

FACILITIES PLANNING ENROLLMENT PROJECTIONS

Each year, the administration is to make careful projections of elementary enrollment (separately for kindergarten and for grades 1-5 and 6-8) for the following fall. In addition, the best possible assessments of enrollments two, five, and ten years in advance are to be made. The results are to be reported to the School Committee in March of each year.

Whenever the total enrollment projected for one and two years hence exceeds the sum of the standard capacities of the buildings then in use, the administration is to begin planning for that projected enrollment.

Standard Elementary School Capacities

For planning purposes, a capacity shall be set for each elementary school building by multiplying 22.5 times the number of available classrooms in the building. The number of available classrooms is the number left after provision has been made for the following:

- Central eating areas
- Gymnasias
- Special Education classrooms
- Administrative space & nursing station
- Necessary kindergarten space
- Auditoria
- Library
- Art-Music room
- Counseling-tutoring space
- Before and after school programs
- Science Room/Lab
- Computer Lab
- Community Room

Capacity of Middle School/High School

For planning purposes the maximum capacity for the middle school is 1100 and for the high school 1600.

Recommendations may include closing schools or leasing areas of the school, redistricting or combinations of these or other actions.

The # of Elementary School Buildings will be based on

1. Projected enrollments of 5 to 10 years hence
2. Educational impact
3. Budget considerations
4. Safety and travel considerations
5. Other matters deemed relevant

Redistricting Elementary Schools

District lines will be drawn

1. With full consideration for student safety (see travel policy)
2. So that as many schools as possible are operating at optimal capacity
3. So that districts are contiguous.
4. To minimize disruption of peer relationships

Completed recommendations on closings and resulting redistricting are to be submitted by the administration to the School Committee for decision by March at the latest.

The School Committee recognizes that collaboration with other town departments as well as the involvement of teachers, parents and the community members are essential elements in planning for our buildings and for our students safety.

Input from the Town Planning Department and the Department of Community Safety will be an integral part of the process.

The involvement of our professional educators, parents and concerned citizens will be welcomed and encouraged.

Revised: October 9, 2007