

To: Rush-Henrietta Central School District Board of Education  
From: Dr. Kenneth Graham, Superintendent of Schools  
Re: Classroom Space Recommendations  
Date: December 12, 2014

The district's Instructional Space Committee met on October 23, October 30, November 13, and December 11 to review school enrollment trends and projections, residential development plans, school space use, and school attendance areas to determine if there is adequate classroom space for future enrollment and, if not, to recommend actions that can be taken to provide needed classroom space.

In addition to this study of classroom space requirements for the next three to five years, the Instructional Space Committee was asked to recommend attendance areas for a K3-46-79 school configuration.

K-3-46-79 school attendance area recommendations were presented to the Board of Education on November 17 and will not be repeated in this report. Instead, this report addresses actions that need to be taken to provide required classroom space for the next three to five years, assuming there will be no full-day kindergarten program.

### **Current Student Enrollment**

The district currently enrolls 5,325 students – 5,227 of these students attend R-H schools and 98 are placed in out-of-district settings (BOCES or Special Schools). Of the 5,227 students attending R-H schools, 2,374 attend elementary schools (K-5) and 2,874 attend secondary schools (6-9).

	<b>Elementary</b>	<b>Secondary</b>	<b>Total*</b>
<b>2014</b>	2,374	2,853	5,227
<b>2013</b>	2,379	2,876	5,255
<b>2012</b>	2,393	2,973	5,366
<b>2011</b>	2,398	3,036	5,434
<b>2010</b>	2,401	3,038	5,439

\*Out of district placements not included

Compared to last year, K-12 student enrollment has declined by 28 students (see above). Elementary schools have 5 fewer students and secondary schools have 23 fewer students. Out-of-district placements have not changed (98).

Over the past five years, K-12 student enrollment has declined by 212 students. Elementary schools enroll 27 fewer students, and secondary schools enroll 185 fewer students.

### **Elementary School Enrollment**

	<b>Crane</b>	<b>Fyle</b>	<b>Leary</b>	<b>Sherman</b>	<b>Winslow</b>	<b>Total</b>
<b>2014</b>	420	436	575	451	492	2,374
<b>2013</b>	416	465	573	430	495	2,379
<b>2012</b>	406	494	547	457	489	2,393
<b>2011</b>	442	491	530	452	483	2,398
<b>2010</b>	478	469	509	467	478	2,401

Over the past five years, elementary school enrollment has declined by 27 students. However, enrollment trends differ among elementary schools. As shown above, enrollment has declined at Crane, Fyle, and Sherman while at Leary and Winslow, enrollment has increased.

### **Elementary School Enrollment Projections\***

	<b>Crane</b>	<b>Fyle</b>	<b>Leary</b>	<b>Sherman</b>	<b>Winslow</b>	<b>Total</b>
<b>2014</b>	413	433	562	431	479	2,318
<b>2015</b>	411	425	583	452	520	2,391
<b>2016</b>	404	428	615	479	520	2,446
<b>2017</b>	408	437	628	507	518	2,498
<b>2018</b>	411	435	623	517	524	2,510
<b>2019</b>	410	449	626	508	538	2,531

**\*Without Full-Day Kindergarten, Excluding Self-Contained Special Education Students**

As shown above, Crane's enrollment is projected to remain about the same over the next 5 years. Enrollment increases are projected at the other elementary schools - Fyle (+16), Leary (+64), Sherman (+77), and Winslow (+59).

### **Elementary School Classroom Space Requirements**

Board of Education Regulation 4020-R establishes class size guidelines for elementary schools. At grades K-4, the class size target is 15 with maximum class sizes of 17 at grades K-2 and 18 at grades 3-4. At grade 5, the class size target is 22 with a maximum class size of 24. However, efforts have been made in recent years to keep grade 5 class sizes close to 18 students. Using these class size guidelines, classroom space requirements for the next five years will be as follows:

#### **Required Classrooms**

	<b>Rooms Available*</b>		<b>2015</b>	<b>2016</b>	<b>2017</b>	<b>2018</b>	<b>2019</b>		<b>Rooms Needed</b>
<b>Crane</b>	29		25	27	26	28	27		0
<b>Fyle</b>	31		25	25	26	27	30		0
<b>Leary</b>	36		36	36	36	34	36		0
<b>Sherman</b>	30		28	30	30	30	33		3
<b>Winslow</b>	33		31	31	33	31	33		0
<b>Total</b>	159		145	149	152	150	159		3

**\*Rooms available = Total Classrooms - 3 for related services (less 2 at Leary)**

These classroom space projections require placing self-contained special education classes (district and BOCES classes) at elementary schools with available space. The projected placement of these self-contained special education classes is as follows:

	<b>Current</b>	<b>2015</b>	<b>2016</b>	<b>2017</b>	<b>2018</b>	<b>2019</b>
<b>Crane</b>	1	1	3	3	3	3
<b>Fyle</b>	0	1	1	1	2	4
<b>Leary</b>	2	2	0	0	0	0
<b>Sherman</b>	2	2	2	1	0	0
<b>Winslow</b>	3	2	2	2	2	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>7</b>

The good news is that elementary schools have adequate classroom space to accommodate projected enrollment for the next four years. However, in 2019, Sherman will require three (3) additional classrooms unless attendance areas are changed. Leary and Winslow will be at full capacity so enrollment growth cannot be shifted to these two schools. Fyle appears capable of providing two of these needed classrooms and Crane the other. However, there are residential developments being planned for Fyle and Crane attendance areas that may preclude this classroom space from being available.

In Attendance Area 3 (Crane), a residential development called Winfield Park has been proposed. This development is expected to include 65 two-story attached townhomes, 66 single-family detached patio homes, and 8 four-story apartment buildings each with 45 units. This development will need to be monitored for its potential impact on Crane's enrollment and classroom space.

In Attendance Areas 18 and 76 (Fyle), new residential developments are possible (one in each attendance area). No plans have been submitted for these two residential developments, but exploratory discussions are taking place between the developer and Town of Henrietta Planning Board. These discussions should be monitored because of the impact that these two residential developments can have on Fyle's enrollment and classroom space.

In past years, the Space Committee would recommend that planning begin for attendance area changes and classroom additions. However, the Board of Education has already proposed a plan for school reconfiguration that addresses these enrollment management problems. The Board's plan also provides classroom space for full-day kindergarten. For this reason, nothing needs to be done, at this time.

### **Middle School Enrollment**

	<b>Burger</b>	<b>Roth</b>	<b>Total</b>
<b>2014</b>	489	705	1,194
<b>2013</b>	468	709	1,177
<b>2012</b>	489	736	1,225
<b>2011</b>	493	761	1,254
<b>2010</b>	490	708	1,198

Over the past five years, middle school enrollment has remained about the same. These enrollment trends are the same at both middle schools.

### **Middle School Enrollment Projections\***

	<b>Burger</b>	<b>Roth</b>	<b>Total</b>
<b>2014</b>	469	705	1,174
<b>2015</b>	469	687	1,156
<b>2016</b>	484	709	1,193
<b>2017</b>	469	711	1,180
<b>2018</b>	501	761	1,262
<b>2019</b>	490	757	1,247

**\* Excluding Self-Contained Special Education Students**

Middle School enrollment is expected to increase by 73 students over the next 5 years. At Burger, enrollment is expected to increase by 21, and at Roth, enrollment is expected to increase by 52.

### **Middle School Classroom Space Requirements**

Board of Education Regulation 4020-R establishes class size guidelines for middle schools. At grades 6-8, the class size target is 24 for core content instruction. A maximum class size has not been established.

Based on these guidelines, both middle schools have adequate classroom space for projected enrollment for the next five years.

In addition, the middle school choice option can continue. This year, 52 students are exercising the school choice option – 37 students elected to attend Burger rather than Roth and 15 students elected to attend Roth rather than Burger. These trends are similar to past years.

### **High School Enrollment**

	<b>NGA</b>	<b>SHS</b>	<b>Total</b>
<b>2014</b>	400	1,259	1,659
<b>2013</b>	415	1,284	1,699
<b>2012</b>	442	1,306	1,748
<b>2011</b>	419	1,363	1,782
<b>2010</b>	435	1,405	1,840

Over the past five years, high school enrollment has declined by 181 students. These enrollment trends are the same at both high schools. Enrollment has declined at the NGA by 35 and at the SHS by 146.

### **High School Enrollment Projections\***

	<b>NGA</b>	<b>SHS</b>	<b>Total</b>
<b>2014</b>	406	1,253	1,659
<b>2015</b>	396	1,234	1,630
<b>2016</b>	408	1,200	1,608
<b>2017</b>	445	1,190	1,635
<b>2018</b>	378	1,227	1,605
<b>2019</b>	446	1,204	1,650

**\* Excluding Self-Contained Special Education Students**

High School enrollment is projected to decline by 51 over the next two years, than increase to a level similar to today (-9). However, enrollment projections are significantly different for the two schools. At the NGA, enrollment is expected to stay about the same for the next two years, than increase by 40 students. At the SHS, student enrollment is expected to decline for the next three years, and then stabilize around 1,200 students, a decline of about 50 students from today.

### **High School Classroom Space Requirements**

Board of Education Regulation 4020-R establishes class size guidelines for high schools. At grades 9-12, the class size target is 25 for core content instruction. A maximum class size has not been established.

Based on these guidelines, both schools have adequate classroom space for projected enrollment for the next five years.

## **Summary of Recommendations**

The Instructional Space Committee recommends to the Board of Education the following actions for consideration:

1. For Fall 2015, move one self-contained special education class at Winslow to Fyle.
2. For Fall 2016, move two life skills classes at Leary to Crane.
3. For Fall 2018, move one self-contained special education class at Sherman to Fyle.

Chair: Dr. Kenneth Graham, Superintendent of Schools

Co-Chair: Dr. Patrick McCue, Assistant Superintendent

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