

Oyster River Cooperative School Board
Long Range Planning Committee Meeting

July 2, 2015

ORHS

7:00 p.m.

Committee Members Present: Lisa Allison
School Board Representative Present: Denise Day
Guest: Dennis Harrington, Moharimet School Principal

The meeting was called to order at 7:05 p.m. in the ORHS Cafeteria (the conference room was in use).

Dennis Harrington presented estimates for September 2015 enrollment from Mast Way and Moharimet schools. Mast Way's projected enrollment for September is 262, even with last year's LRPC projection of 263. All grade levels are within 2 students of the LRPC projection. The estimate for September 2015 enrollment at Moharimet currently stands at 370 students, significantly less than last year's LRPC projection of 411 students. There will be some move-ins over the summer, but enrollment will likely be under 400 at Moharimet. Estimates for kindergarten are 47 students in each school. The Mast Way figure includes 5 students using a "full day" option at Live and Learn that includes PM kindergarten. Dennis will monitor this situation over the summer and decide whether to transfer a ½ teacher to Mast Way to teach a second PM kindergarten there.

Lisa Allison read a note from Michael Goldberg and Robert Mohr concerning how we might predict full day kindergarten enrollment for the 2016-17 budget. Michael says, "We agreed that using the regression for 1-enrollments will most likely overstate FT K. We thought this projection would give us an upper bound, since 1-enrollments constitute the total number of kids who want to enroll in OYRS. We also thought that the regression for PT K-enrollments would give us a lower bound." Naturally, for both regressions the independent variable will be births in the 12 months between October 1, 2010 and September 30, 2011 (children who will be 5 before September 30, 2016). There were 74 births in that cohort to mothers living in the ORCSD, down from 93 the prior year. In the period between October 1, 2011 and September 30, 2012 there were only 69 births.

Those present at the meeting discussed what factors determine where enrollment will fall between these two limits: full vs. half day preference, and date of move-in. Dennis had data for the 16 students who were new to Moharimet in first grade for 2014-15. Half of them (8) came from full-day kindergartens and the other 8 moved to the district in the summer before first grade. Based on this small sample, we might assume that the number of full time kindergarten students in 2016-17 will fall halfway between the upper and lower boundaries.

We will revisit this in September when we can obtain data on new first graders for the current school year and for Mast Way in both years.

The meeting adjourned at 7:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted, Lisa M. Allison, LRPC chair