026



About Demographic Analytics Advisors

WHAT WE DO

Demographic Analytics Advisors is a small firm of demographers and data scientists. We work with public school districts on enrollment forecasting, capacity and utilization analysis, redistricting, and related demographic studies. Our role is to bring demographic method to questions where local expertise is the other half of the answer.

WHO IS HERE TONIGHT

Christopher Dick, President and Founder.

Former statistician and demographer at the U.S. Census Bureau. Works with public school districts and with local and state governments to help them understand the populations they serve.

OTHER PRINCIPALS

Beth Jarosz, Senior Vice President of Forecasting and Demography.

Dr. Ronald Prevost, Senior Vice President for Demography.



What We Will Cover Tonight

01 Context Setting

How the district's age structure has changed across six censuses, where Olathe sits among districts nationally, and what fifty years of enrollment and current utilization look like.

02 Best Practices

What an enrollment forecast actually claims, the two things every forecast rests on, and the four different ways a building's capacity can be measured.

03 Where Olathe Stands

Our read on the district's current forecasting and utilization practice.

04 Where The Process Stands

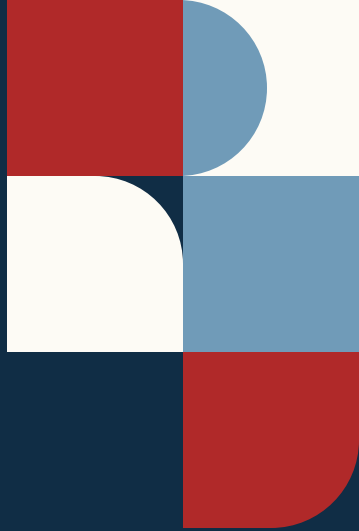
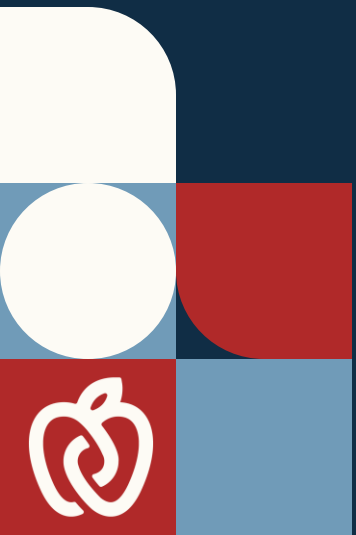
The three-phase facility alignment process, what the Task Force and Steering Committee concluded, and how the engagement process compares with peer districts.

This briefing condenses the April 28 Task Force session for the Board.



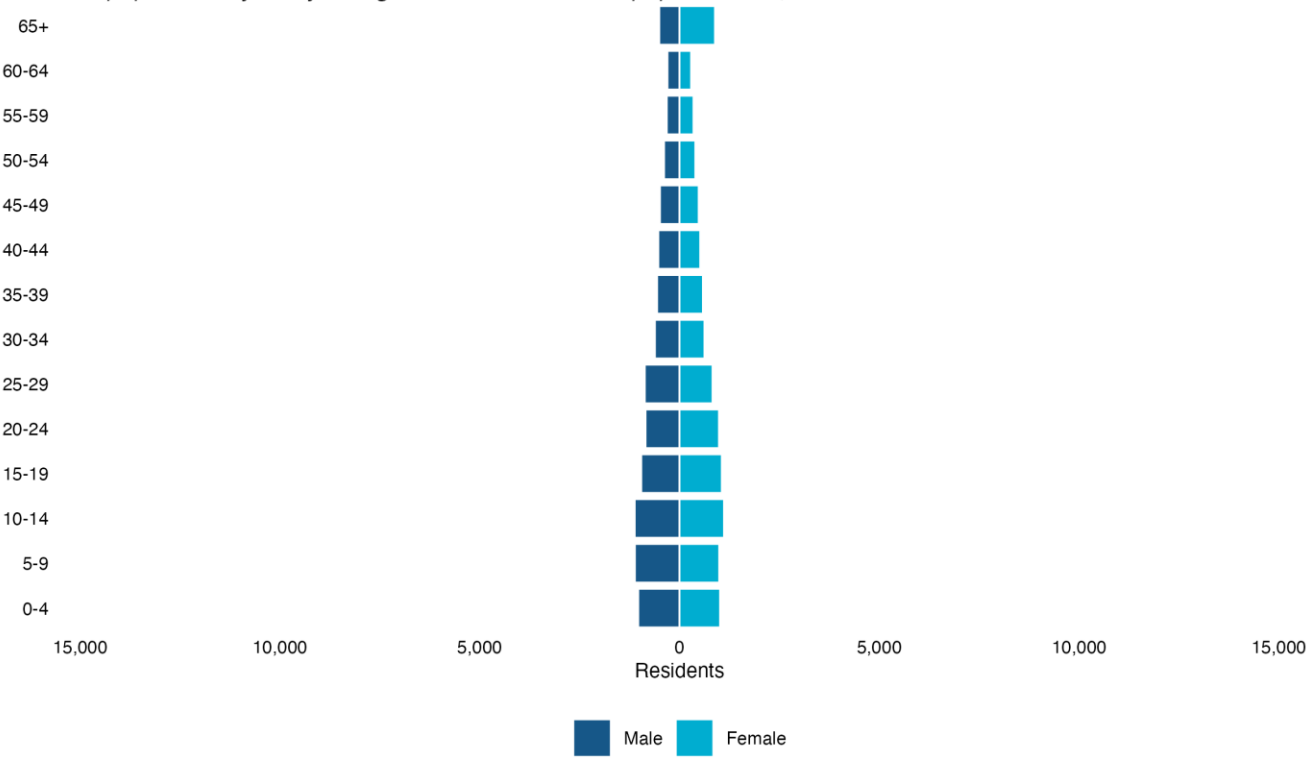
SECTION 01

Context Setting



Age Structure By Census: 1970

Age structure: Olathe service area, 1970
Resident population by five-year age band and sex. Total population 19,127.



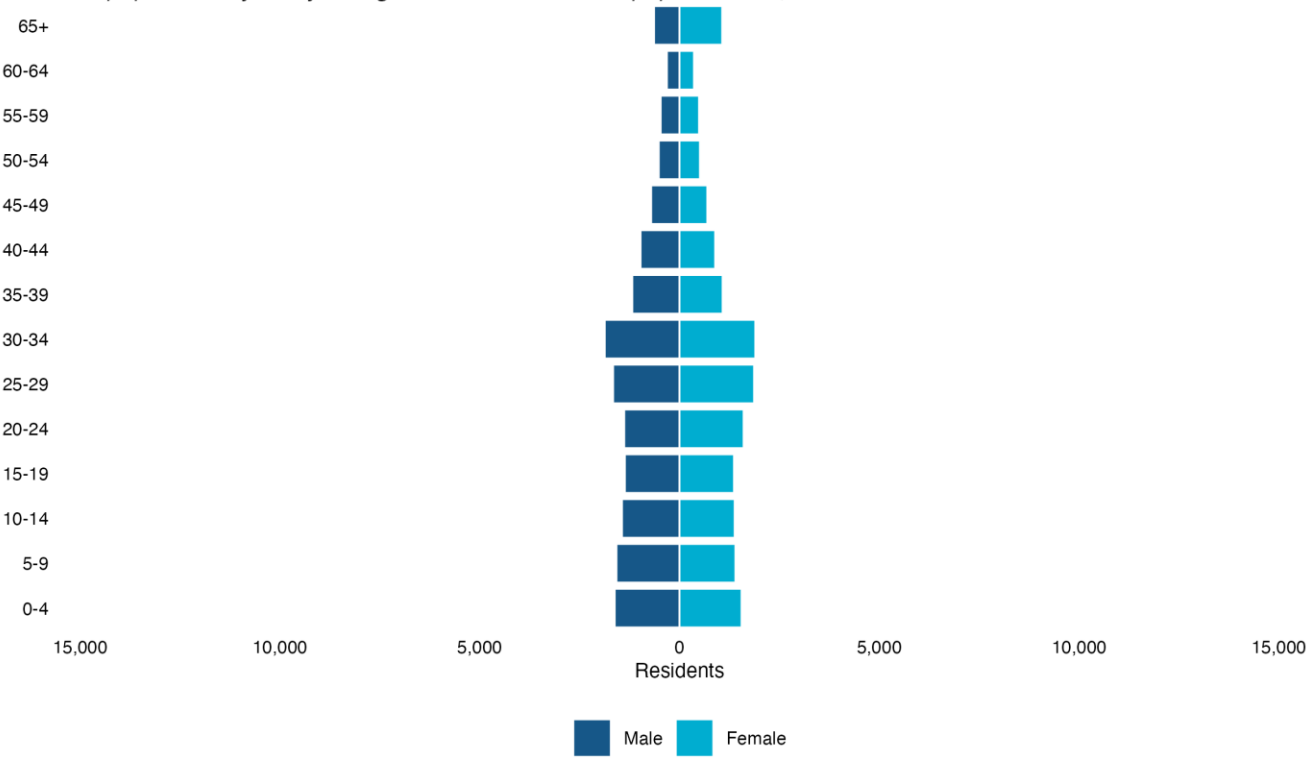
Source: 1970 Census tract table NT2A (NHGIS), dasymetric to the 2024 USD 233 boundary.

Source: 1970 Census tract table NT2A (NHGIS), dasymetric reaggregation.



Age Structure By Census: 1980

Age structure: Olathe service area, 1980
Resident population by five-year age band and sex. Total population 31,232.



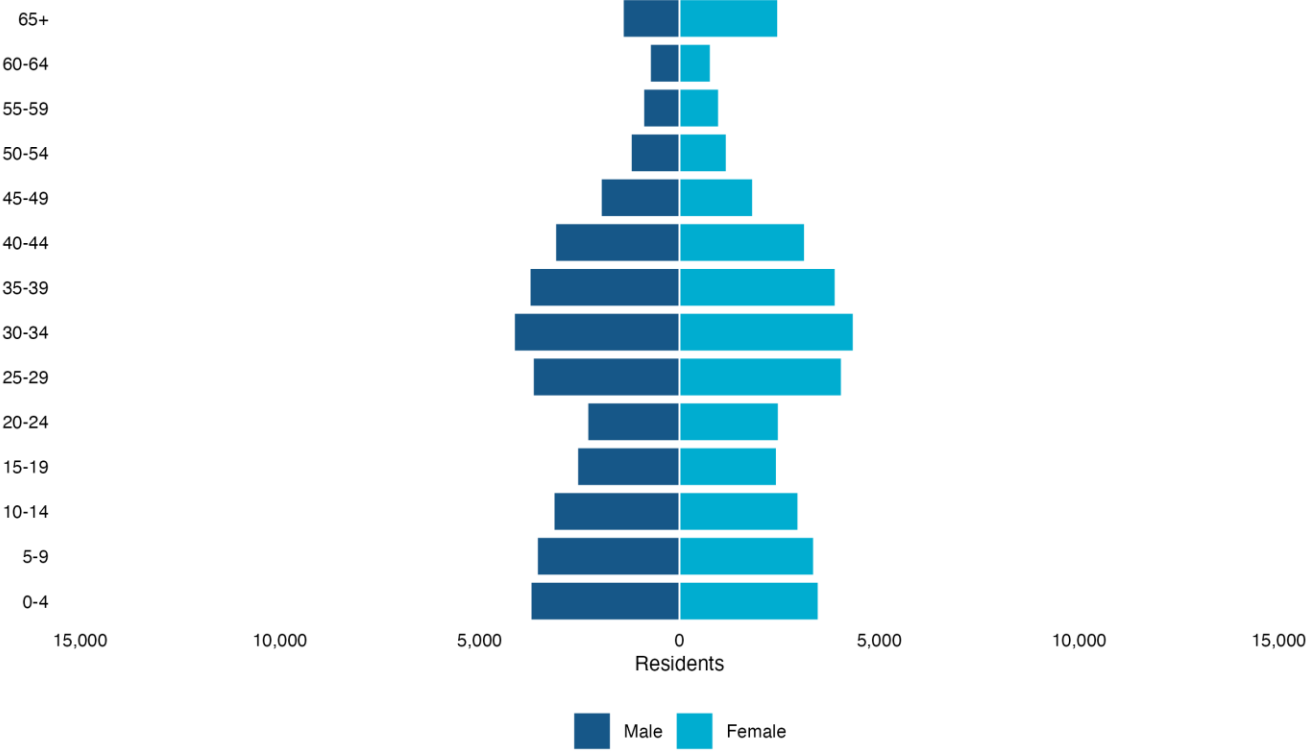
Source: 1980 Census tract table NT10B (NHGIS), dasymetric to the 2024 USD 233 boundary.

Source: 1980 Census tract table NT10B (NHGIS), dasymetric reaggregation.



Age Structure By Census: 1990

Age structure: Olathe service area, 1990
Resident population by five-year age band and sex. Total population 73,051.

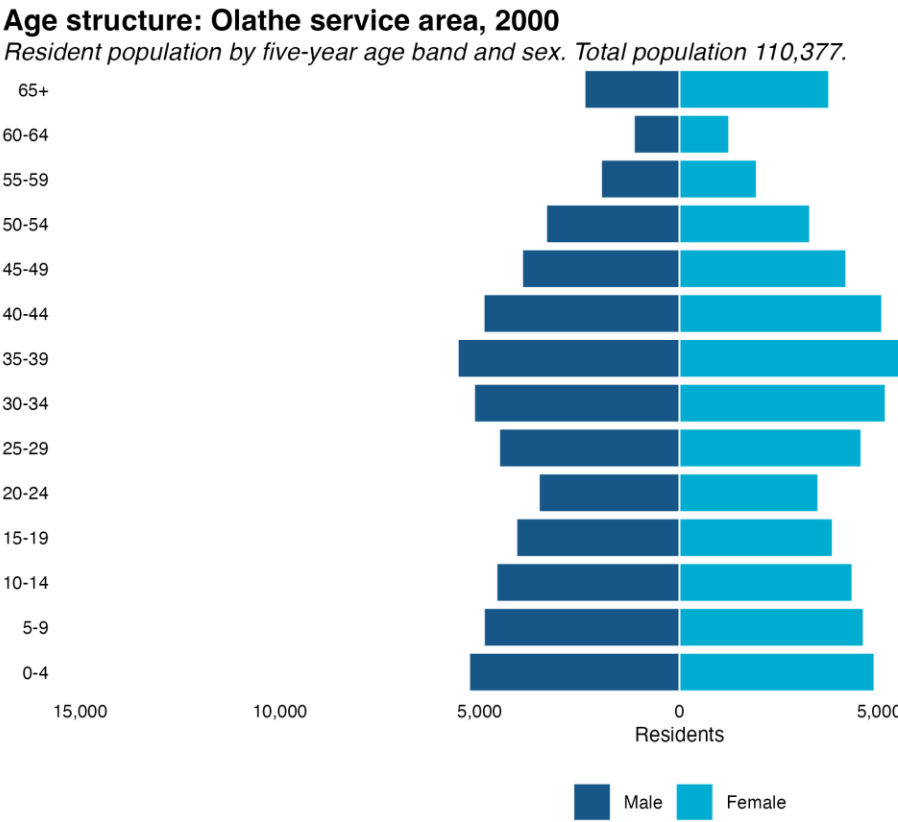


Source: 1990 Census block table NP12 (NHGIS), block-centroid reaggregation.

Source: 1990 Census block table NP12 (NHGIS), block-centroid into the 2024 USD 233 boundary.



Age Structure By Census: 2000



Source: 2000 Census SF1 table P12 at block level, block-centroid reaggregation.

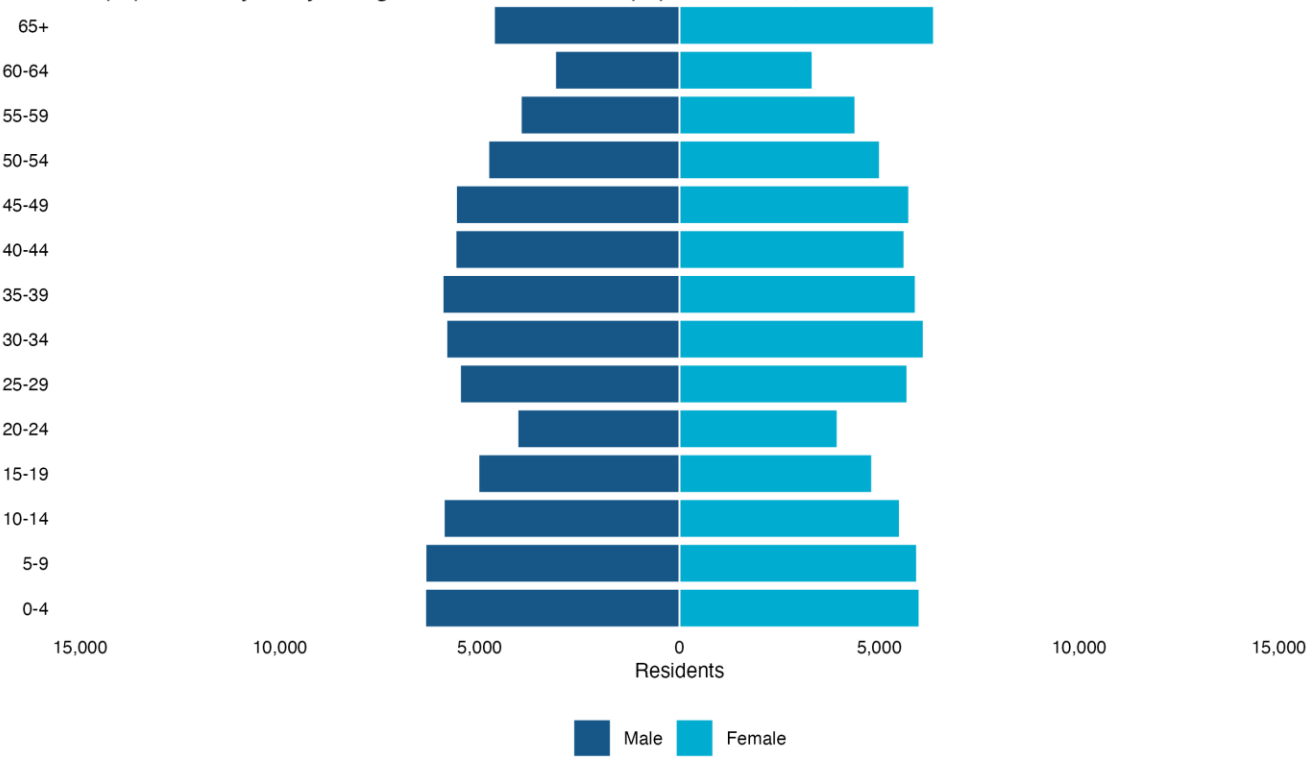
Source: 2000 Census SF1 P12 blocks, block-centroid into the 2024 USD 233 boundary.



Age Structure By Census: 2010

Age structure: Olathe service area, 2010

Resident population by five-year age band and sex. Total population 146,490.



Source: 2010 Census SF1 P12 blocks, block-centroid into the 2024 USD 233 boundary.

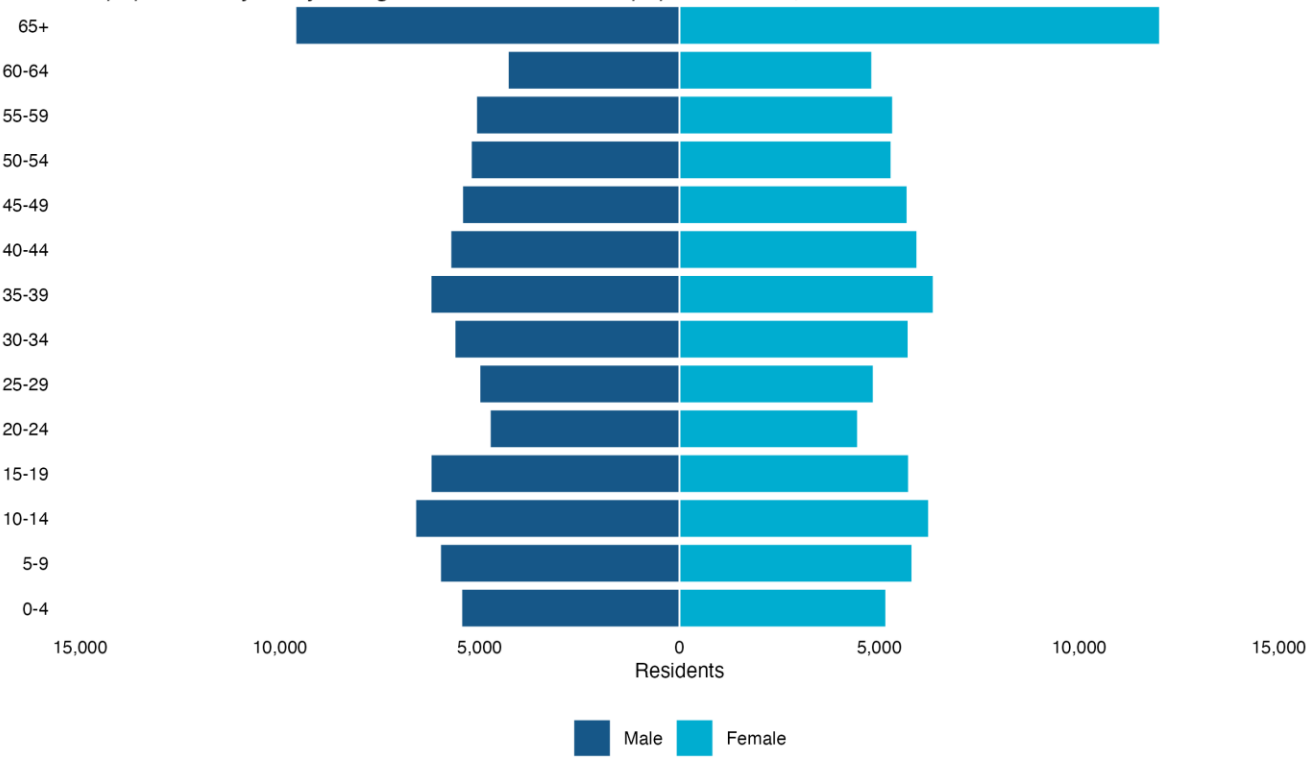
Source: 2010 Census SF1 table P12 at block level, block-centroid reaggregation.



Age Structure By Census: 2020

Age structure: Olathe service area, 2020

Resident population by five-year age band and sex. Total population 164,217.



Source: 2020 Census DHC P12 blocks, block-centroid into the 2024 USD 233 boundary.

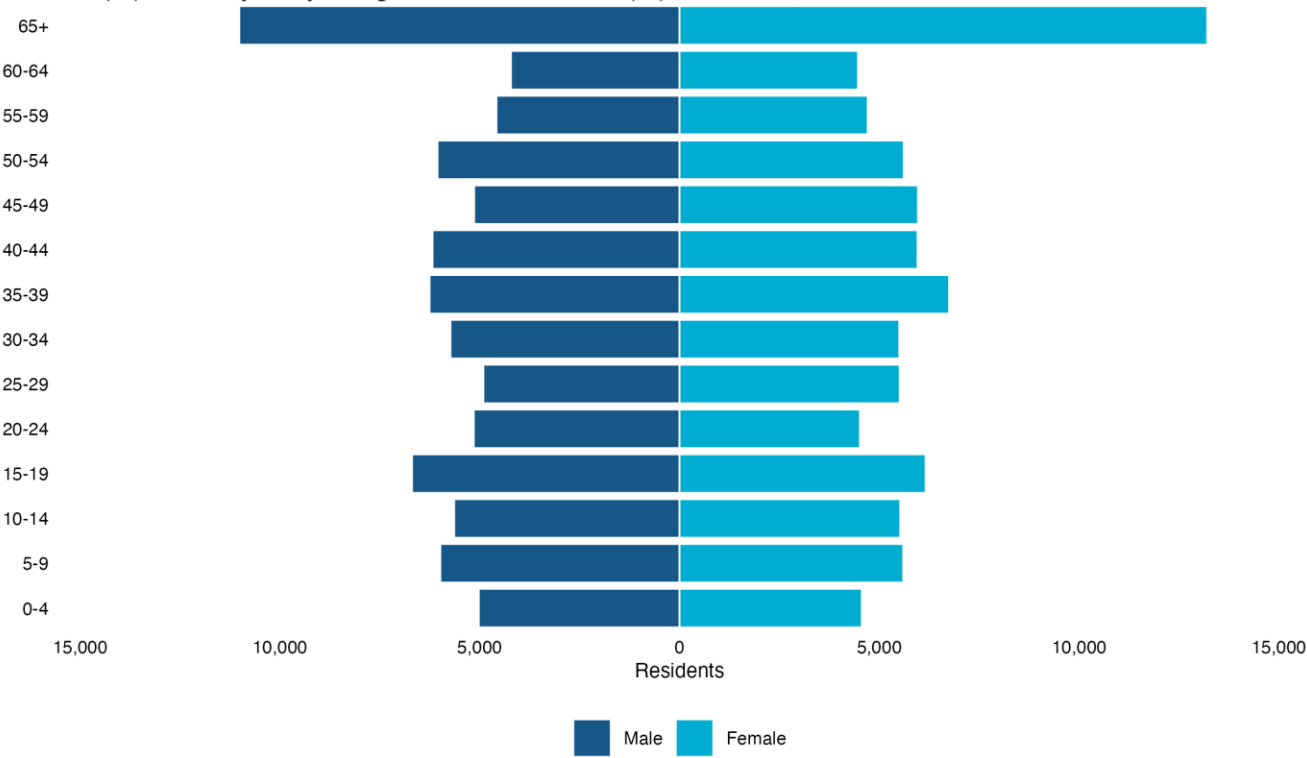
Source: 2020 Census DHC table P12 at block level, block-centroid reaggregation.



Age Structure Of The Olathe Service Area Today

Age structure: Olathe service area, 2020-2024 ACS

Resident population by five-year age band and sex. Total population 165,976.



Source: ACS 5-year 2020-2024 table B01001, unified school district geography (USD 233).

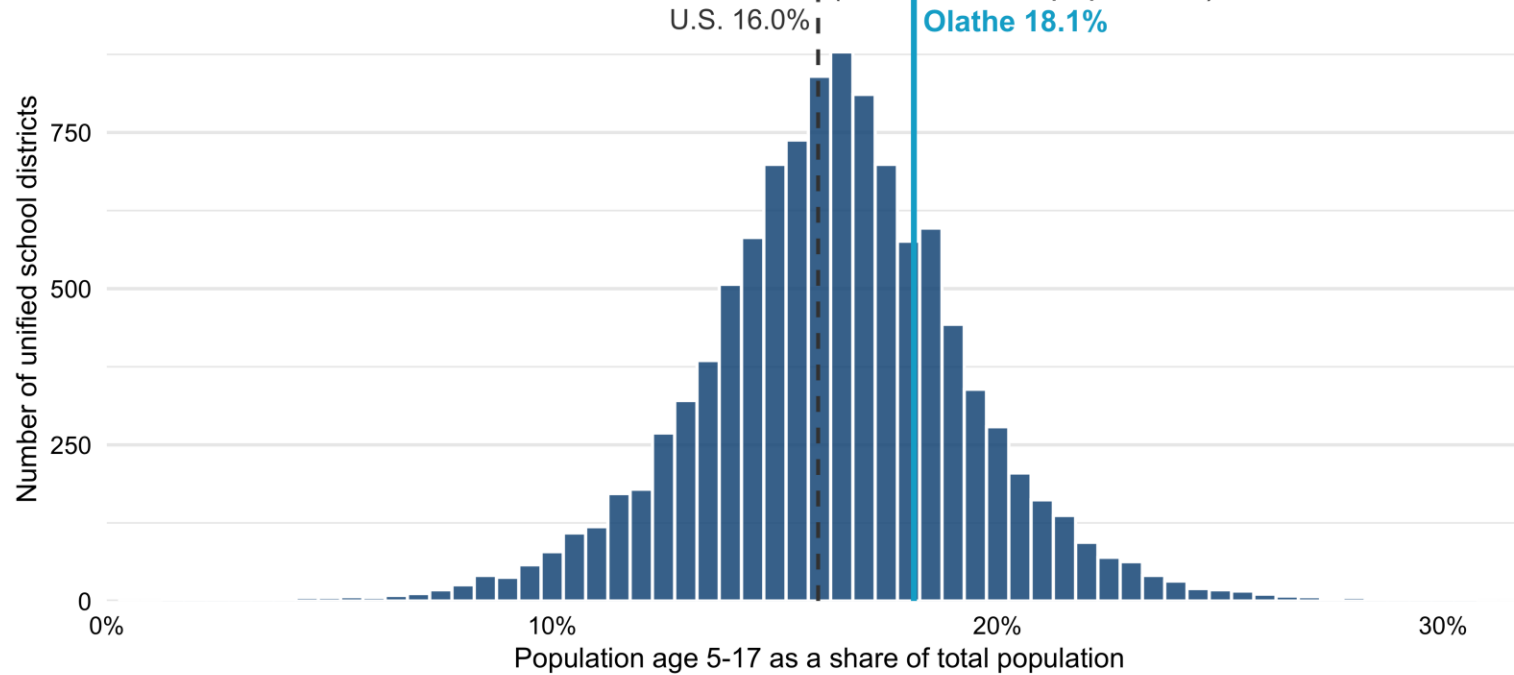
Source: ACS 5-year 2020-2024 at the unified school district geography (USD 233).



Where Olathe Sits Among U.S. School Districts

Olathe sits in the upper portion of the U.S. distribution

Distribution across 10,779 U.S. unified school districts (~93% of U.S. population), SAIPE 2024



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Small Area Income and Poverty Estimates (SAIPE), school district estimates, 2024 vintage. Histogram restricted to unified districts (GEOCAT 970); non-unified areas (separate elementary + secondary districts) are excluded because SAIPE reports grade-restricted age counts for them. U.S. aggregate line includes all areas: total population summed across SAIPE unified + elementary files, and 5-17 population across unified, elementary, and secondary.

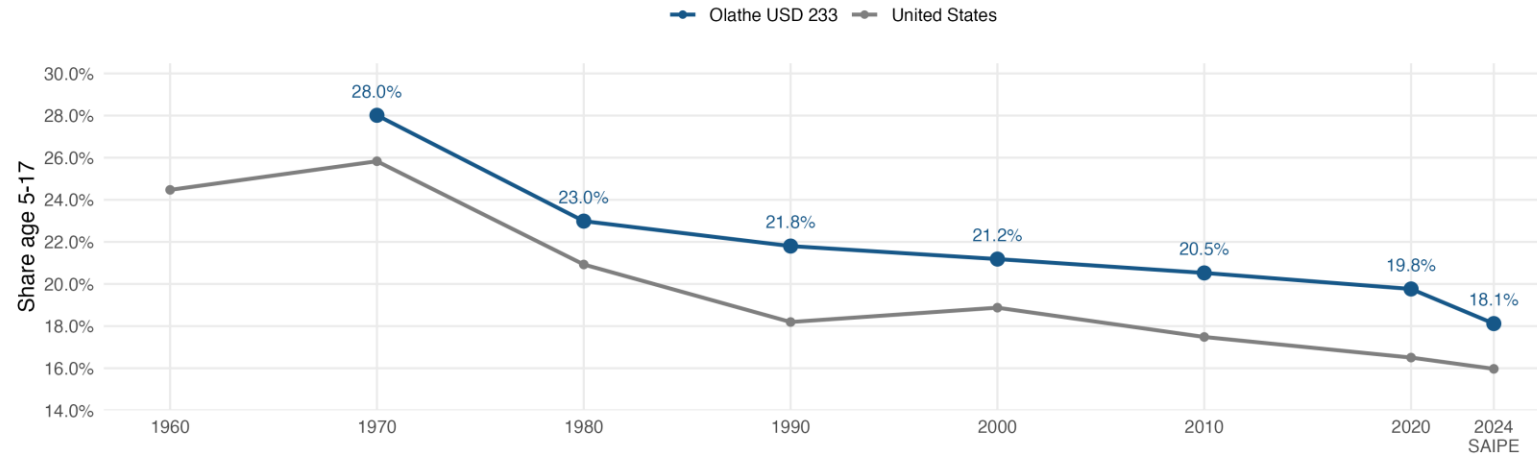
Source: Census Bureau SAIPE, 2024. Olathe's share marked in teal.



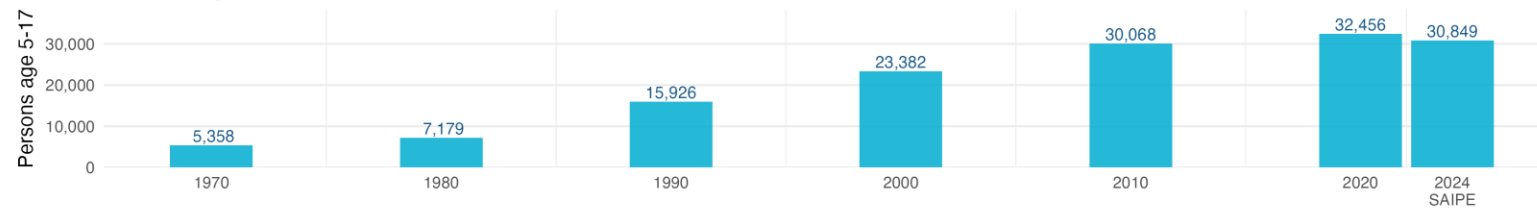
Where Olathe's School-Age Share Has Been Over Time

Olathe USD 233 -- Age 5-17 As A Share Of Population

Decennial Census reaggregated to current district boundary, plus most-recent SAIPE, with U.S. national reference



USD 233 age 5-17 count



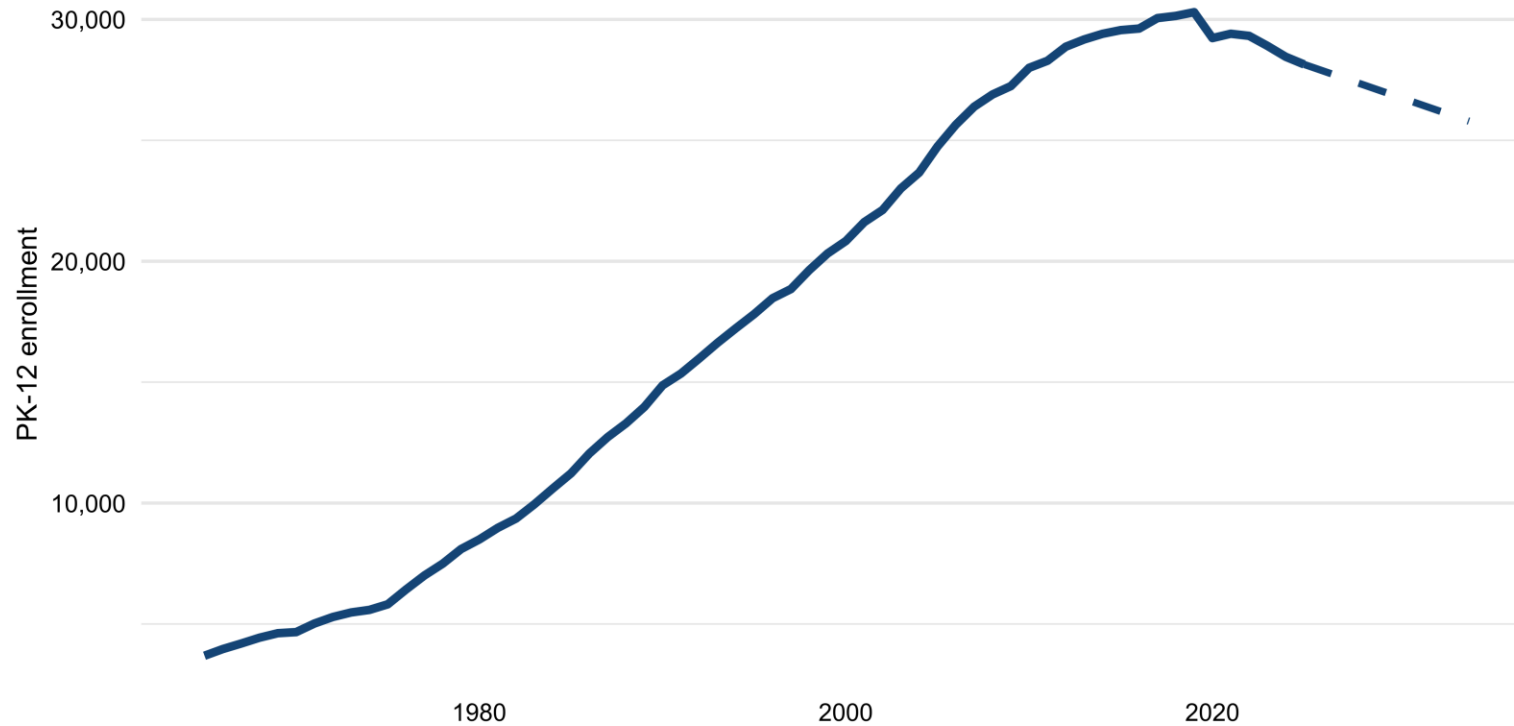
Sources: NHGIS and U.S. Census Bureau decennial age tables (1960-2020), reaggregated to the 2024 USD 233 boundary, and SAIPE 2024 school-district estimates for the terminal point. 1960 USD 233 omitted (no tract coverage).

Sources: NHGIS and Census Bureau decennial and SAIPE 2024, reaggregated to the 2024 boundary.



Total PK-12 Enrollment, 1965 Through 2035

Olathe Public Schools — total enrollment
Academic years 1965--66 through 2034--35



Source: Olathe Public Schools historical enrollment file and District Enrollment Update (Feb. 4, 2026).

Source: Olathe Public Schools enrollment records and district projection model.



Utilization By School Level

Utilization By School Level

Enrollment as a percent of functional capacity; cell color follows the district's capacity breakdown, matching the maps.

Level	2025-26	2026-27	2027-28	2028-29	2029-30	2030-31	2031-32	2032-33	2033-34	2034-35
Elementary	60.1%	60.3%	59.5%	59.1%	58.7%	58.4%	58.5%	58.0%	57.2%	56.7%
Middle	69.2%	70.2%	70.0%	70.4%	69.4%	68.4%	66.1%	65.4%	64.2%	64.5%
High	82.3%	80.3%	80.9%	81.5%	82.5%	83.5%	82.3%	81.2%	80.9%	78.2%

Data from: Demographic Analytics Advisors;

Source: Olathe Public Schools enrollment model and Alternative Capacity Worksheet.

Source: DAA analysis of the district enrollment model and Alternative Capacity Worksheet.



SECTION 02

Best Practices

A Forecast Is Really A Set Of "If-Then" Statements

THE CORE IDEA

if.then.

A forecast worth relying on says: "If today's patterns hold, here's what enrollment looks like - and here's which patterns would have to break to make it wrong."

WHY THIS MATTERS FOR THE BOARD

Not A Crystal Ball. A Tool For Your Decisions.

Your decisions are about buildings, boundaries, and programs: decisions that have to hold up even if things come in a little higher or a little lower than expected. A forecast that writes down what it assumed gives you something to push back on. One that doesn't, doesn't.



Every Forecast Rests On Two Pillars

PILLAR 1

Data

Official sources. Census Bureau, state vital-stats registry, state education agency, county assessor.

Historical depth. At least ten years of enrollment by grade and school.

Geographic granularity. Tract, attendance-area, subdivision, not just district totals.

Key streams. Resident births, population by age, enrollment by grade, housing permits, boundary and program history.

PILLAR 2

Assumptions

Demographic. Grade-progression ratios, birth-to-kindergarten translation, migration, aging-in-place and housing-turnover yield.

Structural. Boundary status, residential pipeline, single-family vs. multifamily yield.

Program and choice. Charter, private, and homeschool shares; program-driven enrollment.

Assumptions should be grounded in local context and written down.

Get either pillar wrong and the whole structure wobbles. Good practice invests equally in both and makes both inspectable.



Four Ways To Measure Capacity

Design Capacity

Maximum headcount under the as-built layout. Classrooms times target class size, without regard to actual use. Rarely the right number for decisions.

Functional Capacity

Students a building can educate under current program, staffing, and class-size policies. Subtracts specialty rooms. **The primary planning number.**

Program Capacity

Seats in a specific program (dual-language, self-contained gifted, CTE pathway). Used for program-placement decisions, not total-building sizing.

Statutory Capacity

Seats per building under state law. In Kansas (HB 2553), teacher count times class-size guidelines. The most visible number a district publishes.

Conflating these is the single most common source of facility-planning confusion.



SECTION 03

Where Olathe Stands

How Olathe Forecasts Enrollment

99.2%

district-total accuracy, 2024-25 (28,454 actual vs. 28,695 estimated)

THE METHOD

A hybrid subdivision-based cohort-progression method with a housing-pipeline overlay. A cohort-survival backbone rolls enrollment forward using three-year averaged grade-progression ratios at the attendance-area / subdivision level; a grid-level housing-pipeline component adds students from subdivisions under construction using observed student-yield rates.

WHAT MAKES IT STRONG

Subdivision-level granularity is substantially stronger than a district-wide cohort-survival approach. The three-year averaged GPRs are a sensible smoothing choice, and the geocoded-permit-to-attendance-area linkage makes the housing overlay spatially precise.



How We Looked At Olathe's Current Practice

Not an audit. Not a critique. A structured way of walking through the dimensions that matter most for evidence-based facility planning.

WHAT WE LOOKED AT

The district's internal forecasting workbook, the March 2026 open-enrollment narrative and staffing-capacity calculations, the room-by-room capacity inventory, the school rubric, the Boundary Study Group's historical materials, and the 2026 bond program documentation.

HOW WE DESCRIBE EACH ONE

Two marks only: **Strong** (already in line with good practice) or **Developing** (room to build further). No letter grades, no rank, no scorecard competition.

WHAT THIS ISN'T

Not a judgment about the staff doing the work today; they're doing good work. Not a comparison to any specific district. A structured read, offered in good faith.



The Scorecard At A Glance

Documentation **STRONG**

Versioned workbooks. Explicit weights.

Rigor **STRONG**

Hybrid method. 99.2% accuracy.

Decision Linkage **STRONG**

Dual-metric display. Planning Areas. Rubric.

Uncommon Practices **STRONG**

Published accuracy. Standing BSG.

OVERALL READ

A Strong Practice On The Dimensions Reviewed Tonight.

Documentation, rigor, decision linkage, and uncommon practices are all in line with good practice. The full assessment is in the written report.



SECTION 04

Where The Process Stands

The Three-Phase Facility Alignment Process

PHASE ONE • FEB-MAY 2026

Task Force

Over 125 members: one staff member and one parent from every school, plus building and district administration. Three two-hour sessions covering school finance, enrollment history and projections, boundaries, capacity, including our April 28 best-practices briefing.

PHASE TWO • JUNE-OCT 2026

Steering Committee

A group of roughly 20, selected from the Task Force, meeting four times from June to August to recommend which specific buildings to reduce.

PHASE THREE • OCT 2026-JAN 2027

Boundary Adjustment

Parent information nights at impacted buildings, boundary options presented to the Board in December, Board action in January for the 2027-28 school year.

Summarized from Olathe Public Schools' Facility Alignment materials: the June 4, 2026 Board presentation of Task Force survey results, and Steering Committee meetings #1 (June 23), #2 (July 7), and #3 (July 21).



What The Task Force Concluded

110-0

yes-no on reducing the number of elementary schools

3-4

elementary schools most respondents recommended reducing (88 of 110)

107-3

yes-no on reducing the number of middle schools; 90 of 110 recommended one

The Task Force also endorsed the process itself. 104 of 110 respondents agreed or strongly agreed that participation was worthwhile; 106 of 110 that the information was helpful. 69 expressed interest in serving on the smaller Steering Committee.

Individual survey of Task Force members, presented to the Board of Education June 4, 2026.



What The Steering Committee Concluded

5-6

elementary schools most members recommended closing, beyond the two already identified through Bond 2026 (17 of 20)

20 of 20

named the same building as their first-choice recommendation

9 of 20

converged on the same second choice; 10 of 20 on the same third

The consensus is strongest where the evidence is strongest. Every member ranked six buildings for closure. Agreement is concentrated at the top of that ranking and thins out below it.

Elementary survey of Steering Committee members at Meeting #4 (August 4, 2026); 20 responses. Building names are held back here because the committee's recommendation is the district's to present. The recommendation is an input to the Board, not a decision.



How Olathe's Engagement Compares To Peer Practice

SEQUENCE

Members worked through school finance, enrollment history and projections, capacity, and boundaries before they were surveyed. The Task Force took up how many schools; the Steering Committee then took up which ones. The two questions were kept separate and answered in that order.

MEMBERSHIP

One staff member and one parent from every school in the district, over 125 people, with the Steering Committee of roughly 20 drawn from that group. Seats were allocated by building rather than filled by volunteers, so every attendance area was represented.

CRITERIA

Available space measured as seats below 85 percent of functional capacity, adjacency absorption tested school by school, student geography read against major roads. The same measures were applied to every building.

DISCLOSURE

Meeting materials, survey results, and the supporting analysis are released before the Board votes. The committee's product is a recommendation; the decision is the Board's.

Comparison drawn from our peer-district review. Douglas County (CO) sets closure criteria in board policy (Policy FCB) and posts closure scenarios before board votes; Park Hill (MO) ran six meetings and roughly 1,650 staff, patron, and student surveys under its "Park Hill 2034" planning initiative; Boulder Valley (CO) maintains a standing long-range advisory committee. Against that set, what distinguishes Olathe's process is the allocation of seats by building rather than by volunteer, and the separation of the question of how many closures from the question of which buildings.



What To Take Away From Tonight

THE FORECASTING METHOD WORKS

A hybrid cohort-progression method with a housing-pipeline overlay, 99.2% district-total accuracy in 2024-25. The core method is sound; it does not need to be replaced.

THE CAPACITY DATA IS DETAILED

Three complementary capacity measures with room-level detail preserved across vintages. The utilization picture is already available by school and by planning area.

THE PROCESS IS ON TRACK AND THE EVIDENCE IS DRIVING IT

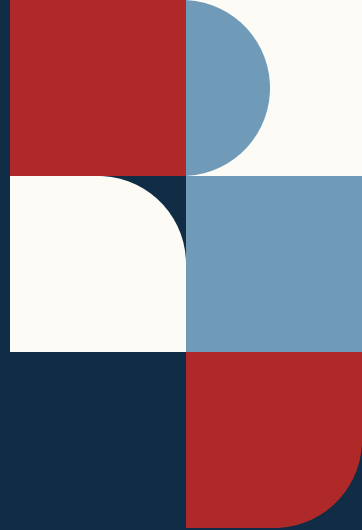
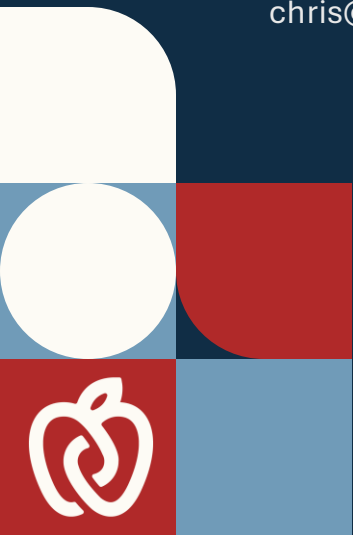
The Task Force reached a near-unanimous conclusion on the direction. The Steering Committee, working school-by-school from utilization, adjacency, and geography, has reached a unanimous read on the middle school question and is now testing specific elementary options. The decision points ahead are specific and scheduled.



Questions?

Christopher Dick, President & Founder

chris@demoadvisors.com · demoadvisors.com



Facility Alignment

Timeline and Process

Boundary Study Group

- Has existed for over 25 years.
- Made up of 8-10 district leaders.
- Studies enrollment, capacity, building needs, programming, construction, etc.
- Keeps the BOE informed with upcoming boundary changes.

BSG Guiding Principals

1. Recognize and consider all students' academic, safety, social, and emotional needs.
2. Enrollment numbers should enhance/support the learning environment for all students.
3. Seek long-term boundary solutions.
4. Recognize the Board of Education's fiscal responsibility.

Facility Alignment Timeline

February, 2026:

Present the process/timeline to the Board of Education.

March, 2026:

Establish the Facility Alignment Task Force (FATF), made up of 1 parent and 1 staff member from each school. In addition, representation from building administration and district leadership.

April, 2026

FATF Session 1: Goals and norms, outcomes, enrollment review, school finance 101, and a school boundary overview.

FATF Session 2: Quadrant/data breakdown of elementary and middle schools. Presentation from Data Analytics Advisor, our third party consultant.

May, 2026:

FATF Session 3: Data analysis, small group work, discussion over alignment numbers, survey and recommendations for reductions.

Establish the Facility Alignment Steering Committee (FASC), a group of 20 volunteers from the FATF made up of 10 parents and 10 building staff members.

Facility Alignment Timeline

June, 2026:

Update presented to the Board of Education.

FASC Session 1: Welcome, intros, goals/norms, confidentiality, review of FATF data, boundary overview, capacity data, facility information

July, 2026:

FASC Session 2: Goals/norms, confidentiality, MS data review, group work & discussion, MS survey, ES planning area overview

July, 2026

FASC Session 3: Goals/norms, confidentiality, MS survey review, ES data review, group work & discussion, ES survey #1

August, 2026:

FASC Session 4: Goals/norms, confidentiality, ES survey #1 review, ES map/data study, individual work, group discussion, final ES survey

Update presented to the Board of Education

Facility Alignment Timeline

September, 2026:

Presentation to the Board of Education with school closure recommendations.

Parent school closure input meeting on September 22, 2026 at 5:30pm in the Olathe South auditorium. No advanced sign up needed to speak at this meeting.

October, 2026:

Board of Education will be asked to take action on the recommendations at their October 1st meeting.

October-December 2026:

Boundary presentations in all impacted attendance areas

December, 2026:

Boundary recommendations presented to the Board of Education

January, 2026:

Board of Education will be asked to take action on new school boundary recommendations.

Facility Alignment Task Force and Steering Committee – A parent's perspective

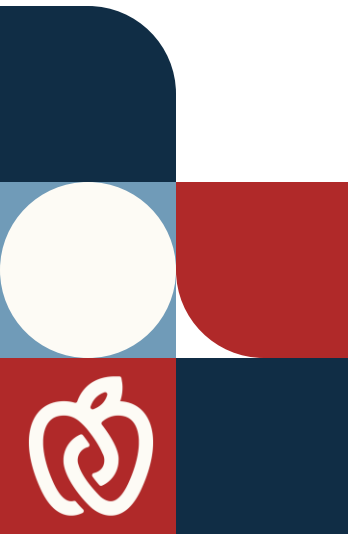
Mr. Eric Johnson

Briarwood Elementary parent and volunteer



Data reviewed by the Steering Committee

- School Enrollment
 - 2025 Enrollment numbers
 - 2030 Enrollment numbers
 - Functional capacity per school
- Growth Potential
 - Approved unbuilt single-family units & multi-family
 - Undeveloped land
 - Anticipated students
- Building Specifics
 - Building age
 - Number of classrooms
 - Building condition
 - Upcoming bldg. expenditures
 - Property value
- Transportation
 - Students with ½ mile of school
 - Students eligible for bus service
 - Students who use bus service
- Specialty programs at the school



 Elem

 Elem_Boundary 2026

 Under 45%

55% - 65%

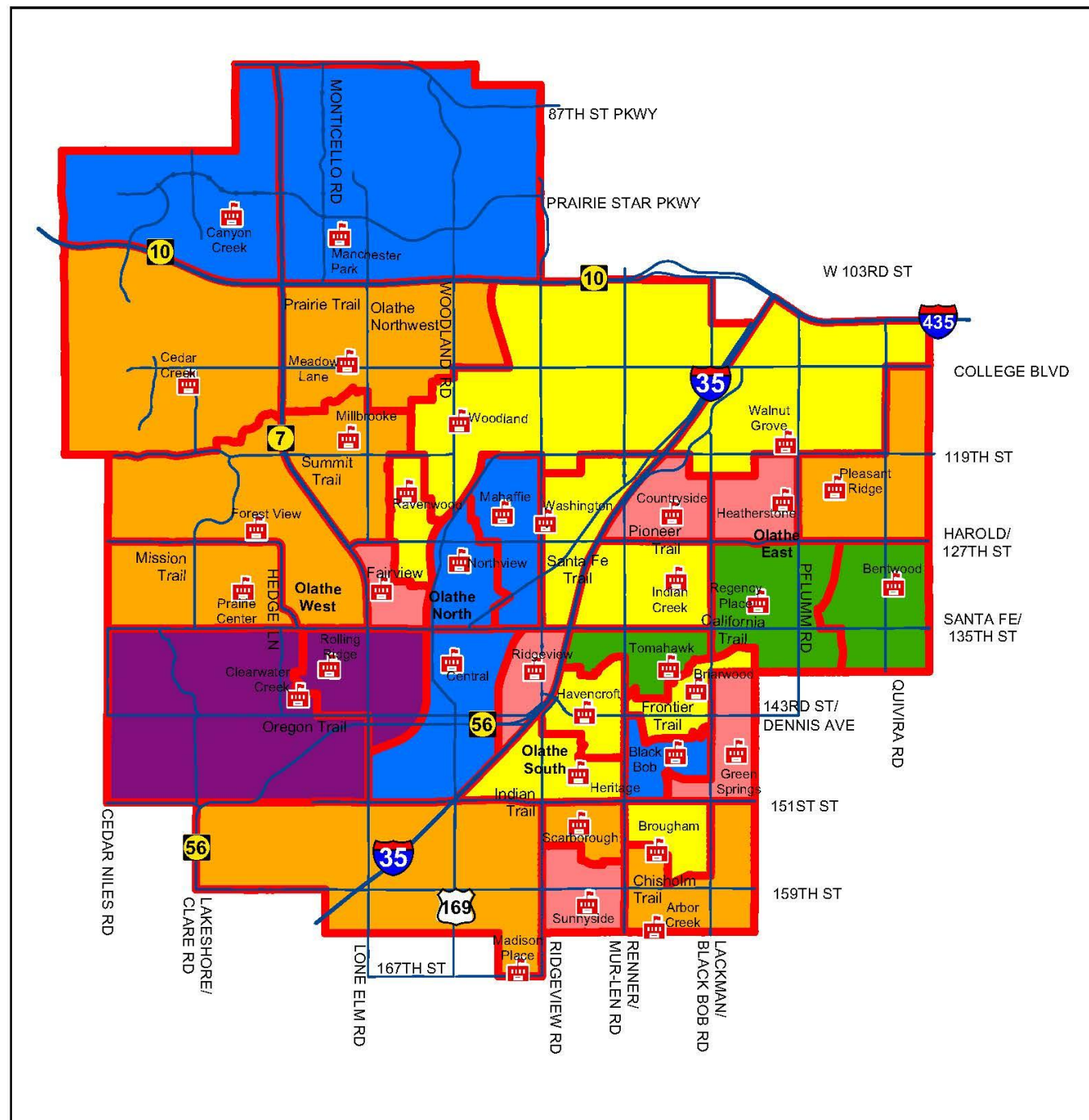
65% - 75%

75% - 85%

 Above 85%



Elem School Capacity 2035



Schools

Elem

Major Roads

Elem_Boundary 2026

Elem Capacity 2035

CAP35

Under 45%

45% - 55%

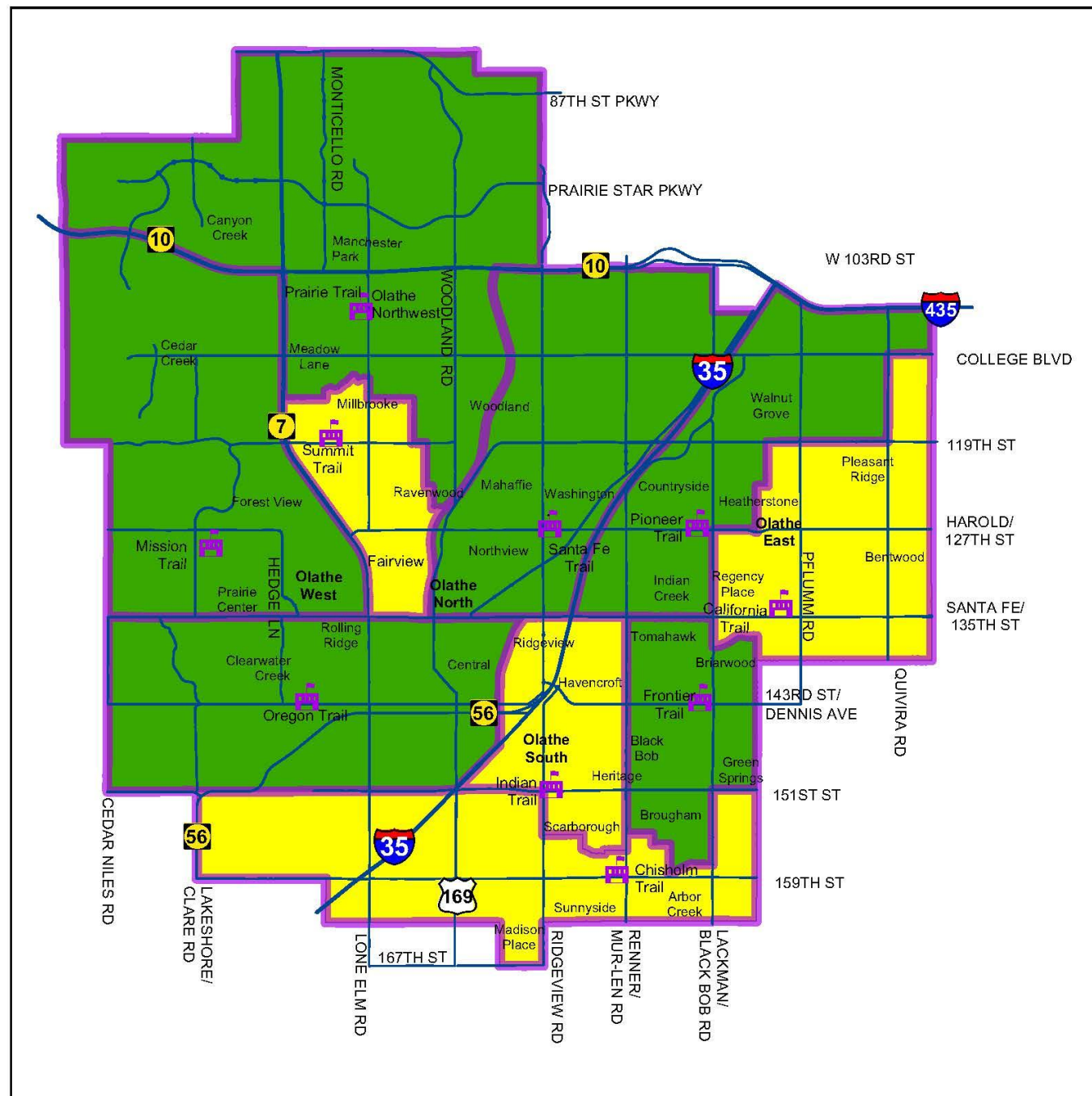
55% - 65%

65% - 75%

75% - 85%

Above 85%

Middle School Capacity 2025



Schools

Middle

Major Roads

MS Boundaries

MS Boundaries

Under 45%

45% - 55%

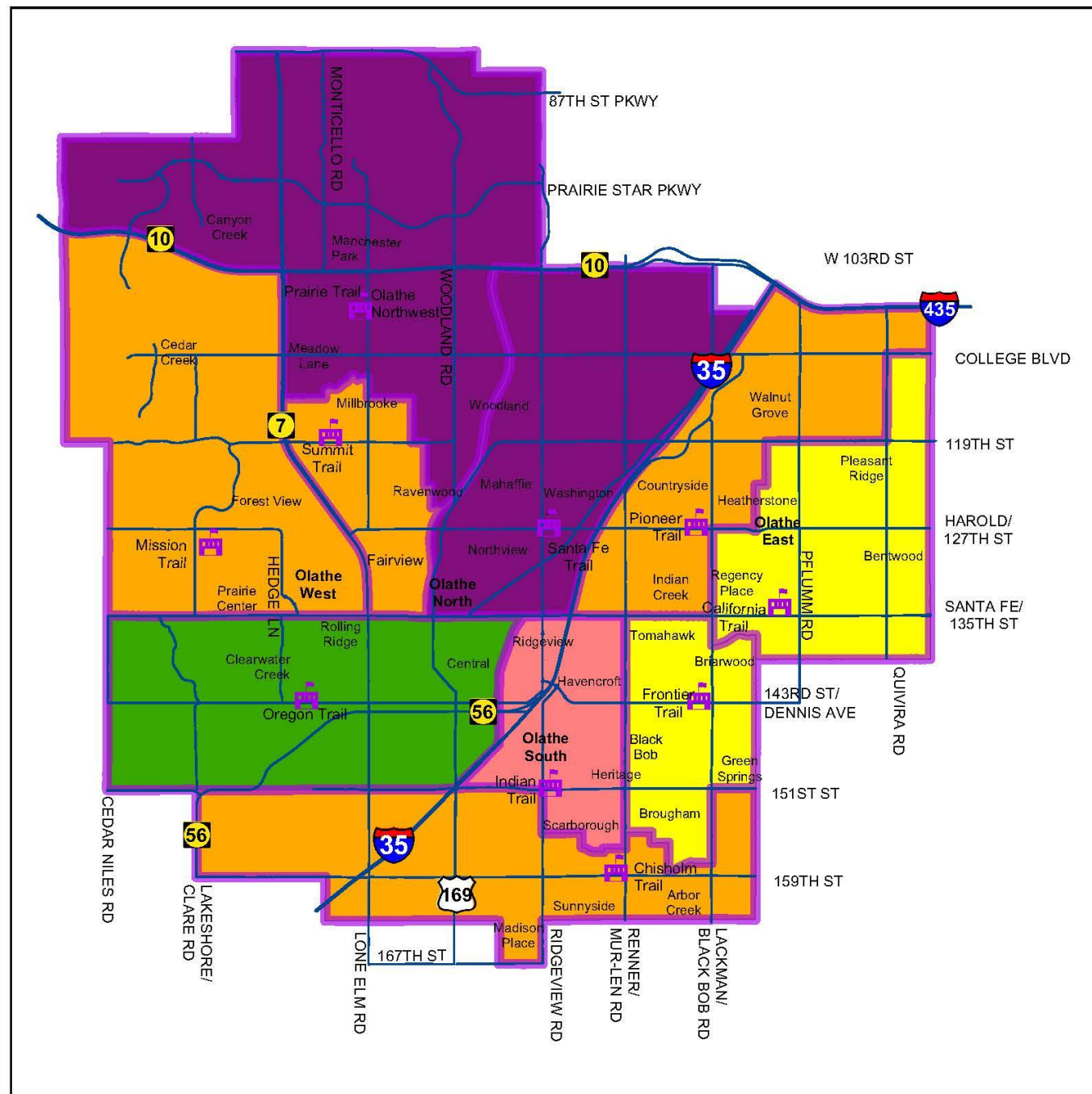
55% - 65%

65% - 75%

75% - 85%

Above 85%

Middle School Capacity 2035



Schools



Middle



Major Roads

MS Boundaries



MS Boundaries

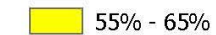
MS Capacity 2035



Under 46%



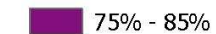
46% - 55%



55% - 65%



65% - 75%

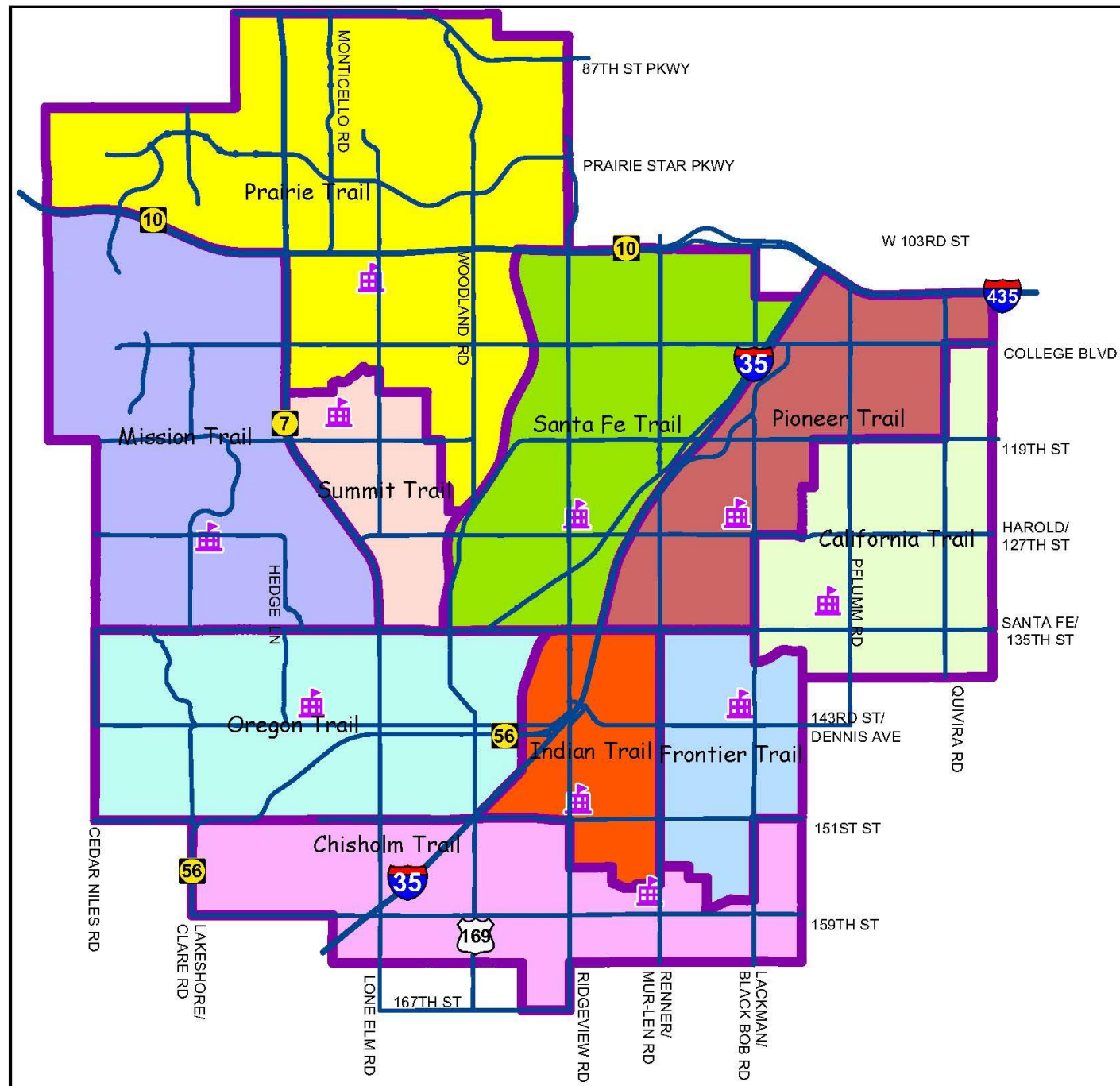


75% - 85%



Over 85%

Middle School Attendance Areas



Legend

- Middle_School
- Middle School Boundary
- California Trail
- Chisholm Trail
- Frontier Trail
- Indian Trail
- Mission Trail
- Oregon Trail
- Pioneer Trail
- Prairie Trail
- Santa Fe Trail
- Summit Trail

School Size Comparison with Neighboring Districts (2025-26 Numbers)

School Districts	Grades	MS Schools	Avg Enrollment	Below 500	Between 500-600	Between 600-700	Between 700-800	Over 800
Olathe SD	6, 7, & 8	10	632	0	4	5	1	0



School Size Comparison with Neighboring Districts (2025-26)

School Districts	Grades	MS Schools	Avg Enrollment	Below 500	Between 500-600	Between 600-700	Between 700-800	Over 800
Olathe SD	6, 7, & 8	10	632	0	4	5	1	0
SMSD	7 & 8	5	783	0	0	0	3	2
BVSD	6, 7, & 8	9	574	3	3	2	0	1



Middle School Average Size

	25-26	26-27	27-28	28-29	29-30	30-31	31-32	32-33	33-34	34-35
OPS Forecast	6,320	6,407	6,422	6,428	6,367	6,250	6,021	5,838	5,771	5,818
Schools	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10
Average Size	632	641	642	643	637	625	602	584	577	582



Middle Average Size – With School Closures

Schools to Close	25-26	26-27	27-28	28-29	29-30	30-31	31-32	32-33	33-34	34-35
1	10	10	9	9	9	9	9	9	9	9
	632	641	714	714	707	694	669	648	641	646
2	10	10	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8
	632	641	714	804	796	780	753	730	721	727



OPS Middle Schools with opening year

- Santa Fe Trail 1968 & 2024
- Oregon Trail 1976
- Indian Trail 1981
- Pioneer Trail 1986
- Frontier Trail 1989
- California Trail 1996
- Chisholm Trail 2000
- Prairie Trail 2004
- Mission Trail 2010
- Summit Trail 2018



Elementary School Size Comparison with Neighboring Districts (2025-26 Numbers)

School Districts	Elem Schools	Avg Enrollment	Below 350	Between 350-450	Between 450-550	Above 550
Olathe Public Schools	36	340	24	9	2	1



Elementary School Size Comparison with Neighboring Districts (2025-26 Numbers)

School Districts	Elem Schools	Avg Enrollment	Below 350	Between 350-450	Between 450-550	Above 550
Olathe Public Schools	36	340	24	9	2	1
Shawnee Mission SD	34	416	8	14	10	2
Blue Valley SD	22	420	5	7	9	1

70% of BVSD & SMSD schools in this range. 30% in Olathe

1. SMSD numbers from www.datacentral.ksde.gov and are 2024-25 school year.
2. BVSD numbers are from the 2025-26 Annual Enrollment Report Presentation to the BOE at its 12/08/25 meeting.
3. SMSD has announced their intention to merge two of their smaller schools in Spring 2031.



Elementary School Average Size – With no Closures beyond 3 previously announced (WV, FV, RV)

	25-26	26-27	27-28	28-29	29-30	30-31	31-32	32-33	33-34	34-35
OPS Forecast	12,239	12,001	11,853	11,724	11,656	11,611	11,653	11,682	11,593	11,476
Schools	36	35	35	35	33	33	33	33	33	33
Average Size	340	343	339	335	353	352	353	354	351	348



Elementary Average Size – With Additional Closures

Schools to Close	25-26	26-27	27-28	28-29	29-30	30-31	31-32	32-33	33-34	34-35
3	36	35	32	32	30	30	30	30	30	30
	340	343	370	366	389	387	377	378	386	383
4	36	35	31	31	29	29	29	29	29	29
	340	343	382	378	402	400	402	403	400	396
5	36	35	30	30	28	28	28	28	28	28
	340	343	395	391	416	415	416	417	414	410
6	36	35	39	30	27	27	27	27	27	27
	340	343	409	404	432	430	432	433	429	425
7	36	35	29	29	27	26	26	26	26	26
	340	343	423	419	448	447	448	446	441	438

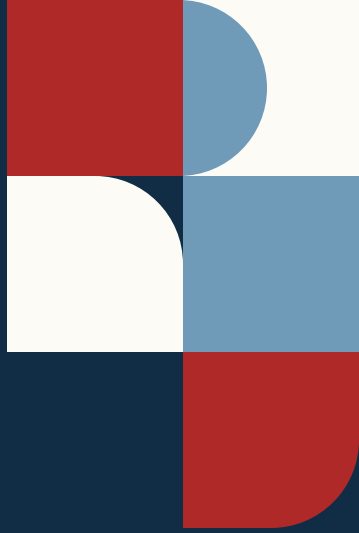
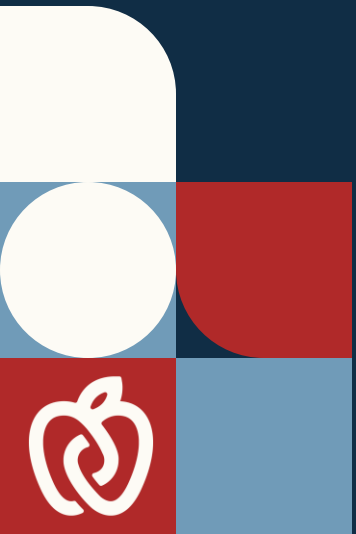


OPS Elementary Schools with opening year

School	Year		School	Year		School	Year
Arbor Creek	2002		Green Springs	1991		Prairie Center	1980
Bentwood	1996		Havencroft	1972		Ravenwood	2005
Black Bob	1978		Heatherstone	1995		Regency Place	1999
Briarwood	1988		Heritage	1988		Ridgeview	1956
Brougham	1985		Indian Creek	1985		Rolling Ridge	1972
Canyon Creek	2019		Madison Place	2007		Scarborough	1977
Cedar Creek	1997		Mahaffie	1991		Sunnyside	2000
Central	1883/1952		Manchester Park	2004		Tomahawk	1980
Clearwater Creek	2004		Meadow Lane	1951		Walnut Grove	1985
Countryside	1988		Millbrooke	2014		Washington	1895/1975
Fairview	1964		Northview	1967		Woodland	2008
Forest View	2009		Pleasant Ridge	1991			



School Closure Recommendations



Sampling of National School Closings of public school districts

School District	State	2025-26 Enrollment	Schools to Be Closed or Consolidated
Pittsburg Public Schools	Pennsylvania	17,937	12
Cedar Rapids Community School District	Iowa	13,945	7
Judson Independent School District	Texas	22,500	4
Cleveland Metropolitan School District	Ohio	34,000	29
Atlanta Public Schools	Georgia	50,000	16
Kyrene School District	Arizona	12,000	6

Source: www.k12dive.com/news/public-schools-closure-tracker-enrollment/809364/



Local School Closings Since 2010

School District	Closures	Year
Wichita School District	2 Elementaries	2028
	2 Elementaries	2027 or 2028
	2 Middle Schools	2024
	4 Elementaries	2024
Lawrence	2 Elementaries	2023
	1 Elementary	2022
Kansas City Public Schools	2 Elementaries	2023
Shawnee Mission School District	1 Elementary	2031
	1 Elementary	2013
	2 Middle Schools	2011
	1 Elementary	2011
Leavenworth	1 Intermediate Center (5th & 6th)	2026
Central Plains (Great Bend)	1 Elementary	2026
	1 High School	2023



School Closure Recommendations

- District staff based on our analysis and work of the Facility Alignment Task Force, the Facility Alignment Steering Committee, and the Boundary Study Group to make the following recommendation:
- Number of Schools to Close:
 - 1 Middle School
 - 5 Elementary Schools (this is in addition to repurposing of Westview and the merging of Central with Ridgeview and Northview with Fairview)
- All 6 schools are recommended to be closed at the end of the 2026/2027 school year



Rationale to close all schools at the end of the 2026/2027 school year

- Budget impact
- Staffing uncertainty
- Prioritize our classified staffing shortage areas (paraprofessionals, custodians, food service, etc.)
- School sustainability with impending closure (presents staff challenges, enrollment decline, etc.)
- Stability for students, parents, and staff
- No phased-in boundary adjustments



School Closure Recommendations

- Indian Trail Middle School
- Black Bob Elementary
- Heritage Elementary
- Scarborough Elementary
- Tomahawk Elementary
- Walnut Grove Elementary
- Relocate the Spanish Immersion program from Black Bob to Arbor Creek (Spanish Immersion at Manchester Park continues)
- Schools already approved to close or repurpose:
 - Westview – repurposed to Compass in 2026
 - Fairview – closes in 2028 or 2029
 - Ridgeview – closes in 2028 or 2029

Middle School Closure – Indian Trail

- Reasons for Decision

- Declining student numbers in Southeast Olathe
- Our smallest middle school this year
- Building Condition/needed improvements
- Multiple adjoining schools that have space for additional students
- 100% of the FASC recommended ITMS as their top choice.

- Adjoining Schools

- Chisholm Trail
- Frontier Trail
- Santa Fe Trail
- Pioneer Trail
- Oregon Trail



Elementary Closure – Black Bob

- Reason for the Decision
 - Declining Enrollment in Southeast
 - Building age/condition/needed improvements
 - Top 5 selection of the FASC
- Adjoining Schools
 - Brougham
 - Green Springs
 - Havencroft

*Spanish immersion program will move to Arbor Creek Elementary School.



Elementary Closure – Heritage

- Reasoning for decision
 - Building age/condition/needed improvements
 - ADA compliance issues/floor plan
 - Site challenges sitting on a high school campus
 - Top 5 selection of the FASC
- Adjoining Schools
 - Brougham
 - Havencroft
 - Madison Place



Elementary Closure – Scarborough

- Reason for decisions
 - Building age/condition/needed improvements
 - Smaller number of classrooms
 - Proximity of other schools under their functional capacity
 - Top 5 selection of the FASC
- Adjoining Schools
 - Brougham
 - Sunnyside
 - Madison Place



Elementary Closure – Tomahawk

- Reasoning for decision
 - Building age/condition/needed improvements
 - Proximity to other schools under their functional capacity (Briarwood)
 - Future projected enrollment decline
 - Top 5 selection of the FASC
- Adjoining Schools
 - Briarwood
 - Havencroft
 - Indian Creek

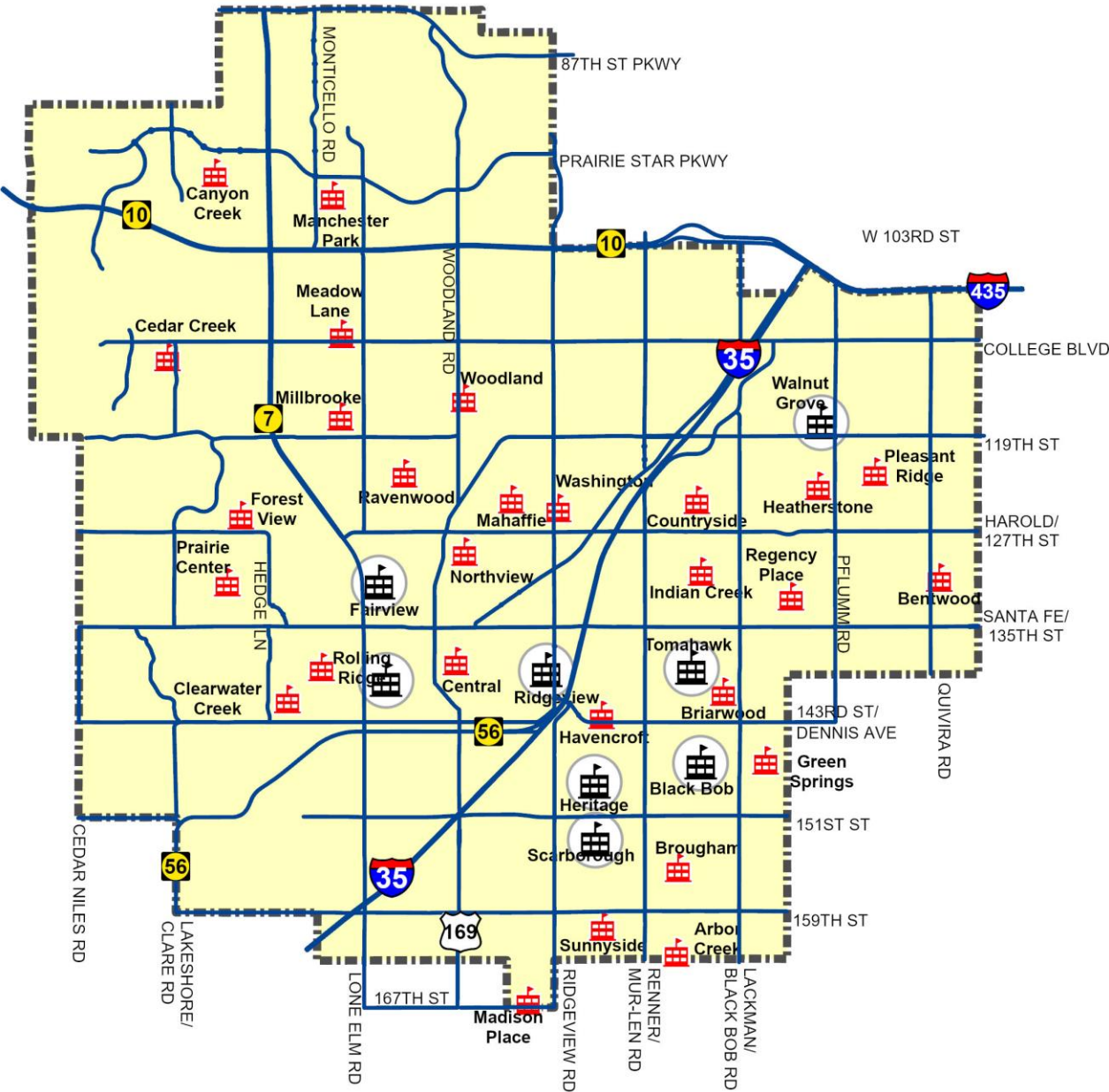


Elementary Closure – Walnut Grove

- Reasoning for decision
 - Lack of students with ½ mile of school (very few student walkers)
 - Building age/condition/needed improvements
 - Proximity of other schools in the Northeast under their functional capacity
 - Top 5 selection of the FASC
- Adjoining Schools
 - Countryside
 - Heatherstone
 - Pleasant Ridge



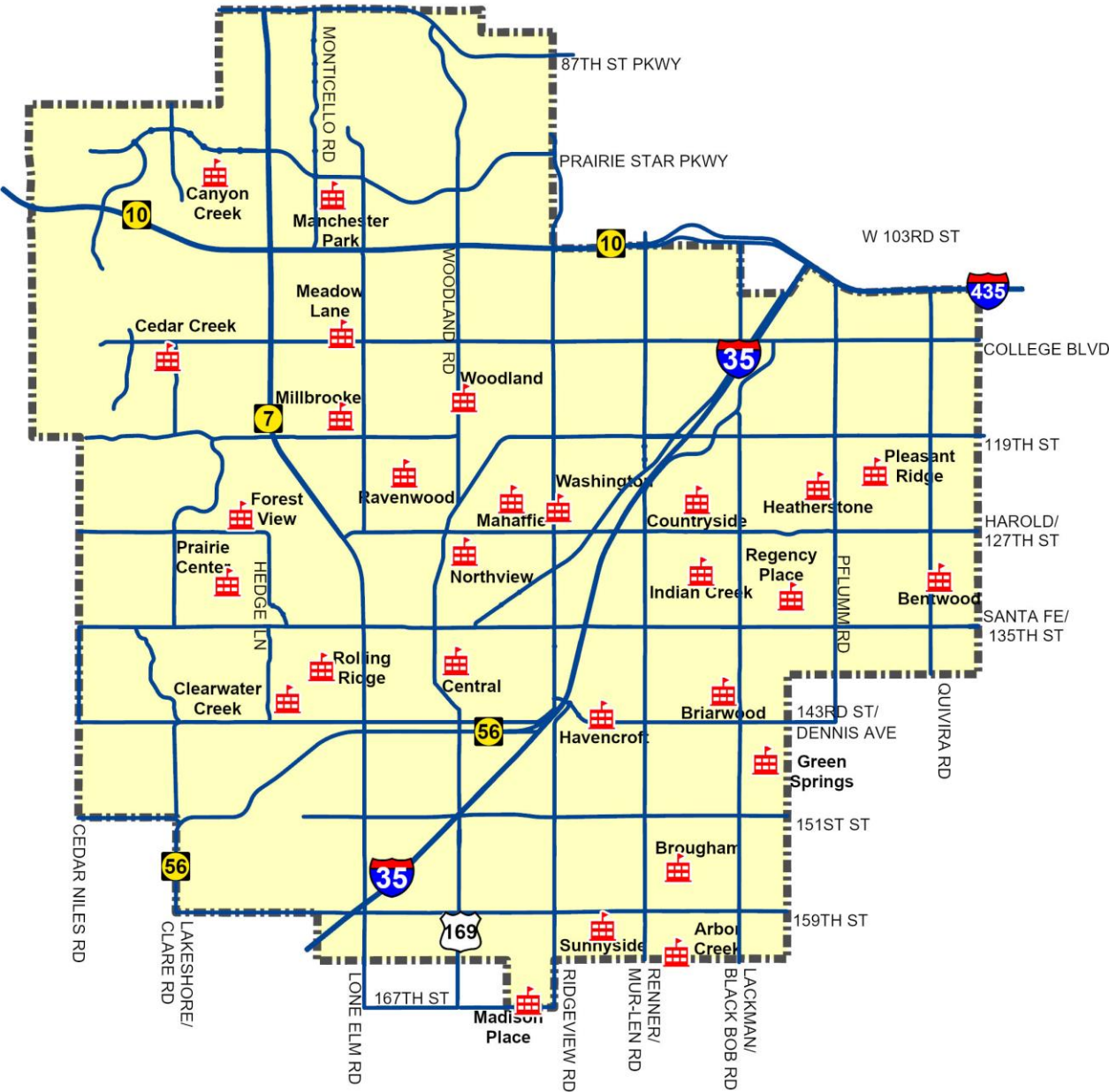
Elementary Schools Post Closures



- Legend*
-  USD 233
 -  Elem Schools
 -  Closed Elem Schools



Elementary Schools Post Closures



Legend

-  USD 233
-  Elem Schools



Elementary Capacity vs Estimated Enrollment

	25-26	26-27	27-28	28-29	29-30	30-31	31-32	32-33	33-34	34-35
OPS Forecast	12,239	12,001	11,853	11,724	11,656	11,611	11,653	11,682	11,593	11,476

- Anticipated Functional Capacity of remaining 28 schools – 16,360
- 85% of Anticipated Capacity is – 13,906
- Available space for growth = +2,430 students
- Average Enrollment of Olathe Elementary School in 2029-30 – 416
- Average Enrollment of SMSD elementary – 416
- Average Enrollment of BVSD elementary – 420

Larger Enrollment Does Not Equal Larger Class Sizes

Westview 2025-26

	Students	Sections	Class Size
Kdg	22	1	22
Gr 1	21	1	21
Gr 2	20	1	20
Gr 3	28	2	14
Gr 4	20	1	20
Gr 5	30	2	15
Total	144	8	

Rolling Ridge 2026-27

	Students	Sections	Class Size
Kdg	66	3	22
Gr 1	62	3	21
Gr 2	59	3	20
Gr 3	68	3	24
Gr 4	64	3	21
Gr 5	78	4	20
Total	397	19	

Larger Enrollment Does Not Equal Larger Class Sizes

Westview 2025-26

	Students	Sections	Class Size
Kdg	22	1	22
Gr 1	21	1	21
Gr 2	20	1	20
Gr 3	28	2	14
Gr 4	20	1	20
Gr 5	30	2	15
Total	144	8	

Rolling Ridge 2026-27

	Students	Sections	Class Size
Kdg	66	3	22
Gr 1	62	3	21
Gr 2	59	3	20
Gr 3	68	3	24
Gr 4	64	3	21
Gr 5	78	4	20
Total	397	19	

What happens to schools that close?

- Two of the elementary schools (TBD) will house Central and Northview students and staff during construction of their new buildings.
- The district is securing a broker to assist in selling most of the properties.
- A building may be kept for future repurposing needs.
- Our commitment is to make sure we don't have closed buildings sitting in our neighborhoods for years to come.



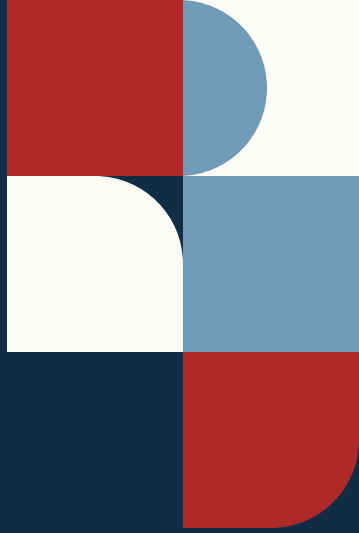
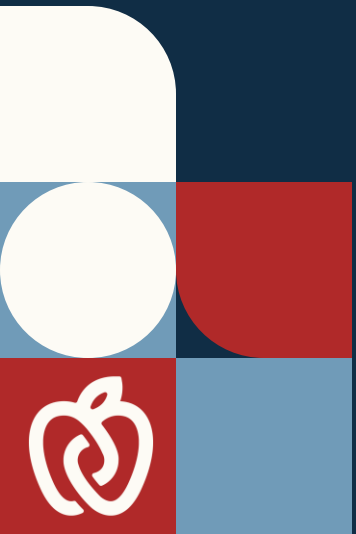
Staffing Goals of School Closures

- All staff members will retain employment in the district in a like position.
- Stability in staffing levels at schools. Most elementary schools fluctuate between 2 and 3 sections depending upon the year. The target is to get schools to be consistently either a 3-section or a 4-section school, every grade every year.
- This year the district shifted 10 teachers in August, right before the start of school. This is hard on the teacher, schools, and families.
- Stability will increase staff confidence they will be at the same building for multiple years.

Staffing Goals of School Closures (2)

- Allocate our classified staff to other buildings (paraprofessionals, custodians, food service, etc.)
- Reduce Traveling Teachers. Currently, specialty teachers (PE, Art, Music, Librarians) at schools below 14 sections are candidates to work at multiple elementary schools for a full workload.
- For smaller schools, their building schedule is dictated by when the specials teachers will be in their building.
- Traveling teacher's won't have to divide their focus between multiple buildings.

Budget Impact and Next Steps



Budget impact on the system

- Fewer buildings lead to:
 - Lower operating costs (electricity, water, gas, supplies, etc.)
 - Lower maintenance costs
 - Staffing efficiencies gained through attrition
- Annual savings conservatively estimated in excess of \$12 million.
- Allows for reinvestment into quality staff and programs, benefitting our students.
- Sale of buildings helps replenish district reserves currently at \$0.



Next Steps

- Parent school closure input night on September 22, 2026 at 5:30pm (Olathe South High School auditorium). No registration needed ahead of time.
- Board will be asked to take action at their October 1st meeting
- Boundary adjustment meetings will be held from October-December
- Proposed boundary changes will be brought to the BOE in December as a future action item; Action in January



Final thoughts...

- A very challenging, but necessary, task
- We did this process as transparently as possible, given the sensitive topic and impact on students, staff, and parents
- Parent and staff input was utilized throughout the process, including the final recommendations by the FASC
- By reducing our footprint and aligning our number of schools to serve our projected enrollment, we will provide fiscal responsibility to our community while allocating our resources to our students and staff whom we serve.



Questions and Discussion

