

Oyster River Cooperative School Board
Long Range Planning Committee Meeting

June 22, 2015

ORHS

7:00 p.m.

Committee Members Present: Lisa Allison, Robert Mohr, David Taylor, Rob McEwan, Giana Gelsey

School Board Representative Present: Denise Day

Guests: Naida Kaen, Mariner Realty, Durham

Administration: Todd Allen, HS Principal, Jay Richard, Middle School Principal

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m.

Naida Kaen made a presentation on the state of the real estate market in the three towns of the ORCSD. She told us that there have been 52 MLS sales between January and June 19, 2015. This is down slightly from 55 in the same period last year and 57 during the same period in 2013. She projects that at this rate, there will be 113 sales between January 1 and September 30 this year, down from 119 last year and 125 the year before, but still way ahead of 92 in 2012 and 54 in the first nine months of 2011. She pointed out that sales of age restricted 55+ housing are up, while sales of homes to college students and their parents have gone down. Families who may have afforded a home in Durham by renting an apartment to college students can no longer depend on that income due to the abundance of new student apartments. We thanked Naida Kaen for doing all her work to produce this update for us. She will notify us if things change.

Jay Richard and Todd Allen provided their estimates of September 2015 enrollment. Middle School enrollment, projected at 158 in 5th, 163 in 6th, 175 in 7th and 176 in 8th, for a total of 672. The LRPC estimate for next year is 686, allowing for 14 summer move-ins. We recommended that Jay use the LRPC estimate for 2016-17 for budgeting purposes unless summer move-ins are significantly different from the 14 expected.

According to Todd Allen, High School enrollment in September 2015 is projected at 725, including 622 native students and 103 tuition students. Todd expects the number of tuition students to grow at a 10% annual rate, reaching 113 in 2016-17 and 125 in 2017-18. The LRPC projection for native students in 2015 is 615, 7 students lower than Todd's estimate. However the difference is in the senior class where Todd expects 139 native students in September and LRPC projected 124. Since those students will have graduated before the budget year 2016-17 begins, we recommended that Todd should use the LRPC estimate for native students in 2016-17 and add his own estimate of tuition students.

The discussion of full day kindergarten enrollment projections for the 2016-17 budget was postponed until the next meeting. We will discuss alternative ways of making that projection, including the likely need to update the regression coefficients. We will need to discuss the situation with the elementary principals. They have both said they will be available to attend our next meeting, which will be held on July 2 at 7:00 PM.

The meeting adjourned at 7:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted, Lisa M. Allison, LRPC chair