

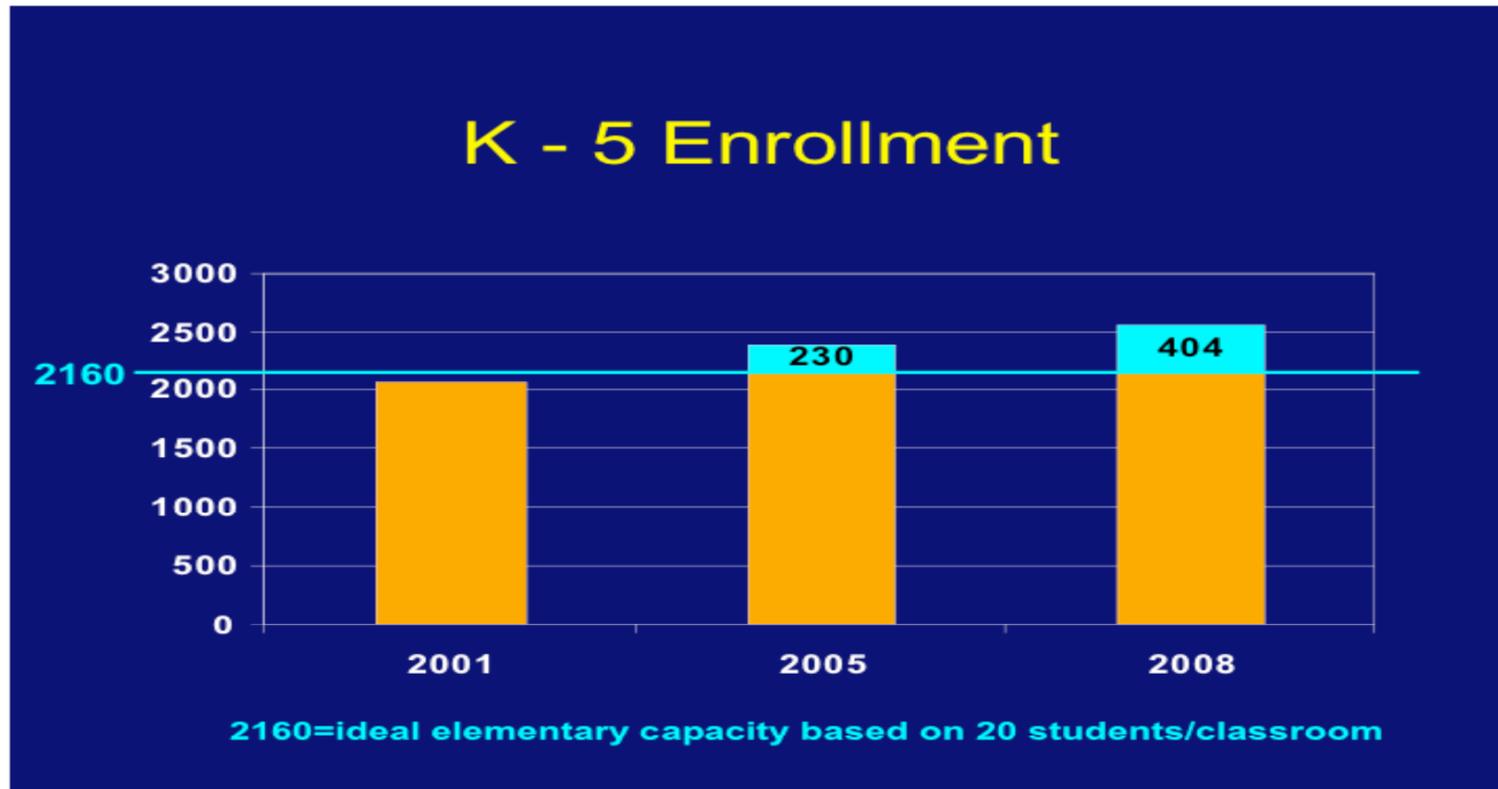
Needham Public Schools

**Interim Satellite Middle School
Program at High Rock School**

September 2006

K-5 Enrollment

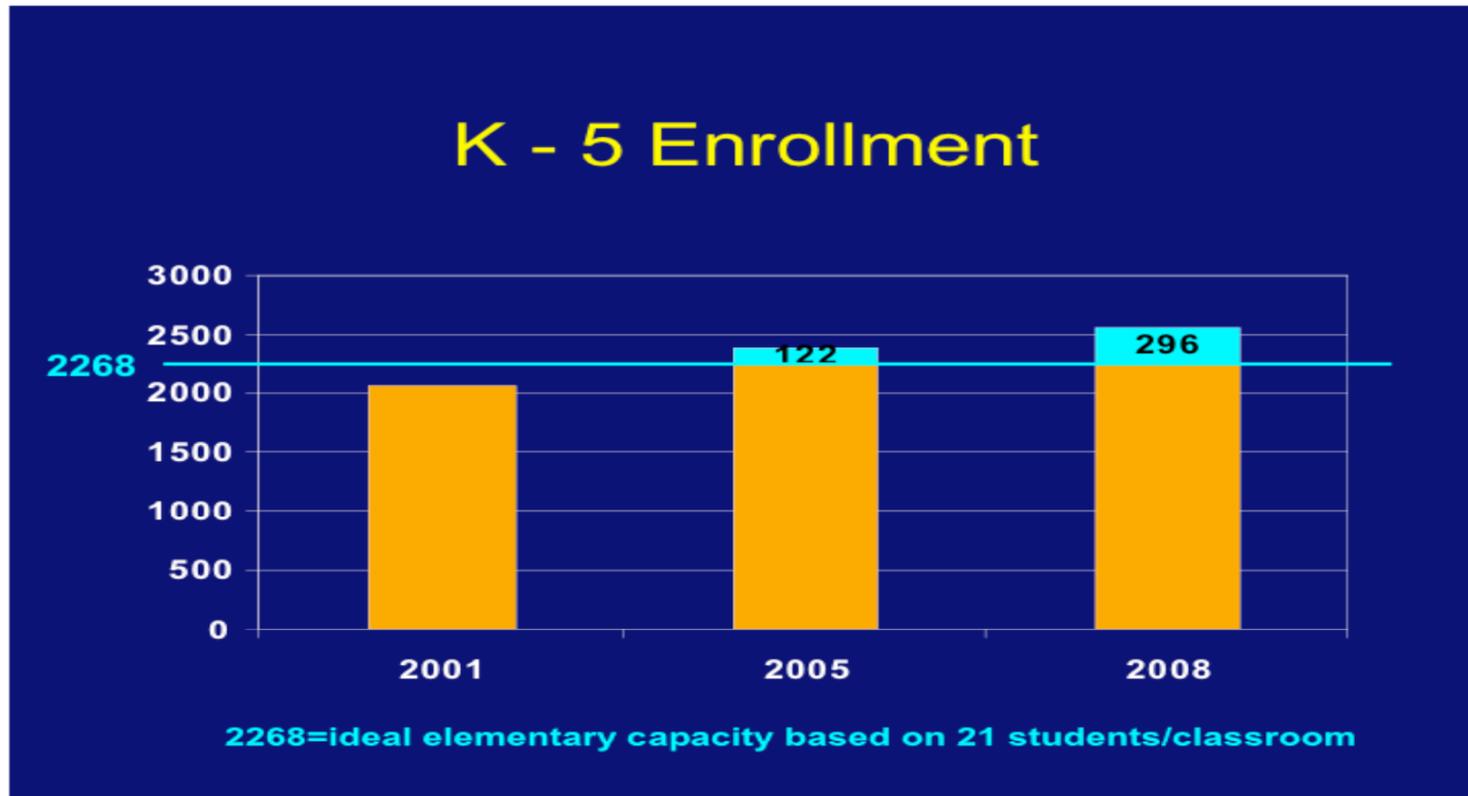
20 Students per Classroom



Depicts growth in the elementary population over time. At 20 students per classroom, there will be a need to find additional classroom space for over 400 elementary students by 2008.

K-5 Enrollment

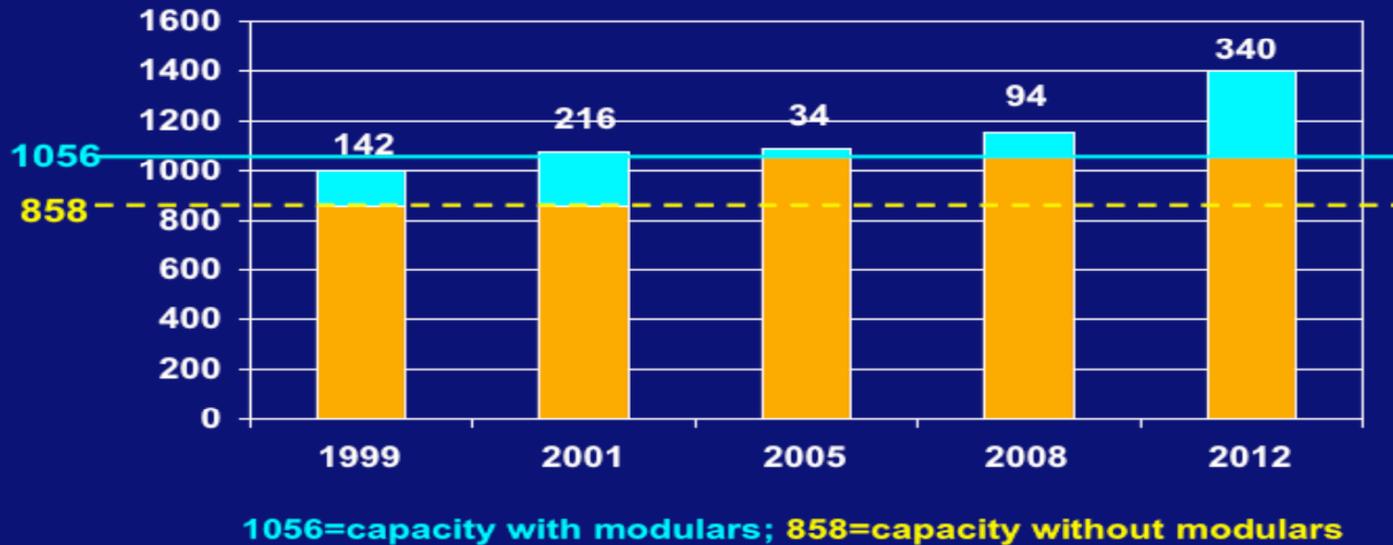
21 Students per Classroom



At 21 students per elementary classroom, there will be a need to find additional classroom space for nearly 300 elementary students by 2008.

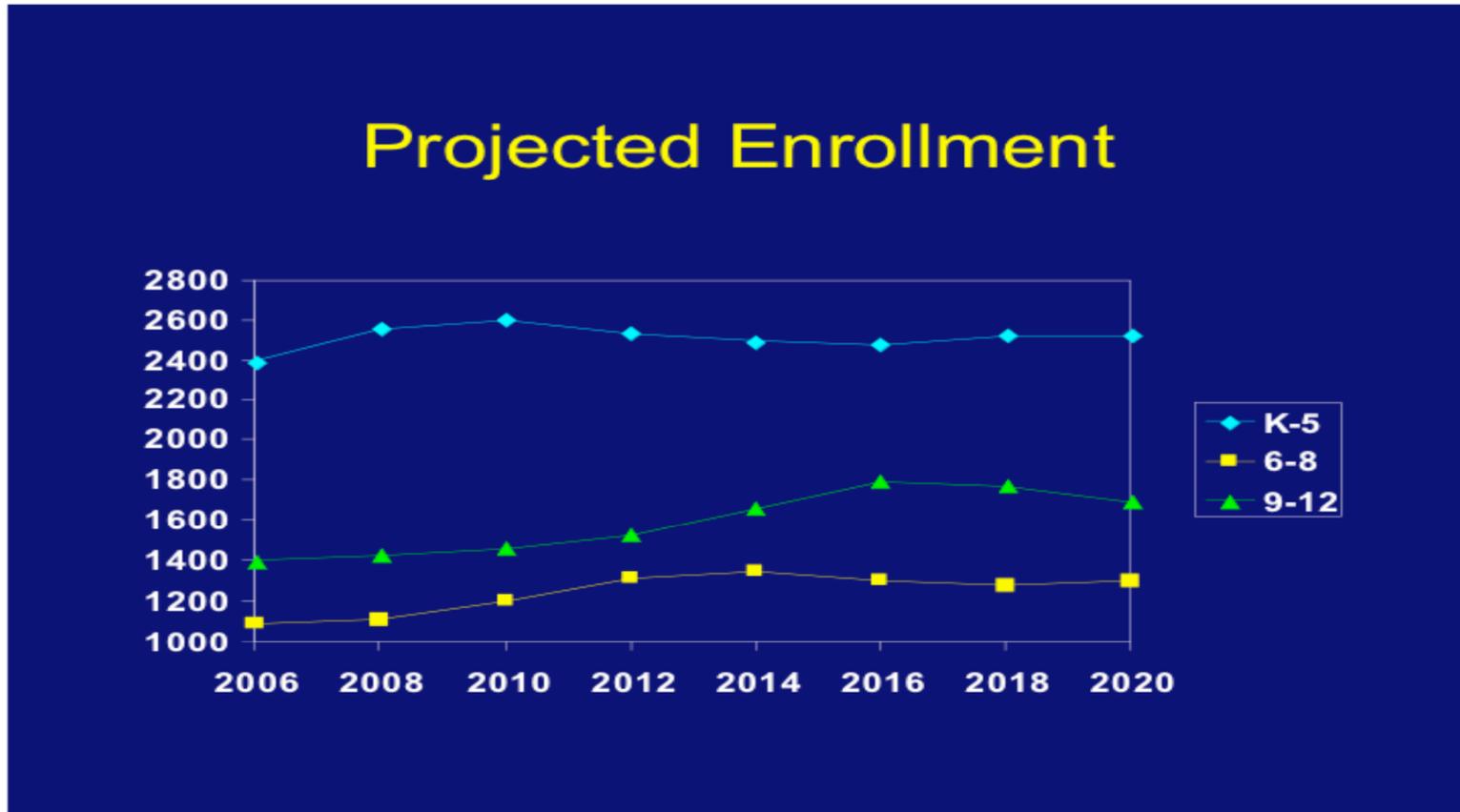
Middle School Enrollment

6 - 8 Enrollment (Pollard)



Total middle school enrollment (1,074 as of 09/14/06) is currently beyond the school's designed capacity of 1,056. By 2012, projected enrollment of 1,370 will exceed the design capacity of the core spaces by 512 students, further stressing core facilities including the cafeteria, auditorium, and library

Projected Enrollment (2006 - 2020)



After the peak enrollment of 1,370 students in 2012 the middle school population is projected to remain at or over 1,300 students. The elementary enrollment also remains consistent over time after peaking around 2010.

Assumptions

- Peak Middle School enrollment 1,370 2012/13. Remains at @ 1,300 afterward.
- Fully renovated High Rock with infill addition adds 16 classrooms @ 22-23/class.
- Approximately 315 students would need to move to High Rock to reduce Pollard enrollment to 1,056 capacity in 2012/13. If entire 6th Grade moved, Pollard enrollment would be 910 in 2012/13.
- Five modulars needed for 460 students (@ 22/classroom)
- Renovated High Rock would have additional media, art, music and two SPED spaces. Foreign languages uses existing cluster classrooms.

Assumptions

- Any option will require additional staff, including administrative staff, custodians (3), nurse, media specialist, technology specialist, guidance counselor, secretary, office aides (3), and an indetermined number of specialists.
- Other expenses include utilities, custodial, maintenance, classroom setup
- Construction assumed completed and students move in to renovated High Rock September 2009.

Option “A” Plan

This option would place the entire 6th grade at the High Rock School until new middle school space is provided for Needham’s students in grades 6, 7 and 8. Once the community has decided on additional middle school space for its students, the 6th grade would return to the Pollard Middle School and/or a new facility and the High Rock School would become the District’s 6th elementary school. This option has several possibilities as well as difficulties in its implementation.

Option “A” Plan Facility Use

PRO	CON
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li data-bbox="191 509 1003 784">▪ Shifting entire Sixth Grade to High Rock will reduce Pollard enrollment to 910 during peak year (2012/2013.)<li data-bbox="191 818 978 1092">▪ Sixth grade does not require specialized science spaces, such as wet labs, which the High Rock would not have.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li data-bbox="1043 496 1812 690">▪ Four to five modular classrooms would be needed to accommodate 460 students.

Option “A” Plan Curriculum & Staffing

PRO	CON
<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ No potential curriculum inequalities between schools, since entire grade is moved.▪ No additional library resources required, as all Grade Six curriculum resource materials could be moved.▪ There exists the opportunity to provide unique programming for a single grade, especially as the students prepare for the middle school experience.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Sharing 6-8 elective specialists and support staff between two buildings will likely require additional staff.

Option “A” Plan Leadership

PRO	CON
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li data-bbox="142 586 953 781">▪ The current grade-based House Administrator model can be retained.<li data-bbox="142 818 1020 1013">▪ Single grade facility may promote a more creative use of teacher leaders to support administration.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li data-bbox="1064 586 1942 927">▪ This could result in an isolating experience for the Grade Six administrator, who would be physically removed from the rest of the leadership team.

Option “A” Plan Support Services

PRO	CON
<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ The four Special Education programs that would be required at High Rock could be conducted within the existing two classroom spaces (after subdividing the rooms).	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Special Education programs will need to be duplicated for the Sixth Grade at the satellite facility.

Option “A” Plan Transition

PRO	CON
<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ High Rock would be designed long-term for elementary students. Sixth graders are closer in age and development to elementary students than middle schoolers.▪ The program would provide a unique transition period between elementary and middle school environments.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Students would be in transition in grades six, seven, and nine.▪ There could be weaker parent affiliation to a single-year school.▪ Research shows that single and double grade schools could have a negative impact on achievement, particularly for at-risk populations.

Option “A” Plan

Parent/Community Issues

PRO	CON
<ul style="list-style-type: none">■ Parents of sixth graders may have more opportunities than currently exist for daily interaction in a sixth-only school.■ Teachers may prefer the autonomous, focused environment offering unique teaching and learning opportunities for students.■ Politically, an egalitarian sixth-grade facility may be easier for parents and community to accept.■ No need to redistrict if all sixth-graders attend the same facility.	

Option “A” Plan Transportation

PRO	CON
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li data-bbox="1066 526 1934 1192">▪ Given current dismissal times, between 5-8 additional buses may be required. Roughly the same number of Pollard buses still will be needed, even with fewer students, since the same geographic area must be serviced in the same timeframe, prior to elementary dismissal.

Option “B” Plan

This option would place 4 clusters of grades 6, 7, and 8 at the High Rock School until new middle school space is provided for Needham’s students. Once the community has decided on additional middle school space for its students, the 6, 7, and 8th graders would return to the Pollard Middle School and/or a new facility and the High Rock School would become the school district’s 6th elementary school. This option has several possibilities as well as difficulties in its implementation. This option would also require redistricting either on a full-scale or limited basis.

Option “B” Plan

Facility Use

PRO	CON
<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Shifting four to five clusters to High Rock will reduce Pollard enrollment to 910 during peak year (2012/2013.)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Four to five modular classrooms would be needed to accommodate 460 students.▪ A sixth, seventh, and eighth grade satellite program with up to 460 students will stress the building’s capacity; gym and cafeteria space will be overcrowded.▪ To fully-utilize High Rock capacity, and reduce Pollard enrollment to approximately 1,000 students, a fourth cluster will be needed.▪ Cluster-based populations can vary as cluster size varies, causing enrollment at school to fluctuate.

Option “B” Plan Curriculum & Staffing

PRO	CON
<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Opportunity to create specialized learning opportunities not possible in a large school, such as looping and technology programs.▪ May be easier for 6-8 specialists to teach at a 6-8 school.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ The coordination and duplication of the middle school curriculum program would be difficult.▪ Seventh and eight grade programming, which requires specialized science spaces, such as wet labs, are not available at the High Rock. Will require additional renovation to school, or specialized equipment such as portable lab stations.▪ Library resources would need to be duplicated with two 6-8 schools.▪ Sharing 6-8 elective specialists and support staff between two buildings will likely require additional staff.

Option “B” Plan Transition

PRO	CON
<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Fewer transitions for children (students remain at school for three years).▪ Stronger parent affiliation to school.	

Option “B” Plan Leadership

PRO	CON
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li data-bbox="1073 586 1766 711">▪ Cannot use existing House Administrator structure.<li data-bbox="1073 748 1604 873">▪ Requires additional administrative staff.

Option “B” Plan Support Services

PRO	CON
<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Will not be necessary to duplicate Special Education programs. Special Education programs can be based at either Pollard or High Rock, as space dictates.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Requires additional guidance and support staff.

Option “B” Plan

Parent/Community Issues

PRO	CON
<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Parents will like a smaller middle school satellite program.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Concern over “who” will attend, and how those students will be selected.▪ Re-districting will be required.

Option “B” Plan Transportation

PRO	CON
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li data-bbox="142 527 949 873">▪ No additional buses may be required if redistricting occurs to divide town. (Buses are simply divided between the two middle school programs.)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li data-bbox="1066 527 1936 1166">▪ If <u>no</u> redistricting, given current dismissal times, between 5-8 additional buses may be required. Roughly the same number of Pollard buses still needed, even with fewer students, since the same geographic area must be serviced within same timeframe, prior to elementary dismissal.

Next Steps

- Analyze additional information, including:
 - Impact on staffing
 - Impact on core spaces (café, gym)
 - Impact on transportation
 - Full or limited redistricting options & possibilities
- Additional input Admin./Middle School staff - October
- Public hearing - October 3
- School Committee discussion - October 17
- School Committee consensus - October/November
- Work with PPBC to develop plan/design
- April Town Meeting
- Develop Educational Plans - Beginning Summer 2007