



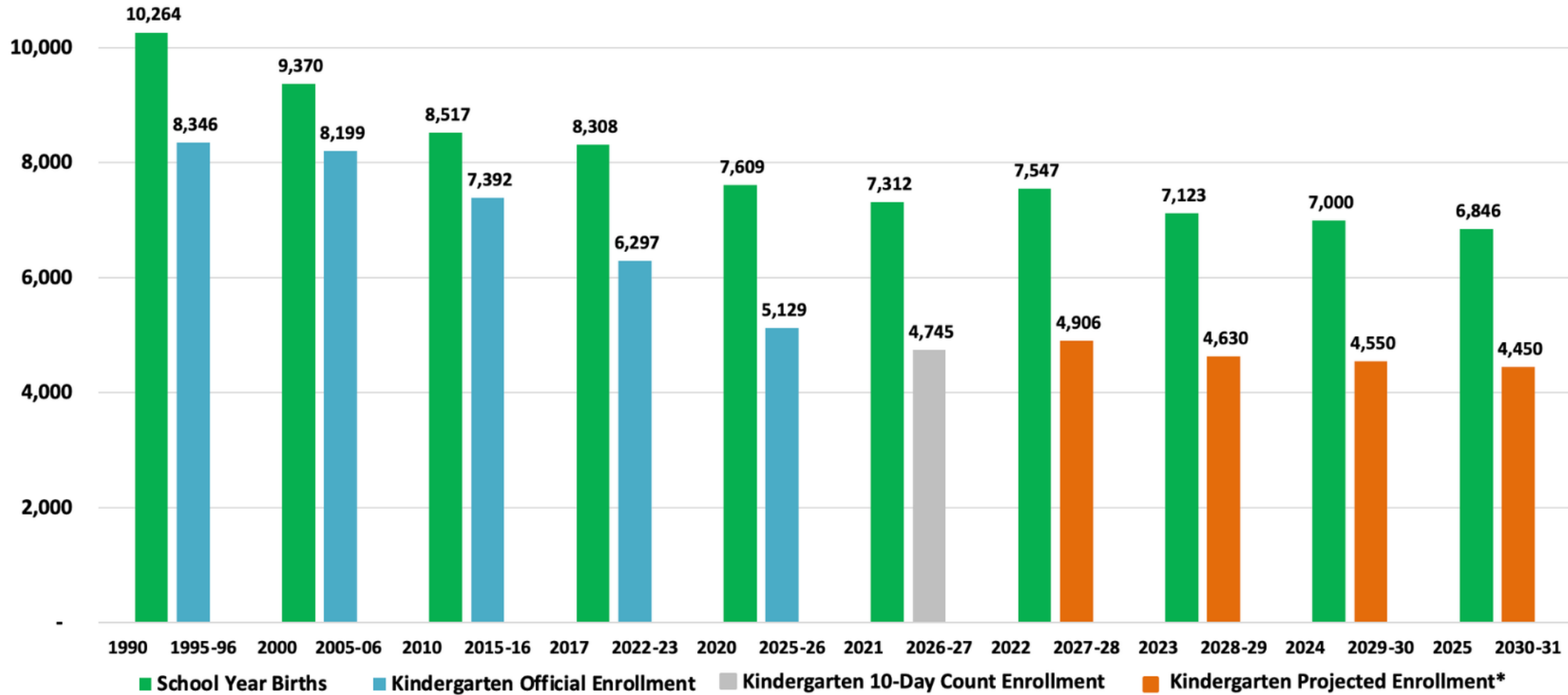
PLANNING FOR PROGRESS

A PORTFOLIO REVIEW OF PINELLAS COUNTY SCHOOLS

**TARPON SPRINGS FUNDAMENTAL ELEMENTARY MEETING
FALL 2026 RECOMMENDATIONS**

PRESENTED AT SCHOOL BOARD WORKSHOP: OCTOBER 6, 2026

PINELLAS COUNTY BIRTH RATES

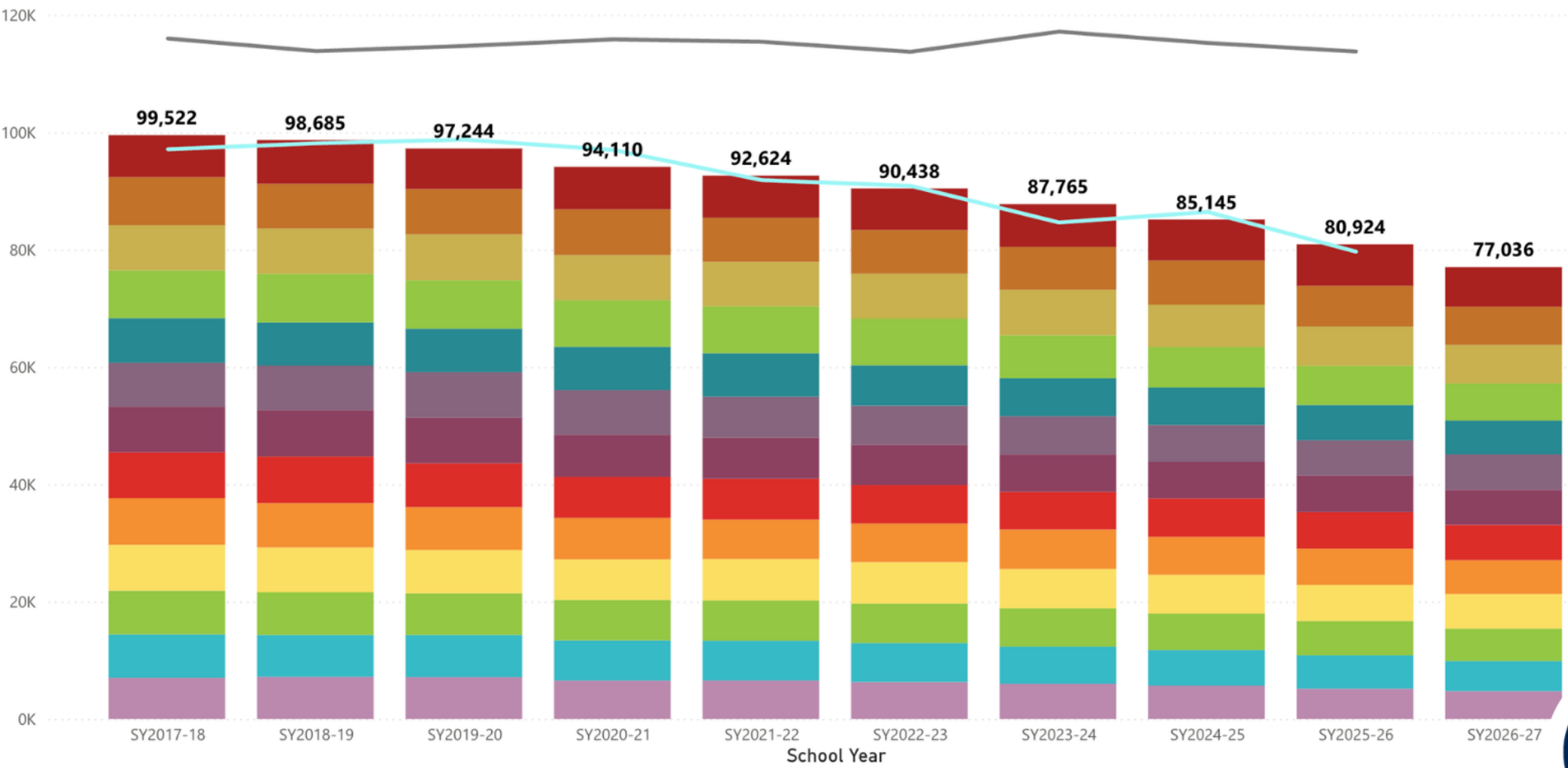


*Projected enrollment based on 65% of births in Pinellas County in the corresponding calendar year.

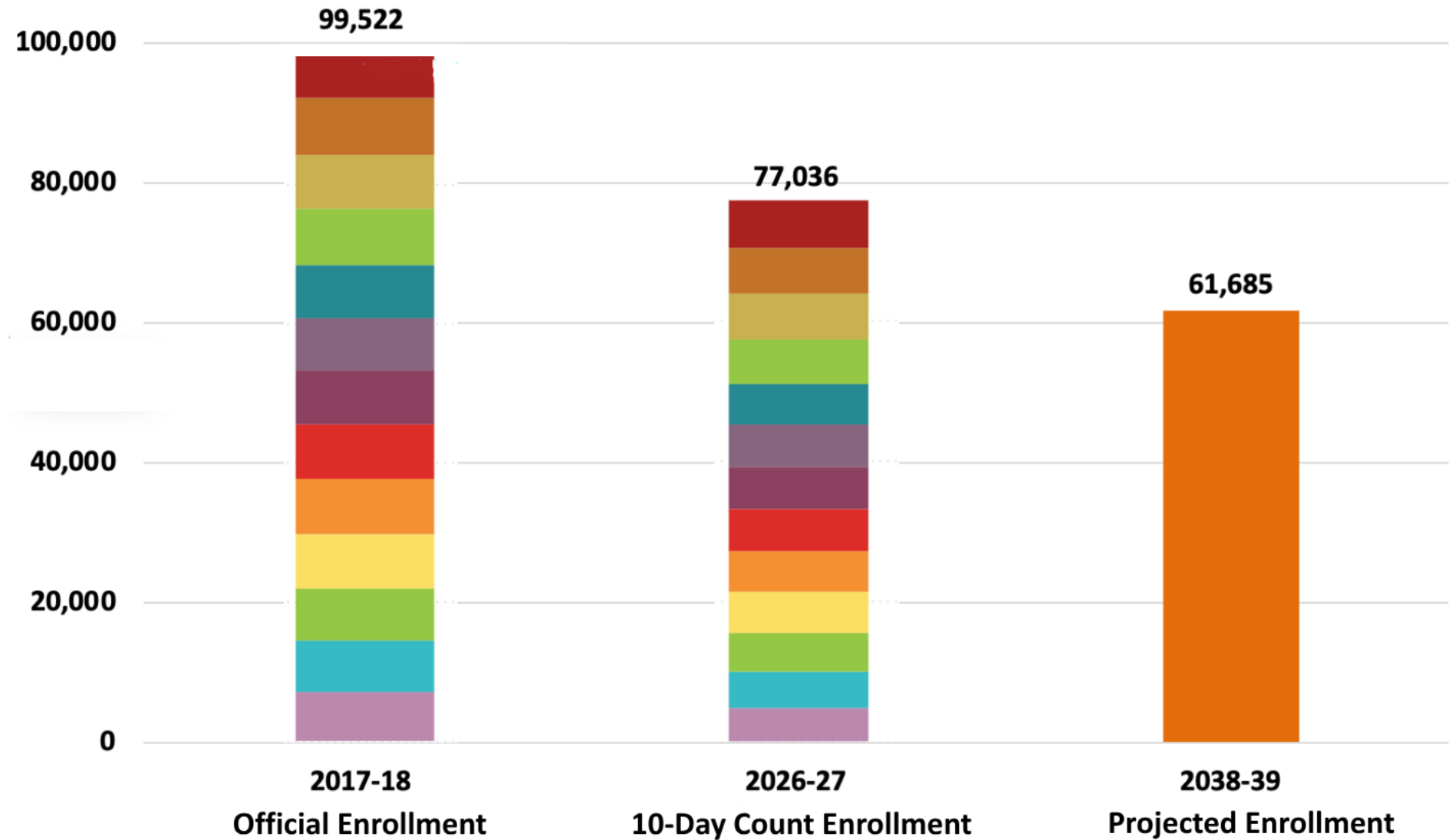


DISTRICT ENROLLMENT & BUILDING CAPACITY

● KG ● 01 ● 02 ● 03 ● 04 ● 05 ● 06 ● 07 ● 08 ● 09 ● 10 ● 11 ● 12 ● Permanent Seats ● Staffing to Enrollment



PCS ENROLLMENT PROJECTION



PINELLAS COUNTY POPULATION TRENDS

THE SCHOOL-AGE POPULATION IN PINELLAS COUNTY IS EXPECTED TO DECREASE OR PLATEAU THROUGH 2050.

THE POPULATION OF RESIDENTS AGED 80+ WILL DOUBLE BY 2050.



BEBR

**Bureau of Economic and
Business Research**

PORTFOLIO REVIEW

A STRATEGIC AND COMPREHENSIVE APPROACH FOR THRIVING SCHOOLS

GUIDING PRINCIPLES

- Student-Centered Opportunities
- Enrollment and Demand Trends
- Grade Configuration and Community Demand
- Program Availability and Geographic Distribution
- Site Capacity, Building Utilization, and Facility Investments
- Community Development and Demographic Analysis
- Public and Private Partnership Opportunities
- School Attendance Boundaries and Transportation Considerations
- Stakeholder Input and Community Priorities



FALL 2026 INDIVIDUAL SITE RECOMMENDATIONS

KINGS HIGHWAY ELEMENTARY MAGNET

CLOSE KINGS HIGHWAY ELEMENTARY MAGNET

PINELLAS PARK ELEMENTARY

OPEN A FUNDAMENTAL K-5 ON THE PINELLAS PARK ELEMENTARY SCHOOL CAMPUS
CLOSE PINELLAS PARK ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

BLANTON ELEMENTARY

CLOSE BLANTON ELEMENTARY

BOCA CIEGA HIGH

CREATE A TECHNICAL HIGH SCHOOL AT BOCA CIEGA HIGH

AZALEA MIDDLE

RELOCATE AND RENAME AZALEA MIDDLE

AZALEA ELEMENTARY

RELOCATE AND EXPAND AZALEA ELEMENTARY SCHOOL TO A K-8

BEAR CREEK ELEMENTARY

CLOSE BEAR CREEK ELEMENTARY

LEALMAN INNOVATION ACADEMY

CLOSE LEALMAN INNOVATION ACADEMY

BOARD REQUESTS

SUNSET HILLS ELEMENTARY, TARPON SPRINGS MIDDLE, AND TARPON SPRINGS FUNDAMENTAL

UPDATED
RECOMMENDATION

CREATE A K-8 SCHOOL BY COMBINING SUNSET HILLS ELEMENTARY AND
TARPON SPRINGS MIDDLE SCHOOLS BEGINNING IN THE 2027-28 SCHOOL YEAR

EXPAND TARPON SPRINGS FUNDAMENTAL ELEMENTARY SCHOOL TO A
FUNDAMENTAL K-8 SCHOOL ON THE CURRENT SUNSET HILLS ELEMENTARY
SCHOOL CAMPUS, BEGINNING IN THE 2027-28 SCHOOL YEAR.

JOHN M. SEXTON ELEMENTARY

CLOSE JOHN M. SEXTON ELEMENTARY

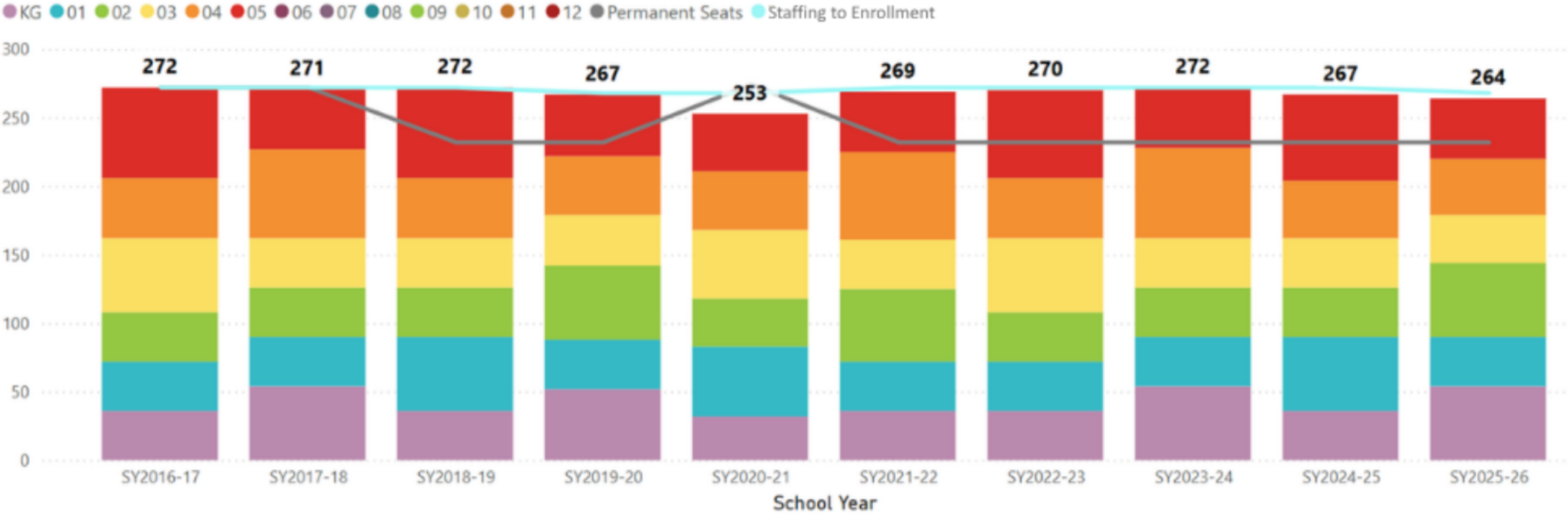
ADDITIONAL
ANALYSIS



TARPON SPRINGS FUNDAMENTAL ELEMENTARY

RECOMMENDATION: EXPAND TARPON SPRINGS FUNDAMENTAL ELEMENTARY SCHOOL TO A FUNDAMENTAL K-8 SCHOOL ON THE CURRENT SUNSET HILLS ELEMENTARY SCHOOL CAMPUS, BEGINNING IN THE 2027-28 SCHOOL YEAR.

TABLE 1: TSFES SCHOOL CAPACITY & ENROLLMENT



Official 2025-26 Count Snapshot Data (Survey 2), FISH and Program Capacity
Tables demonstrate student enrollment in bar charts, total permanent building capacity (student stations) in the grey line graph, and staffing for the student population and programs in the teal line.



TARPON SPRINGS FUNDAMENTAL ELEMENTARY

- This recommendation expands Tarpon Springs Fundamental Elementary to a fundamental K-8 school on the current Sunset Hills Elementary School campus beginning in the 2027-28 school year.
- Students currently enrolled in the K-5 fundamental program at Tarpon Springs Fundamental Elementary have the opportunity to continue in the fundamental program through 8th grade. All students who attend grade 5 at Tarpon Springs Fundamental Elementary School will be able to attend grade 6 at the Fundamental K-8 School beginning in 2027-28.
- The transition to a K-8 school will occur over three years, adding grade 6 in 2027-28, grade 7 in 2028-29, and grade 8 in 2029-30.
- The Tarpon Springs Fundamental K-8 School will be a District Application Program (DAP) with no zone, and the district's standard fundamental program admission priorities will apply. Annually, all students enrolled in grade 5 at the Tarpon Springs Fundamental K-8 School will be eligible to continue in grade 6 at the fundamental K-8 beginning in 2027-28.
- Additional seats may be available through the district's DAP process, which opens in January 2027 for the 2027-28 school year. If approved, the Tarpon Springs area will engage in a school-naming process for the two K-8 campuses.
- If approved, the Tarpon Springs area will engage in a school-naming process for the two K-8 campuses.



TARPON SPRINGS FUNDAMENTAL ELEMENTARY

Creating a fundamental program on a larger campus will provide space to expand enrollment up to 348 in K-5, and 198 in middle school grade levels, making better use of the facility.

TABLE 2: PROJECTED CAPACITY & ENROLLMENT

	2026-27 ENROLLMENT*	PERMANENT CAPACITY	UTILIZATION	PROJECTED ENROLLMENT	PROJECTED UTILIZATION
Tarpon Springs Fund. ES	261	232	113%		
Tarpon Springs Fund. K-8		546		TBD	TBD

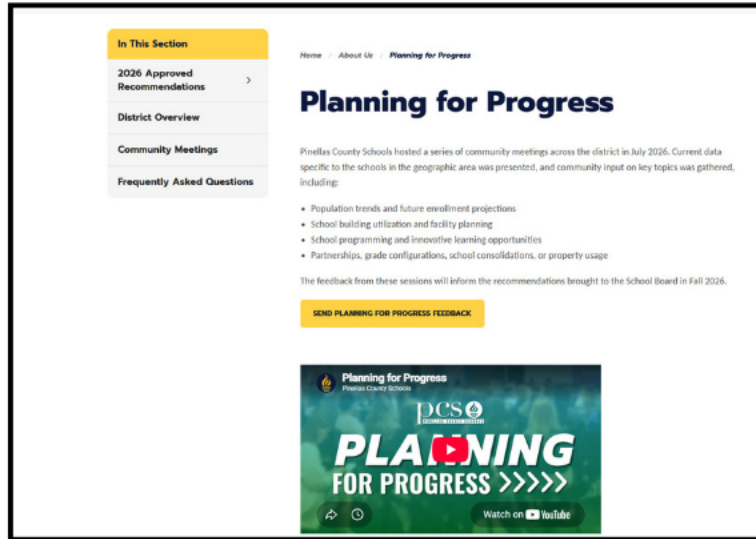
**2026-27 Enrollment as of the 10-day count (August 24, 2026).*

Projected enrollment for the receiving school accounts for all students currently enrolled in K-7 at Sunset Hills and Tarpon Springs Middle, plus the 181 students currently enrolled in grades 3-5 at Tarpon Springs Elementary School.

***Projected enrollment for Carwise Middle boundary changes anticipates 75% market share of the zoned population.*

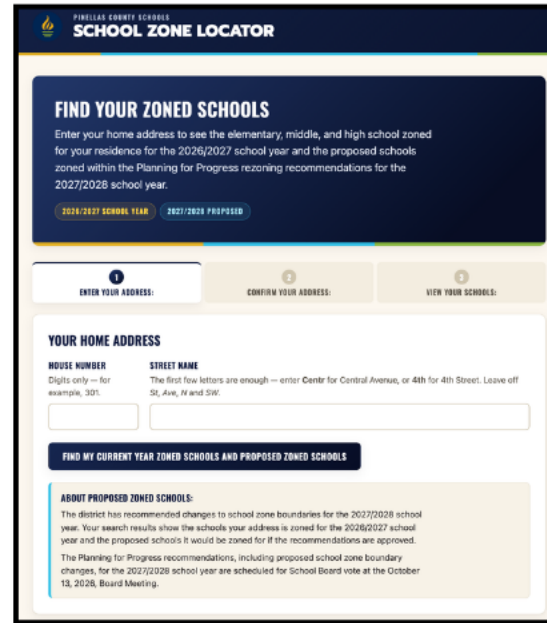


LEARN MORE AT WWW.PCSB.ORG/PROGRESS



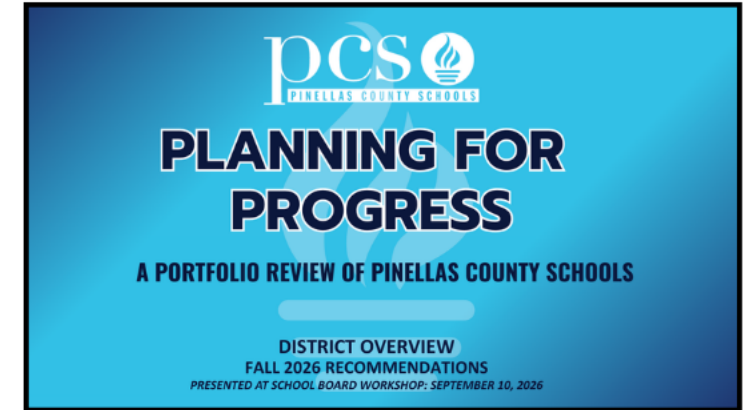
WEBSITE

BY RECOMMENDATION: ONE-PAGERS, FAQs,
COMMUNITY MEETING DATES & LINKS TO
ADDITIONAL RESOURCES



SCHOOL LOCATOR

CURRENT & PROPOSED SCHOOL ZONES



VIDEOS

BY RECOMMENDATION &
GEOGRAPHIC AREA

FEEDBACK BUTTON

SEND PLANNING FOR PROGRESS FEEDBACK

ALL SUBMISSIONS WILL BE SHARED WITH ALL BOARD MEMBERS



PLANNING FOR PROGRESS

TIMELINE: FALL 2026 RECOMMENDATIONS

SEPTEMBER 2026

SCHOOL BOARD WORKSHOP: SEPT 10, 2026

Topic: Fall Recommendations

SCHOOL-BASED MEETINGS #1: SEPT 14-21, 2026

Topic: Individual Site Recommendations & Policy Implications

SCHOOL BOARD MEETING: SEPT 22, 2026 @ 5 PM

Opportunity for Public Comment

NOVEMBER 2026

SCHOOL BOARD MEETING: NOV 10, 2026 @ 10 AM

Topic: Policy 2250 Second Reading

OCTOBER 2026

SCHOOL BOARD WORKSHOP: OCT 6, 2026

Topic: Individual Site Recommendations & Policy Implications

SCHOOL-BASED MEETINGS #2: OCT 6-12, 2026

Topic: Second meeting for schools recommended for closure

SCHOOL BOARD MEETING: OCT 13, 2026 @ 5 PM

Opportunity for Public Comment and Board Vote on
Recommendations and Policy 2250 First Reading

SCHOOL BOARD MEETING: OCT 27, 2026 @ 5 PM

Topic: Policy 5120 First Reading



FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

WILL STAFF MEMBERS LOSE THEIR JOBS?

No staff member will lose their job as a result of the recommendations. As the recommendation expands the school to K-8, additional units will be added as student enrollment and the grade levels served increase.

WHAT WILL THE BELL SCHEDULE BE WITH A MIDDLE SCHOOL ON THE SAME CAMPUS?

Based on Board approval of the Planning for Progress recommendations, bell schedules for all schools will be brought to the School Board and finalized by Spring 2027.

WILL THE YOUNGEST LEARNERS BE IN THE SAME SPACE AS MIDDLE SCHOOL STUDENTS?

The design of K-8 sites across the district includes separate building spaces for older and younger students. This allows for building a campus-wide culture while ensuring safe, developmentally appropriate educational spaces. Minimal construction will be completed to align with the middle grades (7-8) science lab curriculum.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

WHAT EXTRACURRICULAR AND ELECTIVE OPPORTUNITIES WILL THE K-8 HAVE NEXT YEAR?

Extracurricular activities (e.g., clubs, athletics) and electives will be determined based on student interests and requests.

DO STUDENTS IN GRADE 5 HAVE TO APPLY TO BE IN THE MIDDLE GRADES IN THE K-8?

No. Fifth graders will be automatically assigned to 6th grade within the K-8. If a family wishes to attend another fundamental school for middle school, the feeder-pattern priority would apply to their first choice.