



To: Dr. Charles Johns
Board of Education

From: Dr. Kim Ptak
Dr. R.J. Gravel

Date: Monday, November 23, 2020

Re: Enrollment Forecast Update for 2020-21

Background

For the last several years, the District has hired a demographer, Dr. Jerome McKibben, to calculate a 10-year population forecast. Additionally, the District administration has prepared an internal enrollment projection using a cohort survival method with an acceptable accuracy rate when limited to three years. Both the population forecast and cohort survival projection have become essential tools for long-range planning and budgeting purposes. As a result, these tools are updated annually using October 1st enrollment counts as recorded in PowerSchool and summary data provided by our elementary feeder school districts (27, 28, 30, 31, and 34).

Population Forecast

Dr. McKibben's population forecast methodology assesses the impact of factors such as fertility rates, housing patterns, mortgage rate, mortality rates, census data, migration patterns, unemployment rates, the dynamics of local private schools, and feeder elementary school district enrollment data. This comprehensive approach lends itself to increased accuracy in long-term forecasts.

Table 1
Population Forecast

	District			Glenbrook North			Glenbrook South		
	10/2020	10/2019	O/(U)	10/2020	10/2019	O/(U)	10/2020	10/2019	O/(U)
2020-21	5,168 actual	5,274 estimate	(106)	2,024 actual	2,072 estimate	(48)	3,144 actual	3,202 estimate	(58)
2021-22	5,120	5,252	(132)	2,054	2,054	0	3,066	3,198	(132)
2022-23	5,099	5,216	(117)	2,101	2,090	11	2,998	3,126	(128)
2023-24	5,078	5,231	(153)	2,132	2,116	16	2,946	3,115	(169)
2024-25	5,072	5,194	(122)	2,211	2,142	69	2,861	3,052	(191)
2025-26	5,081	5,203	(122)	2,268	2,214	54	2,813	2,989	(176)
2026-27	4,999	5,223	(224)	2,223	2,245	(22)	2,776	2,978	(202)
2027-28	4,889	5,101	(212)	2,227	2,211	16	2,662	2,890	(228)
2028-29	4,839	5,056	(217)	2,200	2,217	(17)	2,639	2,839	(200)
2029-30	4,795	4,983	(188)	2,150	2,175	(25)	2,649	2,808	(159)
2030-31	4,790	n/a	n/a	2,156	n/a	n/a	2,634	n/a	n/a

Glenbrook South High School

Based on last year's population forecast, the 2020-21 school year was expected to be Glenbrook South's peak enrollment year with 3,202 students. Instead, Glenbrook South's population decline started this year with an actual enrollment of only 3,144, or 49 students less than was forecast a year ago. It is estimated that Glenbrook South's enrollment will continue to decline over the next ten years. The enrollment decline is attributed to the graduation of a large *bubble class* that graduated Glenbrook South last year and an overall decrease in feeder enrollment.

Glenbrook School District 34, the largest district for Glenbrook South, has experienced a 4% (200 students) decline this past year. According to Dr. McKibben, to maintain current enrollment numbers, Glenview would need to keep an average of 550 existing homes on the market at any given time to ensure there is enough in-migration of young households to maintain the current enrollment numbers in future years. The number of existing homes on the market is currently 330.

Glenbrook North High School

Glenbrook North's enrollment projection remains similar to what was presented a year ago. It is expected that Glenbrook North will experience a 12% growth over the next five years and grow by 244 students before slowly declining.

Cohort Survival Projection

The cohort survival method is strictly formula-driven and calculates ratios of students as they progress from one grade to the next. The ratios are then used to project future enrollment.

Table 2***Cohort Survival Projection***

	District			Glenbrook North			Glenbrook South		
	10/2020	10/2019	O/(U)	10/2020	10/2019	O/(U)	10/2020	10/2019	O/(U)
2020-21	5,168 actual	5,216 estimate	(48)	2,024 actual	2,048 estimate	(24)	3,144 actual	3,168 estimate	(24)
2021-22	5,104	5,173	(69)	2,040	2,067	(27)	3,064	3,106	(42)
2022-23	5,072	5,174	(102)	2,077	2,085	(8)	2,995	3,089	(94)
2023-24	5,028	n/a	n/a	2,101	n/a	n/a	2,927	n/a	n/a

Table 2 compares the recent projection using October 1, 2020, enrollment counts with the projection calculated a year ago using October 1, 2019 enrollment counts. Overall the current Glenbrook North projection grows 3.8% over the next three years, while Glenbrook South declines by 6.9%.

Comparison of Enrollment Methodologies

Table 3 compares the results of the two methodologies for calculating enrollment projections. When considering the district enrollment, the two methods are within 1.0% of each other over the next three years.

Table 3***Comparison of Enrollment Methodologies***

	District			Glenbrook North			Glenbrook South		
	Pop. Forecast	Cohort Survival	O/(U)	Pop. Forecast	Cohort Survival	O/(U)	Pop. Forecast	Cohort Survival	O/(U)
2021-22	5,120	5,104	16	2,054	2,040	14	3,066	3,064	2
2022-23	5,099	5,072	27	2,101	2,077	24	2,998	2,995	3
2023-24	5,078	5,028	50	2,132	2,101	31	2,946	2,927	19