

**WAUNAKEE COMMUNITY SCHOOL DISTRICT
BOARD OF EDUCATION ADDITIONAL SCHOOL BOARD MEETING**

Monday, June 7, 2021

6:00 PM

Waunakee Community School District
905 Bethel Circle
Waunakee, WI 53597

Members of the public may attend Board of Education meetings in-person, subject to space limitations. Members of the public who choose to access the meeting via live stream video may do so at: <https://www.waunakee.k12.wi.us/district/Agendas.cfm>

Public comments will be limited to 3 minutes. The Board will allow 1 hour for public comments.

Public comments may be sent to Rebecca McDonough

at district_administrator@waunakee.k12.wi.us up to one hour before the start of the Board meeting. All comments will be reviewed by the Board members. Emailed comments will be reviewed by the board but not read out loud. Comments must include the commentator's name, address, and must identify their connection to the District (if any) and any group they are representing in order to be considered by the Board.

If you would like to address the Board in-person during the public comments section of the meeting, you will be greeted outside the boardroom and brought into the meeting individually to present; if you are attending the Board meeting in person, you will be asked to check in with District personnel when you arrive so that you can be recognized and address the Board when your name is called.

AGENDA

I. CALL TO ORDER

II. ROLL CALL

III. APPROVE THE AGENDA

IV. PUBLIC COMMENTS

**V. BOARD WORKSHOP TO REVIEW FACILITY NEEDS AT
HERITAGE ELEMENTARY, WAUNAKEE MIDDLE SCHOOL,
WAUNAKEE HIGH SCHOOL AND THE TEACHING AND LEARNING
CENTER**

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Attached please find the presentation that administration and our team from Vogel and EUA will use on Monday to reorientate the Board to where we left off with facility planning in February 2020. We are not seeking any decisions related to this presentation, other than feedback for next steps.

From an administrative perspective, we need to see the final enrollment for the fall and then can better determine how that impacts our forecasts, timelines, and planning.

Attached also see draft timelines for various referendum dates -- Spring 2022, Fall 2022, and Spring 2023.

We have not updated the tax impact of the items we are discussing on Monday night, and that process will be done as we determine our next steps and timelines.

**Attached to the "Extras" area of BoardBook are six spreadsheets that detail the "pathways" developed at the Board workshops in the spring of 2020. We will print these for Monday night.

Please note:

These are calibrated in the millions of dollars.

The costs are in 2020 dollars.

The Old Aud was included in the HS scope.***

VI. REVIEW COMMUNITY GROWTH REPORT BY MARK ROFFERS 39

Attached please find the updated community growth presentation by Mark Roffers. Mark connected with each of the developers and municipalities to solicit input in how development projects have progressed during the course of the pandemic, what has changed, and then analyzed what these changes mean for the school district's facility planning. The enrollment projections have not been updated, and we believe this is an essential data point for us to gather in September as we return to school in the fall and get a truer sense of our enrollment for 2021-2022 and beyond.

VII. REVIEW/CONSIDER MIDDLE SCHOOL SPACE OPTIONS FOR 2021-2022 72

Attached please find a memo from Jeff Kenas, Middle School Principal, regarding space concerns at the Middle School for the next few years as a few large classes move through the school. We have reviewed options for how to address these larger classes, and those options are outlined in Mr. Kenas' memo. We are adding this item to the agenda to bring you into the conversation and solicit your feedback. A decision does not need to be made on Monday night on this issue, and we can/will bring it back to the Board at the June 14th meeting.

FYI...one of the options presented in the memo is adding another portable classroom unit behind the Middle School. John Cramer is working on availability and cost of this option, and we will have projected costs for the meeting on Monday night.

VIII. OPEN ENROLLMENT APPROVALS FOR 2021-2022 75

We inadvertently did not include the Open Enrollment Approvals/Denials on the May School Board Meeting Agenda, and we need to act on these prior to the June Board Meeting, so we have added this agenda item for your action on Monday night.

The administration has reviewed each of the Open Enrollment Applications, and they align with State Law and our Policy. We are recommending approval as presented.

IX. ADJOURN

“Any person who has a qualifying disability as defined by the Americans with Disabilities Act who requires assistance with access or materials should contact the Waunakee Community School District Office at 849-2000, 905 Bethel Circle Drive Waunakee, WI 53597, at least twenty-four hours prior to the commencement of the meeting so that necessary arrangements can be made to accommodate the request.”

WCSD Board Workshop Facilities Planning

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June 7, 2021



AGENDA

- Introductions
- The Facilities Planning Process
- Waunakee - Our Facilities Facilities Needs
- The WCSD Master Plan
- Planning Conducted in 2019 & 2020
- Timelines
- Mark Roffers

Introductions



Robin Svola
Project Manager

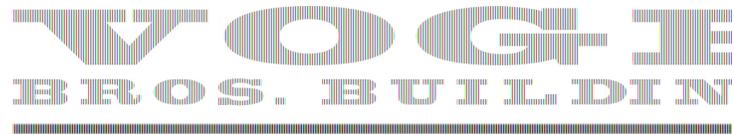


Chris Michaud
Senior Design Architect



Andy Lyons
Engagement &
Communications Specialist

Introductions



Jay Thomsen
Project Executive



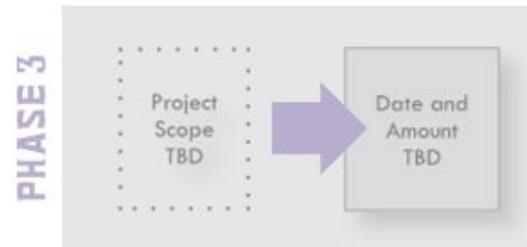
Eric Ballweg
Community Relations & Engagement

The Facilities Planning Process



Phase I: 2014

Phase 1 (Complete) → Phase 2 (In-Process) → Phase 3 (Future)



Major Waunakee Facilities Needs

- Long-term needs
 - Address district wide **capital maintenance**
 - Modernize **learning environments**
 - Prepare for **enrollment growth**
 - Renovated / expand **high school campus**

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Capital Maintenance Needs**

- WCSD capital maintenance needs are estimated at between \$24.8 and \$31.2 million.
- Some of these costs can be avoided if renovation takes place

	Low End	High End
Arboretum	\$ 1,006,617	\$ 1,563,897
District Office	\$ 1,419,361	\$ 1,419,361
District Wide	\$ 116,000	\$ 116,000
Heritage	\$ 5,062,599	\$ 5,946,723
High School	\$ 10,303,016	\$ 13,180,869
Intermediate	\$ 23,527	\$ 23,527
Middle School	\$ 3,517,122	\$ 4,591,534
Pool	\$ 101,780	\$ 101,780
Prairie	\$ 3,136,673	\$ 4,100,388
TLC	\$ 127,990	\$ 174,995
Total	\$ 24,814,684	\$ 31,219,074

**Replacement of building systems expected to meet or exceed their useful life over the next five years, expressed in 2021 dollars

Modernize Learning Environments

- Collaboration space
- Small group instruction
- Flexible, adaptable learning environments
- Facilities help support interdisciplinary and/or school-to-work programming
- Spaces are more accessible and equitable for all learners



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Long-Term Enrollment Growth

- WCSD has experienced sustained enrollment growth driven by residential demand
- District actively monitors growth from year-to-year
- Periodically, WCSD contracts for long-term enrollment projections



Remodel Space at High School

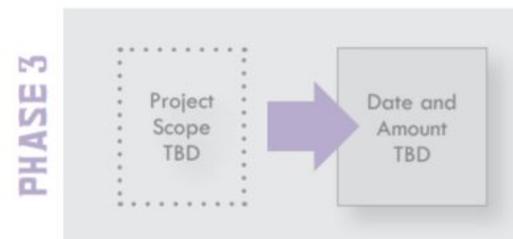
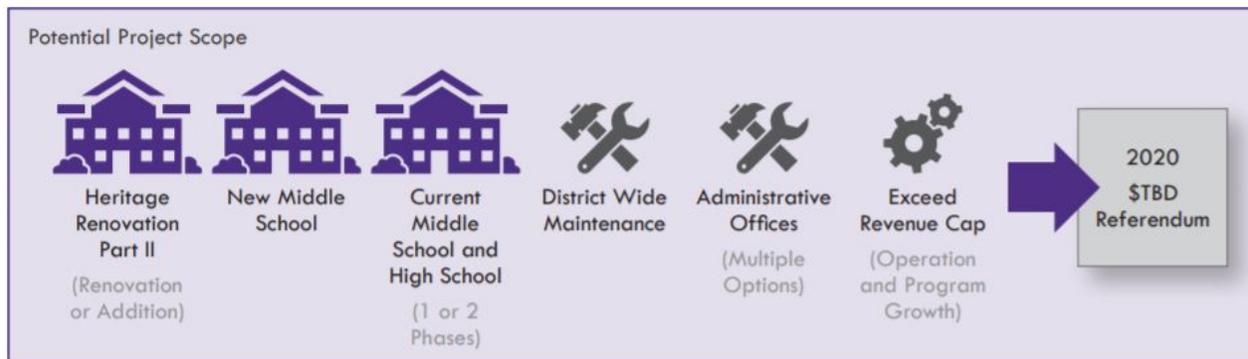
- Renovate welding lab
- Remodel technical education and lab space
- Family changing / toileting
- Large group instructional space
- Provide future options for expansion and potential connection to existing Middle School



Waunakee Innovation Center (Work Completed - 2015)

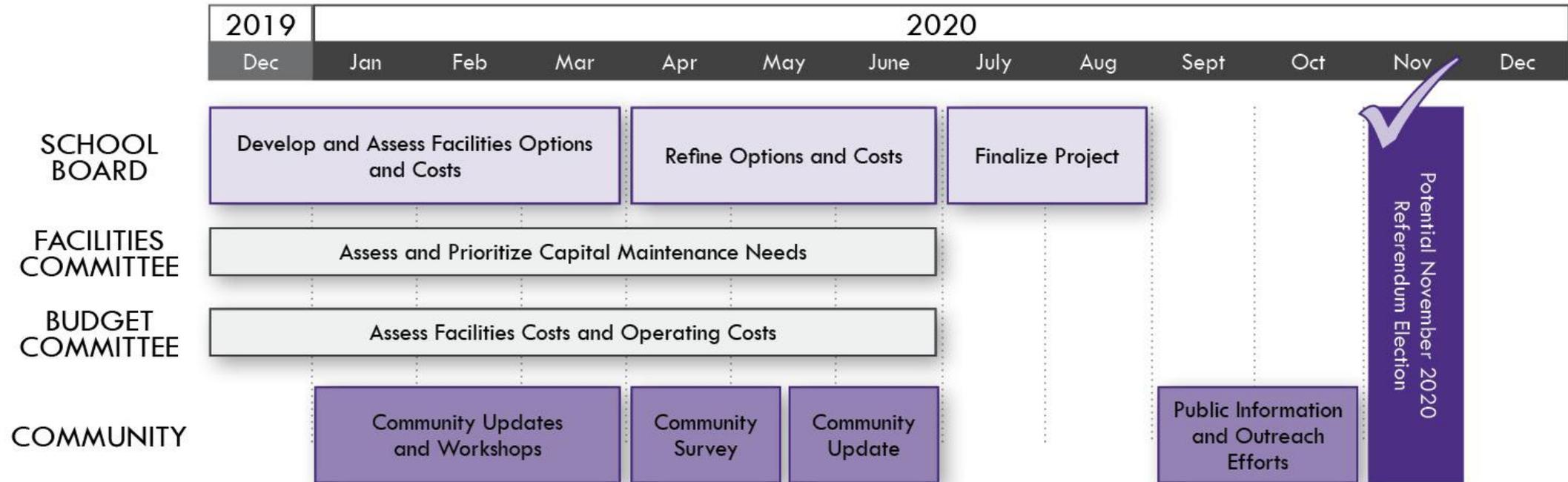
2019-20 Planning: Phase II Referendum

Phase 1 (Complete) ➔ Phase 2 (In-Process) ➔ Phase 3 (Future)



2019-20 Planning: Phase II Referendum

PRE-REFERENDUM PLANNING TIMELINE



Facilities Guiding Principles

- Articulate a facilities vision
- Define key project drivers
- Provide direction to planning team
- Develop assessment / evaluation criteria

Board Guiding Principles

To deliver on the Waunakee Community School District mission, the District's long-range master planning should:

- Plan for continued long-range **enrollment growth**
- Continue the District's **long-range approach** to facilities planning
- Create student focused, flexible, **future-ready learning environments**
- Support a goal of more **equitable facilities across the district**
- Address **capital maintenance** needs
- **Deliver value** for District taxpayers
- Reflect **community values**

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Board Focus: Heritage -- Why?

- Significant capital maintenance needs
- Not a true 6-section per grade school
- Lacks collaboration space, small group instruction rooms, flexible environments
- Multiple additions give a “patchwork” feel
 - Difficult develop flow among and between instructional spaces
 - Wayfinding can be a challenge
- Main entrance is remote
- Internalized learning spaces / Lack of natural light
- Poor drop off sequence / parking



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Option Development - Heritage:

Option 1

- Renovation
- Board eliminated option



Option 2

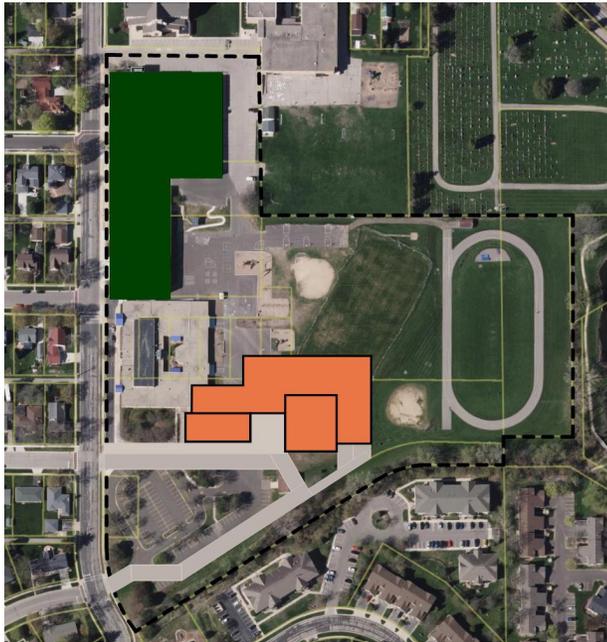
- Renovation / addition
- Board eliminated option



Option Development - Heritage:

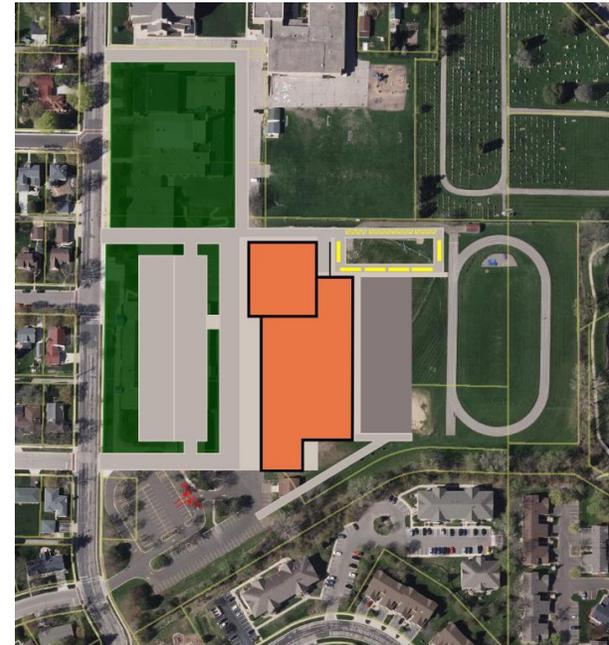
Option 3

- Renovation / large addition, and creation of green space



Option 4

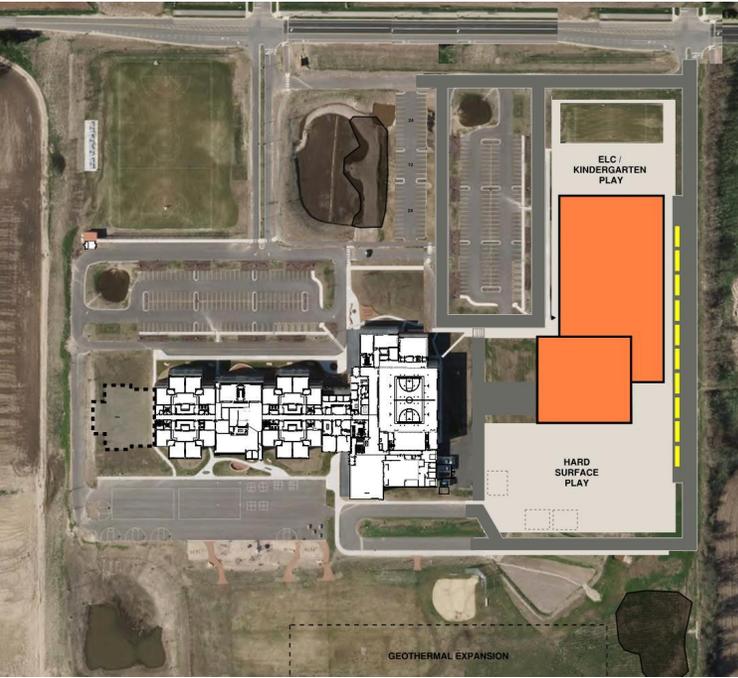
- Reconstruct Heritage on original site



Option Development - Heritage:

Option 5

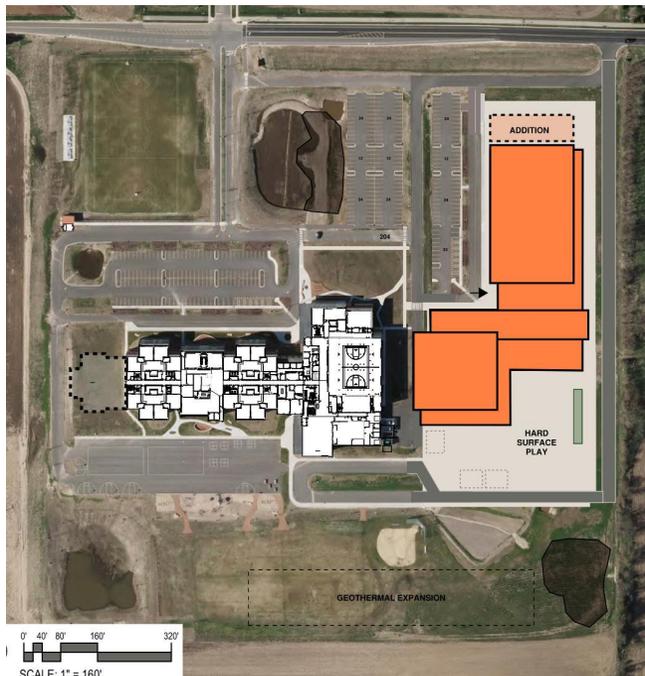
- Heritage on the IS site



Option Development - Middle School:

Option 1

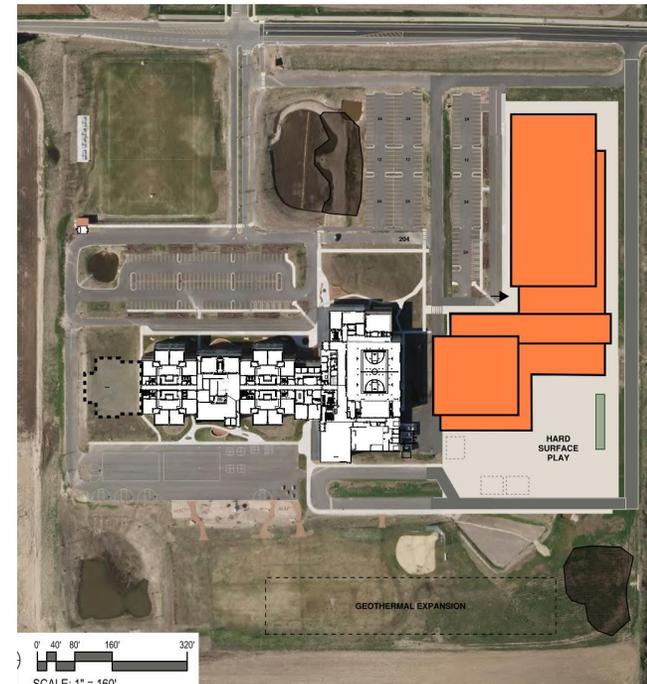
- Intermediate Site
- 800 Students with ability to expand to 1,000



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Option 2

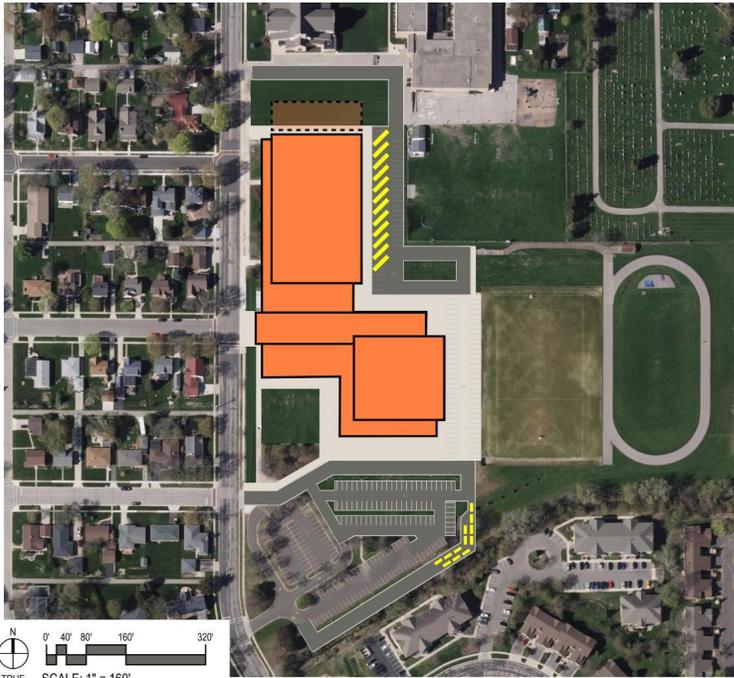
- Intermediate Site
- 1,000 Student
- Board eliminated option



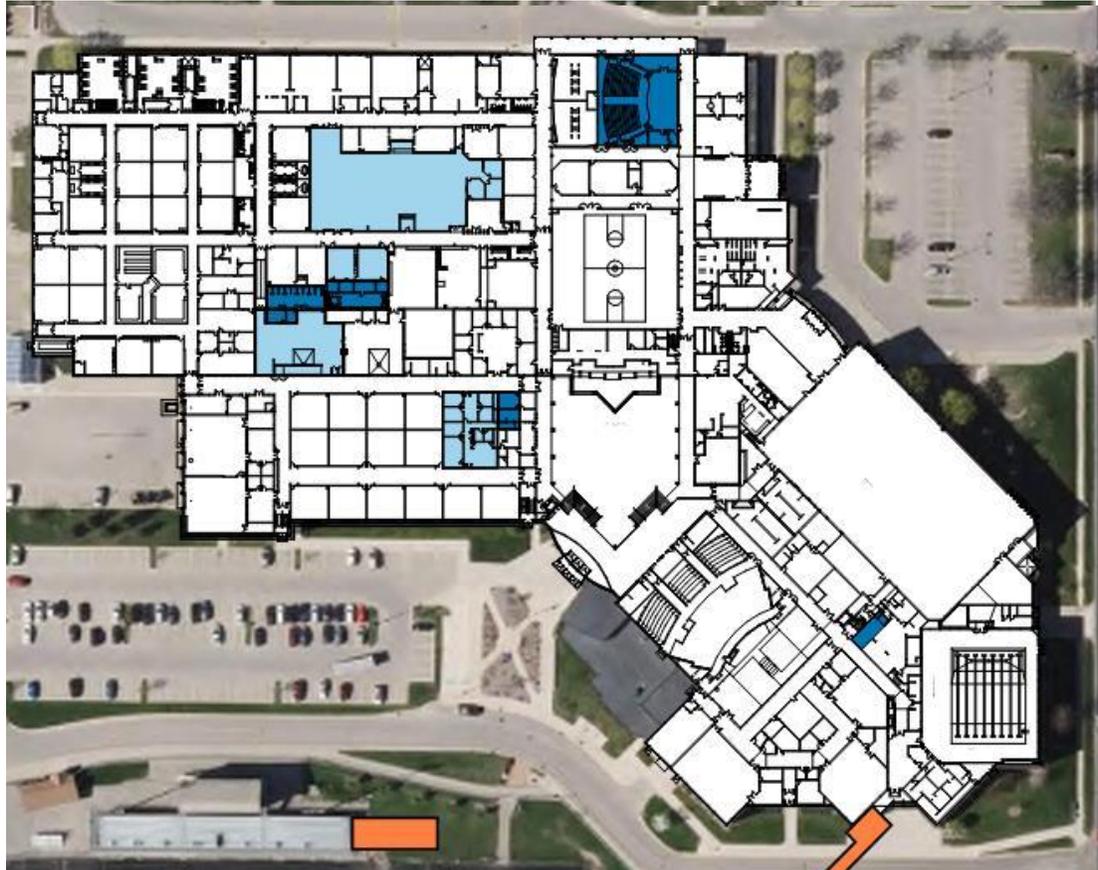
Option Development - Middle School:

Option 3 - 800 Student

- Located at current Heritage site

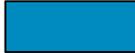


Option Development - Exiting High School

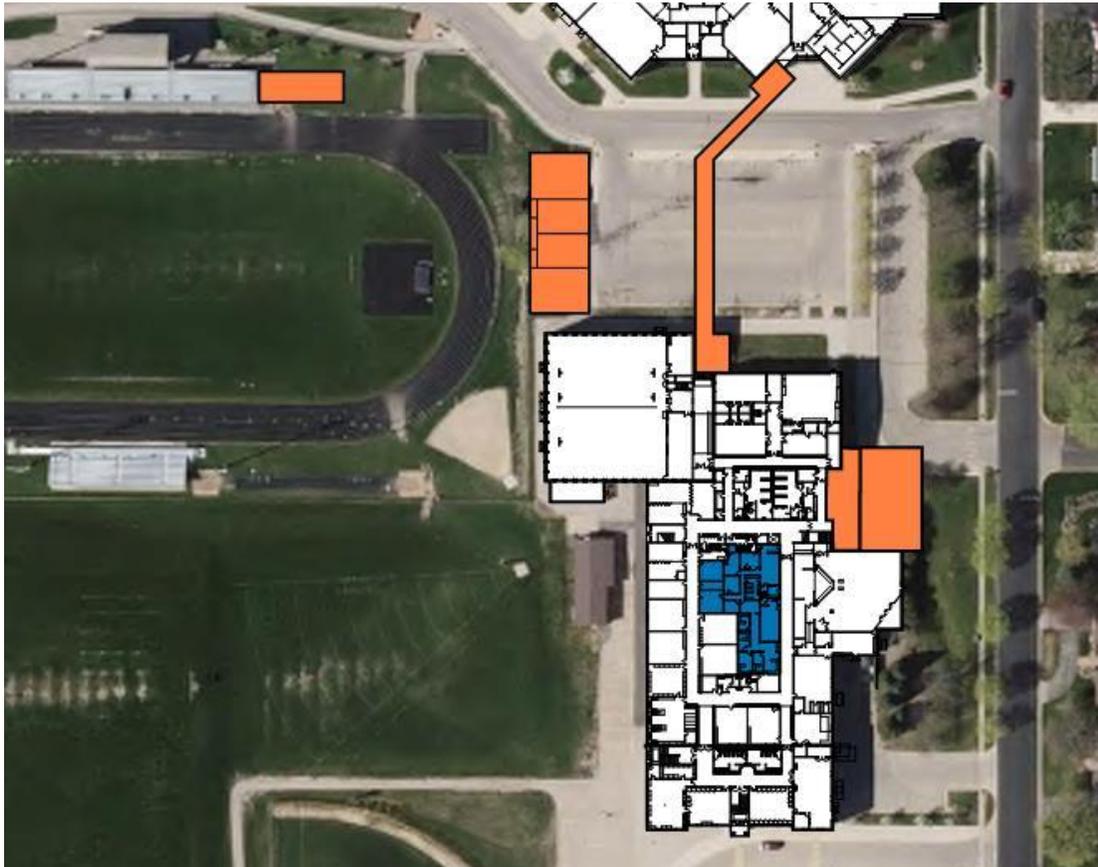


SCOPE

- ORIGINAL AUDITORIUM
- WELDING LAB
- SHOP & LABS
- NEW FURNITURE
- LARGE GROUP INSTRUCTION / TRAINING
- FAMILY CHANGING / TOILET ROOM

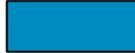
	0 sf	NEW CONSTRUCTION
	8000 sf	HEAVY RENOVATION
	16,500sf	LIGHT RENOVATION

Option Development - Existing Middle School



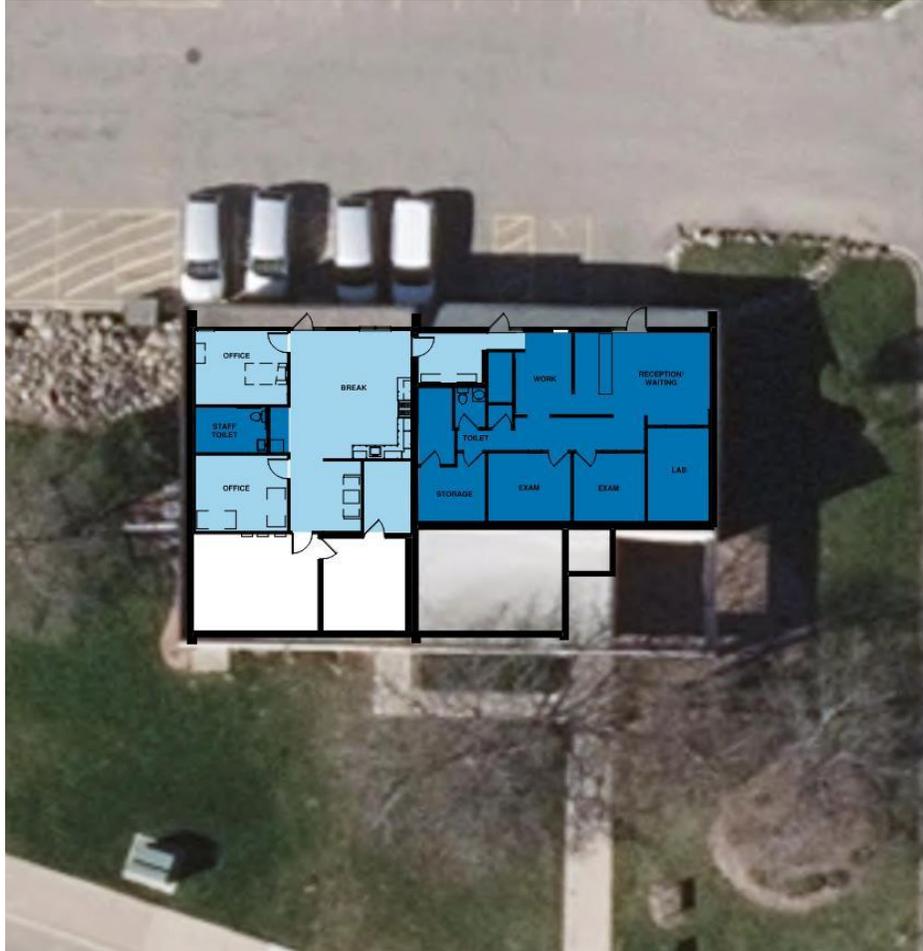
SCOPE

- BLEACHER EXTENSION
- LOCKER ROOM / TEAM ROOM
- BRIDGE CONNECTOR
- NEW ADMIN / MAIN ENTRANCE
- ADDITIONAL CLASSROOMS

	16,400 sf	NEW CONSTRUCTION
	5000 sf	HEAVY RENOVATION
	0 sf	LIGHT RENOVATION

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Option Development - TLC



SCOPE

- CREATE CLINIC ON LOWER LEVEL

	0 sf	NEW CONSTRUCTION
	1,250 sf	HEAVY RENOVATION
	1,250 sf	LIGHT RENOVATION

Example: 2019-20 Pathway 3

Waunakee Pathway Development						
Project	Cost	Phase II	In	Out	Phase II Projects	Out
Select no more than one						
Heritage - Option 1	\$ 29.30	<input type="checkbox"/>				\$ 29.30
Heritage - Option 2	\$ 39.80	<input type="checkbox"/>				\$ 39.80
Heritage - Option 3	\$ 45.30	<input type="checkbox"/>				\$ 45.30
Heritage - Option 4	\$ 47.80	<input type="checkbox"/>				\$ 47.80
Select no more than one						
New Middle School - Option 1	\$ 69.80	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>			\$ 69.80	
New Middle School - Option 2	\$ 73.90	<input type="checkbox"/>				\$ 73.90
New Middle School - Option 1 (2025)	\$ 78.40	<input type="checkbox"/>				\$ 78.40
New Middle School - Option 2 (2025)	\$ 85.50	<input type="checkbox"/>				\$ 85.50
Select multiple, if you wish						
HS Old Auditorium	\$ 0.69	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>			\$ 0.69	
HS Welding	\$ 0.41	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>			\$ 0.41	
HS Shop & Labs	\$ 0.59	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>			\$ 0.59	
HS LMTC Furniture	\$ 0.44	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>			\$ 0.44	
HS Large Group Instruction	\$ 0.28	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>			\$ 0.28	
HS Family Changing / Toilet	\$ 0.56	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>			\$ 0.56	
Team Room	\$ 2.80	<input type="checkbox"/>				\$ 2.80
Beacher Extension	\$ 0.39	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>			\$ 0.39	
MS / HS Connection	\$ 2.50	<input type="checkbox"/>				\$ 2.50
MS Secure Entry	\$ 2.60	<input type="checkbox"/>				\$ 2.60
MS Classrooms	\$ 1.10	<input type="checkbox"/>				\$ 1.10
TLC / Clinic	\$ 0.29	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>			\$ 0.29	
Select no more than one						
District Office	\$ 0.48	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>			\$ 0.48	
Select no more than one						
Maintenance - Immediate to Y4	\$ 20.00	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>			\$ 20.00	
Total					\$ 93.93	



Board Activity - 2020

- Toured facilities in Winter 2020
- Discussed multiple facilities options at workshops and board meetings
- Individual options eliminated
- Options combined into pathways
- By March 2020, **six planning pathways**



2019-20 Planning Pathways

	HERITAGE		NEW MS		High School	District Office	\$20.0m Maintenance	Total**
	Renovation & Addition	Construct New	Phase II	Phase III				
Pathway 1	2023			TBD	2021	2021	2021-2024	\$73.6m
Pathway 2		2023		TBD	2021	2021	2021-2024	\$76.2m
Pathway 3			2023		2021	2021	2021-2024	\$93.3m
Pathway 4	2023		2023		2021	2021	2021-2024	\$140.0m
Pathway 5	--Heritage at IS site.		2023	2023	2021	2021	2021-2024	\$142.6m
Pathway 6	--New MS at Heritage site		2023	2025	2021	2021	2021-2024	\$144.5m

*School facilities are estimated to be completed in **August** of the year specified

**Planning estimates from 2020. Costs do not reflect current cost of school construction.

Six Pathways - Critical Questions:

- Renovate /expand Heritage Elementary OR construct a new Heritage Elementary
- Build a new middle school now OR at some point in the future
- How much should the district invest in capital maintenance and building systems?
- What level of renovation should the district undertake during this phase at the High School, TLC and District Office?

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The Covid-19 Pause

- Board and staff were planning a community workshop gather feedback on the six pathways
- WCSD was working with School Perceptions on a community-wide survey to gather residents' input
- But planning efforts were put on hold in mid-March with the outbreak of Covid-19

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Potential Phase II Timelines

Mark Roffers

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Board Feedback

- You have spent over a year talking about critical, immediate, operational decisions. What are your thoughts about transitioning some Board focus back to facilities planning?
- What other pieces of information does the Board need as a part of the planning process - data, options, costs, plans, etc?

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WAUNAKEE
COMMUNITY SCHOOL DISTRICT

	2021										2022			
	Mar	Apr	May	June	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr
Core Team planning	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
Board workshop - Education			■											
Board workshop - Education and strategy				■										
Board workshop - Strategy and direction					■									
Board workshops - Option development						■	■							
Board workshops - Narrowing							■							
Community survey -drafting in July / Aug -3 or 4 week survey window in Sept / Oct -Results November						■	■	■	■					
Board revises and finalizes project scope									■	■	■	■		
Develop communications and engagement plan								■	■	■	■			
Board adopts ballot resolution											■	■		
Public information												■	■	■



WAUNAKEE

COMMUNITY SCHOOL DISTRICT

	2021												2022												2023			
	Mar	Apr	May	June	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr		
Core Team planning	[Shaded]												[Shaded]												[Shaded]			
Board workshop - Education			[Shaded]																									
Staff updates -could be prior to Board			[Shaded]																									
Board workshop - Education and strategy				[Shaded]																								
Board workshop - Strategy and direction					[Shaded]																							
Board workshops - Option development										[Shaded]	[Shaded]	[Shaded]																
Board workshop - Narrowing													[Shaded]															
Conduct preliminary community engagement -Community workshop sessions														[Shaded]														
Board narrows preliminary options / scope															[Shaded]	[Shaded]												
Community survey -drafting in July / Aug -3 or 4 week survey window in September -Results October																	[Shaded]	[Shaded]	[Shaded]	[Shaded]								
Revise and finalize project scope																				[Shaded]	[Shaded]							
Develop communications and engagement plan																				[Shaded]	[Shaded]							
Adopt ballot resolution																							[Shaded]					
Public information																								[Shaded]	[Shaded]	[Shaded]		

	2021										2022										
	Mar	Apr	May	June	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov
Core Team planning	[Active]																				
Board workshop - Education			[Active]																		
Board workshop - Education and strategy				[Active]																	
Board workshop - Strategy and direction					[Active]																
Board workshop - Option development							[Active]	[Active]													
Board workshop - Narrowing										[Active]											
Preliminary community engagement -Community FB live sessions -Community workshop										[Active]			[Active]								
Board narrows preliminary options / scope											[Active]	[Active]									
Community survey -drafting in Jan / Feb -3 or 4 March -Results April / May													[Active]	[Active]	[Active]	[Active]					
Board finalize project scope																[Active]	[Active]	[Active]			
Develop communications and engagement plan														[Active]	[Active]	[Active]	[Active]				
Board adopts ballot resolution																		[Active]			
Public information																		[Active]	[Active]	[Active]	[Active]

Community Growth & Projections Review

May 27, 2021

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Purpose and Organization

- Housing and Demographic Update
- Enrollment Projections Audit
- Conclusions



Housing Market Update

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Dane County Housing Market Trends

- Housing starts over last 15 years focused in municipalities closer to Capitol—Waunakee had tapered by the late 2000s
- Since 2010, single-family starts steady, but multiple-family starts up
- Job growth + housing shortage = robust housing market
- Increasing gap between new housing units and population and employment growth
- Shortage of both owner- and renter-occupied units, particularly for service and manufacturing workforce

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WCSD Housing Development Overview

- Peak years were still between 1995 and 2005. (Most of those households are still here, but many of their kids have grown.)
- Recent, steady subdivision and housing development
- Some new housing developments have been slower to launch—or to accelerate—than previously expected
- More affordable single-family options, low interest rates, and new optimism are expanding supply and demand
- Increased interest in multiple family housing
- No sustained housing impact from pandemic—Dane County housing market may in fact be bolstered

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New Housing—Village of Waunakee



- Average of 85 single-family homes per year since 2013
- After a late 2010s dip, uptick has occurred in 2020 and 2021⁴⁴
- On pace for 100+ in 2021
 - 44 single-family homes permitted through early April 2021
 - 2/3 in new entrants Heritage Hills and Arboretum Village

New Housing-Westport and Middleton

- Increasing recent Westport activity:
 - 11 single-family homes in 2019, 34 in 2020, 15 in 2021 through early April
 - Mostly in Carriage Ridge, but The Farm/The Prairie in Bishops Bay now gaining momentum (7 in 2021)
- Slowing activity in Bishops Bay components in City of Middleton:
 - 76 single-family homes since 2017 (19 per year), but few vacant lots left
 - Continued multiple-family with few students
 - Utility financing disagreement affecting further expansion in City

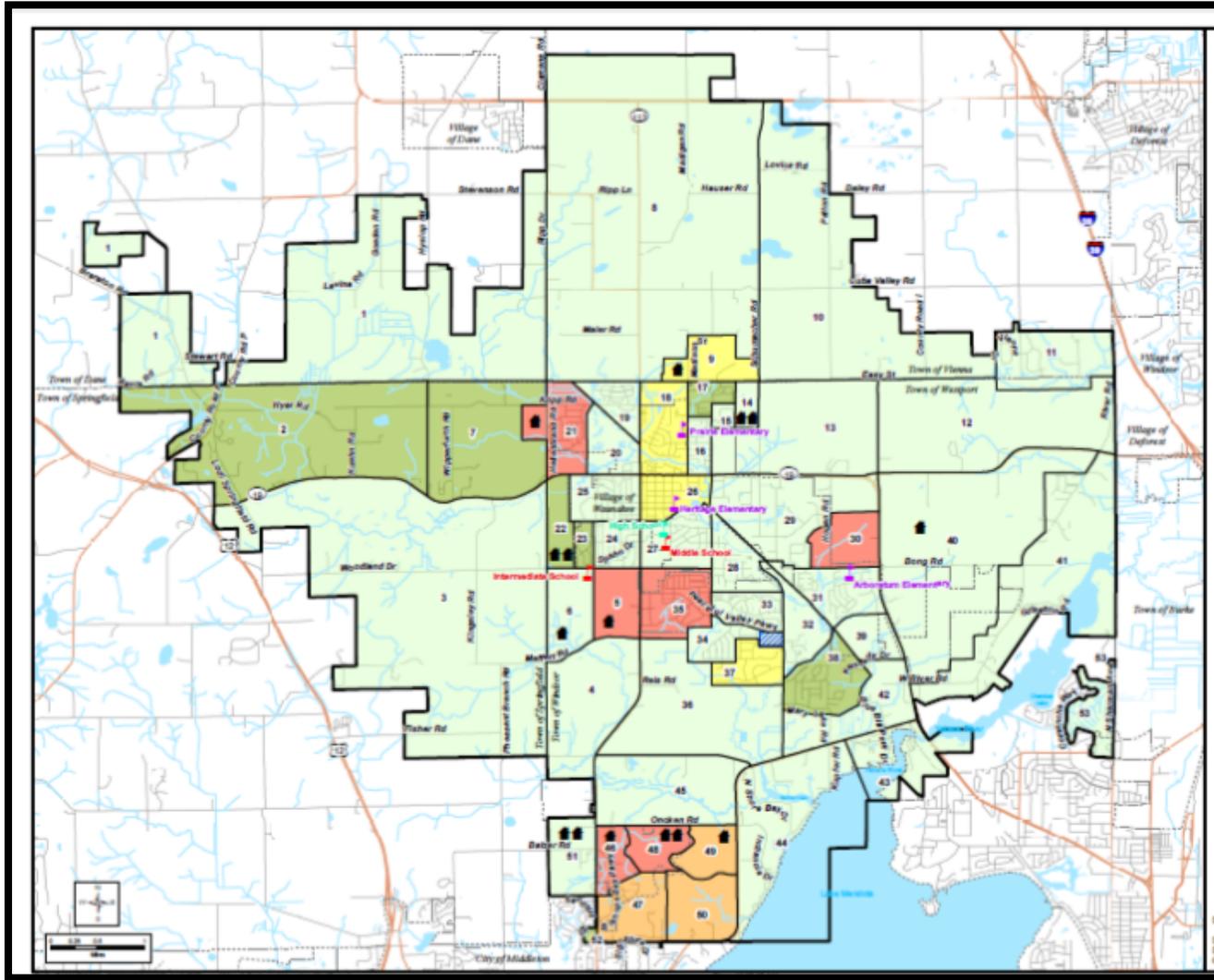


Waunakee-Westport Existing Single-Family Home Sale Prices

- In 2020, South Central WI MLS reported median sale price of existing homes was \$460,000
 - 46% higher than County median
 - \$90,000 higher than 2nd highest County market (Middleton)
 - 47% price increase from 2010
- Many young families priced out of the local market

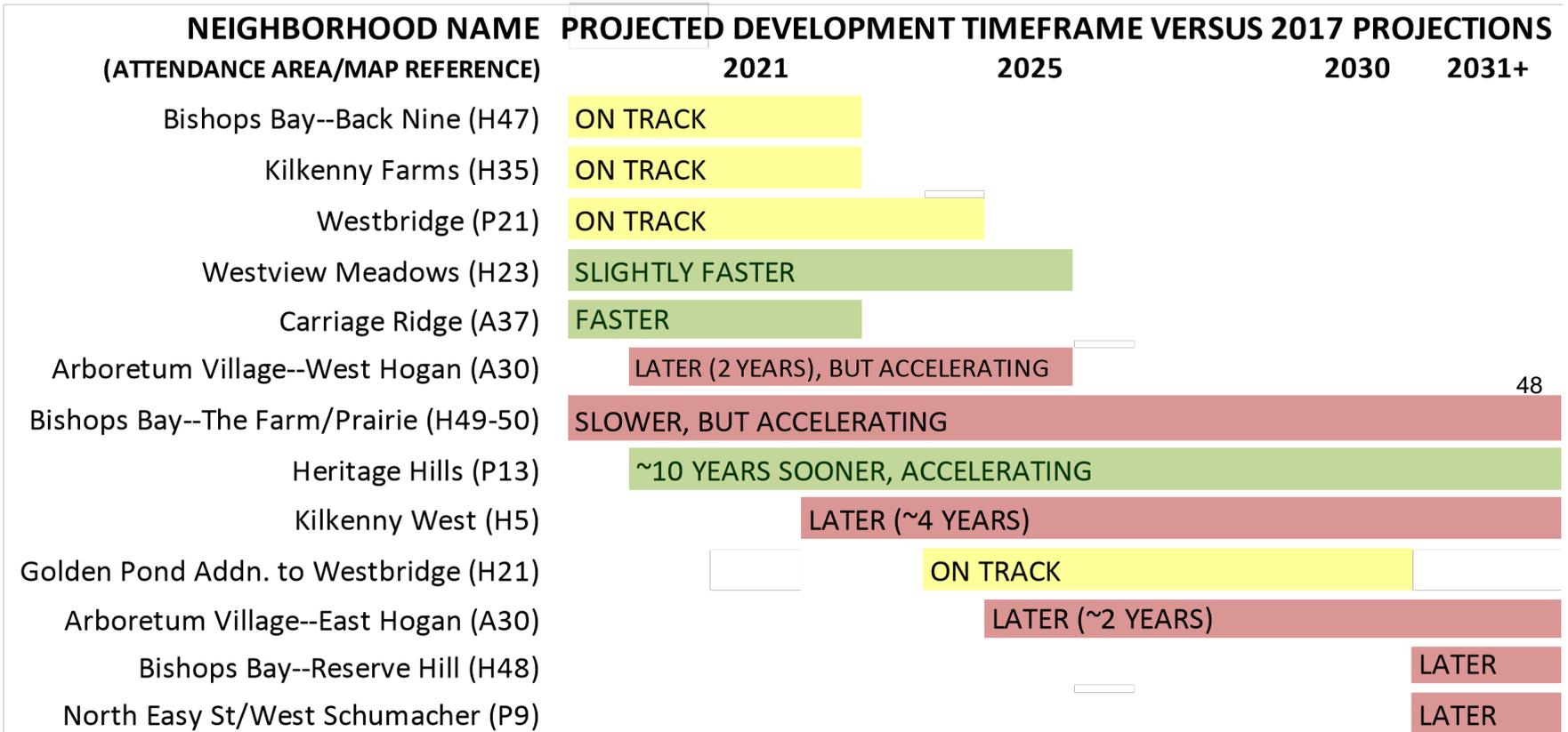


2017 Housing Unit Projections



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Updated Single Family Development Timeline vs. 2017 Projections



A=Arboretum; H=Heritage; P=Prairie

Compared to 2017 projections, more moving slower than moving faster, but Heritage Hills possible equalizer



Veridian Homes' Heritage Hills

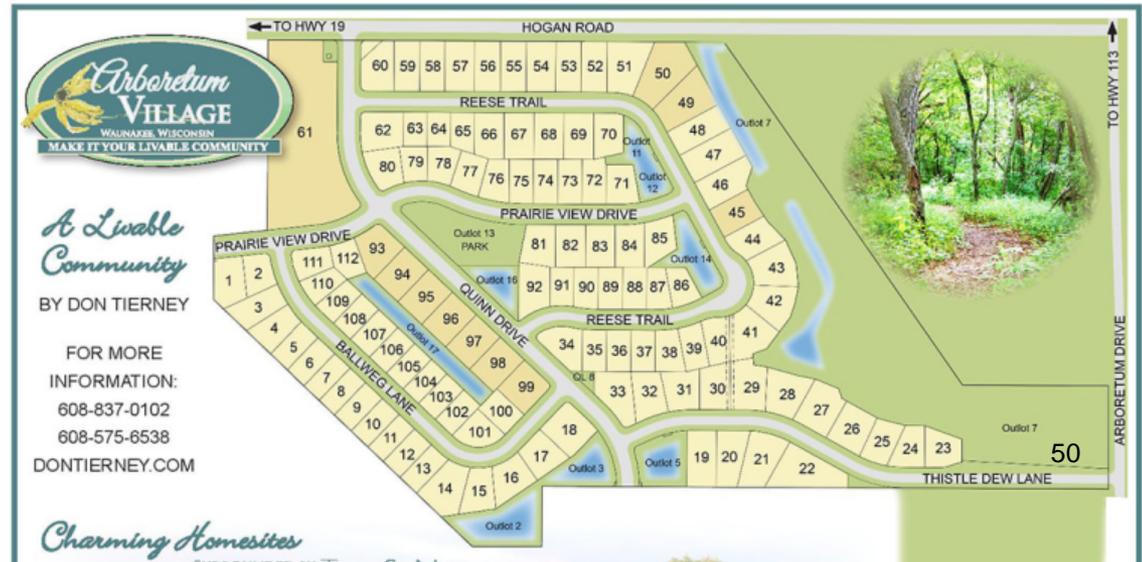


- Development will include:
 - 478 single-family & twin units
 - 200+ multiple-family units
- Single-family < \$400,000
- By April 2021, 17 single-family & 4 twin units permitted
- New phase to north in 2021
- Build out expected 10+ years
- Veridian neighborhoods have strong student generation

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Tierney's Arboretum Village

- Development will include:
 - ~102 single-family
 - ~30 condo units
- Opportunity for more affordable single family next to business park



- By April 2021, 9 single-family homes permitted
- Almost all roads and utilities installed
- Build out expected in 4 or 5 years
- More land to east of Hogan Road for future expansion

Multiple-family Housing Proposals

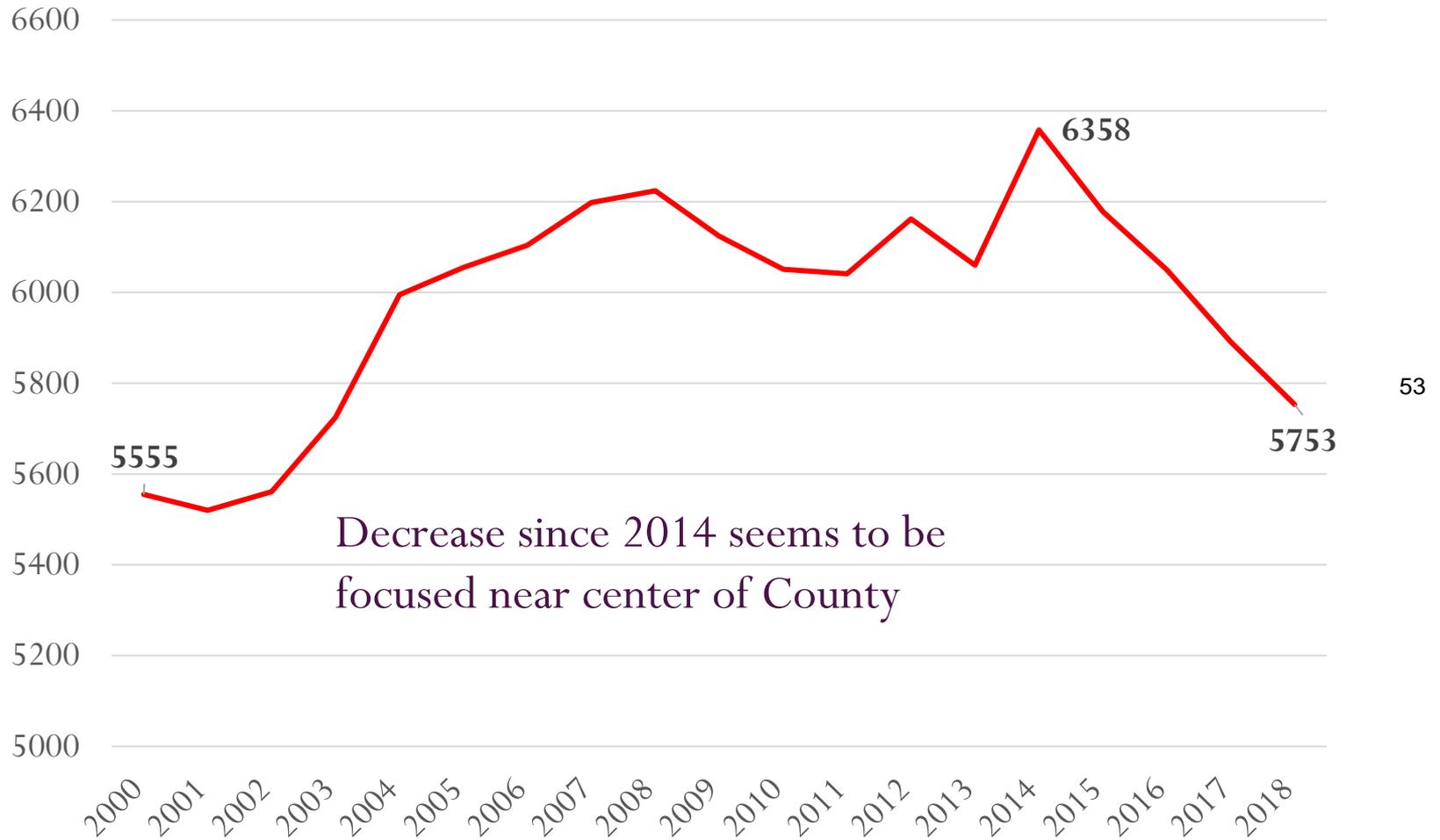
- Village recently added flexibility to its housing mix policy
- Per MGE, 1.45% rental unit vacancy rate for 53597 zip code
- Handful of multiple-family proposals in various stages
- Multiple-family has not had many students (e.g., in 2019, Madison & Main had 0.13 students/unit)
- But affordable and larger units can generate more students



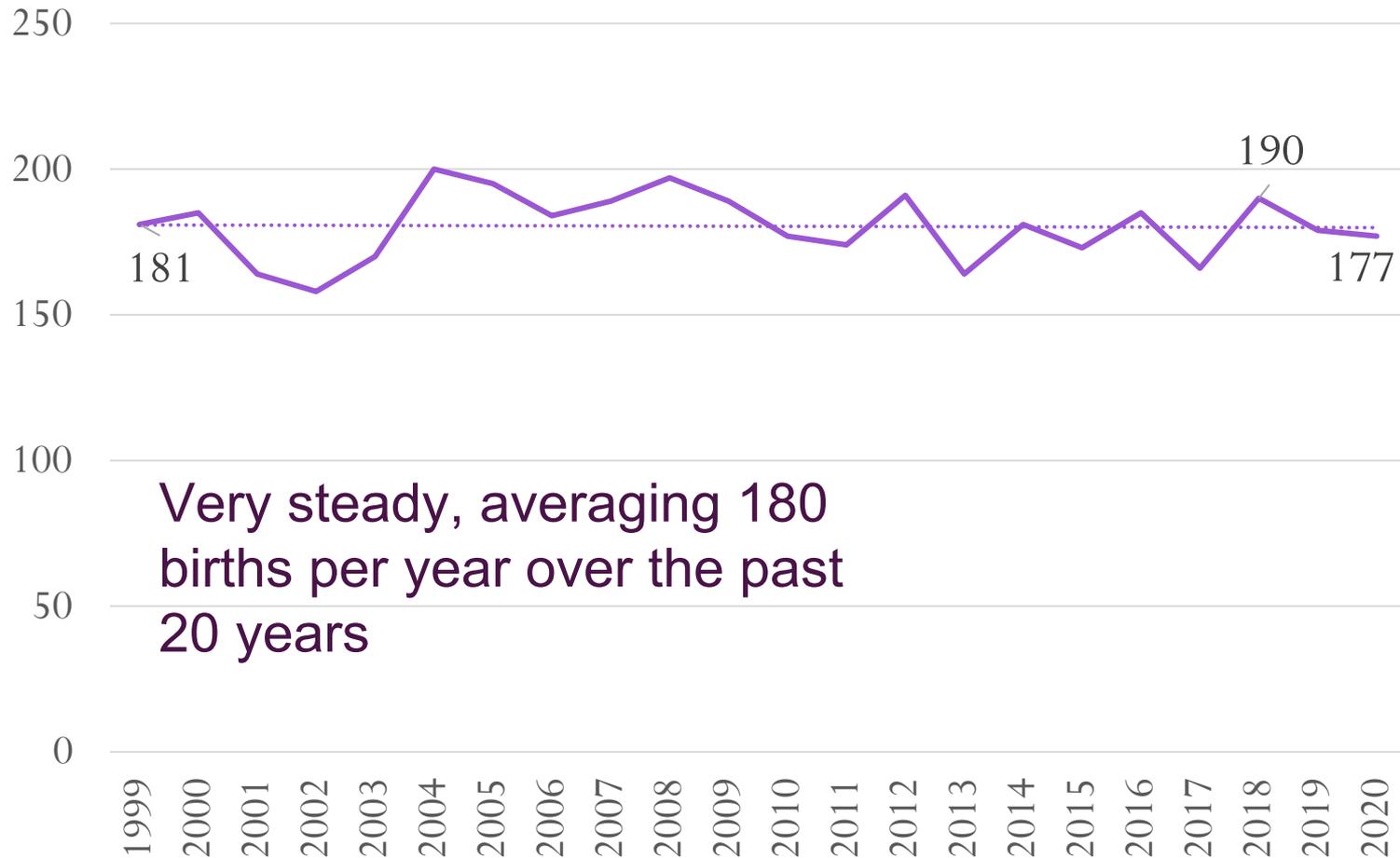
Demographic and Enrollment Trend Update

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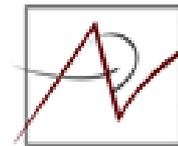
Dane County Birth Trend, 2000-2018



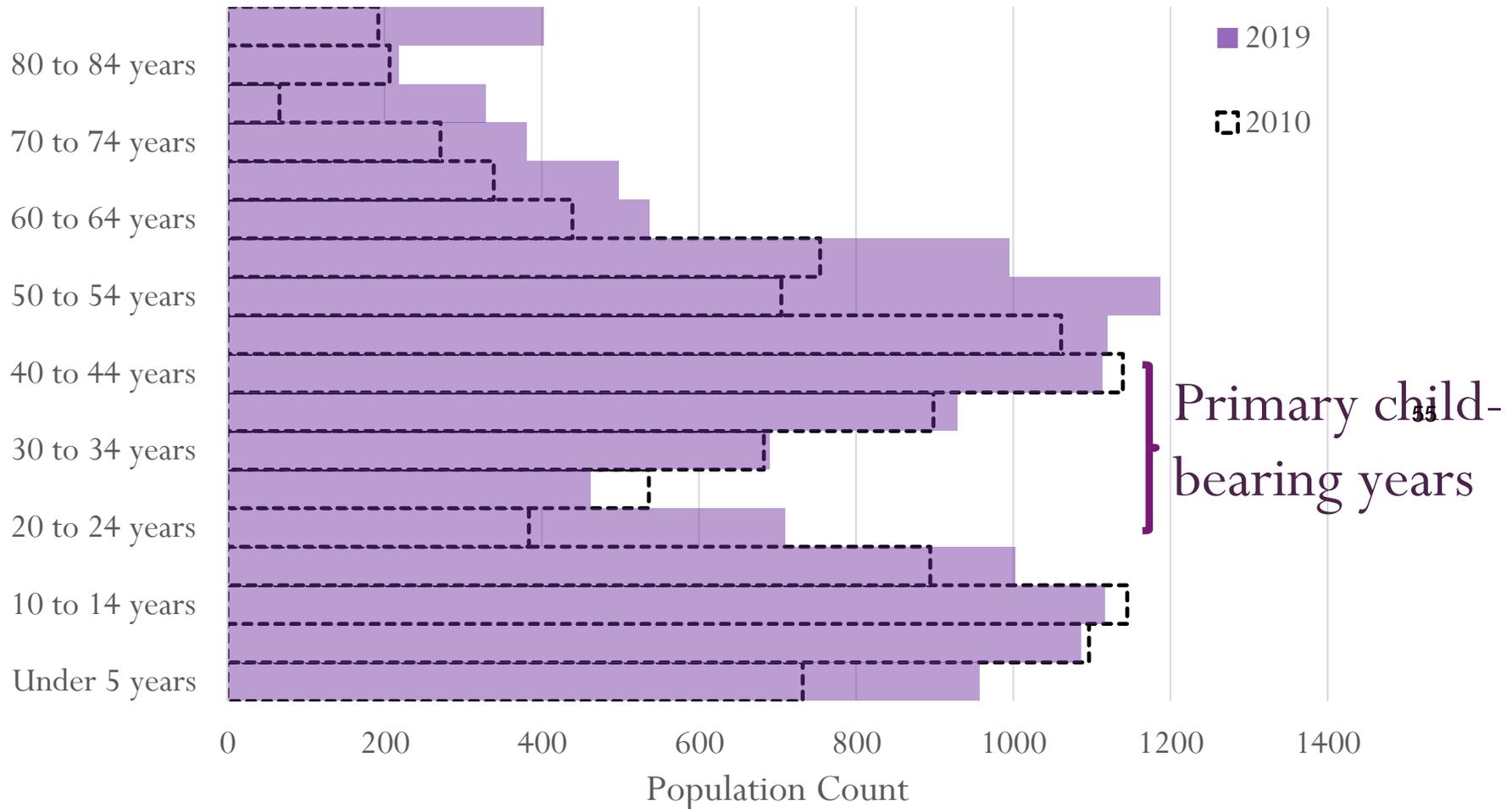
WCSD Birth Trend, 1999-2020



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Recent Village of Waunakee Age Distribution



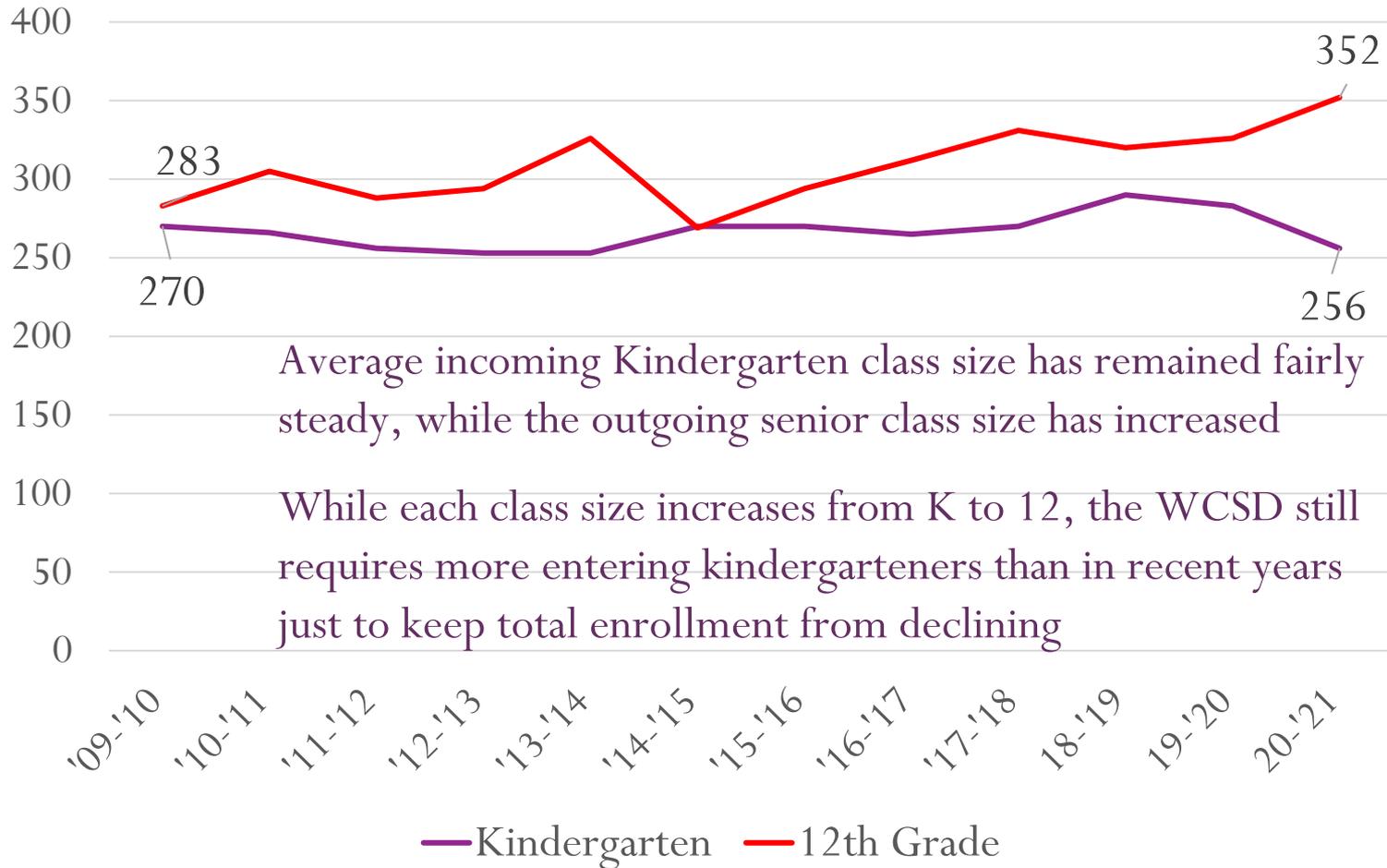
Per US Census Bureau, Village of Waunakee's aged 18+ population grew by 24% from 2010-2019, while its 0-17 population grew by only 8%

Where will birth numbers go?

- Large Millennial generation is in prime childbearing ages
- But Millennials are getting married at lower rates, having fewer children, and having children later
- Effect of the pandemic, unrest, climate concerns on the number of births in the upcoming years likely not positive
- Births nationwide in February 2021 were 8% lower than in February 2020—will affect at least one class size starting in 2026



“Kindergarten Replacement” Trend



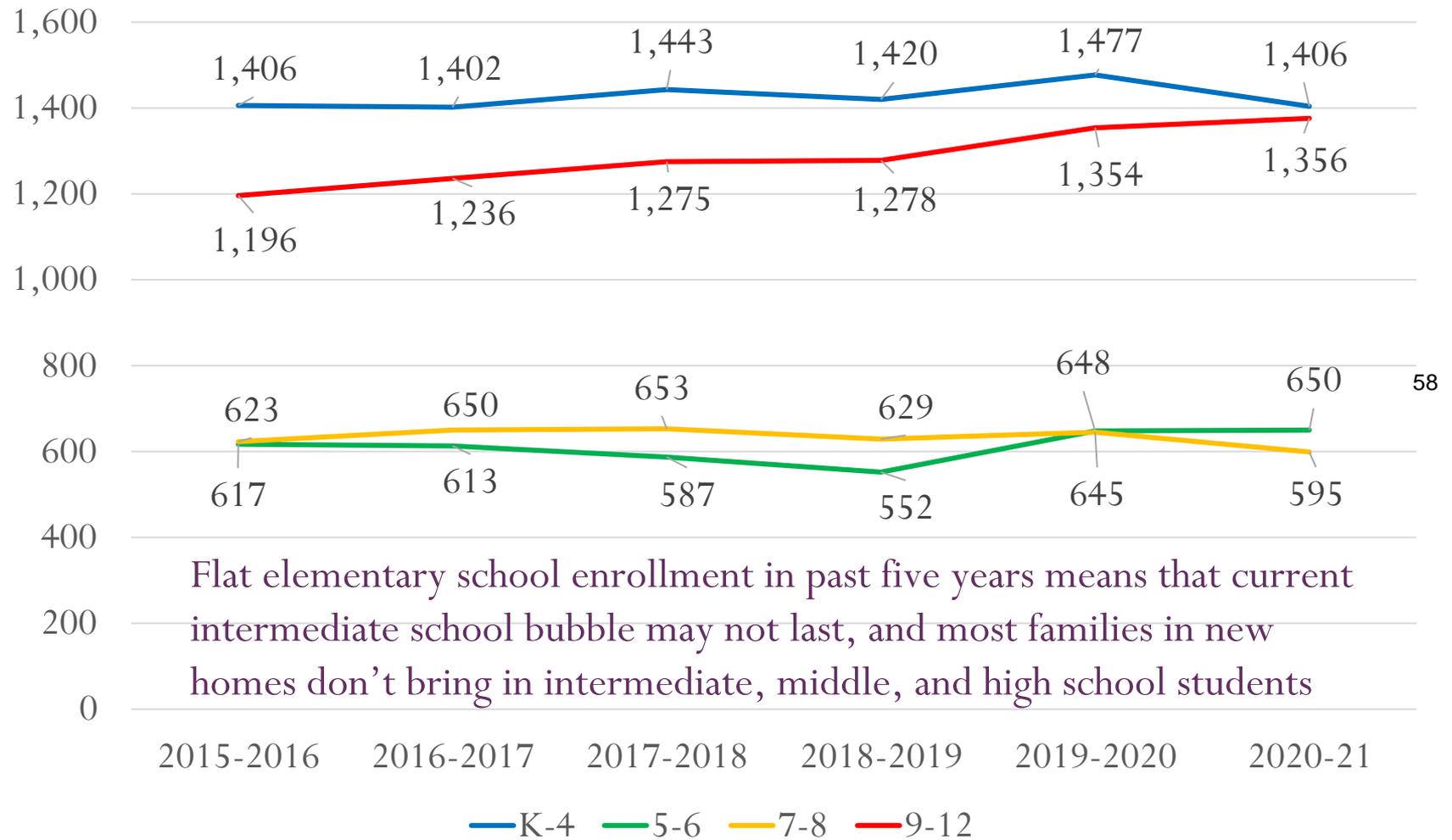
Average incoming Kindergarten class size has remained fairly steady, while the outgoing senior class size has increased

While each class size increases from K to 12, the WCSD still requires more entering kindergarteners than in recent years just to keep total enrollment from declining

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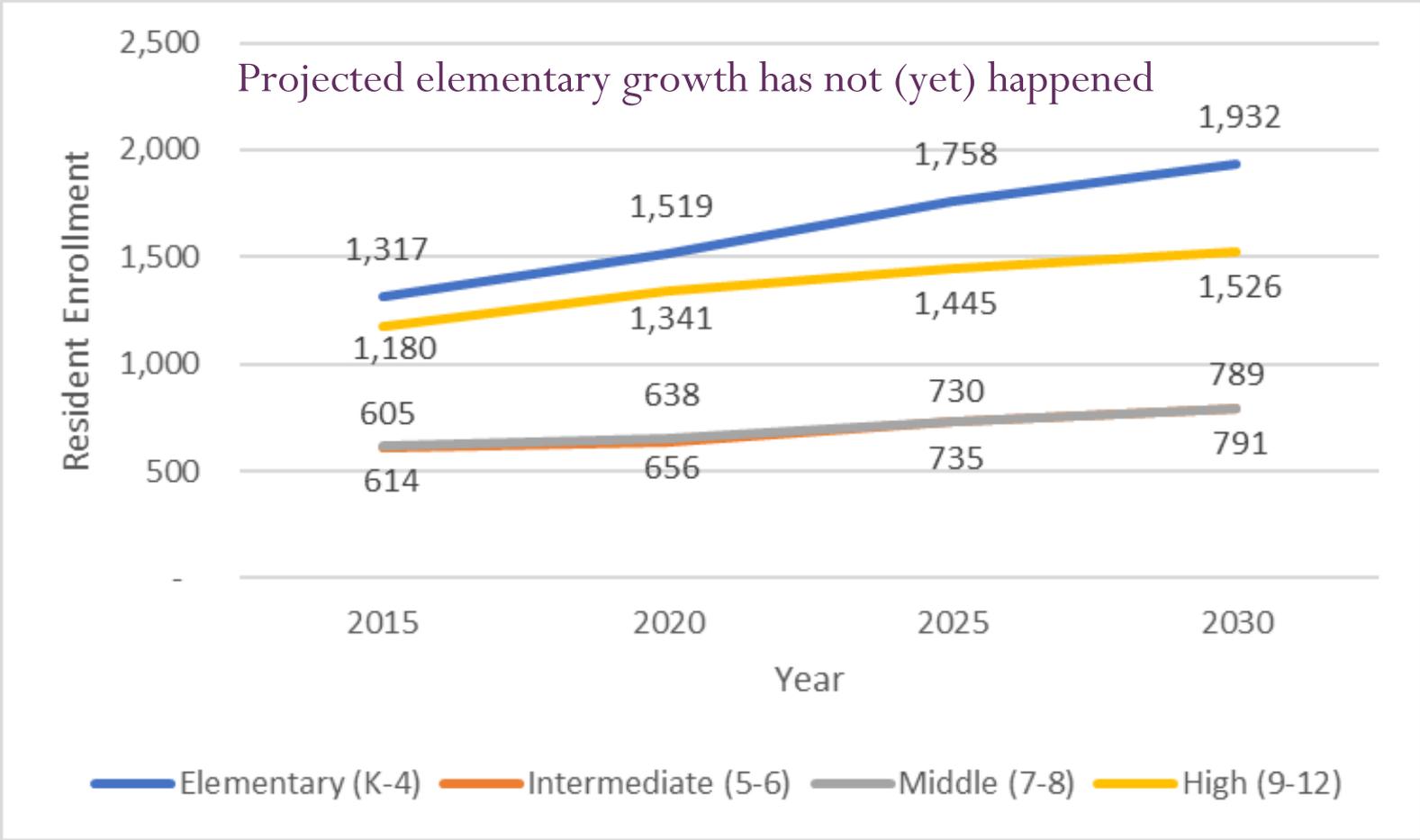
Recent WCSD Total Enrollment (Sept.)



Enrollment Projections Audit

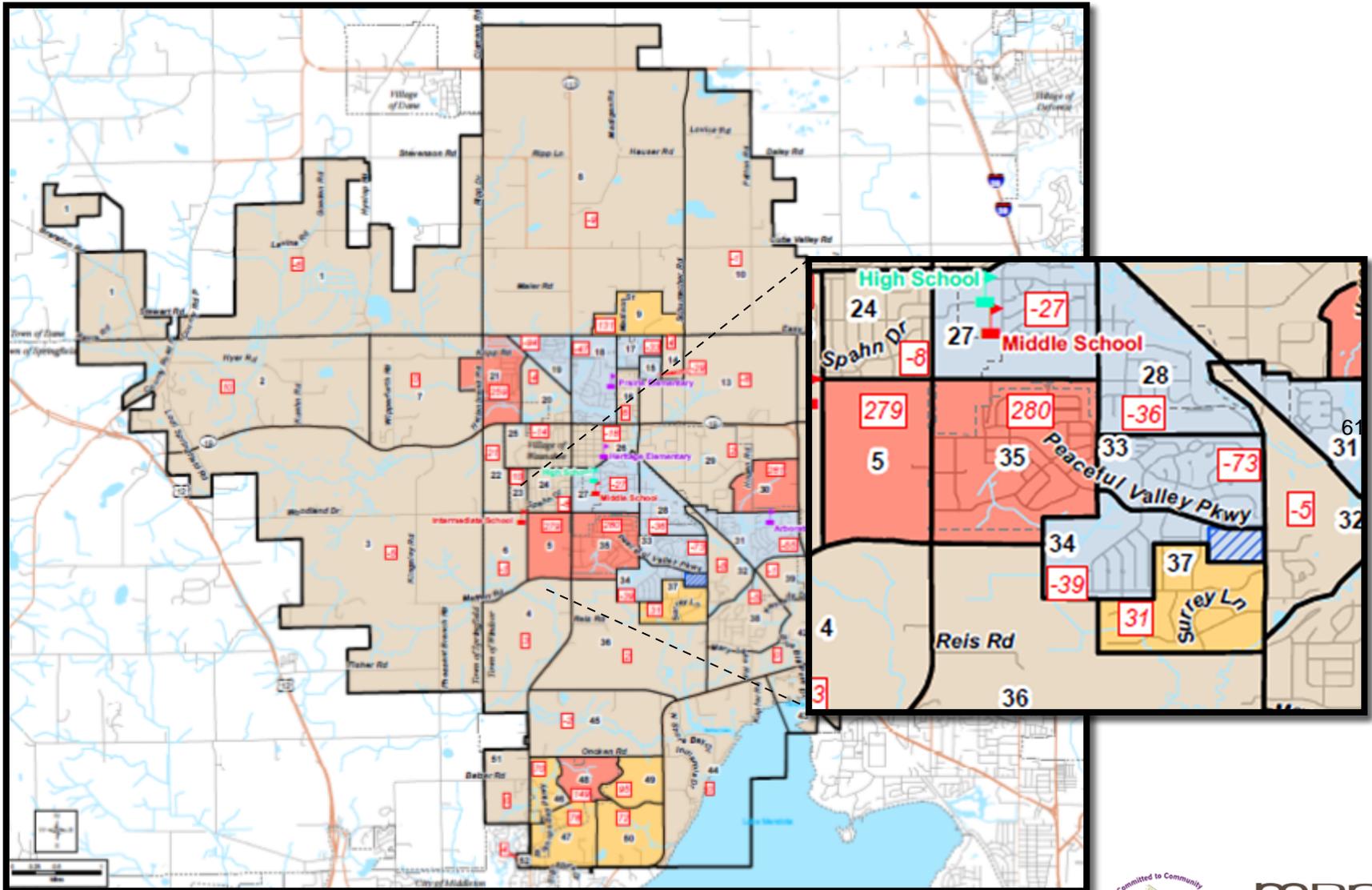
59

2017 Projected Resident Student Enrollment

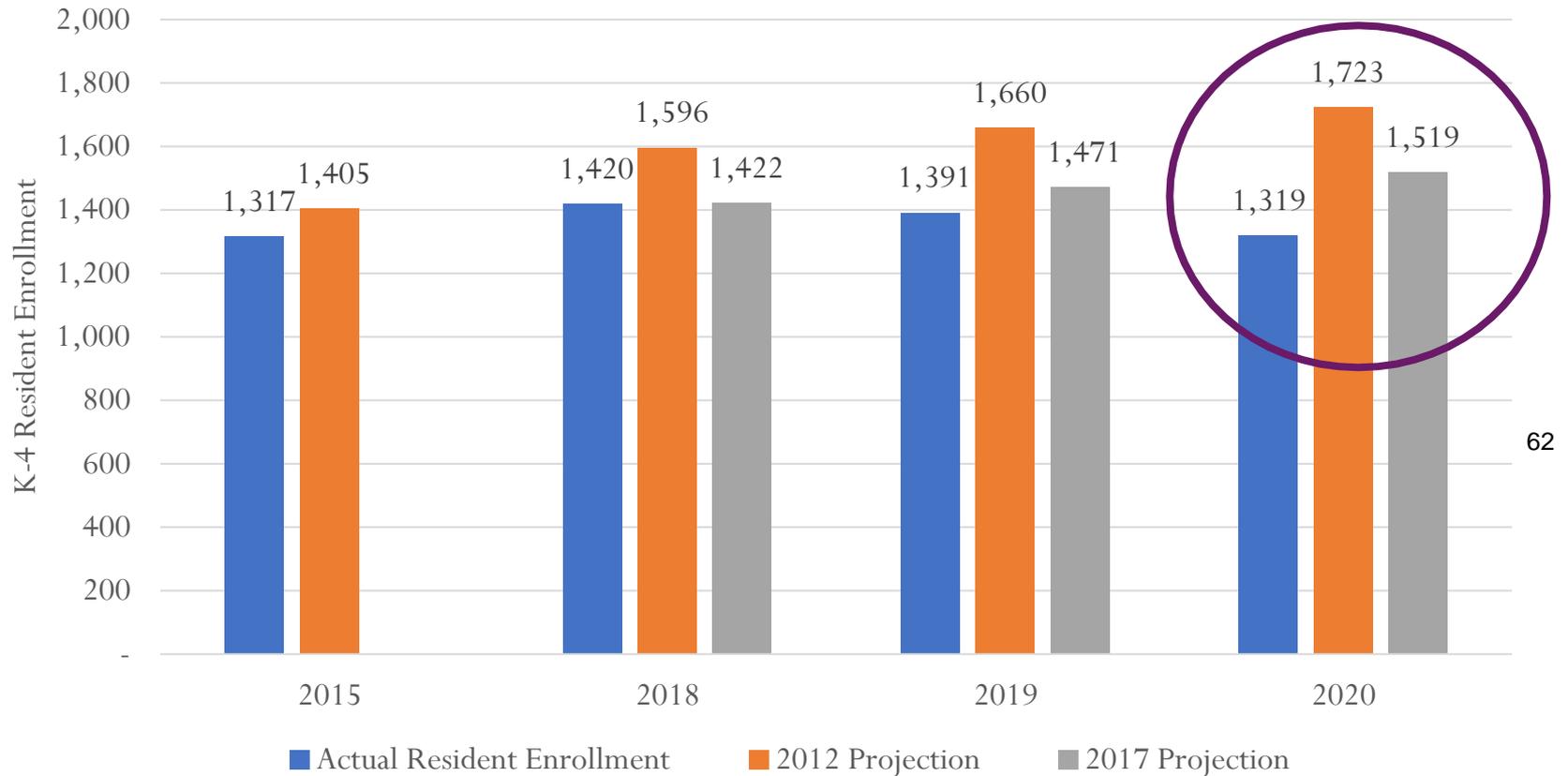


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2017 K-12 Enrollment Projections Map



Actual Grade K-4 Resident Enrollment vs. MDRoffers' 2012 & 2017 Projections



200 fewer K-4 resident students in September than projected

Actual Grade K-4 Resident Enrollment vs. MDRoffers' 2012 & 2017 Projections

- To be fair (to me!), actual 2020 K-4 enrollment negatively affected by unexpected pandemic
 - 68 fewer K-1 WCSD students in Sept. 2020 compared to 2019
- Still, more than pandemic resulted in 2017 K-4 projections not meeting mark:
 - Unexpected, likely decline in local birth rate
 - Recent housing not attracting as many families with kids at home
 - Arboretum Village and Kilkenny West did not start by 2020, as I had previously expected (Tierney has become regional developer)
 - Bishops Bay pace was slower than expected (utility financing issue)

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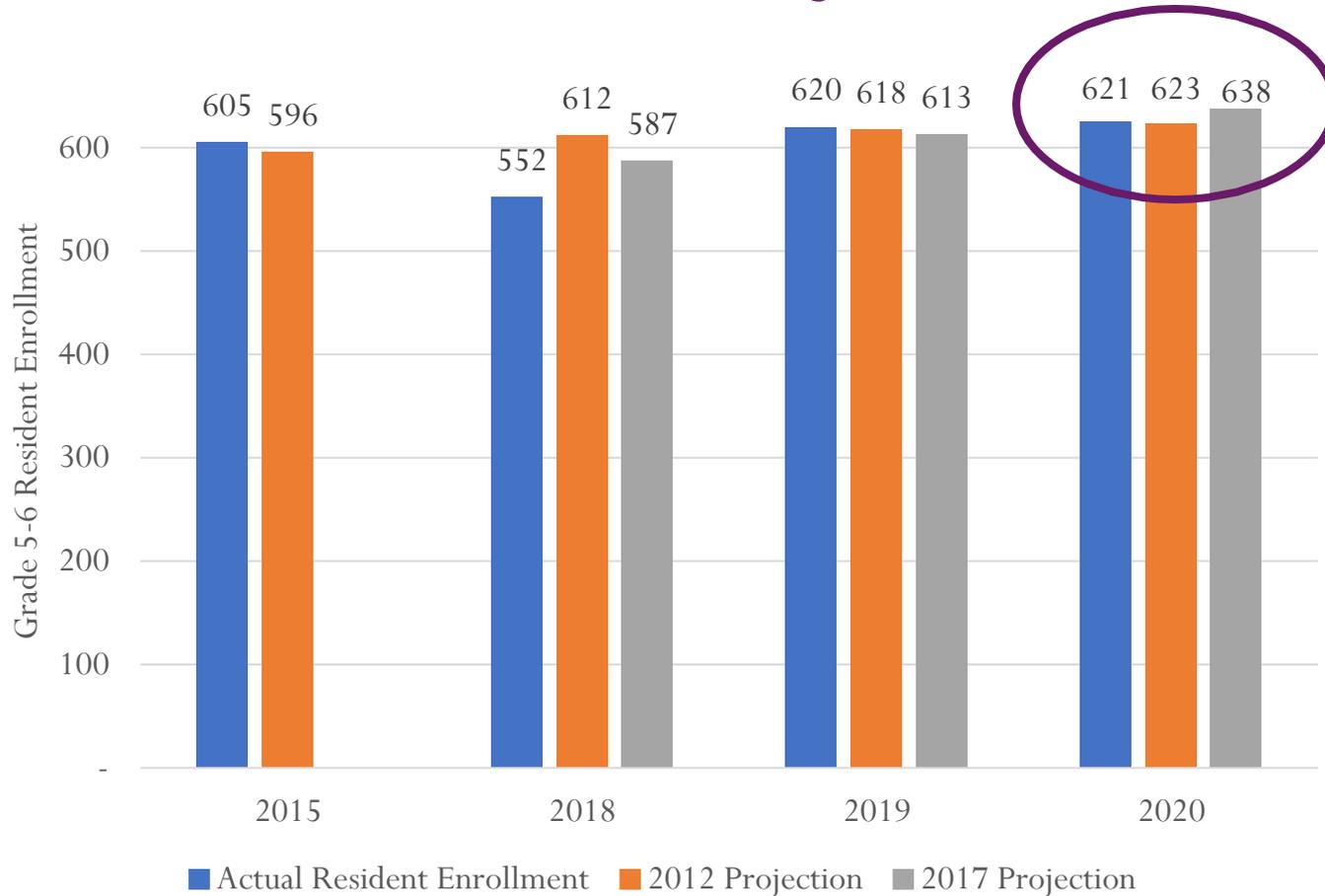
Actual Sept. 2020 Grade K-4 Resident Enrollment vs. MDR 2017 Projections

Elementary School	Actual Sept. 2020	Projected Sept. 2020	Net “Forced Transfers”
Arboretum	424	505	-27
Heritage	416	530	+5
Prairie	479	484	+22

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- Arboretum difference due almost entirely to “forced transfers” and slower-than-projected start at Arboretum Village
- Heritage difference due to slower pace in Bishops Bay and Kilkenny West and fewer school children from Bishops Bay and older areas
 - But younger Heritage classes are larger than older classes, so expect some bounce there

Actual Grade 5-6 Resident Enrollment vs. MDRoffers' Projections



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Only 17 intermediate school students off in 2020—but should have stuck with 2012 projection!

Actual Grade 7-8 Resident Enrollment vs. MDRoffers' Projections



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Projection from 2017 was 76 students over actual 2020 middle school resident enrollment

Grade 7-8 Enrollment vs. MDR Projections

- Middle School enrollment is clearly tracking below our 2017 projection
- 2022-23 grade 7-8 enrollment should rebound to 620 resident students at a minimum, with perhaps 30 more open enrollees (or ~650 total)
- Through mid-2020s, middle school enrollment will probably hover in the low- to mid-600s:
 - Downward pressure from much smaller grade school class sizes
 - Upward pressure from accelerating housing development in family-friendly configurations, turnover of 2000s-era housing, and possibly more relocations and open enrollment from nearby districts

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Actual Grade 9-12 Resident Enrollment vs. MDRoffers' Projections



Conclusions

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Conclusions

- Households are having fewer babies, which will affect the WCSD and countless other districts
- WCSD's housing market appears strong and diversifying in a way that should attract more families, particularly in the lower grades
- Also, I expect a wave of neighborhood turnover by the late-2020s, as the nearly 150 single-family homes permitted per year in early-2000s will approach 30 years old (with many of their owners around 60!)

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Conclusions

- Neither Heritage Elementary School or the Middle School met MDRoffers' 2020-21 enrollment projections for those schools, but most other projections are on track
- Enrollment should grow at these and other schools somewhat throughout the 2020s—but almost certainly less⁷¹ than projected in 2017
- Once September 2021 enrollment data available, a projections update would be beneficial



Memorandum

TO: Randy Guttenberg, Superintendent
Waunakee Community School District -- Board of Education

FROM: Jeff Kenas, Principal, Waunakee Community Middle School

CC: Steve Summers, Executive Director of Operations
Tim Schell, Director of Secondary Curriculum and Instruction
John Cramer, Director of Facilities

DATE: June 7, 2021

SUBJECT: Waunakee Community Middle School -- Space Concerns for 21-22/Beyond

The Problem to be Addressed

Space is becoming a significant concern at the middle school level as larger sized classes enter the school in the next few years, beginning with the 2021-2022 school year. The main drivers are:

- Increasing class sizes
- More intensive needs of special education students requiring different space utilization.
- Changing population requiring different space utilization.

Projected Enrollment

- Based on current enrollment plus our average 6th to 7th grade increase (+17). This is a very conservative projection.
- Current: 616
- 2021-22: 657
- 2022-23: 692
- 2023-24: 679

Additional Factors

This enrollment increase is exacerbated by design limitations of the Middle School. The lack of collaboration spaces for teachers and students, and the inadequacies of the physical spaces within the building restrict the functionality and flexibility of our building. This makes the scheduling of our students' desired courses and our ability to maintain a safe, inclusive environment challenging.

There are two issues that are at the forefront of the long term discussion about the current middle school facility. These issues are not ones that are quickly rectified, but for sake of discussion we want to bring them forward for the Board to understand as they impact our flexibility to address this initial enrollment surge even in the short term.

First, the building was constructed when instructional learning environments were different. In general, the current building was built with smaller classrooms, no communal work areas for students, and limitations on accessibility and functionality of our special education spaces. In some cases, this results in students spilling out into the hallway, which complicates supervision and separates them from their classmates. Additionally, this limits our ability to move our instructional practices forward, and implement systems that we know are good for students' growth both academically and socially/emotionally.

The second and more immediate need is to plan for how to address the larger class sizes that will be moving through the middle school in the coming years. Initially, we thought we could absorb the increased growth in the school through creative measures, and as we reviewed our options for next year, we feel a broader and timely discussion is needed to ensure we are making the best decisions for our students.

A few points to consider as part of this discussion:

- Currently, we have removed all computer labs, and are using 3 former storage/closet areas for combined teacher workspaces and support/intervention rooms (rooms 214, 225, 116).
- We are expecting significant increases in the support that will be needed next year for some of our students with special needs.
 - The spaces that have been successful for these students at the IS are not able to be replicated at the MS given the building structure and space issues.
 - We will likely be losing our staff lounge to be used as a support room, given our increasing needs with our intervention classes and our growing ESL population.
- With no common teacher workspace, and the need this fall for teachers to share rooms, teachers will be displaced during their prep periods, and will need to find an open classroom to work in, away from their materials and supplies.
- Although some of our classrooms may be open certain periods, many of those spaces are not conducive to instruction in different content areas (e.g., Tech Ed., FCS, Art).
- We have one portable already in place at the middle school that is used to provide needed instructional space for our current enrollment. It will not help us absorb this upcoming increase.

Options

The purpose of this memo is to bring forward options for consideration for how to address the immediate space needs at the middle school. The following options have been discussed:

Share Space with the H.S.

Pros: If available, it is cost effective

Cons: loss of instructional time due to traveling students, potential of students navigating poor weather conditions, larger number of MS in HS space; either puts 7th grade students in a HS environment or creates significant disruption with teacher classroom assignments

Teachers on Carts

Pros: Cost effective; keeps staff and students in the main building

Cons: Inefficient for teachers; provides scheduling challenges; displaces teachers from classroom with no common teacher work area to use

Additional Portable Classroom Unit

Pros: Provides relief from space issues; potentially improves special education space and ability to maintain greater privacy for students with significant needs; reduces teachers that would need to be on carts; improves flexibility with scheduling

Cons: More students and staff separated from the main building; not as cost effective as other options; decreases informal collaboration between staff

The middle school administration is seeking input and support to find manageable ways to best meet the needs of the larger class sizes finding their way into 7th grade next year.

Memorandum

To: Board of Education Members
From: Steve Summers
Date: June 07, 2021
Re: Open Enrollment Applications In/Out

The purpose of this agenda item is to request School Board approval or denial for open enrollment applications in/out for the 2021-2022 school year. The open enrollment program for the state of Wisconsin allows parents to apply for their student(s) to attend a non-resident district of their choice. Parents must complete the application form for their student(s) and they are allowed to apply at up to three non-resident districts. The application must have been completed and turned in (or submitted online) to the non-resident district between February 1, 2021 and April 30, 2021.

School Board Policy 423 and 423 Rule-1 governs the District's open enrollment process. The policy states when the Board will accept and deny open enrollment applications. The policy allows for a waiting list if the applications are denied because of a lack of classroom space.

Please remember that the open enrollment law was revised in 2012. School Boards are required to approve the number of openings at each school/grade level at the beginning of the open enrollment process. The number of identified openings now drives the decision making process for applications.

I have attached a list of applications in/out and the subsequent decision per the policy. There are a total of 133 student applications in (113 last year). This year we have created a wait list of 20 students for 4K and 3 for 5th grade. There are 15 (24 last year) student applications out. Of the applications out, 1 of the students is currently attending school in a different school district or private school. Of the applications out, 12 of the students are currently enrolled in the Waunakee Community School District and 2 of the students will be entering 4K, so they did not attend public school last school year.

The policy does recommend the denial of 66 open enrollment applications in.

Currently, there are 230 non-resident students attending the Waunakee Community School District, 12 withdrew from open enrollment status, and there are 53 resident students attending other school districts, 3 withdrew from open enrolled status during the 2020-2021 school year. There are fourteen 12th graders that will graduate in June 2021.

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The district receives a payment of \$8,125.00 for every non-resident student attending Waunakee. The district makes the same payment for every resident student attending another district. Special education students have a different payment amount, which is \$12,977.00.

The open enrollment students, in, that are recommended for approval are based on class size estimates that are below the optimum level. Because the staffing is already in place for these classrooms, adding these open enrollment students increases revenues to the district without adding staffing expenses.

The open enrollment students, in, that are recommended for denial- waiting list are based on class size estimates that are at or above the optimum level. Because the staffing is not in place for these additional classrooms, adding these open enrollment students increases revenues to the district while adding staffing expenses. The staffing expense to add a classroom section is estimated at \$75,000, plus furniture/equipment costs, if needed. The advantage to the waiting list is the ability to allow these students to enroll at a later date if the district decides to add a section or if space becomes available.

Please let me know if you have any questions or comments on this agenda item. Thanks.